



ZPP Human Rights & Food Monitoring Report

August 2008

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Synopsis

While post election violence is reportedly on the retreat having shaded off some of its traditional characteristics, it is however still too early to celebrate. Beneath the veneer of calmness is a dense cloud of fear. The pre-election era mindset is still on the prowl with political targets still clandestinely victimised. Involvement in opposition politics remains a highly risky venture, in fact, a de facto zone “where angels fear to tread”. Tolerance to freedom of expression and diversity of views is yet to take root with frequent reports of people clashing over different opinions on the ongoing inter-party talks two months after the volatile elections. Villagers are at high risk of starvation as state food distribution processes are reportedly heavily politicised, centralised and opaque with too many political actors involved. In some areas, Voter Registration Roll Books for the 29 March and 27 June were reportedly used to vet those who should have access to Bacossi and other related facilities. Also disturbing is that several months after being sworn in, newly elected councillors are yet to officially discharge their duties with most losing councillors[mostly Zanu PF members] reportedly refusing to hand over council stamps and other materials. An unfortunate mood of revenge violence is in the air with some victims reportedly promising to mete punishment on known and suspected violence perpetrators after the Talks while in some areas villagers are reportedly demanding their livestock and property back from base commanders. Incidents in which family, community and church members have clashed over political differences are also reported with a disturbing frequency. Thus while hopes for a political deal between the erst-while political rivals is in the air, lasting inter-generational peace and social justice demands that mechanisms be urgently put in place to ensure social healing. It is also hoped that the political leadership will embark on a robust nationwide campaign for peace and reconciliation.

The Background

In contrast with earlier reports, this August Report is presented at a special time when prospects for a peace settlement between the main political rivals, ZANU PF and the MDC are in the air. With the signing of an MOU on 21 July 2008, hopes for peace and stability scaled new heights with erst-while protagonists under immense pressure to now walk the talk of peace by concluding a political deal that should usher in a Government of national unity. August became witness to protracted high profile inter-party Talks, with negotiators [and in some cases their principals] shuttling between Harare and Pretoria.

With this development, the national psyche became more focused on ensuring that peace and stability prevail, the two main political parties exhorted to publicly condemn the orgy of retributive violence that had visited the nation during the run up to the 27 June run-off. National hopes for peace and stability surged even higher when the political leadership on 6 August 2008 issued a joint communiqué [for the first time] condemning violence. While inter-party negotiation experiences had their “booms” and “recessions”, it was refreshing to note that the nation remained agog with hopes for an immediate political deal.

It is against this backdrop that ZPP in line with its peace-monitoring mandates sought to alert the peace-loving public on how far this national quest for peace and stability has cascaded to all the rural areas of Zimbabwe's ten provinces, two months after the volatile June Elections. ZPP sincerely hopes that any highlighted gaps between social expectations and provincial unfolding scenarios will serve as a warning shot to the public to remain on high alert for any developments that may subvert prospects for social peace and stability.

Unfolding Scenarios and Issues

While politically-motivated violence has visibly subsided and shaded off its gross features, its stubborn retreat traits are still manifest. A cursory survey of public statements in both print and electronic media as well as snippets from provincial experiences glaringly show that most language is yet to be exorcised of retributive inclinations. The pre-election era mindset is still on the prowl, though with less impunity this time. State media coverage remains obscenely skewed in favour of the Zanu PF.

Political tolerance remains disturbingly on the low side with opposition politics to a large extent still *de facto* zone "where angels fear to tread". Two months after elections, reports continue to be received about people being assaulted for flimsy reasons such as celebrating the victory of the MDC candidate as Speaker of Parliament, expressing different opinions on ongoing inter-party Talks, or even wearing opposition regalia.

Several months after being sworn in as councillors, most MDC winning councillors are yet to operate as councillors with losing Zanu PF councillors reportedly refusing to hand over council stamps and materials.

Displaced people who took long to return to their villagers after the 27 June Elections, found their homesteads taken over while property including household goods, livestock, poultry, grain, farm inputs and farm yields looted and vandalised.

An unfortunate revenge mood is in the air with some pre-election victims reportedly promising to mete revenge after the Talks on known perpetrators of violence while some villagers are reported to have started demanding back their livestock and property from base commanders, who as gleaned from provincial reports have since been on the run. ZPP recommends that those aggrieved take recourse to legal channels in their pursuit for justice.

With Government sources as the main channels of food and basic commodities, provincial experiences show that the recently launched Bacossi is fast becoming a new frontier for politically-motivated food discriminations. Access to GSF (Government subsidised food) is reportedly through a very tight and highly centralized vetting process controlled by an array of political and state actors who include losing Zanu PF councillors, chiefs, village heads, war veterans, Zanu PF youths/militia, ZNA [in the case of Maguta] and RBZ officials [in the case of Bacossi]. Given the state of polarization in

the country and the absence of alternative sources of food, extant state food distribution channels have in some cases reportedly fallen prey to unscrupulous elements [especially losing councillors] who are allegedly using the GSF as an avenue to settle their political scores and even make business capital out of the political plight of the starving villagers.

Prospective food beneficiaries reportedly have to meet several strict requirements which among others, include being “righteous” [a euphemism for not being into opposition politics], being on the village register, being in possession of a Zanu PF card, being regular attendants of Zanu PF party meetings as well as being fully abreast with the latest slogans of the Zanu PF.

Provincial reports also refer to the use of the 29 March and 27 June Voter Registration Rolls, practices that are said to have further worsened the plight of starving villagers as non voters were technically left out. In some urban areas, those who want to access subsidized government supplied maize meal and other basic commodities were reportedly required to have their purchase books stamped at Zanu PF Information Centres, which in most cases were houses belonging to senior Zanu PF members.

The social externalities of election violence are reportedly rearing their ugly faces in some urban and rural areas with reported incidents of violence-related dementia, family and even churches members clashing over political differences while in some cases, close relatives reportedly refused to attend funerals of those who belong to the other party. There was also an incident in which a pastor was reported to have refused to pray for those church members who were suspected to have been participating in retributive violence. Though these incidents were isolated, they signal the need for robust post election social healing processes.

In a yet another isolated but indicative of how unscrupulous individuals can take advantage of political lawlessness to commit unethical practices, a man and woman [known opposition members] were reportedly forced to have sex without condoms while the perpetrators watched and cheered them. The fact that the July Report also carried a story of this nature is a worrisome development, particularly so in this era of the HIV and Aids pandemic. Thus although statistically insignificant, an incident of this nature has ripple effects. In fact, it amounts to sentencing the political victims and society at large to death by one stroke. How these victims are silently coping with these social experiences and scars should indeed be cause for concern to the caring public.

Cumulative Human Rights Violations by August 2008

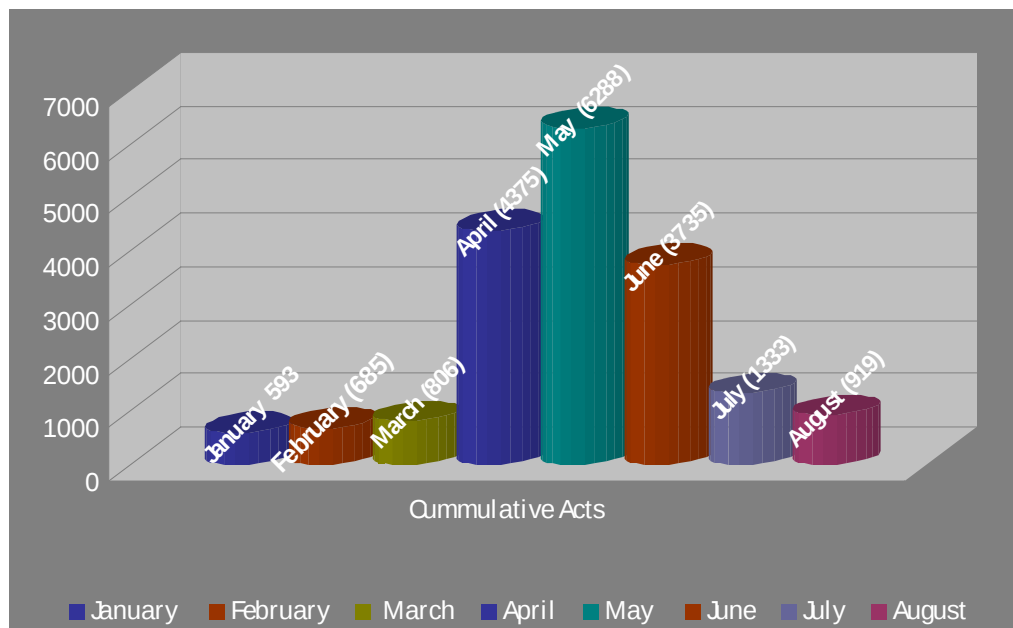
By August, a cumulative total of 18 734 incidents had been recorded, an increase of 5.2 % from their July cumulative level of 17 815. The table below illustrates these cumulative scenarios in violations since the month of January 2008:

Cumulative Human Rights Violations Table

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July ¹	August	TOTAL
Murder	0	0	7	26	47	78	15	21	194
Rape	1	1	4	4	1	4	12	4	31
Kidnapping/abduction	3	7	5	149	85	133	44	16	442
Assault	163	178	219	767	704	793	470	279	3573
Theft/looting	14	6	8	80	64	98	61	42	373
Malicious Damage to Property (MDP)	20	12	38	345	214	141	66	35	871
Torture	6	2	6	157	60	102	38	21	392
Unlawful Detention	18	8	6	125	114	100	15	17	403
Harassment/Intimidation	343	449	475	1484	4288	2125	460	405	10029
Displacement	15	12	23	1219	670	129	114	50	2232
Discrimination	10	10	15	19	32	24	28	26	164
Attempted Rape	-	-	-	-	5	6	7	1	19
Attempted Murder	-	-	-	-	4	2	3	2	11
TOTAL	593	685	806	4375	6288	3735	1333	919	18734

¹ NB: July figures have been updated from a total of 1123 to 1333 to include late submissions as well as figures submitted by other service providers

Graphic Representation



PROVINCIAL EXPERIENCES

Manicaland

While politically-motivated violence has lost its pre-election raging features, cases of assaults, harassments, displacements, kidnapping, rape, and even murder were still reported. On 4 August 2008, a suspected MDC member was reportedly found murdered outside Ruura village in Headlands, allegedly after a dispute with members of the militia.

The political intolerance mindset is still evident with members of the opposition commonly referred to as political criminals while some returnees reportedly found their

homesteads taken over or allocated to others in what the victims viewed as political punishment.

Politically-motivated food discriminations remain a cause for concern with August reports suggesting widespread malpractices in the allocation of the recently launched Bacossi project as well as the traditional subsidized GMB maize meal distributions. Victims were commonly accused of playing double standards by seeking to benefit from a Government which they rejected at the poll, apparently mistaking a Government program for a party program.

At most food distribution queues, people were reportedly asked to produce membership cards while those whose party attendance records was on the low side risked denial of registration on the Bacossi list. Cases where local businessmen refused to sell basic commodities to known or suspected opposition members or where people were being forced to chant Zanu PF slogans before proceeding to buy a bag of maize were also of concern.

Reports also made reference to incidents of retaliatory violence with some villagers who had their livestock taken to bases during the run up to the 27 June Elections reportedly demanding back their livestock from base leaders while others are reportedly planning revenge on those who victimized them during the run up to the 27 June elections.

The post election aftermaths are reportedly catching on with some church communities with some members prioritizing their political to religious loyalties. On 10 August, a Buhera Central pastor of the Revival Grace Fellowship Church was reported to have refused to pray for a Zanu PF mentally-ill church member allegedly because he had been involved in the perpetration of violence in the run up to the 27 June elections. The victim was also reported to have even stopped the same pastor from praying for MDC supporters.

Mashonaland West

Tolerance to political diversity and freedom of expression remain on the low side with frequent reports of members of the opposition being chided as sell-outs and ordinary people being harassed for expressing different views on the 27 June run-off with incidence spread mainly concentrated in Zvimba East, Nyabira district, Zvimba North, Zvimba West, Zvimba South, Mhondoro Mubaira, and, Hurungwe West.

Cases in which war veterans and youths were allegedly involved in cases of retributive violence are still disturbingly on the high side. On 17 August 2008, war veterans reportedly assaulted around 183 Madhodo villagers allegedly for “failing to attend local Zanu PF meetings” while on 14 August a Jakazi village Salvation Army priest was reportedly assaulted by suspected Zanu PF youths allegedly for preaching politics during church services.

While in the main, base camps have reportedly been disbanded, some are reportedly still operational, one case in point being Mwami base camp in Hurungwe.

Though isolated, there were reports of some farm evictions in the province. In Chegutu East, a group of farm workers on 16 August 2008 reportedly chased away a white farm owner from his Stock Dale Farm allegedly “because they wanted to use the farm on their own”.

In most wards, sworn-in MDC councillors were reportedly not allowed to operate as councillors allegedly because they are “sell-outs”.

Mashonaland Central

While politically-motivated human rights violations are still reported, food politics were the most recurring issues. Food distribution is controlled by ward secretaries, cell chairpersons, youths, war veterans, and losing councillors [who in most cases are losing Zanu PF councillors]. They prepare Bacossi beneficiary lists as well as issuing confirmation letters, a tight system that has reportedly seen several suspected and known MDC members as well as ordinary individuals being denied confirmation letters by village heads, war veterans and chiefs. In some cases Chiefs reportedly refused to sign papers for newly elected MDC councillor to enable them access maize from GMB, although officially it is these sworn councillors who should be in control of food distribution. Though isolated, some RBZ officials were reported to be partisan when distributing Bacossi commodities.

Masvingo

Though now on a lower scale, opposition politics is still treated as a political crime with members commonly ridiculed as sell-outs or assaulted for attending MDC meetings. In areas such as Bikita East, Bikita South, Chivi Central, Chiredzi South, Mwenezi, and Zaka West, people are reportedly yet to recover from the fear of retribution with sad reports of people fearing to attend funerals of their relatives who are on the other side of politics.

Food politics was a pronounced recurring issue in all the constituencies. As reported in other provinces, food allocation is highly politicized and centralized with kraal heads, headmen and Zanu PF losing councillors in one way or the other influencing one's access to Bacossi, GMB Maguta and agricultural input schemes. Permits to buy subsidized food are mostly issued by members of the Zanu PF while farm implements [ox-drawn ploughs, wheel burrows] are allocated to farmers by members of the ZNA in liaison with kraal heads, chiefs and war veterans. Registers for Bacossi were based on the Voter's Roll Book for March 29 and June 27 Elections. Reports also refer to cases where RBZ were said to be partisan in food allocation.

Cases of wholesale punishment of areas suspected to be MDC strongholds were also reported. On 1 August 2008 Duma residents were reportedly denied access to GMB Maguta allegedly accused of having voted for the MDC in the 29 March Elections. On 16 August 2008 residents of Maemura in Bikita East were reportedly chased away from Mushandirapamwe Garden allegedly because the Garden “belong to Zanu PF” and accordingly should benefit first and foremost Zanu PF members.

By end of August, reports of politically-motivated evictions were still received. On 26 August 2008, a widow from Bushmed Farm was reportedly evicted by war veterans allegedly for her continued involvement in MDC politics. At Dalwich Farm property worth millions belonging to Mr. Machirori was reportedly destroyed on 7 August by Zanu PF youths while on 28 August 2008 plot holders in Dzivarasekwa were forced to donate contributions for Zanu PF victory celebrations threatened with threats of plot withdrawals upon failure.

As reported in other provinces, a revenge spirit is in the air. On 15 August, a Zanu PF activist from Mupepeti village of Chivi South was reportedly viciously attacked by suspected MDC supporters as revenge for their perpetration of violence in the run up to the 27 June elections, losing two teeth in the process.

Midlands

Some areas of Zvishavane, Gokwe, Chirumanzu, and, Mberengwa West remained steeped in the pre-election era retributive mindset with some people reportedly still accusing and assaulting others for being MDC, wearing opposition T shirts, reversing the gains of independence, and, for refusing to donate for ZANU PF celebrations.

Equally disturbing were increased reports of people fighting over differences of opinions on inter-party Talks as well as frequent reports of teachers still being accused of teaching opposition politics in classes.

Involvement of war veterans in post election retributive violence is still visible with reports that some war veterans were on 16 August 2008 moving around in Zvishavane Runde threatening Chikore villagers while in the same area, a Zanu PF losing councillor of ward 4 was on 7 August 2007 reported to have refused to hand over council stamps and materials to sworn in MDC ward councillors.

The social aftermaths of election violence were also reportedly threatening social relations in some communities with reported cases of families that have broken down because of political differences. In Kwekwe, a Silobela man reportedly divorced his wife allegedly because of deep-seated political differences, the wife being a Zanu PF loyalist while the husband was an MDC activist. The marriage has reportedly collapsed.

Being one of Zimbabwe’s drought-hit provinces, food politics emerged a recurring issue in its August Reports with reported incidents of people being forced to produce Zanu PF party cards in order to access subsidized GMB maize, people being denied registration

either on the Bacossi or agricultural input schemes for “not being seen at Zanu PF meetings”. As was experienced in other provinces, common perpetrators remain losing councillors, headmen, Zanu PF youths and war veterans.

Mashonaland East

Cases of kidnappings and harassment have disturbingly remained visible. In Murewa North, MDC supporters were on 14 August 2008 reportedly kidnapped and forced to attend party meetings and chant slogans by youths. In Mutoko North, villagers from Mandeya, Hunhu, Tsiko, and Kabaya were reportedly fined \$20 for not attending Zanu PF Celebrations, with threats of eviction upon failure.

The province was also witness to cases of gross forms of violence. In Chi’ono village, a Murewa South man was reportedly murdered at his homestead by suspected Zanu PF youths. The case is reportedly still under police investigations.

As in other provinces, food politics features as a recurring issue in most reports with incidents of people being chased away from basic food queues by youth leaders, people being denied offer letters by kraal heads, as well as people being denied registration because they “failed to contribute for Celebrations”. Generally, the Bacossi project is viewed as a party program with food discriminations still pronounced in Murewa South, Mudzi West, Goromonzi Mudzi, Mudzi South and West, and Mutoko North.

Harare

Although post election violence is no longer openly perpetrated, traces of the pre-election mindset are still evident with reports of assaults arising from different views on ongoing inter-party Talks, or for wearing MDC T shirts while references to members of the opposition as sell-outs are reportedly still common. On 25 August 2008 MDC legislators were reportedly harassed and intimidated at Quality International Hotel by ZRP with Chipinge East MP accused of beating up a war veteran in his constituency. In Zengeza East, a man was ordered to move from the house he was leasing by his landlord, reportedly for ‘wearing MDC T shirts’.

Cases where MDC political meetings were reportedly disrupted by police were still received. On 23 August 2008, an MDC meeting in Mufakose was disrupted by police officers on the basis that they “did not notify the police of the meeting”

The heckling in parliament was also related to the violence that the country had experienced.

Matabeleland North

In comparison with other regional provinces, Matabeleland North emerged the most politically volatile with a record of 60 cases of violence mostly featuring assault and harassment.

With traditional supplementary sources of food under ban, drought-hit Matabeleland North became victim to food politics with Binga, Umguza and Lupane among the most frequently cited areas.

As reported in other provinces, there were reports of newly sworn-in MDC councillors being denied right of control over maize allocation, practices that led to some losing Zanu PF councillors using the Bacossi facility to settle political scores. In Lupane, Sikali 11 villagers were on 22 August 2008 reportedly denied registration in Phase 11 Implements Programs allegedly because they “turned down the Zanu PF by voting for Tsvangirai”.

Political tolerance is yet to take firm root with reports of some Lupane West MPs refusing to work with MDC councillors while losing councillors were reportedly refusing to hand over council stamps and other materials .

Matabeleland South

While politically-motivated violence is generally on the low side, politically-motivated food discriminations remained visible with losing Zanu PF councillors reportedly as chief perpetrators.

As in Matabeleland North, newly sworn in councillors are yet to discharge their duties in wards under their jurisdiction. In the Gonkwe village of Gwanda, a losing councillor on 10 August 2008 reportedly refused to hand over documents and ward stamps to the winning councillor, Headmen were reportedly under orders of war veterans not to introduce newly elected MDC Councillors. In the Mtshabezi village of Gwanda, villagers were on 13 August 2008 reportedly directed not to attend meetings coordinated by MDC Councillors. Although matters of this nature have been brought to the attention of DAs, their interventions are yet to be witnessed.

Bulawayo

As in July, the province emerged the least politically volatile province, however with food discrimination as its main challenge. Food distribution channels are tightly controlled, prospective food beneficiaries expected to have stamped their purchasing books at a Zanu PF Information Centre, reportedly a house belonging to a senior Zanu PF member in the region.

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATION OF REPORT FINDINGS

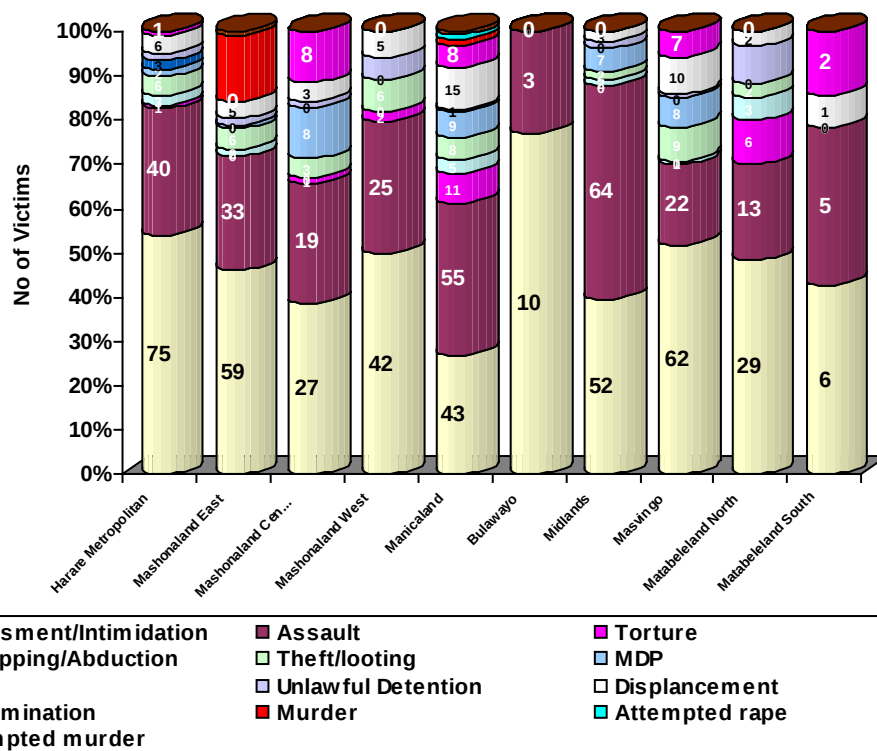
August Acts Spread by Provinces

ACTS	Midlands	Bulawayo	Mat. South	Mat. North	Masvingo	Manicaland	Harare	Mash. East	Mash West	Mash Central	TOTAL
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	19 ²	0	0	21
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4
Kidnapping/Abduction	2	0	0	3	1	5	3	2	0	0	16
Assault	64	3	5	13	22	55	40	33	25	19	279
Theft/Looting	2	0	0	2	9	8	6	6	6	3	42
MDP	7	0	0	0	8	9	2	1	0	8	35
Torture	0	0	0	6	0	11	1	0	2	1	21
Unlawful Detention	2	0	0	5	1	0	2	2	4	1	17
Harassment/Intimidation	52	10	6	29	62	43	75	59	42	27	405
Displacement	3	0	1	2	10	15	6	5	5	3	50
Discrimination	0	0	2	0	7	8	1	0	0	8	26
Attempted Rape	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
TOTAL	132	13	14	60	120	159	139	128	84	70	919

Graphic Representation

² The number of murder cases includes the 18 bodies that were allegedly discovered in Wenimbi Dam in Macheke resettlement on 28 August 2008. The case is still being investigated.

ACTS ANALYSIS



Salient Observations

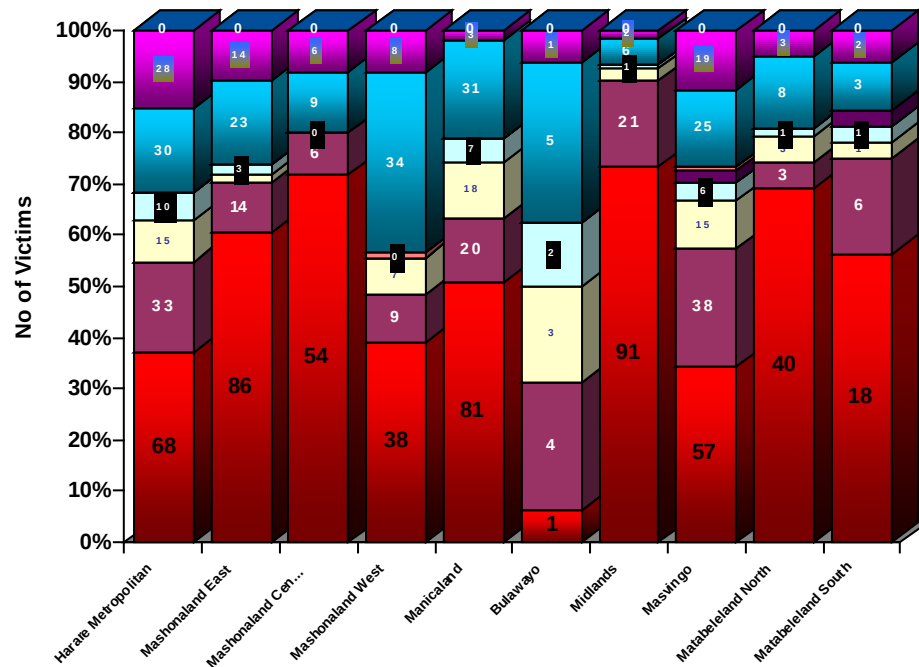
- Acts spread still maintain their July stubborn retreat characteristics, having dropped from their July level of 1333 to 919 by August. Incidents of murder, rape, kidnapping, assault, looting, harassment, displacements, and MDPs remain statistically visible, two months after the run off.
- While violence patterns reflect a significant shift to lesser forms of violence, loss of 21 lives, 3 cases of rape, 16 cases of abductions and 35 cases of MDPs should be viewed with concern particularly because they are occurring at a time when the political leadership are engaged in protracted inter-party unity talks. The political leadership should be strongly exhorted to sell the message of peace to their grassroots structures.
- Of the 901 gross cases of violence reported, incidence density is most concentrated in Manicaland with 159, Harare with 139 and Midlands with 132.
- As in July, harassment and assaults remain the topmost frequently committed political offences with most incidents occurring in Harare, Mashonaland East, Masvingo, Midlands and Manicaland.
- Consistent with past trends, the Matabeleland region remains in the low violence zone with incident records as low as 13 in Bulawayo, 14 in Matabeleland South and 60 in Matabeleland North.

Concluding Remarks

August incidents spread strongly suggest that the war against politically motivated

violence is far from over.

Gender-Victim Analysis



August 2008

■ MDC - Male	■ MDC Female	■ Unknown MDC	■ Zanu PF Male
■ Zanu PF - Female	■ Unknown Zanu PF	■ State Male	■ State Female
■ Unknown State	■ Unknown - Male	■ Unknown - Female	■ Unknown

Observations

- While there is a gross victim toll drop from its July level of 1385 to 1053 by August, this decrease was largely attributed to major victim toll declines in the Zanu PF [98] and the State [7].
- The MDC victim toll [688] remained significantly high constituting 65% of the gross victim toll. Victim toll density is still heavily skewed against the MDC.
- Consistent with past trends, high victim tolls continue to be recorded in Harare Metropolitan, Masvingo, Manicaland and Mashonaland East with least victim records in the Matabeleland provinces.
- There are more of male victims than female victims in both Zanu PF and MDC, however with the number of MDC female victims still disturbingly high, in fact twice the Zanu PF male victim toll and 5 times higher than the Zanu PF female victim toll.

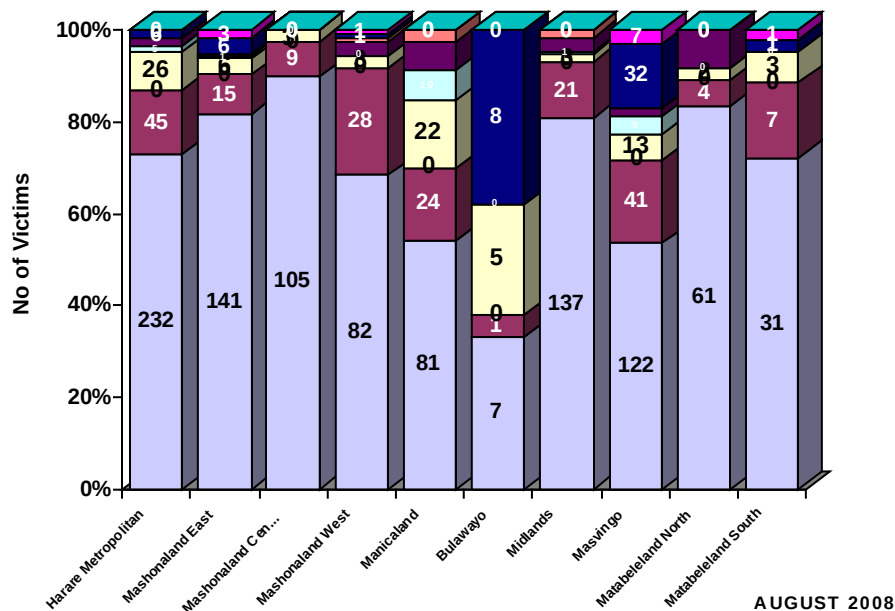
- As was the case in July, the State-victim toll continues to decline while the victim toll of the Unknown [260] remained disturbingly high, constituting 25 % of the gross victim toll. That the Unknown victim toll remains high points to the still widespread nature of victimization.

Concluding Remark

Victim toll distribution strongly indicates that the bulk of the victims are from the MDC camp. Consistent with trends since March 2008 the ZANU PF victim toll maintained its sharp decline streak.

Gender-Perpetrator Analysis

AUGUST 2008



AUGUST 2008

Zanu PF Male	Zanu PF Female	Unknown Zanu PF	MDC Male
MDC Female	Unknown MDC	State Male	State Female
Unknown State	Unknown -Male	Unknown - Female	Unknown

Observations

- While the perpetrator toll record points to a 62 % drop from the July level of 2218 to 1385 by August, it is instructive to note that the decline is not across the board. This perceived significant decline was mainly due to sharp decreases in the

number of MDC perpetrators. Zanu PF perpetrator record remains disturbingly high across both sexes.

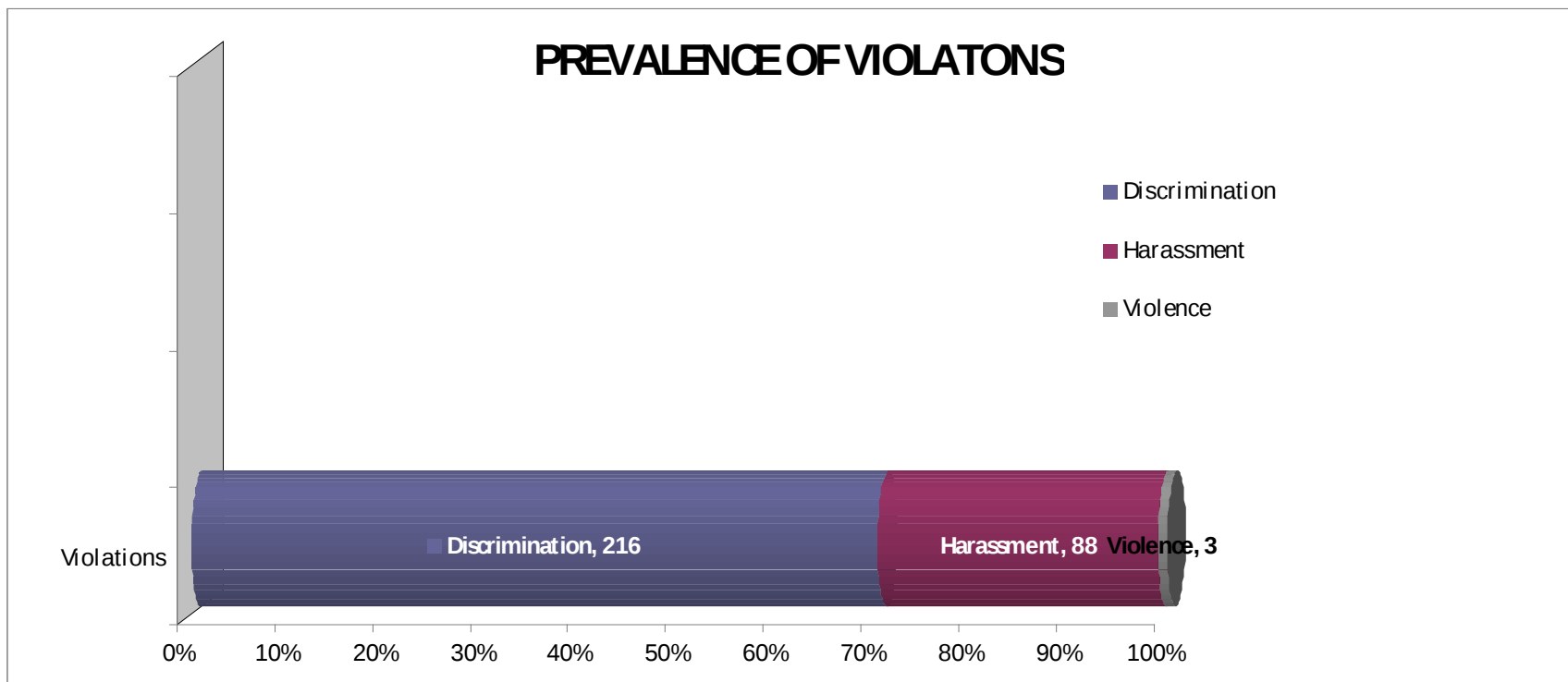
- Of the gross perpetrator toll of 1385 recorded in August, 1194 of these [86%] were Zanu PF perpetrators with 108 [8%] being MDC perpetrators.
- Perpetrator density also remained disturbingly heavy in Harare Metropolitan [319], Masvingo [199], Mashonaland East [173], Midlands [170], Manicaland [150], Mashonaland West [120] and Mashonaland Central [117], perpetrator records that are not surprising at all in view of their traditional hotspot history.
- While perpetrator toll remains significantly on the low side in the Matabeleland provinces, the Matabeleland North perpetrator record was disturbingly way above the toll records of other two provinces.
- Although the Zanu PF perpetrator toll had a 60% drop from its July level of 1991 to 1194 by August, Zanu PF perpetrator toll remains incomparable to the MDC perpetrator figure of 108. The MDC perpetrator figure is 9% of Zanu PF perpetrator figure. Statistically implied here is that two months after the elections, Zanu PF remained on the lead on the perpetrator race.
- Also trite is to note that while males remain the main perpetrators in both the Zanu PF and the MDC, the Zanu PF female perpetrator figure [195] is 181% higher than the gross MDC perpetrator figure of 108. Perpetrator proclivity within Zanu PF is still disturbingly high across genders.

Concluding Remarks

While gross perpetrator toll appears to be on a declining course, it is still too early to celebrate as the perceived declines are not across board. While the number of MDC male and female perpetrators has significantly declined, the number of Zanu PF perpetrators across both sexes remained on an ascent route, two months after the elections.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION ANALYSIS AUGUST 2008

	Masvin go	Hara re	Manical a	Mashonala nd East	Mashonala nd West	Mashonala nd Central	Bulawa yo	Matabelela nd North	Matabelela nd South	Midland s	TOTA L
Forced to attend political meetings	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
Ordered to produce party card	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	5	9
Ordered to take off party regalia	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4
Forced to chant party slogans	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ordered to denounce one's party	0	3	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
Summoned to meeting	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Other	0	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	38	44
TOTAL	0	7	26	5	0	2	0	0	0	48	88
VIOLENCE											
Abduction/unlawful detention	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sexual violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malicious Damage to Property (MDP)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Physical Attack	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Grievous bodily harm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3
DISCRIMINATION											
Denied access to GSF	00	5	32	1	41	25	0	8	0	0	112
Denied seeds & fertiliser	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	8
Denied tillage support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denied Agricultural Credit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Denied food loan	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Denied food relief	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Denied food aid	0	0	6	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	19
Denied to buy maize	16	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	3	0	29
Denied irrigation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denied Education Assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denied Medical Assistance	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	10	2	5	1	0	0	2	0	3	9	32
TOTAL	31	13	44	25	55	25	2	8	7	11	221



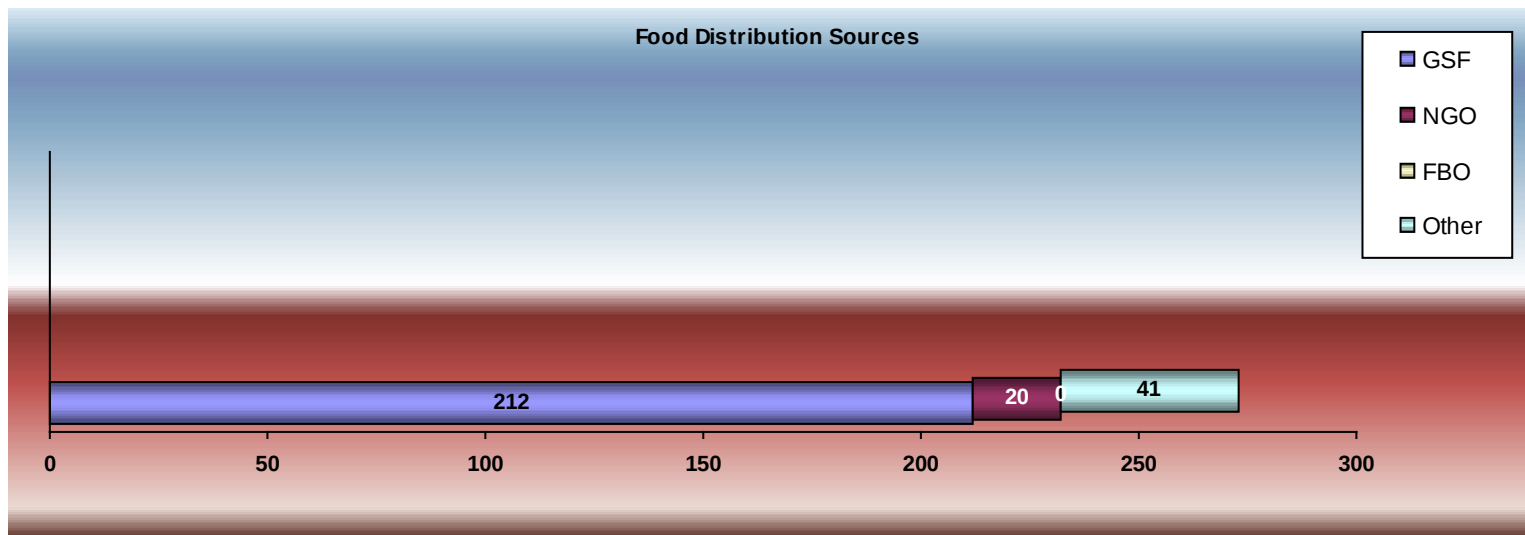
Food Distribution Sources

Source	Masvingo	Harare	Manicaland	Mashonaland East	Mashonaland West	Mashonaland Central	Bulawayo	Matabeleland North	Matabeleland South	Midlands	Total
GSF ³	33	3	32	23	41	25	0	8	5	42	212
NGO ⁴	0	5	6	3	5	0	0	0	0	1	20
FBO ⁵	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	9	2	6	0	9	0	2	0	2	11	41
TOTAL	42	10	44	26	55	25	2	8	7	54	273

³ Government Subsidised Food

⁴ Non-Governmental Organization

⁵ Faith Based Organization



Observations

- Food politics remains pronounced in all provinces however with least violations in the Matabeleland regions.
- GSF is the main source of food in all provinces, with the main traditional supplementary sources of still under an imposed indefinite suspension.
- As shown on the August ZPP Victims-FMR⁶ table, victims of food discriminations remain MDC [198 Victims] in comparison with Zanu PF [71 Victims]. The food-Victim record of the Unknown [at 118] is also cause for concern underlining the possibility of indiscriminate food discriminations.
- 51% [198] of the gross 387 Food-Victims were MDC while 71[18%] were ZANU PF Food-victims, a trend that is in consonant with descriptions in provincial reports pointing to widespread denials of known and suspected opposition supporters to register for subsidized GMB food, Bacossi, People's Shops, basic commodities, agricultural inputs[fertilizer, tillage support, food loan, agricultural credit] allegedly on the basis that they did not vote in the 27 June Run Off, that they did not appear on local political meeting registers, fail to produce Zanu PF party cards, fail to chant party slogans, among others.
- Evidently clear on the ZPP Perpetrator-FMR table, is that as in July, Zanu PF remains statistically the main perpetrator with 344 [94%] of the total 366 food-perpetrators being Zanu PF members, with 3 [0.008%] being MDC-Food-Perpetrators. As further gleaned from the table, the Zanu PF female Food-Perpetrators [at 57] are even 19 times higher than the MDC gross-Food-Perpetrator toll.

Concluding Remarks

Politically motivated food discriminations remain a major cause for concern. The highly centralized nature of state distribution channels is highly prone to political abuse by unscrupulous party members. The fact that losing councillors remained in control of food distributions had a significant contribution to the continued visibility of food discriminations. The ban on food relief agencies needs to be lifted urgently to avert a potential food catastrophe in the ten provinces, most of which are currently reeling under one of the worst droughts in years.

TENTATIVE PREDICTIONS AND THE WAY FORWARD

While post election violence has since June been on the decline, the war against politically motivated violence is far from over. The pre-election mindset is still disturbingly widespread in most public speeches and writings. Members of the opposition are still labelled sell-outs. A revenge mood is also in the air. A robust political reorientation program is needed to cleanse society of the pre-election era mindset. In the absence of this, political tolerance and peace are at high risk of becoming a mirage.

⁶ FMR – Food Monitoring Report

The noble goals of the Bacossi program are at high risk of being subverted and diverted from original focus. Food distribution networks are too politicized, opaque and highly centralized. There are too many actors involved in food distribution processes with losing councillors [mostly Zanu PF members] usurping the food distribution control roles of newly sworn-in councillors [mostly MDC members]. The risk of politically-motivated discriminations will remain high as long as Voter Registration Roll Books for the 29 March and 27 June continue to determine access to Bacossi and other related facilities. A more professional, transparent and non-partisan system should be put in place to ensure impartiality in the distribution of food.

Once the suspension on humanitarian NGOs is lifted, food agencies must be given enough space to enable them undertake their gap- filling roles

Post election violence left society disturbingly polarized along political lines. The re-integration, rehabilitation, and social healing of Victims of Violence recommended in the July Report must be pursued with vigour. Reference has been made to cases of violence-induced dementia, threats of revenge after Talks, as well as politically-motivated frictions within churches, families, and communities.

ZPP, as is the case with all peace-loving Zimbabweans, fervently hopes that the MOU would be consolidated into a political deal that should usher in a Government of national Unity. The right to peace, justice and security is our fundamental and cherished right which should be jealously guarded by all peace loving Zimbabweans.