



## Council for a Community of Democracies

1801 F Street NW, Suite 308 ▪ Washington, D.C. 20006  
Tel: 202-789-9771 ▪ Fax: 202-789-9764 ▪ [www.ccd21.org](http://www.ccd21.org)

**To: Our Associates, African members of the International Steering Committee and ADF Leadership**

**TWO ALERTS: Action against the Governments of Egypt and Zimbabwe**

### **Constitutional Reform in Egypt**

CCD is calling on its International Associates to speak out and take action against the government of Hosni Mubarak following the Egyptian Parliaments ratification of constitutional amendments which [Amnesty International](#) has called the country's "greatest erosion of human rights" in decades. The amendments will give Egyptian police extensive arrest and surveillance powers, allow Mubarak to dissolve parliament unilaterally and place constraints on the electoral oversight of the judiciary. The amendments still face a public referendum, which the Muslim Brotherhood has announced they will boycott.

**ACTION:** Over the past weekend international protests themed "Another Referendum – More Authoritarianism," against these proposals, occurred in major cities world wide. These protests occurred in:

- 25 March 2007, at Tahrir Square, Cairo, Egypt
- 26 March 2007, at the Egyptian Embassy, London, England
- 26 March 2007, at the Egyptian Embassy, Washington D.C.
- 26 March 2007, at the Egyptian Consulate, New York, NY

People are encouraged to organize their own protests in other cities around the world. For more information and protests are they are organized, contact [nora.younis@gmail.com](mailto:nora.younis@gmail.com), or visit: <http://norayounis.com/2007/03/22/200>

### **Violent Repression against Opposition in Zimbabwe**

CCD also calls on Associates to protest the violent suppression of opposition leaders by the government of Zimbabwe. In response to the recent violent crackdown on opposition groups by President Mugabe, CCD has created a ["Country Watch" section of our web site](#) dedicated to keeping our viewers up to date with the latest news and background information. On March 13, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice condemned the actions of the Mugabe government and called for the immediate release of political prisoners. The escalating government-led oppression of basic human rights occurred last Sunday when police brutally broke up an anti-government rally. Opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai was severely beaten, tortured and taken into custody, along with other protesters

**ACTION:** NGOs in Southern Africa have issued a press release calling on the Southern Africa Development Community to intervene in Zimbabwe. For more information on the actions of these NGOs, please [read their press release](#) at CCD's [Zimbabwe Watch](#). CCD urges our associates, with other organizations, to speak out against the political violence in Zimbabwe.

**Contact:** *Josh Silva, Assistant Program Officer, Council for a Community of Democracies, 26 March 2007*