



THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**MEDIA SUMMARY – JUDGMENT DELIVERED IN THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL**

From: The Registrar, Supreme Court of Appeal  
Date:  
Status: Immediate

*Please note that the media summary is intended for the benefit of the media and does not form part of the judgment of the Supreme Court of Appeal.*

\* \* \*

When the North Gauteng High Court in Pretoria ordered the South African Government to compensate Mr Von Abo for the losses he suffered in Zimbabwe at the hands of that Government, it made vital mistakes of law. This is the conclusion reached by the Supreme Court of Appeal in a judgment delivered this morning.

The court recognised that the South African Government's response to Mr Von Abo's numerous requests for diplomatic protection was inappropriate. Despite that conclusion it found that the breach of the duty to respond appropriately to Mr Von Abo's request could not legally give rise to liability for damages caused by the Zimbabwean Government's violation of Mr Von Abo's human rights.