

**Zimbabwe Domestic Broadcasting, 5 April, 2010 (27 March– 4 April, 2009)**

**by Marie Lamensch, MIGS Reporter for Zimbabwe**

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated March 27, 2010, in English)**

**“Govt Cancels ACR Mining Licence”** [Author unknown]

*SW Radio Africa reports that a parliamentary committee meant to investigate operations in Chiadzwa was barred from entering the fields. Sources said Minister Mpopfu was responsible for the decision. Farai Maguwu, head of the Centre for Research and Development, described the government as a 'predatory autocracy.' Questions over Mpopfu sudden wealth have also started to emerge as it is speculated that he has widely benefitted from the sale of diamonds from Chiadzwa.*

- The government cancelled the African Consolidated Resources' Mining license in Chiadzwa: "I hereby, in accordance with the provisions of Section 50 (4) and (5) of the Act give directions to you and the Secretary that the Certificates of Registration are to be cancelled. In cancelling the
- Certificates of Registration, no concession is made that the ACR certificates of registration were ever valid." He also added that the claims had been acquired fraudulently.
- Mines and Mining Development Minister Obert Mpopfu denied having any relations with Mbada Holdings. He accused the ACR of vilifying his office and of propagating false rumors. He denied being biased benefiting financially from the dispute.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated March 29, 2010, in English)**

**“Fresh Twist to MDC-T's Sanctions Call by” Tendai Mugabe**

- Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai is criticized for apparently giving in to pressure from individuals within his party to backtrack on calling for the lifting of the economic sanctions. Party members such as Eddie Cross are said to have warned Tsvangirai that calling for the lifting of the sanctions would lead to a shortage of funding for the MDC-T. Others warned him that media would turn against him and his party.
- He was told that the sanctions could still be used as a weapon against Zanu-PF in case of early elections.
- Zanu-PF spokesperson Rugare Gumbo reiterated the party's position that no concessions would be made on the part of Zanu-PF if the sanctions were not lifted.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated March 30, 2010, in English)**

**“MDC-T Councillors Harass Journalists”** [Author unknown]

- MDC-T councilors are said to have hurled insults at journalists from *The Herald* and the *ZBC* as they tried to exposed corrupt activities. The councilors are believed to be implicated in illegally evicting families from their houses.
- Minister Chombo said he was appalled by their behavior and said investigations would be conducted. Indeed, a committee had been created as government does not tolerate such behavior by public office holders: “Those found on the wrong side of the law will meet the full wrath of the law.”
- He criticized the “abusive” councilors for trying to stop journalists from uncovering corruption and warned the police to respect human rights.

**S-FM radio, operated by state-run Zimbabwe Broadcasting Holdings (ZBH), Bulawayo, 0408 GMT March 31, 2010, in English.**

**“Zimbabwe bans imports of SAfrican animal products after disease outbreak”** [Author unknown]

- Zimbabwe imposed a ban on the importation of animals and animal products from South Africa, a decision taken following reports of a series of Rift Valley Fever outbreak.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated March 31, 2010, in English)**

**“MDC-T Speaks On 'Terror Bases'” by Lloyd Gumbo**

*SW Radio Africa reports that MDC supporters were forced to flee their homes by Zanu-PF youths in Mashonaland Central. There have also been reports of violence in Mutasa North, Mudzi, Bindura and Masvingo, resulting in families fleeing their homes.*

*The Standard also reports that journalists were harassed as they tried to expose alleged corruption involving Zanu-PF minister Phillip Chiyangwa .*

- Following media reports claiming that Zanu-PF had set up bases for purposes of violence against MDC-T activists, Minister of State in the Organ for National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration Sekai Holland said the government had not seen the bases nor people being beaten up.
- She also added that the formation of the inclusive government had led to a drop in political violence. She explained that the Organ would deal with source of violence, not the symptoms.

**S-FM radio, operated by state-run Zimbabwe Broadcasting Holdings (ZBH), Bulawayo, 1106 GMT April 1, 2010, in English.**

**“Zimbabwean journalist says Zuma deadline met by party negotiators”** [Author unknown]

- President Mugabe swore in the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and the Electoral Commission at the State House. The move is seen as a great success in the implementation of the GPA terms.

- Contentious issues remains such as the case of Roy Bennett and the fact that Zanu-PF is concerned about his candidacy as Deputy Minister of Agriculture, partly because he is facing terrorism charges. Another remaining issue is the MDC-T's ambiguous position towards he sanctions. The different parties to the GPA have different driving forces and interests.
- Other contentious issues include re-engagement with the European Union and France's decision to deny a visit visa to the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Comrade Patrick Chinamasa.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated April 1, 2010, in English)**

**“Commissioners Sworn in” by Farirai Machivenyika**

- President Mugabe swore into office the Zimbabwe Human Rights and Zimbabwe Electoral commissions. Prime Minister Tsvangirai sees the event as a step forward while DPM Mutambara added that the move should be seen as “quantifiable and measurable progress.”
- ZHRC chair Prof. Austin declared discussions related to human rights in Zimbabwe would start soon.
- Justice Minister Patrick Chinamasa said the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission should be put in place by the end of April.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated April 1, 2010, in English)**

**“Bennett Faces Fresh Charges” by Daniel Nemukuyu**

- MDC-T treasurer Roy Bennett is facing new charges on allegations of illegally possessing and not declaring 92 000 tons of maize in violation of Zimbabwe's grain laws. Bennett is currently also facing charges of terrorism and sabotage.
- Chief law officer Chris Mutangadura declared he was not aware of the new charges, while Bennett's lawyer stated that this was another form of harassment on Bennett.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated April 1, 2010, in English)**

**“Bail for MDC-T Activists” [Author unknown]**

- An MDC-T councilor and four party activists are facing public violence charges. The activists are said to have beaten a Zanu-PF youth political commissar. They were, however, granted bail.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated April 2, 2010, in English)**

**“A Defends Zim Assets” by Lloyd Gumbo**

- The South African government appealed against a ruling by the Pretoria High Court upholding a Sadc Tribunal judgement ordering Zimbabwe to compensate white farmers for land acquired for resettlement. The appeal now stops farmers from attaching property owned by the Zimbabwean government to South Africa. The farmers were represented by Afriforum, which Zimbabwe's Ambassador to South Africa believes to be an organization which only serves the interest of white farmers.
- The Zimbabwean government declared the ruling had sought to reverse the land reform programme.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated April 2, 2010, in English)**

**“Claim Stakes in Big Mines – Kasukuwere”** [Author unknown]

- As part of the Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment Act, the government called for locals to claim shares in big mines owned by foreign investors.
- Youth Development, Indigenisation and Empowerment Minister Saviour Kasukuwere said the government was annoyed by the fact that exploitation was not benefitting the country's economy. He said the government wanted more local participation. He added that mines not prepared to work with local partners would be closed since they are contributing to economic imbalances.
- He explained that proposals by the Chamber of Mines that locals should get a 10% share of foreign-owned mines were futile.
- He declared that national interests had to be protected and that people needed to be empowered in order to fulfill the goals of the liberation struggle.

**(The Herald, government-owned daily, article dated April 2, 2010, in English)**

**“GPA Talks End, Report Ready Today”** [Author unknown]

- GPA negotiations have ended and negotiating teams are said to be ready to prepare and present a final report. More details on the talks were not given but sources said that remaining outstanding issues were administrative.