








MTHWAKAZI REPUBLIC PARTY

 <https://mthwakazirepublicparty.org>
 mrp.pres@proton.me / mqoekamoyo@proton.me
 MQONDISI MOYO
 @MQONDISIMOYOMRP
 +27 78 935 3725 OR +263 78 410 3677



Date: Friday July 4, 2025

To: Resident Representative of the United Nations Office in Pretoria

**351 Francis Baard Street, Metro Park Building, 10th Floor
Pretoria, South Africa**

CC: Secretary-General António Guterres

**United Nations Headquarters
New York, NY 10017
United States of America**

Subject: Petition to the United Nations Office in Pretoria on Behalf of the Matabeleland/Mthwakazi People

Dear Resident Representative,

We, the undersigned representatives of the Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi people, humbly submit this petition to the United Nations, seeking urgent and decisive intervention in matters of profound historical injustice, ongoing human rights violations, and the quest for self-determination. Our appeal is rooted in the recognition of our rights as a distinct nation with a legitimate claim to sovereignty, justice, and dignity.

I. BACKGROUND AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT






1. Reversal of Amalgamation: We respectfully request the United Nations to advocate for the reversal of the 1923 amalgamation of Mashonaland and Matabeleland, which was conducted without the consent of the Ndebele people of Matabeleland. This forced union has resulted in ongoing marginalization, cultural suppression, and systemic discrimination. We seek the UN's support in recognizing Matabeleland as a separate and sovereign entity, respecting its historical borders and self-determination rights.

2. Border Recognition and Consistency: We urge the UN to ensure the recognition of the 1891 Star Leander Jameson border, delineated along the Munyati River, as the legitimate boundary separating Matabeleland from Mashonaland. This boundary is consistent with historical treaties and colonial maps, including the recognition of other borders such as:

- Beitbridge-Limpopo border with South Africa (1887)



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- Ramokgwebane border with Botswana (1888)
- Victoria Falls-Livingstone border with Zambia (1888)
- The recognition of Matabeleland as a distinct entity during the Berlin Conference and its inclusion on the League of Nations African Map.

3. Right to Self-Determination and Independence: We call upon the United Nations to facilitate the recognition of Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi's inherent right to self-determination. We urge the UN to compel the governments of Zimbabwe, South Africa, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to support the peaceful transition of Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi to independence, akin to international efforts towards Western Sahara's independence.

II. HUMAN RIGHTS AND JUSTICE






1. Displacement and Statelessness Crisis: Decades of systemic oppression, tribalism, cultural suppression, and economic marginalization have forced millions of Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi nationals to flee their homeland. An estimated 6 million people reside within Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi, while approximately 3 million others are dispersed across South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Namibia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, the United States, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and other nations. Many are stateless or living under precarious conditions, deprived of basic rights such as healthcare, education, and economic opportunity. We beseech the UN to recognize these populations as refugees and displaced persons deserving of international protection and support.

2. Gukurahundi Genocide – A Legacy of Atrocity: We, as survivors and victims, demand acknowledgment of the Gukurahundi atrocities perpetrated by the Zimbabwean government from 1983 to 1987, resulting in the death of an estimated 20,000 to 80,000 Ndebele civilians. Based on the prolonged duration of the genocide and the government's failure to provide accurate figures, it is plausible that the actual number of victims exceeds this range. The crimes include:

- Mass killings and summary executions
- Torture, rape, and sexual violence
- Forced labour, deportations, and arbitrary detention
- Cultural suppression and ethnic persecution



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These crimes constitute crimes against humanity and genocide. The legacy of Gukurahundi continues to impede national reconciliation, economic development, and justice. We urge the UN to establish an independent, international tribunal to investigate, prosecute, and deliver justice for these crimes.

3. Immediate Intervention to Halt Clandestine Hearings: We are alarmed by the ongoing clandestine Gukurahundi hearings initiated in June 2025 by Zimbabwean authorities, purportedly aimed at addressing past atrocities. These proceedings lack transparency, exclude key stakeholders, and appear designed to manipulate narratives, silence victims, and hinder justice. We demand the UN intervene to:

- Immediately halt these hearings.
- Ensure transparent, victim-centred processes.
- Protect witnesses and survivors from intimidation or reprisal.
- Support the establishment of an independent tribunal for full accountability.

III. RIGHTS, RECOGNITION, AND SELF-DETERMINATION

1. Recognition of the Gukurahundi Genocide and Justice: We call on the UN to formally recognize the Gukurahundi massacres as genocide and crimes against humanity. We seek justice through prosecution of perpetrators, reparations for victims, and official acknowledgment of the atrocities committed.

2. Restoration of Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi Statehood: We reiterate our demand for the restoration of Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi's sovereignty, including:






- Reversal of the 1898 amalgamation that created Southern Rhodesia.
- Re-establishment of Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi as an independent nation with full self-governance.
- Protection of our cultural, linguistic, and historical identity.

3. Self-Determination and Political Sovereignty: We assert our right to self-determination, advocating for a peaceful, negotiated transition towards independence. We seek the UN's support to facilitate this process, ensuring that our people's aspirations are respected and realized.

IV. INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY



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1. Diaspora and Global Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi Community: Recognizing the significant diaspora population, we request international acknowledgment of their plight and rights. The diaspora plays a vital role in advocating for justice, cultural preservation, and political recognition.

2. Call for Global Advocacy: We urge the United Nations to champion our cause on the international stage, mobilizing regional and global support for our right to self-determination, justice, and reparations.

V. UNANIMITY OF THE MTHWAKAZI PEOPLE

We, the representatives of the Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi people, affirm that our quest for self-determination and restoration of statehood is a unified and collective aspiration. The Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi people stand in full support of this restorative agenda, which prioritizes the dignity, justice, and sovereignty of our nation.

VI. LEGITIMATE PLAN FOR SELF-DETERMINATION

We are prepared to present and implement a comprehensive plan for self-determination, grounded in international cooperation and respect for human rights. This plan will outline a peaceful and negotiated transition to independence, ensuring the protection of our cultural, linguistic, and historical identity.






VII. CONCLUSION AND REQUEST

In light of the foregoing, we respectfully request that the United Nations:

- * Recognize the historical injustices and current struggles of the Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi people.
- * Support the reversal of colonial-era borders and the recognition of Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi's sovereignty.
- * Facilitate justice for Gukurahundi victims through independent investigations and prosecutions.
- * Support a peaceful transition to independence for Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi in accordance with international law.
- * Protect the rights of displaced and stateless Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi nationals worldwide.



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**7491/17 PUMULA NORTH
PO PUMULA, BULAWAYO
ZIMBABWE**

WHEREFORE, the undersigned respectfully submit this petition before this esteemed tribunal, underscoring our unwavering commitment to the pursuit of justice, truth, and the fundamental right to self-determination for the Matabeleland/ Mthwakazi people.

We hereby affirm our readiness to cooperate fully and transparently with the United Nations and all relevant international bodies, offering our unwavering support and pertinent information to facilitate an equitable resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

Mqondisi Moyo
President, Mthwakazi Republic Party

Verification:

We affirm that the statements contained herein are true and accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Witness:

Mqondisi Moyo

President, Mthwakazi Republic Party

Received by:

Signature of the Resident Representative
United Nations Office in Pretoria

Date: _____



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Verification of Receipt:

This petition is hereby acknowledged as received by the United Nations Office in Pretoria on [Date].

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

With profound respect,

