



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

Tel : 022 758 30 11 / 758 98 55
Telefax : 022 758 30 44 / 39

27, ch. William Barbey
1292 Chambesey / Geneva
Switzerland

ZGEN/INTEROG/2

21 May 2013

Ms Jane Connors
Chief, Special Procedures Branch
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais Wilson
52 Rue des Paquis
Ch – 1201 Geneva

OHCHR REGISTRY

23 MAI 2013

Recipients :.....SPD.....
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Dear Madam,

**Re: COMMUNICATION FROM SPECIAL PROCEDURES :
JOINT URGENT APPEAL**

Reference is made to your letter dated 21 March 2013 and our acknowledgement referenced ZGEN/INTEROG/2 of 26 March 2013.

The Mission advises that the relevant Zimbabwean authorities have made their own investigations and reached the following conclusions:-

- On 17 March 2013, police officers, armed with a search warrant, went to the Harare premises of one [REDACTED] with the intention of carrying out a search;
- While the police officers were conducting the search, Ms Beatrice Mtetwa arrived at the premises and started shouting at the police officers accusing them of being unprofessional;

- Ms Mtetwa proceeded to interfere with the police in the course of their duty;
- She was subsequently arrested after continuously interfering with the police and charged with defeating or obstructing the course of justice as defined in Section 184 (i) of the Criminal Codification and Reform Act {Chapter 9:23}; and
- Ms Mtetwa's trial date has been set for 27 May 2013.

In light of the above, it is clear that the police acted within the confines of the law in arresting an individual who was breaking the law. Ms Mtetwa has not filed a complaint with any relevant authority in Zimbabwe alleging a violation of her human rights. The setting of a trial date is a clear testimony of the Government's adherence to the due process of the law.

Yours sincerely,



C. Chishiri

For: **Ambassador/Permanent Representative**