



# NEC

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

# BULLETIN

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## FOREWORD BY SECRETARY GENERAL GWEDE MANTASHE

# 'The unity of the Revolutionary Alliance is paramount and sacrosanct'



Comrades, once more, I greet you in your name and in the name of our glorious movement the African National Congress.

We committed ourselves to keeping you informed about your movement and also on the decisions taken at everyone of our National Executive Committee meetings. This commitment is borne of our conviction that information and knowledge is power.

As we look back at the year and prepare for the new one that is on the horizon, we can safely say that the ANC has come out on top. We have succeeded even where others, the press, the opposition and all other counter-revolutionaries, including some within our midst, had written us off.

Our people, at the April national polls, resoundingly stated that they still believe the ANC to be their only hope to rid them of years of racial oppression and exploitation. We can never take their faith in us for granted. This imposes an imperative upon us to ensure that at all levels of government, the ANC is never found wanting. Local government as a critical sphere of government, a point of contact with the people, and a critical machinery for delivery; needs all our attention and concerted effort. We commend our councillors who have done very well and with the same breath commit ourselves to turn around those municipalities and councils that are faced with enormous challenges.

The effects of the global economic crisis are being felt across the length and breadth of our country. Much suffering and destitution daily visits our people, as a result of poverty, and joblessness. The disparity between rich and poor continues to grow, thereby further increasing inequality in our society. Ours is a challenge to change this and ensure we achieve a better life for all our people.

We must continue to build the ANC and, at the same time, strengthen the alliance with the SACP, COSATU and SANCO. The hopes of our people and the potential for the realisation of the national democratic revolution, rests upon all of us. The ANC as leader of the Alliance, must work tirelessly to ascertain that the Alliance is united at all times. The unity of the Alliance is

*The National Executive Committee meeting was held at Esselen Park, Gauteng, on 6–8 November 2009*

paramount and sacrosanct. It is in this spirit that we look forward to the Alliance Summit to be held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at Esselen Park, Gauteng.

As we move nearer to our centenary in 2012, a responsibility is imposed upon each and everyone of us to ensure that we reach that milestone as one, united, disciplined revolutionary movement. Our organisation's hundred years must be a celebration of all our people, regardless of race, colour or creed. Provinces must have the necessary structures at all levels to ensure this immense, yet honourable task is carried out without fail.

In 2010 we will see a lot of activity for both our organisation and our country. The January 8<sup>th</sup> statement celebrations that will be held in the Northern Cape are important to us all. Each branch should by now have been nominated for all or one of our awards on this important day. We also encourage individual provinces not only to come en masse to the celebrations, but to also bring all their own ANC memorabilia and art to display in and around the venue of the celebrations.

We take this opportunity, on your behalf, to welcome back to the structures of the African National Congress, the former Governor of the Reserve Bank, comrade Tito Mboweni, who is now able to participate in all activities of our glorious movement.

*I wish to amplify the words of the President and the NEC in wishing you all Happy Holidays.*



OVERVIEW BY PRESIDENT JACOB ZUMA

# Enriching discussions

I would like to touch on a few points that I believe we must consider, such as the impact of the global recession on the economy, organisational renewal, strengthening local government, HIV and AIDS, Alliance relations and the debates within the organisation as well as international relations.

## GLOBAL RECESSION

We meet during a difficult period in many respects, especially in relation to the effects of the global recession on our economy.

The job losses statistics announced this week indicate a gloomy picture and this puts pressure on us as the ruling party to come up with solutions, in both the short and long term to ease the suffering, and ensure that our economy is able to recover afterwards.

The manufacturing and mining sectors have experienced a dramatic decline, as a result of no new investors and no recapitalisation.

Motor vehicle sales have declined month on month by 40%. The expenditure in construction has served to raise average national growth levels, but this is downplayed by the collapse in retail and to a lesser extent financial and transport sectors.

The overwhelming number of retrenchments are in firms with less than 50 employees, which means our SMME sector is suffering.

We do have the Framework agreement under the auspices of NEDLAC but clearly we need to do more. The creation of job opportunities assists to alleviate the problem in the short term, but we need sustainable jobs.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

With regards to local government, the organisation has been hands-on in an impressive manner, especially the service delivery interventions.

The action taken by the NWC in Mpumalanga to remove non-performing and problematic employees signalled that we mean business when we say we will not tolerate incompetence, divisiveness and mischief in the organisation.

We recently convened a meeting of mayors and municipal managers from across the country, held in Khayelitsha, and also attended by frontline service Ministers and Premiers.

The meeting coincided with the release by the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs of the report on the 'State of Local Government'.

From that interaction and from the department's report, a number of issues emerge.

- There is insufficient human and financial capacity to deliver on constitutional and legal mandates and on citizen expectations.
- The system is too complex. Municipalities fail to manage their powers and functions and related responsibilities.

- There are weak oversight, supervision, support and intervention mechanisms from other spheres.
- There is contestation between the political and the administrative – between councillors and managers. This leads to dysfunctionality and instability.
- There are too many opportunities for fraud and corruption.
- There is a breakdown of local democracy. Communities are not involved and feel alienated. Government is seen as unresponsive.
- There are irregular and unprocedural suspensions, dismissals and disciplinary procedures within municipalities.
- Many municipalities are not financially viable. They have a revenue base that is insufficient to meet their needs.

While local government has all these problems, it is important to emphasise that a great many municipalities function nevertheless, providing basic services to residents on a regular basis.

Most councillors and municipal employees are dedicated and hard-working. Many of the problems they encounter are not of their making.

We are all familiar with these problems. They have plagued us since the establishment of democratic local government.

The question we need to address is what we should do about it urgently to solve these problems before the elections of 2011.

There are a number of elements to our response.

The one issue we need to look at is the structure of local government. There are clearly some municipalities that are never going to be financially viable.

There was also a general complaint from mayors that some legal requirements are burden-some and counter-productive.

The other issue is one of capacity and management. This is an area where national and provincial government needs to play an important role. The recent local government indaba would have gone some way in mapping out a programme to do this.

These are the policy and governance issues with which the ANC needs to engage.

But we also need to acknowledge that there are organisational issues within the movement that have a significant impact on the functioning of local government.

We know that many of the local protests have everything to do with contests within the ANC and Alliance.

In fact, these protests mark the unofficial beginning of the list process for 2011 local government elections.

Already, there are comrades who are positioning themselves to play particular roles after the elections.

This is just one of the symptoms of the decline of local and regional structures of the ANC. As we have noted before, organisational activity, community mobilisation and cadre development is not taking place in many parts of the organisation.

Yet these are the very activities that keep organisations alive. Unless we attend to these matters, the organisation will cease to be a progressive, mass-based liberation movement.

It will then exist only to contest elections and secure positions of authority and influence for a select few. We should not wait for an election campaign to engage in systematic and focused organisational work.

Much of the time and energy of this national leadership has been spent setting up new administrations at national and provincial level, and getting the programme of the new Parliament and legislatures underway.

We have thus neglected our organisational responsibilities.

We need to ask the Secretary General to develop a programme for the deployment of NEC members to structures to undertake organisation building work.

We also need to agree that NEC members avail themselves for such assignments. We should not however wait for a call from the SG.

We are all deployed to provinces, and should be undertaking ANC work in our respective provinces. This work is urgent and very critical.

The visit to Mpumalanga province by the NWC revealed how urgent and serious these interventions are. The programme agreed to, for the NWC to visit all provinces to ensure organisational cohesion and renewal should be treated with the importance it deserves.

Our Siyabonga programme which has been taken to every province except North West at this stage revealed that our people are still enthusiastic about the ANC.

The thousands that came to the Siyabonga rally in Limpopo is a case in point. We must not lose that attachment that our people have with their organisation.

## DEBATE IN THE MOVEMENT

Comrades, last week, I had an opportunity to write in *ANC Today* about the role of debate within the ANC, the Alliance and broader society.

It arose out of an apparent alarm from some sections of society at some of the heated discussions that have recently been taking place, and the manner in which these debates were being conducted.

I made the point that debate is a fundamental feature of a democratic society, and is necessary for the development of ideas and social progress. No person or organisation can claim a monopoly on wisdom, nor can any idea be immune from scrutiny.

No organisation, and certainly no liberation movement, can hope to develop and grow if it does not create space for open, democratic debate.

The resilience of the ANC during even the most trying times is due in large part to its ability to accommodate a diversity of views and interests.

It has been able to remain united and coherent by working to ensure that all views are heard and considered within the structures of the organisation.



In the letter in *ANC Today*, I said:

*"We should not be afraid to debate policy, but we should be cautious not to associate certain policy positions with individuals."*

*"There is an unhealthy tendency to label comrades, sometimes even to call each other derogatory names."*

*"This detracts from the purpose of debate, which is to critically examine differing perspectives."*

*"Rather than impugn the motives of comrades, we should concentrate instead on exposing every view to scrutiny, regardless of who expresses it."*

At certain times we have talked of the ANC's responsibility to provide leadership to society. This relates not only to the content of our ideology, policies and programmes, but also to the manner in which we pursue our objectives and persuade society to support our policies.

We need to be exemplary in our conduct. We need to draw people towards the organisation through persuasion, through the strength of our arguments.

We should be careful to avoid behaving in a way that alienates people and makes them less receptive to our ideas.

We should not personalise debate. We must remember that the policies of this organisation do not belong to one person or any group of people. They are the policies of adopted in Polokwane in December 2007.

They are captured in our 2009 election manifesto, and translated into a government programme in the Medium Term Strategic Framework.

As government proceeds to implement its programmes it is guided by these policies, and follows the strategic direction provided by the constitutional structures of the movement.

The ANC formulates policy through a very intensive process which is very well-known. An area of vigorous debate has been economic policy making.

In ANC Today we said:

*"There are some who promote the idea that economic policy will be determined by one or other minister, and that a great struggle is on to determine who that minister should be...."*

*"Though there are ministers responsible for coordinating economic policy, they do not determine policy. That is the function of cabinet, drawing on the positions of the organisation and guided by the mandate of the electorate."*

As this leadership, and as the leadership of the Alliance, we should remember that those currently in government are simply deployees tasked to implement policies agreed by the ANC membership.

We should also remember that tomorrow there may be different people deployed in these positions, but they will still be expected to implement the same policies.

Our subcommittees have been hard at work and should be able to provide tangible proposals to help us implement the Manifesto and programme of action.

We should bear these principles in mind when we discuss the proposals.

We will go to the Alliance Summit on 13-15<sup>th</sup> November, to discuss taking forward the decisions of the 52<sup>nd</sup> conference relating to strengthening the Alliance, and also the implementation of the resolutions and programme of action.

The Summit will hopefully also provide an opportunity to clarify matters of rules of engagement and relations amongst Alliance partners, which is sometimes cause for concern for many.

This will ensure that the relations remain as smooth and as cordial as they are currently. The relations within the Alliance have never been this positive and constructive.

We should not lose sight of the immense possibilities this provides for the advancement of our objectives.

## ANC YOUTH LEAGUE

The ANC Youth League is celebrating its 65<sup>th</sup> year of existence. The League continues its tradition of being vibrant and add life to the ANC. We wish the League well, may it grow from strength to strength.

## HIV AND AIDS

We will be marking World Aids Day, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. During the President's annual address to the NCOP last week, we called for a renewed onslaught against HIV and AIDS.

The statistics by various institutions paint a very worrying picture about mortality trends in South Africa, particularly as they relate to AIDS and TB.

The statistics suggest that unless we do something extraordinary to tackle the spread of HIV and effectively treat the infected, the number of people dying in South Africa will outstrip the number of people being born.

The challenge is how to make South Africans sit up and listen again when we talk about AIDS.

The denial, the stigma and the indifference must be a thing of the past. We must therefore work towards a massive mobilisation campaign to regain lost ground in this campaign.

Most importantly, our people need a caring, empathetic and compassionate ANC. This disease is causing a lot of distress amongst our communities and the organisation must acknowledge this and our structures should be ready to provide care and support. I hope that we will have an opportunity to discuss this matter in the NEC, and develop an organisational programme that responds to the enormity of the challenge we face.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

On the international front, we must continue to strengthen relations with fraternal parties in the region.

Mozambique went into elections and we expect FRELIMO to do extremely well. The same applies to SWAPO which faces the electorate in a few week's time.

The liberation movements need to work together more than ever before to prevent divisions which would encourage the mushrooming of renegade movements.

We visited Equatorial Guinea this week to strengthen economic relations. There are many opportunities in that country especially regarding infrastructure development, energy and mineral resources.

We are mindful of the challenges in that country relating to democratic systems and the human rights record.

We believe we can assist them to develop such systems, in line with our general African agenda.

The host government used the opportunity of our visit to release Simon Mann and the South African mercenaries who attempted to stage a coup a few years ago. We welcome the releases but condemn the actions of the men.

We fully support the position of the African Union with regards to total rejection of mercenary activity and unconstitutional changes in government in Africa.

We have to play our role to ensure that the continent stands united against such practices. Nobody should be allowed to destabilise African governments and communities.

However, we cannot punish the mercenaries twice as they have served their sentences already. We trust that they have learned their lesson.

Comrades, I touched on a few issues that I believe we should look at during this meeting.

The debate will no doubt enrich the discussions and decisions as always.

I thank you.

WAY FORWARD

# Decisions of the NEC

## ORGANISATION BUILDING

### IMPORTANT EVENTS

#### *January 8 Celebrations and Statement*

The January 8<sup>th</sup> 2010 celebrations will be held in the Northern Cape. The NEC's Policy sub-committee will work on the content of the statement, taking into consideration recommendations from the secretaries' forum and other submissions from NEC members and decisions arrived at in the Alliance Summit.

The NEC further emphasised the need for provinces to apply greater rigour on the matter of nominations for various ANC awards, and that these should be processed speedily. The provinces are also called upon to have exhibition stalls to display ANC artwork, at the January 8<sup>th</sup> 2010 event and this should be linked to the work of the centenary celebrations.

#### *The National General Council in 2010*

The NEC endorsed the proposal that the NGC should be held in KwaZulu-Natal in September.

#### *The ANC Centenary Celebrations in 2012*

The NEC endorsed the report of the Centenary Task Team (CTT), which is convened by the National Chairperson, cde Baleka Mbete. The ANC centenary is a milestone not only for the ANC and the country, but also for all the progressive forces in the world. Therefore, while the ANC would be the anchor, our society must be mobilised in celebrating the centenary as an integral part of the struggle against oppression and exploitation. Provinces are expected to play an important role in the celebrations. NEC members were encouraged to make written submissions to the CTT. This equally applies to all members of our glorious movement.

## PROVINCES

The NEC noted three provinces, namely, the Western Cape, North West, Mpumalanga, that require concerted effort in strengthening the organisation.

### Western Cape

The NEC decided that:

- i) The NEC deployees should play an active role in supporting the PTT
- ii) The NEC, not the PTT, will decide on the date of the Provincial Conference once it is satisfied that sufficient work has been done in building the organisation
- iii) The PTT should exercise authority and instil discipline in dealing with challenges facing the province. In this regard,
  - a) the chairperson of the PTT should exert authority on problematic individuals perception of two centres of power – provincial caucus versus PTT – must be eliminated



- b) dissolving branches and rebuilding them from scratch, and appoint organisers in each ward to organise, recruit and launch branches
- iv) NEC to develop a concrete strategy and programme to organise and deal with leadership problems in the province.

### North West

The NEC commended the PTT on its work of stabilising and building organisation in the province. It noted that the PTT, however, should exercise caution in its process of effecting change.

### Mpumalanga

The NEC welcomed the NWC's interventions, that is, its responsiveness and decisiveness with regards to the Lekwa municipality, and the visit it conducted in the province. It noted that, in the main, the problems plaguing the province are as a result of internal conflicts in the ANC. The NEC further noted that there is seemingly an orchestrated plan in the manner in which these protests are happening.

**The NEC firmly believes that we should not allow Mpumalanga, a strong hold of the movement, to be weakened in any manner.**

The NEC, therefore, decided that:

- i) NEC deployees should play an active role in the province to resolve problems
- ii) A team should be established to do a thorough diagnosis of the situation with the intention of emerging with a plan of how problems identified could be addressed
- iii) The task team should finalise its mission by the first quarter of 2010.

### Eastern Cape

The NEC accepted the Eastern Cape report, which closes the chapter on the conference held there, with the understanding that:

- i) The officials will continue engaging the newly elected PEC to assist them in the healing process in the province.
- ii) The PEC will attend to the areas of problems, in particular the Amathole region.

## THE LAUNCH OF THE ANC VETERANS LEAGUE

The launch of the Veterans League is planned for 4-6 December 2009 in either Esselen Park or Birchwood. Only four provinces have successfully launched the provincial chapters of the ANCVL. The other four are planning to launch before the end of November 2009. However, a key concern is Mpumalanga, which might not be part of the national launch as they have very few members.

## ALLIANCE

The process in motion, that is, bilateral meetings (November 09 2009) with each of the Alliance partners – namely SACP and COSATU, and the Alliance Summit (November 13-15 2009), was endorsed. Also both reports on the 10<sup>th</sup> National Congress of COSATU and the Alliance Political Council were endorsed. Furthermore, it was agreed that:

- i) The Alliance is the only vehicle for transformation and the realisation of the objectives of the NDR
- ii) The SG should establish a team to develop an approach of the ANC on the issue of sex, workers and then report to the NEC
- iii) The matter of personal public attacks among Alliance members should be stopped as this is a detraction from the task of bettering the lives of our people.

## OTHER MATTERS EMERGING OUT OF THE PRESIDENT'S OVERVIEW AND THE NWC REPORT

The NEC decided:

- i) That the **Political Overview at the NEC** is the preserve of the President, and it offers a clear perspective and direction the ANC should take. It is understood that the overview reflects not just the President's thoughts, but a collective understanding of the organisation.
- ii) That the SG should develop the **state of the organisation report** that would be discussed by the NEC. In the process of developing such a state of the organisation report, the Secretaries Forum would need to meet in advance to process the provincial reports. A special NEC meeting will be convened to look at the state of the organization report early next year.
- iii) That the ANC constitutional structures should be **resolute and decisive in stamping out ill discipline** and should do so without fear or favour, as such behaviour damages the image of the ANC. Nevertheless, **freedom of expression and debate** within the structures should be encouraged.
- iv) That the **SGO should develop a system and mechanism of accounting for NEC members, including a roster or schedule of their Political work**. This should assess and account for each comrade's participation in the various areas of his/her deployment, for example, provincial deployment, deployment to specific activities, etc.
- v) That the **ANCYL should present a paper on the nationalisation of mines** for engagement.
- vi) That the **mercenaries** who were pardoned as part of the **visit of the President cde Jacob Zuma to Equatorial Guinea** should be made to understand that their ill-conceived actions are despicable, illegal and condoned by neither our people nor our government. Sovereignty and the right to self-determination by every nation are fundamental values. Yet, the ANC recognises that correction should not be punitive and a person cannot be punished twice for the same offence. Therefore, in a spirit of reconciliation displayed by the government and the people of Guinea, our government and our people extend the same sentiment as learned from our leaders such as Nelson Mandela. We are humbled by this act of forgiveness by the President of Equatorial Guinea, President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.
- vii) To put into effect the September NEC's decision to have the 2010 Local Organising Committee (LOC) come and brief the NEC on the South African state of readiness for the **2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup** tournament.

viii) To wish the **ANCYL** well on its **65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**, and noted that the League has remained true to its historical culture of being vibrant. The NEC wishes the League could grow from strength to strength.

ix) The opportunity presented by the United Nations Framework Convention on **Climate Change** session that will take place in Copenhagen in Denmark next month should be used to intensify the implementation of South Africa's climate change resolution and work in this regard.

The NEC remains deeply concerned by climate change implications for Africa. In our view the continent is particularly vulnerable to changes in climate, which have a profound impact on issues of food security, economic viability, biodiversity and access to water.

x) That the **Caster Semenya sub-committee** did sterling work and has highlighted the importance of celebrating our victories, attention the ANC needs to pay to matters of sport. It further commended the ANCYL for the support it provided to our three medallists. Furthermore it accepted the handing over by the Task Team of work related to the mishandling of the Caster Semenya saga by both the IAAF and ASA to the Ministry of Sport and Recreation.

xi) To **send twenty NEC members on an educational exchange programme to China**. The programme is a result of party-to-party relations between the ANC and the Chinese Communist Party (CPC). The main aim of the programme is for comrades to gain exposure and to learn from experiences of China, particularly the policy of socialism with Chinese characteristics. These educational trips will be an annual event. The first will begin on November 21 2009, to last for two weeks.

xii) To hold a **Special National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting** in order to consider an overall strategy on energy, with special focus to be paid to the matter of electricity and the various options that may pertain thereto.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The NEC resolved that we should urgently establish and introduce a **turn around strategy** in order to restore the confidence of the majority of our people in our municipalities, as the primary delivery machine of the developmental state at a local level. The turn around strategy will also rebuild and improve the basic requirements for a functional, responsive, effective, efficient developmental local government.

The NEC agreed that there is a need to focus on the root causes of local government problems. The causes amongst others includes the following:

### **Symmetric Factors**

The two-tier system, limited revenue and the demarcation challenges that affects local government service delivery.

### **Legislative factors**

Inappropriate legislation, over and under regulation also has a detrimental effect on the non-performance of some of the municipality.

### **Political factors**

The inter-and intra- political conflicts and polarisation.

### **Accountability System**

Lack of performance management systems; poor oversight and poor community participation mechanism.

### **Capacity & skills**

Lack of capacity in small and rural municipality.

### IRG support and oversight

Fragmented national and provincial support; weak monitoring and oversight.

### Intergovernmental Fiscal regime

Poor grant design and limited impact and grant dependency.

The NEC acknowledged that the ANC must strengthen its governance initiatives for local government. This includes amongst others:

- The implementation of the ANC's Councillors Code of Conduct
- A mechanism and or measures must be introduced to stabilize the relationship between Councillors and Administrators.
- Communication capacity of ANC councillors must be strengthened and training must be provided.
- The political school of the ANC must strengthen focus on local government.
- The ANC and Alliance structures must be at the forefront of building effective organs of people's power at municipal level. The establishment of Block/Village and Street Committees must receive immediate attention by Ward Committees.

## EDUCATION AND HEALTH

- i) The NEC endorsed and supported the Ministry's of Basic Education's efforts in transforming and aligning the schools curriculum.
- ii) The NEC also endorsed the Ministry's **ten-point plan turnaround strategy** for learning, education and training. It further agreed that the plan should be presented at the Alliance Summit on November 13-15 2009, so as to ensure full support of the plan by other Alliance partners. The ten-point plan on education states:
  - a) Teachers to be in class, on time, teaching. Teachers to also be required to use textbooks in class.
  - b) Focus efforts on improving the quality of early childhood education and primary schools, including implementing the '**Foundations for Learning**' Campaign emphasizing the promotion of language and numeracy.
  - c) Conduct external tests for all grade 3 and grade 6 learners every year, and provide the results to parents.
  - d) Ensure effective evaluation of all teachers, with results **influencing occupationally specific dispensation pay** for teachers.
  - e) Enhance recruitment of quality teachers and strengthen teacher development.
  - f) Strengthen management capacity to ensure working districts and schools. This entails bringing in management capacity from the private sector, civil society and elsewhere in the public sector.
  - g) Increase the use of ICT in education, including audiovisual teaching materials in the classroom to supplement teaching and demonstrate quality teaching to learners and educators.
  - h) **Improve national-provincial alignment and efficiency** of education expenditure, through procuring textbooks nationally and allocating resources to improve district capacity. In this regard, the use of conditional grants is an important tool to ensure alignment.
  - i) Develop a social compact for quality education. This will include a National Consultative Forum dedicated to clarifying the 'non-negotiables' and performance targets for key stakeholders, and the monitoring thereof.

- j) Implement poverty combating measures that improve the environment of learning and teaching, such as a nutrition programme (cross-cutting programme with health), basic infrastructure of schools, and social support for children.

### iii) ON HIV and AIDS, the NEC:

- a) Noted the alarming statistics on HIV and AIDS and the devastation caused by the pandemic to the South African populace. This should serve as a wake up call to all of us. As a country we have lost a lot of ground in the last few years and are paying a heavy price for it. **If we do not act now, the death rate will outstrip the birthrate.**
- b) Called on the ANC to mobilise all South Africans to take responsibility for their health and well-being and that of their partners, their families and their communities.
- c) Called on all South Africans to know their HIV status, and be informed of the treatment options available to them.
- d) Committed the ANC to working hard towards reaching the target of cutting new HIV and AIDS infections by half by 2011 and ensuring that 80% of those infected have access to ARVs.
- e) Endorsed the **ten-point plan on health**, which it decided should be engaged with at the Alliance Summit. The plan stands as follows:
  - Provision of Strategic Leadership and the creation of a Social Compact for better health outcomes
  - Implementation of the National Health Insurance
  - Improving the Quality of Health Services
  - Overhauling the health care system and improve its management
  - Improved Human Resources Planning, Development and Management
  - Revitalisation of infrastructure
  - Accelerate the implementation of the HIV & AIDS and Sexually Transmitted infections National Strategy in 2007-11 and increase focus on TB and other communicable diseases
  - Mass mobilisation for a better health for the population
  - Review of Drug Policy.
  - Strengthen Research and Development.

## ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE

- i) The NEC decided the following:
  - a) On the **National Planning Commission**:
    - There will be a National Planning Commission (NPC) to ensure government-wide planning takes place.
    - That the Minister responsible for planning in the Presidency will chair the Commission.
    - That external experts will constitute the NPC.
    - That all recommendations of the NPC will be presented to our governance structures including Cabinet, for interaction and endorsement.
  - ii) The NEC received reports on Labour Brokers, Electricity and Development Finance Institutions and sent them back for further deliberations by the ETC.

## CLOSING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT ZUMA

# Build on the support we gained

We have come to the end of the last scheduled NEC meeting of the year 2009.

It has been a good year for the ANC. We must not allow some challenges we are dealing with to make us lose sight of that fact.

The outstanding victory in the elections, the inauguration and establishment of government as well as the smooth manner in which government has settled in are concrete examples of our success as the ANC.

You will recall that around this time last year, we were facing a massive propaganda onslaught. We were told that the ANC was dying, that we should start preparing for seats on the opposition benches in parliament.

We did not take the threat lightly. We launched a massive campaign which took the ANC brand to every town, city and village.

Given the intensive work that was done, it is not surprising that we returned a resounding victory in April. We once again congratulate all for exceptional work that was done during this time.

We lost the Western Cape due to organisational weaknesses, but we won an unprecedented landslide in KwaZulu-Natal because of intensive work and service delivery that impressed the electorate in that province.

We went to areas we had never been to before in KZN during the campaign, and we should be able to return to those areas, especially where we had promised certain action. We must not be intoxicated by the victory and forget to do follow ups.

We must not lose the national support we gained over the past year. We must build on it and continue consolidating.

As part of maintaining contact with the electorate, we undertook a *Siyabonga* campaign.

We have visited eight provinces, seven by the President and Northern Cape by the national chairperson.

We should visit North West soon to thank the masses for their faith in the ANC against all odds.

We also used the opportunity to engage with stakeholders on the ground during the visits, and were able to hear their own assessments of the organisation and its role in each province.

We were also able to brief the masses and stakeholders on work we had done since the inauguration.

The numbers that have turned out at the *Siyabonga* rallies have shown that people still support the ANC, and the protests should not make us believe that people have turned against us.

### DISCIPLINE

We must not allow the ANC to be undermined by discipline. We should be able to act where we need to act, and decisively. The Disciplinary Committee must be active and deal with discipline. People should not be allowed to make public statements about matters of the organisation in a negative manner. Let us not make the disciplinary process complicated, it must be user friendly and quick.

Comrades must not be allowed to make negative statements about other comrades.

### PROTESTS

There is a general agreement that protests are caused by ourselves as the ANC, so how do we deal with ourselves as an organisation? **How do we deal with discipline, political infighting, interests, corruption and others.** Let us deal with these matters.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

We will soon be going to local government elections, and we do not have much time as we only have half a year in 2010 due to the FIFA World Cup.

We must now focus our work on assisting municipalities to improve their performance. While doing so, we should begin to change our communication tone.

We must prepare for the elections by beginning now to send out positive messages about our work and progress made in the sphere.

As the Secretary General stated in his report, we must not give an impression that we are an organisation that is busy removing its cadres such as mayors or councillors all over the country.

If we tighten discipline and oversight, we would be able to deal with matters early enough which would not necessitate removing cadres from office.

Otherwise we give an impression that we made an error in selecting them in the first place, and that we have failed. So why should the electorate trust us with local government?



Local government is the most important sphere of government as it is the closest to our people we must not lose sight of that. It is where government in concrete terms is seen by the people.

### ORGANISATION BUILDING

Comrades it became clear in this meeting that we all look forward to having an intensive discussion on the state of the organisation in the next NEC. When we do that, it must be the only item on the agenda so that we can do justice to it.

A lot of work must be done to normalise the situation in provinces such as Mpumalanga, North West and Western Cape.

The task team appointed to assist Mpumalanga should move with speed, as the province cannot be allowed to sink deeper into trouble.

In the Western Cape, we must assist the PTT to conduct very intensive political work and effective public participation activities to make an impact.

A point was made that we must seriously tailor our strategy to the style and culture of the province.

For example instead of overt political work, we should engage in campaigns on issues that affect our people directly, such as drugs in Mitchells Plain, fishing quotas in Overberg and other areas and farm evictions amongst others.

We reiterate that the ANC leadership must be visible in public activities in the province, festivals and carnivals and not only ANC events. We must close all gaps and not allow the opposition exclusive political space.

*We must not lose the national support we gained over the past year. We must build on it and continue consolidating.*

We welcome the progress made by the PTT in the North West. We will also support the Eastern Cape to normalise the situation and heal the organisation.

We are happy with the commitment, energy and dedication of the PTT. They have been in every region, and are working with branches, there can only be progress in that province.

The NEC that will discuss Organisation building must have this as the only item on the agenda, in order to do justice to this matter.

### ECONOMIC CRISIS

We should not lose sight of the fact that we are working during a very difficult economic climate.

We have begun to feel the heavy social impact of the job losses. Our people are becoming restless due to loss of income, and we should be ready to deal with that. Our social security systems are under pressure, as more people have to apply for social grants and unemployment insurance fund to survive.

We were somewhat cushioned by the construction sector and the massive 2010 projects. The question is what happens after 2010? We must look at rural development and other opportunities for other construction projects. If we don't, we will have more people without jobs.

## EDUCATION

The complaints about teacher unions were noted, but we should note that it is not all individuals and not all unions that disrupt education.

We should be able to deal with the challenges with a view to winning teachers over to promote quality learning and teaching, and to promote the non-negotiables.

The job opportunities we spoke about in June, largely in the expanded public works programme, cannot be substitutes for the sustainable jobs that must be created by the formal economy.

It has also come to our attention that people do not differentiate between job opportunities and jobs.

We need to ensure a speedier implementation of the Framework Agreement between labour, government, community and business, especially the practical aspects such as training lay offs for retrenched workers.

I agree fully that we should begin to work on a communication plan around the 500 000 job opportunities we said we intended to create.

We will be ready to say that we are disappointed if we do not meet the 500 000 target.

However given the manner in which we are shedding jobs, we will welcome any number of job opportunities created during this period. Even 100 000 job opportunities can be considered a success.

## HIV AND AIDS

Comrades, the statistics on HIV and AIDS are a wake-up call. We have lost a lot of ground in the last few years and are paying the price for it.

We must come to terms with the fact that South Africans are dying in large numbers and we must take leadership in finding urgent solutions to this situation.

If we are to stop the progress of this disease through our society, we will need to pursue extraordinary measures.

We will need to mobilise all South Africans to take responsibility for their health and well-being and that of their partners, their families and their communities.

Most importantly, all South Africans need to know their HIV status, and be informed of the treatment options available to them.

If we work hard we can reach our target of cutting new infections by half by 2011. Let put the information received during this NEC to good use and provide leadership to the fight against this disease.

## ALLIANCE SUMMIT

Comrades we must go to the Alliance Summit, fully aware that the unity of the Alliance is paramount.

At this juncture in our history, the Alliance is the only existing political entity that is capable of completing our mission of transforming our society.

We reiterate that we must continue to encourage healthy debates within the Alliance, but these must be undertaken in a comradely manner, and one in which we respect each other's integrity.

We look forward to the bilaterals with Alliance partners next week ahead of the Summit. These will help us to iron out whatever complications have arisen in the relationship.

The ANC, as the leader of the Alliance, must provide the necessary guidance and direction. We have that historical duty and responsibility and we must execute it.

Let me remind comrades as well that the ANC is a disciplined force of the left. We reiterated this in no less a gathering than the 52<sup>nd</sup> Conference in Polokwane.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

As Africans we remain deeply concerned by climate change. The continent is particularly vulnerable to changes in climate, which have a profound impact on issues like food security, economic viability, biodiversity and access to water.

We resolved in Polokwane that we should recognise that climate change is a new threat on a global scale and poses an enormous burden upon South Africans and Africans.

We therefore look forward to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change session that will take place in Copenhagen in Denmark next month.

The negotiations must come up with a solution as to how to share the little remaining carbon space while at the same time giving developing countries a fair chance in the development space. While countries have different historical responsibilities for emissions in the past, we share a common responsibility for the future.

Our view is that the global response has to be rooted in the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities.

We resolved at Polokwane to provide leadership on environmental issues, through amongst other means, working with progressive forces in the country and throughout the world to ensure that environmental issues continue to receive the prominence they deserve.

We must use the opportunity of Copenhagen to intensify the implementation of our climate change resolution and our work in this regard.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT

As we near the end of the year, we can safely say that government has settled in well.

There are some new departments which are still in the process of being fully established such as the Women, Children and People with Disabilities, the Ministries in the Presidency, Economic Development and others. The process should be concluded soon.

We have noted the debates around the mandates of certain Ministers, some within the economic cluster. All Ministers are equal; they are employees of the ANC, serving in their capacities to implement ANC policy. They are ANC Ministers and do not serve on behalf of Alliance partners.

And we must emphasise that we remain committed to the mandates spelled out when we appointed the Ministers. We were not mistaken at all. We knew what we were doing.

We therefore do not see any crisis with regards to mandates.

It must be underlined that the President of the Republic is the only person who has the authority and power to assign functions to Ministers. No amount of lobbying or debates will change that. What we can do is attempt to influence the process which is acceptable.

We are applying our minds and will act appropriately to finalise the mandates, taking the interests of the organisation, government and the country into consideration.

As discussed here work will begin in earnest soon to draft the 2010 January 8 statement. It is an important document given the fact that we have a National General Council, and that we are so close to the Centenary of this glorious movement.

Careful thought will no doubt go into crafting as always.

A decision was taken in the last NEC that the 2010 Local Organising Committee will be called to come and brief the NEC on the state of readiness for the tournament.

We trust that this will be done very early in the New Year so that the ANC can intervene timeously should there be a need to do so. We cannot treat this as a government event only.

Work has begun towards towards the Centenary celebrations in 2012. The centenary is a milestone not only for this country but all the progressive forces in the world.

### ELECTRICITY

We need a presentation that will bring all options to the table and assist us to take a final decision.

We said in the Manifesto 2009: *"In the period ahead South Africa will need a government with both experience and political will, a government that fully understands what needs to be done to address our apartheid past, a government that puts people first and builds a participatory democracy. The ANC, working together with the people, can form such a government"*.

In this context, we are going to undertake, as part of taking our developmental agenda forward, a thorough review of state owned enterprises. I am told there has been a review of development finance institutions.

**As we enjoy the festive season, let us come back rejuvenated and ready to start running again. The year 2010 will be the busiest ever!**

*Comrades, Happy holidays to you and your families!*



NEC Members with Madiba

# THE FREEDOM CHARTER

*Adopted at the Congress of the People, Kliptown, on 26 June 1955*

## **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;
- that our people have been robbed of their birthright to land, liberty and peace by a form of government founded on injustice and inequality;
- that our country will never be prosperous or free until all our people live in brotherhood, enjoying equal rights and opportunities;
- that only a democratic state, based on the will of all the people, can secure to all their birthright without distinction of colour, race, sex or belief;
- And therefore, we, the people of South Africa, black and white together equals, countrymen and brothers adopt this Freedom Charter;
- And we pledge ourselves to strive together, sparing neither strength nor courage, until the democratic changes here set out have been won.

## **The People Shall Govern!**

- Every man and woman shall have the right to vote for and to stand as a candidate for all bodies which make laws;
- All people shall be entitled to take part in the administration of the country;
- The rights of the people shall be the same, regardless of race, colour or sex;
- All bodies of minority rule, advisory boards, councils and authorities shall be replaced by democratic organs of self-government.

## **All National Groups Shall have Equal Rights!**

- There shall be equal status in the bodies of state, in the courts and in the schools for all national groups and races;
- All people shall have equal right to use their own languages, and to develop their own folk culture and customs;
- All national groups shall be protected by law against insults to their race and national pride;
- The preaching and practice of national, race or colour discrimination and contempt shall be a punishable crime;
- All apartheid laws and practices shall be set aside.

## **The People Shall Share in the Country's Wealth!**

- The national wealth of our country, the heritage of South Africans, shall be restored to the people;
- The mineral wealth beneath the soil, the Banks and monopoly industry shall be transferred to the ownership of the people as a whole;
- All other industry and trade shall be controlled to assist the wellbeing of the people;
- All people shall have equal rights to trade where they choose, to manufacture and to enter all trades, crafts and professions.

## **The Land Shall be Shared Among Those Who Work It!**

- Restrictions of land ownership on a racial basis shall be ended, and all the land re-divided amongst those who work it to banish famine and land hunger;
- The state shall help the peasants with implements, seed, tractors and dams to save the soil and assist the tillers;
- Freedom of movement shall be guaranteed to all who work on the land;
- All shall have the right to occupy land wherever they choose;
- People shall not be robbed of their cattle, and forced labour and farm prisons shall be abolished.

## **All Shall be Equal Before the Law!**

- No-one shall be imprisoned, deported or restricted without a fair trial;
- No-one shall be condemned by the order of any Government official;
- The courts shall be representative of all the people;
- Imprisonment shall be only for serious crimes against the people, and shall aim at re-education, not vengeance;
- The police force and army shall be open to all on an equal basis and shall be the helpers and protectors of the people;
- All laws which discriminate on grounds of race, colour or belief shall be repealed.

## **All Shall Enjoy Equal Human Rights!**

- The law shall guarantee to all their right to speak, to organise, to meet together, to publish, to preach, to worship and to educate their children;
- The privacy of the house from police raids shall be protected by law;
- All shall be free to travel without restriction from countryside to town, from province to province, and from South Africa abroad;
- Pass Laws, permits and all other laws restricting these freedoms shall be abolished.

## **There Shall be Work and Security!**

- All who work shall be free to form trade unions, to elect their officers and to make wage agreements with their employers;
- The state shall recognise the right and duty of all to work, and to draw full unemployment benefits;
- Men and women of all races shall receive equal pay for equal work;
- There shall be a forty-hour working week, a national minimum wage, paid annual leave, and sick leave for all workers, and maternity leave on full pay for all working mothers;
- Miners, domestic workers, farm workers and civil servants shall have the same rights as all others who work;
- Child labour, compound labour, the tot system and contract labour shall be abolished.

## **The Doors of Learning and Culture Shall be Opened!**

- The government shall discover, develop and encourage national talent for the enhancement of our cultural life;
- All the cultural treasures of mankind shall be open to all, by free exchange of books, ideas and contact with other lands;
- The aim of education shall be to teach the youth to love their people and their culture, to honour human brotherhood, liberty and peace;
- Education shall be free, compulsory, universal and equal for all children; Higher education and technical training shall be opened to all by means of state allowances and scholarships awarded on the basis of merit;
- Adult illiteracy shall be ended by a mass state education plan;
- Teachers shall have all the rights of other citizens;
- The colour bar in cultural life, in sport and in education shall be abolished.

## **There Shall be Houses, Security and Comfort!**

- All people shall have the right to live where they choose, be decently housed, and to bring up their families in comfort and security;
- Unused housing space to be made available to the people;
- Rent and prices shall be lowered, food plentiful and no-one shall go hungry;
- A preventive health scheme shall be run by the state;
- Free medical care and hospitalisation shall be provided for all, with special care for mothers and young children;
- Slums shall be demolished, and new suburbs built where all have transport, roads, lighting, playing fields, creches and social centres;
- The aged, the orphans, the disabled and the sick shall be cared for by the state;
- Rest, leisure and recreation shall be the right of all;
- Fenced locations and ghettos shall be abolished, and laws which break up families shall be repealed.

## **There Shall be Peace and Friendship!**

- South Africa shall be a fully independent state which respects the rights and sovereignty of all nations;
- South Africa shall strive to maintain world peace and the settlement of all international disputes by negotiation - not war;
- Peace and friendship amongst all our people shall be secured by upholding the equal rights, opportunities and status of all;
- The people of the protectorates Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland shall be free to decide for themselves their own future;
- The right of all peoples of Africa to independence and self-government shall be recognised, and shall be the basis of close co-operation.

**Let all people who love their people and their country now say, as we say here:  
THESE FREEDOMS WE WILL FIGHT FOR, SIDE BY SIDE, THROUGHOUT  
OUR LIVES, UNTIL WE HAVE WON OUR LIBERTY.**

