

## Acceptance Speech by the IIZ President – 2026

**Distinguished Members of the Board, Esteemed Colleagues, Industry Partners, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is with deep humility and immense gratitude that I stand before you today, having been re-elected to serve as the President of the Insurance Institute of Zimbabwe for the 2025/2026 term. I am both honoured and inspired by the trust you have once again placed in me to lead this esteemed institution.

First, I want to express my appreciation for the exceptional commitment and collaboration demonstrated by our Board members, committees, staff, and all stakeholders over the past year. This period has been marked by significant transformation and resilience within our institution. We made remarkable progress in strengthening our academic programs, expanding regional outreach, and elevating professional standards.

As we look ahead to 2026, I am filled with renewed energy and vision to deepen our impact. Our agenda for the year will focus on four key pillars: **training, mentorship, research,** and the **continued development of institute programmes**. Together, we will continue to deepen our impact in the insurance sector and uphold the integrity and excellence of our profession.

### 1. Enhanced Training and Professional Development

Training remains central to our mandate as this is the primary objective of our institute. In 2026, we will:

- Expand our **Continuous Professional Development (CPD)** offerings, with a special focus on emerging risks, digital transformation, and strategic leadership.
- Increase regional access to training by leveraging **e-learning platforms** and intensifying collaborations with sister institutes in Africa.
- Build on the success of our **masterclasses and webinars**, ensuring they remain relevant, practical, and industry-driven.

### 2. Structured Mentorship Programmes

I am particularly excited to announce that in 2026, we will officially launch **our Mentorship Programme**, pairing seasoned professionals with young and emerging talent across the country. In this vein, I call upon you to partner with the institute to make this a success.

- This initiative will not only support skills transfer but also foster a culture of accountability, leadership, and service within the insurance profession.

### 3. Advancing Research and Knowledge Sharing

Research is the heartbeat of innovation, and as the Deputy Ministry emphasized, we need to be actively engaged in this space. In the coming year:

- IIZ will establish a **Research & Publications Desk** to coordinate and distribute thought leadership across the industry.
- We will introduce an **Annual Insurance Research Competition**, inviting academics, students, and professionals to present studies that address industry challenges and propose innovative solutions.
- We will launch a quarterly podcast, highlighting trends, insights, and regulatory updates affecting our sector, and again, we call upon you, our industry captains and leaders, to partner with us to give life to this initiative.
- The Zimbabwe insurance sector's historical narrative remains largely underexplored, presenting a fragmented overview with significant portions of information scattered among various stakeholders. Our legacy initiative aims to leverage the traditional efficacy of storytelling to systematically document and preserve the comprehensive history of insurance in Zimbabwe. By doing so, we aim to ensure this crucial legacy is maintained and accessible to future generations, contributing to a more cohesive understanding of the industry's evolution and its impact on the region.

### 4. Strengthening Core Programmes and Institutional Growth

We will continue to improve and innovate around our flagship programs:

- The **C-Suite Leadership Summit**, Winter **School**, and **Southern Africa Insurance Indaba** will be enhanced to deliver greater value, regional diversity, and global perspective.
- We aim to embark on the **renovations of the Eastlea property**, creating a modern, accessible hub for training and administration.
- Our curriculum will see further diversification, with **Advanced Diploma programs** in key specializations and the rollout of the **Certificate in Board Leadership**.

### 5. Digital and Regional Expansion

To expand our footprint:

- We will invest in **digital platforms** to improve student access, examination integrity, and member engagement.
- We aim to enhance our partnerships and collaborative efforts with stakeholders across the continent, thereby facilitating continental integration in insurance education initiatives.

## **In Conclusion**

Being re-elected is not merely a continuation; it is a renewed call to serve, lead, and transform. Let us walk together into 2026 with bold ambition, united purpose, and unwavering commitment to the growth of our industry and the empowerment of our professionals.

I invite each one of you to play your part, share your ideas, and be part of this exciting journey as we shape the future of insurance in Zimbabwe and beyond.

**Thank you once again for your confidence. Let us build, lead, and thrive—together.**