



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in South Africa

Mrs. Lara Johnstone  
PO Box 5042  
George East, RSA, 6539

Your reference:  
Your message of:  
Our reference: 131.4 MWC/MIV  
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**Pretoria, 11.01.2012**

Dear Mrs. Johnstone

Please find in enclosure the reply of the Presidents of the Foreign Affairs Committees of both Chambers of the Swiss Parliament to the petition you submitted through this Embassy in December 2010.

Yours faithfully,

The Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Switzerland

  
Claudia Thomas

Enclosure: mentioned

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Assamblea federala



Foreign Affairs Committees  
CH-3003 Bern  
Presidents

Ms  
Lara Johnstone  
Volkstaat Secession; or Jus Sanguinis Right of  
Return to Europe for African White Refugees  
PO Box 5042  
George East, RSA, 6539

11 January 2012

**Petition Boer Volkstaat. Jus Sanguinis. Right of return for African white refugees**

Dear Ms Johnstone,

In December 2010, you submitted the above-mentioned petition to the President of the Council of States, Mr Hansheiri Inderkum. We have considered this petition closely.

The Swiss practice in matters concerning recognition of states looks at three main criteria recognised under international law, notably the existence of a territory, a population and an effective government. From a legal point of view it cannot be said that the *Boer Volkstaat* fulfils these three requirements.

Furthermore, in applying Article 126, para. 4, let. A of the Parliament Act, we do not believe that your request can be sufficiently met by any specific parliamentary instrument.

We thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Andreas Aepli  
President of the National Council  
Foreign Affairs Committee

Hannes Germann  
President of the Council of States  
Foreign Affairs Committee