



Statement by the Embassy of Canada in Zimbabwe on the recent constitutional referendum

Canada Encouraged by Referendum Process

March 21, 2013 - Canada's Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Lisa Stadelbauer, today issued the following statement on the recent constitutional referendum:

"The vote on Zimbabwe's new constitution is a critical step in improving rights and freedoms and the rule of law for all Zimbabweans.

"Canada congratulates the people of Zimbabwe on participating peacefully in the referendum on March 16 and particularly commends the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission for a well-organized and credible process.

"Canada also commends the vital work of election observers from Zimbabwe and the Southern African Development Community observation team.

"Canada remains concerned about reports of the detainment of key civil society representatives and political figures and looks forward to Zimbabwe's new constitution coming into force, with peaceful, free and fair elections later this year."

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