



Oral Statement

Human Rights Council 45th session

Agenda Item 2 - Oral update by the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights

14 September 2020

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Thank you, Madam President.

Zimbabwe is facing a multi-layered crisis - that encompasses the COVID-19 pandemic, economic collapse, deepening poverty, food insecurity, corruption and human rights abuses. Recent arbitrary arrests, abductions, torture, prohibitions of demonstrations, limitations on the right to freedom of expression, have only deepened the crisis.

The World Evangelical Alliance, together with our member the Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe, urgently call on the Government of Zimbabwe to respect the right to life of Zimbabweans and to prevent abuse and violations of fundamental rights at the hands of law enforcement officials.

Due to the multi-layered nature of the crisis and the loss of trust in current national processes and institutions, the Government and the ruling party will not be able to resolve the issues facing the nation of Zimbabwe alone.

The World Evangelical Alliance and the Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe call for a dialogue to address the underlying causes of the current crisis, a dialogue that is transparent and that is inclusive of all components of Zimbabwean society.