



W/O 3/93

Campaigners for Human Rights

About

**ZIMBABWE HUMAN
RIGHTS ASSOCIATION**





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WHAT IS ZIMRIGHTS?

ZimRights is Zimbabwe's first post-independence indigenous grassroots human rights advocacy group. Formed in 1992, ZimRights brings together ordinary people like you and I, who work together to advance the cause of human rights in Zimbabwe. It is registered as a welfare organisation under the Private Voluntary Organization Act (W/03/93).

For almost three decades, ZimRights has given birth to many human rights initiatives and inspired active citizenship that has seen the emergence of many human rights champions that we celebrate in Zimbabwe. Today ZimRights has grown to over 250 000 members in all of Zimbabwe's 10 administrative provinces.

WHAT IS THE LEGACY OF ZIMRIGHTS?

ZimRights has built across the country communities that are not only conscious but are actively engaged in the defence and protection of human rights. It is because of this legacy, that ZimRights has become the foundation for civic activism in Zimbabwe for many organisations that want to harness the power of the citizenry to advance human rights. This is true of civic leadership in democracy and governance, conflict transformation, empowerment of women and girls, as well as informed participation among other aspects of civic life. ZimRights has become Zimbabwe's leading voice for human rights.

WHAT IS THE STRUCTURE OF ZIMRIGHTS?

ZimRights' highest decision-making body is the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Every 3 years, the AGM elects a National Council of 21 members from the 11 Provincial Chapters across Zimbabwe's 10 provinces. The National Council is chaired by the National Chairperson who is deputised by the National Vice Chairperson. The National Council appoints a Management Committee which is responsible for the affairs of the organisation and executes its mandate through various committees. To do its leg work in a structured and organised way, ZimRights has a National Secretariat,

headquartered in Harare at ZimRights House with a number of regional offices. The Secretariat is headed by the National Director who is responsible for the day today running of the organisation. The National Director is an ex officio member of both the National Council and Management Committee.

WHAT ROLE DO ORDINARY PEOPLE PLAY IN THIS BIG INSTITUTION?

Despite its size, at the centre of ZimRights work are ordinary people like you and I. An ordinary person can become a member of ZimRights through a number of ways. The easiest way is to visit our website, fill in an application and submit an application. On the website you can view ZimRights values, activities and procedures and decide if this is an association you want to be part of. You can

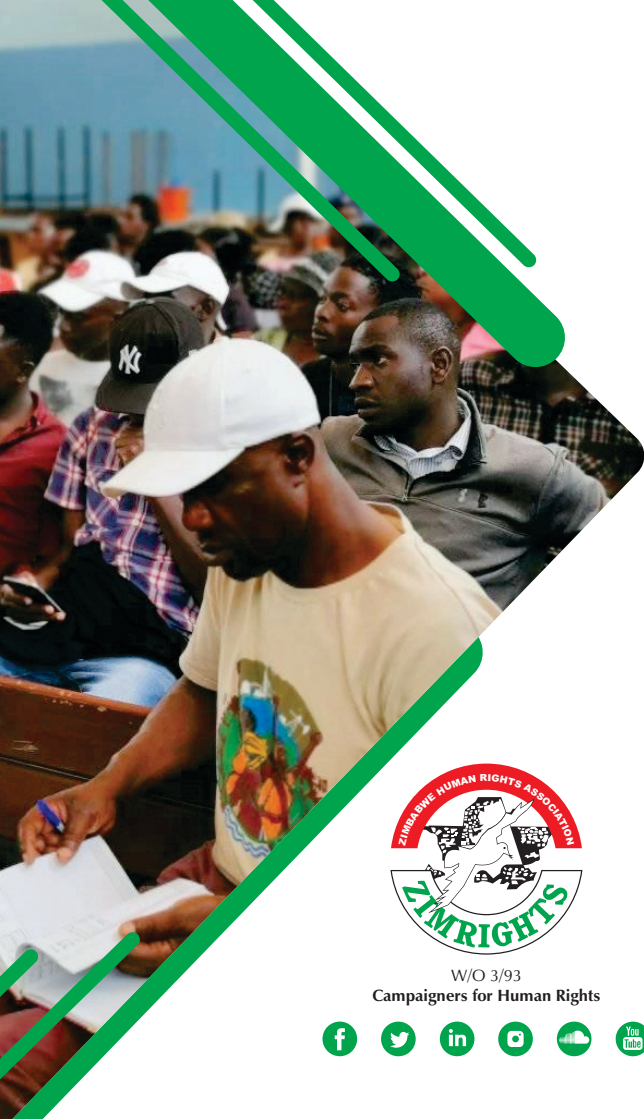
also approach our provincial chairpersons in the area you live in. An internal process is followed to review and approve applications. Once you become a member, you receive a welcome package and a set of tools that allow you to become a more active citizen in your community.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A ZIMRIGHTS MEMBER?

There are many benefits. But its more what you become and what you do, rather than what you get. We are a selfless movement that seeks more to give than to receive.

- **Belonging** – First, you become a member of a big human rights family of more than 250 000 ordinary people. This is a powerful force for good and you are part of it.
- **Access to tools for advancing human rights** – As a member of ZimRights, you have access to many tools that help you become a more active and engaged citizen. The ZimRights Members Handbook is a powerful tool box for those who care about human rights. It equips you with the necessary human rights knowledge that you need to help your community. These include the simplified bill of rights, various manuals on Zimbabwe's human rights system among other tools.
- **Solidarity** – As a member of ZimRights, you can benefit from the local, national and global solidarity platform that ZimRights is. This is helpful if you need support to advance the causes you care about. Or if you become a victim of human rights violations.
- **Leadership** – As Nelson Mandela said, leadership is not positional, it is behavioural. ZimRights members are leaders in their communities. As a member of ZimRights, you will get an opportunity to lead local and national transformation processes.



CONTACT US

Head Office

ZimRights House,
90 SV Muzenda Street, Harare
Tel: +263 242 707278 / 705898
Hotline: +263 734 053 955
Email: info@zimrights.org.zw

Membership Issues:
membership@zimrights.org.zw

Bulawayo Office

4 ESAT House, Fort Street,
12th & 13th Ave, Bulawayo
Tel: +263 292 61826 / 63721
Email: bulawayo@zimrights.org.zw

Masvingo Office

ZIMRE Centre, Cnr Hughes/
S. Mazorodze, 2nd Floor, Masvingo
Tel: +263 392 266224
Mob: +263 772 318 047
Email: masvingo@zimrights.org.zw
www.zimrights.org.zw



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To Report Violations

(Econet): 08080487