

letter to Zambian High Commissioner

Written by Administrator
Friday, 22 June 2012 20:06 -

Attention: High Commissioners of the Republic of Zambia

Re: Zimbabweans concerned with President Sata's inappropriate statements

Your Excellencies,

We write as members of the 21st Movement - Free Zimbabwe Global Campaign (FZGC) to express our utter dismay at President Michael Sata's inflammatory statements which he has frequently made against Zimbabweans since he landed the Zambian presidency a couple of months ago.

As a peace-loving but tormented nation, we were both excited and encouraged by the smooth transition from President Rupiah Banda to the incumbent. To many of us, this was an epitome of democratic maturity and a development to be proud of in Africa.

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To our greatest disappointment, Mr. Sata has now become a self-appointed spokesman and gatekeeper for not only ZANU PF but those who work daily to crash democratic voices in Zimbabwe. Most recently, your president reportedly shouted ZANU PF slogans at the Sadc Summit in Luanda despite the fact that Zambia is part of the Troika, hence must adopt a neutral position in helping Zimbabweans find each other during this most difficult time.

We also remember that, soon after he became president, Michael Sata denigrated the MDC, arguably Zimbabwe's biggest political party, for being a puppet of the West which should never be allowed to rule Zimbabwe. As progressive Zimbabweans at home and in the Diaspora, we can't take this insult lightly. Collectively, we remind President Sata that he is not the first or second president of Zambia. In fact, he is the fifth. We also want to remind him that his party, the Patriotic Front, was not there when President Kaunda's UNIP liberated Zambia.

It is in this context that we advise him to leave us to determine our destiny without him carelessly stoking fires in a potentially explosive environment. Does he not see any paradox in wishing us a life president when Zambia has changed leaders five times?

If Zambia can have a Caucasian as deputy president, why can't a white man be deputy minister of Agriculture in Zimbabwe? May your President be reminded that Zimbabweans are very patient people but certainly not morons? We wouldn't like to think that Mr. Sata has become a victim of intellectual inadequacy reminiscent of that seen in disgraced Julius Malema of the ANC. Unfairly attacking Zimbabweans who are working hard to extricate our country from the morass that we have been seized with for more than a decade shall never be condoned.

Through your good offices, we reiterate our very warm relations with the generality of the Zambian people whom we regard as sisters and brothers owing to our shared geography,

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history and culture. Nevertheless, President Sata's uninformed or biased views on our political dynamics are a major concern.

We hope he will start acting and behaving like a real statesman and desist from making unpresidential inferences in future.

Thank You.

For and On Behalf of the People of Zimbabwe

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