

20th SEPTEMBER 2004

TO:

- The Ministry of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
- The Portfolio Committee of the Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare.
- The Speaker of Parliament
- The Chief Whip of ZANU (PF)
- The Chief Whip of M.D.C

**RE: PETITION ON THE IMPACT OF THE NGO BILL TO THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE
IN GENERAL AND THE CHURCH, CIVIL SOCIETY AND THENON
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS IN GENERAL**

We the undersigned, who were both present and absent from the public meeting organized by the Post Independence Survivors Trust (PIST), on the 18th September 2004, Bulawayo, discussing and examining the proposed, NGO Bills, impact to the aforesaid people and institutions. Acknowledge the following:

(2)

Append our signatures in agreement without malice or prejudice whatsoever. The resolutions arrived at the said public meeting and hereby call the Government of Zimbabwe, through the Ministries of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and the Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare to withdraw the proposed NGO Bill forthwith.

(3)

We further put it on record that the proposed Bill was / is condemned as patently unconstitutional, undemocratic and therefore undesirable in a democratic country.

(4)

Specifically the proposed Bill violates the constitution of Zimbabwe, Chapter III, (Bill of Rights), in particular (Sections).

- (16) Protection from deprivation of property
- (18) Protection of the law
- (19) Freedom of expression
- (20) Freedom of Assembly and Association and also some Regional and International agreements, treaties and conventions of which Zimbabwe is a signatory.

(5)

We therefore pray that the Government of Zimbabwe withdraws forthwith, the NGO Bill unconditionally and in good faith in order for all citizens / people to enjoy their constitutional rights.

[illegible]