

Weekly Press Review
April 30-May 6, 2011

The views expressed in this review are those of the named media and not necessarily representative of the Delegation of the European Union to Zimbabwe.

Politics/International Relations

Sanctions bar Zanu PF from reaching Diaspora

[The Herald, May 4, 2011](#)

Zanu PF has said Zimbabweans in the Diaspora will not vote in all national elections as long as the illegal sanctions imposed on Government and Zanu-PF leadership have not been removed.

Zanu-PF secretary for Legal Affairs, Cde Emmerson Mnangagwa said the MDC formations want those in the Diaspora to vote simply because they are able to go out there and address them but Zanu PF cannot do the same so Zanu PF is at a disadvantage.

SADC takes over

- **Sanctions' issue no longer GPA baby**

[DailyNews, May 4, 2011](#)

SADC has taken the responsibility of seeking the removal of targeted measures, taking away Zanu PF's biggest scapegoat in their desperate attempts to avoid full implementation of the Global Political Agreement. A delegation composed of the SADC Troika, chairpersons and the South African facilitation team has travelled to Washington, London and Brussels and is due to travel to other Western capitals to seek the removal of the measures.

This comes as Zanu PF is forcing villagers, school children and some apostolic sects to sign its anti-sanctions petition.

Media blackout on SA negotiations

[NewsDay, May 6, 2011](#)

All parties to the negotiations on Zimbabwe's election roadmap have agreed to maintain a media blackout on the proceedings. Lindiwe Zulu, President Jacob Zuma's international relations advisor, confirmed the position and asked the media to respect the negotiations.

Political Violence/Elections

Councillor, youths beat up Zanu PF supporter

[The Herald, May 4, 2011](#)

MDC-T councillor for Ward 4 in Epworth, Didymus Bande allegedly ganged up with two of the party's youths and beat up a Zanu-PF supporter in the suburb for unknown reasons.

Bande (35) yesterday appeared before Harare magistrate Mr Shane Kubonera facing charges of assault.

He was remanded out of custody to May 17 this year on US\$20 bail.

Tsvangirai shifts blame for violence

[The Herald, April 30, 2011](#)

MDC-T leader Morgan Tsvangirai has shifted the blame for the violence in his party to Zanu PF. Earlier, Tsvangirai had publicly acknowledged intra-party violence and even threatened to expel those responsible from the party.

Tsvangirai accused Zanu PF of infiltrating his party.

Karoi MDC supporters assaulted

[DailyNews, May 4, 2011](#)

Four MDC supporters were allegedly beaten up and harassed by Zanu PF supporters in Karoi on Sunday when they were returning from their party congress in Bulawayo over the weekend.

Supporters were allegedly attacked for wearing party regalia. In Mbare Zanu PF has allegedly launched a witch-hunt for those who attended the congress in Bulawayo.

MDC supporters flee violence

- **10 Chimanimani families' homes torched, livestock looted**
- **Victims living in mountains**

[DailyNews, May 4, 2011](#)

At least 10 families of suspected MDC supporters have been displaced from their homes in Nyambeya village under Chief Mutambara in Chimanimani East constituency as the orgy of violence continues in Manicaland Province. MDC Manicaland spokesperson, Pishayi Muchauraya, said the affected families had fled to the mountains and their property and food were looted.

A woman said she and her mother-in-law survived a rape attempt

Gukurahundi splits Cabinet

[The Standard, May 1-6, 2011](#)

PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe has pledged to set up a team to discuss the controversial issue of Gukurahundi and map the way forward after the matter split Cabinet along regional and political lines last week, authoritative sources said.

The sources said Mugabe told Cabinet that the team, which will comprise of representatives of the three political parties in the inclusive government, will be smaller for easier management of the controversial topic.

Mugabe said the issue of Gukurahundi, during which an estimated 20 000 people in Matabeleland and Midlands provinces were murdered, was divisive and had the potential of wrecking the inclusive government.

Zim elections "in 12 months"

[Zimbabwe Independent, -May 6-12, 2011](#)

Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai has told journalists at the World Economic Forum in Cape Town that elections in Zimbabwe will probably be held in 12 months subject to the "fulfilment of certain benchmarks" including the finalisation of a new constitution, a referendum and then an agreed date for the elections. Last week Justice Minister Patrick Chinamasa of Zanu PF also said elections were unlikely to be held this year.

Media Issues

Press Freedom must recognise country's laws

[The Herald, May 4, 2011](#)

Media, Information and Publicity Minister Webster Shamu has urged journalists to discharge their duties without fear saying Government is against any form of media suppression. Addressing journalists at the World Press Freedom Day in Harare yesterday Shamu called on media organisations to come to the negotiating table to discuss challenges affecting the industry.

"Media houses should operate freely but freely in terms of our own laws."

Minister Shamu said Government doors were open for discussion on any discrepancies in the media industry.

Proposed media reforms illegal

[The Herald, April 30, 2011](#)

Media, Information and Publicity Minister Webster Shamu says the issue of hate speech in the media should be addressed to the whole media sector; not just the public media. He was responding to media reforms proposed under the Global Political Agreement (GPA), which state that the state media should support all agreed Government programmes and put a stop to attacks against implementing such programmes.

Shamu also said negotiators should read the law and not make unlawful suggestions concerning appointments to media boards.

External radio stations not illegal: Charles Ray

[DailyNews, May 6, 2011](#)

US Ambassador Charles Ray says the external radio stations broadcasting into Zimbabwe are not illegal as they are not operating from Zimbabwean soil. Ray said the legality of the stations is governed by the broadcasting laws of their host countries. Zanu PF negotiators in the

inclusive Government insist that Studio 7, SW Radio Africa and Radio Voice of the People (VOP) are illegal and should be closed.

Social Issues

UNICEF launches water rehabilitation programme in Chipinge

[DailyNews, May 6, 2011](#)

UNICEF and its partners averted serious water shortages and a possible cholera outbreak by launching a water rehabilitation and sanitation programme in Chipinge recently at a cost of US\$700,000. UNICEF, with the help of UK Aid, European Commission and other donors engaged Action Contre Lafaim (Action Faim) in a one year programme that focused on borehole drilling and rehabilitation of the water sources that were already there.