



Press Statement

Sean McCormack, Spokesman

Washington, DC

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USG Encourages SADC Efforts on Zimbabwe

We support the Southern African Development Community (SADC) initiative to resolve the political and economic crisis in [Zimbabwe](#), including President Mbeki's mediation effort. This engagement illustrates that the region considers the situation an increasing threat to stability and is committed to a democratic and prosperous Zimbabwe.

We regret that the Mugabe regime has not expressed a similar commitment. Its obstructive actions, such as lack of participation in scheduled talks and statements arguing against the need for mediation, have undermined this important initiative. Moreover, we deplore the Mugabe regime's continued acts of oppression against all segments of society, including: civil society, religious organizations, businesspeople, and political groups.

We encourage SADC leaders to press vigorously for a sustainable solution to this man-made crisis. The Zimbabwean people deserve nothing less.

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