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HAKAINDE HICHILEMA — 7TH PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

# National Address on the Progress Made in the Application of National Values and Principles — 2025

**Date:** 28 February 2025

**Location:** National Assembly, Lusaka

**Occasion:** 4th Session, 13th National Assembly — National Values Address

Madam Speaker,

We are honoured to address this august House on the progress made in the application of National Values and Principles.

Over the past four years, the UPND New Dawn administration has made significant strides in economic recovery, social development and good governance. We have restored Zambia's credibility in the international financial system, achieved strong economic growth and made important progress in debt restructuring.

We have delivered on our promise of free education, with over 2.3 million learners returning to school. We have recruited thousands of teachers and health workers, built hundreds of new health facilities, and expanded access to clean water and sanitation across the country.

We have empowered the youth and women. We have improved access to education, health, water, and justice — the foundations of a loving and caring Zambian society.

The Constituency Development Fund has risen from K1.6 million in 2021 to K40 million in 2026 for every constituency — a historic investment in local communities.

We have remained firm in our commitment to fighting corruption and upholding the rule of law. Zambia's corruption perception index score has improved significantly under our watch.

As we approach the general election in August 2026, we call on all political actors to uphold peace, tolerance and unity. Democracy must thrive on ideas, persuasion and respect for divergent views.

God bless Zambia.