

# ZIMBABWE CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS (ZCTU)

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## PRESS RELEASE

### ZCTU'S RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO ORGANISE WORKERS' DAY

THE Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) is surprised by the sudden interest shown by the government to organise Workers' Day commemorations and would like to correct misrepresentations in *The Herald* newspaper of today, 28 April 2016 to the effect that the ZCTU had agreed to the move.

We would like to make it categorically clear that the ZCTU never agreed to the idea of a Workers' Day organised by the government. It was a mere corridor talk and wishful thinking by the government.

In any case, if indeed the government wanted to organise the commemorations, it should have approached the ZCTU way back to discuss the issue rather than wait for the 11<sup>th</sup> hour.

For the record, the ZCTU has already planned for Workers' Day commemorations to be held at Gwanzura Stadium and, like we always do, we have invited the Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Prisca Mupfumira to officiate. She is yet to confirm her attendance.

The ZCTU is suspicious that the government has a hidden agenda in all this and that the government wants to interfere with workers' activities for political gain. All of a sudden the government claims it has workers' interest yet its record shows otherwise. Why does it want to wait for the workers day to listen to workers' problems? Last year we invited the Minister of Labour and she spurned our invitation.

As an independent organisation, the ZCTU is amenable to discuss such issues in the future, but will not allow its independence to be compromised by politicians that seek relevance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Japhet Moyo'.

Japhet Moyo  
**SECRETARY-GENERAL**  
28 April 2016