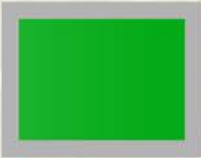


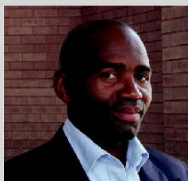
# AMAVA

## THE CATALYST FOR CHANGE

Emfuleni Local Municipality  
ANC Caucus Newsletter



# Content



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**“THE YEAR OF THE FREEDOM CHARTER AND  
UNITY IN ACTION TO ADVANCE ECONOMIC  
FREEDOM!”**

# Chief Whip's Corner



We meet again in the new year of 2015, declared a year of Freedom Charter by the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress through President Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at Cape Town Stadium, which was full to capacity amidst doomsayers wrongly prophesying failure of the January 8 event. The NEC has called all spheres of

government to focus on the ten commandments of the Freedom Charter in building a better life for all this year.

In this edition I wish to honour and respect a fallen soldier, Jonas Msiza who was the organiser and a party builder for the SACP, he indeed played a pivotal role in the struggle of our people as a member of all three components of tripartite alliance plus one. His indelible role in the struggle of making the people of Vaal better in particular on the housing aspect shall never be erased in the books of our revolutionary history. Hamba kahle guerrilla, sotsha lomkhonto, combatant and selfless servant of the toiling masses of South Africa in general and Vaal in particular.

I equally wish to congratulate one of our own in the municipality, the Chief Audit Executive Ms Jane Masitse for being appointed President of INCA; this proves we are gearing towards the right direction noting that we have achieved unqualified audit opinion for the past three financial years. It really shows that *SIYAQHUBA* as we have even reduced the audit findings by the Auditor General and that our eyes are fixed to the Clean Audit opinion in the next financial year. It takes an administrative battalion that is determined in the battlefield on its quest for a better municipality for the benefit of its people.

## Parliament

We have witnessed with flabbergast how our parliament which is meant to be the house of order as it is constituted by lawmakers in the land turn into a circus. It is indeed saddening to hear even comedians making a joke of it. A veteran leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party had to call order on the Economic Freedom Fighters and the Democratic Alliance for their misdemeanour after the deputy president of the Republic and the head of government business in parliament had intervened on behalf of the Executive for the smooth and dignified running of parliament.

From where I am standing I do not condone what occurred in parliament on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015 as it portrayed us negatively to the world when it was democracy undermined by the few. As the ANC we commend the efforts by the Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa for his continuous intervention, on the same breath we commend cadres of the ANC for avoiding to engage in aerobics of martial arts but rather debate with gusto the State of the Nation Address and giving clarity to the nation on departmental programs for the year ahead. We remain humbled and inspired by the wisdom displayed by the President of the Republic especially when he was responding to the opposition which was more or less same as his clarion call he made last year on the 20<sup>th</sup> June 2014 during his Mid-term State of the Nation Address.

This should be a lesson to us as we have seen other opposition parties being swallowed by this alien behaviour introduced by the EFF. We have seen COPE, DA and UDM joining in with an intention to retain their number as they fear that EFF will steal their shine in parliament.

## Elections in Lesotho

We wish to congratulate the people of Lesotho for their free and fair elections under the watchful eye of SADC. This is an indication that we are really moving towards having democratic states in Africa without an intervention from the West. This indicates that we are

now moving towards ensuring that there is stability in the continent under the stewardship of Nkosana Dlamini Zuma as the Commissioner and Robert Mugabe as the Chairperson.

## Service Delivery

We have witnessed a number of protests nationwide in the name of service delivery and fortunately in our municipality it has only been one isolated incident wherein genuine issues of the community of Boiketlong were hijacked by EFF demagogues in soliciting Boiketlong as their base in the Vaal. Fortunately the province was at an advance stage in terms of concluding the negotiations with the land owner; hence plans for electrification are afoot.

On the very same score EFF incited violence in Boiketlong which led to the burning of the Ward Councillor Nthebe's house in 2012. As the Zulu saying goes 'Ingalo yomthetho yinde', the four perpetrators were apprehended, and then convicted and sentenced to 16 years each in the Sebokeng court. What is painful in this case study is that the four accused are on their own with no trace of the EFF to represent them, let alone support them.

The issue of service delivery should be a point taken serious by the branches of the ANC in championing the plight of our people. We must remember that we remain the committees in defence of the revolution as the revolution cannot lead itself. We should remain central in defending the gains of the hard fought revolution. In essence we call on the revival of the Ward Committees and the realignment of the scope of operation of the Community Development Workers as these structures can yield better service delivery for our people if harnessed correctly.

The 2015 January 8 makes emphasis on the role of the branch of the ANC. It is the ANC cadre who must be involved in the ongoing challenges that our people face in our neighbourhood, community safety forums, school governing bodies and all organs of civil society, furthermore the Gauteng Provincial Conference held on the 3-4<sup>th</sup> October 2014 resolved that:

- Municipalities to prioritise investment and provision of basic services
- ANC and alliance structures to respond to local issues including illegal eviction, hijacking of unoccupied government buildings and land invasion
- The organisation to develop a performance appraisal for P.C.O management committee in relation to service delivery issues as part of enhancing and monitoring an evaluation system
- The ANC to take a strong stand against corruption in the provision of houses and also encourage communities to come forward with such cases
- The ANC to have a regional list of housing beneficiaries of RDP houses from government before development commences so that it can provide leadership when needed

It must be noted that the government is now more attentive to service delivery issues for the betterment of our people. This is in response to the concerns of our people/constituency that we are a bit slow in delivering basic services. We must at all times remember that the ANC remains the parliament of the people and therefore it should be a home to everyone we serve. Their issues should indeed find expression in government as we are a ruling party.

We must remember that the ANC is not a political organisation but rather a liberation movement meaning that we still remain committed to the revolving challenges that our people are faced with, in particular: poverty, unemployment and inequality. Withstanding these challenges our government is still committed in building better lives for our people hence the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs has developed a blue print on service delivery which municipalities are obliged to comply with and as Chief Whips through caucus we are called to play an oversight on 'Back to Basics' which among other things calls for:



- Municipalities to deliver on basic services i.e. basic electricity, basic water, sanitation and waste removals
- Municipalities to ensure that services such as grass cutting, patching potholes and fixing street lighting is provided for
- Extend reach of basic services to communities living in informal settlement by providing temporary services such as potable water, temporary sanitation services, grading of gravel roads and refuse removal
- Municipalities to ensure transparency, accountability and regular engagements with communities 'through public meetings'
- PR councillors to represent the interest of the municipality as a whole and ensure that effective oversight and leadership functions are performed.
- Municipalities to monitor and action complaints, petitions and offer feedback
- Conduct campaign on culture of payment on the services rendered by the municipality

These issues are non-negotiable from the side of government and it will not be the responsibility of government alone but together with the branches playing an oversight on governance issues at ward level. In the next issue we will release the service delivery program which will touch on grass cutting, street lighting, patching of potholes and waste removal in our areas. This is in light of the new fleet that has arrived to address service delivery challenges.

Much as we endeavour for service delivery as the municipality, it should also be borne in mind that these soft delivery issues are part of the operational budget which is derived from the revenue collection by the municipality from its residents. Thus far the report at our disposal indicates that it is only suburban areas that pay for rates and taxes whilst the former black townships i.e. Bophelong, Evaton, Sebokeng, Boipatong, etc. are not paying. We need to inculcate a responsible citizenry by encouraging all to pay for sundry services and in an event one falls within the bracket of indigent policy you should register at the municipality surety systems to indicate if you qualify or not. If you do not qualify ensure that you pay as we cannot and will never afford to remain a grant-reliant municipality moreover that we are en-route to the Metro which our financial viability remains one of the key factors.

In July, Caucus will be roving around four PCOs namely: Evaton, Sebokeng, Vanderbijlpark and Vereeniging. P.C.O with Members of the Executive, Members of the Provincial Legislature and Members of Parliament is trying to respond to the call by the ANC Provincial Conference and the President on service delivery. We will be engaging the community directly and providing solutions as the ruling party working with our people in making the lives of South Africans and Vaalies better.

## Media and the Revolution

Media in our understanding should be a space to shape the thinking of society towards a particular direction which the ruling class is gearing towards. The unfortunate part is that in South Africa the ruling class remains the Capitalist class which wants to build its hegemony through media at the expense of the working class who are the majority in the country. We find the two classes logged in the battle of ideas using the media as a tool but as indicated earlier, Capitalism has the upper hand as we find these media houses relying on its benevolence which compromises its independency.

In the Vaal we have more than three local community radio stations and all of them are privately owned and funded which means their agenda is not from the people. It can never be clear as to who is really funding these community radio stations as they all claim to be making their revenues through adverts of the capitalist market to the working class. They claim to be representing the interest of the working class and the poor in the name of protecting and advocating community interests when in essence they advocate the interest of the Capitalist few. The reality is that whoever presents a cheque for the well running of the radio station receives the audible attention and audience and even champions the

direction of the community radio station at the expense of the majority listeners. Unfortunately it is not everybody who is an intellectual to apply all tools of analysis towards a particular conclusion as others just swallow without munching.

One does not dictate what and how should our media houses report on government matters as in our view they play a pivotal role of being watchdog of the community and can and must be able to hold government accountable. This however does not permit our media houses to incite violence through unscientific and unbalanced questions during show time without balancing and researching on subject issues.

Enough said on that, we should also not drive these media houses away as we would be providing space for wrong ideologies but we should rather fight them on their territory. This we do by engaging openly in order to change the thinking of our people as they at times consume without deploying proper analysis but the question is; have we capacitated our people enough with such analysis so that they can be able to wage the battle of ideas on their own through the local mediums and social networks? We should at the same time apply revolutionary morality whenever we are either in the local medium or even the social network as we at time lose our being as scholars of Marxist and Leninist theory. We must remember Capitalism is never and has never been our friend but rather a class enemy (refer to the 1997 Strategy & Tactics) and therefore whatever we take to media should be of the public interest and not for us to fight internal battles through media as that make our glorious movement to be susceptible to attack by the class enemy which we would have given ammunition to.

## Education

It has become a custom for us during the beginning of the year to publish academic performance of our local high schools particularly matriculants; we also provide challenges bedeviling our schools in inhibiting good performance. The last article on education was about our role as stakeholders in the academic life of our children as parents. We must remember that the ANC is the parliament of the people therefore it should be us who ignite the culture of being responsible parents to our children in the society as part of healing our communities.

The reason we have AMAVA is that from time to time we should reflect on the current realities that require our intellect in working with our people towards a particular solution. On that note we wish to congratulate the matriculants who did well last year albeit the introduction of the new assessment system and encourage those who did not do well not to despair. We however wish to caution our society not to matricularise our education system as we do have other institutions that assist our learners especially those who are slow to grasp so they can learn on other technical learning as part of increasing the number of the artisans in the country in line with our Industrial Policy Action Plan. It is still a call that we made last year that let us all be involved in the academic lives of our children through SGBs, attending public meetings and being concerned on their daily school lives.

We congratulate all schools that have improved their performance in 2014; we note that it was not an effort of one person but rather a collaborated effort as said by the ANC that 'Working together we can do more'. The effort of all teachers arriving in time to teach, learners sacrificing the nice time as juveniles and parents doing and investing much more on the academic lives of their kids resulted in the improvement of schools like Ramosukula, Bophelong, Khutlo Tharo and Jet Nteo High School.

We also wish to commend Sedibeng District Municipality and Emfuleni Local Municipality for their immense contribution to the future of those who hail from the destitute families and yet performed well. Complements are also sent to Gauteng Provincial Government for giving more than two thousand learners bursaries so they can further their studies; this is an indication that the government of the ANC is indeed a caring government that understands that the future of this country lies in its youth.



At same breath we also commend the new technology introduced in Gauteng Province wherein seven high secondary schools received tablets replacing chalk, duster and chalkboard. "The Big Switch On Pilot project is the first step taken by the Gauteng Department of Education in modernising public education and responding to new education imperatives for quality education," Lesufi explained. All high schools in the province will go paperless by 2019, he said, adding that the project – which is much cheaper than procuring hardcopy textbooks – will cost about R17 billion to roll out. This project is the first of its kind in the public sector and was launched by the Deputy President Cde Cyril Ramaphosa, Basic Education Minister, Angie Motshega and other dignitaries in Tembisa Gauteng. This is an indication that we are gearing in the digital world...

#### **Siyaqhuba ngempela.**

#### **Attack on Foreign Nationals**

We have seen in 2008 the rise of the attack on the foreign nationals though the situation is now under control even though they're usually targeted by criminals during service delivery protests; they become victims as their shops are looted by criminals who take advantage of the instability in our communities.

What we have seen in the past few weeks in other areas, fortunately our area was spared from this act which seeks to drive our sisters and brothers from foreign land away, cannot be condoned. We hear the calls by the South Africans that these people contribute towards unemployment, poverty and crime in the country and our response as government is that lets have a dialogue in finding a peaceful long lasting solution in celebrating Africa month.

We need to remember that as South Africa we do not live in isolation but we are surrounded by many countries such as the ECOWAS, SADEC, East African States, etc. as the African continent. Secondly, NEPAD is still a living blue print that makes us borderless in advancing for economic development in the continent. We however note every South African is propelled to register as a citizen hence the ID's and therefore a principle of *mutandis mutandis* should apply by ensuring that foreign nationals in the country are registered and their reason for stay is known as indicated by King Zwelithini.

#### **Regional Conference**

As the Chief Whip of the ANC led municipality, I wish to take this moment and humble myself in congratulating the ANC for its watershed conference held at St' Georges in a historic month of April. On behalf of the Caucus and Whippers, I congratulate delegates for being disciplined from the beginning until the end which was during the subsequent week to adopting reports from commissions. I also congratulate delegates for carrying the mandate of branches with pride and honor in terms of resolutions taken at the conference, indeed this was a defining moment and lastly, I thank delegates for ensuring that they carry the mandate of branches in electing the leadership that emerged from the conference.

The wise man always cautions us that challenges begin in the moment of victory and that to whom much is given much is expected. We cannot be in a celebratory mood forever when we have a daunting task as the ANC to ensure that we create job-opportunities, reduce poverty, ensure peace and stability, advance infrastructure development, lead an accountable municipalities that are responsive to the needs of our people.

#### **Heritage statues**

This has been a campaign by the ruling party from the beginning hence the erection of Nelson Mandela statue at the Union Building, the freedom park in Bloemfontein and the renaming of our streets and towns in Kwa-Zulu Natal and Tshwane. Even here in Emfuleni we have taken a route of establishing a committee that will lead a process of renaming our streets and our buildings as part of transformation and nation building.

In due course we will also be passing a resolution in council for the removal of Hendrick Vanderbijl's statue from the headquarters of the municipality to the heritage museum, Technorama for preservation. It remains our view that we cannot behave like history never occurred but rather we need to take the Hungarian approach of correctly removing these heritage statues and preserve them for our children to learn from this rich history instead of destroying it as dictated by the EFF who wish to seek public attention at all costs including at the cost of dividing South Africa.

#### **21 Years of Freedom**

When a child turns 21 years as tradition the family throws him or her a party to symbolise her/his maturity stage, and so we do the same for our democracy. We struggled to be where we are even against the views of the rented analysts who wrongly prophesied that like many other countries, by the time we celebrate 20 years of democracy South Africa will be on disarray.

They cited many things that could lead us to the state of frenzy but we have proven them otherwise as after 21 years we have seen our people united against xenophobia; we have our judiciary still remaining a reputable institution; we have seen our parliament being redeemed from the rascals who wanted to become unruly; we have seen government at work to fight corruption, poverty, unemployment, rural development and ensuring that towards attainment of the National Development Plan our youth is educated.

#### **Land invasion**

I am aware that there is a concerted effort by the opposition, in particular the Economic Freedom Fighters, who are in the popularity contest to wow the hearts and minds of the unsuspecting South Africans by using wrong tactics that compromise the principles to which South Africa is underpinned, the principle of Nation Building, the principle of respect for the law and the principle of respect for democratic processes.

Minister Gugile Nkwinti under the stewardship of President Jacob Zuma is heading a process of land restitution and they have also audited the South African land in terms of its ownership. That process is aimed at ensuring that our people are given back their land and that government expropriates, in order to drive development for the benefit of our people. We cannot therefore fold our arms as the African National Congress and watch these efforts being undermined by people who call themselves revolutionaries when they have a narrow minded understanding of revolution.

As indicated earlier that we should work with state institutions to cease this barbaric act of invading land in the name of electioneering, we are not nincompoops to realise that this is an electioneering ploy at the expense of stability in the country. We should therefore as committees in defence of the hard fought democracy, defend our gains through educating our people about the dangers of invading land without permission by the authorities.

"...We congratulate all schools that have improved their performance in 2014; we note that it was not an effort of one person but rather a collaborated effort as said by the ANC that 'Working together we can do more'..."





# ANC January 8<sup>th</sup> Statement 2015



## Statement of the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress on the occasion of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the ANC

8 January 2015, Cape Town, Western Cape Comrades, Compatriots and Friends, We are celebrating 103 years of the existence of the African National Congress.

We are the ANC of John Langalibalele Dube, Sefako Makgatho, Zac Mahabane, Josiah Gumede, Pixley ka Isaka Seme, AB Xuma, JS Moroka, Nkosi Albert Luthuli, OR Tambo, Nelson Mandela, AB Xuma, Yusuf Dadoo, Billy Nair, Brian Bunting, Albertina Sisulu, Reg September,

Francis Baard, Johnnie Issel and many others.

We are the descendants of many warriors who fought against colonialism such as Autshumato, King Hintsa, King Makhado, King Cetshwayo, King Sekhukhune, King Moshoeshoe, Adam Koki and Nkosi Bhambatha.

These are some of the Giants, upon whose shoulders we stand one hundred and three years after the ANC was founded. The vision of the founding mothers and fathers of our movement

was confirmed by the people of South Africa, who gave birth to the clauses of the Freedom Charter at a Congress of the People in Kliptown, Soweto in 1955. It is our task to take forward the vision they forged over decades.

In this 103rd year of our formation we also commemorate certain notable anniversaries;

- We are celebrating sixty years since the Congress of the People in Kliptown, Soweto, where the Freedom Charter was adopted. This was a mass gathering of the people who came as delegates from every village, town and city.
- Despite the heavy presence of the Apartheid military machine, the spirit of South Africans acting in unity could not be dampened. We salute those heroes and heroines, who were fundamental in shaping the pillars of our democracy as enshrined in our Constitution.
- This year represents the fifty-fifth Anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre, where the Apartheid police brutally mowed down innocent citizens who were protesting against the unjust pass laws.
- We recall that it is thirty years since the ANC's Kabwe Conference, a truly watershed Conference in our Movement. The resolutions, taken in Kabwe, Zambia, consolidated the strategic objectives of the ANC to put in place a non-racial, non-sexist, united and democratic South Africa. It was in Kabwe, where leadership of our organisation was opened to all races after membership had been opened to all races in 1969 at the Morogoro Conference in Tanzania.
- The revolutionary trade union federation, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) was formed thirty years ago, and it remains the major fighting force for the rights of workers in South Africa. It is important that we maintain and protect the integrity and unity of COSATU.
- The Movement commemorates thirty years since the Maseru Massacre, the Uitenhage Massacre, the Trojan Horse Massacre right here in Athlone, the Duncan Village Massacre and other tragic incidents where innocent people were killed for protesting against the unjust laws.
- Victoria Mxenge was brutally assassinated thirty years ago and we honour her defiant spirit and heroism.
- Many of us here will remember that twenty five years ago the peoples' organisations were unbanned and we began the journey to transform our country from Apartheid.
- This year is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the re-launch of the ANC Women's League, whose objectives remain the emancipation of women and an end to patriarchy.
- A great South African, Isithwalandwe/Seaparankoe Joe Slovo, died twenty years ago. We remember him as a person of bravery, ingenuity and a revolutionary.
- We recall the KwaShobashobane Massacre of twenty years ago in Port Shepstone, which happened as a result of violence sponsored by the apartheid state against our people.
- Today the ANC National Executive Committee (NEC) reports back to our people on how far we have come in giving effect to the ideals of the Freedom Charter. We shall set out what the ANC will continue to do to build a united, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous South Africa, based on the sound principles of the Freedom Charter as articulated by the people of this country in 1955.

## **SOUTH AFRICA BELONGS TO ALL WHO LIVE IN IT**

The Preamble of the Freedom Charter reminds us:

"We, the People of South Africa, declare for all our country and the world to know that South Africa belongs to All Who Live In It, Black and White and that No Government Can Justly Claim Authority unless it is based on the Will of All The People".

Sixty years later, we celebrate the unity of the people of South Africa and the precepts of the Freedom Charter find expression in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

The Preamble of The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa proclaims: "We, the people of South Africa, recognise the injustices of the past, honour those who suffered for justice and freedom in our land, respect those who have worked to build and develop our country; and believe that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity."

With that Preamble it can be seen that the Constitution has its foundation in the Freedom Charter. Let us recognise that, under the ANC government, indeed the people govern. We have held democratic elections every five years. Every South African has the right to elect a government of his or her own choice.

The ANC can proudly say we have achieved a government based on will of the people and that all governments since 1994 can claim legitimate authority as the result of free and fair elections. We are committed to building a South African nation that is diverse. The birth of a nation is never an easy task. We began this journey by removing all forms of legislative and institutionalised discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion, culture and sexual orientation.

It is our task to work together to foster social cohesion and build a common South African nationhood. The National Development Plan (NDP) is an overarching plan and a vision to realise the ideals of the Freedom Charter to put in place a South Africa that belongs to all who live in it. The NDP sets out Vision 2030 for South Africa where key targets have been identified and specific steps are set out for implementation.

It is a long-term, national development plan that takes a strategic, wide-ranging view of the challenges and opportunities before us and is based on deliberate consultation with every sector of the South African public. It is a plan for dealing with unemployment, inequality and poverty, consistent with the National Democratic Society in both form and content. The ANC is the Movement best placed, as the leader of society, to bring hope to all South Africans around the vision of the NDP. To implement the NDP effectively, we must remain the most credible and be exemplary amongst our people.

Our people entrusted us, overwhelmingly, to give effect to the will of the electorate and we must do so according to the mandate upon which we were elected. Let us, therefore, give meaning to "Service to the People" and serve them with humility and dignity.

## **THE PEOPLE SHALL GOVERN**

Peoples' power has its roots in the manner in which the ANC elects its leaders.

ANC members have a say from the very first stages of how we select those who will lead us. The ANC enables our structures to nominate and vote for their preferred candidates through a series of democratic processes and eventually the National Conference of the ANC decides on national leadership. Similar processes apply when we choose those who will represent our people to all the legislatures and the national executive of the country.

This is a very dynamic and open process and is not found in many other parties in our country. The ANC strives to be a model of democracy and people-driven governance because we know what it means to be repressed and not have a say in your own destiny.

We must continuously guard against the manipulation of our democratic processes by those among us who wish to use the ANC for personal gain and self-aggrandisement. Our major task is to deepen discipline and service to the people at all time.





We must take charge of how we shape the future of the ANC. Let us rededicate ourselves to the core values of the ANC. These are unity, selflessness, sacrifice, collective leadership, humility, honesty, discipline, hard work, internal debates, constructive criticism and self-criticism and mutual respect. Let us root out those members and representatives who are corrupt, factional and who undermine the unity and cohesion of this great Movement.

South Africans also have a big say in formal government structures. We have a peoples' Parliament and ordinary South Africans now have unprecedented access to legislatures and their representatives. Our law-making is through consultative processes and often includes public hearings. There are instances where legislatures hold hearings in far-flung towns and villages so that they make sure that even the most remote voices are heard.

The NDP calls on our people to be part of an active citizenry and to take greater collective responsibility for our own development. The NDP is a call to all South Africans to unite behind a common goal of building a democratic and prosperous country. This call in the NDP must be led by the ANC.

It is the ANC cadre who must be involved in the ongoing challenges that our people face in our neighbourhoods, community safety forums, school governing bodies and all organs of civil society. Our primary message to all members and branches is that the ANC belongs to all the people of South Africa that is why it is called a liberation movement.

The duty of members is to organise people and draw them into the ANC. The NDP is our blueprint for taking this country forward and must guide how we become our own liberators!

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

- In this Decade of the Cadre; the first task is to engage in the Imvuselelo Campaign which intends to regenerate the ANC at a grassroots level. The primary objectives of the Imvuselelo Campaign are:
- Focused and sustained membership recruitment for the quantitative growth of the organisation.
- Enhancing the quality of membership through programmes targeted at raising political consciousness and ideological depth.
- Building strong and vibrant ANC structures at grassroots level that are able to provide leadership to government and society.
- Our branches must therefore serve as the leading force to address issues in their communities through the establishment of street committees. It is the ANC that must forge the spirit of volunteerism amongst our people.
- Each branch of the ANC must hold regular branch meetings and regular meetings with the community on issues that affect our people. ANC members must actively serve their communities through activities such as volunteering their time and services to clinics and schools.
- The ANC must remain a constant factor in the daily lives of communities to promote a sense of civic duty. This must be replicated at zonal and regional levels.
- Our ANC branches must play a leading role in influencing all community involvement aimed at building legitimate institutions of governance and shaping our future. ANC Members must be familiar with the recommendations of the NDP; and must consequently be at the forefront of contributing towards implementation of NDP.
- The ANC relies on its Women's League to lead efforts, aimed at the total emancipation of women in our society. The emancipation of women is not the responsibility of the Women's League only, but the responsibility of all members and leaders of the ANC. However, the Women's League must take the lead in mobilising all sectors of society in an effort to end patriarchy and the discrimination of women in South Africa.
- We urge the Women's League to move speedily towards holding their national conference given that they have not had one since 2008. We must rekindle the spirit of Lillian Ngoyi, Albertinah Sisulu, Amina Cachalia, Ray Alexander and Helen Joseph, amongst others, to inspire our women to take forward all issues that affect women directly in every community throughout our country.

- We are increasingly becoming a youthful society as 60% of our population is young people. The youth of today is much more educated, more mobile and connected to each other through various social media platforms.
- The challenges that face our country, especially the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality have a negative impact on young people. We need to give the youth hope that the future is in their hands. Let us prepare our young people to embrace that brighter future.
- South Africa needs a strong, vibrant ANC Youth league to ensure that the progressive future of our country is guaranteed. We need the political clarity of an Anton Lembede, the militancy of a Peter Mokaba, the courage of a Solomon Mahlangu and an Ashley Kriel and the pragmatism of a Walter Sisulu in the ANC Youth League. Our youth, today, need to emulate leaders of that caliber. They should be militant, politically clear, courageous - militant but disciplined.
- We owe the progress and achievements; we take for granted today, to those who came before us. They had the courage to take on the might of the oppressive state and forged the fountain of our democratic dispensation. Our Veterans League must consist of men and women with over forty years of unbroken service in the ANC and who are over sixty years of age. This will ensure that the ANC's institutional memory is passed on from generation to generation.

#### **ALL NATIONAL GROUPS SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS**

After twenty years of an ANC government, we can declare unequivocally that South Africans have equal rights, which are entrenched in the Constitution.

It is our wish that we deepen these rights and the access of our people to courts, the institutions of state and schools, hospitals and other public facilities. The ANC will also continue to strive to improve the quality of government services for all our people, wherever they live.

The ANC celebrates our Constitution and that the many laws that criminalise discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion and other grounds have been removed. We are very proud of our Constitution as it flows directly from the Freedom Charter and the fundamental beliefs of our Movement.

Many of our comrades and leaders made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We must not be blind to the reality that many of our people still live in abject poverty and have little access to government services. We must continuously strive to improve their lot. The people of our country ask only that we serve them properly and this we must do without hesitation.

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

- ANC Members have a duty to defend our Constitution and the laws of our country. We must be exemplary in our conduct and be at the forefront of transforming the justice system and other sectors to be more accessible to all.
- We are calling on all our members to actively promote all rights and freedoms and to fight all forms of discrimination, in all its manifestations.

#### **THE PEOPLE SHALL SHARE IN THE COUNTRY'S WEALTH**

South Africa is a much better and different place today than it was before 1994. The overwhelming majority of our people live in conditions which are vastly different from what it was, even ten years ago. More people have access to housing, better and more equal access to basic services, more households have been electrified, there have been enormous advances in healthcare and education and economic opportunities have been opened to the people. The ANC has been at the forefront of creating the possibilities for the much bigger middle class we have today.

We will make sure that the middle class, particularly the black middle class, continues to grow. However, the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality persist and the task of the ANC in the second phase of the democratic transition is that of RADICAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION.



This represents a fundamental break with the ownership patterns of the past and the putting in place of a South Africa that belongs to all who live in it.

We are deracialising the South African economy. The ANC government is taking steps to enhance its developmental role and create a more conducive environment to achieve that objective.

Monopoly capital still has an unhealthy effect on our economy. We must break the stranglehold of monopoly capital on our economic development. It is imperative that the Competitions Commission continues to address monopolistic, collusive and anti-competitive behaviour and become even bolder in their preventative and punitive measures.

Our economic development also depends on our ability to untangle the reams of red tape that stifle the unleashing of the full potential of our economy. The NDP guides interventions that make the most difference to the quality of life of our people, particularly the poor. Within this context, the ANC government remains committed to the programmes envisioned under the New Growth Path (NGP) and Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP). These programmes aim to improve re-industrialisation, expand and diversify our manufacturing sector and create sustainable jobs across various sectors. The ANC government has also established the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission to bolster job creation, accelerate economic transformation and improve service delivery. We shall do this by improving and maintaining water, energy, hospital, education and transport infrastructure among other key projects. This is in line with the priorities of the NDP and its success calls for investment and participation of government, business, labour and civil society.

The vast mineral wealth of our country, which lies beneath the soil, has been transferred to the ownership of the state on behalf of the people as per the provisions of the Freedom Charter.

However this has not yet translated to equal and full benefit of all South Africans. The ANC commits itself to continue working with our people to ensure that there is enhanced benefit from this ownership. This year, we must finalise the amendments to the applicable laws to ensure that mineworkers and mining communities share, much more equitably, in South Africa's mineral wealth.

Banking has become much more accessible to the majority of South Africans, but the excessive bank charges and fees mean that many people still cannot afford bank services. The ANC government is moving ahead with our efforts to establish a bank directly linked to and administered by the Post Office (Post-bank).

The ANC is committed to a South Africa where entrepreneurship can flourish. Economic development, job creation and a better life for all are our end goals in these endeavours. The establishment of a small business ministry is welcomed. Our people are able to trade freely and freedom of movement is enshrined in the Constitution, but we are aware that economic capacity inhibits the movement of people.

The ANC continues to massively improve the public transport system throughout the country to make sure that people can move between home and places of work more freely and safely. It is important that food security and farming as an economic activity be improved. Therefore, ANC government must radically step up efforts to provide extension services to rural areas and will assist small and medium-scale farmers to access the support available to them. We have electrified more households, since 1994, than in all the years under the colonial and Apartheid regimes. Our economy has also grown and many new businesses are operating in this country. As a consequence, this growth is placing more strain on the electricity grid than at any other time in our history.

Our country needs creative and pragmatic solutions to this problem to guarantee security of supply for our energy needs. In line with the recommendations of the NDP, the ANC government is accelerating the pace to bring the Medupi and Kusile power stations onto the grid and we are licensing Independent Power Producers.

We are assessing projects in the region which have the potential to produce power in the short term. We continue to evaluate options to maximise our energy mix including coal, gas, nuclear, solar and renewable. The ANC is therefore putting energy as one of our apex priorities. The price of oil is unpredictable and the recent drop in the price is an important development. As long as the oil price remains low, the ANC calls for businesses to pass on the benefits to our people. We call on households to use this opportunity to reduce their debt burden and save more.

We cannot ignore the scourge of corruption that eats at the fabric of our society and constrains economic development. The ANC must continue to lead in ending corruption in the state, the private sector and amongst our own membership!

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

- ANC branches must take an active interest in the development of local economies through encouraging local entrepreneurs. It is important that procurement of services benefit local communities.
- ANC branches must work more closely with our Alliance partners on their financial sector campaigns to make banking services even more affordable to our people and to ensure that this sector becomes more diversified.
- ANC members and structures must ensure that the values that inform the role and outlook of the middle class are consistent with our historic values, namely sacrifice, accountability and integrity.
- We call on our members and all South Africans to support our government in all efforts to save energy and to be part of finding a solution to this national challenge.

#### **THE LAND SHALL BE SHARED AMONGST THOSE WHO WORK IT**

Land has been at the heart of the historic injustice of dispossession and the stripping the dignity of the African people. The majority of our people can mainly trace their suffering and deprivation back to land dispossession.

The ANC Government has restored nearly 3,2 million hectares of land. Where people have chosen to receive financial compensation, government has paid out more than R18 billion between 1995 and November 2014. Altogether, nearly 1, 8 million claimants have benefitted from this programme during this period. However, we are deeply concerned about the pace of land redistribution and will continue to balance the national interest of restoration, economic development and food security.

We reassert the correctness of the Constitution, but admit that usage of the 'willing buyer: willing seller' policy went on for far too long and had unsatisfactory results.

Our Constitution is very clear on this matter and states: Property may be expropriated only in terms of law of general application.

- a) for a public purpose or in the public interest; and
- b) subject to compensation, the amount of which and the time and manner of payment of which have either been agreed to by those affected or decided or approved by a court.

The amount of the compensation and the time and manner of payment must be just and equitable, reflecting an equitable balance between the public interest and the interests of those affected... "



We commit that the land will be returned to our people and the ANC calls on its government to act with the necessary speed to put the legislation in place, this year, to ensure that this happens!

Expropriation will be done in line with the Constitution and the Act to be passed this year. There is no greater public interest than returning the land to the people! The ANC calls on farmers to do more to improve the lives of farm workers and farm dwellers on their farms.

We call on our government to take decisive steps to prevent the evictions of farm-workers, the indigent and the poor. The efforts of trade unions, in the agricultural sector, are contributing towards improving working conditions on farms.

Whilst the heinous tot-system has been legally abolished, some farmers are still practising the use of alcohol as a form payment. This is an issue that the ANC and its alliance partners must engage in as a campaign to expose and end this practice.

How land is allocated for commercial, residential and leisure developments is an important matter that every ANC branch must be intimately involved with across all communities. We must strike a proper balance between the use of land for food security purposes as well as other uses.

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

- All ANC branches must monitor the speed with which the government accelerates the implementation of land restitution.
- Our branches must educate themselves about legislation that prevents evictions (The Protection of Illegal Evictions Act) and lead efforts to protect farm workers and farm-dwellers.

#### **ALL SHALL BE EQUAL BEFORE THE LAW**

A key cornerstone of any democracy is an effective, independent, impartial and accessible justice system.

We must remain steadfast in our efforts to protect the separation of powers between the executive, legislature and the judiciary. We can boldly state that laws which discriminate on the basis of race, gender and other prohibited grounds have been removed.

We can also say that equality before the law and the justice system can be unduly affected by economic status as well as the attitudes of those who interpret the law.

The transformation of the judiciary remains a priority for the ANC and we shall work continuously to ensure that the judiciary represents all South Africans. There can be no true transformation of any system, without a mind-set change by the people in the system.

The ANC calls on some in the judiciary, to apply the law and the Constitution without fear, favour or prejudice and to resist the temptation to do otherwise.

The ANC will also insist that the state prosecutorial and defence services are of standards that are comparable to international best practice.

We are now seeing a gradual, but steady decline in serious crime. However, crime still remains a major social and economic challenge. The ANC urges communities to participate fully in the various community safety forums and work with the South African Police and other law enforcement agencies to fight crime.

It is only by working together that we can eradicate crime from our communities and also hold the police accountable should they act outside the boundaries of the law.

We condemn, in the strongest of terms, the killing of law enforcement officers and urge communities to work with the police to eliminate this scourge. The ANC condemns the violent crimes against women, children, the elderly and members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) community. These attacks are despicable and they must be stopped.

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

- ANC members must play a leading role in interactions with Community Safety Forums and our branches must be at forefront of efforts to ensure safety in our communities.
- Branches must be active in community education on laws, rights and duties of South African citizens. Once people are aware of their rights and responsibilities, they are then better able to live as responsible citizens and to respect one another, our laws, public property and the authority of the state.
- ANC members are urged to participate in the campaigns against all forms of violence and also to report, to law enforcement agencies, any knowledge regarding these attacks.

#### **ALL SHALL ENJOY EQUAL HUMAN RIGHTS**

South Africa is steadily emerging from a history of injustice, repression and the dehumanisation of the majority of our people. The Freedom Charter emboldened the drafters of the Constitution to ensure that the rights of the people in South Africa are set out in the Bill of Rights and entrenched in our constitution.

The ANC has always put human rights above any other consideration and calls upon the state to continue to respect, protect, promote and fulfil the rights enshrined in the Bill of Rights. Our Bill of Rights, which is justifiable, enjoins the state to implement measures to promote dignity, freedom of security and the person, equality, freedom of religion, belief and opinion, freedom of expression, assembly, demonstration and picketing and freedom of association.

South Africans have the greatest freedoms available to them and we must work together to exercise these rights and freedoms in a manner that does not infringe on the rights of others in society. We call on citizens to respect the rights of one another. Our Constitution has created various institutions to support democracy such as the Human Rights Commission, Commission for Gender Equality, Public Protector, Auditor General, Independent Electoral Commission and the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities.

This Constitution empowers the ANC government to take measures to protect or advance those people or groups of people, who have been discriminated against under Apartheid.

Economic opportunities and resources remain largely locked in historical patterns. We will, therefore, continue to implement affirmative action and broad-based black economic empowerment in a manner that advances historically disadvantaged individuals.

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

The ANC calls on all our members and South Africans as a whole, to promote the Bill of Rights, to live according to the Freedom Charter and the Bill of Rights and to accept the responsibilities that come with these freedoms.

#### **THERE SHALL BE WORK AND SECURITY**

The right of workers to form and belong to trade unions is enshrined in the Constitution. The ANC has put in place a range of laws such as the Labour Relations Act, the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, the Employment Equity Act and other mechanisms to protect workers' rights and bring about equality in the workplace.

We are concerned that the transformation of the workplace is not taking place fast enough. Semi-skilled and unskilled workers, in South Africa, remain highly vulnerable to exploitation and we urge all trade unions to ensure that no worker is left unorganised at the factory floor, shops, domestic work, farms and on the mines. An unorganised worker is an exploited worker.

A national minimum wage for South Africa will be a progressive step forward.



The ANC, together with our Alliance partners, are investigating the modalities of implementing a national minimum wage. When our strategic ally, COSATU, was going through a challenging period, the ANC as the leader of the Alliance, sought to intervene to assist COSATU to find solutions to the problems that threatened to divide the organised working class.

We reiterate that the integrity and unity of COSATU is non-negotiable. The ANC will continue to support the decisions that COSATU makes as an independent partner of our revolutionary strategic Alliance. The NEC calls on all workers not to allow themselves to be divided and to remind themselves that when the labour movement is divided, the only winners are the bosses.

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

- Protect the unity of the strategic revolutionary alliance between the ANC, SACP and COSATU as well as SANCO. The strategic Alliance was forged through decades of solidarity and struggle and our members have a revolutionary duty to protect the integrity and the unity of the Alliance.
- We call on all members of the ANC, all members of the SACP, all members of COSATU and all members of SANCO to join hands and close ranks to defend the revolutionary strategic alliance that is a bulwark against all attacks on our nascent democracy.
- We call on all those who love democracy to encourage and protect the unity of our people.

#### **THE DOORS OF LEARNING AND CULTURE SHALL BE OPENED**

Education continues to be our number one priority. The ANC has made great strides in ensuring that education and training is available to all and in addressing the injustices of the past. Focusing on reversing the systemic impact of apartheid education, we have put in place a comprehensive and integrated education system.

South Africa spends about 5% of its GDP on basic education and 1.4 % on higher education. This is showing significant results. Pre-school education has expanded massively. There is gender parity in school enrolment and we are doing really well in terms of the matric pass rate. We congratulate the class of 2014.

We are also showing steady improvements in tertiary education and student financial aid is increasing all the time. Our figures show that more than 1.4 million students have benefited from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS).

However, we are concerned at the escalating costs of tertiary education and the annual raising of fees by universities and other institutions of higher learning. This escalating cost has become another source of exclusion for the poor and vulnerable South African child. While we appreciate the autonomy of universities, we must caution universities against excluding students on the basis of price and race.

South Africans are now free to enter any profession they wish and the biggest limitation to this right is often people own internal capacities.

The ANC government assists, in many ways, to make sure that our people can express this right freely. For too many years, the majority of our people were prohibited from giving expression to their cultures. Our songs, our plays, our practices and most other forms of expression were regarded as unacceptable.

The ANC says to our people; sing, dance and express yourselves in all your wonderful diversity! It builds our national identity and collective pride as South Africans that act in social solidarity with one another and advances our common purpose.

#### **Tasks of the Movement:**

- Our Movement must be at the forefront of efforts to sustain and improve the quality of education and we must be an integral part of making the national curriculum reflect our developmental imperatives.
- ANC members must promote the constitutional rights of all South Africans to express their culture.

#### **THERE SHALL BE HOUSES, SECURITY AND COMFORT**

The ANC can certainly celebrate the fact that in the past twenty years we have made unprecedented progress in delivering water, electricity, sanitation and refuse removal to millions who were denied these services by apartheid and colonial regimes.

Local government has been at the forefront of these tremendous achievements. Despite this, the governance of many of our municipalities is a cause for serious concern. Local government is the sphere of government that is closest to our people.

Every single cadre of our movement must know that his or her responsibility is to make local government function better by getting the basics right – wherever they have been deployed.

Getting back to basics means working tirelessly to ensure that municipalities provide water, electricity, parks, street lighting, refuse removal, repairing of potholes, dealing with the frustrating interruption of services and the problems with billing systems.

Getting back to basics means providing these services in a professional and caring manner that recognises the human dignity of each resident. We are here to serve the people, the people are not here to serve us. We must build a caring ANC. ANC branches must champion the interests of communities wherever they are found. Our people need to know that the ANC is their trusted ally and there is no issue that is too big for the ANC to resolve nor too small to warrant its attention.

Getting back to basics means actively communicating and interacting with the community in every ward. Getting back to basics means fighting fraud and corruption and reviewing tendering systems in local government. Getting back to basics also means working harder to expand poverty alleviation programmes such as the Community Works Programme, which provide skills and work opportunities for our people.

Apartheid forced the majority of our people to live far away from economic and social opportunities and services. This legacy of separation, division and exclusion must be defeated. The legacy of apartheid spatial patterns and the challenges of rapid urbanisation must be confronted through integrated urban development that is linked to the development of our rural areas. Our ANC government gives poor people free houses and we are very proud that we have delivered housing to millions of people.

We remain committed to providing universal health care to our people and the ANC is happy to report that the National Health Insurance Scheme is now being moved to more pilot sites that will cover all nine provinces.

South Africa has turned a corner in the fight against HIV and AIDS and Tuberculosis. but we want to remind our people that many people still lose their lives to these two preventable diseases. All people, in our country, must take responsibility for ensuring that they are active in combating these and other communicable diseases.

We support efforts to improve the security and efficiency of supply of critical services in the health sector, such as cleaning, food, laundry and others. The ANC government has decided that these services will no longer be outsourced.



Children under the age of six, pregnant women and the indigent are entitled to free medical care at public health facilities. The ANC government also provides nutrition at public schools through the National School Nutrition programme.

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

- We must de-racialise communities so that a new and more cohesive society can be built. All residents, black and white, must enjoy the benefits of development equally. This requires all our branches to lead in building cohesive communities.
- Getting the basics right will require leadership and commitment at all levels of our organization and across government. We must be at the forefront of mobilizing all sectors of society in a campaign to get back to basics. ANC public representatives must serve with humility, selflessness, honesty and dignity. They must also be self-critical, open to criticism and responsive to their constituencies.
- The ANC must be actively involved in the campaigns against HIV and AIDS and TB.
- The ANC is calling on our people to participate in the healthy lifestyles campaign and to take responsibility for living longer and healthier lives. Engage in physical exercise, stop smoking, eat healthier and eliminate the abuse of alcohol and drugs.

#### **THERE SHALL BE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP**

In his address to the First Congress of our sister movement, the MPLA in Luanda, Angola in 1977, our President Oliver Reginald Tambo said: "We seek to live in peace with our neighbours and the peoples of the world in conditions of equality, mutual respect and equal advantage".

We are proud members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the African Union, the United Nations, Socialist International and many other international organisations. We believe that there can be no development without peace.

South Africa has thus, at the request of the AU and the UN, committed many young men and women in peace-keeping missions on the continent. We express condolences to the families of those men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the pursuance and defence of peace and development. The ANC congratulates all our sister parties on the Continent and the world, who have won elections during 2014. Special congratulations must go to those parties of the Former Liberation Movements who won at the polls last year. On a more worrying note, the ANC is deeply disturbed by the killing of civilians in any conflict and, again, extends our condolences to those families who have lost loved ones in political and other types of conflict.

We call on all peoples to concentrate on finding more peaceful mechanisms to resolve conflict and the ANC strongly condemns acts of violence and terrorism committed against innocent civilians, most especially women and children. We condemn the rape of women in general, but in particular the abduction and rape of women and young girls as an act of war.

We continue to advocate for peace in the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Mali and the Democratic Republic of Congo and other parts of the continent. We remain committed to assisting in various ways in efforts to build lasting peace and security.

The ANC pledges our ongoing solidarity with the people of Palestine, Cuba and Western Sahara. The ANC re-affirms our continued solidarity with the people of Palestine and will continue to play a constructive role in finding a lasting resolution of the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

Our Movement, together with other progressive organisations, have tirelessly campaigned for the release of the Cuban Five. We celebrate the release of the remaining three members of the Cuban Five and the reciprocal actions by the Cuban government. We commend this positive step taken by President Raul Castro and President Barack Obama. The ANC wishes both Cuba and the United States well in further moves to improve diplomatic relations between these two countries.

The ANC re-affirms our ongoing solidarity with Cuba and the Cuban people and will continue to offer support for an end to the US economic blockade. Western Sahara remains one of the last bastions of colonialism on the African continent and the ANC calls on Morocco to end the occupation of Western Sahara. We, therefore, call for the Saharawi people to be given the right to self-determination immediately.

The ANC will continue to consolidate and strengthen existing party-to-party relations with like-minded sister parties all over the world. We will also forge new relations with other progressive organisations and will work with other governing parties on issues of common interest.

In pursuance of new South relations, the ANC fully supports the inclusion of South Africa in the group of developing nations, Brazil, Russia, India and China that cooperate on a similar set of strategic interests. We are excited at the notion of trade, political, economic and social exchange that will result from the BRICS relationship. We congratulate these countries on the establishment of the BRICS Development Bank with its headquarters in China and the regional centre in Johannesburg, South Africa. The ANC is a disciplined force of the left and remains an internationalist movement of the left.

#### **TASKS OF THE MOVEMENT:**

- ANC branches must play a more active part in solidarity campaigns on Palestine, Western Sahara and Cuba. This will also require a greater effort in educating our people on the historic and strategic origins of such solidarity.
- It is becoming even more important for our Movement to celebrate Africa Day on the 25th of May and to promote the African Agenda of economic and political integration. Let us promote the singing of the AU Anthem. We must continue to highlight the importance of realising the AU Agenda 2063 that speaks to pan-Africanism, a sense of African unity, self-reliance and solidarity. These are critical to Africa's success.
- The ANC must play an increased role in the reform of international institutions such as the United Nations Security Council and the Bretton Woods institutions on principles of equity and fairness.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Sixty years ago at the end of the Congress of the People, facing the wrath of the apartheid machine, our forebears pledged: "These freedoms we will fight for, side by side, throughout our lives, until we have won our liberty".

Today, as South Africans, we pledge to leave no stone unturned until we have achieved economic freedom for we know that political freedom without economic emancipation is incomplete. Let us continue to serve our people!

#### **OBITUARIES**

We have lost many ANC cadres during 2014 and express our condolences to the families of all the deceased comrades, including: Martha Mahlangu, Reggie September, Epainette Mbeki, Masefako Sophia Motlanthe, Caroline Motsaedi, Yolanda Botha, Michael Coetzee, Elizabeth Mbatha, Nosipho Ntwanambi, Sisi Mabe, Florence de Villiers and others.

**THE ANC LIVES!**

**THE ANC LEADS!**

**THE NEC DECLARES 2015**

**THE YEAR OF THE FREEDOM CHARTER AND UNITY IN ACTION TO ADVANCE ECONOMIC FREEDOM!**



# *On the Chair*

Premier of Gauteng  
MR. DAVID MAKHURA



## MR. DAVID MAKHURA, PREMIER OF GAUTENG

Malemolla David Makhura was born on 22 February 1968 at Mara Buysdorp in Soutpansberg District of Limpopo province, near Mapungubwe World Heritage Site.

Between 1997 and 2001, he was the National Education Secretary and subsequently the Deputy General Secretary of the National Education Health & Allied Workers' Union (NEHAWU). He was also a member of COSATU's Central Executive Committee and served in the Political Commission and Education Committee of the trade union federation during the same period.

Between 2001 and 2014, he served as the ANC Gauteng Provincial Secretary and member of the PEC and an ex-officio member of the National Executive Committee. He served in several sub-committees of the ANC National Executive Committee – Drafting, Political Education, Organising & Campaigns.

He was the First Convener of the South African Communist Party National Youth Desk (predecessor to the Young Communist League of SA).

Overseeing policy implementation and governance was one of Makhura's responsibilities as the ANC provincial secretary.

Makhura holds a Master of Science (MSc) degree in Public Policy and Management from the University of London and is studying towards a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Future Studies at the University of Stellenbosch.

Premier Makhura is a trustee of the Board of the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation. He is married to his wife, Mpho and they have three children.

David Makhura was elected Premier of Gauteng, South Africa's most populous province and economic hub of the country, on 21st May 2014, making him the sixth Premier of Gauteng.

When he assumed duty as Premier he promised to build an activist government which will transform, modernise and re-industrialise Gauteng. His vision to transform Gauteng to an integrated, sustainable, socially cohesive and economically inclusive City Region gave birth to the ten pillar programme of radical transformation, modernisation and reindustrialization.

This ten pillar programme will become the key focus for government action in the next five to fifteen years.

Makhura believes that the vision of a Gauteng City Region can only be achieved through greater collaboration and cooperation among all spheres of government as well as meaningful partnerships involving the international community and the private sector.



# 12<sup>TH</sup> SEDIBENG REGIONAL CONFERENCE



## REGIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT

The conference commenced on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2015 just after registration in the morning, the historic day in the calendar of the ANC as on this day we commemorate the death of our Hero, stalwart, General Secretary of the SACP and the Chief of Staff of the MK. Everybody was elated to be at the conference as you could sense from the mood of delegates. Everyone was on song in plenary singing unifying songs. Provincial chairperson of the ANC received a standing ovation as he entered the hall with the regional leadership.

### **SANCO**

The conference received a message of support from alliance structures with SANCO regional chair setting the tone on the issue of unity and selflessness in serving our people. He was vociferous on his call for leadership to be selfless and stop to enrich themselves using the borrowed powers by our people. He further indicated that as SANCO they support the call for payment of services however wish to call for an alliance 5-aside wherein they will be engaging on the revenue enhancement program by Emfuleni Local municipality as they might be having qualms about the program.

### **SACP**

The District Secretary of the SACP was spot-on on the issues of casualisation of a special type, calling for Emfuleni Local Municipality to put an end to the employment of consultants even on basic service issues when we have employees in the municipality who can do that. He further echoed the sentiments from SANCO on the revenue enhancement model by Emfuleni Local municipality. In his closing remarks he committed the SACP into ensuring that we win Mid-Vaal in the upcoming local government elections.

### **COSATU**

The conference also received a message of support from the revolutionary federation represented by one of the local secretaries. They made an emphasis on the principle of Democratic

Centralism to be a guiding principle that should not be compromised and he also made a point that discipline cannot be compromised for the sake of unity as the more you compromise discipline the more ill-discipline eats on the moral fibre of the organisation and as cadres we must be willing to protect moral values of this revolutionary movement. He was raising this referring to the case of Cde Zwelinzima Vavi who was expelled from COSATU after failing to attend three consecutive meetings without an apology. He said unity is not informed by the existence of one but the collective therefore all should understand the decision was taken by COSATU.

### **ANC Provincial Chair**

The Provincial chair called for unity in the organisation and he further noted the events leading to the regional conference which brought the organisation into disrepute. He hinted that discipline will not be postponed just because we call for unity but all those who were found to have burned or damaged property of the municipality, those who have manhandled the former Regional Secretary, those who threatened the regional chair and those who caused mayhem during the constitutional organisational meetings at branch level will have to face the organisational discipline.

The Provincial chair indicated that there is no more time for Manga-Manga business but all hands must be on deck, people must roll up their sleeves and be willing to work otherwise those entrusted by the organisation to lead must vacate if they feel they no longer have strength to implement the mandate of bettering the lives of our people. He further said that we must follow both the national government blue print on service delivery 'Back to Basics' and the 10 key points as outlined by Gauteng government in turning the economic tide around in our townships. The address by the ANC PEC through the Provincial chair was a clarion call to all and sundry that we must do everything to defend the revolution and that we must be conscious of the fact that

we are living on the borrowed time and that if we are arrogant with that borrowed power our people will pull off the carpet and we will not have time to explain.

### **Credentials**

Credentials were read with all 298 delegates as mandated by branches being present to better advocate the view of their respective branches. All the leagues were also present to advance their interests at conference level; the out-gone REC was also present to give account to branches since elected in the last conference. We must remember that as per the constitution these are the people who must constitute 90% of the conference delegation for the conference to be duly declared a quorating conference.

### **Political Report**

This was a rich political report as it touched on quiet a number of issues ranging from the political state of the organizations, maladies in society we live in, the ramifications as brought in by Unemployment, Poverty and Inequality and the political report brought some of the proposals that will need to be implemented in our region like the 1) Regional sewer Scheme which will address the sanitation issue for development, 2) Vaal River City, 3) development of R82 corridor, N3 corridor and Moshoeshoe corridor.

The report noted developments that are happening nationally, the mushrooming of the NGO's like United Front in our country, friends of the media and those who will win issues through the courts in undermining our democracy. He further highlighted the importance of unity of COSATU in championing worker interest and uniting workers behind the banner of the African national Congress. The Regional chair in his report showed the significance of preserving our history as a region, as province, as a country and as a continent. It was after a long healthy political debate by plenary that the report was finally adopted by the conference.

## Organisational Report

A well written and presented report by the former regional secretary. He took his time in presenting it to the conference, touching on issues such as alien tendencies that seem to be mushrooming in the organisation and that they need not to be quelled but rather eradicated from the face of this earth.

He further indicated that it is important that as branches, zones and region should find our footing in addressing governance issues working with deployed councillors as synergy is pivotal in the heightened service delivery by the ANC. He further cautioned conference that our unity is important towards the local government elections in 2016. Some of the things he raised as proposals towards the modern organisation found expression in the commission dealing with organisational renewal. Conference agreed on only dealing with clarity seeking questions on the organisational report and referring discussions to commissions.

## Commissions

The conference was indeed a watershed as it defined itself distinctly; this was the first conference in Sedibeng to have a discussion document, work-shopped by all branches. As delegates broke into commissions they were clear in terms of their contributions as branches had given them clear mandate. Conference had a segmentation of six commissions:

1. Communication and the Battle of ideas
2. Governance
3. Economy transformation
4. Organizational renewal
5. Elections
6. Social transformation

Commissions continued until late in the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> with delegates robustly engaging on the future of this region and mapping a direction to which we must take as the region and its people. Commissions reported to plenary on the day of the 12<sup>th</sup> but due to time they could not conclude as it was already late however conference agreed that the conference will not close but rather adjourn until the following week of the 18<sup>th</sup> to conclude the business of conference.

The week of the 18<sup>th</sup> arrived and delegates disciplined as they were converged at Vereeniging city hall to conclude the work of the conference. All commissions reported and all reports were adopted with amendments made from the plenary. A declaration was also read and adopted by the conference.

## Election of the REC

You will note that in the ANC we do not contest for position but rather comrades in the organisation as encrypted in the constitution do avail themselves to serve this gigantic movement of the people subject to a nod from branches. In this regard we had a plethora of comrades who had availed themselves to lead however branches had to trim the list to fit the regional structure.

The branches then resolved on the people who will ultimately lead the Sedibeng region and the elections were declared by the IEC and observed as free and fair. The outcomes of the elections were as follows:-

## Regional Office Bearers

Chairperson: Mahole Mofokeng  
Deputy Chairperson: Robert Thema  
Secretary: Bheki Ngobese  
Deputy Secretary: Lerato Maloka  
Treasurer: Melina Gomba

## ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

Jason Mkhwane	Zaza Raikane
Maureen Dousidil	Sipho Nhlengethwa
Busi Mncube	Boniface Mazilazila
Sibongile Mphuthi	Phado Tsokodibane
Bassey Ramagaga	Khethiwe Ntombela
Nomsa Motaung	Eric Tshabalala
Tshidi Tsotetsi	Sello Pitso
Christinah Sale	Senzo Hlongwane
Disebo Tlebere	Mluleki Nkosi
Greta Hlongwane	Velile Mkhontwana

## RWC

In the first REC meeting the following people were seconded to constitute the RWC:

- Office Bearers
1. Cde Khethiwe Ntombela
  2. Cde Senzo Hlongwane
  3. Cde Jason Mkhwane
  4. Cde Maipato Tsokodibane
  5. Cde Busi Mncube
  6. Cde Maureen Dousidil

## Deployment to zones

- Lesedi: Sello Pitso, Greta Hlongwane
- Mid-vaal: Eric Tshabalala, Nomsa Motaung, Themba Ndaba
- Vereeniging: Sipho Nhlengethwa, Maureen Veerin
- Boitshepville: Sibongile Mphuthi, Velile Mkhontwana
- Vanderbijlpark: Khethiwe Ntombela (Convener), Uthandile Mazilazila and Maureen Dousidil
- Sebokeng East: Zaza Raikane, Bassey Ramagaga
- Sebokeng West: Busi Mncube, Mluleki Nkosi
- Evaton East: Senzo Hlongwane, Maipato Tsokodibane
- Evaton Jordan: Jason Mkhwane, Tshidi Dlamini Tsotesi
- Evaton Central: Disebo Tlebere and Christina Sale

## Zonal Leadership

- **Lesedi**  
Chairperson: Nape Madikgoe  
Secretary: Themba Motsepe
- **Mid-vaal**  
Chairperson: Tefo Molakeng  
Secretary: Filly Leshungu
- **Vereeniging**  
Chairperson: Jacob Dikano  
Secretary: Thloriso Mofokeng
- **Boitshepville**  
Chairperson: Nelly Mokele  
Secretary: Sello Maetso
- **Vanderbijlpark**  
Chairperson: Sipho Mnguni  
Secretary: Mncedisi 'Major' Mponshane
- **Sebokeng East**  
Chairperson: Calvin Mooko  
Secretary: Daniel 'Jomo' Thobeha
- **Sebokeng West**  
Chairperson: Mokhele  
Secretary: Thami Ndlovu
- **Evaton East**  
Chairperson: Bafana Maduna  
Secretary: Penny Sengoatsi
- **Evaton Jordan**  
Chairperson: Ishamel Diale  
Secretary: Palesa
- **Evaton Central**  
Chairperson: Ndade Mokoena  
Secretary: Majoni



## REGIONAL OFFICE BEARERS ELECTED

Chairperson	Simon Mofokeng
Deputy Chairperson	Robert Thema
Secretary	Bheki Ngobese
Deputy Secretary	Lerato Maloka
Treasurer	Melina Gomba

## REC MEMBERS

1. Jason Mkhwane	PETU
2. Busi Mncube	Social Transformation
3. MaipatoTsokodibane	Economic Transformation
4. Eric Tshabalala	Local Economic Development
5. Bassey Ramagaga	Safety and Security
6. Maureen Dousidil	Health
7. Khethiwe Ntombela	Infrastructure and Public Works
8. Sibongile Mphuthi	Aged And Disability
9. Nomsa Motaung	Labour
10. Disebo Tlebere	Gender and Youth
11. Mluleki Nkosi	Arts and Culture
12. Sipho Nhlengethwa	Education
13. Velile Mkhontwana	Human Settlement
14. Uthandile Boniface Mazilazila	SRACLIS
15. Senzo Hlongwane	Roads and Transport
16. Christinah Sale	Moral Regeneration and Religion
17. Zaza Raikane	Social Development
18. Tshidi Dhlamini	Ex - Combatants
19. Greta Hlongwane	Local Government
20. Sello Pitso	Health
21. Themba Ndaba	Media and Communication
22. Maureen Veeris	Moral Regeneration and Religion



# 12<sup>TH</sup> SEDIBENG REGIONAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

## 1. DECLARATION

We, the delegates representing 67 branches in good standing on the 10-12<sup>th</sup> April 2015; are gathered at Saint George hotel to revive the organisation in the region and renew the mandate of our elected leadership. We meet under the theme "Implementing Radical Socio-economic Transformation & Unity Beyond 2016". This conference commences on the 10<sup>th</sup> April, a day that coincides with the brutal slaughter of our leader, Cde Chris Hani. We will honour and respect our fallen martyrs as ANC Sedibeng region. This conference declares the second phase of transition in our region and will be characterised by:

- decisive action to effect radical economic transformation and democratic consolidation in the interest of our people to eradicate poverty, unemployment and inequality
- improving quality of life of people of Sedibeng and the promotion of nation-building and social cohesion
- building united, strong and active alliance structure

We therefore reaffirm that transformation of our societies can only be achieved if the economy is radically transformed. The region through its government will fully undertake the responsibility of the Transformation, Modernisation and Re-industrialisation (TMR).

The conference draws inspiration from the policy position to advance economic emancipation which has outlined the programme of action implementing the freedom charter as adopted 60 years ago and in line with the region will make the idea of building Vaal River City a reality.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference declares that until the 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference, we will focus our attentions in ensuring that:

- We commit ourselves to working tirelessly to build a united ANC and combat ill-discipline, unfamiliar tendencies, disunity

and division within the ANC; in the process committing to living the values of the organisation's democracy and discipline.

- Increase the voter registration and voter turnout by 70%
- The ANC win the new metropolitan council by minimum 70% victory in the 2016 Local Government Elections
- Improvement of communication both internally and externally to brand the ANC
- In building a strong active organisation we must increase the members target to 20 000
- Rolling out political education and improving our participation in ideological and political discourse
- ANC members at the regional and branch level must participate in all structures created to advance community involvement and advancing democracy i.e. CPFs, SGBs, health committees.
- At all times we fight against all social ills confronting our people and the youth in particular
- Unemployment and poverty must be dealt with by reviving the steel and engineering sector and agricultural programs
- Exploration of alternative energy (biofuel and gas) as vehicle for job creation
- The ANC's regional office in Vereeniging is named after our leader and the former secretary general of the ANC. We now have Duma Nokwe house.

We, as delegates declare this 12<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference a success and congratulate the democratically elected leadership and commit to stand by the name of the African National Congress Amandla!

## 2. ORGANISATIONAL RENEWAL

**Noting the following soul searching organisational questions:**

- Since it is a known secret that no organisation is guaranteed eternal life, are we an exception or not?

- For how long will the movement survive as the leading force for progressive change both in the country and the continent?
- Why has the ANC survived for so long?
- What triggers renewal in organisations?

**Further noting:**

### **Declining membership**

- Due to the formation of other political parties
- Lack of modernisation of ANC
- Unsystematic and inconsistency of membership and recruitment methods, weak administration (manipulation of membership, auditing, back log of auditing, inexperience) and bulk membership
- Lack of membership cards
- Bad behaviour of ANC members in public, resulting in loss of trust by the people
- No active BEC (BEC do not report back) and no proper hand over
- Lack of organisational understanding
- Lack of consistent contact with members

**Also further noting:**

### **Strengthening of branches**

- Volunteerism spirit is no longer available
- Branch induction
- Lack of branch programs
- Lack of political education & robust debates

**The 12<sup>th</sup> Conference therefore resolves**

### **On cadre development**

- To strengthen organisational mechanisms aimed at cadre development
- To reaffirm both the 53<sup>rd</sup> National Conference & 12<sup>th</sup> Gauteng Provincial Conference resolutions on a decade long program of action 2012 – 2020, with some of the following priorities:
  - building the ANC's capability to act truly as the strategy centre of power

- building the ANC's capacity to act truly as a vanguard movement for transformation
- Fast –tracking the implementation of a coherent cadre policy
- To take drastic steps to both professionalise and modernise the operations of the ANC, in order to attract young generation and enlightened groupings and individuals
- Fast track the implementation of cadre development policy, both on political education and deployment
- Intensify the roll out program on political education training
- Instil and enhance organisational democracy and revolutionary discipline by observing constitutional requirements and stipulate punitive measures as per offence committed
- The REC to develop a detailed program of renewal, which will be positioned to play a complementary role to the above recommendations
- Reaffirm both the 53<sup>rd</sup> National & 12<sup>th</sup> Provincial Conference, resolutions on a decade long program of action 2012-2020, with the following priorities:
  - Build a vibrant and program activity based branches in the region
  - Civic movement to be strengthened to play a strategic and proactive role in community development and local struggles for transformation
  - Taking urgent and practical steps to build the capacity of the democratic state so that it can act truly as a developmental state

**The conference resolves:**  
**On campaigns & local development**

- New developments not major but economical
- Ensure all open spaces are utilised for the benefit of the community
- Structures need to be more innovative

**The conference resolves:**  
**On discipline & integrity**

- ANC is an agent of change
- Political education
- Constitution must be respected
- Factionalism must be rooted out
- Understanding the oath

**The conference resolves:**  
**On finance & fundraising**

- The REC and branches must be allowed to fundraise within the parameters of the constitution and the laws of the country
- We reaffirm the 53<sup>rd</sup> National & 12<sup>th</sup> Provincial Conference

**On International Relations**

**The conference noted:**

- The need to strengthen the international desk
- The African National Congress from its inception, noting that its existence has always been the source of its material strength. The ANC is the liberation movement that needs to strengthen itself and other progressive forces and develop a common agenda with an objective of realising a just and better world

**Believing that:**

- Our region also needs to engage in a public discourse to assist society to reach broader consensus on global politics and root out xenophobic attacks
- Twinning programs by our municipalities in the region have been informed and guided by common To reaffirm 53<sup>rd</sup> National Conference resolution on solidarity work agreeing to work with countries which support the ANC, informed by principles of solidarity, peace and human rights.
- To strengthen relations with other countries within SADC.
- To discourage and condemn the tendency of institutions like IMF and World Bank to advance exploitation and globalisation agenda.
- To make a call for the transformation of multilateral institutions including the United Nations to be restructured to suit the agenda of all state members
- To condemn international terrorism and Zionism

- To continue with solidarity work, peacemaking and peace enforcement around Africa
- To initiate and regulate twinning economic ties with other municipalities in Africa and elsewhere in the world
- Develop a program for and celebrate Africa day every year and honour other international commemorative days in line with organisational policies.
- Arrange a visit to one of SADC countries and other parts of the world.
- Enter into formal agreement to strengthen economic ties with other developing countries on mutual benefit basis.
- Continue our support for the people of Palestine.
- Continue to expand our economic trade
- perspective on the international relations framework

**The conference resolves:**  
**On veterans**

- To reaffirm the decisions of the Bloemfontein and Mafikeng conferences to establish a veterans commission in the Office of the President and of the Provincial Chairpersons Office with a view to facilitate the full integration of all veterans, ex-combatants and ex-prisoners into mainstream political life of the ANC.
- To establish the veterans' league of the ANC, finalising the constitution and uniform, to be fully functional at all levels by the time of the centenary anniversary.
- The ANC membership system should be redesigned so as to recognise the veterans

**The conference resolves:**  
**On MKMVA**

- To address issues raised by our ex-combatants and oversee the proper functioning of MKMVA structures at all levels.
- To take direct interest in the welfare and reintegration of MK military veterans into civilian life.
- To ensure, through a program of action, that MKMVA participates in all programs and structures of the ANC.

### **On strengthening alliance relations;**

#### **The conference resolves:**

- Alliance partners and the movement to individually and collectively strive to develop a contingency of committed cadres, and take steps to enhance unity of purpose
- All alliance partners to compliment ANC led government initiatives, with regard to service delivery programs and financial viability
- Consistent and effective quarterly meetings and at least annual alliance summit meeting in the region
- Clarify structural relations of SACP vs base branches and ANC ward branches
- Repositioning the ANC as a leader of community and champion of society issues

### **3. 12<sup>TH</sup> ANC – REGIONAL CONFERENCE COMMISSION: COMMUNICATIONS AND THE BATTLE OF IDEAS**

The 53<sup>rd</sup> National Conference and 12<sup>th</sup> Provincial Conference base is to reach constituencies outside the ANC. It must urgently increase the use of I.C.T's for organisational work and effective communication with its structures, communities and society as a whole. Sedibeng 12<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference reaffirms this.

#### **We therefore note the following:**

- The seriousness advances made by the ANC, Alliance and democratic formations in transforming South Africa into a non-racial and non-sexist democratic society
- The real advances that have been made by the NDR to change the lives of the people of our country for the better through focussed service delivery that impacts on real people's lives in areas like health, education, rural development, access to amenities and general services
- The democratic conditions that have been created to deepen people's participatory democracy, access to regular government activities and information

- Despite all these, the battle of ideas is being waged between the theoretical and practical underpinnings of the democratic developmental state and neo-liberal market driven paradigm
- The on-going problem facing South African society is that the media and I.C.T reflect patterns of ownership, control and distribution of the past
- The greatest source of negative portrayal of ANC is misconduct and public ill-discipline of ANC members and the use of the media and other platforms to advance their personal and factional interest

#### **We believe that:**

- That the hegemony of the ANC and the democratic forces in the battle of ideas is central to the advancement of the NDR
- The ANC must operate on a co-ordinated and disciplined manner to set the agenda in the battle of ideas
- Our interventions must be informed by the ANC strategy and tactics and organisational renewal
- The war of ideas must be fought like a real war therefore there must be strict co-ordination of content and messages between all structures of the organisation

#### **We therefore resolve:**

- There should be an increased participation of all ANC cadres in public debates on political and ideological matters
- Comrades should be trained on how to respond effectively to the growing onslaught against the movement in all media
- ANC political education syllabus should be inclusive of media training, research and I.C.T literacy and be part of developing young future communicators / ambassadors
- The ANC must develop means through which it communicates beyond its membership base to reach constituencies outside the ANC
- A regional dialogue is needed of ideas to, amongst others, achieve the following:

- Reassert the position of the ANC as a progressive leader of society
- Forge unity for accelerated transformation
- Intensify interaction with broader society
- Organise Umrambulo Thursdays by all ANC structures, to exchange ideas and learn from each other
- Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of resolutions be done quarterly

#### **On ANC internal communication Noting:**

- There is a need for an effective and efficient internal ANC communication system as a tool for organisational management, internal democracy and discourse within the ANC
- The engagement on the issues of communications remains an important part of the ANC organisational strategy
- The assessment of the membership system indicates that there are a number of challenges in the "membership" system value chain that can be classified as information system and technology problems
- All ANC regional offices and branches to be connected to the internet, so as to aid internal communications and improve efficiency

#### **Believing:**

- The advent of ICT offers an opportunity for ANC to improve its internal communications processes throughout the organisation
- There is a need for integrated strategy for the use of ICT's to improve ANC's ability to communicate, administer its processes and ensure efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation
- ANC should promote usage and universal access to information and communication technologies amongst ANC members and the citizens
- Encourage branches to use ICT in communicating with individual members, including bulk sms and sending emails on branches and regional activities



- In addition the ANC website should be used to communicate with members and public
- Develop and expand use of social media to engage with especially young members

**Therefore resolve:**

- The REC should develop an ANC internal policy and strategy to drive ANC's administrative and political systems
- Training of ANC staff and leaders at all levels of the organisation to develop capacity to service the administration and management of the organisation including membership management
- The regional websites linked to the ANC home page "one branch one connected office by 2015" to give effect to the 3<sup>rd</sup> NGC campaign and programme
- ANC should ensure availability of ANC content using traditional and modern platforms to reach ANC members and broader society on a 24/7 basis
- ANC should develop a social media policy to guide members conduct in the use of social media
- ANC members at branch level should get permission from the regional secretary to talk on radios
- There should be ANC quarterly newsletter that will talk on development, challenges and achievements

**On government communications**

**Noting:**

- The great strides made by government to communicate with citizens in a transparent and accountable manner through a whole range of mechanisms including:
  - Quarterly and annual reports
  - IDP meetings
  - Imbizos and road shows
- Government's ability to communicate with citizens is critical in the delivery of services, deepening democracy and the ability of citizens to interact with government
- The weakness of government communications is among other factors behind the ideological

onslaught, misinformation and the general lack of awareness on the progress achieved since the advent of democracy

- Whereas weaknesses have been identified in government communications, the media continues to have prosperity to publish mainly negative news on government disregarding the good service delivery record of government, the media continues to distort and ignore information provided by government in a transparent and accountable manner

**Believing:**

- That access to government communications is important to a well-functioning democracy and only when citizens are informed about government policies and programmes can take part in the improvement of their lives
- There is a need for a pro-active and co-ordinated government communication platform that enables the three spheres / tiers of government to communicate effectively
- All spheres of government should advertise in the community and small commercial media that produce media in the languages spoken by communities, to assist with media transformation and diversity, and the sustenance and growth of these media

**Therefore resolve:**

- The ANC and government need to strengthen other effective communication methods to reach targeted communities like using COMMUNITY BROADCASTING and public broadcasting services (Radio & Print, Community TV) to highlight government service delivery in the Battle of Ideas
- Mayors, MMC and Councillors should champion communication and dissemination of government information / sectorial engagements, Imbizos and road shows
- That government communication should reach all

citizens and be in all languages (Indigenous)

- That local-government communication should be strengthened through enhanced Training Programmes
- That government must diversify its ad spent to empower community, emerging commercial and public media
- That all local municipalities must have effective units / directorate to communicate its programmes efficiently
- Branding – The use of visibility branding of our institutions
- That Fridays should be prioritised for wearing ANC regalia by all our members to promote our brand

**4. ON ELECTIONS**

**Noting:**

- The region has not finalised the appointment of BET coordinators, election workers and establishment of structures,
- The first quarter of the year since the commencement of the elections campaign has come to an end,
- The NET will be convening the national elections strategy workshop from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May 2015,
- That the ANC Sedibeng REC has since adopted the 2016 Local Government Election strategy,
- The National Election Team would expect that lower structures must align their strategies with that which will be finalised at the said national elections strategy workshop,
- There's a gradual prevalence of the opposition in our region through various opportunistic programs,
- The region had challenges leading towards the regional conference,
- There's poor participation of some of the members of the BEC, REC, leagues and alliance structures in election campaign,
- The region is preparing for the establishment of the metro,
- That the DA, Midvaal Local Municipality & the people against metro, and organisation

found in Midvaal, are opposing the establishment of the metro.

- The section 14 (5) Political Steering Committee to manage the transition towards the metro has not met since its formation in 2014,

#### **Further noting:**

- The Municipal Demarcation Board is currently busy with the ward delimitations in preparations for the 2016 LGE,
- The move towards the metro will result in the current 59 wards for both the Emfuleni & Midvaal Local Municipalities being reduced to 50 wards,
- The current 13 wards for the Lesedi Local Municipality will be reduced to 3 wards,
- The ANC REC has since finalised its ward delimitation proposals to the Municipal Demarcation Board,
- Our recent 2014 national & provincial elections campaign was under resourced,
- There are challenges posed by the public meetings convened by the BEC and the role of the ANC Ward Councillor,
- There is possible gate keeping in some of our branches,
- There's prevalence of key progressive forces such as the progressive professionals forum and others.

#### **We therefore resolve that:**

- The conference adopt the Sedibeng ANC elections strategy in preparation for the 2016 LGE which is aligned to the provincial elections strategy,
- The said elections strategy must be realigned after the adoption of the NEC elections strategy,
- The incoming REC should move with speed in ensuring the elections coordinators are appointed at all levels,
- The REC must consider continuity, experience and capacity in the appointment of elections coordinators,
- The conference adopts the high level program as found in the regional elections strategy,
- The conference adopts the elections budget,

- The incoming REC must ensure that branches of the ANC & the leagues are strengthened so as to ensure that elections work runs smoothly,
- The conference reaffirms the previous conference resolution to support a move towards the establishment of the metro,
- Our ANC-led municipalities must strengthen engagement with people on their concerns through SMSs, call centres, social media and through other platforms,
- The incoming REC must fast track the establishment & use of tele-canvassing to ensure that ANC members and voters are engaged,
- The incoming REC need to resolve organisational issues, before we get to Local Government Elections,
- The REC must empower our BET & LET coordinators with resources as indicated in the elections budget,
- BET coordinators must remain responsible election workers in relation to funds, program and coordination in their various BETs,
- All ANC-led municipalities must generate service delivery reports per ward in response to the 2014 elections street sheets before end of May 2015,
- All ANC Caucuses in the region, including the ANC Midvaal Caucus must develop their outreach programs working together with the RET & LET coordinators,
- Continuous support must be provided to the PYA when they prepare for their annual SRC elections in different campuses in the region,
- All LETs & ZETs must actively participate in the current IEC process of identifying and/or moving voting stations,
- All LETs must speedily prepare and submit their programs informed by the regional elections strategy,
- The REC must convene all MDM structures in the region with regard to their participation in the elections campaign,

- The incoming REC must move with speed in engaging the MEC responsible for corporative governance & traditional affairs on the section 14 (5) matters,
- These engagements must speak to the processes of introducing the Lesedi Local Municipality to the Ekurhuleni Metro and the ANC REC respectively,
- The incoming REC must workshop structures of the movement on the ward delimitation proposals to the Municipal Demarcation Board,
- The RET must engage the Home Affairs & IEC on both the voter registration and ID registration programs,
- The LETs must closely and continuously monitor these registrations and submit reports regularly to the RET,
- All ANC-led municipalities in the region must convene local government summits in preparation for the 2016 LGE,
- AS part of processes towards increasing our support base in the Midvaal Local Municipality, the Sedibeng District Municipality & the Provincial Government must bring service delivery programs in this municipality.

## **5. ON SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION**

### Definition of social transformation

In our understanding it has to do with the changing of social outlook of our people in terms of health; education and skills development; social fabric; and income level, but not conclusive.

### **Noting:**

- That the ANC remains guided and committed towards the ideals of the freedom charter as we work towards building a National Democratic Society.
- Further noting that the task of social transformation is about advancing the goal of the ANC as articulated in the strategy and tactics of 2007, which state that "our strategies for social transformation must seek to empower people so they can lift themselves out of poverty while

creating adequate social nets to protect the vulnerable in our society”.

- We note as well that the National Development Plan forms an important basis for the development of a long-term plan to a National Democratic Society, that is non-racial, none sexist, democratic, united and prosperous and seeks to advance the National Democratic Revolution (NDR).

#### **Believing that:**

- Social transformation needs more of human resource than financial resource.
- What it means is that there has to be a paradigm shift in governance culture and thinking towards democratic and transformed society and the state (RDP document).

#### **The conference resolves:**

- To reaffirm both national and provincial resolutions on social transformation as well as the regional draft as presented in the document
- That there must be social transformation summit in the region of Sedibeng
- There must be induction of BEC members of the ANC and leagues on issues of social transformation

#### **The conference further resolves:**

##### **On community safety**

- We should strengthen the participation of ANC members and branch leaders in community protection forum
- ANC branch should always invite the CPF's in its endeavour
- Launch strong campaigns to identify and eradicate drug related problems - led by the ANC, leagues and alliance
- The regional leadership and branches should work together to fight gangsterism in partnership with all progressive stakeholders
- ANC should find ways of deploying security to all schools during school hours (in partnership with SAPS and SGBs)
- Revive or establish street committees

- ANCYL to revive the operation “wanya tsotsi” campaign
- The REC should work hand in hand with our government - security clusters
- Sedibeng region to revive the regional governance social cluster – to sit quarterly
- Lastly PCO forums to be reinstated with immediate effect to sit monthly

#### **The conference resolves that: On human settlement**

- The REC should implement the provincial resolution
- ANC structures and the alliance must be able to respond to local issues including illegal evictions, hijacking of unused buildings and land invasion
- ANC should always inform and teach the community on title deeds process
- Branches should take a strong stand against corruption in the provision of houses to deserving beneficiaries
- The REC needs to build the capacity of branches to effectively engage with human settlement issues

#### **The conference resolves:**

##### **On education (basic, HE and TVET)**

- The REC should focus its participation on the following areas:
  - monitoring and evaluation of performance
  - poor education outcomes
  - learners of special educational needs
  - independent schools
  - governance of schools
  - role of PYA and ANC branches in schools and universities

#### **The conference resolves that:**

##### **The ANC branches**

- Must have data of the ECDs in their wards
- Must always monitor the living conditions and environment around the ECDs
- Help the ECDs to comply with government regulations
- Form part of the SGBs
- Have programs that encourage parents to actively take part in their children's education
- Monitor the implementation of the policies in schools
- Increase security at schools

- ANC leaders and members should encourage their children to be members of COSAS

#### **The conference resolves:**

##### **On universities and TVETs**

- That deployees to university councils from the REC must be comrades who have higher education governance background
- The REC should establish a caucus of progressive council members and PYA components in institutions that will always sit before council meetings
- The REC should develop programs of political lectures in institutions to conscientise students
- The REC should be active in transformation programs of these institutions

#### **The conference resolves:**

##### **On children**

- To maintain greater focus on early childhood development (monitor/help)
- To eliminate child abuse (identify victims)

#### **Commissions on Gender:**

##### **Noting:**

- Inadequate implementation of the supporting legislation
- Men continue to dominate senior positions in politics, private sector, public and the judiciary
- Persistent feminization of poverty
- Access to employment remains a challenge for women
- Gender-based Violence at tertiary level
- Patriarchy and masculinities a challenge for women
- Issues of Gender equality, employment equity and Gender mainstreaming are viewed by state departments & municipality as a human resource and corporate services function. This implied shortcoming in the way in which departments conceptualize gender equality, particular at service delivery level, and how policy and planning are informed in this regard.

#### **The conference resolves:**



- There should be political will to resuscitate Gender Focal Points in Municipality with relevant skills to mainstream gender
- Training and Development
- Decent Employment through inclusive economic growth
- There is a need to assess the extent to which it is possible to re-establish the gender machineries that were disbanded when GEYODI divisions were formed
- Introduce supportive structures, mentorship programmes and grooming initiatives that focus on empowering women and to ensure their full participation in policy development and appointment to decision making portfolios

#### **On the youth accord**

##### **Noting that:**

- a nation's success depends on its ability to harness and incorporate into its endeavours the creativity, potential, participation and energy of the youth
- according to census 2011, the majority of the population in Sedibeng is the youth
- the growth of our economy rests with the unleashing of the youth potential
- the most vulnerable population in our society, facing the scourge of unemployment and various social ills is the youth in particular the young women

#### **The conference resolves:**

- The implementation of the youth accord of 2013 as signed by the President and binding to all spheres of government
- We will then have to support the youth league to draft a program of action to realize this goal

#### **The conference resolves:**

##### **On military veterans**

- Re-deployment of qualified MK veterans not only in the police service but other departments as well.
- Enforcement of by-laws to be strengthened.
- Propose an establishment of a unit within Metro to deal with cable and metal theft which

undermines the economic security infrastructure and safety of citizens

- Establishment of the Directorate of military veterans in the office of the premier and mayors
- Coordination of law enforcement at community and street level

#### **The conference resolves:**

##### **On health**

- **The REC should monitor the following key areas:**
  - primary health care
  - healthy life style campaign
  - HIV and Aids campaign
  - the REC should find ways of empowering SANCA
  - that only 28% of GP citizens belong to medical aid schemes

#### **The ANC should ensure:**

- Quality PHC provision
- The involvement of our people in health care issues through PHC facility committees
- The establishment of ward based outreach teams
- The rollout of NHI
- Branches should have continuous cleaning campaigns
- Branches must protect our clinics against criminals in a form of protests
- Have HIV and Aids awareness campaigns at all times
- Branches of the ANCWL must have programs for prostitution to help our young sisters
- The REC should help in converting closed schools premises to rehabilitation centres

#### **The conference resolves:**

##### **On heritage**

- Recommend the establishment and formation of sub-committees for heritage council and name changing committees at the regional level of the ANC
- The REC should work on removing symbols of apartheid including the plugs that are at the municipal premises
- As Sedibeng we should find ways to speak about the peace treaty of 1902 in Vereeniging
- We should identify a central place where we must establish one centre for our history in the Vaal region

#### **The conference resolves:**

##### **On afro-phobia**

- When gold was discovered in Johannesburg in 1886, it was mined by men from a dozen African nations.
- Today the country is a magnet for Congolese, Ethiopians, Malawians, Mozambicans, Nigerians, Somalis, Zimbabweans and others fleeing conflict or seeking to improve their lot.
- Estimates of immigrant numbers vary from 2 million to 5 million, out of a population of 51 million.
- We acknowledge the challenges we're faced with as South Africans on unemployment and skills scarcity but we need to find ways on how to approach the eviction of illegal immigrants in the country.
- As the ANC we should strongly condemn the violence against foreigners.
- We should have programs educating our community about ubuntu.
- Work hand in hand with the SAPS to identify illegal foreigners and criminals and leave the process to the law.

## **6. ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION**

This commission's resolutions attempted to respond to the following clauses of the freedom charter:

- The people shall share in the country's wealth!
- The land shall be shared among those who work it!
- There shall be work and security!
- There shall be peace and friendship!

#### **On the radical transformation**

##### **Noting that:**

- The ANC has made decisive interventions in addressing the economic challenges however this is done within the growing and escalating poverty and unemployment. This is because these interventions are done within the capitalist system that only focused on accumulation of wealth at the expense of exploiting the poor majority.

- Social wage is an intervention and is the thin thread between the masses and the government.
- The “radical” part of the radical transformation is not properly unpacked in substance.
- The ANC is falling short in mobilising the masses behind it in ensuring that the conditions are as a result of capitalism while good intentioned social grants are a recipe for disaster if no other means of economic transformation are found.
- Sedibeng is among the poorest regions in the province.
- The enemy of development and the economy is not the foreign traders.
- Illiteracy affects our radical economic transformation.
- The National Development Plan (NDP) has not found expression within the region.
- Policy re-orientation is a requirement just like in China, it is key in economic re-alignment (every company operating in China is 50% locally owned).

#### **On the economic transformation Resolve:**

- To mobilise the masses behind the banner of ANC to understand that the conditions they are living under are as a result of capitalism, not foreign businesses or councillors
- To clearly define radical part of our transformation and move away from rhetoric
- To revive and revitalise the economy of the region
- To localise the NDP
- To promote initiatives that are aimed at promoting education and eradicating illiteracy as a tool in achieving transformation

#### **Transformation, Modernisation and Re-industrialisation (TMR)**

A modernised world class Sedibeng is the place that all our citizens want to see themselves in.

- In transforming the economy in Sedibeng, modernisation and reviving of its industrial sector is imperative.

- There is a high potential for revival and expansion of the industrial sector in the region.
- The Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) have had an impact on the economy of the region, especially the steel and engineering sector.
- Sedibeng, once one of the engineering powerhouses of the province, is now at the periphery of the economy and the relocation or location of head offices of major companies doing business within Sedibeng also has an adverse impact on the local economy.

#### **Resolved that:**

- We adopt and abide by the province’s ten-pillars of the Transformation, Modernisation and Re-industrialisation (TMR) as the basis of our radical economic transformation in the region
- The Vaal River City metro be developed within the TMR programme

#### **Establishment of the Economic Transformation Committee (ETC) Noting:**

- There is no economic development and transformation strategy emanating from the ANC to guide the region
- The absence of such committee has denied the ANC a platform and machinery in providing a standard, consistent and well-informed developmental path
- Laxity in taking responsibility and charge of economic transformation and engaging the commanding heights of the economy within the region
- The absence of proper committee to process programmes aimed at reviving the economy ultimately transforming within the ANC are not maximally utilised.
- There is no localisation of national development strategies and policies e.g. NDP, IPAP, BBBEE act, etc

#### **Resolve that:**

- The incoming REC formulates a process to establish a vibrant Economic Transformation Committee (ETC) that will be the

centre and catalyst in economic transformation within the region.

- The ETC to develop the economic strategy that will guide the region and its municipalities.
- The ETC to localise the national development strategies with the focus in NDP and the IPAP
- The ETC to unpack and programme and properly locate these resolutions.

#### **Strengthening and providing economic transformation capacity to branches**

##### **Noting that:**

- ANC branches do not have the necessary capacity to roll out economic transformation programs.
- The ANC branches are the face of development and transformation but have not done much to be catalysts of economic change in communities.

##### **Resolve that:**

- ETC to lead the process of providing capacity building programs to branches.
- To develop economic transformation cadres in all the branches.
- ANC branches to lead economic development and ultimately transformation in branches.

#### **Building of an economic transformation cadre**

##### **Noting that:**

- ANC members are inherently transformation cadres and it is imperative for economic transformation to be understood by all.
- Politically, organisationally and governmentally there is a need for presence of cadres who can better extrapolate on economic transformation.
- There is a need for targeted comrades who are or should be vested in economic transformation as espoused by the ANC.

##### **Resolve that:**

- To identify and deploy/employ economic transformation cadres who will be able to develop municipal strategies consistent

with local socio-economic dynamics and in line with the vision of the ANC

- To build and identify cadres who will identify with the vision of the ruling party in all sector of the economy

### **Land question**

#### **Noting:**

- There is no clear land and rural transformation within the region.
- Land question is central in economic transformation of our region.
- The absence of clear, one land audit report AFFECTS the economic transformation.
- More land is in the hands of the private sector and THIS IMPEDES socio-economic development.
- Land for development is inaccessible and expensive for the poor majority and the emerging entrepreneurs.

#### **Resolve that:**

- The ANC ETC informs and direct the land audit process in municipalities
- Land be availed for large scale agriculture
- Means be made that land for development be provided to local entrepreneurs
- Exploit the land claims process since it has been opened by the national government

### **Agriculture, agrarian and rural transformation**

#### **Noting that:**

- Our region does not have agricultural and agrarian reform strategies and this affects rural development
- There are no systems in place to create/produce black commercial farmers

#### **Resolve that:**

- To develop rural development strategy as a region (ANC).
- To accelerate concerted efforts to produce black commercial farmers.
- We identify land and establish an agricultural special economic zone (agrotropolis).

- To revive the agriculture market and retain it within the municipality.

### **On building of black entrepreneurs and industrialists**

#### **Noting:**

- Breaking the monopoly capital and creation of space for the creation/production of black industrialists is an immediate necessity.
- The absence of black industrialists and entrepreneurs has a negative impact in achieving radical transformation in the region.
- There are sectors of the economy that benefit from government's huge investment but are left untouched in the acceleration efforts to effect radical change.
- The absence of ANC created entrepreneurs makes our ANC to be susceptible to corruption.

#### **Resolve:**

- To consciously create black industrialists and entrepreneurs that will contribute in the creation of the economy, at least one millionaire in each economic sector, e.g. livestock farming, vegetable farming, IT, property, engineering, housing, textile, wholesale & retail etc.
- Identifying the sectors of economy where our government makes huge investments and ensure that they are compelled to accelerate efforts to effect radical change.

### **Procurement preference and localisation**

#### **Noting:**

- The absence of monitoring of the procurement preferences in favour of empowering SMMEs and co-operatives in municipalities has affected growth of emerging enterprises.
- There is no interface between government and local private sector; between ANC and the local private sector on the localisation of procurement preference.
- The development of local developmental legislative frameworks and SMMEs policies does not take into

consideration local stakeholders, specifically SMMEs and co-operatives.

- The organisation in the region does not have a history of identifying local entrepreneurs that have been developed as a result of ANC led developmental policies or directly by the ANC.
- The 30% procurement preference to SMMEs and co-ops has not translated to tangible enterprise growth and development and is not properly defined.

#### **Resolve:**

- Municipalities to develop stakeholder-driven enterprise developmental policies.
- The ANC (ETC) to interface with the private sector in mitigation for localised procurement preference, and municipalities to do the same with the private sector.
- A model to be developed that will ensure that procurement preference policies yield tangible results in terms of developing local enterprises.
- To assess, define, and review if possible, the impact of 30% procurement preference for SMMEs and co-ops in municipalities.
- To ensure that municipalities develop or review SMMEs and co-operatives policies and ensure that they are located within Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) act.
- That BBBEE is localised by municipalities and policies regarding guiding it are developed.
- Private sector to be brought on board in terms of prioritising local SMMEs and co-ops in their procurement opportunities.
- Procurement preference to robustly and unflinchingly focus on developing sustainable local entrepreneurs.
- Payment to contractors to be made within 30 days by municipalities.

### **Township Economy Revitalisation (TER)**

#### **Noting:**



- The townships enterprises are not part of the mainstream economy and as a result affect economic growth and impair the potential socio-economic growth of the region.
- Local businesses and other grassroots initiatives are not mobilised and do not properly participate in the mainstream economy (welders, panel beaters, informal traders, vegetables and fruit vendors, taxi drivers, etc).

#### **Resolve:**

- To link township enterprises to mainstream economy and facilitate access to market, trading space, funding, linkages, etc.
- To regulate business activities and review bylaws related to trading in townships and business opportunities.
- Municipalities to have a system in place for the TER implementation and roll-out.
- To develop strategies to formalise the informal traders.

#### **On the green economy**

##### **Noting:**

- South Africa is on a quest towards contributing to an environmentally sustainable climate change, resilient, low carbon and just society in line with the South African Green Economy Modelling (SAGEM).
- Green economy stimulates economic growth and contributes to the reduction of green house gas (GHG) emissions.
- Sedibeng region is one of the areas that are affected by air and water pollution from the big companies.
- There is a need for alternative energy as a cheaper form of energy.

##### **Resolve:**

- To adopt all the nine (09) green economy programs as reflected in the SAGEM.
- To conduct a study on the economic opportunities in the green economy.
- To create alternative energy using the green economy

tactics, e.g. sourcing of methane gas and liquefied petroleum gas (lpg) from rubbish dumps.

- Wetlands rehabilitation programs be re-introduced as part of the green economy.

#### **Local and international partnerships and twinnings**

##### **Noting:**

- Our municipalities have got relations with a number of countries, cities and municipalities and there is a potential for economic growth and sharing of experiences that is not maximally exploited.
- There is lot of experience, economic spin-offs in partnerships and twinnings.

##### **Resolve that:**

- Partnerships and twinning programs to be utilised to revitalise our economy.
- Partnerships focus to strengthen business partnerships, commerce and infrastructural development and growth.
- Education and business exchange program to be promoted.

#### **SMMs and co-operatives development**

##### **Noting that:**

- Co-operatives have a potential to build and trap the economy within the community but are under-utilised.
- The support to SMMs and co-operatives is either minimal or non-existent within municipalities.
- There is a lack of strategies to support SMMs and co-ops in municipalities.
- There is a tangible and result-driven approach to inform the formation of building of the vibrant co-operative movement in the country.
- Lack of national government agencies that assist SMMs and co-operatives is a challenge, since most are located in Pretoria and Johannesburg.

##### **Resolve that:**

- To mobilise co-operatives and a vibrant co-operative movement to be built within the region.
- Local SMMs are mobilised into formal business forums that can contribute and also benefit from the economy.
- Finding ways of having visibility of national and provincial enterprise development agencies within the region.

#### **Socio-economic integration of military veterans**

##### **Noting that:**

- Socio-economic and welfare conditions of military veterans are not favourable.
- There is relative destitution of military veterans and their livelihood negates their role in the struggle for liberation.
- The ANC Provincial and National Conferences have resolved on providing necessary support for socio-economic integration of military veterans.
- Empowerment of military veterans is part of performance management of the Gauteng Provincial Government departments.

##### **Resolve that:**

- To improve the lives of military veterans through socio-economic integration and addressing their welfare.
- To ensure the relevant policies aimed at improving the livelihoods of military veterans are developed and implemented in municipalities.

#### **Building of a manufacturing sector**

##### **Noting that:**

- The manufacturing sector is in the hands of the few whites and this has adverse impact on the TMR and the broader socio-economic transformation.
- The main manufacturing sector is in engineering, textile, etc.

##### **Resolved that:**

- We agitate for a process that will result in researching and profiling of the manufacturing potential within Sedibeng.

- Manufacturers should be given assistance to stand on their own and be economically viable.

### **On the Special Economic Zones (SEZs)**

#### **Noting that:**

- The Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are better placed to trap capital within the region.
- The aim of SEZs is to promote national economic growth.
- The national government has programmes of rolling out SEZs, these should cascade to locals.
- Industrial development zones have a potential to build and develop the economy and provide a central area where experience can be exchanged and resources committed.

#### **Resolve that:**

- We identify spaces/land for industrial and agricultural hubs as SEZs.
- We lobby financial support for SEZs from provincial and national governments and Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) for successful and sustainable SEZs.

### **On the spatial development**

#### **Noting that:**

- The persisting apartheid spatial framework remains a stumbling block in the development of our region.
- The existing spatial framework is making Sedibeng a feeder economy to Johannesburg.
- The absence of the integrated transport plans affects the economy of the region.

#### **Resolve that:**

- To develop a spatial framework that is consistent with the economic needs of the region.
- To promote building of Integrated Transport Plans (ITPs) that will respond to the transport & economic needs of the regions and respond to IGR imperatives between Sedibeng and neighbouring municipalities.

### **On tourism**

#### **Noting that:**

- Tourism initiatives have not properly translated to viable economic spin-offs.
- Tourism has a potential to contribute hugely to economic transformation through sustainable jobs.
- Business and township tourism are not exploited to generate job opportunities.

#### **Resolve that:**

- Tourism development will be developed such that they respond to economic challenges of the region.
- Business and township tourism will be promoted through proper policies and strategies.
- To identify and profile historical places and ensure that they form part of our tourism and promote business opportunities.

### **On economic education, training and research**

#### **Noting that:**

- There is lack of interface between the business forums, private sector, institutions of learning and government for developing skills programs and curriculums that respond to the economic needs of the region and also addressing skills deficiency in the private sector

#### **Resolve that:**

- To engage the institution of higher learning, private sector and business forums on addressing the skills drain and developing of programs and curriculums consistent with the economic needs of the region
- The HETs, TVET's, business forums and spheres of government to form part of economic research teams of the region

### **Property development and student accommodation**

#### **Noting that:**

- Student accommodation, as part of learning for a black child, is both a political and economic question.
- There is significant property development growth and there are few black property developers in the region.

- There is growth in the need for student accommodation, and these are black students, and the accommodation is owned by white developers.

#### **Resolve that:**

- To take a central stage in student stage in the student accommodation for learners by engaging government and student movement on ways to develop in this area.
- To consciously facilitate a process to develop black property developers within the region.
- To consciously put property developments in the hands of the poor majority in the region.

### **On foreign owned businesses and xenophobia**

#### **Noting that:**

- There is consistent looting and harassment of foreign business people under many guises, some xenophobic and some criminal.
- In our community and economy we live side by side with foreign businesses but have not accepted this.
- Victims of this violence are mainly black Africans.
- There is absence of ANC branches when foreigners are attacked.
- Foreign businesses are not the enemy of change and development in our societies.
- There are no formal relations between the ANC branches and the local business people, both foreign and local.

#### **Resolve that:**

- To foster a dialogue between ANC foreign business and to start a process of engagement between local business forums and foreign businesses.
- Attack on foreign businesses is both xenophobic and afrophobia and criminal and we (ANC) distance ourselves from it.
- ANC branches to fight against xenophobia and afrophobia and crime against business people.
- To engage and educate communities against

afrophobia and the need to co-exist.

#### **On the investment council**

##### **Note that:**

- The investment councils in municipalities are one of the progressive platforms and conveyor belts for change
- Deliberation of such councils do not cascade to LED departments
- SALGA has challenges with Local Economic Development initiatives that are conducted outside of or without involving the LED departments
- Big investment initiatives and captains of the industry do not engage with LED departments or economic development clusters

##### **Resolve that:**

- Investment councils to include senior officials, preferably managers or directors/DMM's, from LED departments or relevant cluster so that the deliberations cascade to these departments, ultimately to communities.

## **7. TRANSFORMATION OF THE STATE AND GOVERNANCE**

##### **Noting that:**

- The continued structural inequities resulting from the apartheid legacy has bestowed a particular pattern of development which entrenches segregated cities, fragmented and scattered settlement patterns, lack of road and transport infrastructure
- The ANC has been charged since 1994 with the responsibility of transforming the South African society
- The adoption of the NDP in 2012 by the ANC provides the foundation for the programmes and policies aimed at transforming South Africa and improving the life circumstances of all its people
- The key area where special measures to create jobs can link to building the economy and meeting basic needs is in redressing apartheid-created infrastructural disparities

- There must be a coordinated **shared services model** designed around the alternative services delivery approach for the Sedibeng district municipal area to improve, maintain and provide quality services to all the residents of the region

##### **Believing that:**

- Masses of our people expect the ANC led local government to deliver basic needs
- Clearly redefining the strategic managerial roles and power relations will enhance the performance of the cadres deployed in the service of governance

#### **The Sedibeng 12<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference therefore resolves: To reaffirm the ANC's 53<sup>rd</sup> resolution that:**

- There should be greater separation of power between the executive and legislative arms of municipalities.
- There should be more effective oversight of the executive committees by council and council committees.
- The council oversight committees should be properly resourced and capacitated, where affordable, chairs of council committees should be full-time.
- The roles of the Mayor, Speaker and Chief Whip should be clarified.

#### **The regional conference further resolves to ensure:**

- ANC Councillors meet on a regular basis as a council caucus
- Caucus positions are taken in line with the policy guidelines of the ANC and the mandates of the relevant constitutional structure; caucus positions are binding on every ANC Councillor, regardless of whether she or he was elected on a PR or a ward basis
- Every ANC Councillor should be properly equipped, trained and politically educated for the role of Councillor
- Oversight is conducted in the manner bearing integrity and honest, without fear of

victimisation when cadres and officials deployed in local government do whistle blowing

- Creation of good relations between government and the labour to enhance productivity, MCs must seat on the ANC regional subcommittees
- The strengthening of research at the whippy office
- Rotation of Councillors' functions with an aim to enhance Councillors' oversight operations experience

#### **The conference further resolves:**

- Chief Whip must be a comrade preferably, currently serving as elected REC member
- Factional politics at play at the work place should be eliminated
- Governance committee should seat at least quarterly
- ANC constitution provides RWC responsibility to oversee all local governance structures in relation to governance
- ANC must strengthen governance in all municipalities, particularly Emfuleni Local Municipality as an anchor municipality towards Metro
- ANC Ward Councillors should serve on the BEC as Exo-ficio and PR Councillors should serve in the areas in which they are deployed
- BEC members should attend ANC political school to enhance power relations understanding with the governance structures

#### **On the power relations between the serving executive mayors and the national security forces within the municipal jurisdiction**

##### **The conference resolves:**

- The matter of executive mayor with regulated power relations with the national security forces to be referred to the ANC NGC

#### **On redefining the power relations between party and the state**

##### **The conference resolves:**

- The ANC remains the centre engaged in the NDR struggle to develop hegemony in the state
- The ANC should reflect the policy direction of the state on a time to time basis



- ANC activism should be visible on the ground aimed at maintaining vanguardism

**On the deployment and redeployment of our cadres:**

**The conference resolves:**

-To reaffirm ANC 50<sup>th</sup> National Conference resolutions which state the following:

- Put in place a deployment strategy which focuses on the short, medium and long term challenges, identifying the key centres of power, our strategy to transform these centres and the attributes and skills we require from our cadres to do so effectively
- The establishment of deployment committees in the NEC, PEC, REC and BEC, which in implementing the above strategy should:

- Discuss the deployment of comrades to areas of work on behalf of the movement, including the public service, parastatals, structures of the movement and the private sector;
- Such discussions of deployment of individual comrades be done with appropriate consultation with the cadre/s concerned;
- Ensure capacity building to prepare comrades for deployment and redeployment in various spheres;
- Do probity checks in all deployments and in general on appointments of staff; provide support and forums for accountability for cadres deployed;
- Refer disputes about the deployment or redeployment

of cadres to the next highest structure for resolution;

- Decisions of the organisation, after appropriate consultation with individual cadres, are final and a breach of this policy shall constitute a serious offence to be considered by the appropriate structure.

**On the service delivery model**

**The conference resolves:**

- To adopt the shared services model, wherein designed around the alternative services delivery approach for the Sedibeng district municipal area to improve, maintain and provide quality services to all the residents of the region, in a cost effective and efficient manner leveraging economies of scale.



**Sedibeng Region**

**12th ANC Sedibeng Regional Conference Resolutions**

**Implementing Radical Socio – Economic Transformation & Unity Beyond 2016"**



# The Class of 2014

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa states that; everyone has the right to a basic education including adult basic education and to further education which the state through reasonable measures must make progressively available and accessible. It is for this reason that the African National Congress led government invests about 5% of its GDP on basic education and 1.4 % on higher education.

The educators across South Africa continue to cultivate our learners through education. These young future leaders eagerly await universities to open so that they can unleash their potential of becoming learned adults, for they understand education is a lifelong engagement. The learners throughout South Africa have coalesced into camps, intended to help them on subject's areas that were introduced for the first time in 2014, besides the new curriculum the department always engages in a number of programmes that are aimed at improving learner performance. They have done this with the required zeal and determination which confirms that education is a powerful tool which can impact positively in one's life.

The time has arrived for us to support them as they harvest fruits of their hardwork, January the 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 was the culmination of 12 year school journey. Many of these learners did not allow their background to define them neither did they abdicate their quest to graduate from the Basic Education System.

The year 2014 also ushered in a massive crippling strike in the mining sector; the five (5) months long strike also took its toll on the surrounding mining communities but this did not demoralise our matric candidates from the course, in fact learners from the surrounding

communities emerged undeterred.

The strike may have had an effect on the economy but surely education must be the first priority in society and cannot be compromised regardless of the circumstances that communities find themselves in.

It is important that when we dissect performance of the class of 2014 we do so mindful of all contributing factors which give birth to matric.

As a nation our primary focus becomes matric, in so doing we deflect from the foundation phase which is a build up towards grade 12.

Poor performance in matric is rooted in weak foundations in grade 1 to 3.

Of course, if we want a good showing especially in key subjects like Maths and Science. We need the building blocks as early as Grade R, the basis is laid at the foundation phase.

In the previous articles we deliberated more on the role that stakeholders ought to play including branches of the ANC adopting schools in their respective wards.

We have equally over emphasised the importance of continuous education programmes that must be led by ANCYL, which should be dealing with challenges that learners are confronted with on daily basis.

On the same vein, reflected on the necessity of ANC members taking centre stage as and when SGB elections are held thereby ensuring that schools are governed in accordance with all prescribed legislations and party directives.

We have also in the previous articles commented on the Unions intransigence which hobbles South African Education and highlighted the need for a

change of mind, heart and attitude. During his State of the Nation address in 2013, President Jacob Zuma said the appropriateness of the salaries and conditions of service provided by the state to its employees would be investigated.

The commission would also assess the return on investment. President Jacob Zuma established a Presidential Remuneration Commission in 2013 to investigate the conditions and salaries of civil servants, with teachers receiving top priority. During his State of the Nation address President Jacob Zuma said the appropriateness of the salaries and conditions of services provided by the state to its employees would be investigated. As a de facto essential service, education would be the first sector to be investigated. "All successful societies have invested in education. Decent salaries and conditions of service will play an important role in attracting, motivating and retaining skilled teachers," he said

We also appeal to the state to expedite progress on issues that relate to teacher's remuneration, subject knowledge and all challenges surrounding teachers working environment including their personal development as there is no report as yet regarding the subject matter since the establishment of the Presidential Remuneration Committee in 2013.

The quality of education system is predicated on the quality of its teachers, which means continuous training and development is significant.

Nampak, NETSO, CWI, CBI, DEC, SCRAW Metals, Vereeniging Refectories, Malefane Technologies, Vitro, CTM, Hotels etc, with a clear understanding of stretching their financial muscle to invest in the education of the needy and previously disadvantaged children within communities where they do business – Not negotiable. This partnership with both Emfuleni Local Municipality and Sedibeng District Municipality is of paramount importance and will go a long way in educating the nation, private companies through municipalities must provide bursaries to learners who have graduated from the basic education system.

The Office of the Chief Whip in Emfuleni Local Municipality – Councillor Eric Tshabalala would like to acknowledge your outstanding efforts, unflinching dedication and hardwork once again this year. You have done us proud as a nation with your invigorating and resplendent results and wish you every success in your future endeavors.

The Office wishes to further congratulate all learners who have passed the National Senior Certificate Exams. Despite all the controversy and denigration, it remains an achievement to this milestone.

We also like to advise all learners to dissuade all attempts to enter the job market as yet but use the time at their disposal to acquire qualifications that will help them to find better jobs that contribute to the economy of the country.

Those who cannot embark on further study for unforeseen reasons will find matric does not open many doors, it's a stepping stone. We should be worried not only about those who failed matric but also millions who started in Grade 1 but left the schooling system before Grade 12. These factors unfortunately contribute directly to the ever - growing army of the unemployed and unemployable. The Office further wishes to convey condolences to the family of the late Limpopo Education MEC Cde Thembisile Nwedamutsu, relatives and friends. She was a hardworking and committed leader and she will be sorely missed for the contribution she has made not only in the education but Public sector as a whole, she met her untimely death on the 9th January 2015.



We cautioned that, great results means learners and teachers need to extend themselves to their very best.

We have also unambiguously pointed out the importance of forging partnerships with Private Companies such as Acellor Mittal, Cape Gate, Century 2000 (Electrical),

The IEB (Independent Examinations Board) is a Section 21 Company that has been approved as a public benefit organisation in terms of the Income Tax Act.



Therefore it has been registered by the Department of Social Development as a non-profit organisation. Every product and service rendered by the IEB is self-sustaining and no subsidy is received from government, its directors serve the organisation without remuneration.

The IEB offers external assessment in accordance with legislation and Umalusi directives for the schools registered with it. The key examination is the National Senior Certificate (NSC) written at the end of Grade 12. By Law the IEB is only able to offer assessment for the National Senior Certificate to independent schools.

In a sense, more often than not learners in these schools are less than twenty (20) in a class; they receive individual attention but it doesn't come cheap.

These schools are well resourced and do not receive subsidy from government, they have highly qualified teachers with subject knowledge, learning material, equipment, state of art laboratories and facilities that cater for all sporting codes.

#### **The most expensive Independent Schools in South Africa**

No	Name of School	Fees	Area
1.	Hilton College	R209 000.00	KZN Midlands
2.	ST Martins	R184 460.00	Johannesburg
3.	ST Andrews College	R182 700.00	Grahamstown
4.	Kearsney College	R181 350.00	KZN Midlands
5.	Roedean School for Girls	R181 140.00	Johannesburg
6.	ST Alban's College	R181 000.00	Pretoria

The reason for the above table is precisely to demonstrate that while there is a slide drop on the results of the class of 2014 which is necessitated by Curriculum changes, many of our no fee schools have produced a number of bachelor and diploma entrants into Universities. This serves as evidence that our public schools are now coming on board both statistically and qualitatively.

Umalusi - Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training, having studied all the evidence at hand on the management and conduct of the National Senior Certificate examinations administered by the Independent Examinations Board (IEB), Department of Basic Education (DOBE), South African Comprehensive Assessment Institute (SACAI), General Education and Training Certificate (GETC - ABET LEVEL4) and Department of Higher Education (NC (V) and N2 & N3) was satisfied that nothing has compromised the integrity or credibility of the examinations process. It was satisfied that examinations were fair, valid and credible and accordingly approved the release of the results of the National Senior Certificate Examinations on the 30 December 2014.



Umalusi approved the exams after various quality control measures, including moderating and approving question papers, verifying internal assessments, monitoring the conduct during exams, and monitoring and verifying the marking and final results.

In certain cases a process of standardisation was applied, whereby marks would be adjusted to "mitigate fluctuations in learner performance that are a result of factors within the examination processes themselves rather than the knowledge, aptitude or abilities of learners".

The matric learners who succeeded in the IEB National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination achieved a 98.38% pass rate in 2014, and all qualify for tertiary study.

The total number of registered Private Schools that passed the National Senior Certificate through Independent Examinations Board (IEB) were 191, with 9 976 full time learners and 475 part time learners. The independent schools that are assessed by IEB scored a whopping 14 900 distinctions. The Gauteng Province boasts with high number of Private Schools and learners, and is sitting in the first position regarding performance (IEB).

<b>Qualification</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Entry to Degree Study	85%	85.45%
Entry to Diploma Study	11.56%	12%
Entry to Higher Certificate	1.37%	1.5%

The Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga has announced that the 2014 national matric pass rate of 75.8% "sadly has a drop of 2.5 percentage point" from the previous year, this happened on 6th January 2014 during official announcement ceremony of the results for



the class of 2014 held at Auckland Park. Aristotle says; the roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.

The matric results released in January have yet again highlighted the performance disparities between public and private schools. Are the 2014 matric results a good measure of South Africa's education system? The answer is - we are gradually getting there, we must fast-track the process of making education an apex priority. Gauteng is the best performing province, with 84.7%. The economic hub province is followed by the North West, which achieved 84.6%. The Eastern Cape emerged as the worst performing province again, achieving 65.4% up from 64.9% of 2013. The eight (8) National Top achievers nationally also come from Gauteng Province.

The pass rate dipped for the first time in five years, slipping from 78% in 2013 to 75.8% in 2014.

The Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga attributed the drop to the implementation of the Curriculum Assessment Policy Statement (Caps). The slight drop in the results was expected – new and more rigorous curriculum, difficult questions and changed exam structure.

We must not be too absorbed in the small drop in the results. It is simply a re-alignment from the changes in format and content in key subjects.

Importantly, when you implement something new there is always instability and insecurities as people don't know what to expect. It is a fact that teachers were not provided sufficient time for training and learners had no previous examination papers to revise with. The other contributing factor was the unjust promotion of learners from grade 11 to grade 12.

The department of Basic and Higher education are doing a good work with regards to recruitment and training of new teachers into the sector. However, a number of reports show that we are currently not producing enough Foundation and Intermediate Phase teachers. In the Foundation Phase the availability of African language mother tongue teachers is extremely worrying. We have to increase the number of teachers we produce who are able to teach in, and effectively teach the African Languages in the Foundation Phase and across all the other phases as well. This must be done in tandem with continuous teacher training on senior phases including matric.

For the first time last year, thousands of learners who had failed Grade 11 were automatically promoted to matric owing to the Progression Policy.

The phenomena of progressing learners who have not met the requirements is not unique in our country. It happens in different countries such as Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Japan, Korea and United Kingdom. These countries are pro-automatically progression instead of repetition. It is also a fact that when you phase in new learning areas in a subject, results are axiomatically bound to be affected.

All additions made to the Curriculum in different subjects were made on the basis of the advice received from Universities and Education Experts.

The Class of 2014 was not only exposed to the new Curriculum but also a new way of publishing results which came out in a form of exam number as opposed to names or Identity Numbers of learner, though Congress of South African Students (COSAS) is opposed to the idea. It holds a strong view that evinces an exam is private in its very nature so results should be kept between the teacher and individual learner concerned. What is important though is to allow this process the opportunity to mature and afford teachers and learners sufficient time to grasp with the new learning areas, this is a fact that we must all contend with.

Mathematics is one of the education department biggest problems, although officials blame major Curriculum changes for the drop in last year's Maths pass rate. The class of 2014 were the first to write geometry in several years, back in 2006 it was proposed that the trick branch of Maths be taken off the syllabus in order for teachers to be properly trained. Geometry has been introduced has been re-introduced after an outcry from Universities and Engineering sector.

Umalusi has also registered a concern about the drop in Maths which is at 53,5% from 59.1% in 2013.

This year we were also made aware of a surge in matric cheating with Kwazulu-Natal and Eastern Cape Province said to have been the chief culprits.

Besides this, alleged cheating in other Provinces was discovered in Gauteng (Six Centres), Northern Cape (1) and the Western Cape (1). There are 6 740 centres nationwide.

The findings of group copying by the quality assurance body Umalusi raise serious concerns about the involvement and complicity of teachers, department officials and examination officers.

The investigation Unit by Umalusi has unleashed the process in the two Provinces and is expected to conclude its business no later than month (January 2015) end so that results of those who are innocent are duly released and learners through the assistance of the department are afforded the space and opportunity to also further their studies at the tertiary level. In all fairness this annihilates our education system.

The process will not be cut and dry for all though, those who are found to have put their hands in the "Cookie Jar" will suffer the consequences.

The Preliminary report into allegations of group cheating in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape was discussed by MECs at the Council of Education Ministers meeting in Pretoria on the 2nd February 2015. The meeting was chaired by Deputy Minister of Basic Education, Enver Surty in the absence of the Minister who at the time was currently out of the country on official business. MEC's agreed that the process of dealing with those cases where evidence of group cheating has been uncovered needs to be finalised with the utmost urgency and needs to ensure that the integrity and credibility of the education system is protected.

They acknowledged the serious nature of the copying and expressed concern at the extent of the problem, but more especially the extent to which adult invigilators, many of them teachers or principals were involved in assisting learners.

They suggested learners who were involved need to be dealt with according to the regulations; however an element of compassion also needs to be applied due to the fact that in many instances they were influenced by the adult invigilators. The extent of the learners' participation needs to be considered when deciding how to deal with the individual cases. For the adults involved however, the MECs agreed that the allegations are extremely serious and the highest punishment needs to be considered to ensure they are not able to perpetuate the problem throughout the system. They were unapologetic in their assessment that this type of behaviour from adult invigilators cannot be condoned in any way.

The Minister will consider the report as well as the recommendations suggested to prevent group copying from taking place in the future. This could mean the department needs to review the current methods used in appointing the invigilators and who is eligible to be an invigilator.

The committee established to look into group copying has through the minister released its report on 9th February 2015 which among other things recommended that Matriculants implicated in the group copying scandal in the Eastern Cape in 2014 may apply to sit for supplementary exams, they could write supplementary exams in the subjects which they were accused of copying.

The Minister of Basic Education through her spokesperson, Mali Mtima indicated that she has approved a special concession for them in their schools or districts.

This approval for them to register is granted on the basis that these candidates were assisted by the chief invigilator, invigilator, or subject teachers, and therefore did not act on their own and therefore did not act on their own accord. However, in cases where candidates initiated the copying, this special concession will not apply.

The following table shows how all Provinces have performed since 2013:

No	Province	2013	2014
1.	Gauteng	87%	84.7%
2.	North West	87.2%	84.6%
3.	Free State	87.4%	82.8%
4.	Western Cape	85.1%	82.2%
5.	Mpumalanga	77.6%	79%
6.	Northern Cape	74.5%	76.4%
7.	Limpopo	71.8%	72.9%
8.	KwaZulu Natal	77.4%	69.7%
9.	Eastern Cape	64.9%	65.4%

The Gauteng province is going paperless; the digitalisation of the education system is just what we need in the quest for a revolutionary digital state. A R17 billion project to introduce tablets to government schools in Gauteng will ultimately boost the country's economy.

Importantly, there are technologies that change the way subjects are defined, allowing pupils to learn in different and exciting ways. It is crucial for the Curriculum to be modernised to take advantage of the tools that digital technology provide.

One of the factors constraining economic growth in South Africa is the relative shortage of e-skills, said the Deputy President at the "Big Switch On" recently held at Boitumelong Secondary School in Tembisa. The Smart Schools project was being launched at seven Gauteng township schools. The Gauteng education department anticipates to roll out the project to all Gauteng Township and Rural Schools by the end of 2017/2018 financial year.

The office would like to congratulate Mr. Andrek Panyaza Lesufi, commonly known as Panyaza Lesufi, who was Acting Director General of the Department of Basic Education and Special Advisor to the Minister of Basic Education for his appointment as Gauteng MEC



for Education, we must also acknowledge the contribution that his predecessor made, Barbara Creecy laid a firm foundation from which the current MEC is building on. We also welcome the announcement of the MEC

to withdraw funding from private schools that have performed below 50%, this money must be re-channelled back to the no-fee schools. This year in January, the African National Congress commemorated the 103 Years of its formation as a vanguard of our national democratic movement. As the oldest liberation movement in the Continent, the ANC has proven to South Africa and the global community that it is a force to be revered world-over; that is the true champion and protector of fundamental tenets of democracy and rule of law. Its political stance on numerous matters of the Continent and the world has become the benchmark for many nations.

The African National Congress was also celebrating sixty (60) years since the Congress of the People in Kliptown, Soweto, where the Freedom Charter was adopted. This was a mass gathering of the people who came as delegates from every village, town and city. Despite the heavy presence of the Apartheid military machine, the spirit of South Africans acting in unity could not be dampened. We salute those heroes and heroines, who were fundamental in shaping the pillars of our democracy as enshrined in our Constitution. This year represents the fifty-fifth Anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre, where the Apartheid police brutally mowed down innocent citizens who were protesting against the unjust pass laws.

President Jacob Zuma delivered the January 8 Statement at Western Cape, on behalf of the National Executive Committee. The President when juxtaposing the Freedom Charter – The doors of Learning and Culture Shall be Opened and Progress made to date – reported that Education continues to be number one priority. The ANC has made great strides in ensuring that education and training is available to all. On reversing the systemic impact of apartheid education, the ANC have put in place a comprehensive and integrated education system.

The President pointed out that South Africa spends about

5% of its GDP on basic education and 1.4 % on higher education, this is showing significant results.

The Pre-school education has expanded massively.

There is gender parity in school enrolment and we are doing really well in terms of the matric pass rate.

On NSFAS – the President said, we are also showing steady improvements in tertiary education and student financial aid is increasing all the time. Our figures show that more than 1,4 million students have benefited from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS).

The President further cautioned the Country that the escalating costs of tertiary education and the annual raising of fees by universities and other institutions of higher learning is a worrying factor. This escalating cost has become another source of exclusion for the poor and vulnerable South African child. While we appreciate the autonomy of universities, we must caution universities against excluding students on the basis of price and race he said.

Tasks of the Movement as per January 8 Statement:

- Our Movement must be at the forefront of efforts to sustain and improve the quality of education and we must be an integral part of making the national curriculum reflect our developmental imperatives.
- ANC members must promote the constitutional rights of all South Africans to express their culture

Of the 81 districts in the country, this year we have no district that has performed under 50%. In 2013 there was only one (1) district that performed dismally and it was in the Eastern Cape.

The debate or discussions around the quality of passes still at 30% and 40% has been raging on for some time and it's a subject that we will reflect on as a stand-alone topic after the release of the report by the ministerial commission on the subject. We don't want to pre-determine the outcome at this stage.

In Gauteng out of fifteen (15) districts, only two (2) performed below 80%. The Sedibeng District did exceptionally well once again, both East and West respectively. Sedibeng East was outsmarted by Gauteng west district from its 1st position nationally as the best performing district with 92.7% to second position with 91.2%.

The district continues to represent us well nationally, this year we need to do our best to ensure that we provide equal and necessary support to have our two beloved districts in the top five.

#### **The Top five (5) Districts**

<b>No</b>	<b>District Name</b>	<b>2014 Percentage</b>	<b>District Director</b>
1.	Gauteng West	92.7%	Peter Skosana
2.	Sedibeng East	91.2%	Dorah Moloji
3.	Ekurhuleni North	88.7%	Ephraim Tau
4.	West Coast – Western Cape	88.4%	Jannie Beukes
5.	Overberg – Western Cape	88.1%	Bertram Loriston

Four schools in Sedibeng East have scored 100% pass rate in the class of 2014, the worrying factor though is the decline of schools that have performed well in the class of 2013.

The table below shows the performance of Sedibeng East Schools from 2013

No	School Name	2013	2014	Difference	Bachelors	Diplomas	HC
1.	Assemblies Of College	92.42%	86.79%	-5.63	20	21	5
2.	Destinata	100%	91.67%	-8.33	3	18	1
3.	EL Tabernacle Christian College	100%	88%	-12.00	6	15	1
4.	General Smuts High School	93.29%	93.88%	0.5	119	113	29
5.	Hoer Volkskool Heidelberg	96.26%	93.26%	3.00	93	67	20
6.	Hoerskool DR Malan	97.47%	99.44%	1.97	99	73	4
7.	Hoerskool Drie Riviere	99.33%	99.22%	0.11	18	43	7
8.	Hoerskool Emmasdal	100%	100%	NA	NA	NA	NA
9.	Hoerskool OverVaal	100%	98.77%	-1.23	36	41	3
10.	Isizwe-Setjhaba Secondary	73.21%	79.07%	5.86	13	13	8
11.	Jeppe Education Centre	88.00%	100%	12.00	9	10	3
12.	Kgoro Ya Thuto Secondary	85.83%	82.05%	-3.78	35	45	16
13.	Khanya-Lesedi Secondary	83.76%	82.47%	-1.29	39	32	9
14.	Lekoa Shandu Secondary	85.19%	85.39%	0.20	27	35	14
15.	Meyerton Secondary	69.17%	85.29%	16.12	48	49	19
16.	Mohloli Secondary	88.89%	97.32%	8.43	46	70	29
17.	Ratanda Secondary	86.30%	65.32%	-20.98	20	38	23
18.	Riverside High School	97.96%	91.61%	-6.35	67	56	8
19.	Roshnee Islamic School	100%	100.00%	0.00	31	1	0
20.	Roshnee Secondary	100%	98.72%	-1.28%	47	26	4
21.	Rostec	NA	50.00%		0	3	3
22.	Rusoord Secondary	72.00%	94.12%	22.12	2	10	4
23.	Rust-Ter-Vaal Secondary	52.17%	71.88%	19.71	0	36	10
24.	Sedaven High School	89.66%	87.88%	-1.78	16	10	3
25.	Thuto Lure Secondary	68.75%	92.73%	23.98	14	30	7
26.	Vaal ED U College	100.0%	84.38%	-15.62	9	15	3
27.	Vereeniging Gimnasium	98.05%	100.00%	1.95	111	137	8

Despite the splendid results which saw Sedibeng East District number one nationally last year and number two in 2014 regarding performance we don't have a school in the seven piloted paperless classroom. The criteria is not so much important in that of the seven schools you only have one which is in Midrand, the rest are from Eastrand.

However, the Gauteng MEC for Education committed that township schools that achieved a 100% pass rate in last year's (2014) matric results would be next in line but was unable to give a time frame.

#### Schools from 2013

No	School Name	2013	2014	Difference	Bachelors	Diplomas	HC
1.	Ramosokula	90.62%	100.00%				
2.	Suncrest	98.87%	98.30%	9.38	12	10	1
3.	Bophelong	70.70%	98.29%	-0.57	38	66	12
4.	Transvalia	96.45%	98.00%	27.59	48	45	22
5.	Lakeside	98.19%	97.64%	1.55	141	44	11
6.	Driehoek	100.00%	96.98%	-0.55	70	81	15
7.	Suiderlig	98.71%	95.53%	-3.02	78	77	6
8.	Maxeke	88.88%	93.79%	-3.18	76	79	16
9.	Watershed	42.55%	92.85%	4.91	45	62	14
10.	Esokwazi	96.66%	92.33%	50.30	7	13	6
11.	Khutlo-Tharo	64.10%	90.83%	-4.00	88	103	38
12.	Jet Nteo	64.51%	90.47%	26.73	49	49	11
13.	Poelano	84.00%	89.60%	25.96	24	25	8
14.	Vanderbiljpark	88.73%	87.80%	5.00	28	57	27
				-0.93	30	31	11

Though we would have wanted Sedibeng East to maintain its position in the class under review, it has once more dispelled the myth that Sedibeng cannot compete with schools that are highly resourced and located in the areas that developmentally on the map.

The Sedibeng West also has a slide drop of 4.61% in comparison with the Class of 2013 which was 82.93%, in the Class of 2014 it scored 78.32%. Only one school in Sedibeng West District of Education has scored 100% pass rate as opposed to two in the class of 2013. The table shows the performance of Sedibeng West

15.	Tshepo-Themba	84.50%	86.00%	1.50	26	36	24
16.	Kgokare	96.55%	85.91%	-10.64	15	30	16
17.	Jordan	97.36%	85.84%	-11.52	29	49	13
18.	Mohaladitoe	64.63%	83.79%	19.27	22	30	21
19.	Qedilizwe	92.56%	83.33%	-9.23	46	72	42
20.	Fundulwazi	76.85%	82.60%	3.75	49	46	19
21.	Sapphire	80.71%	80.43%	-0.25	28	51	32
22.	Sehopotso	100.00%	80.24%	-19.96	14	31	20
23.	Carel de Wet	90.90%	79.83%	-11.74	23	54	18
24.	Tsolo	76.61%	79.48%	2.87	26	62	36
25.	Beverly Hills	92.82%	79.43%	-13.39	46	45	21
26.	EL Shaddai	76.59%	79.31%	2.72	16	42	11
27.	Tokelo	71.08%	77.77%	6.69	11	25	20
28.	Thuto-Tiro	94.62%	77.62%	-17.00	38	54	19
29.	Ruta-Setjhaba	91.39%	74.58%	-16.81	71	77	31
30.	Mopholosi	81.81%	72.86%	-8.95	18	47	29
31.	Sizanani-Thusanang	67.60%	72.85%	5.25	17	19	15
32.	Botebo-Tsebo	71.25%	72.41%	0.99	27	71	28
33.	Residensia	77.84%	71.58%	-6.29	42	60	29
34.	Prestigious Aurete	81.30%	69.70%	-11.70	5	41	25
35.	Tharabollo	79.43%	69.49%	-9.94	38	52	33
36.	Moshate	72.97%	68.93%	-4.04	27	72	43
37.	Moqhaka	63.15%	68.88%	5.73	8	18	5
38.	Vaal High	80.00%	68.18%	-11.82	15	55	35
39.	Ramolelle	83.33%	66.66%	-16.67	4	3	3
40.	Dinokaneng	58.44%	65.74%	7.30	21	27	23
41.	Boitumelo	66.95%	65.04%	-1.91	13	34	20
42.	Lebohang	85.85%	61.94%	-23.91	20	39	24
43.	Mahareng	77.77%	58.12%	-19.65	32	35	26
44.	Crystal Springs	41.30%	51.85%	10.55	6	5	3
45.	Samelson College	43.75%	51.72%	3.97	1	10	4
46.	Setjhaba-Sohle	84.12%	49.05%	-35.07	21	17	14
47.	Thandukwazi	73.63%	47.57%	-26.06	15	48	35
48.	Katleho-Impumelelo	71.11%	46.92%	-24.19	18	27	16

NB: There are two schools which do not appear on the above table i.e. ED Mashabane and Sebokeng Technical School. The reason behind this is because ED Mashabane was since closed, the school was re-opened in 2015 with grade 8 and 9 while Sebokeng Technical College was converted into a Special (LSEN) School.

Out of 5 897 learners who wrote matric examinations in 2014, Sedibeng West have registered a pass of 4 619 learners with just over 1 500 bachelor degrees entry at Universities.

Regrettably, the number of failures in the district has reached alarm ing proportions - 1278 from 924 in 2013. If fewer learners in quantile one get bachelor passes than in quantile 5, it means future income gaps will resemble the present inequalities and unemployment trends. More needs to be done to ensure that the decline, no matter how small it is gets attended to urgently. The Class of 2015 must outsmart the previous Class both statistically and qualitatively. We must at the same time commend the Department of Higher Education for its continuous support in providing the financial assistance to the needy.

One of the most successful schemes established by government to assist students from poor disadvantaged families with academic ability is the National Student

Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS), which provides loans and bursaries to students at all 26 public universities and 50 public Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET – formerly known as FET) Colleges throughout the Country. National Student Financial Aid Scheme will be funding 205 000 first time entering and continuing eligible students at Universities and 200 000 students at TVET Colleges this year by providing student loans and bursaries totaling R9.5 billion.

This is an increase of 28 646 opportunities on the 396 449 opportunities provided in 2014 and these can be broken down as follows:

- 204 522 new entrant opportunities at Universities
- 44 000 Engineering and Business Studies opportunities at TVET Colleges
- 37 000 National Certificate Vocational Programme opportunities in TVET Colleges
- 85 900 Occupationally-directed (Apprenticeship or



Learnership) opportunities in collaboration with TVET Colleges, SETA's and Employers

- 16 250 Artisan opportunities and
- An additional 37 423 learning programme opportunities in the form 3 380 apprenticeships, 4 513 bursaries and 29 530 learnerships will be provided SETA's

In addition, NSFAS has earmarked R69.3 million in the 2015 academic year to provide financial aid to disabled students in Universities.

Matriculants who have an inclination to become an artisan, e.g. motor mechanic, plumber, electrician, chef etc can register at National Artisan Development Support Centre in Kwa-Thema by going to their website: <http://nadsc.dhet.gov.ga>, contacting NADSC Call Centre on 011 736 4400 or by emailing copies of their qualifications to [info@eec.hipcc.co.za](mailto:info@eec.hipcc.co.za). They can also approach any of the student support services offices at any of the TVET Colleges for more information.

Worrying though, South African University students are getting their parents to fork out tens of thousands of Rands to fund their studies while secretly getting money from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme so they have double cash. They then take their parents money and blow it on parties and shopping sprees. The department has now instituted a forensic probe into the abuse of the scheme. It has also established a system that is able to track down all graduates who have been assisted financially by NSFAS and are currently working at either Public or Private Sector to repay so that the same money can be used to fund other needy students. Whilst the department is doing its best to ensure that financial assistance is handy, the reality is that the scramble by newly matriculated learners at the Country's tertiary institutions has reached alarming proportions. These escalating numbers have put a strain on higher learning institutions with several of them no longer accepting walk in applications, meanwhile high University fees are draining a lot out of NSFAS, a fund aimed to assist the poor.

The other disconcerting issue is protests that recently took place at different institutions of higher learning which are caused by scarce resources to cater for all students and space availability, this calls for institutions to come on board and lend a hand on this plight.

An extended Post Office Strike has also left many learners in the lurch, late correspondences to learners especially the poor with no access to the internet. We would also like to discourage learners from the perception that TVET is less important and irrelevant from the Universities. In fact government and the private sector are investing a lot in TVET precisely because the training offered is aligned to skills that economy the needs to grow and are job market orientated.

Those who did not make it through grade 12 must not despair, in fact there is no better time than the present to start afresh and shine.

Minister of Basic Education Angie Motshekga said matric learners who had failed would, unlike in previous years, be allowed to go back to school to repeat the Grade on a full time basis. She said the department was allowing this special arrangement because the Class of 2014 and their teachers had dealt with new and more challenging syllabus.

Teachers and learners didn't have a model, so they were seeing a lot of things for the first time. Now that we've rolled out Caps (Curriculum Assessment and Policy Statements) completely, we expect that the system will gallop because people will be more confident and they'll know what to expect, she said.

The 135 943 learners who will be writing supplementary exams this year will be given special attention and necessary support to ensure that they also contribute to the pool of basic education system graduates.

Remember challenges that you had are not greater the support you now have around you. We all need to stay connected to the course because education is a societal issue. It is important to note that we cannot as a nation afford to postpone the importance of raising the bar in the education sector.

Abdul'Rauf Hashmi says; the most valuable thing you can make is a mistake. You can't learn anything from being perfect. Hope is a fertile soil where flowers blossoms, you can rise above any situation and achieve your dreams and Shame is the power we give others to wield over us.

The sad reality is that our branches are not doing enough to adopt schools in their respective wards and this pose a serious challenge. We encourage branches to lead educational programmes that are meant to empower schools, organize unemployed and employed graduates to be career advisors at schools, provide motivational sessions, and by also ensuring that extra tutor classes are given to learners.

All ANC Zonal leadership and Parliamentary Constituency Offices across Sedibeng region should be seen to be playing an active role in this regard. We need programmes (obviously informed by branch inputs) that will make an impact not only to underperforming schools but also those that are doing well to ensure that they either maintain the current pass rate or improve moving forward.

We need to develop a strategy that speaks to us being able to address challenges that teachers, learners and parents raise, they regard us as a beacon of hope. The Regional PCO Forum; where MEC's and MP's sit must attend to this issue seriously, relevant MEC,

HOD and District directors must be invited when the forum deals with education. This forum must help us to solicit the so much needed political will and required intervention.

The two Municipalities are annually continuously contributing to the pool of academics. The Emfuleni Local Municipality accounts for 34 students who are doing their first and 4 students who are in the second year in the 2014/2015 financial year, this despite the financial challenges the municipality is faced with which is as a result of residents not paying their rates and taxes especially in townships. The Mayoral Bursary Scheme affords learners who have passed matric and meet University entrance requirements the opportunity to study with any University in Gauteng. We must commend the Office for the superlative work done when it comes to education.

Contextually, the above students are at North West University, Wits, VUT, UJ and University of Pretoria respectively.

However, the challenge at this point is the demand that exceeds supply; budget limitation is a serious constraint. We can't over-emphasize the importance of partnership with the private sector.

Our Sedibeng District Municipality accounts for 84 students whom it has offered financial assistance through bursaries, this happened between 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 respectively. The year 2015 will see 29 Matriculants being awarded financial assistance through bursaries by Sedibeng District Municipality.

The district Municipality is consistent in its quest to educate the children of the Vaal and is doing well with regards to increasing the number annually. These students are found in VUT, North West, UJ, University of Pretoria, Wits and University of Free State.

The challenge Sedibeng Municipality is facing is the demand that exceeds the supply just like in Emfuleni and the reluctance of private sector coming on board. The bursary fund in the two Municipalities covers all the essentials.

We pride ourselves as Sedibeng residents with the contribution that our Municipalities are making. The ANC led alliance at the level of branches is once more requested to mobilise communities and identify capable and credible parents within its ranks to lead the School Governing Body Structures, elections will be in the month of March. Branches should influence this process such that leadership that emerges here is of high moral ground in keeping with the norms and standards as prescribed by the South African Schools Act but also able to go an extra mile.

We also want to commend the department with programmes such as Exam Learner Support and School Intervention Programme, the support parents also gave in this regard is equally important and is acknowledged. Querying Matric Results

Rechecking – R18, Re-marking – R80 and Viewing – R160

Counselling Help:

1. Social Development Special Helpline – 0800 428 428 or send call back to: \*120\*7867#
2. SA Depression and Anxiety Group Suicide Crisis Line – 0800 567 567 or SMS 31393
3. Help Line – 011 262 6396 / Child Line toll free - 011 645 2000
4. Life Line Southern Africa – 0861 322 322 / Love Life – 0800 121 900

The need for omnibus approach when it comes to education cannot be over emphasised, education remains a focal point with which society needs to positively contribute to.

We equally need to encourage all our graduates to plough back to the communities from which they were raised and schooled.

In conclusion James Baldwin puts it in context when he says; "the paradox of education is precisely this - that as one begins to become conscious one begins to examine the society in which he is being educated".

All the best!



# BACK TO BASICS

What are the remaining challenges? COGTA has done a review of South Africa's 278 municipalities, which has revealed that we still have a journey to reach the ideal municipality we envisage. The top third municipalities have got the basics right and are performing their functions at least adequately. Within this group, there are a small group of top performers that are doing extremely well. In these municipalities there are innovative practices to ensure sustainability and resilience. This small core represents the desired (ideal) state for all our municipalities.

The middle third of municipalities are fairly functional, and overall performance is average. While the basics are mostly in place and the municipalities can deliver on the main functions of local government, we also find some areas of poor performance or decline that are worrying signs.

The bottom third of municipalities are frankly dysfunctional, and significant work is required to get them to function properly. Among others we find endemic corruption, councils which don't function, no structured community engagement, and poor financial management leading to continuous negative audit outcomes. There is a poor record of service delivery, and functions such as fixing potholes, collecting refuse, maintaining public places or fixing street lights are not performed. While most of the necessary resources to render the functions or maintain the systems are available, the basic mechanisms to perform these functions are often not in place. It is in these municipalities that we are failing our people dramatically, and where we need to be intervening urgently in order to correct the decay in the system.

Institutional incapacity and widespread poverty have undermined the sustainability of the local government project, leading in some instances to a serious breakdown in services. Some of the problems we face are:

- A collapse in core municipal infrastructure services in some communities, resulting in services either not being provided at all, or provided at unacceptably low levels.
- Slow or inadequate responses to service delivery challenges are in turn linked to the breakdown of trust in the institutions and councillors by communities.
- Social distance by our public representatives is a major cause for concern. This reflects inadequate public participation and poorly functioning ward councillors and committees.
- The viability of certain municipalities is a key concern. The low rate of collection of revenue continues to undermine the ability of municipalities to deliver services to
- Municipalities also need to be driven by appropriately skilled personnel and their correct placement, and there are far too many instances both of inappropriate placements and skills

not measuring up to requirements.

- This is compounded by widespread instances of rent seeking and corruption amongst public representatives and business, reflecting a broader breakdown in the values and good governance principles that should be guiding the people we have elected or appointed to run the local government system and those that do business with government.

The so-called service delivery protests are a reflection of community frustration with these failures, especially in economically marginalised communities who experience real or perceived indifference from government officials and politicians.

While these protests have generated a negative narrative and perceptions for municipalities, we must recognise them as a serious indictment of our ability to serve our people.

## Back to Basics - Programme for Change

"We cannot solve today's problems with the same level of thinking that created the problems in the first place" (Albert Einstein). We need to do things differently if we want different solutions. We must change our paradigm to focus on serving the people and not extractive elites. The Constitution and other legislation spell out our responsibilities and tasks. Some municipalities perform them well, but others don't. For example, an acceptable level of performance means that municipalities must:

1. Put people and their concerns first and ensure constant contact with communities through effective public participation platforms. This is the essence of our 'back to basics' approach
2. Create conditions for decent living by consistently delivering municipal services to the right quality and standard. This includes planning for and delivery of infrastructure and amenities, maintenance and upkeep, including the budgeting to do this. Ensure no failures in services and where there are, restore services with urgency.
3. Be well governed and demonstrate good governance and administration - cut wastage, spend public funds prudently, hire competent staff, ensure transparency and accountability.
4. Ensure sound financial management and accounting, and prudently manage resources so as to sustainably deliver services and bring development to communities.
5. Build and maintain sound institutional and administrative Capabilities, administered and managed by dedicated and skilled personnel at all levels.

Changing strategic orientation is not easy and it requires bold leadership and political will. At the same time we need a

collective effort and unity of purpose and partnership with leaders in local government, provinces and national government. We need to improve the political management of municipalities and be responsive to the needs and aspirations of local communities. In order to achieve this we urgently require:

- Mayors and Municipal Mayoral Committees with a vision to change and the calibre of leadership to drive the change process.
- Speakers of Councils who are able to effectively manage the business of Council and lead it in its engagement and outreach programmes.
- Councillors that will inspire and organize for our common purpose of serving our people, and creating a dynamic link their constituencies.
- Municipal Managers and senior managers that understand the core mandate and orientation understand their specific role in delivering the local government vision as envisaged in the White Paper and act in a manner that ensures that local government primarily serves its people by delivering basic services.

Our actions need to move from intent to generating impact on the ground. We will have to mobilise massive support from those who are willing to change for the better and isolate those who seek to push back progressive change amongst us. The strategy for our campaign will be based on supporting and educating those willing to change, as well as enforcing compliance through legislation and regulation to achieve our goals. In other words, we will have to inspire to become role models and emulate the best amongst us. But we will also disincentivise illegal and improper behaviour, enforce the law and ultimately name and shame those who are not willing to change.

## Defining roles and responsibilities

All three (3) spheres of government have an important role to play in ensuring well-functioning municipalities. Recognising the need for intersphere collaboration, this section assigns specific responsibilities to the spheres.

In addition existing intergovernmental platforms like MINMECs will be used to monitor and review progress.



Through the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Service Delivery, all relevant national departments will coordinate their approach to local government service delivery, and increase their level of oversight of the proper performance of service delivery functions. Throughout this transformative process COGTA will lead national and provincial governance programmes at a local level to ensure they are properly aligned with local governance and local spatial development frameworks.

We will, however, not rely on audits to measure performance as these are done after the fact. Instead real-time monitoring systems must be put in place and we will require brisk responses to problems and challenges. Collectively all spheres of government will need to be actively involved.

To this end COGTA has established a 'war room' and national monitoring system to track and if necessary intervene on municipal performance on key aspects. These systems will monitor service delivery interruptions. COGTA is working with provinces and municipalities to establish equivalent structures with respect to their own areas of influence and responsibility.

#### **National government programmes of support and enforcement**

Building from the work done to date, COGTA will act as a catalytic agency in cooperation with other national departments to lead the coordination and enforcement of good practice across our municipalities. We will ensure all spheres of governance will play their part.

#### Basic Services: Creating conditions for decent living

- CoGTA will support the development and implementation of comprehensive infrastructure and maintenance plans in municipalities, with at least 7% of operational budgets going to maintenance of infrastructure. This will include infrastructure audits.
- National Treasury and CoGTA will provide institutional support to improve expenditure, to target backlogs and to ensure municipalities acquire relevant skills for infrastructure management.

- The IMC will coordinate service delivery initiatives of national government departments under auspices of the IMC on Service Delivery.
- The Inter-Ministerial Basic Service Delivery Task Team will assist in unblocking and fast-tracking services around the country.
- CoGTA, Department of Water and Sanitation, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform and The Department of Human Settlements will intensify the implementation of a pipeline of projects in the 27 Districts with particular focus on water and sanitation to targeted areas.

#### Good governance

- Collective efforts will be employed to ensure municipal governance structures are effective, to manage political tensions and ensure a healthy political / administrative interface.
- Capacity building for councillors and senior officials will be prioritised and coordinated.
- Public Participation: Putting people first
- Conduct regular national citizen satisfaction surveys.
- Assist municipalities in developing community engagement plans.
- National and Provincial sector departments to increase their visibility and support to Thusong Centres.
- CoGTA to work with GCIS to improve communication in order to communicate local government successes and use them as learning opportunities for other municipalities.

#### Sound financial management

- National and Provincial CoGTAs and Provincial Treasuries will assess and address capacity deficiencies of municipalities to develop and implement Audit and Post Audit Action plans.
- National and Provincial CoGTAs and Provincial Treasuries will assess the

credit control and debt collection policies, including the elimination of theft of services, and by-laws for adequacy, and support the implementation thereof.

#### Building Capable Institutions and Administrations

- All municipalities will be monitored and supported to approve their organograms and timeously fill vacancies with competent people.
- COGTA and National Treasury will collectively enforce the implementation of the Municipal Systems Act and Municipal Financial Management Act regulations.
- COGTA will complete the review of the powers and capacity of all district municipalities and strengthen their ability to lead planning and infrastructure delivery, amongst others.

#### **Provincial Government programmes of support and enforcement**

#### Basic Services: Creating decent living conditions

- Provinces to establish/strengthen Rapid Response Teams' capabilities to address challenges.
- Monitor implementation plans of municipalities.

#### Good governance

- Provinces to intensify monitoring and support of Council meetings where there is evidence of dysfunctionality.
- MEC to take action in terms of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

#### Public Participation: Putting people first

- Assist municipalities in developing community engagement plans targeting hotspots and potential hotspots areas.
- Provincial sector departments to increase their visibility and support to Thusong Centres.



### Sound financial management

- National and Provincial CoGTAs and Provincial Treasuries to assess and address capacity deficiencies of municipalities to develop and implement Audit and Post Audit Action plans.
- Provincial CoGTAs and Treasuries to assess and address capacity deficiencies of municipalities to develop and implement procurement plans.
- Provincial Treasuries to support municipalities in the development and implementation of financial recovery plans.
- National and Provincial CoGTAs and Provincial Treasuries to assess the credit control and debt collection policies and by-laws for adequacy, and support the implementation thereof.

### Building Capable Institutions and Administrations

- Monitor and support the filling of vacancies with competent personnel.
- In collaboration with SALGA, monitor the functionality of local labour forums, identify weaknesses and intervene.
- National and provincial government to support municipalities to develop appropriate organograms.
- Develop and implement appropriate capacity building interventions.
- Develop guidelines on shared services and inter-municipal collaboration.

### Local Government programmes

In implementing legislation and carrying out Constitutional mandate, municipalities will work to ensure the following:

#### Basic Services: Creating conditions for decent living

- Municipalities must deliver the basic services (basic electricity, basic water, sanitation, waste removal etc.).
- In addition to the above, municipalities must ensure that services such as cutting grass, patching potholes, working robots and streetlights and consistent refuse removal are provided.
- Council to ensure proper maintenance and immediate addressing of outages or maintenance issues to ensure continuity of service provision.
- Municipalities must improve mechanisms to deliver new infrastructure at a faster pace whilst adhering to the relevant standards.
- Increase of Community Work Programme sites targeting the unemployed youth in informal settlements to render day to day services such as, cutting grass, patching potholes, cleaning cemeteries, etc.

- Extend reach of basic services to communities living in informal settlements by providing temporary services such as: (i) potable water, (ii) temporary sanitation facilities, (iii) grading of gravel roads and (iv) refuse removal.
- Improve policing and installation of high mast lighting.
- Cities to announce plans for township establishment where they exist.

### Good governance

- Municipalities will ensure transparency, accountability and regular engagements with communities.
- All municipal council structures must be functional and meet regularly.
- Council Meetings to sit at least quarterly.
- All Council Committees must sit and process items for council decisions.
- Clear delineation of roles and responsibilities between key leadership structures.
- Functional oversight committees must be in place, e.g. Audit Committee and
- Municipal Public Accounts Committees.

### Public Participation: Putting people first

- Implement community engagement plans targeting hotspots and potential hotspots areas.
- Municipalities to implement responsive and accountable processes with communities.
- Ward committees must be functional and Councillors must meet and report back to their constituencies at least quarterly.
- Utilise the Community Development Workers, Ward Committees and Ward Councillors to communicate projects earmarked for implementation.
- PR councillors need to represent the interests of the municipality as a whole and ensure that effective oversight and leadership functions are performed.
- Municipalities must communicate their plans to deal with backlogs.
- Municipalities to monitor and act on complaints, petitions and other feedback.

### Sound financial management

- All municipalities must have a functional financial management system which includes rigorous internal controls.
- Cut wasteful expenditure.
- Supply Chain Management structures and controls must be in place according to regulations and with appropriate oversight.

- All budgets to be cash backed.
- Ensure that Post Audit Action Plans are addressed.
- Act decisively against fraud and corruption.
- Conduct campaigns on 'culture of payment for services' led by councillors.
- Conduct campaigns against 'illegal connections, cable theft, manhole covers' etc.

### Building Capable Institutions and Administrations

- All municipalities enforce competency standards for managers and appoint persons with the requisite skills, expertise and qualifications.
- All staff to sign performance agreements.
- Implement and manage performance management systems.
- Municipal management to conduct regular engagements with labour.

Harmonising Relations between Traditional Leaders and Municipalities to advance Development and Service Delivery. The Department of Traditional Affairs has developed a comprehensive Framework for the Participation of Traditional Leaders in Municipal Councils to harmonise relations between traditional structures and Municipalities. The roles of traditional leaders in municipal affairs include their role to facilitate the participation of traditional communities in any Municipal activities that allow for public participation. In keeping with The Back to Basics approach, municipal and traditional structures should establish strong collaborative working relationships to create decent living conditions and improve delivery of services to rural traditional Communities. This collaboration must result in the following actions:

- Traditional structures must participate in municipal council sittings (where applicable).
- Traditional leaders must participate in Integrated Development Plans of municipalities and related community consultation processes.
- Traditional Leaders must facilitate access and release of land for development purposes.
- Traditional leaders must align release of land with spatial development plans of municipalities (e.g. demarcation of plots).
- Municipalities must involve traditional structures in programmes impacting on traditional communities.



# Sedibeng Regional Sewer Scheme

The South African Government adopted a National Infrastructure Plan in 2012. With the plan the Government aims to transform South African economic landscape while simultaneously creating significant numbers of new jobs, and strengthen the delivery of basic services. The plan also supports the integration of African economies.

In 2013 the then Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan during his budget speech indicated that Government will invest about R827 billion over a period of three years starting from 2013/2014 financial year in building new and upgrading existing infrastructure.

The ANC led Government also indicated that these investments will improve access by South Africans to healthcare facilities, schools, water, sanitation, housing and electrification. On the other hand, investment in the construction of ports, roads, railway systems, electricity plants, hospitals, schools and dams will contribute to faster economic growth.

In order to address Infrastructure challenges, Cabinet established the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Committee (PICC) to:

- Coordinate, integrate and accelerate implementation
- Develop a single common National Infrastructure Plan that will be monitored and centrally driven
- Identify who is responsible and hold them to account
- Develop a 20-year planning framework beyond one administration to avoid a stop-start pattern to the infrastructure roll-out

## Water and Sanitation Infrastructure

The project will indeed address the estimated backlog of adequate water to supply 1.4 million households and 2.1 million households with basic sanitation. The project involves provision of sustainable supply of water to meet social needs and support economic growth. The Project provides for new infrastructure, rehabilitation and upgrading of existing infrastructure, as well as improves management of water and sanitation infrastructure.

## The Eighteen (18) Presidential Strategic Integrated Projects

The Presidential Coordinating Commission is driven by the highest levels of Political will and dedication to harmonise Infrastructure Planning and implementation across all spheres of Government of the Republic of South Africa, State agencies as well as social partners.

The Presidential Coordinating Commission interventions are cross-cutting yet targeted, seeking to crowd-in investment and mobilise efforts. Government has integrated and phased in investment plans across 18 Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIPs) which have five core functions: to unlock opportunity, transform the economic landscape, create new jobs, strengthen the delivery of basic services and support the integration of African economies.

Of the 18 Strategic Presidential Projects, Sedibeng benefits on SIP 17 which is "Regional integration for African cooperation and development".

Our challenges that range from Ageing Infrastructure, Spillages, Undersigned Infrastructure and Storm Water Ingress etc, will be addressed through this project.

The project is going to help us reduce the level of unemployment and will enhance skills development thus contributing to the growth of the economy.

The National Infrastructure Plan is transforming the structure of the economy into a more employment-friendly, equitable and inclusive trajectory, one that offers every South African real opportunities and a share in the growth and wealth.

Accordingly, the Government of the Republic of South Africa recognises the vital role of the social partners in creating an enabling environment for implementing national infrastructure plans, mobilising human resources and ensuring accountability.

The Strategic Infrastructure Projects cover social and economic infrastructure – across all 9 provinces (with an emphasis on lagging regions), SIPs also cover catalytic projects that can fast-track development and growth. Work is being aligned with key cross-cutting areas: human settlement planning and skills development.







## Background

The Emfuleni Local Municipality and Midvaal Local Municipality are located along the southern boundary of the Gauteng Province in an area known as the Vaal Triangle. These municipalities fall within the Sedibeng District Municipality, a large district extending along the southern section of Gauteng Province between the adjacent provinces of Mpumalanga and North West. The Vaal River forms the southern boundary of Sedibeng and this river is also the boundary with the Free State Province.

Emfuleni covers an area of just under 990 square kilometres with its main economic and commercial nodes being Vanderbiljpark and Vereeniging. Evaton, Sharpeville and Sebokeng are predominantly residential areas within Emfuleni. Midvaal is the largest municipality (by area) in Gauteng Province covering an area of 2000 square kilometres. Urban areas are located in the towns of Meyerton and Vaal Marina, which are developed around a CBD. Lesser-urbanised towns are also found at De-deur, Daleside, Walkerville, Henley on Klip, Riversdale, Risiville, Ohinimuri, Klipwater, Klip Rivier, Highbury, Riversdale and Rothdene.

The sanitation infrastructure within the Sedibeng Regional Municipality is old. This is resulting in high maintenance

costs and frequent failures. Most of the existing Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) in the system are also at capacity (or over) and will not be able to handle the planned future development. The Emfuleni area has a very flat topography and the existing sewer system therefore consists of 43 sewage pump stations. Of these pump stations, 6 pump sewage to the Rietspruit WWTW and 37 to the Leeukuil WWTW. Some of these pump stations were built more than 50 years ago and with time and development, numerous additional pump stations had to be constructed. The sewerage network was therefore not planned and designed as a whole and pump stations were designed and built as the need arose through the years. This created a complex sewerage system with various pump stations and pipelines all over Emfuleni which have been, for some time now, experiencing frequent breakdowns, leakages and sewage spillages due to aging of the components and lack of maintenance / upgrading.

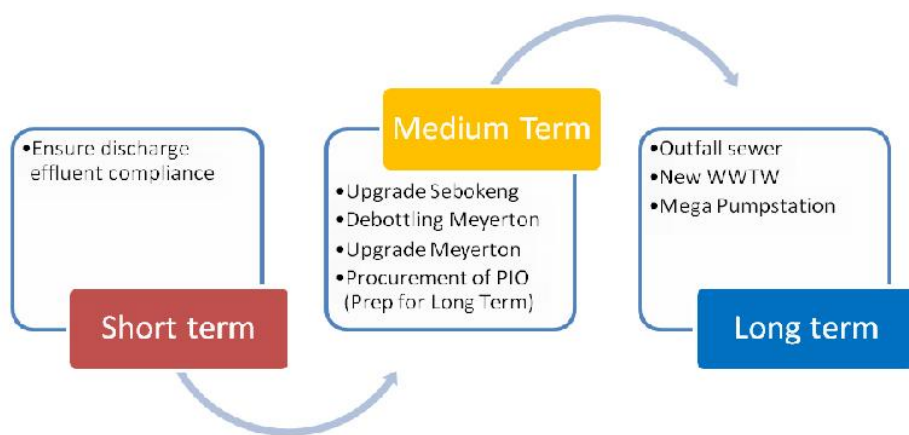
On 16 October 2005 a Presidential Imbizo was held in Sedibeng, which involved the President together with the political leadership, stakeholders and residents of Sedibeng. One of the issues raised in the meeting was the spillage of raw sewage and the discharge of non-compliant effluent into the Vaal River. The issue was raised that this problem was impacting negatively on the health and safety of

residents, and also restricting the potential for the region to grow and attract investors.

The Sedibeng region is faced with an issue of raw sewage and non-compliance effluent being discharged into the Vaal River. This is a result of the sanitation infrastructure within the Sedibeng Regional Municipality being old and running above capacity. The issue of old infrastructure is resulting in high maintenance costs and frequent failures, for instance Emfuleni has 43 pump stations and of those some were built more than 50 years ago.

The Sedibeng Community is also a beneficiary in this regard, both in terms of addressing infrastructure challenges that have a direct hindrance to developmental initiatives, investor confidence and employment opportunities thus contributing to the growth of the economy.

It's a sad reality that as Sedibeng Region we are also seriously challenged with respect to the ageing infrastructure which if not urgently attended to could cause grave damage, which in nature will be gross violation of the Constitution. And thanks to SIP 17 as it will unblock a number of blockages and help us not to get to the aforesaid situation. A budget of 4 Billion has been allocated for Sedibeng Regional Sanitation Scheme which currently hosted at Sebokeng Sewer Water Works in Ward 27.



It is in the best interest of the entire Sedibeng Community to guard against anarchy in all the projects. All projects must be allowed to run smooth; the stakeholder forums must help us to defuse unnecessary confusion and stoppages. It is the character of any project that disputes will arise; our appeal is that when that happens we should afford structures that are entrusted with the responsibility to deal with such, the opportunity to do its work

without interference. It is equally important that Community demands are attended to and dealt with correctly and honestly. The project in its very nature intends on creating more jobs for our people either through business or direct employment. It is a fact that the project will not employ everyone, we must in fact be happy that they are people in and around our respective community that are absorbed by this Project. Let us name and shame all those who are

inciting violence and are in the forefront of stopping ANC led Government development.

The scope of the project is so big that employment is going to take place in all phases of the project as we are currently in the first phase which is about to be completed when work resumes.

Let us work together to take South Africa Forward!

# REC Members Portfolios and Zonal Deployments

Name	Portfolio	Deployment Zone	Email Address	Cell Number
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<b>Velile Mkhontwana</b>	Human Settlement	Boitshepiville	mkhontwana24@gmail.com	073 484 5411
<b>Zaza Raikane</b>	Social Development	Sebokeng East	mmakgomor@sedibeng.gov.za	082 078 7726



## OFFICE BEARERS

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REGIONAL SECRETARY



Bheki Ngobese

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON



Robert Thema

DEPUTY SECRETARY



Lerato Maloka

REGIONAL TREASURER



Melina Gomba

## ADDITIONAL MEMBERS



Sello Pitso



Sipho Nhlengethwa



Boniface Mazilazila



Senzo Hlongwane



Jason Mkhwane



Zaza Raikane



Bassey Ramagaga



Phado Tsokodibane



Sibongile Mphuthi



Disebo Tlebere



Nomsa Motaung



Velile Mkhontwana



Khethiwe Ntombela



Maureen Dousidil



Chistinah Sale



Mluleki Nkosi



Eric Tshabalala



Tshidi Tsotetsi



Greta Hlongwane



Busi Mncube



Maureen Veeris



Themba Ndaba





# Oliver Reginald Tambo

October 27 1917 - April 24 1993

“The fight for freedom must go on until it is won; until our country is free and happy and peaceful as part of the community of man, we cannot rest”