



SADC Petition For An Extra Ordinary Summit On Zimbabwe

Why this petition matters

Started by ZIMBABWEAN CITIZENS Cognisant of the fact that, on 23 August 2023, Zimbabwe held what was supposed to be a harmonized general election.

WE, the People of Zimbabwe, UNITED in our common desire for democracy, constitutionality, and constitutionalism :

1. Demand an Extra Ordinary Summit on Zimbabwe, a full member state of SADC.

2. Demand a FRESH, Free, Fair and Credible election.

These elections were not held in accordance with the provisions of the Zimbabwe Election Law as defined in the Constitution of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe, a member of SADC, did not also follow the SADC Guidelines on Elections.

The elections did not meet, but not limited to only the following clauses of the Zimbabwe National Constitution :

Section 52A(2) of the Electoral Act requires ZEC to provide information on the number of ballot papers and publication of details regarding them.

2. Section 52(1) of the Electoral Act provides that for any election, ZEC shall ensure that every constituency elections officer is provided with polling booths or voting compartments and ballot boxes, and shall provide papers, including ballot papers

3. Section 21 of the Electoral Act states that, "The Commission shall within a reasonable

period of time provide any person who requests it, and who pays the prescribed fee, with a copy of any voters roll, including a consolidated roll referred to in Section 20(4a), either in printed or in electronic form as the person may request.

The electoral process did not meet SADC Guidelines on Elections, which are as follows:

2.2 SADC Member States shall adhere to the following principles in the conduct of democratic elections:

2.1.1 Full participation of the citizens in the political process;

2.1.2 Freedom of association;

2.1.3 Political tolerance; 2.1.4 Regular intervals for elections as provided for by the respective National Constitutions;

2.1.5 Equal opportunity for all political parties to access the state media;

2.1.6 Equal opportunity to exercise the right to vote and be voted for;

2.1.7 Independence of the Judiciary and impartiality of the electoral institutions; and

2.1.8 Voter education.

2.1.9 Acceptance and respect of the election results by political parties proclaimed to have been free and fair by the competent National Electoral Authorities in accordance with the law of the land.

2.1.10 Challenge of the election results as provided for in the law of the land. The elections did not meet the required standards rendering them null and void.

Since the declaration of re-

sults by ZEC, there have been multiple incidents of abductions and tortures, burning down of property belonging to supporters of the opposition, among other things.

We demand that SADC hold an extraordinary meeting to address the Zimbabwe Elections issue, which is now threatening the stability of the region.

Zimbabwe needs Fresh Elections that conform to the Constitution of Zimbabwe and SADC guidelines on elections.

We also ask leadership and citizens of SADC to STAND with us as we seek Justice, Free, Fair and Credible elections.

We STAND in UNITY as citizens of Zimbabwe in making the above demands. - SOURCE: [www. https://www. change.org/](http://www.change.org/)

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