

Vigil supporters were dismayed at President Zuma's comments on the deadlock in Zimbabwe and agreed to revive our petition to the international football federation to move the soccer World Cup from South Africa

The petition had been signed by thousands of passers-by before we suspended it when we believed Zuma was prepared to take action to enforce the South African-negotiated Global Political Agreement. We decided to 'unpark' the petition now in light of Zuma's cynical suggestion that the MDC should simply accept that Mugabe would not implement the agreement he signed 16 months ago. Zuma said the MDC should 'park' the issues in contention.

Vigil supporters wonder how you can 'park' issues like law and order (Tomano) and institutionalised corruption (Gono). Why is the MDC, which won the 2008 elections, always expected to make concessions? Why doesn't Zuma suggest that Mugabe 'park' his greed and monomania and do what he promised? In other words, how can there be free and fair elections if Mugabe flouts the spirit of the GPA, flawed as it is?

The Vigil believes that, by not addressing the human rights issues in Zimbabwe, Zuma is putting the whole region in danger. He needs to take another shower.

The tragic violence accompanying the Africa Cup of Nations in Angola should be a warning to FIFA that the World Cup teams and their supporters could be at risk in

South Africa

, especially with the renewed xenophobic assaults there on Zimbabwean refugees who continue to head south for help.

Other points

· A quick survey revealed that none of us has been recalled to Zimbabwe to join the donor-funded constitutional consultation gravy train. It appears that one official has urgently recalled 5 of his children from

South Africa

to take part in the US\$70 per day exercise.

## Zimbabwe Vigil Diary – 16th January 2010

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 17 January 2010 18:36 - Last Updated Saturday, 06 February 2010 15:12

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- Zimbabwe is continuing to keep bad company. A leading article in the Times on 14th January compared Haiti after the earthquake to Zimbabwe  
: 'What was once regarded as the jewel of the French Empire now more closely resembles Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe  
' . Another depressing comment on the reputation of Zimbabwe came from the head of Somalia's central bank who warned that his country could 'descend into another Zimbabwe if plans to print money went ahead'.
- There was an interview with the Vigil on SW Radio about our petition to the British parliamentary committee discussing aid to Zimbabwe, check: <http://www.swradioafrica.com/news110110/ukurged110110.htm> and newsreel broadcast on Monday, 11th January.
- After last week's snow we were amazingly lucky today. It rained steadily in London till we gathered at 2 pm and was basically dry throughout our whole Vigil.
- Great to have the front desk stewards back again – Gladys Mapanda, Josephine Zhuga, Sue Toft and June Pedzeni. Also thanks to Godfrey Madzunga who was there at the start to help set up the Vigil and man the back table.

For latest Vigil pictures check: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/zimbabwevigil/> .

**FOR THE RECORD:** 167 signed the register.

### EVENTS AND NOTICES:

- **'Mugabe and the white African'** is showing until 21st January at the ICA ( [www.ica.org.uk](http://www.ica.org.uk) ). On Friday 22nd January at 6.30 pm there will be a question and answer session with Lucy Bailey, the director of the film, at the Tricycle Cinema, 269 Kilburn High Road

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London

NW6 7JR

. For tickets call the Box Office: 020 7328 1000.

· **ROHR Leeds general meeting.** Saturday 23rd January from 1.30 – 4 pm. Venue: Dock Green Inn, Leeds LS9 7AB. Contact: Wonder M Mubaiwa 07958758568, Donna

Mugoni (Chair

Wakefield

), 0

7748828913, Prosper Mudamvanji 07846621050, Beauty Sikosana 07940181761 or David Munemo 07963708923.

· **ROHR Liverpool demonstration.** Saturday 23rd January from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: Church Street

(Outside Primark)

Liverpool

city centre. Future demonstrations on Saturdays 6th and 20th February. Same venue and time.

Contact: Desire Chimuka

07917733711

, Anywhere Mungoyo

07939913688

, Patrick Kushonga

07900857605

, Trywell Migeri

07956083758

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· **ROHR Birmingham general meeting.** Saturday 23rd January from 1.30 – 4.00 pm. Venue:

Bishop

Latimer

Church

,28 Handsworth New Road,

Birmingham

B18 4PT. Contact: Tsitsi Mavhura

07723096508

,Audrey Marere

07788797365

,Morgan Mupandawana

07833526198.

· **ROHR Swansea general meeting.** 30th January 1 – 4 pm. Venue: tba. Contact: Kudzai Ruzvidzo 07824967317 or Phillip Mpukutsa 07999615868. Future meeting on Saturday 27th February.

· **ROHR West Bromwich general meeting.** Saturday 30th January from 1.30 – 5.30 pm.

Venue:

Church

St Peters

Hall,

Whit

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ehall Road, West

Bromwich

B70 0HF

. Contact: Pamela Dunduru

07958386718

, Diana Mtendereki

07768682961

, Peter Nkomo

07817096594

or P Mapfumo

07915926323

/

07932216070

. **ROHR Brighton general meeting.** Saturday 30th January from 1 – 5.30 pm. Venue:

Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton

BN13XG. ROHR Executive representative present. Contact: Sinikiwe Dube 07824668763,

Wellington

Mamvura 07949595506 or P Mapfumo

07915926323

/

07932216070. Future meetings to be held on

Saturdays 27th February and 27th March – same time and venue.

. **ROHR Hayes fundraising party.** Saturday 27th February from 3 pm till late. Venue:

Coronation Hall,

toke Road

, Water Eaton, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK2 3AB. Admission £7.50 including food (lots of traditional food: Mazondo, Maguru mubhoora and all). Fashion show. Zim Music. Raffle: tickets £5. Prizes include: computer, printer, mobile handset, DVD player. To be drawn at 10.30 pm.

Nearest station: Bletchley. Bus number 5 from central

M

ilton Keynes

or Bletchley. For more info contact Rodah Kuhlengisa 07958205544, Charity Nyamuzuwe

07898765091, Snodia Chihowa 07852921523, Martha Jiya 07727016098 or P Mapfumo

07915926323/07932216070.

. **Zimbabwe Association's Women's Weekly Drop-in Centre.** Fridays 10.30 am – 4

pm. Venue: The Fire Station Community and ICT Centre,

84 Mayton Street

,

London

N7 6QT, Tel: 020 7607 9764. Nearest underground:

Finsbury

Park

. For more information contact the Zimbabwe Association 020 7549 0355 (open Tuesdays and Thursdays).

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· **Strategic Internship for Zimbabweans** organised by Citizens for Sanctuary which is trying to secure work placements for qualified Zimbabweans with refugee status or asylum seekers. For information: <http://www.citizensforsanctuary.org.uk/pages/Strategic.html>

[orsanctuary.org.uk/pages/Strategic.html](http://www.citizensforsanctuary.org.uk/pages/Strategic.html)

or contact:

[zimbabweinternship@cof.org.uk](mailto:zimbabweinternship@cof.org.uk)

· **For Motherland ENT's videos of the Vigil** on 26/12/2009:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdPsBsief0s> and

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nX6sv2T9gwk>