



# CONTINENTAL LEADERSHIP RESEARCH INSTITUTE (CLRI)

*A centre of leadership excellence in Africa*

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## **PRESS STATEMENT**

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### **IMPACT ZAMBIA MISSIONS ABOARD AND FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS**

The Continental Leadership Research Institute (CLRI) took time to conduct an assessment of the importance of Zambia's embassies and missions abroad and the institute has the following concerns that needs to be addressed by all political parties wishing to form government;

- a) There is need to have career diplomats to ensure that the country yields tangible results from having different missions and embassies across the world, the current form of affairs were there very few career diplomats and a lot carders in foreign service is causing stress on national treasury and the country has not yielded the intend results of the essence foreign of having foreign missions aboard. Some of these carders that been deployed in these missions have taken a national holiday and there no professional and economic benefit for the tax Zambian tax payer.
- b) There is need to conduct an audit or evaluation on all Zambian embassies across the world and assess their contribution towards the country yielding mission state goals, the ability to bring Foreign Direct Investment (FDIs) and meet different benchmarks of state importance.

There more emphases on economic diplomacy globally and to achieve this there has to be serious evaluation on what strategies those wishing to form government will put in place to achieve this. For instance Zambia part is part of the South African Development Community (SADC) and Common Market for East and Southern African (COMESA) and is currently

hosting the secretariat for COMESA, despite this country has not been able to fully utilise the membership with SADC and COMESA, in fact the FDIs from the two bodies has been minimal on the national economy despite paying high annual subscription fees.

In view of the above the institute calls on all those wishing to form government to have clear policies on the issues that have been raised and the institute recommends that an Act of Parliament is enacted that allows career diplomats to be the ones to save in Zambians missions abroad, a comparison of countries that have enacted such an Act has proved that these countries are far ahead in there diplomatic strategies in all aspects.

I thank you and May God Bless Our Land.

***Mundia Paul Hakoola***

***Executive Director***

***Continental Leadership Research Institute (CLRI)***