

# ZIMTA MONTHLY BULLETIN

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## Teachers want consultations

### *What's New*

TEACHERS WANT  
CONSULTATIONS

.....

RIGHTS INFRINGED

.....

FREQUENTLY ASKED  
QUESTIONS

## *Teachers Want Consultations on Key Decisions*

by ZIMTA staff

Teachers have castigated the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education, (MopSE) for making impromptu decisions on crucial matters and more importantly without involving and consulting them.

This castigation comes on the backdrop of a shock decision by the Ministry to re-open schools during the first week of September after a Covid -19 pandemic induced lockdown.

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## ***Teacher Consultations Crucial***

by ZIMTA STAFF

...from page 1.....In a statement released by ZIMTA on the 27th of August, the ZIMTA Acting Secretary General, Goodwill Taderera said " As the nation prepares to re-open schools on the 30th of August this year, we note with concern the inadequate and or lack of information on the preparedness of schools and educators to handle learners and staff who have been subjected to the effects of Covid 19 in the third wave.

We believe that more consultations could have been done in order to ensure that stakeholders such as staff associations, parents, partners and communities are involved in mobilizing resources, to ensure that schools run smoothly and that Covid 19 infections and disruptions remain as minimal as possible."



**Mr Goodwill Taderera**  
**Acting Secretary General**

Taderera's remarks were made against the evidence that the educators, stationed all over Zimbabwe would have to work round the clock to ensure that they were prepared at short notice. The major concerns for the educators included having to manage huge class sizes during the pandemic era without or with limited quantities of personal protective equipment , (PPEs). "It was our main call throughout 2019 to date, that class sizes must be reduced to twenty learners per every teacher," he quipped

***"It was our main call throughout 2019 that class sizes must be reduced to 20 learners per every teacher."***

The availability of PPEs in schools had not been confirmed by the time of re-opening of schools.

" Availability of running water has been a non-negotiable demand for every school yet schools are re- opening without updates on this condition.

Although Educators have been aware of this eventuality of schools re-opening, insufficient notice to the re-opening dates puts many into a dilemma because preparations have to be done psychologically and financially at all levels," said Taderera.



## ***Learners' Rights infringed Unpon.***

By ZIMTA Staff

Living under level 4 lockdown in Zimbabwe has necessitated the closure of all schools and higher learning institutions, a reality which has been widely accepted, but this is one factor that has just widened the gap between the rich and poor folks in terms of accessing education. The facts on the ground seem to prove that unless a learner or student has means to acquire digital devices, they are unable to access education whose mode of transmission has largely become digital.

Mission schools, church schools, some council schools and others, a few super resourced government schools in urban centres have doubtlessly and evidently continued to deliver lessons through digital platforms during lockdowns, whereas in public schools where the majority numbers lie, processes have slowed down, because learners and educators have minimized or lost contact completely. To its credit, the government has established radio lessons for remote learning but reach is yet to be verified. More needs to be done.

It is the educator's conviction that citizens have a responsibility to push the government to invest in digital devices for public schools to enable meaningful online learning to take place. Ordinary Zimbabweans do not want to be left behind. Educators want to be capacitated with modern tools in the form of laptop computers for every teacher so that they can easily organize and deliver lessons on zoom and google classroom.

***"Accesss to Quality Education is A Constitutional Right!"***

Educators want the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education in Zimbabwe to provide the correct tools for modern learning by ensuring that every teacher is provided with a computer and data to deliver lessons during the lockdown era. Access to education is for every Zimbabwean. It is a constitutional right.





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# F.A.Q.S

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## **WHY HAS THE ASSOCIATION DELAYED IN RESPONDING TO ISSUES AFFECTING MEMBERS?**

The Association has escalated the issues to the Head of State and all this in an effort to improve the conditions of service for its members. From experience the Association has seen that direct engagement pays better dividends than public spates of insults and confrontation directed at the Government which in turn produces resistance and little movement.

## **WHY ARE THE LOANS NOT EXTENDED TO NON-RBF MEMBERS?**

The scheme will not afford such an additional demand that will entail loaning out about ZW800 million to its more than 40 000 members and at ZW20000 per member. This may result in the undesirable rise of subscription levels.

## **CAN WE GET INSTANT RBF LOANS ON APPLICATION?**

It is not possible because the loan application forms have to go to SSB to confirm that a member qualifies for an additional loan. The turn-around of the application depends on the availability of money for lending out to members.

However, the Association is receiving applications and processing them and members are encouraged to apply for the loans whose limit is still ZWL 20 000.00 given the 29000 members that have to be catered for from a facility of ZW40 million.