**Decision makers** by Konstantin Tarasov

"We have no choice. You must go. No you have not done anything wrong. Yes, I knew your father and your mother, we were even friends. Listen I know how big the problems with the employment in our country are. Every forth is out of work. The bad time has come for us. Someone has to leave. Yes, I have also children. I feel really sorry for you and your family, but we have to fire people."

It was the eleventh employee who gets bad news. It was the worst time of his career. He remembers the time as he has got a milk factory from his father. He was in the beginning of his thirties. He remembers his first time in a factory. It was a strange feeling of responsibility. Hundreds of people worked there. Every human would be happy to have any job, but Zazu set great store by good contact to his employers. The factory seems to be the oasis among the unemployment and sorrow in Africa.

It was very difficult for him to look people in the eyes while saying: "We do not need you anymore". In any western country a man would visit employment office or search a new job on his own. But in Africa it means being in danger of starving and die. A chance to find is very low.

He could try to explain what the reason is, but how could someone explain to an analphabet, being not a year in the school, what he saw in news. The problem was the new regulation of WTO which actually should help people to expand their sells to a worldwide market and pay low fees for import. The most countries welcomed it. But nobody thought what it would mean for the third world countries. Farmers in Europe are supported by the government, every cow "get" nearly 2$ a day. In Africa the agricultures have to care themselves. The result is the companies in Africa cannot sell milk for the prices which are lower than the production of the milk cost. The European farmers can. Now the African market is full of exported cheap milk and milk powder. Milk factories in Africa have to close. He imagines how the people would react if he would tell them this. They would accept it as a lame. They would not understand how a decision made in other country effect on their own jobs.

It was the worst time of his career. He has to speak to 89 people yet.