Solifonds, Quellenstrasse 25, 8031 Zurich, Switzerland fepa, Postfach 195, 4005 Basel, Switzerland

KASA - Kirchliche Arbeitsstelle Südliches Afrika, im Welthaus, Willy-Brand-Platz 5, D-69115 Heidelberg, Germany

Evangelisch-reformierte Kirchgemeinde Wohlen BE, Dorfstr. 9, 3032 Hinterkappelen, Switzerland

Mr. Billy Rautenbach Green Fuel 54 Edinburgh Road Harare Zimbabwe

Fax: +263 4 883245

Email: info@greenfuel.co.zw

Urgent Request regarding the livelihoods of the Chisumbanje and Chynamukwaka communities

Sir,

the undersigned organisations and individuals have been in contact with the communities of Chisumbanje and Chinyamukwakwa for a number of years. We have come to know them as successful farmers who have been able to feed their families from the land of their ancestors. Now their livelihoods are being threatened because your bulldozers have chosen the time of harvesting to destroy their crops, as they did in the previous three years. We are appaled by this action without compassion for the affected communities.

We are aware that there is a conflict about land, a contentious issue, which we believe should be solved amicably using structures like the recently dissolved DEPIC committee.

We are concerned not only about the social aspect of destroyed food crops but also about the possible prospects of outbreaks of violence caused by frustration and desperation.

We therefore urge you to do everything in your power to engage in peaceful talks and to call back your bulldozers.

Thanking you for having given attention to our concerns, we remain,

Yours respectfully,

Hans Schäppi

Simone Knapp

President of Solifonds KASA

Ueli Haller President of fepa Christian Cappis
President of the Parish
Council of Wohlen

Copies to:

- Government of Zimbabwe
- Embassy of Switzerland, Harare
- Embassy of Germany, Harare