

Weekly Press Review

July 4-8, 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

PM, Mugabe clash

- **Principals fail to agree on media reforms**
- **Feud impacts negatively on investment**

DailyNews, July 8, 2011

A meeting between President Robert Mugabe and Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai ended in a stalemate after the two failed to agree on media reforms and civil servants' salaries. Tsvangirai said he and Mugabe agreed that their feud had severely cost the economy with investors shying away from Zimbabwe due to the discord in the Government.

Anti-corruption commission approved

The Herald, July 8, 2011

Parliament's Standing Rules and Orders Committee has approved the nine-member Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission recommended to them by President Mugabe.

The committee will be chaired by Mr Denford Chirindo, a legal practitioner while Ms Teresa Pearl Mugadza will be his deputy.

According to elections roadmap timelines, the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission appointment should be done within 30 days from Wednesday this week.

In separate interviews this week, Justice and Legal Affairs Minister Patrick Chinamasa and Clerk of Parliament Mr Austin Zvoma confirmed the adoption of President Mugabe's recommended commissioners.

It has also emerged that Speaker of the House of Assembly Mr Lovemore Moyo misled the nation when he said the SROC recommended the names to President Mugabe.

US\$160m diamonds released

The Herald, July 4, 2011

The United Arab Emirates last week released Marange diamonds worth an estimated US\$160 million which were being held in Dubai since November last year when they were confiscated. This follows the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme's decision to allow trading of Marange diamonds without further hindrance despite efforts by the US and its allies to stop Zimbabwe from selling diamonds from Chiadzwa citing human rights violations.

Political Violence/Elections

Mudede's wings clipped

The Financial Gazette, July 8, 2011

The Registrar General, Tobaiwa Mudede is set to lose significant electoral powers under the proposed Electoral Amendment Bill, which seeks to place the voters' roll under the control of the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC). ZEC will also be responsible for delimiting wards, constituencies and other electoral boundaries.

The proposed amendments also compel ZEC to declare the Presidential election winner within five days.

Economic Issues

MTP launched

Multi-currency regime to continue until 2015

[NewsDay, July 8, 2011](#)

Government yesterday launched an economic blueprint; the Medium Term Plan, in line with Article 11 of the Global Political Agreement to support the restoration of economic stability, growth and development from this year until 2015. The plan replaces the Short Term Economic Recovery Programme (STERP).

Vice-President Joice Mujuru said the plan provides a platform for consolidating the macroeconomic stability achieved under the Short-Term Economic Recovery Programme. The plan envisages a sustainable economic growth rate of 7%, which should result in significant job creation for poverty reduction.

Biti insists no cash for civil servants

[The Herald, July 8, 2011](#)

Finance Minister Tendai Biti insists that there is no money to award civil servants a salary increase despite the principals in the Government insisting that the pay rise announced last week must stand. Biti's view is reportedly influenced by the IMF, which is helping his Ministry to craft the mid-term budget review.

Social Issues

Resurgent cholera outbreak kills nine in Chiredzi

[NewsDay, July 8, 2011](#)

Health officials on Thursday confirmed that cholera claimed nine lives recently while 194 were hospitalised following a fresh outbreak Chiredzi.

The most affected areas include Lapache, Umbono and Nyahombe in Lowveld district.

Last year, one person died while 57 others were infected following another cholera outbreak that hit Chiredzi and Mwenezi districts in March.

Diarrhoea outbreak claims 10 children

[The Herald, July 8, 2011](#)

TEN children have died in Bulawayo from a suspected diarrhoea outbreak, which has affected over 200 children amid reports that most parts of the country are also affected.

Health and Child Welfare Minister Henry Madzorera last night confirmed that the country recorded infants' deaths annually due to a contagious infection that causes severe diarrhoea in winter.

The diarrhoea, which mostly affects children below the age of 10 - has reportedly claimed 10 children at Mpilo Central Hospital, while at least three succumbed to running tummies at the Roman Catholic-run Mater Dei Hospital.