

RESTRICTED

BACKGROUND AND ARGUMENT

5. My note of 3 June (A) provided detail on the initial development of the GoZ's crackdown in the shanty settlements of Harare and other urban areas. The crackdown has continued (latest Harare telegram at B), has spread, and has left increasing numbers homeless and vulnerable. There are reports that some of the homeless have been rounded up and driven off to the country, perhaps to camps. At the State Opening of Parliament on 9 June Mugabe was unapologetic, clear that the crackdown would continue. Ordinary Zimbabweans, the opposition and civil society are shell-shocked, unable to respond effectively. The 9-10 June 'stay-away' protest has attracted only limited support.

6. Action so far has included:

- DfID are providing humanitarian assistance to most vulnerable, mainly through the UN and IOM (International Organisation for Migration), including food, blankets, soap, transport, emergency water and sanitation (latest DfID SitRep at C);
- HMA Harare has protested to the Zimbabwean Vice-President [REDACTED] and to the Security Minister in charge;
- We are instructing Harare, SADC Posts and UKMIS New York to raise the issue with hosts;

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

7. The GAERC also provides an opportunity to raise Zimbabwe with Partners /

[REDACTED], over lunch. The key points for the discussion are:

- Mugabe's latest actions are taking Zimbabwe further away from prosperity, stability and respect for human rights;

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]