

# fidh

Fédération internationale des ligues des droits de l'Homme  
International federation of human rights  
Federacion internacional de los derechos humanos  
الجمعية الدولية لحقوق الإنسان



## OPEN LETTER

To the Honourable Benjamin William Mkapa  
President of the United Republic of Tanzania

To the Honourable Aman Karume  
President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar

28<sup>th</sup> November 2001

Your Excellencies,

The International Federation of Human Rights leagues (FIDH) and its organization member, the Legal and Human Rights Center (LHRC), are most pleased with the Agreement of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2001 between the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) and the main opposition party in Zanzibar (CUF).

As stipulated in the recommendations of the FIDH/LHRC report published in May 2001 "Zanzibar: Wave of Violence", we welcome in particular the agreement between the CCM and the CUF to establish an independent commission of inquiry into the violations of January 2001, to compensate the victims, to reform the Zanzibar Electoral Commission and the Constitution, and to train the police in human rights.

This agreement reinforces human rights, the rule of law, and democracy in Tanzania. We encourage all steps in this direction and we are prepared to provide any assistance within our resources with regard to the implementation of the agreement, in particular in training police and security forces.

We also welcome the Agreement's provisions to reform the judiciary, the media, the holding of by-elections and humanitarian assistance to victims of families. It is encouraging that refugees are returning to Tanzania and that some political prisoners have been released.

However, we strongly urge that all efforts be taken as soon as possible to ensure the implementation of the Agreement, and that no obstacle, be it political or legislative, obstruct its realization.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Kijo-Bisimba, Executive Director  
LHRC

Sidiki Kaba, President  
FIDH