



NEC

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
BULLETIN



Produced by the ANC Department of Communication, Information and Publicity

OCTOBER 2023



**FROM THE RIVER
TO THE SEA
PALESTINE WILL
BE FREE**

Editors Notes

Welcome to the ANC Bulletin



The purpose of this bulletin is to communicate the decision of the National Executive Committee and the National Working Committee decisions and important pronouncements on the work of the ANC.

Through this medium, the ANC seeks to reach out to branches of the ANC, civil society, faith-based organizations, youth, business, and other important stakeholders in society.

This is part of an interactive process with society in accordance with the renewal programme of reconnecting with society, mobilizing society around the programme of the ANC to put people at the apex of development in a manner that is people-driven and people-centered.

The ANC recognizes the power of communication as a tool that values the voice of society in a manner that is complementary, a two-way approach that enhances the relationship between the ANC and society.

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*Learn from yesterday,
live for today, hope
for tomorrow. The
important thing is not
to stop questioning"*

***Cde President Albert
Luthuli.***



President's Political Overview

Deputy President, Cde Paul Mashatile;
Secretary General, Cde Fikile Mbalula;
National Chairperson, Cde Gwede Mantashe;
Deputy Secretaries General, Cde Nomvula Mokonyane
Treasurer General, Cde Gwen Ramokgopa;
Members of the National Executive Committee;

Let me begin tonight's Closing Remarks to the National Executive Committee of the ANC by congratulating the Springboks for the exhilarating victory against France in the Rugby World Cup quarter finals last night.

I also want to congratulate the Proteas who are also showing a sterling performance at the Cricket World Cup in India.

Both the Proteas and Springboks will be facing England in their next fixtures. I call on all South Africans to stand united behind both teams and show tremendous support from all sectors of our society.

Sport enhances our country's ongoing efforts to promote nation-building and social cohesion. It is when our teams participate in global sporting events that we come to appreciate the progress that our country has made towards the building of national identity and moving together as one nation, united in our diversity.

This NEC takes place at a time when the world is going through significant change and increasing global instability due to a confluence of different factors, including escalating conflicts and climate disasters



across several parts of the globe.

The world is still reeling from the devastating impact of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. This war still rages on and there is no end in sight. The ANC reiterates its call that the war should come to an end immediately through a peaceful dialogue. As we have said before, we have all been affected in varying degrees by the war.

Most recently, we have also witnessed the unprecedented escalation of the conflict between Israel and Palestine. The ANC NEC has condemned in strongest terms, the brutal killing of civilians by Hamas. The ANC has also been perturbed by the genocidal and atrocious activities of the State of Israel which are being directed indiscriminately at Palestinian citizens, shutting them off from all means of livelihoods.

On Saturday 14 October, we conveyed our condolences to the affected citizens on both sides of the conflict and called for an immediate ceasefire and a return to negotiations along the lines of the two-solution.

The NEC reaffirms the longstanding support for and solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine and

calls for an end to the occupation of Palestine which is against UN resolutions. The state of Israel should immediately end the siege on GAZA so that water, food, energy, medical supplies and fuel can reach the civilians.

As the governing party, the ANC will ensure that the South African government works with the international community towards an inclusive process that produces a viable Palestinian state, existing in peace alongside the state of Israel, based on the 1967 borders.

The NEC is firmly of the view that the only way to end the cycle of violence and retribution that has lasted 75 years is through a just and peaceful settlement.

The ANC will continue to advocate for the peaceful resolution of all conflicts around the world, as we have always insisted and asserted. We also witnessed extreme weather events in many parts of the world and in our own country, which continue to cause serious catastrophes, leading to the displacement of people and disrupting the availability of resources such as energy, food and water.

The NEC appreciates the work that is currently being done by the government in improving our capability to respond to such disasters because of climate change.

The NEC applauds the negotiation positions that our government has taken in the international fora that seeks to build mitigation strategies such as climate smart agriculture, water saving, alternative energy sources and ensuring that continuous public education to empower our people to mitigate, prepare for and prevent climate disasters.

All of these events adversely affect the world economy which was beginning to show early signs of recovery post COVID-19.

The NEC spent three days receiving reports from Government employees and discussing integrated interventions to:

1. end load shedding and electricity crisis;
2. ramping up the implementation of the Economic Recovery and Reconstruction, including improving infrastructure and logistics;
3. strengthening the fight against crime and corruption and enhancing border security;
4. addressing problems in local government to improve the delivery of basic services, and
5. measures to mitigate the cost of living

The NEC reflected on the impact of the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Program (ERRP), an intervention announced by government as part of rebuilding the economy in response to the COVID 19 Pandemic. These interventions have enabled our country to remain resilient and build partnerships for economic recovery with our social partners.

Key to the impact of the ERRP is the latest employment figures from Statistics South Africa, (StatsSA) which showed that the number of people employed has almost returned to its pre-pandemic levels.

The NEC expressed deep concern that ordinary South Africans continue to feel the impact of high food prices and the continuing rise in the fuel price.

Most recently, the Competition

Commission found that local retailers have not been passing on cost reductions obtained through falling producer prices to consumers. The NEC urged government to engage the retail sector to work together in ensuring that our citizens and in particular the working class, are cushioned against rising prices.

The NEC noted the impact that Avian flu has had to the poultry industry as well as consumers and applauded the interventions to curb the spread of the disease, fast track the import permits to enable the importation of table eggs and fertilized eggs; evaluate the registration of vaccines for H5 and H7 strains, and explore the feasibility of import rebates.

Dealing with the current fiscal pressures through a combination of fiscal discipline and a growing and inclusive economy.

The NEC received a report from Cde Enoch Godongwana on the fiscal situation or position of the country. The NEC is reassured that South Africa is not running out of money.

The fiscal pressures that our country faces stem fundamentally an economic challenge of slow and jobless growth. Instilling discipline is as important as taking decisive steps to grow the economy. Fiscal discipline is not the same as imposing austerity measures that will undermine our developmental agenda.

The NEC encourages government to continue with the implementation of structural reforms, in particular in the areas of energy and logistics.



While noting revenue shortfalls and related rising debt levels, the NEC urged government to exercise fiscal discipline in a manner that does not compromise the priority areas adopted by this ANC-led administration.

Our country has turned a definite corner as far as loadshedding is concerned and levels and frequency of loadshedding is expected to improve during the fourth quarter. This is due to the return of Kusile units; embedded generation by private households and businesses; and demand management which will be adding much needed capacity to the grid.

The NEC highlighted the need for urgent extension and investment in our transmission grid through new and innovative methods of funding so we can speedily ensure renewable projects in the Northern and Eastern Cape can be brought online.

The NEC advised the Minister of Public Enterprises to urgently attend to the hardships that many of our people are subjected to through the overloading and sabotage of transformers in the townships. Concern was expressed that some communities have faced years without access to electricity.

The NEC is aware that Eskom and municipalities will be approaching this matter in a holistic manner which includes: investment in new transformers; deal with illegal connections; tightening security to prevent theft and sabotage of transformers and the installation of smart pre-paid meters to ensure better revenue collection and demand management.

We call on communities to continue with energy saving interventions in order to ensure that electricity is available, and that when new infrastructure is installed, it

is protected.

The introduction of the Electricity Regulation Amendment Bill in Parliament is a milestone in the transformation of our electricity sector. This will bring our country into line with international best practice and more importantly, establish the institutional foundation for a sustainable and affordable supply of electricity into the future.

The NEC welcomed the hosting of Green Hydrogen Summit which demonstrates our country's Hydrogen Roadmap and the commitment of our government in expanding our energy mix in order to build enough reserve and capacity for our economy.

We call for a greater push for reform and rejuvenation of the logistics sector.

Earlier this week, the new board



of the Transnet National Ports Authority was appointed, giving effect to a long-standing policy decision to separate the roles of the State as the owner of ports infrastructure from its role, through Transnet's operating divisions, as the port terminal operator. This will improve the competitiveness of our ports and enable greater investment.

Consultations are taking place on a new Freight Logistics Roadmap, which will outline actions to enhance efficiency and competition and enable greater public and private investment.

The NEC applauded the progress that has been made by government in improving the passenger rail. This includes the upgrading and rehabilitation of passenger rail infrastructure; signalling, bridges and train stations. Progress is also being made in improving the security of passenger trains and the recruitment of peace officers to prevent vandalism. These improvements will ensure affordable transportation for our citizens.

The NEC noted that government is actively leading this effort in collaboration with business and other social partners.

Some have expressed concern that these reforms are aimed at privatising parts of Eskom or Transnet. This is clearly not the case.

We have been clear that South Africa's port, rail and electricity infrastructure are strategic national assets, and will remain in public ownership.

By enabling private sector participation in specific areas of electrici-

ty generation, transmission, freight rail and port operation – subject to stringent regulation – we are mobilising much-needed investment in the country's economic infrastructure. Such investment will make a significant contribution to our efforts to ensure a secure supply of electricity and to export our minerals, agricultural produce and manufactured goods.

By restructuring our state-owned entities and by mobilising new investment, we will help improve their financial position, enhance their performance and increase their competitiveness. We will enable our SOEs to better fulfill their economic and social mandates.

The NEC commends the work that our government is doing in strengthening economic and social relations with a number of countries in our region, continent and the world. A number of bi-national agreements and state visits held has thus far translated into agreements that will usher better trade benefits for our corporate citizens. The improved market access that has opened opportunities for our industries will further contribute to job creation.

The BRICS Summit hosted in August was a milestone in the history of the BRICS countries. The economic relations that are forged through our participation in BRICS are important for our drive for greater investment and trade.

South Africa hosts the AGOA Forum next month. This is an important platform to strengthen economic ties between the countries of Africa and the US in a manner that contributes to our continent's growth and development.

We now have an effective partnership with organised business around practical actions in the areas of electricity, logistics and combating crime and corruption. Work is getting done and the effect is starting to be felt.

Government has also been engaging with organised labour on how to address the immediate challenges facing the country. There have been interactions with the relevant unions in the energy and logistics sectors in particular, but we are continuing to discuss how to involve labour more broadly in the work government is doing.

It is through practical cooperation among social partners, by working together to effect change, that we will forge a meaningful social compact.

The reforms we are seeing are not limited to the economy.

They are taking place in areas such as the fight against crime and corruption.

In line with the resolutions of our National Conferences, we are rebuilding our law enforcement and prosecutorial capabilities. We are also taking practical measures to strengthen the fight against corruption.

We continue to implement the recommendations of the State Capture Commission by, among other things, strengthening our public procurement processes, making the NPA investigating directorate permanent, and undertaking consultation on strengthening whistle-blower protection.

At the same time, action is being taken against the alleged perpetrators of state capture. Several cases are now in court, involving dozens of accused individuals and companies.

Billions of rands of stolen funds have either been frozen or recovered. Bodies like the NPA, the Hawks, SARS and SIU are extremely active and increasingly effective. The recent newsletter by JP Landman gives an outstanding objective analysis on how we are making progress in dealing with corruption and re-establishing a capable state.

Crime remains a major concern for our people and is an area where we are consistently criticised for not doing enough.

The NEC received a report on the actions that are being taken to address illegal mining and “Zama-Zamas.” Through interrupting the entire value chain of their activities from underground mining to selling off illegally processed minerals, we are beginning to make progress.

The NEC noted the progress the police are making through Operation Shangela, which aims to combat violent crime through increasing intelligence lead investigations, police visibility, the deployment of new technology with the involvement of civil society in building safer communities.

The NEC encourages ANC structures to strengthen their involvement in community policing and other community safety forums and work with local law enforcement bodies to build safer communities.



As agreed by the NEC, national and provincial government has been requested to intervene in a number of distressed municipalities to support and capacitate these municipalities to perform their functions.

Work is underway to make such interventions a reality and this work must be supported by the provision of the necessary technical and financial resources, noting the existing fiscal constraints.

The NEC received a progress report about measures that are being taken to address the water and sanitation challenges our country is facing in a number of areas.

Cooperation of different spheres of government is required to im-

prove service delivery. Service delivery challenges are being addressed on an ongoing basis. The improvement of service delivery is being done through the district development model (DDM), Water Boards, the interventions of COGTA, Treasury and other related government departments.

The NEC expressed its concern at how the payment of grants to the elderly and other grant beneficiaries was mishandled during the month of September 2023.

The NEC welcomed the report from government that such bottlenecks have been resolved and that during the month of October all beneficiaries received their grants.

The NEC welcomed the signing of the Land Court Bill by the Presi-

dent. This signing into law of this legislation will bring stability by ensuring that we will now have full time judges that can preside over land disputes in our country.

The ANC 2019 Manifesto Review process that has manifested itself through engaging with our people throughout the country involves accounting to voters across the country on the commitments we made in the 2019 elections. The reports and facts put forward in our Manifesto Review are being checked by independent organisations such as AfricaCheck.

According to AfricaCheck, more than 95% of the facts checked were correct.

In addition, the 2022 Census reinforced a number of claims we made in our Manifesto Review and proved that the ANC led government has achieved a great deal in improving the lives of South Africans.

The NEC has welcomed the work being done by ANC structures across the country to rebuild and renew the ANC on the ground.

The re-organisation and strengthening of Headquarters has also given a new lease of life to the ANC. Dynamic energy and strategic capacity in the organisation in has been engendered. This is a critical element of renewal.

The visit by the NEC and NWC to provinces is helping us to redirect the energy and focus of the structures of the movement on service delivery and developmental interventions.

Fully functional Leagues of the ANC, committed to the cause of the people, are critical to our organisation. We depend on our Leagues to fulfil their distinct and important roles in our movement.

The ANC Women's League is a crucial formation for mobilising women from all walks of life, to the cause of the movement. We depend on the Women's League to organise and mobilise women so we build gender equity in our society and effectively campaign against the scourge of gender based violence.

The ANC Youth League, united and disciplined, militant and roaring on behalf of young people, was absent from our national stage for eight long years. The movement felt that absence.

The ANC NEC called on the ANC Youth League to move with speed to address the concerns of young people. In particular this NEC called on the Youth League to focus on re-establishing progressive student structures in tertiary institutions across the country. The NEC emphasised it is an organisational priority to establish effective progressive structures amongst the future intelligentsia of our country.

The Veterans' League remains at the forefront of the renewal of the ANC and building and strengthening our movement. We are therefore looking forward to working with the new leadership of the Veterans' League to develop and enhance programmes to take our movement into the future, whilst maintaining organisational ethos, culture and traditions.

The appointment of Veterans to lead the Integrity Commission and Disciplinary process is part of engendering discipline and integrity back in the organisation. The veterans are also working closely with the political education team to revive political education and cadre development in the movement. There is a keen interest and determination on the part of the NEC to ensure that renewal of the ANC succeeds during our term of office, building on the work that has been done since 2017.

All these developments and many other initiatives we have embarked upon in our organisation are proof that the process of renewal and unity is firmly underway and as we have said before is irrevocable and irreversible.

Renewal is not a one day event but a continuous process. There will be times when we take five steps forward and three steps back, but our commitment to renewal is unwavering. We must keep at it and reposition our organisation.

This was a most successful NEC meeting which was underpinned by a great spirit of camaraderie, great exchange of views clearly displaying a continuing spirit of renewal and unity.

The ANC is on this path of renewal and unity.

The ANC lives, the ANC unites and the ANC leads.

Thank you.

RENEWAL IS NOT A ONE DAY EVENT



The status of the renewal in the ANC is a critical matter. To reiterate what the President said in his closing remarks, he said: the NEC has welcomed the work being done by ANC structures across the country to rebuild and renew the ANC on the ground.

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In his statement on NEC resolutions to the media during a media briefing post NEC meeting Secretary-General Cde Fikile Mbalula affirmed the sentiments that were expressed by the President

when he outlined that the ANC is committed to building a strong alliance. The NEC reaffirmed its commitment to the continued unity of the alliance.

The revolutionary alliance is the bedrock on which we can achieve a national democratic society. To this end, several Alliance-related activities are underway including the planned Alliance summit, support for the SACP Red October campaign and various activities COSATU and SANCO.

As the ANC, we will continue to engage organised labour and the Alliance on the steps that must be taken to move the country forward regarding economic growth, employment creation and improving the working conditions of all workers. In this vein, the NEC has considered the need to re-assess our stance on the Municipality Amendment Bill barring workers from contesting political office.

Media Briefings



Media Briefing by the Secretary General Cde Fikile Mbalula giving an overview and highlights of issues to be discussed and intended outcomes of the NEC meeting.



Cde Zizi Kodwa; Cde Thandi Moraka ; Cde Donald Selamolela and National Spokesperson Cde Mahlengi-Bhengu

Media briefing on the progress towards ensuring compliance with the 2021 World Anti Doping Code



Cde Mamoloko Kubayi; Cde Sputla Ramokgopa
Media briefing on the National Energy Action Plan and strides we are making in the implementation of the plan and discussion on challenges with the media.



Cde Thembi Nkadimeng and Cde Parks Tau
Media briefing on the state of municipalities and social security interventions to maintain a sustainable administration and disbursement of social grants.



Cde Zweli Mkhize and Cde Senzo Mchunu
Media briefing addressing service delivery challenges and local government interventions that are underway.



Cde Polly Boshielo and Cde Bheki Cele
Media briefing on interventions to tackle illegal mining in South Africa.

NEC

Resolutions

The African National Congress (ANC) National Executive Committee (NEC) convened from the 14th to 16th of October 2023 to deliberate on the progress made in implementing the resolutions of the 55th National Conference, the 2019 Elections Manifesto, and priorities outlined in the January 8 statement which include initiatives aimed at improving the delivery of essential services such as electricity, water, sanitation, and transport.

The NEC reflected on our achievements in the past year and renewed our commitment to address challenges faced by our people, including the high cost of living and the payment of social grants.

The NEC congratulated our national rugby team, the Springboks, for their decisive victory against France in the Rugby World Cup 2023 and wished them well ahead of their semi-final match against England on Saturday. The NEC also extended our well wishes to our national team, the Proteas on their ongoing quest in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023.

The NEC further noted that the NEC meeting is being held on the centenary birthday of the late Cde Moses Mabhida. Moses Mabhida, born on 14 October 1923, is not only remembered as a unionist who played a central role in the development of the South African



Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU) but is also remembered as an iconic leader of both the ANC and the SACP. September 2023 also marked the centenary of the name change from the African Natives National Congress to the African National Congress.

POLITICAL OVERVIEW BY THE PRESIDENT

The NEC also received a political overview from the President, covering issues such as the international situation, domestic balance of forces, manifesto review, elections, and the Census 2022 results. The tone set by the President informed deliberations aimed at consolidating our interventions to accelerate service delivery, resolve socioeconomic bottlenecks and grow our economy. This was followed by reports on targeted service delivery areas, which informed robust discussions and resolutions by the NEC meeting. Affirming the irrevocable and irreversible organisational renew-

al of the ANC, the President welcomed the revitalisation of all the Leagues, the ANC Youth League, the ANC Women's League, and the ANC Veterans League, and fraternal organization namely, SASCO all of whom successfully held their respective national conferences.

The President also commended the significant progress achieved in revitalizing the ANC's organizational machinery. This progress is exemplified by the efficient operation of Chief Albert Luthuli House, which plays a central role in providing leadership and direction to the entire organization under the stewardship of the Secretary General's Office.

THE GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION

The NEC expressed profound concerns at the escalation of conflict between Palestine and Israel, resulting in the deaths of thousands of innocent civilians in both countries. The NEC reiterates the long-held position on the peaceful

resolution of the conflict between Palestine and Israel by creating two states as a permanent solution, premised on the 1967 borders.

In its deliberations, the ANC further characterized the inhumane call by Israel for over 1 million Palestinians to evacuate and desert their homes as deeply concerning. The affected Palestinians have no safe refuge, effectively becoming trapped and vulnerable, akin to mice in a corner ready for slaughter.

The NEC believes such a call is equivalent to an announcement of genocide, as it is very impractical, particularly noting that among the people to be moved out of those parts of Gaza are patients admitted to hospitals, children, and the elderly. The ANC strongly condemns the genocidal crime that took place yesterday in the Gaza Strip, where in a hospital was bombed.

The ANC further calls on the government and the international community to ensure organs like the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice act with the required speed to address these crimes against humanity.

In this regard, the NEC adopted a comprehensive solidarity programme with the people of Palestine to bring about their right to self-determination and push for a genuine resumption of peace talks towards a lasting and just solution. Amongst the elements of the Solidarity Programme include:

- An Alliance-led Palestine solidarity march on Friday, 20 October 2023 to the Israeli Embassy in Tshwane.
- Engage with and demand that the International Criminal Court investigate and respond to the cases of Israeli crimes against humanity, as decided at

its December 2022 meetings;

- South Africa in our capacity as a member of the UN Human Rights Council, must ensure that the matter serves before the Council.
- Call on the International Court of Justice to accelerate the issuing of its Advisory Opinion on the conduct of the Israeli state against Palestinian people.
- Call for a meeting with the SA Board of Jewish Deputies, to engage on the current situation and the position taken by the NEC.
- Work with other civil society, trade unions, faith-based and solidarity organisations towards the formation of a global Anti-Apartheid Movement against Zionist Israel.
- Support the efforts by the government, civil society, and ANC structures to mobilize humanitarian support for the people of Palestine.
- Call for a special meeting of the African Union Peace and Security Council on the situation in Palestine, for an AU peace mission to Palestine.
- Call on the UN Secretary-General and UN agencies to visit Palestine and report to the UNGA and UNSC on the humanitarian situation in Gaza.
- The ANC will release a Briefing Note that explains and educates our members and South African society on our position on the Israel-Palestine situation and will engage with all sectors of society on our long-standing position.
- We call on the UN Secretary-General to visit Palestine and report to the United Nations General Assembly on the findings of such a visit. We also call on the International Criminal Court to urgently investigate human rights violations

which must be heard in the International Court of Justice.

- The ANC re-asserts its stance on a peaceful resolution of this conflict between Israel and Palestine whilst expressing our solidarity with Palestine for their liberation from conditions that have been characterised similarly to our own historical experience of oppression under the apartheid regime. We condemn the violence against the innocent by Israel and Hamas on civilians. The ANC believes that only peace can resolve the conflict between Palestine and Israel.
- Still, on the international front, the NEC further reflected on the global economic outlook, particularly in the context in which it negatively impacts the livelihood of the world's people in general and African countries - in particular.

THE INTERNATIONAL BALANCE OF FORCES

Whilst the world has emerged from the harshest period of the COVID-19 pandemic, its negative impact is compounded by the onset of natural disasters, such as earthquakes in some regions, as well as the consequences of climate change.

The NEC further reiterated that the Africa Peace Mission to Ukraine and Russia and the convening of the BRICS Political Parties Plus and the BRICS Summit have reaffirmed South Africa's global role as a champion of globally shared development underpinned by peace and a humane world.

2019 MANIFESTO IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW

The NEC undertook a comprehensive evaluation of its 2019 election manifesto exercise which is ongoing and characterized by direct engagements with communities and sectors in society.

The manifesto review exercise was launched by the ANC President on 02 September 2023, in Dobsonville and was successfully rolled out in all Provinces. The NEC noted with humility, the massive turnout by our people in all our manifesto rallies. These are ongoing, with the target being all 22,500 wards across the country. From the ANC's internal research, the review confirms that significant strides have been made on numerous 2019 election manifesto targets notwithstanding the 2019 COVID Pandemic and other disasters such as KZN Floods.

State of Readiness Ahead of the 2024 Elections

Following a successful 2019 elections manifesto review that is ongoing, the NEC decided that the 2024 January 8 Statement will be delivered in Mpumalanga. Following that, the Mayihlome Rally is scheduled to be held at KZN's Moses Mabhida Stadium, and the Siyanqoba Rally will take place in Gauteng at the FNB Stadium.

ON THE NATIONAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC POLITICAL SITUATION

On the domestic front, the NEC made reflections on the journey traversed so far by the 6th Government Administration as popularly mandated by the masses of our people during the 2019 National General Elections, noting that we are in the last year of both of this Administration as

well as the three decades of freedom and democracy.

The NEC undertook a robust assessment of the 6th Administration's implementation of the 2019 Elections Manifesto noting unprecedented challenges posed by various factors amongst which, the high fuel prices largely attributed to the geopolitical situation such as the Russia - Ukraine conflict, that has led to rising crude oil prices.

CENSUS REVEALS REMARKABLE PROGRESS TOWARDS A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL

A straightforward and irrefutable fact emerged from the 2022 Census by StatsSA that life in South Africa is considerably better today than in 1994 or 2019. This is despite the challenges that we have faced as a country.

Through interventions premised on the Economic Recovery Plan, South Africa's economy continues to grow amidst a harsh global economic outlook which resulted in over 2 million jobs lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These jobs have since been recovered.

There are further projections that underscore the efforts of the current government administration. The prospects are high that in the next few years, the economic growth trajectory initially envisaged in the NDP Vision 2030 document of over 5% will be achieved. The NEC noted that whilst a lot is being done contributing to the economic recovery, communicating these strides is essential to dispel the propaganda suggesting the ANC has done nothing, which flies against the scientific evidence entailed in the Statistics

South Africa on the Census 2022 Report. In this regard, emphasis was put on the need to heighten government communication. The ANC calls on the urgent appointment of the Director General at the GCIS.

KEY SERVICE DELIVERY INTERVENTIONS

Increasing Cost of Living

The NEC is deeply concerned by the ever-increasing living costs and calls on the state to be attentive and find sustainable and effective ways to ease the burden of the high cost of living.

The NEC also observed that despite the prices of basic food decreasing globally, the South African market did not lower its prices to the prejudice of poor consumers. However, the NEC is encouraged and looks forward to the process earmarked by the Competition Commission, which will methodically dive into the root cause of this market behaviour and possibly remedy the situation.

Implementation of Energy Action Plan

On the critical aspect of load shedding affecting households and businesses to the detriment of economic growth and development, the NEC acknowledged that the appointment of a dedicated Minister of Electricity is paying dividends. As a result, there is now a precise schedule to increase the energy availability of all power stations per unit on their installed capacity.

The result is that load shedding is beginning to ease with the staggered admittance into the grid of generation units from Kusile Power Station will add over 3000

megawatts of power to the grid. Regarding electricity distribution within municipalities, the NEC noted with grave concern the scourge of vandalism and theft of transformers in areas such as Soweto and Sedibeng, resulting in blackouts affecting thousands of households over several years. The introduction of the Electricity Amendment Bill will help further consolidate electricity distribution.

The NEC received various representations on measures to replace transformers and re-energise township households and businesses. The ANC further called for an intergovernmental alignment on efforts to replace stolen and vandalised transformers.

The NEC expects law enforcement agencies to formulate a programme to secure all transformers and other infrastructure facilities at the risk of similar theft and vandalism.

Water and Sanitation

The NEC received an extensive account of measures to address water and sanitation delivery across the country. We are encouraged by the positive developments of progress made as far as water provision is concerned and can confirm that South Africa is not faced with any imminent crisis in so far as the provision of safe, drinking water is concerned. The government must use available legal instruments to assist and intervene in Municipalities where there are challenges of water reticulation.

Transport and Logistics

The NEC welcomed the programme to move freight from roads to rail given the challenges on Transnet rail. The NEC further welcomed the progress on

Operation Vala Zonke to close all potholes. The programme to transfer provincial roads to SANRAL which has proven efficient in refurbishing and maintaining roads has equally been welcomed by the NEC. The NEC believes the introduction of various technologies including nanotechnology on gravel roads will further improve the conditions of our rural roads.

The NEC commended the advances in rolling out trains in various corridors, which will tremendously help reduce the travelling costs of commuters. This includes the installation of safety and logistics measures such as signalling systems.

The NEC further commended the report on the imminent deployment of over 8,000 security personnel to protect passenger rail infrastructure. The NEC further welcomes the reconfiguration and stabilisation of the Transnet Board and believes this would help accelerate the rail challenges and the consequent challenges of constrained transportation of bulky goods out of the country, particularly mineral resources such as coal.

The NEC noted that to ease the constraints at our ports, we need investment beyond the two cranes to accelerate the delivery and loading of goods to and from our ports.

Peace and Stability: Addressing Criminality and Lawlessness

The NEC paid much attention to measures to combat crime and lawlessness in our country. These include efforts to fight cash-in-transit heists and gender-based violence. Of concern to the NEC was the ongoing phenomenon of illegal mining (Zama-Zamas). The

NEC expects law enforcement agencies to deal decisively with the scourge. The NEC expressed satisfaction with the bold steps being taken by the security cluster in tackling the phenomenon including tackling Zama-Zamas of all categories.

Social Security and Postbank

Comprehensive social security is a fundamental policy of the ANC. Lifting our people out of poverty is the basis on which the ANC is considered the people's movement – Umbutho weSizwe. In this regard, the NEC noted progress made by both Postbank and SASSA in resolving the technical glitches recently experienced in the disbursement of social grants to deserving beneficiaries. Providing a safety net for the poor and vulnerable is non-negotiable. We will closely monitor steps taken by the government to ensure that no beneficiary is turned away from the point of service.

Governance issues:

Stabilization of State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs)

The effective functioning of state-owned enterprises is a cornerstone of a capable and developmental state in South Africa. Governance and leadership of SOEs are of concern to the ANC. In this regard, the NEC took stock of the current state of SOEs, particularly Eskom and Transnet.

The NEC has directed its deployees in government to stabilize SOEs as a matter of urgency and to proactively undertake actions that inspire public confidence in the capacity of the state to manage and deliver on the mandate of public entities. On this basis, a special ANC NEC meeting will be held in the coming two weeks which will focus on SOEs.

Public Fiscal Management

Regarding fiscal management, the NEC has received a detailed account of the proposed cost containment measures by the National Treasury. The NEC directed that an important balance between prudent fiscal management and delivering public goods and services should be struck. Importantly the NEC emphasized that what is being undertaken are cost containment measures and not austerity.

The ANC remains committed to a fiscal management framework advanced through a developmental state that is pro-poor, protects the living wage for public sector workers and uses infrastructure development to create more work opportunities.

Interventions to Address Local Government Performance

The NEC received a detailed account of interventions to fix municipalities, those led by the ANC and hung municipalities where there are coalitions. Our existing coalitions framework was re-endorsed as the basis for our intervention. A dashboard of dysfunctional municipalities and action plans for each of these municipalities was welcomed. Our deployees must report further developments on an ongoing basis.

Strengthening Border Management

The NEC commended efforts to strengthen security and tighten our borders through the Border Management Authority (BMA) launch, which will help secure our borders against illegal immigrants. Whilst South Africa is receptive to all immigrants, irrespective of country of origin, South Africa, like all other countries, cannot continue to disregard illegal immigrants.

Some illegal immigrants have been central to illicit mining, often constituting themselves into highly and dangerously armed gangs that terrorise our communities whilst stealing our mineral resources with impunity. The NEC received assurances from its deployed employees in the Peace and Stability sub-committee that the state has constituted a multi-disciplinary task force to combat this illegality from the perspective of illegal immigration and illegal mining.

What has become evident is that technology is crucial in easing the border processing of goods and migrants and combating any acts of illegality, such as the transit of illegal goods. The Department of Home Affairs must accelerate technology deployment on all border management programmes.

ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

Organizational renewal and discipline

A sustained discussion was held by the NEC on our work of renewing the organization. Several milestones were noted in this regard, these included integrity and ethics management, discipline, selecting candidates for public office, the revival of various constitutional organs and improving our membership systems from bar codes to biometrics.

The ANC is committed to improving integrity management within its ranks. The work of the Integrity Commission is at the top of the agenda of the ANC. In this regard, the ANC will dedicate a special NEC meeting to focus on the work of the Integrity Commission.

The NEC also acknowledged views shared publicly by former President Mbeki on whether the ANC is renewing itself. Whilst reaffirm-

ing bold steps that are underway to renew the organization, we will continue to engage all veterans, including former Presidents of the organization and the country.

During this process, the NEC was unanimous on the importance of maintaining discipline among our leaders, members, and structures. This discipline is crucial in instilling confidence in the ability of the ANC to lead society.

Measures to Enhance Intellectual and Political Development of ANC Members and Supporters – The OR Tambo School of Leadership

The ANC's ability to navigate challenges is fundamental in determining the organization's success in its renewal efforts. The OR Tambo School of Leadership plays a significant role in providing political knowledge and understanding to its members and supporters. This resolution is aimed at promoting a deeper understanding of the party's history, values, principles, and policies, ensuring that members are well-equipped with the necessary skills and insights to pursue a national democratic society.

In this regard and following the successful establishment of the school, the NEC has appointed David Makhura as its new Principal.

Candidate Selection Process for Parliament and Legislatures

As part of the renewal of the organization, the ANC has set thorough and stringent criteria for the selection of candidates for parliament and legislatures. We are pleased with the progress to date wherein 67% of our branches have met the required threshold in nominating candidates. This process is ongoing.

False Narrative on Cadre Deployment

The NEC confirmed its decision to appeal the judgement by the Supreme Court of Appeal on the matter of cadre deployment.

The ANC NEC dismissed with contempt the negative narrative peddled on matters of deployment, wherein a false narrative is created about the ANC's commitment to the appointment of experienced, skilled, and capable professionals. The ANC is committed to a meritocratic public service which includes political office bearers and the civil service. The ANC considered it disingenuous to suggest that to be an ANC member and cadre implies under qualification, under experience and lacking in skill and/or competence.

Ekurhuleni Region

Following litigation and subsequent court order, the NEC resolved to appoint an RTT with full REC powers.

Building a Strong Alliance

The NEC reaffirmed its commitment to the continued unity of the alliance. The revolutionary alliance is the bedrock on which we can achieve a national democratic society. To this end, several Alliance-related activities are underway including the planned Alliance summit, support for the SACP Red October campaign and various activities COSATU and SANCO.

As the ANC, we will continue to engage organised labour and the Alliance on the steps that must be taken to move the country forward regarding economic growth, employment creation and improving the working conditions of all workers. In this vein, the NEC has

considered the need to re-assess our stance on the Municipality Amendment Bill barring workers from contesting political office.

Conclusion

The NEC meeting discussed and reasserted our commitment to accelerate service delivery on electricity, ending load-shedding, water provision, sanitation, combating crime, road infrastructure and re-orienting all SOEs to be developmental. A service delivery unit at the ANC headquarters will oversee and support the realization of these pressing service delivery programmes.

The ANC's NEC meeting issued a reminder that unity of purpose among members and leaders is crucial in achieving good service delivery and implementing the ANC's election program. A strong organisation is key to achieving this.

During the NEC meeting, there was a comprehensive and transparent evaluation of the advancements made in executing the ANC's 2019 Election Manifesto and the resolutions of the 55th National Conference. The NEC is committed to continue strengthening efforts that enhance the delivery of services to our people as the term of the 6th Government Administration nears its conclusion.

This reflects the movement's dedication to ensuring that promises made to the people of South Africa and that good governance are upheld.

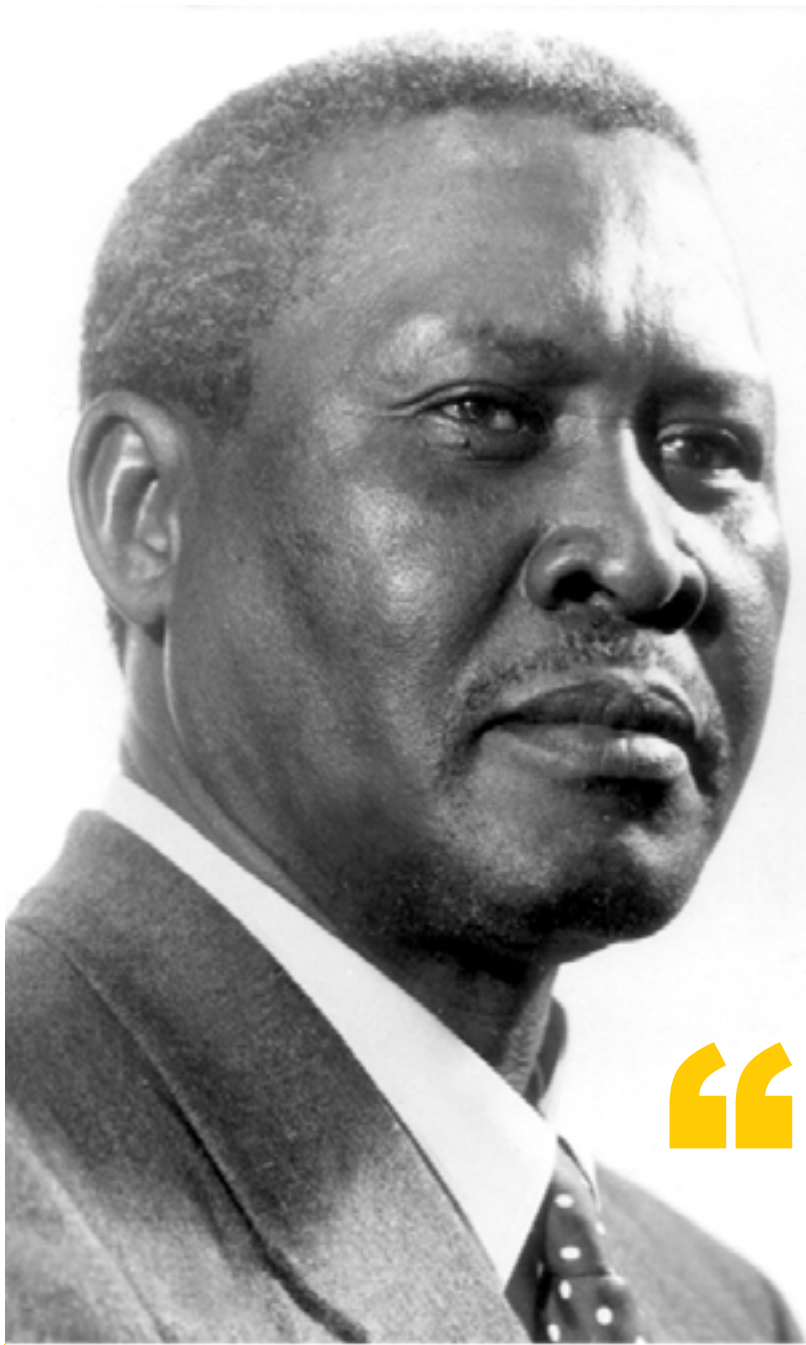
The ANC mourns with heavy hearts comrades who have passed on since the last NEC meeting held on the 7th to the 9th of July

2023. We honour these dedicated cadres who devoted themselves to the organization, even to their final breaths. Their contributions, dedication and commitment to our cause will forever be remembered. We honour the memory of

Sally Keboneope; Nombulelo Tyawa; Teboho Moseling; Mahlatsi Micere; Githae Mugo; Dikago Pule; Themba Wilson Sidima; Thabo Mabasa; Farooq Meer; Kallie Hanekom; Mfanelo Ndlela; Thembi Mmoko; Mabhungu Mkhize; Jick Kgoleng ; Zoleka Mandela; Andrew Ragavaloo; Lydia Komape Ngwenya; Aziz Pahad; Julian Bahula Regina Pelonomi Mahne; Paul Lekgwape; Matshidiso Segale; Important Mkhize; Zeph Makgetla; Amy Thornton; Vuyisile Skei; and Khono Senna.

We extend our deepest and most sincere condolences to their families and loved ones as we share in their grief. We stand in solidarity with those who are mourning the loss of their loved ones as we know that losing a loved one is never easy. We would also like to express our condolences to Comrade Violet Siwela on losing her husband, Farris.

We remember Comrade Jessie Duarte, who would have celebrated her 70th birthday on September 19, 2023. This is the first time we have celebrated her birthday since her passing on July 17, 2022. We honour her memory and the invaluable contributions she gave relentlessly to the ANC.



On this Day

REMEMBERING

CHIEF ALBERT LUTHULI

The last day of the NEC meeting 16th of October, coincided with day with Isithwalandwe Chief Albert Luthuli was elected as the 8th President of the African National Conference in 1952. He became the first African to receive a Nobel Peace Prize in 1961, in recognition of his contribution to the fight for human rights and social justice.



Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning"

Cde President Albert Luthuli.



Mme Charlotte Manny-Maxeke

an extraordinary woman whose impact in society is felt to this day and who touched the countless lives. On this day of 16 October, 84 years ago, Mme Charlotte departed, leaving a legacy of excellence. She excelled in education, activism, religion and community development, particularly empowering women.

Mme Charlotte was a trailblazer as Southern Africa's first female graduate. A social and political activist, and a key figure in establishing the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Africa, she also founded the Bantu Women's League, South Africa's first women's organisation.