

8 July, 2015

President Robert Gabriel Mugabe
Munhumutapa Building
Corner Samora Machel Avenue and Sam Nujoma Street,
Private Bag 7700, Causeway, Harare
Fax Number: +263 -4- 708211

Re: Urgent Appeal from Tokwe-Mukorsi Flood Victims

Your Excellency,

We write this urgent appeal to you on behalf of 20, 000 victims of the Tokwe-Mukorsi floods who have been dumped at Nuanetsi Ranch in Mwenenzi.

We are appealing to you directly because many government ministers have repeatedly broken their promises to address our concerns. Your government has forgotten us. We have no freedom. We feel like people in prison. Your government is treating us like second class citizens and as if we are people with no rights at all.

We do not have enough food and we are facing starvation. In the last six months your government has distributed food only twice, giving each family 25-kg maize-meal.

Your government has forced us to settle on Nuanetsi Ranch but this place is not suitable for people to live. Despite promises, your government has failed to compensate many of us and allocate each family enough land (at least 5-hectares) for resettlement. Instead, each family was allocated 1-hectare plot of land only, on land whose ownership is contested.

We have to walk many kilometers to find drinking water. Most of the old tents we use for shelter are tattered, and we are unable to build permanent homes or grow crops because Masvingo Minister Shuvai Mahofa told us we will soon be moved again to another place, but we do not know where to, or if that place will have essential services.

Your Excellency, we ask you to come, as soon as possible, to Nuanetsi Ranch to see for yourself the conditions we are living under. We also ask that, in consultation and with our full participation, you take immediate steps to ensure:

1. That we receive adequate food, shelter, safe drinking water, access to sanitation and other basic aid. If the government is unable to meet our needs it should request donors to assist us;
2. That all people who have not been compensated receive their compensation; and
3. That we are resettled on adequate and suitable land where we have secure land tenure and enough resources, including access to water for domestic use and livelihoods.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Rasa

Community leaders of the Tokwe-Mukorsi Flood Victims:
Kenneth Hlavano (Mr.) (contact phone number: 0775 728 446)
Wanisai Muzenda (Mrs.)
Kundiso Tevera (Mrs.)
Admire Mashenjere (Mr.)