Tribute to Machel paid by Senate

THE Matabeleland North Governor, Senator Jacob Mudenda, yesterday asked the Senate to take note of the untimely death of Mozambican President Cde Samora Machel, pay tribute to him and express sympathy to the people, the government and the ruling party of Mozambique.

He also moved that the Upper House express revulsion at the manner of his death, pledge to continue upholding the principles of freedom and sovereignty which were upheld by Cde Machel and congratulate the new president, Cde Joaquim Chissano.

Cde Mudenda pointed out that his proposal of the motion tabled last year, coincided with Cde Chissano’s four-day visit to Zimbabwe.

“I believe all honourable senators would join me in extending a very warm welcome to his excellency, President Chissano, and in wishing him a hospitable stay in our beautiful Zimbabwe.

“There is no doubt that everywhere the visiting president will go, a rousing welcome will attend him because the ties that join the two sovereign states of Mozambique and Zimbabwe are inextricably binding,” he said.

Cde Mudenda said the selfless spirit of sacrifice and commitment championed by the late President Machel in respect of Zimbabwe’s freedom and independence “will haunt us, should we fail to carry forward the torch of freedom and justice to the frontiers where man still holds fellow-man in callous and disgusting bondage”.

Cde Machel’s political vision had enabled him to successfully persuade the Patriotic Front to see beyond obnoxious clauses in the Lancaster House agreement and accept the Lancaster House constitution as a “stepping stone to complete majority rule in Zimbabwe”, he said.