

## Zimbabwe Weekly Update 39/2012 – 24-30 September 2012

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### Overview

1. **Election Environment:** President Mugabe's time table for referendum and elections.  
MDC-T 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
  2. **Reconstruction:** IMF urges Zimbabwe to review investment policies and laws.
  3. **Natural Resources:** Attorney General Johannes Tomana to appeal South African Supreme Court decision enabling attachment and sale of Zimbabwe Government properties
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### 1. Election Environment:

- This week, President Mugabe disclosed in a High Court application regarding by-elections that he plans to call for the holding of the constitutional referendum in November this year and general elections in March 2013. However, the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) said it is "adamant that logically it is impossible" to meet President Mugabe's time table and complete constitutional and electoral reforms demanded by regional leaders.

[http://www.zesn.org.zw/publications/publication\\_332.pdf](http://www.zesn.org.zw/publications/publication_332.pdf)

[http://www.herald.co.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=53511:elections-set-for-march-next-year&catid=37:top-stories&Itemid=130](http://www.herald.co.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=53511:elections-set-for-march-next-year&catid=37:top-stories&Itemid=130); <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/zimbabwe-monitors-march-polls-impossible-17359349#.UGy91GIH9o>

- President Mugabe addressed UNs General Assembly this week. He called upon the United States to not only condemn the recent murder of Christopher Stevens, the former US Ambassador to Libya, but also of last year barbaric death" "of Muammar Gaddafi. Mugabe said Gaddafi's death was a "great loss to Africa, a tragic loss to Africa". The President also argued that the responsibility to protect has been "seriously abused", adding that "Zimbabwe is strongly opposed to unilateralism, is committed to multilateralism. We therefore would like to see a United Nations that continues to be a guarantor of world peace and security, and a bulwark in the fight for justice and equality among nations."

<http://www.newzimbabwe.com/news-9166-Mugabe+condemns+UNSCs+war+appetite/news.aspx>



- MDC-T's 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations were held in Bulawayo on Sunday where more than 20.000 supporters are reported to have attended. On this occasion, Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai took the opportunity to apologise for his love scandals, saying "It was a genuine search and therefore I would like to apologise to those that were inconvenienced. It was not my intention to hurt anyone".

<http://www.mdc.co.zw/index.php/news/42-rokstories/1895-pomp-and-fanfare-mark-mdcs-13th-celebrations.html>,  
<http://bulawayo24.com/index-id-opinion-sc-columnist-byo-20842-article-mdc-t+living+in+a+false+paradise+after+the+13th+anniversary+celebrations.html>

- Violence resurfaced again on Saturday when several MDC-T supporters were injured after they were allegedly ambushed by over 1000 ZANU-PF supporters and war veterans. The victims were allegedly attacked at Shangani Business Centre when travelling by bus to Bulawayo to attend their party's 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Police had to use tear-gas to stop the violence.

<http://www.thezimbabwean.co.uk/news/zimbabwe/61165/mdc-supporters-ambushed-attacked.html>

## 2. Reconstruction

- A report released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Tuesday urged the government to review its foreign direct investment policies and laws in order to increase investment. Currently, Zimbabwean law requires foreign companies to cede a 51% stake to locals. In the report, the IMF also stated that real GDP growth is expected to slow down by 5% in 2012.

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pn/2012/pn12113.htm>,  
<http://www.voanews.com/content/imf-not-happy-with-zimbabwes-policies/1515469.html>

## 3. Natural Resources

- Attorney General Johannes Tomana is said to be preparing to file an appeal at the South African Constitutional Court. This comes after the Supreme Court last week dismissed the Zimbabwe government's original appeal against a North Gauteng High Court decision that paves the way for the attachment and sale in execution of Zimbabwean government properties in SA to honour decisions granted by the SADC Tribunal in favour of dispossessed farmers.

<http://www.safpi.org/news/article/2012/zim-plans-further-appeal-against-landmark-sa-court-ruling>

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