



SUMMARY ON POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED
HUMAN RIGHTS AND FOOD- RELATED
VIOLATIONS

February 2010

31/03/2010

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS MONITORING

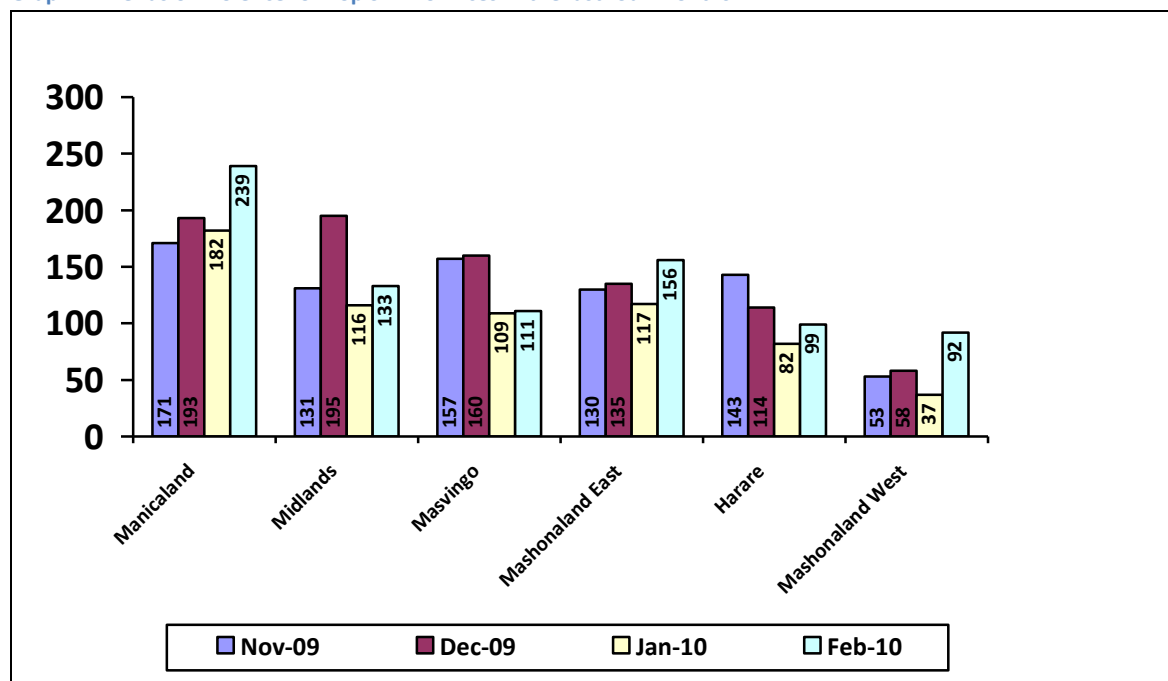
BACKGROUND

The month of February registered an increase in human rights violations with a toll of 979 up from 779 in January 2010. Comparing January and February 2010 trends, the latter had 628 cases of harassment from the 490 in January, while cases of discrimination rose from 45 to 76 and cases of assault rose from 165 to 96. The period under review was largely characterised by a hive of activities in the political arena and most violations in this time are attributable to these activities. The issue of 'illegal economic sanctions' according to ZANU PF led to a protest by youths of the party who gave the Prime Minister until March 24 to have the sanctions removed. The protest was largely in response to the European Union extension of targeted sanctions with a delisting of only deceased members of ZANUPF and Mr. Dumiso Dabengwa. The United States of America followed suit by also extending the targeted sanctions. The announcement by President Robert Mugabe that Zimbabwe would have elections whether the constitutional process succeeds or fails also created anxiety among citizens.

These new developments led to political parties re-strategising and intensifying activities in preparation for the impending events as evidenced by reports of the resurgence of "torture" bases or camps in some provinces including Manicaland (Nyanga North, Buhera North, South and Central and Headlands - Makoni), Midlands (Gokwe Nembudziya and Gokwe Chireya), Mashonaland West (Chegutu) and Harare (Epworth in wards 2,3,4,5, 6 & 7, Harare South and Tafara). These bases are reported to have been established by ZANU PF. The resuscitation of bases is invoking a lot of bad memories from June 2008 and instilling fear in the communities. These provinces are among the top six ranking highest in acts of human rights abuses since 2008.

In February, Manicaland, Mashonaland East, Harare, Midlands and Mashonaland West recorded remarkable increases in actions of politically motivated violations. A close analysis of trends of violence for these provinces in the last four months show that all these provinces save for Harare consistently experienced an upsurge in acts of politically motivated violence. Only the month of January 2010 recorded a decline in political activities probably due to the festive mood. The other 4 provinces namely Mashonaland Central, Bulawayo, Matebeleland North and South Provinces fall into the mild to calm political violence zones. However, for the past two months Mashonaland Central is assuming a hot zone title and this is likely to spread to other provinces in view of the current political activities. The graph below shows an analysis of trends in terms of violations in the last four months.

Graph 1: Trends of Violence for Top Six Provinces in the last four months.



INCIDENCES OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLATIONS

As reported in the past 3 months, acts of harassment and intimidation continue to maintain a high toll in all the 10 provinces and these include death threats and in some cases people being threatened with a repeat of the June 2008 violence. The impending thematic constitutional outreach meetings have triggered some acts of harassment which in some instances have culminated in an increase of cases of assault. Members of the public are reportedly being forced to attend “Constitutional preparatory meetings” on a regular basis. At these meetings citizens are allegedly being told what to say and being equipped with prepared questions or statements to present to the committees. Failure to follow these instructions, citizens have been told by ZANUPF supporters that they will be dealt with. The pre-determined statements are usually inclined towards supporting the Kariba draft as the basis for a new constitution. On the other hand, supporters of the MDC-T are also on record of harassing those found advocating for the adoption of the Kariba draft. Wearing of party regalia continues to be a cause for violent reactions. This is a clear indication of the high level of political intolerance in the communities.

Cases of assault were also on the increase in most of the provinces, with Harare reporting an eruption of physical violence attacks on known MDC- T supporters by ZANU PF youths in Epworth. The attacks were systematic where ZANU PF youths were reportedly moving door to door beating up those on the hit list. In Manicaland, the constitution consultative meetings have resulted in many acts of harassment and intimidation including assault.

The table below shows the spread of violations by province for the month of February 2010. ***See also annexure on page 11 for narrative spread of violations by province.***

Table 1: Analysis of Politically motivated Violations by Province

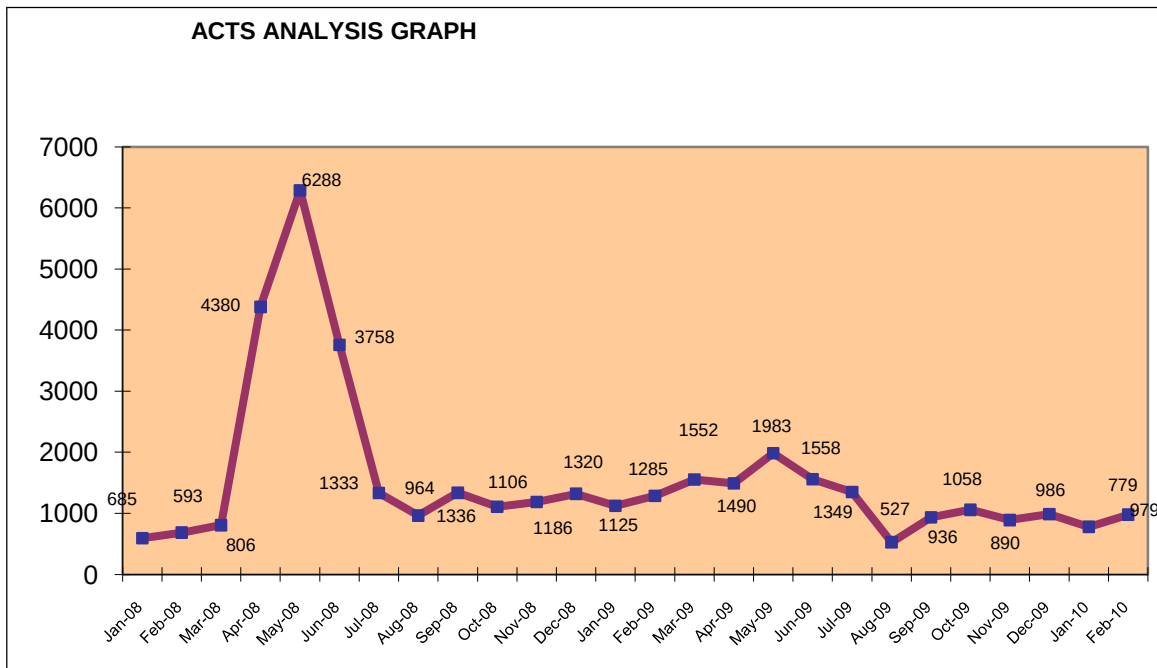
ACTS	Midlands	Bulawayo	Mat. South	Mat. North	Masvingo	Manicaland	Harare	Mash. East	Mash West	Mash Central	TOTAL
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kidnapping/Abduction	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	5
Assault	36	1	4	5	18	43	29	32	17	11	196
Theft/Looting	1	0	0	1	4	9	2	6	0	7	30
MDP	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	1	1	10
Torture	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	3
Unlawful Detention	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	5
Harassment/Intimidation	83	0	18	20	79	148	51	9569	65	63	628
Displacement	2	0	1	0	2	4	8	43	2	3	26
Discrimination	7	6	0	0	7	26	7	14	7	8	76
Total	133	7	23	26	111	239	99	156	92	93	979

A cumulative violations toll of 38 480 cases were recorded in 2008 and 2009. This has risen to 40,238 as of February 2010. See table below for details

Table 2: 2009 Cumulative Tables of Violations

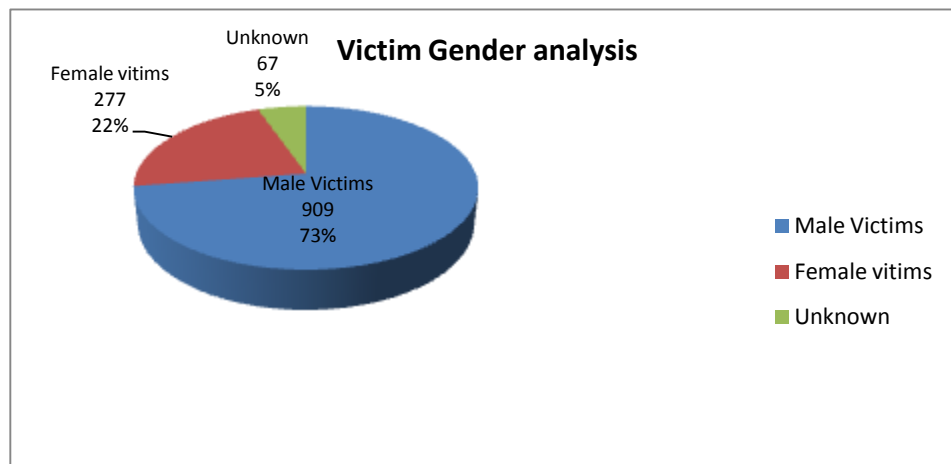
ACTS	2008	2009	2010												Total
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Murder	207	8	0	0											215
Rape	61	69	1	0											131
Kidnapping/Abduction	511	147	2	5											665
Assault	4886	3296	165	196											8543
Theft/Looting	611	598	26	30											1265
MDP	1009	294	14	10											1327
Torture	452	157	3	3											615
Unlawful Detention	514	284	6	5											809
Harassment/Intimidation	12593	7865	490	628											21576
Displacement	2508	680	45	26											3259
Discrimination	366	1314	27	76											1783
Attempted Rape	23	3	0	0											26
Attempted Murder	16	10	0	0											24
Total	23755	14725	779	979											40238

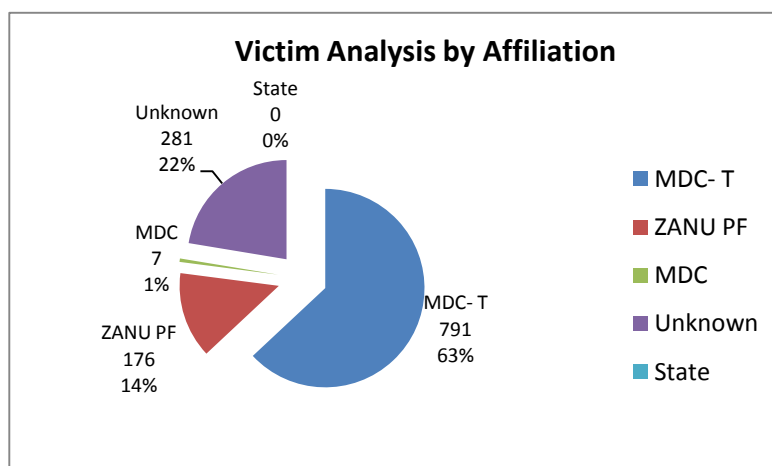
Graphically trends are shown below.



Victim Analysis by Gender and Association

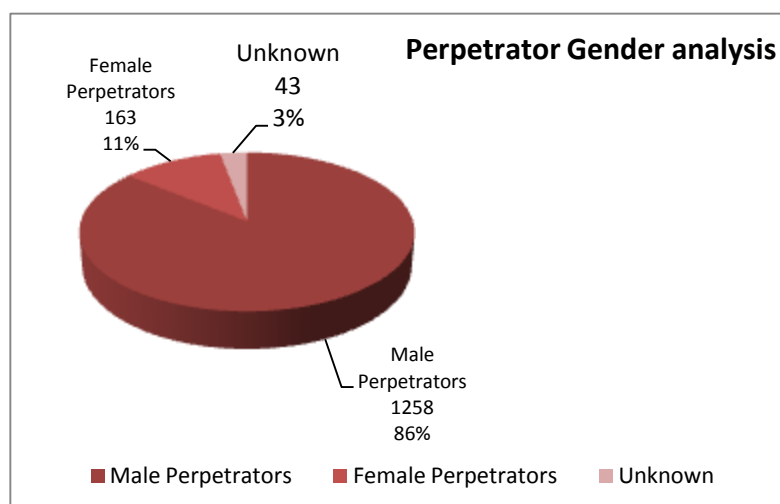
The February victim toll increased to 1253 showing a 27% increase, from the 987 recorded in January. Of the 1253 victims 909 [73%] are male while 277 [22%] are female and 67 [5%] are recorded as unknown. Analyzing the same trend by political affiliation, MDC –T victims constitute 63% [791], while ZANU PF has 14% [176], MDC-M 1% [7] , unknowns 22% [281] and state had nil. From a gender perspective, the male victim toll maintains a high trend whereas the female toll witnessed a slight increase but remained relatively lower.

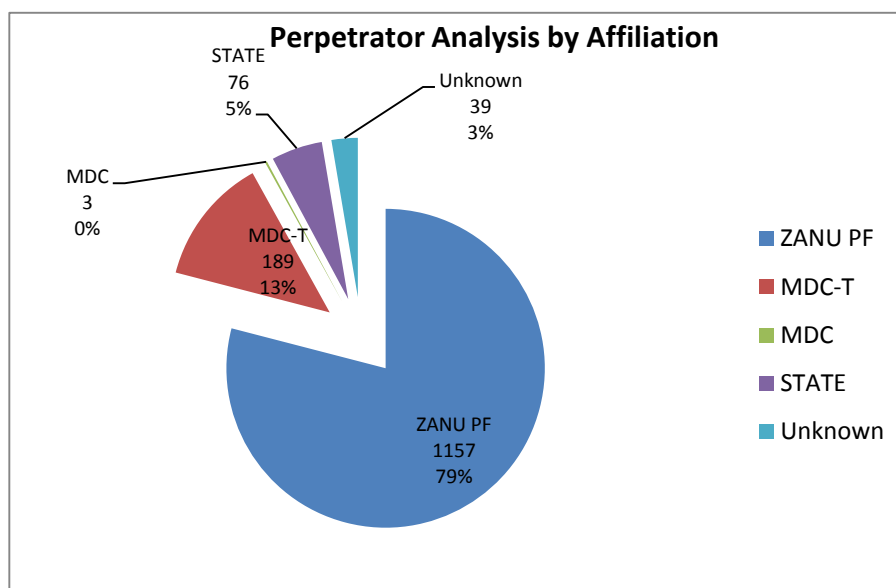




The figure of perpetrators for the period under review witnessed an increase at 1464 from 1144 in January 2010. Of the 1464 perpetrators recorded in the month under review 1157 were ZANU PF, 189 MDC-T, 6 MDC-M, 64 State and 39 Unknowns. Similarly, the gender analysis of victims, reveals that male perpetrators constitute the bulk of the recorded perpetrators, numbering 1258 [86%] while 163 [11%] were female and 43[5%] unknown. The charts below show the violations spread by gender and by political affiliation.

Male and Female Perpetrator Charts





FOOD & OTHER FORMS OF AIDS MONITORING

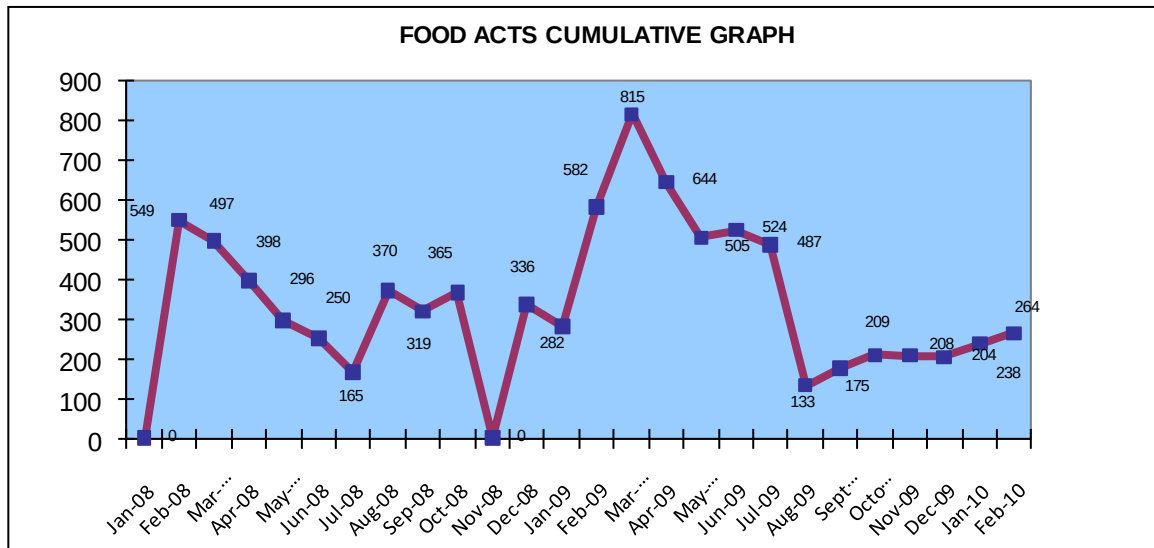
In the period under review, food and other forms of aid are reported to continue to be manipulated as a punitive measure against those found not supporting the views of ZANU PF. The bulk of the denials of aid were for farming inputs [fertilizer] and the meting out of such denials are reported to be carried out by community leaders who deliberately omit or delete from the beneficiaries list, names of those suspected to be opposed to the leader's political aspirations be it ZANU PF or MDC-T. Community leaders take advantage of being the first point of entry when there is need to identify the vulnerable. This method is so prone to corruption in that by virtue of them being solely responsible for identifying and drawing up lists of beneficiaries, it means that those found not to support their views politically are usually left out.

Since January 2008, a cumulative figure of 10 120 violations were recorded. The highest violations are those of discrimination and harassment in the form of people being denied food relief, government subsidized food and farm inputs mainly on partisan grounds. The victims are forced to denounce their political party, or are forced to produce party membership cards in order to access food and other forms of aid. The month of February recorded a total of 264 cases showing an 11% increase from the 238 reported in January 2010. Of the 264 cases, 161 are acts of discrimination, 100 harassments and 3 are violence. Midlands recorded the highest cases with [91]; followed by Mashonaland East [53], Mashonaland Central [30], Masvingo [29] and Manicaland [25] recorded most of these cases. In Harare's Mabvuku –Tafara people were being denied to draw water from public boreholes by ZANU PF supporters and this is one of the areas affected by the outbreak of Typhoid. Below is the cumulative table and graph showing the spread of food and other forms of aid related violations since 2008.

Table 3: CUMULATIVE TABLE FOR FOOD& OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED VIOLATIONS

2008	2009	FOOD & OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED ACT - 2009				
		2010	HARASSMENT	VIOLENCE	DISCRIMINATION	TOTAL
		<i>Closing Figures for 2009</i> →	3101	269	6248	9618
549	282	January	88	2	148	238
497	582	February	100	3	161	264
398	815	March				
296	644	April				
250	505	May				
165	524	June				
370	487	July				
319	132	August				
365	175	September				
376	209	October				
930	208	November				
336	204	December				
4851	4767	TOTAL	3289	274	6557	10120

Food Acts Cumulative Graph



GENERAL OBSERVATIONS & WAY FORWARD

As Zimbabwe celebrated the first anniversary of the consummation of the inclusive government there were a lot of uncertainties although the government helped stabilize the economy and controlled inflation that was running wild. However, this stability stands threatened in the face of the coming into effect of the Indigenization and Economic Empowerment Law which obliges foreign owned companies to cede 51% of their stake to black indigenous Zimbabweans. The new law is viewed as a threat to economic growth as it scares away investors. On the other hand, the unending bickering within the inclusive government is a major cause for concern as it results in

failure to secure financial support to boost economic recovery. This rift has also negatively impacted on the social lives of people in that it erodes the strides that had been made to address the health, education and social welfare matters. To cite but a few examples, meagre salaries for civil servants led to the recent civil service strike; lack of social amenities (clean water, refuse collection), led to the outbreak of Typhoid in Harare while the cholera pandemic is yet to be contained.

Politically, the atmosphere is heating up given the impending expiration of the inclusive government in February 2011, unless according to the President the political leaders agree on something else. Given the rise in the number of politically motivated violations especially use of abusive language and threats of a repeat of the June 2008 horrors other forms of violence coupled with the accumulating frustrations in the country in relation to the slow pace of the constitution making process, reconciliation and national healing, it is highly likely that political violence could be worse during the referendum and elections. Zimbabwe Peace Project appeals to the inclusive government principals to make strong statements against perpetration of political violence as they committed to do in the Global Political Agreement.



BACKGROUND & FORMATION

The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) was conceived shortly after 2000 by a group of Churches and NGOs working or interested in human rights and peace-building initiatives, and was to become a vehicle for civic interventions in a time of political crisis. In particular ZPP sought to monitor and document incidents of human rights violations and politically motivated breaches of the peace e.g. violence.

Today, ZPP's member organizations include, Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN), Counselling Services Unit (CSU), Zimbabwe Liberators' Platform (ZLP), Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust (ZIMCET), ZimRights, Civic Education Network Trust (CIVNET).

VISION

Sustainable Justice, Freedom, Peace and
Development in Zimbabwe, for All.

MISSION

To work for sustainable Peace through Monitoring, Documentation, Research & Publications,
and Community Peace Building Interventions ~ through & with our Members & Partners

CONTACT US

P O Box BE 427, Belvedere

Tel: (04) 747719, 2930180,

2930182, 2900555, 2900556

Email: zppinfo@gmail.com, zpp@africaonline.co.zw

Table 4: PROVINCIAL VIOLATIONS OUTLOOK - FEBRUARY 2010

PROVINCE	TYPE OF VIOLATIONS/ACTIVITY(IES)		TROUBLE ZONES
	COMMON ACTS (VIOLATIONS)	CAUSES	
MANICALAND	- Harassment/Intimidation - Threats - Assault - Discrimination – distribution of food & other forms of aid - Resuscitation of Base “Torture” Camps - Recruitment of “torture gangs” youth militia	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People Driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations - Preparation of COPAC consultative process, campaigns for referendum and 2011 harmonised elections	Nyanga North, Headlands, Buhera North, South and Central, Chimanimani Nyanga North, Headlands, Buhera North, South, and Central
MASHONALAND EAST	- Harassments/intimidation - Threats - Assault	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations	Mudzi, Murewha, Marondera, Goromonzi, UMP and Chikomba Districts
MIDLANDS	- Harassment /Intimidation – Threats, hate language, forced meetings - Assault - Discrimination - Resuscitation of Base “Torture” Camps - Recruitment of “torture gangs” youth militia	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People drive process Vs. Kariba Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations - Partisan distribution of food & other forms of aid - Preparation of COPAC consultative process, campaigns for referendum and 2011 harmonised elections	Gokwe Nembudziya, Kabuyuni, Chireya and Gumunyu, Zhombe, Chirumanzu Sebagwe, Mberengwa, Shurugwi South Gokwe Chireya, Nembudziya
MASVINGO	Harassment/Intimidation – Threats, hate language, forced attendance of meetings	- Political intolerance - Scramble for stakes in the run-up to the Constitutional consultative outreach – Kariba Draft vs. People driven	Bikita, Chibi, Zaka North, Chiredzi, Gutu, Masvingo Rural & Urban

	Assault	- process - Participation in civil service strike (teachers)	
HARARE	- Harassment/intimidation – Threats, hate language, forced meetings - Assault - Discrimination - Resuscitation of Base “Torture” Camps - Recruitment of “torture gangs” youth militia	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People driven process vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations - Partisan distribution of food & other forms of aid - Preparation of COPAC consultative process, campaigns for referendum and 2011 harmonised elections	Epworth Glen View North, Glen Norah, Glen View South, Mabvuku and Tafara Epworth wards 2, 3,4, 5,6, & 7, Harare South and Tafara
MASHONALAND CENTRAL	- Harassment/intimidation – Threats, hate language, forced meetings - Assault - Recruitment of youth militia	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations - Campaign for Kariba Draft	Mt Darwin East, South, and North, Shamva South, Bindura North
MASHONALAND WEST	- Harassment & intimidation – Threats, hate language, forced meetings - Resuscitation of Base “Torture” Camps - Recruitment of “torture gangs” youth militia	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Preparation of COPAC consultative process, campaigns for referendum and 2011 harmonised elections	Chegutu West, Mhondoro , Mhondoro Ngezi Chinhoyi and Kadoma West Chegutu District
BULAWAYO	Harassment & intimidation	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft	Bulawayo East, Luveve, Lobengula, Magwegwe and Bulawayo central
MATEBELELAND NORTH	- Harassment & Intimidation - Discrimination	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People Driven process vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft	Binga North, Binga South, Bubi, Hwange Central, East and West , Lupane West

		• Partisan distribution of food & other forms of aid	
MATEBELELAND SOUTH	• Harassment & intimidation • Assault	• Political intolerance • Differing views on constitution: People driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft	Matobo North, Umzingwane, Gwanda North, Bulilima East, and Mangwe