



## The Zimbabwe Community in South Africa

### Post Anti-Crime Summit Statement

07 February 2020

The Zimbabwe Community in South Africa successfully organised and held an Anti-Crime summit yesterday at the Brethren in Christ Church in Hilbrow.

The summit was held under the theme: **Building Crime Free Environments in our Communities.**

A platform was given to all stakeholders, from the Gauteng Provincial visible policing commander of the SAPS, the Consul General of Zimbabwe, political parties (SACP, ZCP, ZAPU, MRP, & ZANU-PF), religious leaders, Traditional leaders and cultural groups the Migrant Workers Union of South Africa (MWASA) as well as individual members of the community.

A minute of silence was held in particular honour to the late Detective Captain Oupa Matjie as well as other fatal victims of criminals. In her speech, the Consul General also offered the Zimbabwean government's condolences and cooperation in bringing the perpetrators to account for their callous actions.

Issues raised included; the need to report crime and offer statements, rooting out and not participating in the bribery of SAPS officers, the need for cooperation between the community and the SAPS where it was clarified that any member of the community can join the Community Policing Forums located where they stay. Emphasis was given on desisting from buying stolen goods which creates a lucrative market for criminals. Delegates were critical of the conduct of police, their slow reaction to complaints by residents, their demand for bribes from undocumented migrants instead of fighting crime.

The Zimbabwe Community in South Africa will in two weeks convene a meeting with all stakeholders to set up the Greater Johannesburg Community Committee and develop an Action Plan in the fight against crime. The Greater Johannesburg Committee will appoint or elect individuals that will liaise with the Community Policing Forums. These Community Committees will involve both South Africans and migrants, they should not be seen as Migrant Committees.

We also will embark on more anti-crime crusades and road shows to give information as well as coordinate the mobilisation of community members to their area CPFs. The next road show will be held in Diepsloot at a date to be announced. This will be a build up to the Africa day Anti-crime event which is in line with the Africa day theme "Building a better Africa and a better world".

Statement by:

The Zimbabwe Community in South Africa



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