

ZIMBABWE CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS (ZCTU)

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For immediate release

PRESS RELEASE

SUBJECT: ABDUCTION ZIMBABWE HOSPITAL DOCTORS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

The Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) is shocked by reports of the abduction of Zimbabwe Hospital Doctors Association (ZHDA) President, Dr. Peter Magombeyi on Saturday, 14 September 2019.

It is reported that Dr. Magombeyi was abducted by three unidentified men and he has not been seen since. Before his kidnapping, he had received a life threatening message from an unknown source. Dr Magombeyi has been at the forefront in fighting for better working conditions for all doctors in the country.

The ZCTU is appalled by what appears to be a clear and systematic pattern and upsurge of threats and abductions of civic organisation and trade union leaders who voice their concerns against the poor working conditions. We have witnessed recently the abduction of Amalgamated Rural Teachers' Union of Zimbabwe, (ARTUZ) President, Obert Masaraure in the same fashion.

Death threats and letters with bullets were also recently sent to the ZCTU President Peter Mutasa and Secretary General, Japhet Moyo after they had indicated that the ZCTU was planning a demonstration.

It is clear to the ZCTU that there is a specialized and well sponsored group of hooligans that has been employed to carry out dirty work on behalf of those in authorities to intimidate, kidnap and torture human rights defenders.

Once again, the ZCTU demands an environment that is conducive for freedom of association and assembly where every Zimbabwean can discharge his or her duties without fear of being arrested, tortured or abducted.

Sylvester Mutindindi
ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL