

# General Conference

**GC(64)/INF/16**

Date: 19 September 2020

**General Distribution**

Original: English

**Sixty-fourth regular session**

## Text of communication dated 18 September 2020 received from the Embassy/Permanent Mission Zimbabwe in Vienna concerning restoration of voting rights

The text of a letter dated 18 September 2020 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zimbabwe to the United Nations is reproduced herewith for the attention of the IAEA General Conference.



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**Permanent Mission of the  
Republic of Zimbabwe to the  
United Nations**  
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*from the Ambassador*

**ZGEN/INTEROG/21**

18 September 2020

**Head of Contributions Unit,  
Finance and Accounting Section,  
Department of Management  
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

Dear Ms Maria Cristina Sarmiento,

**Re: LOSS OF ZIMBABWE'S RIGHT TO VOTE AT THE INTERNATIONAL  
ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)**

Thank you very much for your communication and for raising those important issues. As you might be aware, Zimbabwe is one of the countries that were heavily affected by one of the worst tropical cyclones on record to affect Africa and the Southern Hemisphere, tropical cyclone Idai, in March 2019. The disaster and humanitarian crisis in the aftermath of the cyclone were such that the Government had to launch an international appeal for assistance for response, recovery and reconstruction. The situation was compounded by the fact that the country was already grappling with the effects of food insecurity following several cycles of drought and floods. With the government devoting much of the resources towards confronting these challenges, the COVID-19 pandemic could not have come at a worse time, and this affected the country's capacity to pay its assessed contributions to various international organisations including the IAEA.

The Government of Zimbabwe, however, remains fully appreciative of the importance of meeting its financial obligations at the IAEA, and in that regard, even in the face of these challenges, is pushing hard to ensure that a payment is effected as a matter of urgency. We will avail you with the transaction details once these have been communicated to the Mission. In the meantime, we kindly request that the country's voting rights be restored ahead of the forthcoming 64<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference.

Warm Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Mushayavanhu'.

**T. Mushayavanhu**  
**Ambassador/Permanent Representative**