

Press release

Dated: Friday 15th December 2017

Subject: Zero Tolerance to Corruption at the ANC's elective conference?

RECLAIMING OUR HISTORY, FOR THE SAKE OF OUR FUTURE

"Delegates can either condone or condemn corruption and looting"

Dear Member of the Media

Introduction

This press release has been prepared by the ANC stalwarts and veterans (the stalwarts) who are signatories to the document "For the Sake of our Future" <https://sakeofourfuture.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Sake-of-Our-Future-Founding-Document.pdf> in October 2016. The signatories also facilitated the recent National Consultative Conference on the ANC.

Zero Tolerance to Corruption at the ANC's elective conference?

As stalwarts we have consistently argued that the present leadership of the ANC must facilitate a reflection on the challenges our country and movement face.

We saw opposition to holding a national consultative conference, which has been the correct previous approach to confront any major crisis within the ANC.

Eventually, after patiently trying to convince the leadership to convene a national consultative conference, as stalwarts we were forced to convene the recent "national consultative conference on the ANC" ourselves. A conference which has generally been regarded as successful and an important step in bringing together loyal comrades to openly and honestly discuss the crisis that we face.

The overwhelming majority of the membership of the ANC; the Alliance; supporters and the electorate clearly see and rightfully condemn the levels of looting and corruption in significant sections of government and the public and private sectors of our economy. Theft that can only increase inequity and poverty within our country. The high moral and ethical standards that were once seen as a cornerstone of the ANC's policies and practices are rapidly being lost.

There is little doubt that at the 2019 elections, the majority of our citizens, who are too young to remember life under apartheid will not easily forgive the unacceptable and pathetic attempts to justify the theft from our people. But there is an opportunity to change this justified perception, if that opportunity is taken.

Delegates, when making decisions at this elective conference should be guided by the policy of the ANC on corruption from the Mangaung conference, a full five years ago. This conference called for urgent action against leaders and members of the ANC who

face damaging allegations of improper conduct. In addition, conference clearly stated the abuse of power and office for private gain or factional interests must be prevented.

There cannot be a delegate at the elective conference who does not know that there are a number of senior members of the ANC in government, in the public and private sectors of the economy who are complicit in the diversion of resources from our people into the pockets of the few. These delegates now have a simple choice in the way they conduct themselves and the way they vote at this conference. Delegates can either condone or condemn corruption and looting

We all know there has been no "urgency" to tackle the abuse of power. As part of "state capture", law enforcement agencies and the national prosecuting authority have been contaminated, paralysed and unable to perform their duties without fear or favour.

The ANC conference, which starts on the 16th December will be seen to have ignored the clarion call of our people if any person elected to positions of power are tainted with relationships that are corrupt.

To begin to take the long and difficult road to restore the respect and support the ANC previously held in our country is not going to be easy. However, a significant starting point will be if this elective conference can show there is a willingness to ensure a break with corruption.

There is also a need to recommit to our constitution and constitutional democracy - real achievements of the ANC; the ANC that the overwhelming majority of our country once supported.

To fail to send a clear message from this elective conference will simply mean the ANC will continue in a downward spiral and its historical legacy will surely be lost for ever in the mists of time.

END

Background

The late Comrade Kathrada was the first signatory of the document "For the Sake of our Future" and we remain honoured by the continued presence and support of Comrades Denis Goldberg and Andrew Mlangeni.

As stalwarts, we have been and remain loyal members of the ANC for many decades. Our objective is to continue to serve all the people of South Africa and ensure the historical values and principles of the ANC are restored. As stalwarts, we feel a profound responsibility to the movement and the country, to ensure that the principles and values of the ANC are not destroyed.

We believe that the overwhelming majority of our citizens embrace the values of the Freedom Charter and the Constitution of our country.

We would like to believe that we speak on behalf of all members of the ANC who reject state capture and any form of corruption; want to see the realization of our potential as a nation and who are committed to the elimination of poverty and the unacceptably high levels of inequality.

A message to the media

We realise that you may not be necessarily based in Johannesburg and we will try and facilitate interviews with you, if so required.

For media enquiries and interviews please do not hesitate to contact:

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The web site is: sakeofourfuture.co.za

The Email address is: sakeofourfuture@gmail.com

The Facebook page is: "<https://www.facebook.com/ANCstalwartsandveterans/>."

It should be noted this is an open Facebook page and posts do not necessarily reflect the collective positions of the signatories to the document "For the Sake of our Future".

Press release No 53 of 2017 (12 15).