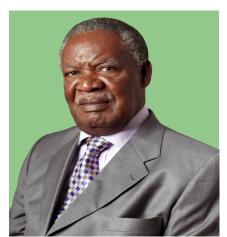


SADC CHAIRPERSON, H.E. ROBERT GABRIEL MUGABE'S MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES ON THE DEATH OF ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT LATE MICHAEL CHILUFYA SATA



The people and governments of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Region received with sorrow and heartfelt grief, the sad news of the passing on of one of the region's great leaders of peace, justice, equality and freedom, the late President of the Republic of Zambia, Michael Chilufya Sata.

Throughout his life, Michael Sata lived a humble life, as he identified with the everyday lives of the common masses of the Zambian people.

His humble beginnings provided hope for the down trodden and instilled a sense of selfless sacrifice. The legacy he left behind shall continue to inspire multitudes for generations.

We would like to assure the people of Zambia that we are with them in spirit during this their difficult moment in the history of their country as they mourn the loss of their democratically elected President. We are sure that the people of Zambia will remain calm and peaceful as they cherish the legacy of the late President Sata.

We wish the Sata family steadfastness and strength in this hour of their bereavement. It is humanly difficult to accept the reality of his passing on, but the family should remain consoled by the legacy of achievements he has bequeathed to Zambia.

We are appealing to all our SADC members to observe days of mourning until the date when the late President will be laid to rest.