



INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS

Commission internationale de juristes - Comisión Internacional de Juristas

"Dedicated since 1952 to the primacy, coherence and implementation of international law and principles that advance human rights"

Johannesburg, 16th June 2009

ICJ congratulates ZLHR for winning the 2009 American Bar Association Rule of Law Award

P
R
E
S
S
R
E
L
E
A
S
E

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is delighted to learn that the 2009 American Bar Association Rule of Law Award will be bestowed upon its affiliate, Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR), for their considerable and persistent work in the promotion and protection of human rights and the Rule of Law in Zimbabwe. The ICJ wishes to congratulate ZLHR for winning this prestigious and well-deserved award!

The ICJ believes that this award bears testimony to the key role that ZLHR has tirelessly and fearlessly played to promote and protect human rights and the Rule of Law, within an extremely hostile environment. Despite many of its members falling victim to direct persecution in Zimbabwe, ZLHR have remained relentless and at the forefront of efforts to promote and nurture a culture of observance of human rights, the Rule of Law and democratic values into Zimbabwean political and legal institutions. The ICJ agrees with the often-stated position of ZLHR that sustainable peace and development in Zimbabwe can only be attained if there is full observance of human rights, respect for the Rule of Law and the effective breaking of the cycle of impunity.

The ICJ is convinced that by receiving this high honour from the world's largest legal fraternity, ZLHR will be reinvigorated in its human rights drive and commitment to excellence in making the Rule of Law an instrument of positive social, political, economic and cultural transformation in Zimbabwe.

For further information, please contact at the ICJ: +27 (011) 304 9646: Martin O. Masiga, Senior Legal Officer of the Africa Programme

The ICJ is an international non-governmental organisation comprising sixty of the world's most eminent jurists and has a worldwide network of national sections and affiliated organisations

33, rue des Bains, P.O. Box 216, 1211 Geneva 8, Switzerland
Tel: +41(0) 22 979 3800 - Fax: +41(0) 22 979 3801 - Website: <http://www.icj.org> - E-mail: info@icj.org