Press Statement

WE PROMOTE EMPOWERMENT AND RIGHTS OF GIRLS AND WOMEN, NOT VIOLENCE!

17 May 2019

Rozaria Memorial Trust (RMT) is appalled by the article in The Herald newspaper of 17 May 2019, titled “Plot to unleash violence unearthed”. Rozaria Memorial Trust disassociates from the reference to our organisation as one of those undertaking training for subversive purposes. This report is false and a misrepresentation of who we are and damaging to our integrity.

Rozaria Memorial Trust is a non-profit, non-political and non-partisan organisation whose vision is to empower women and children and advance their rights in rural communities, with a special focus on young women and girls. RMT seeks to create opportunities and unleash the potential of girls and young women through health, education and training opportunities. Our work has always been rooted within our communities, mostly in Murewa where we have our headquarters and Shamva District.

Rozaria Memorial Trust works closely with multiple government institutions especially in Murewa and Shamva District in promoting health, education and eradication of Child Marriages. Over the years, we have supported girls to participate in their communities and have opportunities to be in regional and international events. RMT’s work has always been open and transparent, as we collaborate with government, other civil society organisations, the church as well as development partners.

We, therefore, make it clear that we retain the legal right to protect ourselves under the laws of the country, from any malicious reporting. We are demanding an urgent and public retraction as we seek the necessary legal advice to vindicate our reputation.

We do not stand for violence. We continue to stand for social justice, human rights of women and children and community empowerment, as we have been doing for the last 12 years. We thank many Zimbabweans and friends who have reached out to us since the publication of this news offering support and solidarity.

About Rozaria Memorial Trust: RMT is a registered organisation under the laws of Zimbabwe, (MA1050/2007) working at community levels and equally engaged in national, regional and global processes. Its main mission is to create opportunities and unleash the potential of young women and girls through education, health and entrepreneurship.

For more information contact:

Pasca Deka (Chairperson) or Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda (Chief Executive)

Stand 164, Opposite Tambanevana, Murewa Centre, Cell: +263 779104571, +263775014530; Email: info@rozariamemorialtrust.org. Our website: www.rozariamemorialtrust.org