

Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum  
Human Rights & National Institutions

# Report

September 2012 – December 2012



Zimbabwe  
**HUMAN RIGHTS**  
NGO Forum

# Executive summary

This report, the second of 2012, covers the period from September to December 2012 and draws from our members and partners listed at the back. As such it includes all the major events of the period as they unfolded in the second half of the year. These events are presented in a thematically organised timeline which is divided under human rights themes equating to civil and political rights and to economic, social and cultural rights.

The 15th September 2012 marked the 4th anniversary of the signing of the Global Political Agreement. Zimbabwean civil society organisations reflected on the faltering progress and poor implementation of the articles agreed upon by the Political Principles to the Global Political Agreement. In a faltering process that has been more off than on, the population waited with baited breath for the new constitution promised by the political settlement which ushered in the inclusive government. Four years after the inception of the new political dispensation, Zimbabweans began to grow weary of waiting. Following a ZANU PF Politburo meeting in August 2012, the Party began to lobby for 166 ‘non-negotiable’ amendments to the draft constitution.

Key demands were around issues including the executive powers of the President, the establishment of a National Youth Militia Service, and non acceptance of dual citizenship amongst a raft of other demands. Renewed hope came in October 2012 when the draft constitution was finally taken to a Second All Stakeholders’

Constitutional Conference. There was a collective sigh of relief as the event passed off peacefully. Soon afterwards, the waiting game and delaying tactics began again. There was no agreement about how the comments from the Conference would be incorporated into the final document nor who would finalise the document, or when it would finally be put to the people in a referendum. With 2012 drawing to a close there is still no finalisation in constitution making process and the process continues deadlocked and delayed.

This report documents the continuing harassment of civil society and political activists that characterised the period. The operating environment for NGO’s continued to be very challenging. Police arrested and ill treated peaceful protesters, especially the Women of Zimbabwe Arise activists. Other organisations that faced raids and arrests included The Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe, the Counselling Services Unit and many other civil society organisations offering vital services to vulnerable Zimbabweans. Human Rights lawyers were hampered at every turn as they tried to carry out their professional duties and protect Human Rights Defenders. Meanwhile, the population at large suffered endless miseries and health challenges due to an appalling level of service delivery and water borne diseases such as typhoid, cholera and dysentery which were persistently reported throughout the period. As the Kimberly Process lifted its restrictions on sales of diamonds from the Marange diamond fields and the Finance Minister had to revise the budget dramatically downwards, many continued to call

for transparency in the use of diamond revenue and asked why the enormous mineral wealth could not benefit the nation and help to educate, feed and keep healthy the ordinary people of the country.

Throughout the second half of 2012 SADC continued to hold the line that it first took on Zimbabwe in March 2011 during the SADC Summit in Livingstone, Zambia. SADC leaders continued to insist on the full implementation of the articles agreed to in the Global Political Agreement and to call for the finalisation of a new constitution before elections are held. Meanwhile the process of international re-engagement with Zimbabwe carried on with the easing of EU restrictive measures and the suspension of others. The EU emphasised an incremental approach which hinges on credible constitution making and election processes.

Fears of the same levels of political violence that characterised the 2008 election period were re-ignited when President Mugabe announced to the UN General Assembly that there would be a constitutional referendum in November 2012 and harmonised elections in March 2013. The news was greeted with great concern. In September 2012, the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) stated that it would be logistically impossible to hold a referendum in November and elections in March. They cited disputes in finalising the new constitution, continuing political intimidation and gross inaccuracies in voters' lists that still name 'ghost' electors who have long been dead. The organisation called for

a number of important issues to be dealt with first. These include resourcing the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission, revision of the outdated Referendum Act and effecting technical changes to the Electoral Bill as well as updating and cleaning the voter's roll. This led to the passing into law of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and the Electoral Amendment acts.

Sadly as 2012 drew to a close the Annual ZANU PF Congress rang a warning bell against NGO's and, as if nothing had ever changed, within days, the police began wantonly raiding and arresting human rights organisations all over again.

Despite the setbacks narrated above, it is our view that Zimbabwe is in a better place today than it was 2008. All the credit is due to the Human Rights Defenders who have tirelessly worked on the ground as well as our regional and international partners and without whose input the country could have descended into lawlessness. The attainment of democracy is a process not an event and indeed Zimbabwe is currently in transition although that transition is fraught with unnecessary detours and compromises. However such compromises, disappointing as they may be in the short run, may aid the transitional process in the long run. A case in point is the limited temporal jurisdiction of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and Zimbabwe's failure to ratify the Rome Statute. Ironically a focus on ratification of the Rome Statute for some countries in transition can impede the chances of a peaceful transition. In

other words whilst Zimbabwean civil society is absolutely committed to ratification, that long term necessity should also not derail the process of transition, and this indeed calls for a judicious balancing act. 'In other words it was important not to allow perfection to become the enemy of the good.'

## **International Liaison Office Zimbabwe Human Rights Forum**

# Political and Civil Rights

## Elections and Electoral Law

**8.9.12** There was a mixed picture of respect for fundamental freedoms in the period July - August 2012. According to the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) some areas experienced more human rights violations than others ZESN notes the worrying resurgence of torture bases and the presence of youth militia and calls for a violence free election environment.

*(Zimbabwe Election Support Network, Ballot Update: July-August 2012, 8.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/elec/120908zesn.asp?orgcode=ZIM006&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/elec/120908zesn.asp?orgcode=ZIM006&year=0&range_start=1)

**26.9.12** President Mugabe tried to avoid contempt charges by begging the High Court for an extension of time allowing him to call for elections in Zimbabwe by 31 March 2013 rather than 1 October 2012 as dictated by the High Court recently.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, 26.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120926zlhhr.asp?sector=HR&year=2012&range\\_start=31](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120926zlhhr.asp?sector=HR&year=2012&range_start=31)

**26.9.12** Police violently disrupt an MDC T local meeting on the constitution in Shamva, Mashonaland Central on 22.9.12. Eyewitnesses apparently reported that police stormed the meeting wielding baton sticks and threatened to use dogs and teargas to disrupt a meeting which

had been sanctioned.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition 26.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1464:police-violently-disrupt-constitution-meeting-in-shamva&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1464:police-violently-disrupt-constitution-meeting-in-shamva&catid=47:news)

**26.9.12** President Mugabe indicates that general elections will be held in Zimbabwe at the end of March 2013. His comments came during his address to the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York.

*(United Nations General Assembly 26.9.2012)*

■ [http://http.www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep28\\_2012.html#Z17](http://http.www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep28_2012.html#Z17)

**26.9.12** An update on a Youth Voter Registration Campaign reports an increasing number of youths around the country are registering to vote in the anticipated next elections. However, observers on the ground report that most youth face a number of politically motivated difficulties in registering.

*(Youth Forum, 26.9.2012)*

■ [http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=148:daily-voter-registration-updates&catid=39:alerts&Itemid=56](http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=148:daily-voter-registration-updates&catid=39:alerts&Itemid=56)

**27.9.12** The Zimbabwe Europe Network (ZEN) releases a Discussion Paper entitled 'Elections in Zimbabwe- the role of Europe/ the International Community'. It identifies areas that the main umbrella organisations would like to see the international community focus on. Its conclusions focus on the role that Europe should

play in supporting and strengthening the work of SADC. There are also calls for pressure on the government to invite international observers.

*(Zimbabwe Europe Network, 27.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.zimbabwееurope.org/sites/default/files/2012SeptZENonElections.pdf>

**27.9.12** Concern at reports that harmonised elections and a referendum might be held next year in March and this year in November respectively is greeted with great concern by the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN). ZESN is adamant that logistically it is impossible to hold a referendum in November and elections in March. It cites disputes in finalising the new constitution, continuing political intimidation and gross inaccuracies in voters' lists that still name 'ghost' electors who have long been dead. It observes that a number of important issues need to be dealt with first, including resourcing the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission, revising the outdated Referendum Act, effecting technical changes to the Electoral Bill and updating and cleaning the voter's roll. ZESN observes that rushed voting will not produce a fair playing field and that the outcome would be unacceptable by democratic standards.

*(Zimbabwe Election Support Network, 27.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.zesn.org.zw/publications/publication\\_332.pdf](http://www.zesn.org.zw/publications/publication_332.pdf)

**28.9.12** A youth group responds to the comments made by President Mugabe on the timing of the next election.

*(Youth Forum, 28.9.2012)*

■ [http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=150:president-mugabe-addresses-the-65th-session-of-the-united-nations-general-assembly-human-rights-double-standards-exhibited&catid=40:opinion](http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=150:president-mugabe-addresses-the-65th-session-of-the-united-nations-general-assembly-human-rights-double-standards-exhibited&catid=40:opinion)

**1.10.12** The Electoral Amendment Act was gazetted on 28.9.12 after being signed off by the President on 14.9.12. Commencement of all of one of the Act's 44 sections came into force with effect from 28.9.12. This section provides for polling station voters rolls and will only come into force after the coming general elections. No date has yet been given for the opening of the next Session of Parliament.

*(Veritas Bill Watch 45/2012, 1.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61316/bill-watch-452012.html>

**1.10.12** President Mugabe's time table for a referendum and for elections is one of the topics covered by the ZEN Weekly Update for the period 24-30.9.12

*(Zimbabwe Europe Network Weekly Update 39/2012, 1.10.2012)*

■ <http://zimassoc.files.wordpress.com/2010/09/zenweekly201239.pdf>

**2.10.12** President Mugabe escaped liability to comply with a Court order to announce the dates for by-elections in 3 Matabeleland constituencies and in other vacant parliamentary and senatorial constituencies in the country, including local authorities. Justice Chiweshe granted the President a reprieve and allowed him to fix

dates for holding three by-elections by 21.3.13 rather than the previous deadline of 1.10.12.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, 2.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121002zhr.asp?sector=HR&year=2012&range\\_start=31](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121002zhr.asp?sector=HR&year=2012&range_start=31)

**3.10.12** Concern is expressed at the intensified talk of elections by national leaders given the current state of affairs in the country.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association, 3.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimrights.co.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=80:election-talk-premature&catid=5:news&Itemid=6](http://www.zimrights.co.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=80:election-talk-premature&catid=5:news&Itemid=6)

**5.10.12** Zimbabwe Election Support Network provides an analysis of election related provisions of the COPAC draft constitution.

*(Zimbabwe Election Support Network, 5.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/ZESN051012.pdf>

**9.10.12** Veritas reports that no date has yet been set for the opening of the next Parliamentary Session and provides a legislative agenda for the next Session and an update on the number of vacant seats in both houses of the Parliament.

*(Veritas Bill Watch 46/2012, 9.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61349/bill-watch-462012-of-9th.html>

**9.10.12** Veritas reports that the Zimbabwe Election Commission has invited civil society organisations to apply for permission to conduct voter education.

**(Veritas Bill Watch 46/2012, 9.10.2012)**

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61349/bill-watch-462012-of-9th.html>

**9.10.12** Anecdotal reports about the trouble youths are having in trying to register to vote. The Youth Forum states that many youths who decided to register are being turned away at the Registrar General's offices for 'one funny reason or another'

**(Youth Forum, 9.10.2012)**

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/chiyou/121009yf.asp?orgcode=YOU013&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/chiyou/121009yf.asp?orgcode=YOU013&year=0&range_start=1)

**30.10.12** A 'Youth Let Us Vote' campaign is launched to underline the importance of youths registering to vote.

**(Youth Forum of Zimbabwe, 30.10.2012)**

■ [http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=164:youths-let-us-vote&catid=40:opinion](http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=164:youths-let-us-vote&catid=40:opinion)

**31.10.12** The Youth Forum explores what is needed to improve the new constitution to achieve free fair and credible elections.

**(Youth Forum of Zimbabwe, 31.10.2012)**

■ [http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=165:of-credible-elections-and-the-new-constitution&catid=40:opinion](http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=165:of-credible-elections-and-the-new-constitution&catid=40:opinion)

**1.11.12** The President finally opened the Fifth and final Session of Parliament on 30.11.12 and outlined the legislative agenda for the Session. The Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (Crisis) observes that the agenda contains little that can

facilitate a free and fair election. It notes that of the eight Bills currently tabled; only three remotely relate to the election. Regarding the other points covered in the President's opening address; Crisis notes the President's re-iteration that the next harmonised elections will take place under a new constitution in March 2013. Crisis argues that this is an 'unrealistic time frame' and that key issues related to the preparation of free and fair elections are being neglected. It observes that the proposed timetable buttresses suspicions that this is a ploy by the President to scuttle reform around election related issues.

**(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Special Edition 107, 1.11.2012)**

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1560:fifth-session-of-parliament-no-reforms-for-free-and-fair-elections-in-legislative-agenda-&catid=38:fp-rokstories](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1560:fifth-session-of-parliament-no-reforms-for-free-and-fair-elections-in-legislative-agenda-&catid=38:fp-rokstories)

**8.11.12** Reforms to the electoral process in the Electoral Amendment Act are enumerated and welcomed by the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN). These include the role of the Zimbabwe Election Commission in compiling the voter's roll, the introduction of a polling station based voter's roll and the removal of police from inside the polling station amongst a number of other reforms. However, a number of gaps are identified as glaring, including the need to harmonise laws so that areas of conflict and contradiction within the laws can be rectified. The independence of the Observers Accredita-

tion Committee is raised as another issue of concern.

**(Zimbabwe Election Support Network: Ballot Update: Issue 9: September to October 2012, 8.11.2012)**

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/ZESN%20Ballot%20update%20.pdf>

**19.11.12** There are anecdotal reports that the military is intensifying its campaign for ZANU PF in Mashonaland West ahead of elections. The Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition reports that villagers in Hurungwe West are being harassed by their local Chief for refusing to submit their names and that of the political party they support. Villagers report that the Chief is apparently working under the orders of local soldiers to lay the groundwork for a ZANU PF victory in the area.

**(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Report, 19.11.2012)**

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1612:military-intensifies-poll-drive-in-hurungwe-&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1612:military-intensifies-poll-drive-in-hurungwe-&catid=47:news)

**19.11.12** Residents in Manicaland have called on the Government to expedite the constitution making process and put democratic reforms in place before holding elections. Heightened talk of elections has apparently left residents of Nyazura fearful of a resurgence of violence and community unrest.

**(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Report, 19.11.2012)**

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1610:nyazura-residents-demand-](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1610:nyazura-residents-demand-)

**26.11.12** The Youth Forum expressed fears that politically motivated gender violence will once again blight the coming election period. Marking the start of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence, the Youth Forum calls for an end to politically motivated gender based violence and the impunity that has characterised it. It observes how it has been 'used as a tactic to drive fear and to punish women and their families and communities.

*(Youth Forum: Press Statement, 26.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=172:16-days-of-activism-against-gender-based-violence&catid=40:opinion](http://www.youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=172:16-days-of-activism-against-gender-based-violence&catid=40:opinion)

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**16.11.12** There are inadequate budgetary allocations for the elections and a referendum in the 2013 National Budget. Responding to the 2013 National Budget presentation, the Committee of the Peoples Charter observes that there is an assumption that the inclusive government's work programme will be undertaken by the next government.

*(The Committee of the Peoples Charter: Press Statement, 16.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/cact/121116cpc.asp?sector=CACT>

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**28.11.12** The Government of Zimbabwe has been urged to put in place measures to ensure

adequate protection of women against political violence by militia groups and uniformed forces in the run up to the next election. The calls were made by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum in a statement to commemorate The 16 Days of Gender against Gender- based Violence. *(The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Press Statement, 28.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Statement-on-16-days-of-activism3.pdf>

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**8.12.12** In an update on the electoral environment between October and November 2012, political parties were reportedly in campaign mode following the President's announcement that elections will be held in March 2013. The Zimbabwe Election Support (ZESN) network notes political party in-fighting in the period as well as the partisan distribution by ZANU PF of farming inputs under the US\$ 20m Presidential agricultural scheme. ZESN observes that fundamental freedoms are particularly disrespected in Manicaland, Harare and the three Mashonaland provinces. The denial of free speech is also a concern in the Mashonaland provinces.

*(Zimbabwe Election Support Network: Ballot Update: Issue 10: October to November 2012, 8.12.2012)*

*See also: [thezimbabwean.co.uk](http://thezimbabwean.co.uk)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/62705/zesn-november-ballot-update.html>

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## Political Environment and Politically Motivated Violence

**8.9.12** A report by the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) observes a mixed picture of respect for fundamental freedoms in the period July-August 2012. ZESN noted that some areas have experienced more human rights violations than others. They also note the worrying resurgence of torture bases and the presence of youth militia.

*(Zimbabwe Election Support Network: Ballot Update July-August 2012, 8.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/elec/120908zesn.asp?orgcode=ZIM006&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/elec/120908zesn.asp?orgcode=ZIM006&year=0&range_start=1)

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**12.9.12** Human rights lawyers expose the police practice of outsourcing torture by surrendering suspects whom they should have arrested to a notorious ZANU PF-aligned vigilante group known as Chipangano.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: HRDs Alert, 12.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120912zlh.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120912zlh.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range_start=1)

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**14.9.12** The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) reports a considerable deterioration in the political environment in Zimbabwe in August. It reports that there were 462 violations recorded

during the month under review, up from the 375 incidents that were recorded in July 2012. ZPP attributes the rise in cases to the impasse in the Constitution-making exercise. The report provides an analysis of the political events during the month, including the resurgence of ZANU PF aligned militias and the brutal crackdown by police and soldiers on commuter taxi ranks. The report also provides a detailed breakdown of the politically motivated violations recorded during the month

*(Zimbabwe Peace Project: Monthly Monitor: August 2012: 14.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120917zpp.asp?orgcode=ZIM028&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120917zpp.asp?orgcode=ZIM028&year=0&range_start=1)

**12.9.12** Concern is raised following reports that police picked up over 300 suspected touts and rank marshals at major taxi ranks in Harare's Central Business District. Innocent civilians were caught up in the 'blitz'. It was noted that these actions come barely two days after a group of soldiers ran amok and indiscriminately beat up touts and rank marshals at the commuter omnibus rank next to the Police Charge Office in Harare.

*(Zimbabwe Peace Project: Information Alert 7/2012, 12.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimpeaceproject.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=16:police-blitz-nets-over-300-touts&catid=4:news&Itemid=20](http://www.zimpeaceproject.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16:police-blitz-nets-over-300-touts&catid=4:news&Itemid=20)

**19.9.12** Tragic news of the brutal assault and torture of 24 year old, Mr Harrison Munyati.

He died as a result of injuries sustained whilst in custody at Chitungwiza police station and after lodging an earlier complaint about torture by police at the same station. The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum issued a statement expressing grave concern about the continued use of torture by the police in Zimbabwe, despite the commitment it made to ratify the UN Convention against Torture.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Statement, 19.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Alert-torture-and-death-of-Harrison-Manyati-1.pdf>

**25.9.12** Strong condemnation is voiced over the alleged attacks on civilians by soldiers and the disruption of a MDC campaign rally led by Welshman Ncube on 21.9.12 in Mutoko centre, Mashonaland East province.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association: Alert, 25.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimrights.co.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=77:zimrights-condemns-mtoko-violence&catid=5:news&Itemid=6](http://www.zimrights.co.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=77:zimrights-condemns-mtoko-violence&catid=5:news&Itemid=6)

**1.10.12** News that the army has continued a 'blitzkrieg' in Manicaland Province. The Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (Crisis) reports that villagers from Nyanga South Constituency have reported a recent influx of army personnel, who have declared that no MDC rally should be held in the area. They further reported that uniformed soldiers are conducting meetings with traditional leaders ordering them to support

and enforce this embargo on MDC meetings. *(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, 1.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1482:uniformed-soldiers-continue-their-blitzkrieg-in-manicaland-with-nyanga-now-firmly-targeted-as-a-no-go-area-for-the-mdc-&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1482:uniformed-soldiers-continue-their-blitzkrieg-in-manicaland-with-nyanga-now-firmly-targeted-as-a-no-go-area-for-the-mdc-&catid=47:news)

**1.11.12** A man in Chiredzi has been charged with undermining or insulting the President after he allegedly struck a portrait of the President.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: HRDs Alert, 1.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/chiredzi-man-in-trouble-for-striking-mugabe-portrait-over-employment-woes-as-magistrate-refers-case-to-supreme-court/>

**3.11.12** An MDC-T rally which was scheduled for the 28th of October 2012 at Darwendale stadium was postponed by the local council to pave the way for a football match. This came as the second cancellation of an MDC-T rally in Darwendale after a previously scheduled rally was disrupted by Zanu-PF militia and the army in July 2012. The event had already been cleared by the Darwendale police but the rally organisers were informed on the day the rally was supposed to take place that the stadium was not booked and council went on to bar barred the rally.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Report, 3.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1566:mdc-t-kicked-out-of-darwendale--again&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1566:mdc-t-kicked-out-of-darwendale--again&catid=47:news)

**5.11.12** Calls for urgent action against the ‘unparalleled trend of police brutality’ were made by the Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights). ZimRights notes that at least three people have died between 7th September and 5th November 2012 in unclear circumstances in which law enforcement agents are suspected to have had a hand.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association, Communique: 5.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61972/police-brutality-needs-urgent-attention.html>

**5.11.12** The police crackdown against NGO’s was re-instated today, 5.11.12, as riot police raided the Counselling Services Unit in Harare. Five staff members; Fidelis Mudimu, Zachariah Godi, James Zidzimu, Tafadzwa Gesa and Penn Bruno were reportedly arrested and taken into custody at Harare Central Police Station. According to Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, the police said they were searching for material that ‘defaces any house, building, wall, fence, lamp post, gate, elevator without the consent of the owner or occupier’ and in contravention of section 46 of the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Press Release, 5.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61971/police-arrest-csu-employees-in.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=listarticle&utm\\_content=headinglink](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61971/police-arrest-csu-employees-in.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=listarticle&utm_content=headinglink)

**6.11.12** Following the raid and arrests on the

Counselling Services Unit (CSU) three representatives of the CSU, which offers medical and psycho-social support to victims of organised violence and torture, spent a second night in detention without charge. Police indicated the intention to transfer the three to Bulawayo where they allege the offence that they intend to charge them with took place. Two other CSU employees were released from police custody together with a photojournalist for the Daily News.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: HRDs Alert, 6.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121106zhr.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121106zhr.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range_start=1)

**6.11.12** In the case of Munyaradzi Gwisai and other social, labour and HIV activists, lawyers report that a pre-trial conference has paved the way for the High Court to set a date for the trial of police and prison officers who are being sued for torturing and tormenting a group. The group were arrested in February 2011 whilst watching footage of the Egyptian uprisings. They were jailed, tortured and charged with plotting to overthrow the government.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Legal Monitor: Edition 168, 6.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM\\_168%20November%2005%20Email.pdf](http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM_168%20November%2005%20Email.pdf)

**7.11.12** Three of the arrested representatives of the Counselling Service Unit (CSU) were transferred to Bulawayo where they spent a

third night in detention without being charged. *(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: HRDs Alert, 7.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121107zhr.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121107zhr.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range_start=1)

**7.11.12** Amnesty International Southern Africa called for the immediate and unconditional release of the detained Counselling Service Unit employees. Amnesty noted that the detention of the three, who spent more than 48 hours in custody without being charged and without being brought before a court, was illegal. It observed that “The unlawful detention of the three men is indicative of SADC’s failure to enforce reforms of the security services as agreed in the Global Political Agreement. SADC should urgently act to stop this on-going harassment and intimidation of civil society organisations in Zimbabwe.”

*(Amnesty International Southern Africa: Press Statement, 7.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/amnesty-release-csu-workers-illegally-detained-by-police/>

**7.11.12** A report on Henry Dowa, one of the police officers who carried out the arrests of the Counselling Services Unit representatives, was published by Redress in 2004. Redress described Henry Dowa as an allegedly notorious police torturer’. Redress recalled how, in 2003, the UN requested Zimbabwe to withdraw Henry Dowa from a peace-keeping mission in Kosovo following evidence of the acts of torture it was alleged

that he was responsible for in Zimbabwe.

*(Redress Report: The Case of Henry Dowa: 2004)*

■ <http://www.redress.org/downloads/publications/DowaReport.pdf>

**8.11.12** Civil society leaders issued a statement condemning the arrest and detention of the Counselling Services Unit representatives. *(Civil Society Statement: 8.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/Civil%20Society%20statement%20on%20arrest%20of%20CSU%20staff.pdf>

**8.11.12** A Bulawayo magistrate ended the four day detention ordeal of three representatives of the Counselling Services Unit who were finally charged with causing malicious damage to property, in contravention of Section 140 of the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act, four days after their arrest on Monday. Lawyers representing the three registered their complaints against the inhuman and degrading treatment that their clients were subjected to including over detention, being shackled while being moved from Kwekwe to Bulawayo, denial to wear spectacles while in Bulawayo police cells and the raiding of the CSU offices on the strength of a defective search warrant. *(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Press Statement, 8.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121108z1hr.asp?sector=HR>

**8.11.12** The trial of the Glenview 29 (accused of the murder of Police Inspector Petros Mutedza) re-convened on 8.11.12. The defence

counsel challenged the arrest of accused number 11 to number 20, arguing that no proper investigations were carried out by the Investigating Officer. The trial resumes on 12.11.12.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Press Statement, 10.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1584:glenview-29-trial-update&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1584:glenview-29-trial-update&catid=47:news)

**10.11.12** A Zimbabwean delegation briefed the South African Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on International Relations on the State of Zimbabwe's transition. They underlined the need for a new democratic constitution, harmonisation of the current laws with the new constitution, a peaceful environment. The group also underlined the need for a credible Zimbabwe Electoral Commission Secretariat, the demilitarisation of the electoral processes, respect for the GPA and the pro-active involvement of SADC and the AU in the implementation of the GPA for the country to be able to hold a free and fair election where there is a peaceful transfer of state power. *(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Special Issue Zimbabwe Briefing: 10.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1586:sadc-must-stop-zanu-pf-from-derailing-the-constitution-making-process&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1586:sadc-must-stop-zanu-pf-from-derailing-the-constitution-making-process&catid=47:news)

**6.11.12** Roy Bennett warned that Zimbabwe will face a future of 'enduring squalor and oppression' unless leaders put the country

before themselves. His comments came during an event in the UK House of Parliament for the Mike Campbell Foundation.

*(Roy Bennett: Address to 'Triumph over Tyranny' event: 6.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/nov10\\_2012.html#Z25](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/nov10_2012.html#Z25)

**12.11.12** Seventy nine members and two babies were arrested and detained at Bulawayo Central police station for staging a peaceful protest about the water situation in the city. *(Women of Zimbabwe Arise, Press Statement: 12.11.2012)*

■ <http://wozazimbabwe.org/?p=1363>

**26.11.12** Following an international fact finding mission to Zimbabwe, a new report has been published by the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders. The report is entitled 'Zimbabwe: On going risks for human rights defenders in the context of political deadlock and pre-electoral period'. The report observes that more than four years after the adoption of the Global Political Agreement, human rights defenders continue to be harassed, marginalised and victimised by repeated human rights violations. It notes that impunity and a lack of justice for past abuses remain a serious concern.

*(The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders: Report, 26.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/obsrapportzim2012eng.pdf>

**6.10.12** A petition about the rising number of attacks on lawyers has been launched by Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) ahead of International Human Rights Day commemorations on 10.12.12. ZLHR observes that lawyers in Zimbabwe have been threatened and harassed in the course of performing their duties. Their petition notes that, in recent months, the operating environment for members of the legal profession, particularly for human rights lawyers, has shrunk to the extent that it has become almost impossible for them to perform their professional duties and functions as Officers of the Court

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Petition for 10.12.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/zlhr-on-rising-attacks-against-lawyers/>

**30.11.12** The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum ('the Forum') issued a statement welcoming a High Court decision to fight against impunity and award compensation to Forum client, David Mutsotso. The Forum reports that its client, Mr Mutsotso, was severely assaulted in 2003 by members of the Zimbabwe National Army. The Forum welcomed the High Court's strongly worded judgement against members of the Zimbabwe National Army for attacking civilians with impunity.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Press Statement: 30.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Mutsotso-Legal-Alert.pdf>

**8.12.12** Concern was expressed at the on-going harassment of human rights activists following the arrest in Gweru of 29 community educators with the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN). Police released 27 of the group but opened a docket charging two ZESN representatives with allegedly organising and failing to notify the police of an unlawful gathering in contravention of Section 24 of the Public Order and Security Act (POSA).

*(Zimbabwe Election Support Network: Press Statement, 8.12.2012)*

■ <http://www.zesn.org.zw/index.php/zesn-staff-and-task-force-member-arrested-in-gweru>

**10.11.12** Press reports indicate that two leaders of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trades Union were briefly arrested in Bulawayo as they attempted to march in the city centre to commemorate International Human Rights Day.

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/dec11\\_2012.html#Z7](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/dec11_2012.html#Z7)

**10.12.12** After spending two nights in custody in Gweru, the two Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) representatives arrested for allegedly holding an illegal gathering, were released following swift intervention from human rights lawyers. ZESN deplored the continued harassment of human rights activists particularly as the country prepares for elections in 2013.

*(Zimbabwe Election Support Network: Press Statement 10.12.2012)*

■ <http://www.zesn.org.zw/index.php/zesn-staff-and-taskforce->

member-released

**11.12.12** ZANU PF held its 13th Annual National People's Conference in the Midlands city of Gweru from 5-9.12.12. The final resolutions contained strongly worded messages against violence and on women's rights. A warning bell for NGO's was contained in Resolution 1(K) which instructed the party "to ensure that Government enforces the de-registration of errant NGOs deviating from their mandate". There were also resolutions on media and on the education curriculum. Also of interest was the recommendation to go to elections without a constitution if the constitution is not ready before Christmas.

*See also [Thezimbabwean.co.uk](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62724/resolutions-of-zanu-pf-conference.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=listarticle&utm\\_content=headinglink](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62724/resolutions-of-zanu-pf-conference.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=listarticle&utm_content=headinglink)

**13.12.12** In the on-going crackdown against NGO's, a News Alert reports that 5 police officers conducted a raid on the Harare Head Offices of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights). The Deputy National Programmes Co-ordinator was reportedly arrested on charges of conducting illegal voter registration.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe: News Alert, 13.12.2012)*

■ <http://www.crisisinzimbabwe.org/>

# Constitution-Making Process

**10.9.12** Hundreds of people from all walks of life met to debate Zimbabwe's reform programme. There was apparently a clear demand that the COPAC draft constitution be submitted to an All Stakeholder's Conference and subsequently to a referendum.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, Zimbabwe Briefing: Special Issue No. 91, 10.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1410:zimbabwe-briefing-special-issue-91&catid=77:zimbabwe-briefing&Itemid=220](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1410:zimbabwe-briefing-special-issue-91&catid=77:zimbabwe-briefing&Itemid=220)

**13.9.12** On 13.9.12 according to the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (Crisis), Zimbabweans in the diaspora are calling for the urgent completion of the constitution making process and for a referendum to be held. Crisis held a public meeting in Johannesburg on 9.9.12 which concluded that the politicians need to urgently agree on the draft before finalising the process and presenting the COPAC Draft Constitution to the people for scrutiny and debate prior to a referendum. The two MDC formations represented were apparently unanimous that the draft be taken to referendum without the further amendments proposed by ZANU PF.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Press Statement, 13.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1406%3Acomplete-the-process-urgentlyzimbabwean-political-parties-urged-by-diaspora&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=174](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1406%3Acomplete-the-process-urgentlyzimbabwean-political-parties-urged-by-diaspora&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=174)

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120917zpp.asp?orgcode=ZIM028&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120917zpp.asp?orgcode=ZIM028&year=0&range_start=1)

**14.9.12** On 14.9.12 a considerable deterioration in the political environment during the month of August 2012 is reported by the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP). The ZPP Monthly Monitor report for August equates the deterioration to the impasse in the Constitution-making exercise. It reports that there were 462 violations recorded during the month under review, up from the 375 incidents that were recorded in July 2012. The report provides an analysis of the political events during the month, including the resurgence of ZANU PF aligned militias and the brutal crackdown by police and soldiers on commuter taxi ranks. The report also provides a detailed breakdown of the politically motivated violations recorded during the month.

*(Zimbabwe Peace Project, Monthly Monitor August 2012, 14.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120917zpp.asp?orgcode=ZIM028&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120917zpp.asp?orgcode=ZIM028&year=0&range_start=1)

**19.9.12** The Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (Crisis) observes that the marriage of Prime Minister Tsvangirai detracted attention away from critical national issues, not least the rise in politically motivated violence. Crisis notes particular concern at the violence given that the country is supposed to hold a 2nd All Stakeholders' Constitutional Conference. It urges an

inclusive dialogue and a real commitment to civil society participation, non-violence, media access and independent observation of the process.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Zimbabwe Briefing: Issue 92, 19.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/attachments/article/1516/Zimbabwe%20Briefing%20Issue%2092.pdf>

**20.9.12** The deadlock over the constitution begins to loosen following the visit to Zimbabwe by President Zuma, the recent SADC Summit and a shifting of the previously adamant positions taken by the political parties.

*(Veritas Constitution Watch 20/2012, 20.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/60981/constitution-watch-of-20th-september.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=latestarticles](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/60981/constitution-watch-of-20th-september.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=latestarticles)

**24.9.12** The Parliamentary Select Committee on the Constitution, (COPAC), has taken a positive step on the 2nd All Stakeholders' Conference scheduled to take place on 4-6.10.12. Crisis reports that 10 civil society groups have met with the COPAC Co-Chair and that there has been an acknowledgement that COPAC will re-visit the issue of delegates to attend the stakeholder's conference.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, 24.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1448:copac-takes-positive-step-on-the-2nd-all-stakeholders-conference&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1448:copac-takes-positive-step-on-the-2nd-all-stakeholders-conference&catid=47:news)

**2.10.12** An up-date of the political situation for the week ending 30.09.12 is provided by the Heal Zimbabwe Trust. It raises particular concern that there is tension and political victimisation in the Masvingo districts of Zaka North and West.

*(Heal Zimbabwe Trust: Weekly Bulletin, 2.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61199/an-update-on-the-political.html>

**3.10.12** 'Life Without a Destination', an account of the string of evictions faced by an ex farm worker and her grandson in Mashonaland East province in the decade since the fast track land reform. (UN Integrated Regional Network, 3.10.2012)

■ <http://www.irinnews.org/Report/96442/ZIMBABWE-Life-without-a-destination>

**10.10.12** Reports on the arrest of the Minister of Energy and Power Development and MDC Deputy Treasurer-General, Elton Mangoma who was charged with allegedly insulting the President in May 2012. He was released after a warned and cautioned statement was recorded from him.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, 10.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=54&Itemid=122](http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=54&Itemid=122)

**10.10.12** Possible reasons behind the arrest of Minister Mangoma are explored  
*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, 10.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_con](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_con)

tent&view=article&id=1500:minister-elton-mangoma-arrested&catid=80:crisis-comment-on&Itemid=213

**15.10.12** The release of Cynthia Manjoro, one of the 'Glenview 29' accused of murdering police officer Petros Mutedza and ZimRights National Co-coordinator.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association: ZimRights, 15.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61613/cynthia-manjoro-out-on-bail.html>

**18.10.12** Police charge MDC Provincial Chairperson for Manicaland Province with allegedly threatening to commit murder two years ago.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights:18.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121018zhr.asp?sector=HR&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121018zhr.asp?sector=HR&year=0&range_start=1)

**19.10.12** Amnesty expressed concern at the case of the Glenview 29 whether the truth will ever be known about the fate of Inspector Petros Mutedza.

*(Amnesty-International Southern Africa: Media Interview, 19.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61616/amnesty-international-reaction-to-cynthia.html>

**22.10.12** The arrest of a Zimbabwean AIDS activist for distributing constitutional material at the Second All Stakeholders Constitutional Conference.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: 24.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61688/>

hivaid-activist-arrested-at-copac.html

**24.10.12** In the case relating to the Anglican Church; the Supreme Court dismissed five appeals and reserved judgement in a further two of the appeals. Veritas reviewed the background of the case.

*(Veritas Court Watch: 24.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61797/court-watch-202012-of-24th.html>

**24.10.12** Concern and shock was expressed at the sentencing by a Kwekwe Magistrate of a young Human Rights Defender, Nkosilathi Moyo, under the Public Order and Security Act (POSA). He was arrested on November 11 2011 for convening a civil society briefing meeting on the CSO Road Map to Elections and Minimum Conditions, subjects which the police deemed 'political'.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, 24.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1538%3Aposa-claims-1st-cso-victim&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=207](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1538%3Aposa-claims-1st-cso-victim&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=207)

**24.10.12** A variety of civil society responses to the Second All Stakeholders' Conference  
*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, 24.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/Crisis%20Report%20Issue%20104.pdf>

**25.9.12** An analysis of the draft constitution from the perspective of economically disadvantaged people in Zimbabwe. Amongst the concerns ZUPA raises is that despite the con-

tributions which were submitted to COPAC by Zimbabweans in the diaspora, the views and calls for dual citizenship, the devolution of power and the diaspora vote appear not to have been taken into account.

*(Zimbabwe Unemployed Peoples Association, 25.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.sokwanele.com/thisiszimbabwe/archives/8103>

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**25.10.12** The legitimacy of the All Stakeholders Conference is criticised by the National Constitutional Assembly (NCA) who announce that they will be campaigning for a 'No' vote on the draft constitution.

*(National Constitutional Assembly: Press Statement, 25.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.changezimbabwe.com/index.php/news-mainmenu-2/1-latest/4322-nca-bring-on-referendum-we-cant-wait-to-vote-no>

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**26.10.12** Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) calls for more investigations in a case reported in the media involving the death of Blessing Matanda, apparently found dead in a cell at Munyati police station with a gun at his side. ZimRights calls on the police to be held to account and reminds the police of their obligations to those in their custody.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association, 26.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61811/munyati-police-must-be-held.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=listarticle&utm\\_content=textlink](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61811/munyati-police-must-be-held.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=listarticle&utm_content=textlink)

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**26.9.12** A Summarised Analysis of the COPAC Draft Constitution is provided by Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) as the country moves towards a Second All Stakeholders' Conference and a possible constitutional referendum. The analysis provides an overview of each Chapter of the proposed Constitution together with a commentary of its progressive elements and the issues that remain problematic.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, 26.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=55&Itemid=124](http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=55&Itemid=124)

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**26.9.12** The dates for the holding of a Second All Stakeholders' Constitutional Conference have been revised. The conference will now take place in the third week of October. Crisis urges all stakeholders to take advantage of the extended time to analyse the draft and prepare consolidated positions for debate and presentation at the conference.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, 26.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1458:second-all-stakeholders-conference-now-set-for-3rd-week-of-october-2012&catid=38:fp-rokstories](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1458:second-all-stakeholders-conference-now-set-for-3rd-week-of-october-2012&catid=38:fp-rokstories)

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**27.9.12** An Alert by the Zimbabwe Association of Human Rights (ZimRights) reports on a number of situations of political concern around the country and calls for a more peaceful environment in the run up to the constitutional conference. In Mberengwa MDC supporters were threatened with eviction and having their

names removed from the food aid register by a village head and local headmaster. In Masvingo press reports indicate a surge of human rights violations. Masvingo based civic organisation, Community Tolerance, Reconciliation and Development (COTRAD) has reported an escalation of political intimidation, arbitrary arrests and detentions over the period from May to August 2012 in the province. Whilst in Mutoko, ZimRights reports that teachers are in fear after the brutality exhibited by soldiers in breaking up a political rally recently.

*(Zimbabwe Association of Human Rights: Alert, 27.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120927zimright.asp?sector=HR&year=2012&range\\_start=31](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120927zimright.asp?sector=HR&year=2012&range_start=31)

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**1.10.12** The resolutions of a National Residents' Conference on the Constitution jointly hosted by several civic organisations in Bulawayo on 29.9.12. The meeting agreed to adopt and defend the COPAC draft constitution but called on the Select Committee to address a number of gaps that it has identified in the draft.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, 1.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1480:resolutions-of-the-2nd-national-residents-conference-on-the-constitution-&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1480:resolutions-of-the-2nd-national-residents-conference-on-the-constitution-&catid=47:news)

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**4.10.12** Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) released a comprehensive analysis of the consolidated COPAC draft constitution. *(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, 4.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/ZLHR%20Analysis%20of%20COPAC%20Draft%20Constitution%20Final.pdf>

**4.10.12** Veritas considers the impact that the new (draft) constitution would have on coming elections. It notes that only the provision governing the coming elections will come into force upon the adoption of the new constitution. It observes that although the new constitution lays down the principles that elections must be free and fair, and that members of the civil service and security forces must be non-partisan, it does not establish any mechanisms for ensuring free and fair elections. Veritas examines whether the new constitution will put in place any of the necessary safeguards to ensure a free, fair and peaceful election. It proposes additional safeguards that might be needed to permit the same.

*(Veritas Constitution Watch, 4.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61331/constitution-watch.html>

**8.10.12** Veritas reports that the date and venue for the Second All Stakeholders' Conference has been confirmed and will take place from 21-23.10.12 at the Harare International Conference Centre.

*(Veritas Constitution Watch, 8.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/oct9\\_2012.html#Z22](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/oct9_2012.html#Z22)

**18.10.12** Commemorating the World Youth Day under the 2012 theme; 'Claim the Future',

the Youth Forum states that in order for youth of Zimbabwe to claim the future, they need to be able to participate in national processes, such as the constitution making process.

*(Youth Forum, 18.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=157:world-youth-day-for-democracy-let-us-claim-the-future&catid=39:alerts&Itemid=56](http://www.youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=157:world-youth-day-for-democracy-let-us-claim-the-future&catid=39:alerts&Itemid=56)

**22.10.12** Zimbabwe's second All Stakeholders' Conference on the Draft Constitution begun peacefully in Zimbabwe with political party principals calling for peace and tolerance. President Mugabe once again emphasized that presidential elections will be held in March 2013. However the MDC (N) has pulled out of the conference and indicated that they would not participate for as long as Arthur Mutambara, instead of the current MDC president Welshman Ncube is still recognized as the Deputy Prime Minister. The peaceful conference follows a joint civil society petition on 17.10.12 urging President Zuma to intervene to ensure the autonomous participation and just representation of all civil society in the up-coming Conference.

*(Civil Society Monitoring Mechanism on the Constitutional Reform Process (CISSOMP); 17.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61632/zim-csos-petition-president-zuma.html>

**22.10.12** Despite the peaceful start to the constitutional conference, there are fears that

Zimbabwe is heading to a flawed transition and an artificial election

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Transition Barometer Vol.1.)*

■ [https://docs.google.com/file/d/1cttPO\\_H\\_e22APecQlom\\_XvellpLitdFPqK3m6wcu3P\\_TOCQ2yuCYuhXPdnmP/edit?pli=1](https://docs.google.com/file/d/1cttPO_H_e22APecQlom_XvellpLitdFPqK3m6wcu3P_TOCQ2yuCYuhXPdnmP/edit?pli=1)

**24.10.12** The Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition reported on proceedings at the Second All Stakeholders' Conference. It observed that proceedings were generally peaceful and captured the response to the conference by a variety of civil society delegates to the conference.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: 24.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1542:stakeholders-conference-a-qualified-successbut&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1542:stakeholders-conference-a-qualified-successbut&catid=47:news)

**25.10.12** Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights provided preliminary observations on the Second All Stakeholders' Conference as observed by the joint independent Constitutional Monitoring Project, ZZICOMP. Observations include incidents of coaching political party delegates by all threepolitical parties and displays of racial intolerance. Utmost concern was expressed at Presidential pronouncements that the GPA Principles will have the ultimate authority on the outcome and at the lack of clarity as to the next steps in finalising the draft constitution. COPAC is urged to conclude the process swiftly and SADC is called upon to continue remaining invested to ensure the reform processes are not manipulated in the lead up to the next election.

**(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Statement: 25.10.2012)**

■ [http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=54&Itemid=122](http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=54&Itemid=122)

**1.11.12** Further to the President's statements at the 2nd All Stakeholders' Conference that "the Principles will have the final say on the draft" the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition reports that the President said, during the opening of the Fifth Session of Parliament that "there is now need for Government to assume the management of the process leading to the holding of a Referendum." As a result, the constitutional select committee is apparently giving in to executive demands to hand all the constitution reports to the three Principles so that they can finalise the writing of the new constitution. Crisis comments that this is a potentially dangerous move 'which jeopardises further the possibilities of the draft constitution being adopted at a referendum'

**(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: 1.11.2012)**

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1560:fifth-session-of-parliament-no-reforms-for-free-and-fair-elections-in-legislative-agenda-&catid=38:fp-rokstories](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1560:fifth-session-of-parliament-no-reforms-for-free-and-fair-elections-in-legislative-agenda-&catid=38:fp-rokstories)

**2.11.12** The Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association will be holding a series of public Constituency Consultative Meetings to unpack the COPAC Draft Constitution to the residents of Bulawayo during 2 - 4.11.12.

**(Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association, 25.11.2012)**

■ <http://bprainfo.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/alert-bpra-weekend-activities-2-3-and-4.html>

**7.11.12** The Constitutional Select Committee (COPAC) announced the completion of the report on the 2nd All Stakeholders' Conference on the Draft Constitution and that it was handing the report to the Management Committee. It was further announced that the Select Committee has three months from the date of the All Stakeholders' Conference to finalise the draft and present it for a referendum. Standing in for the COPAC Co-Chair, Innocent Gonese of the MDC T further stated that the executive would only come in after the draft has been taken to referendum

**(COPAC: Press Statement, 7.11.2012)**

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62084/principals-have-no-role-yet.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=listarticle&utm\\_content=headinglink](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62084/principals-have-no-role-yet.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=listarticle&utm_content=headinglink)

**10.11.12** Speaking to the South African Parliamentary Portfolio committee on International Relations, SADC was called upon to stop ZANU PF from derailing the constitution-making process

**(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: 10.11.2012)**

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1586:sadc-must-stop-zanu-pf-from-derailing-the-con-stitution-making-process&catid=47:news#](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1586:sadc-must-stop-zanu-pf-from-derailing-the-con-stitution-making-process&catid=47:news#)

**19.11.12** There are reports about a further deadlock in the constitution-making process

and no consensus on the next steps in the process, including whether the draft should be taken to parliament, finalised by the principles to the GPA or, whether the matter should be referred to SADC.

**(Veritas: Constitution Watch, 19.11.12)**

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/constitution-watch-deadlock-post-stakeholders-conference/>

**8.12.12** Veritas reports that the Political Principals have set up a Committee to deal with the delays and deadlocks that continue to beset the finalisation of the constitution making process.

**(Veritas: Constitution Watch, 8.12.2012)**

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/62713/principals-set-up-committee-to.html>

## Media

**27.9.12** Police in Harare raided the premises of an alleged illegal television station, seized broadcasting equipment and arrested the employees.

*(Media Institute of Southern Africa: Alert, 27.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61140/latest-on-suspected-illegal-television.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=listarticle&utm\\_content=headinglink](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61140/latest-on-suspected-illegal-television.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=listarticle&utm_content=headinglink)

**28.9.12** The Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) used the occasion of the ‘International Right to Know Day’ to launch its annual reports on the ‘Most Open and Secretive Public Institutions in Southern Africa’ for 2012. The reports were accompanied by awards’ ceremonies at the respective MISA chapters, with the most secretive public institutions being awarded a ‘Golden Padlock’ award, and the most open public institutions being awarded a ‘Golden Key’ award. The awards were presented to the relevant institutions at six separate events, including by MISA Zimbabwe.

*(Media Institute of Southern Africa, Regional Chapter, 28.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.misa.org/index.php/featured-news/item/457-misa-launches-2012-golden-padlock-research-to-commemorate-right-to-know-day>

**9.10.12** The Editor and Deputy Editor of the Daily

News were arrested and detained

*(Media Institute of Southern Africa, MISA Zimbabwe, 9.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/media/121009misaz.asp?sector=HR&year=2012&range\\_start=31](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/media/121009misaz.asp?sector=HR&year=2012&range_start=31)

**10.10.12** The arrest of a community activist in Kariba charged with defamation.

*(Media Institute of Southern Africa: Zimbabwe Media Alert, 10.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61457/community-news-activist-denied->

**18.10.12** A journalist in Karoi is summoned to appear on charges of criminal defamation

*(Media Institute of Southern Africa: Zimbabwe Media Alert, 18.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.misa.org/index.php/alerts/zimbabwe-alerts/359-zimbabwe-journalist-summoned-over->

**23.10.12** The State withdraws its case against a community news activist in Kariba who was charged with criminal defamation under Section 96 of the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act.

*(Media Institute of Southern Africa: Zimbabwe Media Alert, 23.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/misa-state-abandons-appeal-against-news-activist/>

**2.11.12** Advocate Pansy Tlakula, the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa and a member of the African Commission on Human and

Peoples’ Rights has expressed deep concern at the continued existence of ‘laws that impede the work of the media in Zimbabwe. She noted that even after a new constitution is in place there is still need “to deal with all the laws that impede expression like AIPPA, POSA and all the other laws that are not in conformity with regional and international instruments that Zimbabwe has ratified”

*(Pansy Tlakula: Media Interview with Radio Voice of the People: 1.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.radiovop.com/index.php/national-news/9774-zim-media-laws-a-concern-au-rapporteur.html>

**5.11.12** Deep concern about the existence of laws that impede the work of the media and the safety of journalists in Zimbabwe was voiced by Advocate Pansy Tlakula, the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa and member of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights.

*(Media Institute of Southern Africa, (MISA Zimbabwe): Zimbabwe Communiqué: 5.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.misa.org/index.php/featured-news/item/490-advocate-pansy-tlakula-concerned-over-safety-of-journalists-in-africa>

**7.11.12** The Media Institute of Southern Africa expressed concern at the growing intimidation of media practitioners following the arrest of the Editor of The Weekly Mirror on 6.11.12.

*(Media Institute for Southern Africa: Media Alert, 7.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/2012/11/07/misa-warns-of->

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**6.11.12** A Daily News photographer, Watson Ofumeli, was arrested while covering the police raid on the Counselling Services Unit.

*(Media Institute of Southern Africa Zimbabwe: Zimbabwe Media Alert, 6.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.misa.org/index.php/alerts/zimbabwe-alerts/368-zimbabwe-daily-news-photojournalist-arrested>

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**30.1.12** The deposed Anglican Bishop, Nolbert Kunonga, reportedly threatened to shoot journalists covering his eviction from the Anglican Church premises in Harare. The Zimbabwe Union of Journalists expressed concern for its members following a number of violent incidences against journalists. It urged journalists to be cautious in dealing with public figures.

*(Zimbabwe Union of Journalists: Press Statement, 30.1.2012)*

■ [http://www.zuj.org.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=63:zuj-statement-on-harassment-of-journalist-by-bishop-kunonga&catid=4:latest-publications](http://www.zuj.org.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=63:zuj-statement-on-harassment-of-journalist-by-bishop-kunonga&catid=4:latest-publications)

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**13.12.12** A community news activist in Kariba was acquitted after being charged with criminal defamation. The magistrate observed that the state lacked evidence to prove the charge.

*(The Media Monitoring Project of Zimbabwe: Zimbabwe Alert Update, 13.12.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62815/community-news-activist-acquitted.html>

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**12.12.12** An overview of Zimbabwean media

coverage during November 2012 highlights sensationalised reporting of the Nolbert Kunonga case and coverage of the 2013 National Budget presentation. Both government and private media focused on US \$ 50 million allocation for elections, proposed banking reforms and the increase in the military budget. Media reports of widespread corruption amongst local government authorities, particularly in Harare City Council are also noted. Thirty three incidents of rights abuses were apparently reported in the media, of these, twenty five (75%) were reported by the private media.

*(Media Monitoring Project of Zimbabwe: Election Watch: November 2012. 12.12.2012)*

■ <http://nehandaradio.com/2012/12/12/media-monitoring-project-zimbabwe-election-watch/>

## Legal and Judicial Reforms

**10.9.12** Various delays in Government and Parliamentary business include the delay in opening parliament, stalling the gazetting of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission Bill and the Electoral Amendment Bill, the Cabinet veto of the Referendums Bill, the constitutional impasse and the lack of preparations for the court ordered by-elections whose deadline is 1.10.12. Veritas ponders if these delays are any indication that a snap election might be called under the Lancaster House constitution.

*(Veritas Bill Watch: 42/2012, 10.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep11\\_2012.html#Z23](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep11_2012.html#Z23)

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**12.9.12** Human rights lawyers mount a constitutional challenge against the police practice of outsourcing torture by surrendering suspects whom they should have arrested to a notorious ZANU PF-aligned vigilante group known as Chipangano.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: HRDs Alert, 12.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120912zldr.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120912zldr.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range_start=1)

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**30.9.12** An Opinion Piece entitled 'Property Rights and the Zimbabwean constitution – A Christian response' is issued by Ben Freeth.

*(Ben Freeth, 30.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61169/the-history-of-property-rights.html?utm\\_source=thetim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=latestarticles](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61169/the-history-of-property-rights.html?utm_source=thetim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=latestarticles)

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**3.10.12** Sokwanele published another in its on-going series about the land issue in Zimbabwe. The paper, by Mandivamba Rukuni, is entitled 'Reframing the Wild-Life Based Land Reform Programme' (*Sokwanele: Land Series, 3.10.2012*)

■ <http://www.sokwanele.com/node/2402>

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**4.9.12** Lawyers make a legal challenge on behalf of Hon. Douglas Mwonzora who was charged with contravening Section 33 of the so-called insult provisions of the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act of 2009. Hon. Mwonzora allegedly likened the President to a goblin. He is challenging the constitutionality of the law on the grounds that the insult law is unconstitutional and an infringement of his freedom of expression. (*Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Legal Monitor, 4.9.2012*)

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM%20Edition%20163.pdf>

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**4.10.12** The Supreme Court at last hands down its judgement explaining its reasons for ordering, on 28.9.09, that the prosecution of Jestina Mukoko be stopped. Veritas hopes the case will serve as a reminder to the Minister of Justice about commitments made during Zimbabwe's Universal Periodic Review to ratify the Conven-

tion against Torture. (*Veritas Court Watch, 4.10.2012*)

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/61322/supreme-court-produces-judgment-in.html>

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**6.10.12** Current cases in front of the Supreme Court include seven appeals relating to court cases between the mainstream Anglican Church and the breakaway local church led by Nolbert Kunonga. (*Veritas Court Watch: 6.10.2012*)

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/oct8\\_2012.html#Z13](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/oct8_2012.html#Z13)

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**31.10.12** Transparency International Zimbabwe launches a new SMS service to improve public sector corruption. The Interactive Information Communication Technology Platform is intended to expose corruption through a cell phone message (SMS). (*Transparency International: Media Interview with The Zimbabwean, 31.10.2012*)

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61917/tiz-launches-sms-platform-to.html>

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**11.12.12** Zimbabwean human rights lawyers Raymond Moyo and Charles Kwaramba were presented with The 2012 Human Rights Lawyer of the Year Award. The awards were made by Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) who cited the time, energy, resources, passion and courage that both had devoted to the human rights struggle during 2012. In making the awards, ZLHR observed that the operating environment for lawyers remains challenging

with lawyers continuing to encounter threats, harassment and intimidation in the execution of their professional duties.

(*Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Press Release 11.12.2012*)

■ <http://www.zlhr.org.zw/>

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**10.12.12** In a joint statement for International Human Rights Day, the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum and Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights reminded the government that everyone has the right to take part in the governance of the country regardless of their political affiliation. As the country prepares for the Constitutional referendum and watershed elections next year, the government was urged to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms including the principle of holding periodic and genuine elections by universal suffrage. (*Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum/ Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Joint Press Statement, 10.12.2012*)

■ [http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=55&Itemid=124](http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=55&Itemid=124)

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## Institutional Reform

**5.11.12** Following the opening of the new Parliamentary Session on 30.10.12, Veritas reports that short sitting of both Houses took place immediately with membership of the Portfolio Committees and Thematic Committees remaining the same as in the previous session. (*Veritas: Bill Watch Parliamentary Committee Series, 5.11.2012*)

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/nov7\\_2012.html#Z21](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/nov7_2012.html#Z21)

**6.11.12** The Anti-Corruption Trust of Southern Africa has released a report showing that corruption by Zimbabwe Republic Police traffic section is the worst in the region and that bribes are shamelessly demanded. ACT note that traffic police in Zimbabwe have acquired assets that do not tally with their salaries. (*Anti-Corruption Trust Southern Africa, 6.11.2012*)

■ <http://actsouthernafrica.posterous.com/>

**2.11.12** An assessment of the Commissions in the draft Zimbabwe Constitution was published by Professor Jeremy Sarkin of the U.N Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances. The paper examines the role and function of the various commissions that are contained in the 18 July 2012 draft constitution. The paper contributes to the current discourse around strengthening provisions governing independent institutions and commissions.

Amongst a number of recommendations, it is observed that a pivotal concern in determining how well the public good is served is the way in which appointments are made and where the power to ratify appointment lies.

(*IDASA Research Paper: "Assessing Independent Commissions in the COPAC Draft Constitution of Zimbabwe" 2.11.2012*)

■ <http://www.idasa.org/media/uploads/outputs/files/independentcommissions.pdf>

## Security Sector

**12.9.12** Concern is expressed following reports that soldiers allegedly beat up rank marshals and conductors on the streets of Harare with the aim of apparently avenging an attack on one of their colleagues. Transparency International Zimbabwe observes that such an act constitutes a gross abuse of the soldiers' delegated power to maintain law and order. It observes that soldiers are seeking to gain mileage for themselves by instilling an atmosphere of fear.

(*Transparency International Zimbabwe: Press Statement, 12.9.2012*)

■ <http://www.transparency.org.zw/index.php/component/communicator/view/76/11>

■ [http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/TI-Z\\_Press%20Statement.pdf](http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/TI-Z_Press%20Statement.pdf)

**28.9.12** Report on the chaos and violence at the commuter omnibus rank in Harare observes that such incidents are not random. The Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition argues that these are orchestrated attempts at a 'jambanja economy' providing the opportunity for 'primitive accumulation by Zimbabwe's elites' particularly given the size of Zimbabwe's informal economy. Crisis also considers media reports that the National Security Council has not convened since May 2012.

(*Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Zimbabwe Briefing, Issue 93, 28.9.2012*)

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&id=77&Itemid=220](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=77&Itemid=220)

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**1.10.12** Security sector reform is identified as the key to free and fair elections following an attack on a political rally by uniformed soldiers in Mutoko. The United Nations International Regional Integrated Network (IRIN) explores how the attack has stoked fears of a reprise of state-sponsored violence against NGOs, human rights activists and parties opposed to President Robert Mugabe's ZANU-PF in the lead-up to a referendum on a draft constitution and scheduled parliamentary and presidential elections in 2013. (*United Nations: International Regional Integrated Network, 1.10.2012*)

■ <http://www.irinnews.org/Report/96421/ZIMBABWE-Security-sector-reform-key-to-peaceful-elections>

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**11.11.12** An article entitled 'Playing Politics with Military History' observes that the launch of the 'so-called' military history documentation project is clearly designed to allow the army to campaign for ZANU-PF. Writing in the OSISA Newsletter, Richard Lee argues that the project will not document military history, but will instead use money from the Marange diamonds to deploy 30,000 serving and retired security forces across the country to build support for Mugabe and the party. (*Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA): Newsletter, 11.11.2012*)

■ <http://www.osisa.org/hrdb/blog/playing-politics-military-history>

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**28.11.12** The Government of Zimbabwe has been urged to put in place measures to ensure adequate protection of women against political violence by militia groups and uniformed forces in the run up to the next election. The calls were made by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum in a statement to commemorate The 16 Days of Gender against Gender-based Violence. (*The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Press Statement, 28.11.2012*)

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Statement-on-16-days-of-activism3.pdf>

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## Regional and International Obligations

**4.9.12** Israeli diamond analyst Chaim Even-Zohar issued a report on the implication of the changes, (including the 'Zimbabwe precedent') that will be debated at the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) Plenary meeting to be held in Washington in November 2012. The KPCS Plenary will debate and vote on new proposals for the definition of conflict diamonds which would give the KP the power to make key decision based on human rights conditions in member countries.

(*Chaim Even-Zohar: 4.9.2012*) *check source*

■ <http://www.israelidiamond.co.il/English/news.aspx?boneld=2523&objid=1173>

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**10.9.12** United States Ambassador Designate to Zimbabwe, Bruce Wharton, was sworn in and reported that he was excited about the prospect of returning to Zimbabwe.

(*United States Embassy: Press Release, 10.9.2012*)

■ <http://soundcloud.com/zimpas/us-embassy-amb-wharton-long>

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**19.9.12** A new paper calls for regional integration to go beyond an inter-governmental process and broader participation by the private sector and non-state actors to mainstream regional integration into national development policies and strategies.

*(Trade Law Centre on Regional integration in Southern Africa: 'Regional Integration in SADC – Retreating or Forging Ahead?' 19.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.tralac.org/files/2012/09/S12WP082012-Kalenga-Regional-integration-in-SADC-retreating-or-forging-ahead1.pdf>

**21.9.12** Sokwanele reports that the Supreme Court of Appeal in South Africa handed down a judgement on 20.9.12 which confirms the binding nature of the SADC Tribunal ruling on the case of the Zimbabwean farmers. The ruling also ordered that the Zimbabwean Government must pay the costs.  
*(Sokwanele, 21.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.sokwanele.com/thisiszimbabwe/archives/8098>

**24.9.12** Professor Brian Kagoro, the founding Coordinator and former Chair of Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, issued a frank broadside and challenge to civil society to be more united in order to be strong and to stop bickering and back-biting.  
*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, 24.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1454:our-institutional-culture-within-ngos-is-no-better-than-zanu-pf-says-brain-kagoro-crisis-coalition-founding-coordinator&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1454:our-institutional-culture-within-ngos-is-no-better-than-zanu-pf-says-brain-kagoro-crisis-coalition-founding-coordinator&catid=47:news)

**28.9.12** The South African Supreme Court of Appeal releases the full text of the ruling about the case of the Zimbabwean farmers whose farms were seized.  
*(The Zimbabwean: "The Supreme Court of appeal of South Africa Judgement", 23.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61147/the-supreme-court-of-appeal.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=latestarticles](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61147/the-supreme-court-of-appeal.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=latestarticles)

**15.10.12** A report by the International Crisis Group (ICG) interrogates the structural weaknesses, capacity needs and challenges within SADC. The report, expresses concern at the limited capacity of SADC to intervene effectively to enforce the agreement it helped to broker. The ICG argues that SADC needs to build its peace and security capacity and makes a number of recommendations for strengthening the regional bloc.

*(International Crisis Group: 'Implementing Peace and Security Architecture (11): Southern Africa', 15.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/africa/southern-africa/191-implementing-peace-and-security-architecture-ll-southern-africa.pdf](http://www.crisisgroup.org/~/media/Files/africa/southern-africa/191-implementing-peace-and-security-architecture-ll-southern-africa.pdf)

**27.10.12** Following its Annual General Meeting in London, the Zimbabwe Association launched its 2012 Annual General Report for 2012.

*(Zimbabwe Association, 27.10.2012)*

■ <http://zimassoc.files.wordpress.com/2012/09/agm-report-2012.pdf>

**30.10.12** In a significant announcement from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), it was announced that most restrictions on technical assistance to Zimbabwe are to be relaxed, thus opening the way for future IMF Staff Monitored

Programmes with Zimbabwe.

*(International Monetary Fund: Press Release No.12/405: 30.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2012/pr12405.htm>

**30.10.12** Zimbabwe is one of the case studies examined in a new publication on the Impact of the African Charter and Women's Protocol in selected African States. The publication examines to what extent the promises of these instruments have been realised and what impact they have had.

*(Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria: 30.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.pulp.up.ac.za/pdf/2012\\_07/2012\\_07.pdf](http://www.pulp.up.ac.za/pdf/2012_07/2012_07.pdf)

**28.9.12** The role that local actors and SADC might play during and after the elections to help regulate the behaviour of the military is explored

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Zimbabwe Briefing Issue 93, 28.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&id=77&Itemid=220](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=77&Itemid=220)

**10.11.12** Speaking to the South African Parliamentary Portfolio committee on International Relations, SADC was called upon to stop ZANU PF from derailing the constitution-making process

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: 10.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1586:sadc-must-stop-zanu-pf-from-derailing-the-constitution-making-process&catid=47:news#](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1586:sadc-must-stop-zanu-pf-from-derailing-the-constitution-making-process&catid=47:news#)

**26.11.12** The Pan African Lawyers Forum and Southern African Litigation Centre have approached the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights to rule on the legality of the suspension of the SADC Tribunal. (*Southern African Litigation Centre: Press Release, 26.11.2012*)

■ <http://www.southernafricalitigationcentre.org/2012/11/26/press-release-african-human-rights-court-asked-to-rule-on-legality-of-sadc-tribunals-suspension/>

**26.11.12** Following a strike of farm labourers in South Africa's Western Cape, calls were made for an amnesty for Zimbabwean and other migrant groups working as undocumented farm labourers in South Africa. The Congress of South African Trades Unions (COSATU) and the South African based migrant rights group, PASSOP, say that unless an amnesty is put in place there will be bloodshed and mass displacements. (*People against Suffering and Oppression (PASSOP): Press Statement, 26.11.12.*)

■ <http://www.passop.co.za/news/featured/cosat-u-and-passop-call-on-minister-naledi-pandor-to-give-amnesty-to-immigrant-farmworkers-and-caution-premier-zille>

**27-29.11.12** The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum participated in the 24th Session of the African Caribbean Pacific – European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Paramaribo, Suriname. The agenda for the meeting is available on the ACP-EU website (*ACP-EU 24th Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Agenda 27-29.11.2012*)

■ [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/2012\\_paramaribo/pdf/913789en.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/2012_paramaribo/pdf/913789en.pdf)

**27.11.12** Tanzanian civil society called on SADC to monitor the forthcoming elections in Zimbabwe. The calls emerged from a joint civil society delegation to Tanzania which met with the country's Legal and Human Rights Centre. The delegation called on SADC to dispatch an early warning team to monitor the situation in Zimbabwe particularly given the emerging trend of political violence, arrests and intimidation and the resurgence of militia groups. There were also calls to empower the Joint Monitoring Committee (JOMIC) to engage, monitor, evaluate, and hold state security institutions to account and for SADC to establish guidelines for the conduct of the security sector and political parties before, during and after elections with clear consequences for transgression. The delegation further urged the completion of the constitution making process as per Article 6 of the Global Political Agreement.

(*Crisis in Zimbabwe: Press Statement, 27.11.2012*)

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1632:tanzania-civil-society-calls-on-sadc-to-monitor-the-forthcoming-zimbabwe-watershed-election&catid=38:fp-rokstories](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1632:tanzania-civil-society-calls-on-sadc-to-monitor-the-forthcoming-zimbabwe-watershed-election&catid=38:fp-rokstories)

**28.11.12** The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum and Zimbabwe Europe Network held a joint side event on the fringes of the 24th Session of the African Caribbean Pacific – European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly in

Paramaribo, Suriname. The event was themed on 'Forthcoming African Elections with a Main Focus on Zimbabwe and Kenya' and focused on civil society expectations of ACP-EU countries. (*Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Press Release, 28.11.2012*)

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/pressreleases/africa-carribean-pacific-european-union-joint-parliamentary-assembly-23rd-session-suriname/>

**29.11.12** A Zimbabwean civil society delegation to Mozambique (as the current SADC Chair) met with the Mozambican Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs responsible for Zimbabwe. The Minister reportedly said that 'Mozambique cannot stay indifferent to the suffering of the people of Zimbabwe. As caring neighbours we are one and share borders and long history and heritage, if things go bad in Zimbabwe, Mozambique will be negatively affected.' (*Crisis in Zimbabwe: Press Statement, 29.11.2012*)

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1652:mozambique-cannot-stay-indifferent-to-zimbabwes-suffering-mozambican-deputy-minister-of-foreign-affairs&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1652:mozambique-cannot-stay-indifferent-to-zimbabwes-suffering-mozambican-deputy-minister-of-foreign-affairs&catid=47:news)

**29.11.12** Bishops from the Anglican and Methodist Churches in Mozambique expressed solidarity with Zimbabwe and pledged to lobby their government, the church and civil society during a meeting with a visiting Zimbabwean civil society delegation. They reportedly told the delegation that 'politics is too important to be left to politicians alone'

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe: Press Statement, 29.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1656:politics-is-too-serious-to-be-left-to-politicians-alonemozambique-clerics&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1656:politics-is-too-serious-to-be-left-to-politicians-alonemozambique-clerics&catid=47:news)

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**6.12.12** Media reports that Zimbabwe will be discussed during an upcoming SADC Summit in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania on 7-8.12.12. The Summit will apparently discuss the events in the DRC and hear reports on SADC mediation efforts in Zimbabwe and Madagascar.

*(Short Wave Radio Africa: Press Report, 6.12.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/2012/12/06/zim-part-of-sadc-summit-agenda/>

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**3.12.12** Calls for Africans to stand united in their demand for democratic elections were echoed in a media interview following a side event at the recently ended 24th Session of the Africa Caribbean Pacific – European Union.

*(The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Media Interview, 3.12.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/events/zimbabwes-elections-should-be-transparent-like-in-suriname-interview-with-arthur-gwagwa-in-suriname-newspaper/>

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**8.12.12** Zimbabwe was briefly discussed at the Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 7-8.12.12. The Summit commended the efforts of President Jacob Zuma of South Africa in his role as SADC Facilitator of the Zimbabwe Political Dialogue towards full

implementation of Global Political Agreement (GPA). It urged Zimbabwean political stakeholders to fully implement the GPA and also, to finalise the constitutional process including referendum before the holding of the elections in 2013.

*(Southern African Development Community: Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government: Communique, 8.12.2012)*

■ [http://www.sadc.int/files/4213/5523/4282/SADC\\_Extraordinary\\_Summit\\_COMMUNIQUE\\_8\\_DECEMBER\\_2012\\_English.pdf](http://www.sadc.int/files/4213/5523/4282/SADC_Extraordinary_Summit_COMMUNIQUE_8_DECEMBER_2012_English.pdf)

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**12.12.12** Namibian civil society pledged to mobilise the people in the region for the sake of democracy and human rights.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Special Edition Report, 12.12.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1694:let-us-mobilise-people-in-the-region-for-democracys-sake-namrights&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1694:let-us-mobilise-people-in-the-region-for-democracys-sake-namrights&catid=47:news)

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## Global Political Agreement

The 15th September 2012 marked the fourth anniversary of the signing of the Global Political Agreement (GPA). A number of statements were issued to mark the occasion, including:

**15.9.12** A joint statement on the implementation of the Global Political Agreement thus far was issued by the Zimbabwe Europe Network (ZEN) and its National Reference Group members including the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum, the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, the National Association of Non-Government Organisations (NANGO) and the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU). Following an analysis of the status of implementation, the statement makes the following recommendations to the international community:

- Continue supporting and providing the much needed solidarity to the people of Zimbabwe and keep Zimbabwe on the global political limelight.

- Encourage parties to the GPA to focus on full implementation of the GPA with a special focus on ensuring security of persons, security of the vote and respect for the people's will.

- Support the efforts of SADC in its facilitation role, urging SADC to continue to lead the parties of the GPA towards its full implementation, including of a road map to democratic and credible elections.

*(Zimbabwe Europe Network and its National Reference*

**Group members: Joint Statement, 15.9.2012)**

■ <http://www.zimbabweurope.org/sites/default/files/ZIMBABWE%20GPA%20IMPLEMENTTION.pdf>

**15.9.12** The Civil Society Monitoring Mechanism (CISOMM) observed that the Global Political Agreement which was initiated with such promise, has been marred by the tragic failure to fulfil the commitments laden in the letter and spirit of the Global Political Agreement. CISSOM made the following recommendations:

- Expedite the implementation of the GPA and fully commit to its letter and spirit
- Come up with short-term strategies to curtail further outbreaks of medieval diseases such as cholera, typhoid and other easily preventable water-borne diseases
- Come up with short term strategies to deal with maternal health-care
- Implement the commitment to rule of law and security of the person by having perpetrators of violence prosecuted
- Come up with a sustainable strategy that includes a clear plan for provision of clean water and sanitation to all communities
- Recommit to the Article VI process of constitutional reform and follow its guidelines for the next stage of the process, that is, the 2nd All Stakeholders Conference and adopt a roadmap to holding free, fair and undisputable elections.

**(Civil Society Monitoring Mechanism: Statement, 15.9.2012)**

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/60832/>

[cisomm-statement-on-the-4th.html](http://www.cisomm-statement-on-the-4th.html)

**19.11.12** Former South African President Thabo Mbeki has called on the Inclusive Government to speed up the national land audit that was agreed as part of the Global Political Agreement that he brokered.

**(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Press Statement, 19.11.2012)**

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1608:audit-land--csos-urge-the-zimbabwe-inclusive-government&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1608:audit-land--csos-urge-the-zimbabwe-inclusive-government&catid=47:news)

**23.11.12** Reports indicate that the Joint Monitoring and Implementation Committee (JOMIC) are in turmoil after Nicholas Goche, the JOMIIC Co-Chair, apparently threatened to pull ZANU PF out of the body which was established to deal with enforcement and non-compliance of the Global Political Agreement.

**(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Statement, 23.11.2012)**

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1624%3Ajomic-in-turmoil-as-political-tensions-and-violence-spike-&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=187](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1624%3Ajomic-in-turmoil-as-political-tensions-and-violence-spike-&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=187)

## Peace-Building and Transitional Justice

**4.9.12** The banning by the Censorship Board of a peace-building play by Tafadzwa Muzondo about national healing, entitled ‘No Voice No Choice’ is condemned.

**(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association, 4.9.2012)**

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/60534/zimrights-condemns-banning-of-peace.html>

**10.9.12** Veritas considers how stopping the violence is the first critical step in national healing.

**(Veritas: Peace Watch, 10.9.2012)**

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep11\\_2012.html#Z22](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep11_2012.html#Z22)

**11.9.12** The new Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Pablo de Grieff, presented his first report at the 21st Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council at which the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum was represented. The report noted that “transitional justice is not soft justice” and that “transitional justice is not the name for a distinct form of justice, but of a strategy for achieving justice for redressing massive rights violations in times of transition”. The Special Rapporteur noted that redress cannot be achieved without truth, justice, reparations and guarantees of non-recurrence,”

*(UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 11.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12496&LangID=E>

**21.9.12** The International Day of Peace was celebrated under the theme ‘Sustainable Peace for a Sustainable Future’. Marking the Day, the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum participated in a ‘clean-up for peace’ exercise, held an International Day of Peace march in Epworth, and issued a Joint Statement with member organisation, the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP).

The statement notes that four years since the signing of the Global Political Agreement, victims of past human rights violations are still to see justice while the average Zimbabwean is still uncertain as to what the future holds. It notes that the Unity Government has failed to bring a halt to violence, accountability to the perpetrators or justice to the victims. The Forum and CCJP call for natural resources to be used for the benefit of all Zimbabweans and not to finance violence, that children be sent to school and not recruited into militias, that national budgets focus on building human capacity and not deadly weapons. It highlights the need for all Zimbabweans to work together for a safe, just and prosperous future. *(Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Statement, 21.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/pressreleases/statement-on-the-international-day-of-peace/attachment/statement-on-the-international-day-of-peace-2012/>

**21.9.12** Marking the International Day of Peace, Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) called for an end to rhetoric and hollow statements. ZLHR demands that the Inclusive Political Agreement be immediately used as a tool to facilitate an environment and institutions that will ensure a genuine, peaceful free and fair election. They call for elections to be held in line with the SADC Principles and Guidelines for Democratic Elections and the AU Declaration on Principles Governing Democratic Elections *(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Statement, 21.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/60971/on-international-day-of-peace.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=latestarticles](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/60971/on-international-day-of-peace.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=latestarticles)

**24.9.12** The Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) commemorated the International Day of Peace by stating that there will be no desirable future in Zimbabwe without peace. ZimRights reiterated that most of the initiatives which could contribute to peace, including the Zimbabwe Human Rights Bill and the Electoral Amendment Bill and the draft constitution; amongst a number of others; are all still pending and need to be finalised. *(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association: Statement, 24.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimrights.co.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=76:international-peace-day-statement&catid=5:news&Itemid=6](http://www.zimrights.co.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=76:international-peace-day-statement&catid=5:news&Itemid=6)

**4.10.12** The Mo Ibrahim Foundation gave a one-off Special Award to Archbishop Desmond Tutu in recognition of his lifelong commitment of speaking truth to power. *(Mo Ibrahim Foundation, 4.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.moibrahimfoundation.org/en/pressrelease/media-centre/press-releases/mo-ibrahim-foundation-makes-special-award-to-archbishop-desmond-tutu-recognising-lifelong-commitment.html>

**12.10.12** The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum issued a Press Statement following an International Conference on Transitional Justice in Zimbabwe. Participants drawn from across the board agreed the following five point action plan including:

- The establishment of a Transitional Justice National Working Group
- Research, documentation and archiving
- Advocacy for policy and legislation
- Rehabilitation of survivors
- Institutional reform.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Press Statement, 12.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/pressreleases/a-time-for-action-press-statement-on-the-just-ended-international-conference-on-transitional-justice-in-zimbabwe-3/>  
■ <https://www.facebook.com/ZHRNGOFORUM>

**2.11.12** Transitional justice is a powerful catalyst to strengthen the rule of law based on firm human rights foundations. Addressing the UN General Assembly, Pablo de Greiff, the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion of

truth, justice reparation and guarantees of non-re-occurrence, called on States to put into practice their expressions of commitment to the idea that redressing the legacies of violations is important for the rule of law, and for security and development.

*(Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: Report to UN General Assembly 2.11.12)*

■ <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12739&LangID=E>

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## ECOSOC Rights

### Women and Children

**3.9.12** The Justice for Children Trust (JCT) Child Law Bulletin Volume 1 for August 2012 advocates that children's rights, including the rights of children in contact with the law, should be included in the constitution. It observes that children in contact with the law are being treated in a manner that does not promote their rehabilitation and re-integration into society but rather exposes them to conditions that would harden them into dangerous and serious offenders. JCT argues that detention should only be used as a last resort

*(Justice for Children Trust Child Law: Bulletin Volume 1, August 2012, 3.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/chiyou/120903jct.asp?orgcode=JUS003&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/chiyou/120903jct.asp?orgcode=JUS003&year=0&range_start=1)

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**4.9.12** The 2012 Detention Report launched by the Lawyers for Human Rights group in South Africa contains disturbing documentation on the detention and deportation of asylum seekers and refugees. Of particular concern is the detention of children and women (including Zimbabweans) in inappropriate detention facilities in South Africa, including at the Lindela Repatriation centre near the Zimbabwean border. The report also notes the denial of opportunities for asylum seekers

(including Zimbabweans) to register asylum claims without full documentation.

*(Lawyers for Human Rights, South Africa: 2012 Detention Report, 4.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.lhr.org.za/news/2012/global-campaign-end-child-detention-focus-south-africa>

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**10.9.12** Two hundred and fifty members of Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) demonstrated in five different marches in Bulawayo to demand the release of the COPAC draft of the constitution. WOZA call for a second All Stakeholders' Conference and a referendum to take place without further delay.

*(Women of Zimbabwe Arise: Press Statement: 10.9.2012)*

■ <http://wozazimbabwe.org/?p=1341>

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**10.9.12** A report on the plight of students and teachers in a primary school on a farm threatened by closure from land invaders including a senior prison officer and the Ministry of Lands and Rural Resettlement

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Information Alert, 10.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120910zlh.asp?sector=hr&year=2012&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120910zlh.asp?sector=hr&year=2012&range_start=1)

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**12.9.12** Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights reported that police in Matabeleland have charged a villager with deliberately infecting his wife with HIV.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: HRDs Alert, 12.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120912z1hr2.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120912z1hr2.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range_start=1)

**13.9.12** Police are reportedly denying human rights lawyers' access to the two Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) leaders; Jenni Williams and Magodonga Mahlangu. The pair was detained at Bulawayo Central Police Station on 12.9.12 following protests in Bulawayo and Harare demanding an end to the disruption of peaceful demonstrations by the police and the holding of a Second All Stakeholders' Conference on the Draft Constitution.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, HRDs Alert, 13.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120912z1hr1.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120912z1hr1.asp?orgcode=ZIM007&year=0&range_start=1)

**13.9.12** The Robert F Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights (RFK) strongly condemned the continued harassment of human rights defenders, specifically, the arrest and arbitrary detention of members of the Women and Men of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) on 12.9.12 following peaceful protests around the stalled constitution reform process. The RFK denounced the continued crackdown on freedom of assembly and other basic human rights by the Zimbabwe Republic Police and observes that it is a foreboding trend.

*(Robert F Kennedy Centre for Justice and Human Rights: Press Statement, 13.9.2012)*

■ <http://rfkcenter.org/protestors-arrested-during-peaceful-demonstration-in-zimbabwe?lang=en>

**24.9.12** Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) issued a Press Statement about the failure of the Joint Monitoring and Operations Committee (JOMIC) to attend a meeting with WOZA. The meeting had been requested after WOZA submitted letters of complaint about the Zimbabwe Republic Police recently.

*(Women of Zimbabwe Arise: Press Statement, 24.9.12)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/women/120924woza.asp?orgcode=WOM010&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/women/120924woza.asp?orgcode=WOM010&year=0&range_start=1)

**11.10.12** To mark the first International Day of the Girl Child, the Research and Advocacy Unit (RAU) issued 'Married too Soon?', a report on child marriage in Zimbabwe. RAU states that 21% of children, mostly girls, are married before the age of 21.

*(Research and Advocacy Unit: 'Married too Soon', 11.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/oct12\\_2012.html#Z23](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/oct12_2012.html#Z23)

**11.10.12** Sokwanele marked the first International Day of the Girl Child with a blog and links to a number of documents and reports on the multiple challenges faced by girls in Zimbabwe.

*(Sokwanele, 11.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.sokwanele.com/thisiszimbabwe/archives/8128>

**18.10.12** Commemorating the World Youth Day under the 2012 theme; 'Claim the Future', the Youth Forum, stated that in order for youth of Zimbabwe to claim the future, they need to be able to participate in national processes, such as the constitution making process.

*(Youth Forum: Press Statement: 18.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=157:world-youth-day-for-democracy-let-us-claim-the-future&catid=39:alerts&Itemid=56](http://www.youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=157:world-youth-day-for-democracy-let-us-claim-the-future&catid=39:alerts&Itemid=56)

**28.10.12** Women of Zimbabwe Arise were awarded the Bulawayo Agenda Courageous Awards

*(Women of Zimbabwe Arise: 28.10.2012)*

**12.11.12** Seventy nine members and two babies were arrested and detained at Bulawayo Central police station for staging a peaceful protest about the water situation in the city.

*(Women of Zimbabwe Arise: Press Statement, 12.11.2012)*

■ <http://wozazimbabwe.org/?p=1363>

**21.11.12** The Students Solidarity Trust reported that the Deputy Sheriff attached property worth thousands of dollars over labour disputes at the University of Zimbabwe. Students are apparently calling for the resignation of the University's Vice Chancellor.

*(Students Solidarity Trust: Press Statement: 21.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62359/deputy-sherriff-attaches-university-of-zimbabwe?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=listarticle&utm\\_content=readmorelink](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62359/deputy-sherriff-attaches-university-of-zimbabwe?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=listarticle&utm_content=readmorelink)

**24.11.12** The Students Solidarity Trust (SST) marks the start of the 16 Days of Activism

against Gender Based Violence with the distressing news of a reported rise in the number of children that are raped. It cites media and police reports that 81 children were allegedly raped in a two week period in October and that most of the perpetrators were allegedly relatives. The SST is concerned about the negative effect of gender based violence on children including on their school performance. (*Students Solidarity Trust: Press Statement, 24.11.2012*)

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/62419/16-days-of-activism-against.html>

**24.11.12** There are reports of the arrest of a care giver from the Shirley Cripps Children's Home. This follows allegations of child abuse in institutions under the administration of the deposed Anglican breakaway leader, Nolbert Kunonga. (*Students Solidarity Trust: Press Statement, 24.11.2012*)

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/62419/16-days-of-activism-against.html>

**13.11.12** In a statement marking the 16 Days of Action against Gender Based Violence, the Pamberi Trust reports that statistics show that domestic violence remains a major problem in Zimbabwe with 3.141 domestic violence cases reported to police between January and May 2012 alone. Particular shock is expressed at figures which show that a shocking 60% of murder cases brought before the High Court are a direct

result of domestic violence. (*Pamberi Trust: Press Statement, 13.11.12*)

■ <http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/artcul/121113pamberi.asp?sector=ARTCUL>

**27.11.12** Five hundred members of Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) marched peacefully to parliament to mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence. On this occasion, there were no arrests or beatings. The activists made a number of demands including:

- A strong Declaration of Rights including equality for women in accessing jobs and equal pay, in land acquisition and in the inheritance of property
- The right to education including free and quality primary and affordable secondary education, and access to vocational training
- The right to protest and assemble freely
- The right to personal liberty
- Affordable and quality health care
- Clean water and sanitation
- Better provision for the rights of children
- Labour rights including the right to strike

(*Women of Zimbabwe Arise: Press Statement, 28.11.2012*)

■ <http://wozazimbabwe.org/?p=1385>

**29.11.12** In a second action commemorating the 16 Days of gender activism as well as Women Human Rights Defenders Day, WOZA members marched to police offices in Bulawayo to deliver a letter of complaint about police harassment. En route, a truck load of riot police

beat women who were kneeling to pray outside St Mary's Roman Catholic Church. (*Women of Zimbabwe Arise: Press Statement, 29.11.2012*)

■ <http://wozazimbabwe.org/?p=1390>

**27.11.12** As the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence got underway, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) observed that with a referendum and elections imminent, measures are needed to prevent a recurrence of the unwarranted violence and intimidation that characterised previous processes. Amongst a number of other demands, ZimRights called for an end to sexual and gender based violence by the police and military. (*Zimbabwe Human Rights Association: Press Statement, 27.11.2012*)

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/62427/towards-elimination-of-all-forms.html>

**27.11.12** The detention of innocent juveniles together with parents or guardians is rampant in Zimbabwe according to Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights. They relate the sad tale of Nigel Mupfuranhewe, only two when he was abducted with his parents by state security agents during the last election period in October 2008. His parents' captors denied knowledge of their whereabouts and only surrendered them to a police station in Harare in December 2008 after a search by human rights lawyers. Nigel spent three months in detention, witnessing the torture of his mother who was amongst

a group of 19 others accused of trying to topple the President. Released in January 2009 and now aged six, Nigel's parent report that his behaviour is abnormal, he has recurring hallucinations, is unable to attend school and cannot socialise with his peers.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights; Legal Monitor: Edition 170, 27.11.2012)*

See also: [thezimbabwean.co.uk](http://thezimbabwean.co.uk)

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/62434/in-the-deep-end-.html>

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**28.11.12** The Government of Zimbabwe has been urged to put in place measures to ensure adequate protection of women against political violence by militia groups and uniformed forces in the run up to the next election. The calls were made by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum in a statement to commemorate The 16 Days of Gender against Gender-based Violence.

*(The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum: Press Statement, 28.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Statement-on-16-days-of-activism3.pdf>

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**11.12.12** The Youth Forum of Zimbabwe has complained about the partisan nature of the Zimbabwe Youth Council (ZYC). They argue that the postponement of the launch of the National Youth Policy and the Annual National Youth Awards was influenced by the timing of the ZANU PF Conference which took place at the same time. They further ask which youths the ZYC represents.

*(The Youth Forum of Zimbabwe: Press Statement, 11.12.12)*

■ [http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=177:zimbabwe-youth-council-which-youths&catid=40:opinion](http://youthforumzim.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=177:zimbabwe-youth-council-which-youths&catid=40:opinion)

## Education

**10.9.12** The plight of students and teachers in a primary school on a farm threatened by closure from land invaders is highlighted by Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR). ZLHR report that the threats come from a senior prison officer and the Ministry of Lands and Rural Resettlement

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Legal Monitor Edition 160, 10.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120910zthr.asp?sector=HIVAID&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120910zthr.asp?sector=HIVAID&year=0&range_start=1)

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**21.9.12** The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum and Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace issue a joint statement calling for children be sent to school and not recruited into militias.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum Joint Statement: 21.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Statement-on-the-International-Day-of-Peace-2012.pdf>

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**1.10.12** Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) highlights medieval learning conditions at Zimunya Primary School at the heart of the Chiadzwa diamond fields in Manicaland. ZLHR observes that conditions at the school portray the worst of the government's neglect of children in 'poor' areas despite the proximity of the school to natural resource wealth.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Legal Monitor:*

*Edition 163, 1.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM%20Edition%20163.pdf>

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**23.11.12** Following the Supreme Court ruling on the control of Anglican properties, it has come to light that there has been pervasive abuse of orphans at an orphanage and in schools that were under the control of Nolbert Kunonga. There are allegations that children were raped and not properly cared for, and that some of the supporters of Kunonga have deserted the properties and left children unattended. There are also reports that service charges went unpaid and institutions were left to fall into a state of disrepair. The Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) strongly condemns the abuse of vulnerable children. It urges the recently created Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission to urgently start work and to investigate the alleged abuses.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association: Press Statement, 23.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/nov23\\_2012.html#Z7](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/nov23_2012.html#Z7)

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**23.11.12** A traditional chief in Buhera, Manicaland faces charges for raping a fourteen year old girl left in his care by her mother.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association: Press Statement, 23.11.2012)*

■ <http://bulawayo24.com/index-id-news-sc-national-byo-21885.html>

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**11.12.12** There is new report about the effects

of political violence in schools and particularly on children who witness this violence. Noting that an estimated 70 000 teachers have fled the country, the report calls, amongst other things, for the Government of Zimbabwe to immediately declare schools as ‘zones of peace’ and enact laws that criminalise the use or occupation of schools for political activities, especially during the electoral period.

*(The Research and Advocacy Unit: Report: ‘Fragility’ and education in Zimbabwe: Assessing the impact of Violence on Education, 11.12.2012)*

■ [http://www.researchandadvocacyunit.org/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&Itemid=90&gid=48&orderby=dmdate\\_published](http://www.researchandadvocacyunit.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&Itemid=90&gid=48&orderby=dmdate_published)

## Religious Freedom

**20.11.12** A Supreme Court ruling about the ownership of Anglican Church properties was welcomed and hailed as a landmark. The ruling brings to an end the six year assault on the religious freedom of the Anglican community. The Supreme Court upheld an appeal by the Church of the Province of Central Africa (CPCA) led by Bishop Chad Gandiya. It set aside two judgments that had been granted in favour of ex-communicated Nolbert Kunonga which had entitling his breakaway group to control Anglican Church properties.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Press Statement, 20.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/human-rights/62292/supreme-court-decision-ending-unprecedented.html>

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**21.11.12** A Statement welcoming the Supreme Court decision on the ownership of Anglican properties was released by Bishop Chad Gandiya of the Diocese of Harare. It announces a thanksgiving Service to be held in Africa Unity Square on 16.12.12 marking the return of the Bishop and his restoration in the Anglican Cathedral in Harare. The statement notes that the Church will take legal proceedings to ensure that scattered priests and their families are restored to Church rectories, congregations are restored to their places of worship, and those who occupied properties

are evicted without further delay.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe: Press Statement, 21.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1618:statement-by-the-bishop-of-the-diocese-of-harare-in-the-church-of-the-province-of-central-africa-cpca-at-harare-21-november-2012&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1618:statement-by-the-bishop-of-the-diocese-of-harare-in-the-church-of-the-province-of-central-africa-cpca-at-harare-21-november-2012&catid=47:news)

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**22.11.12** Veritas examined the meaning of the Supreme Court ruling in favour of the official Anglican Church against the breakaway former Bishop of Harare, Nolbert Kunonga.

*(Veritas Court Watch: 21/2012, 22.11.2012).*

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/nov23\\_2012.html#Z25](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/nov23_2012.html#Z25)

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**30.1.12** The deposed Anglican Bishop, Nolbert Kunonga, reportedly threatened to shoot journalists covering his eviction from the Anglican Church premises in Harare. The Zimbabwe Union of Journalists expressed concern for its members following a number of violent incidences against journalists. It urged journalists to be cautious in dealing with public figures.

*(Zimbabwe Union of Journalists: Press Statement, 30.1.2012)*

■ [http://www.zuj.org.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=63:zuj-statement-on-harassment-of-journalist-by-bishop-kunonga&catid=4:latest-publications](http://www.zuj.org.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=63:zuj-statement-on-harassment-of-journalist-by-bishop-kunonga&catid=4:latest-publications)

## Water, Sanitation and Health

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**2.10.12** The UN backed Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria grants Zimbabwe US\$84 million to help achieve its plans for universal access to AIDS treatment by the end of 2012.

*(UN Global Fund: Press Statement, 2.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/mediacenter/newsreleases/2012-10-02\\_Zimbabwe\\_to\\_Attain\\_Universal\\_Coverage\\_of\\_AIDS\\_Treatment\\_by\\_the\\_End\\_of\\_the\\_Year/](http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/mediacenter/newsreleases/2012-10-02_Zimbabwe_to_Attain_Universal_Coverage_of_AIDS_Treatment_by_the_End_of_the_Year/)

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**4.9.12** The distressing trend of water supply problems and deteriorating service delivery in towns across Zimbabwe is noted by the Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights). They call for urgent intervention to prevent the recurrence of the typhoid and cholera. ZimRights observes that whilst government expends money on luxurious vehicles, people have the right to water and sanitation. It calls on the responsible authorities to ensure that these rights are enjoyed.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights Association, 4.9.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121004zimright.asp?orgcode=ZIM038&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121004zimright.asp?orgcode=ZIM038&year=0&range_start=1)

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**6.10.12** The Harare Residents Trust (HRT) Water Barometer provided an update on the water situation in the capital during the period from 21.9.12 to 5.10.12. HRT expresses shock

at the issuance of unfair final demands on Harare residents to pay for water consumption based upon estimates.

*(Harare Residents Trust, 6.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/oct9\\_2012.html#Z21](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/oct9_2012.html#Z21)

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**25.10.12** Zimbabwe Doctors for Human Rights warn of a potentially devastating public health crisis around the national epidemic of typhoid following the emergence of 13 new cases in Chegutu.

*(Zimbabwe Doctors for Human Rights: Media Interview: 25.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/2012/10/25/doctors-warn-of-public-health-crisis-as-typhoid-reported-in-chegutu/>

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**2.11.12** The Harare Residents Trust exposes the failure of Harare City Council to provide clean water to residents and notes that this has finally been accepted by the Council. A snapshot of the state of water provision in a variety of the suburbs of the capital is provided.

*(Harare Residents Trust: Water Barometer Oct 11th to 22nd 2012, 2.11.12)*

■ [http://www.hrt.org.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=109:water-barometer&catid=3:news-a-updates](http://www.hrt.org.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=109:water-barometer&catid=3:news-a-updates)

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**6.11.12** The difficulties that residents of Bulawayo have in accessing water is highlighted by Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Legal Monitor: Edition 168, 6.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM\\_168%20November%2005%20Email.pdf](http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM_168%20November%2005%20Email.pdf)

**12.11.12** Seventy nine members and two babies were arrested and detained at Bulawayo Central police station for staging a peaceful protest about the water situation in the city. (*Women of Zimbabwe Arise: Press Statement, 12.11.2012*)

■ <http://wozazimbabwe.org/?p=1363>

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**21.11.12** The scarcity of water in suburbs around and just outside Harare has become so severe that towns like Ruwa have apparently gone two months without a single drop of water. There are also media reports of four deaths from typhoid in the Harare suburb of Glenview. (*Combined Harare Residents Association: Weekly Newsletter, 21.11.12*)

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62361/service-delivery-update.html>

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**12.12.12** An alert warning of the risk of typhoid, cholera and dysentery was issued to residents of several Harare suburbs. Reports indicate the presence of salmonella-typhae bacterium in the underground water in Glenview, Dzivarasekwa, Mufakose, Budiro and Highfields. Typhoid has reportedly caused 5 deaths in Glenview and residents in these areas are urged not to use water from unprotected wells. (*The Combined Harare Residents Association: Service Delivery Update, 12.12.2012*)

*See also [thezimbabwean.co.uk](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk)*

■ <http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62723/typhoid-cholera-and-dysentery-alert.html>

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## Food / Food Security

**10.10.12** The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation released a report on the State of food insecurity in the world.

(*UN Food and Agriculture Organisation: 10.10.2012*)

■ <http://www.fao.org/publications/sofi/en/>

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**19.10.12** The South African Civil Society Information Service published a blog entitled 'Food Security in Crisis: Lessons for South Africa from Zimbabwe?'

(*South African Civil Society Information Service: Blog, 19.10.2012*)

■ <http://www.sacsis.org.za/site/article/1461>

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## Disabled

**5.9.12** The government is called to act on reported collapse of the Copota School and workshop for the blind in Masvingo. The school has been providing education and vocational services for visually impaired children since 1956. ZimRights observes that visually impaired persons are a group that deserve special arrangements and have an equal right to earn a decent living.

(*Zimbabwe Human Rights Association: 5.9.2012*).

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121005zimright.asp?sector=ECON&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/121005zimright.asp?sector=ECON&year=0&range_start=1)

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## Internally Displaced Persons

**16.10.12** Grave concern is expressed as reports that the homes of over 200 Epworth families were bulldozed and demolished on 14.10.12. The demolitions were apparently described by the Harare City Health Director as a 'blitz to regularise shops and restore sanity'. They prompted concerns of another mass demolition similar to 'Operation Murambatsvina'.  
(*Harare Residents Trust: Media Interview with Short Wave Radio Africa: 16.10.2012*)

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/2012/10/16/200-epworth-homes-bulldozed-as-harare-announces-a-blitz/>

**30.10.12** The callous demolition of family homes in Epworth that took place on 14.10.12 is being challenged in a landmark Supreme Court case brought by Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights on behalf of six Epworth residents. The manner and constitutionality of demolitions undertaken by the Epworth Local Board is being questioned. Lawyers note that the affected individuals not only lost all their belongings in a manner that was reminiscent of 'Operation Murambatsvina', but also had to suffer the indignity of being rendered homeless. They argue that their clients were put through inhuman and degrading treatment by the Government and that proper procedure was not followed, including that the actions of the Epworth

Local Board and the Police were in direct violation of the United Nations Basic Principles and Guidelines on Development Based Evictions and Displacement.

(*Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Press Statement, 29.10.2012*)

■ [http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=54&Itemid=122](http://www.zlhr.org.zw/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=54&Itemid=122)

**24.10.12** A new publication about the development challenge in addressing internal displacement in Africa explores development initiatives to alleviate internal displacement caused by conflict, violence and natural disaster.  
(*Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre: Internal Displacement in Africa, a Development Challenge: 24.10.2012*)

■ [http://www.internaldisplacement.org/8025708F004CFA06/\(httpPublications\)/E00D7371D9262111C1257A1B0030B2F4?OpenDocument](http://www.internaldisplacement.org/8025708F004CFA06/(httpPublications)/E00D7371D9262111C1257A1B0030B2F4?OpenDocument)

**6.11.12** Residents whose homes were demolished in Epworth are reported to be struggling to survive in the open without shelter as the early rains begin. Lawyers report that the Epworth Local Board have been defiant in justifying the demolition of residents' homes, saying that the demolitions were justified because the residents were illegally built on land reserved for industrial purposes.  
(*Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Legal Monitor: Edition 168, 6.11.2012*)

■ [http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM\\_168%20November%2005%20Email.pdf](http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM_168%20November%2005%20Email.pdf)

## Prisons

**10.9.12** A landmark Supreme Court case challenges the ill-treatment of prisoners while in detention and seeks an order for prison officials to respect the rights of detainees living positively with HIV/AIDS to access medication. (*Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, Legal Monitor: Edition 160, 10.9.2012*)

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120910zlhr.asp?sector=hr&year=2012&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/hr/120910zlhr.asp?sector=hr&year=2012&range_start=1)

**27.9.12** As the trial of the 29 Glenview residents accused of the murder of Inspector Petros Mutedza got underway, one of the accused; Solomon Madzore; issued a heart rending message from inside Chikurubi Prison. In it he describes the foul prison conditions and urges all those over 18 to go and register to vote. (*Solomon Madzore: Press Statement, 27.9.2012*)

■ [http://http.www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep28\\_2012.html#Z15](http://http.www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep28_2012.html#Z15)

**2.10.12** The Zimbabwe National Students Union (ZINASU) expresses deep concern for the welfare of ZINASU Secretary General, Tryvinne Musokeri and 3 colleagues arrested on 28.9.12 for allegedly being in contempt of court and organising an illegal demonstration. The four are in custody in Hwahwa Remand Prison. A magistrate in Gweru remanded them for an indefinite period on 3.10.12. Tryvinne has

apparently been denied access to food and contact with lawyers and family. ZINASU expresses concern for the welfare of the students given the ‘filthy and pathetic’ prison conditions. There is apparently a lack of access to clean water and ablution facilities and an increased risk of diseases such as cholera and typhoid (*Zimbabwe National Students: Alert, 2.10.2012*)

■ <http://www.voazimbabwe.com/content/zimbabwe-students-union-arrests-courts-courts/1518981.html>

**29.10.12** Tryvinne Musokeri, the Secretary General of the Zimbabwe National Students Union (ZINASU), was remanded in custody in Hwahwa Prison. (*Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Press Statement: 29.10.2012*)

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1554:zinasu-secretary-general-languishes-in-hwahwa-prison&catid=38:fp-rokstories](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1554:zinasu-secretary-general-languishes-in-hwahwa-prison&catid=38:fp-rokstories)

**30.11.12** Three political prisoners shared their chilling experiences of life inside Zimbabwe’s prisons during a recent event in Harare’s Book Café in Harare hosted by the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition. The three narrated the appalling state of prisons including absence of proper toilets, unsanitary leg irons, lack of proper food, overcrowding and particularly unsanitary conditions for female prisoners. All three stressed the need for prison guards to receive human rights education. (*Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Special Report, 30.11.2012*)

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1658%3Ahuman-rights-abuses-in-zimbabwe-prisons-exposed&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=209](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1658%3Ahuman-rights-abuses-in-zimbabwe-prisons-exposed&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=209)

## Economy

**19.9.12** Following the release of a 2011 report into the extent of Zimbabwe's debt, which is reportedly estimated to be \$7bn, the Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development and Jubilee Debt Campaign held a public meeting to interrogate the question 'Beyond Mugabe: Debt, Justice and Development in Zimbabwe',

*(The Jubilee Debt Campaign: 19.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk/?lid=17>

**21.9.12** The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum and Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace issue a joint statement calling for national budgets to focus on building human capacity and not deadly weapons.

*(Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum Joint Statement: 21.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Statement-on-the-International-Day-of-Peace-2012.pdf>

**25.9.10** The International Monetary Fund (IMF) concluded Article IV consultations with the Government of Zimbabwe. Following the consultations the IMF urged the Government to review foreign direct investment policies and laws in order to increase investment.

*(The International Monetary Fund: Public Information Statement, 25.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pn/2012/pn12113.htm>

**24.11.12** Both Houses of Parliament will resume sitting on 27.11.12. The budget debate will resume in the House of Assembly on 27.11.12 following the presentation of the 2013 National Budget Statement and tabling of the 2013 Estimates of Expenditure by the Minister of Finance. A highlight of the proposed expenditures is provided by Veritas

*(Veritas: Bill Watch 52/2012, 24.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/legisl/121126veritas.asp?sector=LEGISL&year=0&range\\_start=1](http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/legisl/121126veritas.asp?sector=LEGISL&year=0&range_start=1)

**24.11.12** The 2013 National Budget Statement and Estimates of Expenditure for fiscal year 2013 presented by the Minister of Finance on 15.11.12 were made available to view on the website of the Ministry of Finance.

*(Ministry of Finance: 2013 National Budget and Estimates of Expenditure 15.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.zimtreasury.gov.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=107&Itemid=71](http://www.zimtreasury.gov.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=107&Itemid=71)

**22.11.12** Zimbabwe has become a breeding ground for fraudsters and is one of the four countries in Africa that contributed to the bulk of fraud cases valued at US\$ 2 billion in the first half of 2012. These revelations come in a report released by the global auditing firm KPMG in its second and updated Africa Fraud Barometer.

*(KPMG: Africa Fraud Barometer, 22.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.kpmg.com/Africa/en/IssuesAndInsights/Articles-Publications/Press-Releases/Pages/KPMG-Barometer-assesses-fraud-risk.aspx>

**4.12.12** The 2013 Budget was fast-tracked and approved by Parliament on 27.11.12 prior to adjournment of both Houses of Parliament until Tuesday, 5.2.112

*(Veritas: Bill Watch 53/2012, 4.12.2012)*

■ [http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62675/2013-budget-goes-through-parliament.html?utm\\_source=thezim&utm\\_medium=homepage&utm\\_campaign=listarticle&utm\\_content=textlink](http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/62675/2013-budget-goes-through-parliament.html?utm_source=thezim&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=listarticle&utm_content=textlink)

## Natural Resources

**4.9.12** Israeli diamond analyst Chaim Even-Zohar issued a report on the implication of the changes, (including the ‘Zimbabwe precedent’) that will be debated at the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) Plenary meeting to be held in Washington in November 2012. The KPCS Plenary will debate and vote on new proposals for the definition of conflict diamonds which would give the KP the power to make key decision based on human rights conditions in member countries.

*(Chaim Even-Zohar: 4.9.2012) check source*

■ <http://www.israelidiamond.co.il/English/news.aspx?boneld=2523&objid=1173>

**21.9.12** Civil society calls for natural resources to be used for the benefit of all Zimbabweans and not to finance violence. The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum and Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace state that children should be sent to school and not recruited into militias and that national budgets should focus on building human capacity and not deadly weapons.

*(The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum / Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace: Joint Press Statement: 21.9.2012)*

■ <http://www.hrforumzim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Statement-on-the-International-Day-of-Peace-2012.pdf>

**1.10.12** Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) highlights medieval learning conditions at Zimunya Primary School at the heart of the Chiadzwa diamond fields in Manicaland. ZLHR observes that conditions at the school portray the worst of the government’s neglect of children in ‘poor’ areas despite the proximity of the school to natural resource wealth.

*(Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights: Legal Monitor: Edition 163, 1.10.2012)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/LM%20Edition%20163.pdf>

**29.10.12** There are reports of illegal gold mining in the Midlands town of KweKwe. The Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition observes the linkage between ZANU PF patronage programmes and the illegal exploitation of natural resources.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Press Release, 29.10.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1552%3Azanu-pf-granting-illegal-mining-rights-for-patronage&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=189](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1552%3Azanu-pf-granting-illegal-mining-rights-for-patronage&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=189)

**21.11.12** Zimbabwe and the issue of conflict diamonds are amongst the issues that will be discussed by the Plenary meeting of the Kimberly Process which takes place in Washington, USA from 27-30.11.12. A paper on conflict diamonds and the agenda for the meeting is available on the Kimberly Process website.

*(Kimberly Process Plenary meeting: agenda and documentation: 21.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.kimberleyprocess.com/>

**21.11.12** The Kimberly Process Civil Society Coalition in Zimbabwe walked out of a meeting organised by the Minister of Mines and Mining Development after the Mines Minister attacked civil society for working against the interests of the country. The meeting was meant to review the diamond mining conference in Victoria Falls. Mines Minister.

*(The Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Press Statement, 21.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1616:civil-society-walks-out-on-mines-minister-mpofu&catid=47:news](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1616:civil-society-walks-out-on-mines-minister-mpofu&catid=47:news)

**23.11.12** Stakeholders in the Zimbabwe Diamond Mining Conference berated the ‘shadowy’ and ‘mafia-like’ activities at the Marange diamond mines. There were calls for an improvement in the Kimberly Process in order to tackle issues of corruption and beneficiation in Zimbabwe’s diamond mining.

*(Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: Press Statement, 23.11.2012)*

■ [http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1628%3Astakeholders-call-for-kimberly-process-improvement&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=187](http://www.crisiszimbabwe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1628%3Astakeholders-call-for-kimberly-process-improvement&catid=47%3Anews&Itemid=187)

**23.11.12** Bulawayo South MP Eddie Cross presented a paper the Zimbabwe Diamond Mining Conference

*(Eddie Cross: Paper, 23.11.12)*

■ <http://www.swradioafrica.com/eddie-cross-paper-to-diamond-conference/>

**30.11.12** Zimbabwe has been deemed as being compliant with the conditions laid down by the Kimberly Process and monitoring of Zimbabwe will now lapse according to the Final Communique of the Kimberly Process Plenary meeting that took place in Washington DC from 27-30.11.12

*(Kimberly Process: Final Communique, 30.11.2012)*

■ <http://www.kimberleyprocess.com/documents/10540/49668/2012%20Washington%20Plenary%20Communique.pdf>

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**5.12.12** In the 7th instalment of the Sokwanele land series, Mandivamba Rukuni examines structural transformation and the primacy of smallholder agriculture. This piece looks forward at the role that agriculture might play in re-growing Zimbabwe's economy.

*(Sokwanele: Land Series No. 7, 5.12.2012)*

■ <http://www.sokwanele.com/structural-transformation-and-the-primacy-of-smallholder-agriculture-moving-on%20>

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**8.12.12** A new World Bank report examines national and regional development scenarios for investments in hydropower and irrigation in the eight countries, including Zimbabwe, through which the Zambezi River flows.

*(World Bank: Report: 'The Zambezi River Basin: a Multi-Sector Investment Opportunities Analysis')*

■ <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/AFRICAEXT/ZIMBABWEEXTN/0,,contentMDK:22785278~menuPK:50003484~pagePK:2865066~piPK:2865079~theSitePK:375736,00.html>

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