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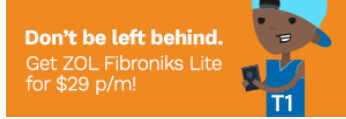
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MPs to declare assets

May 24, 2016

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Mr Chokuda

Lloyd Gumbo Senior Reporter

Parliament will soon institute a lifestyle audit for legislators including Cabinet ministers that is expected to compel them to declare their assets in compliance with the provision of the Constitution and the House's Standing Rules and Orders.

The regulations provide that public officials including parliamentarians must make regular disclosures of their assets.

Parliament's Standing Rules and Orders Committee last month approved a draft Asset Declaration Register that spells out the kind of assets that MPs will be expected to declare.

The Clerk of Parliament, Mr Kennedy Chokuda, said the development was meant to make MPs accountable to the public.

"This is within our Standing Rules and Orders that were approved way back during the Sixth Parliament," he said.

"We are now giving MPs an opportunity to make their input into the register. Remember MPs hold other people to account so this will also help members of the public to also hold them to account.

"But there are things that will be confidential and can only be made public with the approval of the Speaker of the National Assembly and the President of the Senate. So those who want that information would have to apply."

Senate President Edna Madzongwe, last week told Senators that MPs were requested "to consider and submit their views and recommendation on the Asset Declaration Register" for consideration by the committee on Standing Rules and Orders by May 31, 2016.

The draft document seen by The Herald indicates that legislators will be required to declare their assets, which include land in and outside Zimbabwe, buildings, movable assets, financial assets and other assets such as jewellery worth more than \$25 000.

The preamble of the register states that the development was in line with Section 198 of the Constitution that provides for regular disclosure of assets as well as Standing Orders 48 and 49 of the Senate and the National Assembly respectively that provide that; "Every member shall register all his/her financial interests in a book to be maintained under the direction of the Speaker and the president of the Senate and such registration shall be in a manner specified in the Code of Conduct".

On land, legislators will be expected to state their address, category, year of purchase, area, percentage, type of acquisition and the owner.

<http://www.herald.co.zw/mps-to-declare-assets/>

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percentage, type of acquisition and the owner.

The categories are farming land, forests, land inside localities, water surface and other categories of land outside localities if included in the civil circulation.

The MPs will be expected to state the owner's name such as holder, spouse or child while on co-owned assets they were expected to clarify the owned percentage and names of co-owned assets.

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On movable assets such as motor vehicles, tractors, farming machinery, boats and yachts and other means of transport that are subject to registration under the law, they were also supposed to declare them.

They will be expected to state the type of vehicle, brand, number of items, manufacture year and acquisition type.

On precious metals, jewellery, art and religious items, art collections and coins, items of the national or worldwide cultural heritage worth over \$25 000, MPs will be expected to indicate all assets whether they are in Zimbabwe or outside the country.

They will be expected to give a brief description of the assets, year of acquisition and estimated value.

MPs will also be expected to declare movable assets worth over \$15 000 and real estate alienated in the past year stating the type of the alienated asset, date of alienation, person the asset was alienated to, type of alienation and value of the asset.

On financial assets, MPs will be expected to declare bank accounts and deposits, investment funds, equivalent savings and investment forms if their total worth exceeds \$25 000.

MPs will be expected to indicate those that are in banks and institutions outside the country stating the administrating institution and address, type, currency, opening year and updated balance or value.

Equivalent funds, including private pension funds or other savings systems as well as investments, bank deposit, placements or loans given worth over \$25 000.

Other net income generating assets that exceed a total annual equivalent of \$25 000 are also subject to declaration.

Legislators will also be expected to declare their debts and liabilities outside the country including outstanding taxes, mortgages, warranties issued for the benefit of a third party, leasing assets among others if their worth exceeds \$25 000.

The draft declaration form also states that MPs must declare gifts, services or advantages free of charge or subject to subsidies as compared to the market value received from persons, organisations, companies, autonomous administrations, national companies or foreign public institutions, including scholarships, loans, warranties, expense disbursements or the like of an individual worth over \$4 500.

Under the provision, MPs will be expected to state whether it's the MP, their spouse or children who generated the income, the source of the income, provided service or income generating item as well as collected annual income.

However, they will not be expected to state "usual gifts or treats received from relatives of first or second degree".

MPs will also be expected to declare their stake in trading companies, national companies, credit institutions, economic groups as well as membership in associations, foundations or other non-governmental organisations where they will state name of the firm, position held, and number of shares as well as total value of shares.

By signing the declaration register, MPs commit to being held "responsible under the criminal laws and contempt of Parliament for any inaccuracy or the incomplete nature of the aforementioned information".

The Clerk of Parliament will be expected to enter the register of declared assets.

Parliament Zimbabwe

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Harare Weather

HARARE
Zimbabwe

11°

Clear

High: 19° Low: 8°
Wind: N 11.27 km/h
Humidity: 78%
Visibility: 25.91
Sunrise: 6:17 am
Sunset: 5:28 pm

Tuesday Wednesday

High: 19° Low: 8° High: 19° Low: 10°



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- Hlahla Hamburamatope** • 21 hours ago
Another hallow promise which will never see the daylight
4 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›
- Dzobo. ...Awuu!!!** • 17 hours ago
Kkkkkkk Seka zvako Dzobo. Mbavha chaiyo kutaura nezvehupfumi hwekuba. Musatipedzere nguva . We all know that you are looters from top to bottom. The only good thing is NDEZVEPASI PANO
2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›
- TJINGABABILI** • 17 hours ago
LONG OVERDUE
^ | v • Reply • Share ›
- Nyasha** • 15 hours ago
I hope this helps to monitor those greedy ones who try to acquire assets when in power
^ | v • Reply • Share ›
- Wakisai** • 15 hours ago
Of course comprehensive records of legally justifiable assets are essential if Zimbabwe is to regain any chance of a status as a trustworthy and relatively corruption free attractive nation to investors. Once the political situation has sufficiently evolved for a free and independent judiciary these declarations can be used as starting points to help to recover questionable assets, ostensibly acquired by career politicians using limited resources while earning paltry government wages and must be finally be redirected to benefit the entire nation.
No sacred cows should be exempted. We expect a full declaration of assets from the First Family, multiple farms, companies, and residences be they mansions and luxury apartments, both inside or the many held outside the country. Not forgetting offshore accounts many suspect running into billions, known to few and not necessarily with links to the Panama files, but all part of the missing dozens of billions we know has been expatriated and hidden away from the the people and the nation by the ruling elite over the last 36 years. Minister Chinamasa and RBZ Governor Mangudya are fully aware of how Zimbabwe's economic situation could be turned around by only a few of those undeclared missing billions used in the right places.
2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›
- succuba** ➔ **Wakisai** • 13 hours ago
I love your optimism and indeed you are quite correct but sadly it will never

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Lloyd Gumbo:
Mr Speaker, Sir



Obi Egbuna:
Simunye



Sekai Nzenza
on Wednesday



Sharuko on Saturday:
Robson Sharuko

happen any time soon
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

raul • 14 hours ago
Lets see what will come out and lets see what they are going to declare. Who will be u there declaring everything they own really ??? Which of these big shots can or will really declare everything lets see and wait
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

Tendai • 13 hours ago
First Family are not part of Parliament and will, therefore, not declare anything. Oh, and neither will the MPs and Senators. Stop wasting our time, Mr Chokuda.
1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

justsaying • 13 hours ago
talk talk does not cook rice
1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

omahn • 13 hours ago
Hapana hapana you can dream all you want. I can bet my last dollar that register will suffer a still birth.
1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

GENERAL MBEZO • 13 hours ago
And can anyone explain to me the function of the senate? Do we really need these people in a nation whose economy continues to decline in orgasmic proportions? And this asset declaration is simply a tick in the box exercise because obviously these goons will choose what not to disclose and what goes!
1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

Phato Sthole • 12 hours ago
Bwaaaa bwaaa bwaaaaaa... Zvozodii? Tingavadini? I personally feel maybe you guys (MPs, Cabinet etc) are better off doing something else like for eg those that can go to Europe its summer now hey, go get a "tan" and do some serious shopping and style update from the fashion capitals. Also try out some of the soon to be released jaguars, mercs, etc.. whilst at it, you can see the latest house designs from the rich and powerful.
PS You can visit some of the Universities in person now so that when your kids (legitimate and illegitimate) you will relax better as you will have personally vetted them. Thats a better use of your time if you ask me!
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

thomas • 12 hours ago
Mr Speaker sir.
Can i resign as MP by copy of this writing???
Yours Honorable MP of
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

Hoodwinked • 11 hours ago
We'd like to think this is a sincere effort for an impartial audit following government promises to root out corrupt Ministers and MPs who abuse their positions to profit from government connections. How about starting with an easy target of Minister Kasukuwere and his 50 bedroom mansion, or should we concentrate on the whole Cabinet and underlying politburo?
1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

bodo_kwete • 9 hours ago
nechemumoyo anaKasukuwere nanaChiyangwa vari kuti "Ndezvako izvo. zviroto zviroto"
1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

lovejoy • 9 hours ago
not only legislators but let them check the government ministers, ndivo vane nyaya hombe
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

yowe • 9 hours ago
I wonder if the greatest land baron of our time Chombo will declare his assets
2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

haiwawo • 2 hours ago
Who is fooling who? They would have registered asserts in their wives' and children's names. It will go the same way as ZANU PF's Leadership Code that was never implemented. Hapana zviripo apa. Makumbo enyoka.
^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Silver Screen:
Tafadzwa Zimoyo



Memory Lane:
Godwin Muzari



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Delta Ndou



