

**Our unique focus is on addressing the root causes of the Zimbabwean crisis:
The destruction of • the rule of law • justice • human rights • property rights**

ACTIONS AND LEGAL CASES INITIATED TO HOLD THE ZIMBABWEAN REGIME TO ACCOUNT

- 1980** ► Independence: Robert Mugabe (ZANU party) becomes prime minister.
- 1983-7** ► Mugabe strategises Gukurahundi massacres to neutralise opposition: approx. 20,000 civilians brutally murdered
- 1987** ► Land Acquisition Act enables compulsory purchase of land by the government (GOZ)
- 1992** ► Brutal farm invasions by war-vets and militia, supported by government (GOZ), begin days later.
- 1997** ► War vets angered by GOZ corruption and freezing of pensions. Placated by huge unbudgeted payouts; stock market crashes.
► 1,471 farms listed for acquisition; currency collapses
- 1998** ► Escalating economic crisis causes riots and strikes; brutal government response
► GOZ sends troops to DR Congo to support President Laurent Kabila's regime. Costs taxpayers US\$27 million a month; GOZ fails to pay back IMF loans.
- 1998/9** ► Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) party established to challenge government.
- 2000** ► Referendum on new constitution (incl. land expropriation without compensation) defeated.
► Violent farm invasions by war-vets and militia, supported by GOZ, begin days later.
► Justice Garwe rules invasions illegal; orders Police Commissioner to evict unlawful occupiers. Police ignore ruling as instructed by GOZ.
- 2004** ► Land Acquisition Amendment Act passed: denies farmers compensation, blocks legal action.
- 2005** ► Constitutional Amendment 17 passed into law: nationalises all farms listed for acquisition; extinguishes judicial authority over land and court challenges; farmers still operating are criminalised.

MIKE CAMPBELL/MCF ACTIONS TO HOLD ZIMBABWEAN GOVERNMENT TO ACCOUNT

- 2006/7** ► Commercial farmer Mike Campbell initiates court proceedings challenging validity of Amendment 17; granted a Supreme Court hearing but arrested and charged for failing to leave his gazetted Mount Carmel farm.

- 2007/8** ► Mike Campbell and son-in-law Ben Freeth file Mount Carmel farm case with SADC Tribunal regional human rights court. 77 commercial farmers granted leave to join as interveners.

2008

- ▶ Mike, Angela Campbell and Ben Freeth abducted by ZANU PF militia, tortured at militia camp; forced to sign withdrawal from SADC Tribunal court case.
- ▶ SADC Tribunal court case ruling: Amendment 17 racist, inimical to human rights; fair compensation must include land. Mugabe refuses to abide by judgment.

2009

- ▶ International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)'s tribunal orders GOZ to compensate 13 Dutch nationals whose farms were expropriated.

- ▶ Black commercial farmer Luke Tembani, assisted by Ben Freeth, wins his farm eviction challenge in SADC Tribunal.

- ▶ Mike Campbell evicted; homesteads, linen factory and worker homes destroyed by fire.

2010

- ▶ Ben Freeth and South African civil rights group AfriForum register SADC Tribunal rulings with SA High, Supreme and Constitutional courts.

- ▶ AfriForum attaches a GOZ-owned house in Cape Town to cover SADC Tribunal penalties levied against GOZ and set a precedent.

- ▶ Ben Freeth and AfriForum lodge Jarrett, Kockott and Cumming farm legal case with SADC Tribunal in response to GOZ's failure to pay fair compensation.

- ▶ SADC Tribunal finds GOZ in contempt for a third time: (July 2010, June 2009 and Nov 2008)

- ▶ SADC Summit Heads of State put SADC Tribunal on a 6-month review.

- ▶ SADC Tribunal orders GOZ to pay compensation of US\$17 million to 9 black victims of brutal organised violence and torture by army and police.

2011

- ▶ Ben Freeth sets up Zimbabwe Justice Project to hold key perpetrators of human rights abuses on commercial farms to account, and to stop further potential violence.

- ▶ SADC Heads of State illegally suspend SADC Tribunal; judges not reappointed.

- ▶ Ben Freeth and Luke Tembani apply to African Commission for Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) for legal action against SADC Heads of State for suspending Tribunal.

- ▶ Ben Freeth joins regional campaign to Save the SADC Tribunal.

- ▶ Mike Campbell Foundation (MCF) formally registered as a UK-based charity focusing on Zimbabwean crisis. Ben Freeth appointed Executive Director.

2012

- ▶ MCF produces a [Save the SADC Tribunal campaign film and documentary](#), both narrated by Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

- ▶ SADC Tribunal closed down by SADC Heads of State at SADC Summit.

- ▶ MCF and AfriForum set up accountability project to document human rights crimes committed against farm workers and identify perpetrators for submission to the International Criminal Court (ICC), national prosecuting authorities (NPAs) in neighbouring states, UN Human Rights Committee.

2013

- ▶ GOZ loses appeal in SA's Constitutional Court re costs order awarded by SADC Tribunal to farmers Campbell, Fick and Etheredge.

- ▶ AfriForum and MCF submit dossier to SA police and NPA with evidence of crimes against humanity committed on Zimbabwean commercial farms by 58 known individuals.

2014

- ▶ African Commission, while criticising SADC Heads of State for shutting down SADC Tribunal in 2012, claims it is powerless to reinstate Tribunal as African Charter refers only to national courts and not to regional courts.

2015

- ▶ Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) launches application in SA High Court to declare actions of President Zuma and his ministers unconstitutional by voting for, signing and planning to ratify SADC Summit Protocol of 2014 re disbanding SADC Tribunal.

- ▶ MCF testifies before Africa Subcommittee of House Foreign Affairs Committee in Washington DC; explains primary reasons for ongoing crisis in Zimbabwe.

- ▶ Ben Freeth, Luke Tembani and farmers apply to join LSSA case to take SA Govt and President Zuma to court for closing down SADC Tribunal and for damages incurred.

- ▶ International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) tribunal orders GOZ to restore 3 seized BIPPA (bilateral treaty-protected) agricultural estates to von Pezold family, or pay compensation of US\$196 million.

- ▶ AfriForum locates GOZ-owned Cape Town property and auctions it to cover outstanding costs orders awarded by SA's High Court, Supreme Court of Appeal and Constitutional Court.

2016

- MCF petitions British Govt to submit a formal complaint to UN, which recognises dictators like President Mugabe by allowing them to speak and vote at UN meetings.

2017

- MCF and AfriForum reinstate Jarrett, Kockott and Cumming compensation and damages case of 2010 in SA due to closure of SADC Tribunal, with a 4th Applicant, a class action of farmers.

2018

- MCF addresses Africa Subcommittee of House Foreign Affairs Committee in Washington DC. Request granted to incorporate SADC Tribunal judgments in U.S.'s Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery Act (ZDERA).

- SA's Constitutional Court rules unanimously that former President Zuma acted unlawfully and unconstitutionally by participating in process to dissolve SADC Tribunal.

2019

- MCF and AfriForum lodge R1.9 billion claim against SA presidency and govt for compensation and damages suffered by Zimbabwean class action of farmers due to SADC Tribunal closure.

2020

- GOZ signs controversial US\$3.5bn Global Compensation Deed (GCD) with two farming organisations and Valuation Consortium for white commercial farmers evicted from 2000 onwards. No international funds secured since GOZ owes US\$8bn to international creditors.

- MCF joins Compensation Awareness Group, comprising dispossessed commercial farmers, to advise farmers of serious legal deficits of GCD.

- SA High Court allows damages claim against former SA President Zuma and SA govt to proceed, but this is exclusive to Zimbabwean farm owners who are SA nationals.

2021

- Compensation issue: MCF advises former farmers to insist on restoration of rule of law and adherence to court judgments. Advises international financial institutions to hinge financial assistance or loans to restoration of rule of law and individual property rights.

- GOZ fails to get financial support from international financiers; admits it will miss July deadline for initial US\$1.75bn compensation payment to dispossessed commercial farmers.



2008: Abduction of Ben Freeth.



2008: Abduction of Mike Campbell



2009: Fire destroys Ben Freeth's home



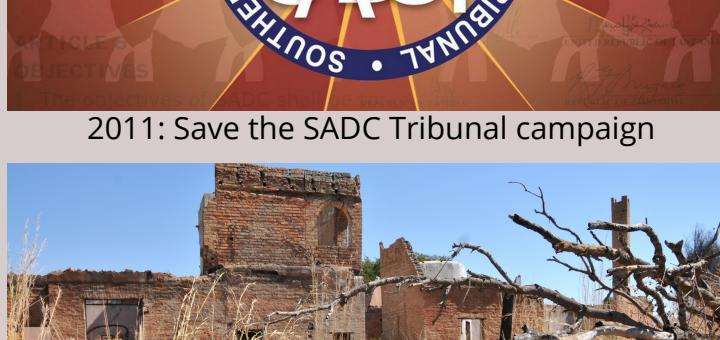
2008: Govt minister's son issues threats



2011: Save the SADC Tribunal campaign



Early 2000s: Burnt out irrigation pivot



2012: Wasteland of Mt Carmel farm



Early 2000s: Untitled subsistence farm