



ZIMBABWE ANTI-SANCTIONS TRUST

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW STAKEHOLDERS' WRITTEN SUBMISSION:

NAME OF ORGANISATION: ZIMBABWE ANTI-SANCTIONS TRUST
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MEMBER OF ECOSOF: NON MEMBER
DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF ZAST: 31 JULY
2014

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF ZAST:

ZAST, as a non-profit voluntary organisation shall aim to:-

- (a) Enable the generality of Zimbabweans to fully comprehend how sanctions were imposed and how they are affecting their livelihoods.
- (b) Enlighten all Zimbabweans on how the western strategy of ensuring that Africans adore western heroes and hate theirs has impacted on most Zimbabweans in as much as the recognition of the fundamental contributions made by Zimbabwean heroes is concerned.

1) ZAST shall have the following objectives:

- 1.1 To conscientise all Zimbabweans in all provinces and districts on the source of their suffering-west-imposed illegal sanctions.

- 1.2 To campaign for the immediate removal of all forms of sanctions in Zimbabwe.
- 1.3 To appeal to the international community to join Zimbabwe and any other country suffering as a result of sanctions, in campaigning for the removal of any such sanctions
- 1.4 To enlighten the Zimbabwean populace on the need to adore their own heroes rather than those of the west.
- 1.5 To encourage national unity amongst Zimbabwean citizens and between the citizens and the country's leadership.
- 1.6 To appeal to all Zimbabweans residing in western countries to join in the campaign, not to rest in the foreign land with the same people who imposed sanctions on Zimbabwe.
- 1.7 To encourage Zimbabweans to adhere to their sovereignty in the presence or absence of sanctions.
- 1.8 To make sure that Zimbabweans hear the condemnation of sanctions from an apolitical viewpoint/perspective.
- 1.9 To enable people to understand and appreciate indigenisation and empowerment.

Contribution of ZAST for UPR of CUBA, APRIL 2023

Zimbabwe Anti-Sanctions Trust (ZAST) is a registered non-profit and non-governmental organisation whose vision is a conducive environment for economic empowerment and development in Zimbabwe and other countries subjected to illegal sanctions. ZAST is cognisant of the strong bond between Zimbabwe and Cuba, and how the two countries are both victims of illegal sanctions imposed by the United States of America and its allies. The Trust is apolitical and upholds the spirit of promoting good relations and friendship between Zimbabwe and other countries. As an organisation with full legal status in Zimbabwe and working with the people of Cuba and Zimbabwe, the Association hereby makes its written contributions to the OHCHR secretariat as an organisation contributing for the country of CUBA for the period April to May 2023.

The contributions of ZAST are:

1. Cuba endured the consequences of the devastating Hurricane Ian, which destroyed close to 8,000 homes in Cuba, and damaged another 68,000. This has caused so much suffering and material losses to the population and the national economy of Cuba.
2. ZAST recognises that the economic, social and psychological recovery of the affected regions and populations, respectively, urgently requires the suspension of the blockade, at least for a period of time. For this reason, ZAST joins other civic society organisations in

making an appeal the President of the United States of America to allow Cuba to self-develop in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian.

3. ZAST takes cognisance of the crucial importance of this issue, and hereby joins this Petition to President Biden, advocating for facilitating the purchase of materials and supplies for the reconstruction of the country and authorizing the processing of donations by U.S.banks
4. ZAST is alive to the detrimental impact of the US blockade on the activities of Cuban civil society and social actors in the battle against the Covid-19 pandemic; the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases; the right to full and effective participation and inclusion in society of people with disabilities; the activity of small and medium-sized enterprises and the processing and granting of humanitarian assistance
5. As ZAST, we join hands with other progressive international organisations in denouncing the problems faced by Cubans in paying membership fees to regional and international organizations to which they belong, receiving supplies to produce medicines, accessing technologies that could save the lives of thousands of Cuban patients, including children, or participating in international events held in the United States of America or publishing scientific articles that could benefit the population of Cuba, the United States or third countries.
6. Cuban small and medium-sized enterprises have the capacity to access the United States markets, and the United States President should open doors for such businesses to allow free trade.
7. Cuba's efforts to promote gender equality and to support the most vulnerable population have suffered a huge blow as a result of the U.S blockade. ZAST maintains that the blockade is the main obstacle to the economic and social development of Cuba. It is the major setback for the implementation of the National Plan for Economic and Social Development (PNDES 2030) and hence, of implementation of Agenda 2030 and its SDGs.
8. The aforementioned difficulties have increased to extreme levels following the arbitrary and unfounded inclusion of Cuba on the list of alleged States sponsors of terrorism. We hereby advocate for the exclusion of Cuba from that unilateral list, which Cuba should never have been on; thus, contributing to the well-being of the Cuban family and the improvement of the living conditions of our compatriots. Exclusion of Cuba from that list would also have a positive effect on natural and legal persons negatively impacted by the extraterritorial application of the blockade.

9. The U.S blockade constitutes a massive, flagrant and systematic violation of the human rights of the entire Cuban population, including children. We thus pledge our support in demanding the lifting of the blockade to save the entire Cuban population.
10. We unequivocally welcome the adoption of the resolution "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba", and reaffirm our commitment to the just cause of the Cuban people demanding the lifting of the blockade, as well as to the purposes and principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter.
11. We reaffirm our position regarding the right of Cubans to live with no blockade, to build their path with sovereignty and self-determination, while demanding an end to this inhuman, immoral and illegal policy that affects the fundamental human right of the country's population: the right to life.