

Média Statement.

Subject: Setting the record following my disengagement from ZIFA as of 29th March 2018 as per ZIFA Statutes.

In keeping with good corporate governance and the ZIFA constitution I would like to put the record straight in respect of my disengagement from ZIFA following the expiration of the constitutional term of office of the ZIFA Executive Committee 29th March 2018.

I was elected into the ZIFA board/Exco on 5th December 2015 at an EGM which had been occasioned by the recall of the entire ZIFA Executive Committee under Dr Cuthbert Dube.

The EGM resulted in the election of 4 board members, vice president and president, guided by a NOTICE sent out on the 6th of October 2015 by the then ZIFA CEO in line with the ZIFA constitution Article 32.10. Our board under which was elected on 5th December 2015 was to complete the remainder of the term of office of Dr Dube who had been elected into office on 29th March 2014 on a 4 year term of office which was set to expire on 29th March 2018.

Upon being elected into the ZIFA board I, alongside other board members tried to embrace good corporate governance, best practice and constitutionalism during our 2 years in office but we met with fierce resistance from the ZIFA presidium who unfortunately captured the association. Board meetings were not properly convened as the presidium did not respect the constitution in terms of due notice.

No AGM was duly convened in compliance with the ZIFA constitution as the presidium would convene meetings which were unconstitutional and unlawful in terms of due notice.

Our ZIFA board/Exco was reduced to some circus as we were reduced to an extension of the presidium's captured hostages and no wonder why only Presidium would attend the so called board meetings. How could one attend meetings not provided for in the Zifa statutes?

Board decisions were taken by Presidium who happened to be beneficiaries of the decisions.

We tried to engage the presidium to respect the ZIFA constitution to no avail as anyone who raised pertinent issues of governance was labelled a rebel and no wonder why the former late ZIFA board member, Edzai Kasinauyo was hounded to his final lasting place. MHSRIP. Edzai was cleared by courts of concocted match fixing allegations but was never accepted back into the ZIFA board for reasons best known by the ZIFA presidium.

Our ZIFA board whose term of office ended on 29th March 2018 could not live up to its quorum as by the numbers whittled down up to the day of my tendering my letter of disengagement from ZIFA. It is a fact that the Zifa administration that was elected on 29th March 2014 would only be in office up to 29th March 2018 and any attempt to extend that tenure would not only be illegitimate but would be unlawful, immoral and illegal.

As we speak now Zifa has 3 members who claim that they still have the mandate to run Zifa business yet their tenure ended on 29th March 2018.

Attempts to smuggle members from Premier Soccer League and women football show how desperate the Presidium is to sanitise an illegitimate arrangement which violates the Zifa statutes for selfish reasons. Attempts to have the Zifa assembly regularise co-options was rubbished by some of our board members.

Why Presidium would want to unlawfully and unconstitutionally extend their stay at ZIFA beyond their constitutional mandate needs to be interrogated? Isn't the fear to constitutionally relinquish power driven by the agenda to conceal skeletons from the football family in Zimbabwe and the general public?

The association is best served by men and women who respect the Zifa statutes.

Some of our members of football who think that Zifa is their personal property are mistaken and our game shall call such characters to order. Those who may have pillaged resources from our game must be held accountable.

There are some rented voices from our midst who have been hired to denigrate all those who defend constitutionalism must know that the game of football is bigger than individual ego and selfish interests.

Sandton project

Unfortunately when one fails in their mandate to lead they always want to clutch on straws and look for someone to blame for their failures. Instead of focusing on the issue at hand i.e.dissolving the board and holding elections, one wants to make up unfounded stories of non existent projects. We have seen enough of such behaviors which are made to try and divert the attention of the public from the real problems in our football.

Leadership vacuum

Claims of holding on to power under the guise of not wanting to create a leadership vacuum are misguided as the Constitution provides for the Secretariat to run football pending elections - a situation which has happened before when the Cuthbert Dube led board was revoked from office.

It is important to note that ZIFA board members are not Executive members and their role is to give direction to the Secretariat to run football instead of them trying to run football on a daily basis. Such misconceptions explain why the some Board members asked to be paid a salary at the last AGM, a request which the assembly refused to discuss.

Report by 'captured' Senior Sports Reporter that I was living in the Board on the benevolence of the ZIFA leadership is real unfortunate. The said Board meetings were not given due notice of 14 days as per our statute. The 14 days notice period is meant to give enough time for the Board members to prepare for the meetings. Please note that my absence on the three meetings was duly EXCUSED.

Time will tell as to when the current constitutional constraints caused by human error and negligence shall be overcome.

The post 29th March era shall define the future for our game and it is my constitutional right to defend our game from the whims of selfish individuals who want to be served by football and not the other way round.

The game of football is bigger than all of us.

Yours in sport.

Felton Kamambo.

Former Zifa Exco Member