

## **Mugabe and privatisations are part of Tsvangirai's solution**

According to Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai the removal of President Mugabe from office could push Zimbabwe into a "chaotic" situation. In an interview released on Saturday 27 June with Reuters, Tsvangirai argued that Mugabe "is part of the solution, whether you like him or not" and will ultimately decide himself when to step down.

Tsvangirai, who has just returned from his fund-raising tour of European countries and the United States, is aware of the fact that his comments about Mugabe could discourage international donors. However, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister has also put forward new policies to appeal to foreign investors, claiming that he is "prepared to allow majority [foreign] ownership" in the mining and agricultural sectors.

In addition, Tsvangirai talked about the possible privatization of some state enterprises, another measure aimed at attracting foreign investments. The Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) has already criticized the government's privation plan though, arguing that it would have severe social consequences, including job losses or insecurity and poor service delivery.

Regarding the national currency issue, Tsvangirai told Reuters that Zimbabwe will keep relying on foreign currencies since he does not expect to revive the use of the Zimbabwe dollar in the near future. However, in direct contradiction with the Prime minister's statement, President Mugabe told a meeting of his ZANU-PF party that he wants Zimbabwe to go back to the use of its own national currency. Although Tsvangirai thinks Mugabe is a necessary component for the coalition government to be successful, the relation between the two leaders seems anything but untroubled.