ZIMBABWE CHAMBER OF INFORMAL ECONOMY ASSOCIATIONS

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PRESS STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 13 August 2026

Subject: ZCIEA CONDOLENCES ON THE KARIBA BOAT DISASTER

The Zimbabwe Chamber of Informal Economy Associations - ZCIEA - is deeply saddened by the tragic boat disaster that occurred in Kariba, which has claimed several lives and left many families grieving.

It is with heavy hearts that we confirm that 9 of our ZCIEA members from the fisheries sector were among those affected by this tragedy. These were hardworking men and women who earned an honest living from the waters of Lake Kariba to support their families and contribute to the local economy.

On behalf of the entire ZCIEA membership across Zimbabwe, we extend our sincerest condolences to:
1. The bereaved families who lost loved ones
2. The injured and those still receiving treatment
3. The entire Kariba community and the nation at large during this difficult time

We mourn with you. Our 9 members were not just traders and fishers, they were breadwinners, parents, youth leaders, and pillars of the informal economy. Their loss is a loss to all of us.

We commend the emergency teams, community volunteers, and government agencies who are continuing with search and rescue efforts. We pray for strength for the families during this painful period and for comfort for all those affected.

As ZCIEA, we stand in solidarity with Kariba. We will be working with local leadership and relevant authorities to support the affected families and to advocate for improved safety measures for all informal economy operators who work on our water bodies.

May the souls of the departed rest in eternal peace.
“The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit” - Psalm 34:18

Wisborn Malaya
ZCIEA Secretary General