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HTUR/JS

4 December 2008

Commission of Inquiry – additional information on violations of Freedom of Association in Zimbabwe:

Dear Mr. Somavia,

Further to our letter of yesterday, we would like to submit additional information concerning serious violations of freedom of association in Zimbabwe to the Commission of Inquiry.

The Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) informed us Yesterday evening that a total of 69 demonstrators had been arrested throughout the country. The following was the update from around the country at that time:

Harare

Fifteen people, including ZCTU secretary-general, Wellington Chibebe, who were arrested during the ZCTU demonstration in Harare have been released without any charge.

The ZCTU leadership were to meet the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Governor Gideon Gono at 0900hrs on 4 December to discuss the issue of cash withdrawal limit.

Kariba

Five people who were arrested in Kariba are still in police custody.

Karoi

Three of the four people arrested in Karoi have been released and asked to return to the police station tomorrow. One person, Cherechedzai Rubiwa is still in custody.

Gweru

35 people arrested in Gweru are still in custody after the police refused to release them. The police said they will deal with the matter tomorrow.

Bulawayo

Seven people arrested in Bulawayo are still in police custody with lawyers frantically working to have then released.

Zvishavane

Six demonstrators are still being held at a local police station. The lawyer is still negotiating with the police.

Below are the names of those arrested:

Total arrested around the country 69

Harare(15) (All male) Wellington Chibebe Canwell Muchadya Henry Tarumbira Joseph Chuma Nicholas Mazarura G. Shoko

Nicholas Mazarura
G. Shoko
Mr. Chimhuka
Ben Madzimure
Fungai Kanyongo
Raymond Majongwe
James Gumbi
Madziva
Tonderai Nyahunzvi
Phillip Gavaza

Kariba (5)
Wilberforce
Shungu Matesanwa
Jacob Magombedze
(Two Other Names Not Confirmed)

Karoi (4) (2 Male And 2 Female) Cherechedzai Rabiwa Ms. Tendai Chesa Ms. Mlemba Mr. Mufiri

(3 Asked To Report Back To Station Tomorrow. Rabiwa Still in Custody)

Gweru (32) (2 Women And 30 Male) Isaac Teveteve Charles Chikozho Simon Hamadziripi Martin Tazvivinga Tendai Siziba Tombiezani Mabunda Moses Gwaunza Bulawayo(7) (all male)

Denick Tafamba Stanley Dube Nhemachena Kenneth

Titus Marambire

Raphael

Kingstone Musviniwa

Inoch Paradza (Taken By C.I.O)

Bobiani Bhebhe

Zachariah Chikwenya

Ngoni Nyanhete

Kufa Claudio Usheunesu

Webster Murwisi

Clifford Mapwata

Farai Nhere

Moses Mhaka

Geshen Sibanda

Runyararo Rwatimba

Denzel Mushayi

Francis Chindume

Tariro Julius

Harris Magusha

Musapindira Kuzondidini

Peter Takuva

Kennias Havadi

Nathan Madzokere

John Jakarasi

Jacob Manyanga

Simbarashe Lebo

James Sibanda

Noel Mano

Benard Sibanda

Wilbert Muringani

Zvishavane (6)

Elinas Gumbo

Ndodhana Sithole

Isaac Matsikidze

Sarudzai Chimwanda

David Moyo

Nicholas Zengeya

Names of those beaten by Police and injured during the demonstration Total number (9)

Harare (7)

Mrs. Getrude Hambira

Mrs. Angeline Chitambo

Ms. Martha Kajama

Mrs. Tecla Masamba

Mrs. Dorothy Zulu

Miriam Katumba

Tonderai Nyahunzvi (taken for treatment after release from Police)

All Treated by Doctors For Human Rights. Conditions of each yet to be confirmed by the doctor.

Bulawayo (2)

A member of NUCI (name to be confirmed) sent to clinic

Gift Mushore RAU

The ITUC has not received further information at the time of writing, but the situation is still evolving and we will keep you informed about further developments, as they are reported to us.

The ITUC hereby requests that the very serious violations of Convention no. 87 on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise, 1948, and Convention no. 98 on the Right to Organise and Collectively Bargain, 1949, described in this letter be taken into consideration by the Commission of Inquiry on Zimbabwe.

In view of the very grave nature of the violations, may I request you, Mr. Director-General, to kindly forward this communication to the Commission of Inquiry on Zimbabwe.

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General Secretary