

Campaign to stop deportation of Shamiso Kofi

Written by Administrator

Wednesday, 05 October 2011 20:40 - Last Updated Wednesday, 05 October 2011 20:40

Shamiso Kofi (aka Caroline Shamiso Tagarira) Home Office Ref No: T1142606

The Zimbabwe Vigil is campaigning to prevent the deportation of one of its regular supporters, Shamiso Kofi (also known as Caroline Shamiso Tagarira). There is a ticket booked for her to Kenya on Kenyan Airways on 4th October. There is no onward ticket to Zimbabwe which is puzzling as she is Zimbabwean and is unlikely to be allowed to stay in Kenya. Shamiso is particularly noticeable at the Vigil because of her strong lead in the singing and dancing. This means that she features prominently in many of the photos of the Vigil (selection attached) and therefore more at risk of being noticed by the authorities in Zimbabwe if returned.

We will be running the following petition at the Zimbabwe Vigil: "To the UKBA / Home Office. We, the undersigned, are worried about the proposed deportation of one of our regular supporters, Shamiso Kofi (also known as Caroline Shamiso Tagarira). She is one of our most passionate dancers and singers and is very noticeable at the Vigil because of this. There are many photos of the Vigil on the internet and in some of them Shamiso features prominently. We think there are serious concerns about her safety if she is returned to Zimbabwe because it is very likely she could be recognized and brutally treated. We appeal the UKBA / Home Office to halt this deportation on the grounds that Shamiso's safety is not certain if she is returned to Zimbabwe."

What you can do to help (from the Zimbabwe Association)

Contact Kenya Airlines, particularly by phone and fax as this ties up their phone lines and sends a strong message. Phone on 020 8759 7366 and 020 8283 1800 to urge them not to carry out the removal of Shamiso Kofi on

Kenya Airways flight KQ101@ 20:00 (8pm) on Tuesday 4 October from Heathrow, UK to Nairobi, Kenya.

Ask the airline to refuse to take Shamiso on their flight, explain that Shamiso is being forcibly removed against her will.

Ask why they are returning her to Kenya when she is NOT Kenyan.

If the person you speak to at the airline cannot help, ask to speak to someone in higher authority. Put as much pressure on this airline as you can, to make them consider if it's worth the damage to their reputation to continue as one of UKBA's deportation airlines.

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Fax and email Sam Okwulehie, Group Area Manager Kenya Airways. E-mail: contact@kenya-airways.com

Fax: 020 8745 5027 Head Office (Or from outside the UK + 44 20 8745 5027).

If you are able to fax letters this is great as it ties up their fax lines.

Please also contact MPs: Email or fax letters to Damian Green, Theresa May and Stephen McPartland to urge for the removal to be stopped. It is more important and powerful to write a simple letter in your own words. Please remember to include SHamiso's home office reference number in all your letters – H.O.Ref T1142606

The addresses to send to are:

Damian Green, Immigration Minister. Email: damian.green.mp@parliament.uk . Fax: 020 7219 0904

Theresa May, Home Secretary. Email: mayt@parliament.uk . Fax: 020 7035 4745

Stephen McPartland, MP for Stevenage. Email: Stephen@stephenmcpartland.co.uk