

ZIMBABWE UPDATE:



FEBRUARY 25, 2019 / FRIENDS OF ZIMBABWE



EU sanctions a setback'

Zimbabwe Herald Reporter / Feb. 21, 2019

[excerpts]

Government (Zimbabwe) has described the continuation of European Union (EU) measures as a setback to re-engagement efforts, but says Zimbabwe will continue to mend relations.

Foreign Affairs and International Trade Minister Dr Sibusiso Moyo said this yesterday as he reacted to this (past) week's review of restrictive measures by the 28-member bloc.

His comments came as the ruling zanu-pf party expressed similar disquiet on the extension saying the embargoes had caused untold suffering to ordinary citizens.

Said Dr Moyo: "The continuation of any form of sanctions is not synonymous with Zimbabwe's re-engagement efforts. Government of Zimbabwe will continue to make efforts to solidify genuine re-engagement."

In a separate statement, Zanu-PF secretary for Information and Publicity Cde Simon Khaya Moyo urged the EU to listen to the calls by Sadc, the African Union and the entire progressive world to unconditionally lift the sanctions.

"These sanctions have caused untold suffering on our people and continued to be one of the most serious threats to our country's peace and democracy hence they must go, and go now," said Cde Khaya Moyo. He decried the agenda behind the sanctions and urged the opposition MDC in its various mutations to join the world and urge the EU to scrap the policy. Cde Khaya Moyo said progressive nations of the world had stood against sanctions on Zimbabwe.

"The zanu-pf position is that the EU should heed the calls by Sadc, AU and the generality of the internation-

al community to totally and unconditionally remove illegal sanctions in all their various forms and manifestations.

"Their maintenance represents continued interference by the concerning countries with the internal affairs of a sovereign State."

Ramaphosa visit: Zim, SA officials to meet

Zimbabwe Herald Reporter / Feb. 23, 2019

[excerpts]

Last week, the 28-member European Union bloc reviewed its restrictive measures on Zimbabwe, which was but a small token amid opposition to the embargo from progressive forces.

South Africa's Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Lindiwe Sisulu this week revealed that South Africa remained ready to help Zimbabwe, underscoring that the regional giant had a strong interest in having Zimbabwe as a peaceful and prosperous neighbour.

She said of sanctions against Zimbabwe was central to this and that sanctions would feature in the discussions between Presidents Mnangagwa and Ramaphosa.

President Ramaphosa has been a strident anti-Zimbabwe sanctions campaigner himself.

Last month, he took the campaign to the 49th edition of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland, where he publicly called for the lifting of the embargo.

The US remains adamant, tying the punishment of Zimbabwe and the ruling Zanu-PF to give an advantage to the opposition MDC-Alliance.