



**ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES
CONFERENCE DES EGLISES DE TOUTE L'AFRIQUE**

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Our Ref:

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RE: STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE

The AACC wishes to express its concern over the recent events in Zimbabwe. We are particularly concerned about the arrest and violence meted out on the Leader of the opposition and supporters. We further note their denial to legal representation, prompt medical attention and the death of one person.

AACC is of the view that this event can only worsen the internal situation in Zimbabwe and stand in the way of meaningful dialogue and further aggravate the country's International isolation.

We call upon the Government of Zimbabwe to:

- ❖ Exercise restraint
- ❖ Respect the rule of law and human life.
- ❖ Uphold internationally accepted standards of treatment of suspects.

We, together with the Churches in Africa stand in solidarity with the Churches and the people of Zimbabwe during these difficult times.

We ask the Churches in Zimbabwe to soldier on with the Ecumenical Peace Initiative (EPIZ) inspite of obvious setbacks that may occur in the process. We must not loose sight that it is through these efforts to find peace and bring all parties to dialogue that will lead to the creation of an atmosphere of political tolerance and the creation of more democratic space and finally finding acceptable solutions that will lead to the alleviation of the suffering by the people of Zimbabwe.

AACC calls on all the people of Zimbabwe to engage in discussions as initiated by the Churches in Zimbabwe through the New Vision Document in an effort that all parties may be engaged in meaningful dialogue on the crisis in Zimbabwe.

We believe that God will stand with his people in Zimbabwe.

Rev. Dr. Mvume Dandala
General Secretary
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AACC is a fellowship of 169 member Churches and Christian Councils in 39 African countries
La CETA est une communauté de 169 églises et conseils chrétiens dans 39 pays d'Afrique

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