



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

June 2010

21/07/2010

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS MONITORING

SUMMARY

This report summarises the human rights violations recorded during the month of June 2010 from the ten provinces of Zimbabwe with a keen interest on breaches of peace that were documented since the beginning of the ongoing Constitutional Parliamentary Select Committee (COPAC) outreach meetings.

The month under review started quietly only to wake up to a wave of intimidations and harassments as the Constitutional Parliamentary Select Committee began its outreach programme in the second half of the month.

This was however, despite spirited calls to shun political violence by the country's main political leaders President Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai and Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Mutambara at the launch of the constitutional outreach programme in Harare on June 16.

The three Principals made commitments that the process must be undertaken in conditions that uphold the principles of inclusivity, tolerance, transparency and openness. They called for peace and non-violence during the public outreach meetings.

Public meetings to gather the views and ideas of Zimbabweans they want included in the new charter failed to kick off as planned in most areas and this resulted in more tension among the communities as political parties continue to push for their views to be included in the new constitution.

Administrative glitches and political intolerance aided to produce chaotic scenes in the consultative meetings that took place in the eight provinces across the country.

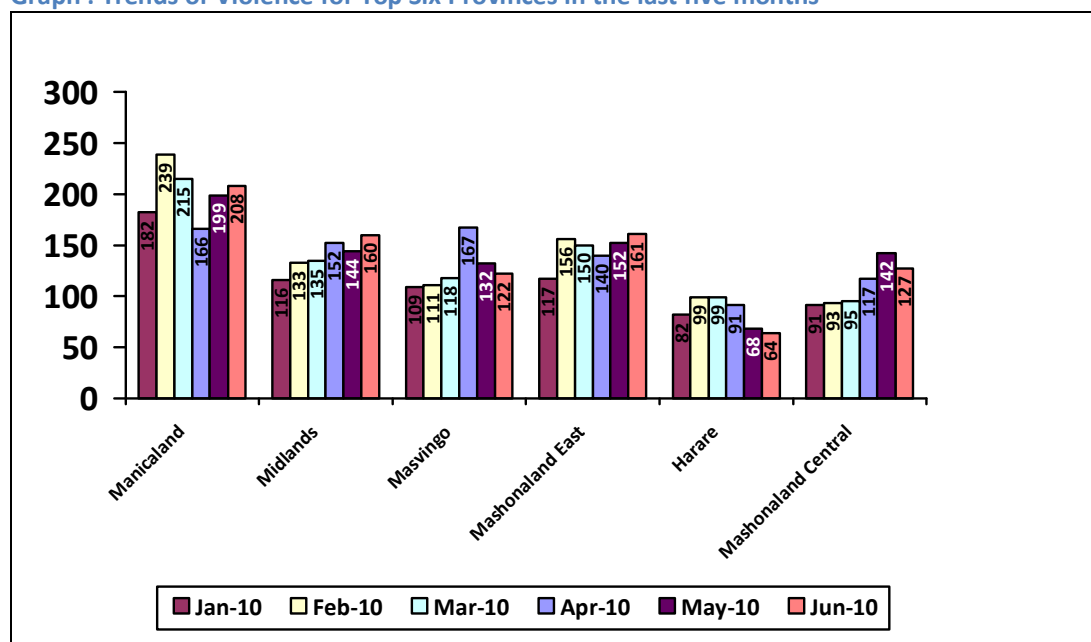
Cases of politically motivated violence remain high and the atmosphere has remained volatile in the Manicaland, Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland East, Midlands and Masvingo provinces.

Most of the violations that were recorded during the month under review happened during the COPAC outreach meetings. The violations have been mainly before the meetings where villagers would be told to support certain positions and coached on what to say when the COPAC teams arrived.

ZPP reports from monitors also point to retributive violations where people are interrogated and harassed for not heeding the calls to support certain political party positions at the outreach meetings.

Of great concern again, are high reports of "coaching" on what to say at outreach meetings, which have remained pronounced in most rural parts from the eight provinces.

Graph : Trends of Violence for Top Six Provinces in the last five months



INCIDENCES OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLATIONS

SEVEN out of the country's ten provinces recorded an increase in incidents of politically motivated violations and the majority of these have been tied to the ongoing Constitutional making process.

Cases of intimidation and harassment remained high in Mashonaland Central, Midlands, Masvingo, Manicaland and Mashonaland East provinces. The violations were perpetrated by war veterans, ZANU PF youths and members of the State security agents including the police, soldiers and the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) operatives.

Table : 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	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	6
Kidnapping/ Abduction	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Assault	39	0	0	2	13	37	20	37	9	12	169
Theft/Looting	5	0	0	0	1	7	2	6	5	1	27
Discrimination	13	0	4	2	6	16	1	22	1	1	62
MDP	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	18	25
Torture	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	1	7
Unlawful Detention	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	7
Harassment/ Intimidation	93	3	0	6	96	133	39	86	36	91	587

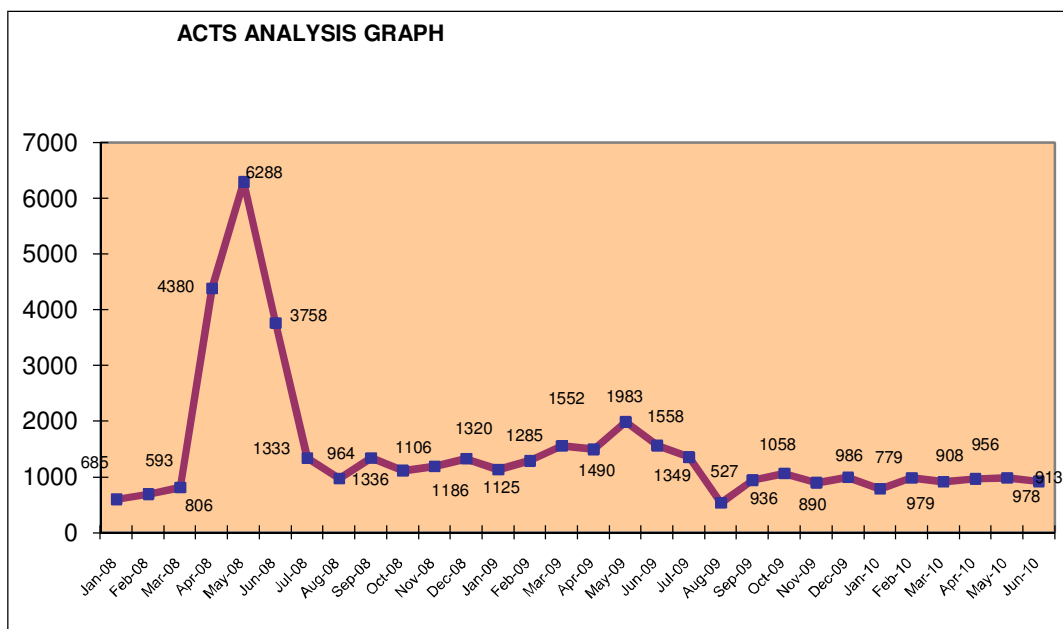
Displacement	3	0	0	0	4	4	2	5	2	2	22
Total	160	3	4	11	122	208	64	161	53	127	913

A cumulative violations toll as of June 2010 stands at 43,933 since 2008. See table below for details

Table : 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	1	0	0	0							216
Rape	61	69	1	0	5	0	1	6							143
Kidnapping/Abduction	511	147	2	5	5	7	4	1							682
Assault	4886	3296	165	196	161	156	186	169							9215
Theft/Looting	611	598	26	30	25	27	27	27							1371
Discrimination	366	1314	27	76	61	65	73	62							2044
MDP	1009	294	14	10	16	9	11	25							1388
Torture	452	157	3	3	2	3	4	7							631
Unlawful Detention	514	284	6	5	15	8	6	7							845
Harassment/Intimidation	12593	7865	490	628	589	651	641	587							24044
Displacement	2508	680	45	26	28	30	25	22							3364
Attempted Rape	23	3	0	0	0	0	0	0							26
Attempted Murder	16	10	0	0	0	0	0	0							24
Total	23755	14725	779	979	908	956	978	913							43933

Graphically trends are shown below.



From Mashonaland Central province, a traditionally ZANU PF stronghold, the majority of victims of assault were attacked because of their affiliation to the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC -T) formation led by Prime Minister Tsvangirai. The violations were recorded in Muzarabani, Shamva and Guruve.

Traditional leaders from the province have continued with their partisan stance and have remained on the perpetrators list by causing the eviction of villagers who are supporters of the MDC -T. In a clear case of victimisation, a village head at Keche Village, Muzarabani North was removed from his position by the chief of the area because he supports the MDC-T.

A headmaster at Chifamba School in Guruve South forced the demotion of his deputy after he accused him of supporting the MDC-T. The headmaster is a war veteran as well as a councillor of the area on a ZANU PF ticket.

Other villagers have been assaulted for either failing to attend ZANU PF constitutional awareness meetings or attending MDC meetings.

Manicaland province has witnessed an increase in the number of “torture bases” which have been re-opened and are being manned by war veterans and retired army personnel. New bases were recorded during the month under review where villagers are taken on day and night vigils where ZANU PF is reorienting them on the party’s position on the new constitution.

A base was recorded in **Headlands, Mugadza Village 19B**, manned by war veterans where people are being tortured and assaulted for belonging to the MDC-T party. Another base has been set up at **Matezwa Village in Chipinge South**.

In **Chimanimani West**, bases have been established at **Cashel Valley and Mutidzawanda** where villagers who fail to attend to the vigils (liberation war-like Pungwes) are shortlisted for future violent retribution. ZANU PF losing parliamentary candidate for **Nyanga South**, Paul Kadzima is reported to have set up a base at **Sedze** in the constituency.

During the month under review, Manicaland also witnessed cases of farm invasions which came after Minister of State in the President’s Office Didymus Mutasa held a rally in Chipinge and allegedly encouraged ZANU PF supporters to invade all the remaining white owned farms. After his address, Odendaal, Makandi Banana and Coffee, Silverton, Lalue and Dick Seinye farms were violently invaded in a clear defiance of High Court orders.

From Mashonaland East, the violations toll remained very high with 161 cases having been recorded including rape and assaults. An MDC activist was allegedly raped in Hwedza North constituency while another was gang-raped in Mudzi North by suspected ZANU PF youths.

Cases of arson and malicious injury to property were also reported in Hwedza and Murehwa. Most of the violations that were recorded have been concentrated in the areas of Chikomba, Marondera, Goromonzi, Mudzi, Hwedza and Murehwa.

Mashonaland West province saw the return of the dreaded ZANU PF “Top six” who caused a lot of violations which are related to the ongoing constitution making process. Most of the violations were recorded towards the end of the month. However, the month under review saw a slight decrease in the number of violations in June (53) as compared to the month of May (73).

The Midlands Province has recorded an increase in violations and most of them have been where villagers were assaulted for attending MDC meetings and failure to attend ZANU PF consultative meetings on the constitution. In one incident an MDC activist was severely assaulted by ZANU PF supporters after saving an MDC campaign song “Runhare Mbozha” as his ring tone.

Political polarisation has also spilled to the illegal gold panning fields in Mberengwa where the panners have divided the panning claims on political party lines. An MDC supporter was heavily assaulted after he was found digging on the “wrong side” and he had his equipment confiscated.

From Masvingo, the political atmosphere has remained largely volatile with cases of human rights violations remaining high. Senior politicians from ZANU PF have continued to be accused of inciting violence and political intolerance as they push for the party’s position (Kariba Draft) in the ongoing constitutional making process.

Violations related to revenge and retributive violence for disturbances that were recorded during the 2008 election continue to be recorded in many districts of Masvingo and the most affected areas are Zaka, Bikita, Chiredzi, Chibi, Gutu and Mwenezi.

Despite the fact that COPAC has suspended outreach meetings in Harare and Bulawayo politically motivated violations were recorded in many constituencies around the capital city. The delays by COPAC to roll out the outreach programme for Harare have resulted in more tensions between political party supporters over the constitutional making process talking points.

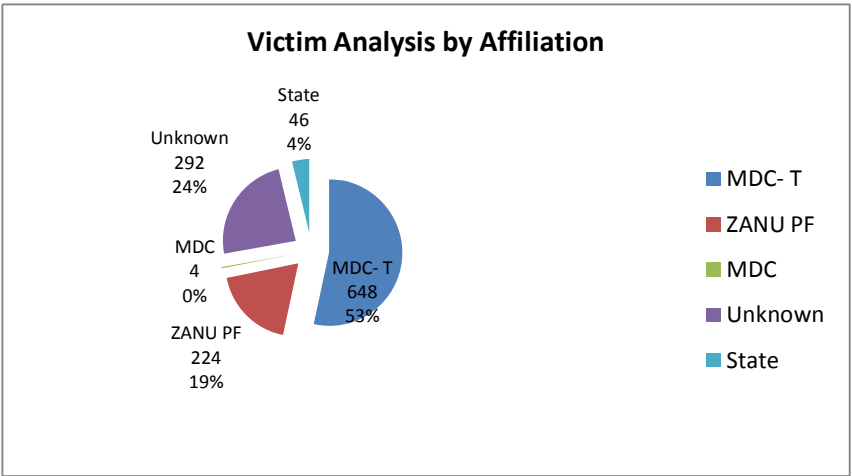
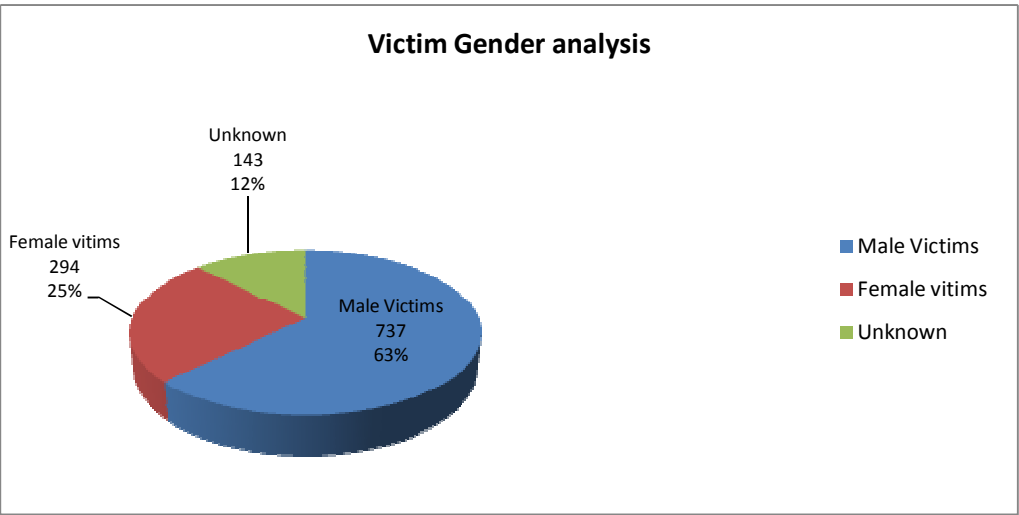
The main political parties have upped the gear in their campaigns for what to be included in the new constitution. Both ZANU PF and the MDC-T supporters have been identified as the perpetrators but largely the latter are on the receiving end as the victims.

The southern provinces of Bulawayo, Matabeleland North and South were calm during the month under review with very few violations recorded. Of the few cases which were recorded in the provinces, both ZANU PF and the MDC-T parties were cited as the perpetrators.

Intra-party fighting within the revived ZAPU has also contributed to the number of violations that were recorded in June.

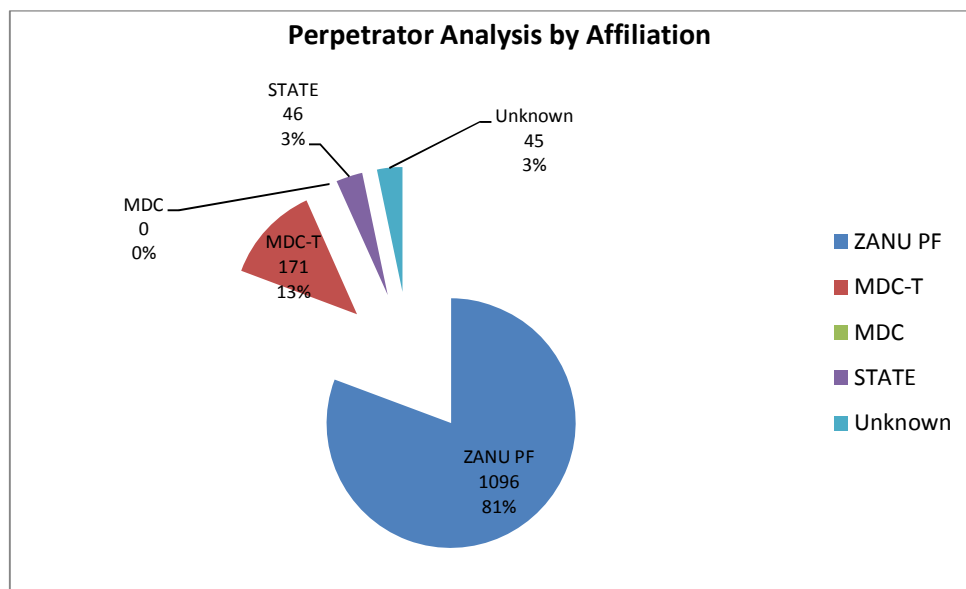
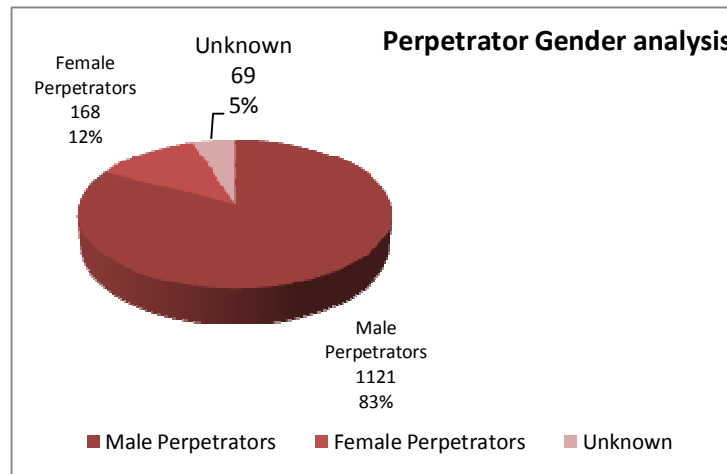
VICTIM ANALYSIS BY GENDER AND ASSOCIATION

The month under review witnessed a victim toll of 1174 reflecting a slight decrease from April's 1237. Out of the 1174 victims 737 are males catering for 63% of the people whose rights were violated during the course of the month. Human rights violations which affected women were 294 representing 25% with the remaining 12% unknown. The trends in violations by affiliation show that MDC-T supporters had their rights violated more, representing 53% of the victims' toll while the number of Zanu PF supporters whose rights have been violated increased significantly.



Male and Female Perpetrator Analysis and Charts

The figures for the perpetrators of human rights violations are continuing to decline and the month of June recorded 1 358 individuals responsible for infringing human rights. The figure showed a slight decrease from May's 1 531. Males have remained the biggest threat to peace contributing 83% of violators recorded during the month of June.



HINDRANCES TO CIVIL SOCIETY WORK

CENTRE for Research and Development (CRD) director and human rights defender Farai Maguwu was arrested on 3 June for allegedly passing on information about human rights abuses to the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) monitor Abbey Chikane.

Maguwu appeared in court five days later and was charged with contravening sections of the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act in that he published falsehoods prejudicial to the economic interests of the country.

He was denied bail on several occasions throughout the month under review despite the fact that he had handed himself over to the police in Mutare.

On May 27, 2010 the police raided both Maguwu's offices and home and took away documents and laptop before arresting his young brother Lisbern for allegedly distracting the course of justice.

The CRD has investigated human rights abuses in the Marange diamond fields, in Manicaland. The organization is involved in the Kimberly Process, an international coalition of governments, industry and civil society organizations which aims to break the links between the diamond trade and the funding of violence.

Also in the month of June, a number of human rights activists were arrested, assaulted and intimidated during the ongoing Constitutional outreach programme being carried out by the Constitutional Parliamentary Select Committee. The observers from the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP), Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) and the Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) who are monitoring COPAC's outreach programme under ZZZICOMP have not been spared.

Police from Manicaland arrested three monitors for allegedly practising journalism without accreditation, a charge that was apparently repealed during amendments to Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA). The three were remanded out of custody on US\$20 bail each.

Again, in Manicaland, a monitor for the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition was arrested after attending a COPAC meeting in Mutare North Constituency on June 25, 2010. On the same day, an employee of Zimbabwe Coalition on debt and Development (ZIMCDD) was arrested for holding an economic justice workshop with residents in Mutare's Dangamvura suburb.

Political intolerance reared its ugly face in Mashonaland West where three ZZZICOMP monitors were heavily assaulted by suspected ZANU PF youths at Scarffel Farm, Glynamel Farm and Baguta Primary School where they were deployed. The three were badly injured that they had to seek professional medical care.

The monitors lost their mobile phones and some money during the attacks but only two mobile handsets were recovered the next day after they were surrendered to the monitors' colleagues by some ZANU PF supporters opposed to violence.

Threats and intimidation cases to human rights defenders from across the country were recorded during the month under review.

ZPP has noticed that most of the violations that were subjected to human rights activists were a direct result of the police and state security agents' failure to understand the laws of the country and clear partisan policing.

The other contributing factor for the violations is the confusion over the status of the Public Order and Security Act (POSA) and the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA) laws. Conflicting positions have come up from government officials with former Co-

Home Affairs Minister Giles Mutsekwa suggesting that the law had been suspended to pave way for the constitutional outreach programme.

But the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Media, Information and Publicity, George Charamba, and police chiefs denied the suspension arguing that only Parliament can repeal laws and not statements from individual ministers.

FOOD & OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED VIOLATIONS

Food and other aid related violations recorded a significant decline during the month of June and this can be attributed to the fact that most rural people have harvested their crops and have no pressing demands despite the fact that their yields are very low.

There were 159 cases of violations recorded compared to 218 violations witnessed during the month of May. Since the beginning of the month figures of food and aid related violations have been going down and the majority of the infringements recorded were of harassment and discrimination.

Midlands Province witnessed the highest number of violations followed by Mashonaland East. Disadvantaged villagers from Mberengwa in Midlands have been benefiting from the Lutheran Church's gardening projects and this is where some were discriminated based on political party affiliations.

Violations were also reported in areas where international organisations such as Care International and Oxfam are still providing relief food aid.

Other sources of relief food aid included World Vision and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and these have been operating mainly in the northern regions of the country.

Incidents where beneficiaries are asked to produce party cards and denounce their political parties before one can qualify to get food aid remain very high across the country.

Church and faith based organisations in Mashonaland Central remain banned from distributing food aid to the needy because they are viewed as supporting the MDC agenda.

The cumulative toll of violations on the distribution of food and other forms of aid since January 2008, has risen to 10986.

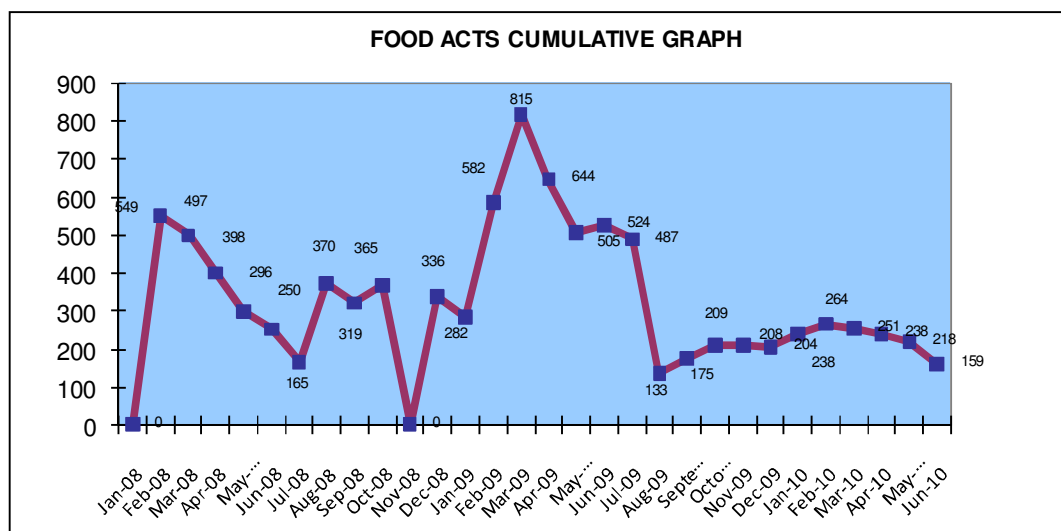
Table : CUMULATIVE TABLE FOR FOOD& OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED VIOLATIONS

2008	2009	FOOD & OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED ACT - 2009				
		2010	HARASSMENT	VIOLENCE	DISCRIMINATION	TOTAL
		<i>Closing Figures for</i>	3101	269	6248	9618



		2009				
549	282	January	88	2	148	238
497	582	February	100	3	161	264
398	815	March	91	2	158	251
296	644	April	115	0	123	238
250	505	May	98	4	116	218
165	524	June	77	0	82	159
370	487	July				
319	132	August				
365	175	September				
376	209	October				
930	208	November				
336	204	December				
4851	4767	TOTAL	3670	280	7036	10986

Food Acts Cumulative Graph



EMERGING ISSUES & WAY FORWARD

Zimbabwe Peace Project has noted with great concern the tendency of political leaders to publicly denounce political violence and fail to effectively take the message down to the grassroots. The high level of politically motivated violations that were recorded during the month and were reportedly incited by political leaders is very high.

Despite pronouncements by the country's political leaders to shun violence ahead of the constitution making outreach programme, the month of June witnessed cases of assaults, harassments and intimidations throughout the country.

Threats to civil society work have continued unabated with arrests and threats to arrest human rights defenders from the police and political party leaders having been recorded during the month under review.

The numbers of human rights defenders who have had their rights violated during the course of the month gives an insight of what lies ahead for the civil society in the run up, during and after the constitutional referendum and the proposed elections in 2011.

The Constitutional outreach programme has provided sources of fresh tension among communities and law enforcement agents have to work professionally and independent of political pressure to ensure peace throughout the country.

ZPP is worried that the re-establishment of terror bases may affect the kind of contributions that will come from the people during COPAC outreach meetings and to a large extent influence the outcome of the whole process.

Law enforcement agents have to move swiftly and investigate the existence of such bases and ensure that people's rights to freedom of expression and association are not systematically trampled upon as well as avoid a repeat of the 2008 political violence that left hundreds of people dead.

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**

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Table : PROVINCIAL VIOLATIONS OUTLOOK – JUNE 2010

PROVINCE	TYPE OF VIOLATIONS/ACTIVITY(IES)		TROUBLE ZONES
	COMMON ACTS (VIOLATIONS)	CAUSES	
MANICALAND	- Harassment/Intimidations, unspecified Threats, hate language, forced meetings on constitution, denial of right to participate in constitution making process - Abduction - Assaults - Discrimination – distribution of food & other forms of aid - Establishment of “Torture” Camps	- Recent discoveries of diamonds in areas such as Wengezi, Chakowa and Charleswood - Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People Driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil organisations - Preparation of COPAC consultative process, campaigns for referendum and projected 2011 elections	(Wengezi & Chakohwa) – Chimanimani West, (Charleswood) Chimanimani East Musikavanhu, Buhera West, Nyanga South, Headlands, Buhera North, South , West and Central, Nyanga North, Headlands, Buhera North, South, and Central
MASHONALAND EAST	- Harassments/intimidation - death, violence & unspecified Threats, hate language forced meetings on constitution, denial of right to participate in constitution making process) - Assault confrontational and retaliatory beatings)	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil organisations	Mudzi , Marondera, Goromonzi, Hwedza and Murehwa Districts
MIDLANDS	- Harassment /Intimidation – death, violence & unspecified Threats, hate language, forced meetings on constitution, denial of right to participate in constitution making process) - Assaults (confrontational and retaliatory beatings) - Discrimination - 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 organisations - Partisan distribution of food & other forms of aid - Preparation of COPAC consultative process, campaigns for referendum and 2011 harmonised elections	Gokwe Nembudziya, and , Zhombe, Kwekwe and, Mberengwa, Gokwe Chireya, Nembudziya
MASVINGO	Harassment/Intimidation – (death, violence	Political intolerance	Bikita, Chibi, Zaka North, Chiredzi, Gutu,

	& unspecified Threats, hate language, forced meetings on constitution, denial of right to participate in constitution making process) - Assault	- Scramble for stakes in the run-up to the Constitutional consultative outreach – Kariba Draft vs. People driven process - Participation in civil service strike (teachers)	Masvingo Rural & Urban
HARARE	- Harassment/intimidation – (death, violence & unspecified Threats, hate language, forced meetings on constitution, denial of right to participate in constitution making process) - Assaults - Discrimination	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People driven process vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil organisations - Preparation of COPAC consultative process, campaigns for referendum and 2011 harmonised elections - Partisan distribution of food & other forms of aid	Chitungwiza, Glen Norah, Glen View South, Highfield East, Glen Norah B
MASHONALAND CENTRAL	- Harassment/intimidation – (death, violence & unspecified Threats, hate language, forced meetings on constitution, denial of right to participate in constitution making process) - Assaults - Establishment of “torture bases”	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People driven process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft - Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil organisations - Campaign for Kariba Draft	Mt Darwin East, South, and North, Shamva South, Bindura North & South, Mazowe Central, South, West & North, Muzarabani North
MASHONALAND WEST	- Harassment & intimidation – (death, violence & unspecified Threats, hate language, forced meetings on constitution, denial of right to participate in constitution making process) - Assaults	- 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 although on minimal levels. Bulawayo is relatively calm	- Political intolerance	Bulawayo East,
MATEBELELAND NORTH	Harassment & Intimidation (death, violence & unspecified Threats, hate language, forced meetings on constitution, denial of right to participate in constitution making	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution People Drive process vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft	Binga North, Binga South and Bubi,

	- process) - Discrimination	Partisan distribution of food & other forms of aid	
MATEBELELAND SOUTH	- Harassment & intimidation - Assault	- Political intolerance - Differing views on constitution: People drive process Vs. Kariba Draft, NCA Draft	Gwanda