



GRACE CHIKUMO – MTONGA
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
MANIFESTO

ABSTRACT

This manifesto avails strategies proposed towards creating a strong Alliance that will be built on the principle of cohesion, building on the foundations laid by the wisdom keepers and strengthening the various capacities while looking into the future and considering social enterprise and exploring philanthropies to raise a pool of unrestricted funds to increase outreach and impact of the coalition interventions.

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Preamble

Habitat International Coalition (HIC) is a global network that fights for rights related to land, housing and auxiliary services, including the broad social and economic rights of excluded and marginalised groups.

Through solidarity, networking and support for social movements and organizations, HIC struggles for social justice, gender equality and environmental sustainability, and works in defence, promotion and realization of human rights related to housing and land in both rural and urban areas. There is need to enhance the social production of housing through various models including housing cooperatives and private sector engagement that is people centric. During my tenure, the first two years will be dedicated towards building evidence that will inform parameters that can be employed to actualise access to housing, safe habitat, economic opportunities and social transformation in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which inform the global developmental agenda.

HIC envisions a world in which everybody has a safe place to live in peace and with dignity, with coordinated, trained and strong civil

society and social movements that advance towards gender equality and equity, defend the right to a healthy environment; promote and implement the social production of habitat and resist violations of all rights related to habitat and where all government spheres recognize, defend and fully implement the human right to housing, land and other human rights related to habitat.

HIC is a global platform as such, the governance and leadership of HIC will be built on solidarity that upholds and respects the views of all partners and members. I am a believer of diversity and to me that is what gives HIC the wealth that drives its success.

The global membership brings to the table a wide range of expertise to the HIC platform and that is the greatest asset that I will uphold and cherish during my tenure. I will learn from the past leaders and build up from where they left.

My Vision

To focus on building a solid ground of the coalition learning from our wisdom keepers, each region, each organisation towards reducing the vulnerability of marginalised people in the world and propel joint efforts and solidarity towards building societies that foster justice,

prosperity, unity of purpose, systematic change and propelling participation in governance, accountability and promote a leadership that is participatory which will be the trade mark of operations.

Culture and Core Values of my leadership

Having been on several boards both local and international. I envisage embedding values that will align to the cause of our vision as Habitat International Coalition towards elimination of violations against land, housing, social and economic rights and freedoms of all. I will collaborate with all regional coordinators to ensure that our work reflects dignity, equity, unity in diversity, respect of all members, upholding justice, confidentiality and solidarity.

Strengthening HIC Membership

The world is currently undergoing a series of challenges, wars, pandemics such as Covid 19, economic meltdown and above all the shrinking donor space. This is a situation that is well known by all members of HIC globally and my task will be to identify practical avenues that would help HIC become resilient. HIC members globally belong to civil society and human rights activist institutions whose work amplifies the

voice of the voiceless and urban invisibles that systems of National Governments have placed on the periphery of their development agenda. This is the fundamental principle that unites the HIC coalition. Premised on this immense attribute of HIC, I will seek to harness the various capacities of members to ensure the housing, land, social and economic rights agenda is prioritised. Each member of HIC brings to the table a unique and yet valuable expertise that would foster a



change of systems and improved service delivery among the most marginalised groups in our societies. In various regions, HIC members work with communities which gives them insight into the harsh realities of their communities in relation to poverty, hunger, inequalities and the deepening social and economic challenges. This forms the firm foundation of the valuable contributions of HIC works towards creation of a just and fair Society through community involvement.

Under my leadership, I will work to explore the various strengths and

weaknesses that each region possesses and jointly work with regional coordinators to build on the existing strengths and support the weak institutions to ensure their weaknesses are well addressed and that each region and institution becomes a key player in all HIC initiatives. The HIC alliance has such a strong history of defending the housing and land rights of marginalised groups across the globe as its membership has rooted relationships with the communities, they serve which should be leveraged at both the Micro and Macro level of engagements.



FIGURE 2: ELIMINATE LAND GRABBING

SUSTAINABILITY

The sustainability of the Coalition is anchored on the vast expertise that is contained in the HIC membership. The resource contained within the many members will be explored through the various working groups to help raise the required resources of the alliance. It is also time to begin working on the aspect of social

enterprise that would enable HIC to raise a pool of unrestricted funds



FIGURE 3: RAISE UNRESTRICTED FUNDING

allowing it to have a wider reach and make great impact among the excluded populations.

CONCLUSION

In summary, my leadership is built on four pillars. These are the vision of build a strong ground for cohesion among all regions, promoting a culture that embraces all and is inclusive. This will be enhanced through a strengthened membership that avails to the alliance their various expertise that will contribute towards exploring various avenues that would explore social enterprise and work with a range of philanthropies to raise resources for its programmes.