## <u>News story: Statement on targeting of</u> <u>opposition supporters in Zimbabwe</u>

Minister of State Harriett Baldwin said:

I am deeply concerned that the Zimbabwean security forces continue to target opposition supporters. I am following the case of Tendai Biti, a senior opposition figure who has been taken into custody by the Zimbabwean authorities and is facing criminal charges. The UK is watching closely how Mr Biti is treated and our Ambassador in Harare has made this clear to the government. We will continue to raise his case.

The government of Zimbabwe has the responsibility to ensure that the physical safety, and the human and constitutional rights of all of Zimbabwe's citizens are protected.

Once again, I urge all parties to ensure calm in the post-election period while any challenges to the result of the elections are resolved.

## Further information

- Follow Foreign Office Minister Harriett Baldwin @hbaldwin
- Follow the Foreign Office on Twitter <a>@foreignoffice</a> and <a>Facebook</a>
- Follow the Foreign Office on Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn

## Media enquiries

For journalists

Email <u>newsdesk@fco.gov.uk</u>

Newsdesk 020 7008 3100