

HUMAN RIGHTS IN ZAMBIA

UPR Info Pre-sessions

Situation in Zambia – Issue 1

- Implementation of previous recommendation made by Sweden
- **New developments:** Zambia is in the process of amending the public order act.
- **New needs:** Public consultation was not wide enough as submissions were just centred around Lusaka.

Recommendations – Issue 1

- Consider public consultation in the process of amending the public Order Act to ensure it doesn't impede fundamental rights and freedoms, such as freedom of expression, assembly and association;

Situation in Zambia – Issue 2

- Implementation of previous recommendation made by Netherlands.
- **New developments:** Zambia has not done anything significant to follow up with the recommendation.
- **New needs:** There is urgent need for Zambia to implement the recommendation of complying with its obligation under international law to guarantee that human rights defenders, journalists and activists are safe and free.

Recommendations – Issue 2

- Amend the Penal Code, particularly chapter 68, also known as the Defamation Act, to prevent charges of treason against those who criticise the President;
- Repeal the Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes Act and ensure that legislation in this area is consistent with international human rights standards and principles;
- Stop criminalising defenders for their legitimate work and free all defenders who were arrested by the previous regime for doing their work and allow those that have gone into exile due to political persecution to return to Zambia and work freely and safely;

Situation in Zambia – Issue 3

- Implementation of previous recommendations made by South Africa and USA.
- New developments: No shared action plan to guide the implementation of all UPR recommendations and Selective involvement of CSOs, activists and NGOs
- New needs: Need to share the action plan and be open to coordination by all CSOs by creating a platform for CSOs involvement.

Recommendations – Issue 3



- Support CSO efforts and ensure they are included in every step of the process towards the enactment of a law for the promotion and protection of human rights defenders.

Thank you



From all the Zambia Human Rights Defenders
Network with its members:

Presented by

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