

Zimbabwe Negotiations Update: 12th September 2008

On Thursday 11th September South African President Thabo Mbeki announced that an agreement had been reached in the power sharing talks on Zimbabwe. Whilst ACTSA gives a cautious welcome to this announcement it is our view that it is crucial that any settlement:

- Leads to an immediate end to violence and intimidation which has been continuing in Zimbabwe.
- To Zimbabweans being able to speak out freely and organise and mobilise (Including trade union leaders who currently face charges for speaking out).
- To government which is acceptable and accountable to the Zimbabwean people and in which the instruments of the state- police, army, civil service, judiciary and media serve all the people.
- To effective government which tackles the humanitarian crisis, based on need not political affiliation.
- To government which tackles the economic crisis in Zimbabwe
- To a process of new constitution within a reasonable time frame based on wide spread consultation and participation which has the approval of the Zimbabwean people.

ACTSA will give a formal view on the settlement once the full details have been released and we have consulted with our partners in the region.