



Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland)
LEGAL AID BOARD

Zimbabwe - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on Monday 28 July 2014

Information on corruption within the military

A report issued in January 2014 by the *Bertelsmann Transformation Index* notes:

“Corruption has become endemic and affects all sectors of society...” (Bertelsmann Transformation Index (January 2014) *Zimbabwe Country Report*, p.12).

This document also states:

“Diamonds are also a large source of corruption and are often plundered through a complex network of army, police, Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) and senior Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) officials (among them the late Solomon Mujuru, the husband of the vice president)” (ibid).

A paper issued in February 2014 the *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Australia* states:

“The military has been involved in a number of large-scale military operations within Zimbabwe since 2000...Typically, these military operations have been driven by political and economic considerations (including farm and property seizures, election-related violence, and mining related activities)” (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Australia (25 February 2014) *DFAT Country Report: Zimbabwe*).

In July 2013 *Global Witness* states:

“Global Witness has exposed links between some of the mining companies operating in the diamond-rich Marange region of Zimbabwe, and members of the military and other ZANU insiders. Our research has shown that two joint venture companies with complicated ownership structures appear to be providing diamond revenues to the army and an individual close to Mugabe” (Global Witness (26 July 2013) *Zimbabwe’s elections: intimidation, vote-rigging and diamonds*, p.1).

No further information on this issue could be found among sources available to the RDC.

References

Bertelsmann Transformation Index (January 2014) *Zimbabwe Country Report*

<http://www.bti-project.org/reports/country-reports/esa/zwe/index.nc>

Accessed Monday 28 July 2014

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Australia (25 February 2014) *DFAT Country Report: Zimbabwe*

<http://www.ein.org.uk/members/country-report/dfat-country-report-zimbabwe>

This is a subscription database

Accessed Monday 28 July 2014

Global Witness (26 July 2013) *Zimbabwe's elections: intimidation, vote-rigging and diamonds*

<http://www.globalwitness.org/library/zimbabwe%E2%80%99s-elections-intimidation-vote-rigging-and-diamonds>

Accessed Monday 28 July 2014

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

Amnesty International
BBC News
Electronic Immigration Network
European Country of Origin Information Network
Freedom House
Google
Human Rights Watch
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
International Crisis Group
IRIN News
Lexis Nexis
Minority Rights Group International
Online Newspapers
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