

CONGRESS BULLETIN

First Edition | April 2015

Welcome to the first edition of the ANC Youth League Congress Bulletin. This Bulletin will publish valuable information for our structures in the run-up to the elective congress in June 2015.

Guidelines for CONGRESSES

INTRODUCTION

1. The guidelines are intended to provide more details on organisational requirements to be adhered to for congress preparations, and ensure consistency in our processes in line with the unitary character of the African National Congress Youth League. They must always be read together with the ANCYL Constitution as adopted by the 24th National Congress held at Gallagher Estate, Midrand in Gauteng Province.
2. For a big organisation such as the ANCYL it is possible for different structures to have different interpretations of certain provisions of the Constitution unless there are national guidelines to regulate the process and ensure consistency.
3. All ANCYL structures are required to convene congresses at the end of their term of office as per the provisions of the ANCYL Constitution. To prepare for congresses is an important political and organisational process, which requires the involvement of all ANCYL members. This process begins at the branch level, which is the basic unit of the organisation.
4. The word National Executive Committee (herein under abbreviated as NEC) refers to the elected

national executive committee, elected National Congress as determined by the Constitution of ANCYL. Where it does not exist, it refers to the National Task Team or NTT.

5. The word Provincial Executive Committee (herein under abbreviated as PEC) refers to the elected provincial executive committee in a province as determined by the Constitution of the ANCYL. Where it does not exist, it refers to the Provincial Task Team (PTT) as appointed by NEC or NTT.
6. The word Regional Executive Committee (herein under abbreviated as REC) refers to the elected regional executive committee in a region as determined by the Constitution of the ANCYL. Where it does not exist, it refers to the Regional Task Team (RTT) as appointed by PEC/PTT.

ANCYL ROAD TO CONGRESSES

7. The word branch executive committee refers to the elected branch executive committee in a region as determined by the Constitution of ANCYL. Where it does not exist, it refers to the branch task team as appointed by REC/RTT.

8. The word secretary general or secretary general's office herein referred to as SGO, refers to the Secretary General as elected by National Congress. Where the NEC does not exist, it refers to the National Coordinator of the NTT.

Establishment of Congress Preparatory Committees

9. For over many decades of its existence the ANCYL has always placed a high premium on preparations for its congresses. Congresses are regarded as important organisational platforms requiring maximum logistical, organisational and political preparations.
10. **Each NTT, PTT/PEC or REC/RTT will appoint a Congress Preparatory Committee at the level at which the congress is taking place to achieve the followings:**
- Ensure that the Constitution of the ANCYL is adhered to during the preparation for congresses;
 - Attend to all logistical and organisational preparations towards the ANCYL congresses;
 - Coordinate the congress preparations and provide frequent reports and account to the NEC, PEC or REC as the case may be.

MEMBERSHIP

11. A Branch is the basic unit of the organisation and every member should belong to a branch.
- Article G. 1. Membership of the ANCYL shall be open to all South African youth between the ages of fourteen (14) and thirty-five (35) who accepts its policy guidelines, aims and objectives of the ANCYL.
 - Article G. 2. "The applications for membership shall be received and considered by the ANCYL Branch Executive Committee, where such exist, or by the Regional Executive Committee if no Branch Executive Committee exists. The Branch Executive Committee and Regional Executive Committee have the power to accept or reject an application.
 - In the event of a rejection the applicant must be informed in writing and shall be made aware of his/her right to appeal to the Provincial Executive Committee within twenty one (21) working days. The appeal should be in writing. The Provincial Executive Committee must finalize the appeal within sixty 60 working days." The PEC will be expected to process the appeal in 15 working days.
12. In line with the above constitutional provision an REC or RTT should establish a branch task team (BTT),

which should facilitate recruitment in wards where a branch does not exist. The BTT will also play a role of the BEC in terms of processing and the acceptance of membership.

13. Upon receipt of the membership form by the BEC, a BEC member or branch secretary receiving the form will cut off the joining receipt. Both the member and the BEC member/secretary will sign and a copy will be given to the member.
14. All ANCYL members are obliged to join the organisation from the branch as the basic unit of the organisation. Nobody shall be regarded as a member in good standing without his or her paid up membership form submitted to branch.
15. Copies of the ANCYL membership forms shall be kept by the branch in a file of the BEC and original forms are submitted to the Regional Office or REC for preparation of branch congresses and audit. All original forms shall be kept by the ANC Youth League Regional Office.

A BRANCH OF THE ANCYL

16. A Branch of the ANCYL will be constituted by not less than 100 members in good standing, who have paid their annual subscription.
17. In the case of a special branch, the BEC or BTT will write to the REC/PEC, which should submit the application to the SGO for special branch status. The application will be subjected to investigation by NEC deployees and NWC will either grant or not grant a special status.
18. The NWC, in considering a special branch will amongst other things, base its decisions on the following consideration:
- The vastness of the ward, which makes it impossible to build a branch.
 - A completely new branch where an ANC, ANCYL, ANCWL branch never existed in the past.
19. Each branch must keep data and copies of their membership forms. This is important in ensuring that what is kept by the regional office is the same as which is kept in the file of the branch.

BRANCH CONGRESS (BAGM)

The Branch Congress, commonly referred to as a Branch Annual General Meeting (BAGM), will convene once a year and it will be composed of the BEC or BTT and members in good standing. The Branch Secretary or coordinator will inform the REC through its deployees or the regional secretary of the date of the branch congress.

20. The BEC or BTT should inform all members of the date, venue and time of the branch congress at least five (5) days before the branch congress.
21. The branch congress should be attended by not less than 50% plus 1 of the branch membership for it to be a legitimate meeting.
22. A branch congress will be facilitated by an REC, PEC member or any ANC member designated by the NWC.
23. The branch congress will elect the branch leadership subject to the provisions of the ANCYL constitution.
24. Records of the branch congress will be with the REC and the BEC should be given copies of such records within 24 hours after the branch congress.

BRANCH GENERAL MEETING (BGM) FOR REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL CONGRESSES

25. Only branches in good standing may hold BGM's presided over by the REC, PEC members and any ANC member designated by the NWC.
26. The REC or PEC members presiding over the BGM's must have a branch congress package that contains the following:
 - Membership data,
 - Attendance register,
 - Delegates form and
 - BGM report
 - Nomination forms for Officials and Additional members
27. A BGM will elect 2 delegates for the regional or provincial congress, and an extra one delegate for additional 500 members in good standing.
28. The nomination of delegates shall be considerate of the 50/50 principle of gender representation.
29. For purposes of the national congress each branch shall qualify for one delegate and an additional delegate for extra 800 members in good standing. Alternatively, the ceiling of branch delegates must not exceed 3000 branch voting delegates. This is in accordance with the ANCYL constitutional provisions regarding representation based on proportionality. The nomination of delegates to National Congress should be gender sensitive. Two (2) delegates should be nominated, one of which should be a Female, even if one delegate will eventually have to attend Congress.

continues on page 4 ➔

EDITORIAL NOTE

by

Cde Nathi Mthethwa

National Task Team (NTT) Coordinator



This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Freedom Charter – that lodestar document of our revolution. It is incumbent upon all progressive forces of our country to carve a role for themselves in these celebrations and deepen the meaning of it in our lives today.

The ANC Youth League has a critical task to carve out its role in efforts to realise the objectives of the Freedom Charter.

The pulsating life of any organisation is dependent on its ability to remain grounded in its principles. Such grounding is, in turn, dependent upon continuous political education.

It is only through such political education that members of the Youth League can safeguard the values, culture and traditions that have enabled it to be a trusted leader of youth formations in our country.

As part of the social strata constituting the key motive forces of the revolution, the Youth League represent the present and the future, meaning they have to keep pushing the frontiers of change while at the same time remaining open to new ideas.

The ANC Youth League should aim to be the resonance of feeling of all young people across classes and strata in South Africa. This includes those in and outside of employment as well as those in and outside of institutions of learning.

The Youth League must through its participation make sure that it brings deeper meaning to the understanding that the future cannot be planned without the voice of young people.

30. Nomination of delegates shall be a transparent and democratic process. This means that if more than the required number of delegates has been nominated, the BGM shall vote to rank their delegates in order of preference or priority and this shall take into account gender parity.

Dispute Resolution Process

31. Each Region and Province must establish Dispute Resolution Committees to consider and adjudicate on all disputes arising and affecting our preparations for congresses. Each Dispute Resolution Committee shall be made up of five (5) comrades appointed by the REC or PEC as the case may be and therefore report and account to the structures, which appointed it. The National Task Team shall also appoint a National Dispute Resolution Committee made up of five comrades. A quorum of the Dispute Resolution Committee shall be 50% + 1 of its membership. All disputes must be handled properly and informed by the followings:

- A written submission from the structure or an individual member of the ANCYL.
- The Dispute Committee must, within two days of receiving the dispute letter, invite the author of the dispute and those whom the complain is against for a hearing.
- The Dispute Committee must objectively listen to all sides and where possible persuade the affected parties to agree on a remedial action,
- The Dispute Committee must ensure that the dispute is resolved within a period of five days from the day at which the letter was received and advise those who disputed in writing on their outcomes.
- The communiqué must also advise those who raised the dispute to appeal to the higher structure if not happy with the decision,
- A National Dispute Committee makes final decisions on all matters placed before it.

NB: ***Dispute processes must not be strictly attended to like a judiciary process. The exercise must be both evidenced based and also political and organisational driven to achieve unity among members of the ANCYL. This means that all members who may be unhappy should be made to feel comfortable that their concerns were objectively considered and a decision made based solely on the interests of the ANCYL.***

MEMBERSHIP AUDIT PROCESS

32. The National Audit Team will visit each province and conduct an audit and the cut-off date for membership and BGM's will be determined by the NWTT with respect to preparations for a national congress. However, the PEC can determine the cut-off date for membership for purposes of regional and provincial congresses which are not directly linked to the road map of the national congress, subject to the approval of the National Task Team.
33. A mandatory pre-audit shall be overall competency of PEC/PTT done by the provincial audit team.
- The pre-audit process must adhere to membership requirements.
 - The pre-audit process must be done as part of preparing branches for the national audit process.
 - Results of the pre-audit cannot be used against the branch. Only national audit team makes final decisions in relation to membership audit.
 - Irrespective of the outcomes of the pre-audit process, the file of the branch should be submitted to the national audit team.

In particular the team will establish the:

- Number of branches in good-standing.**
- Number of paid up and verified members per branch as at the cut-off date.
- Number and details of branches in good standing as at the cut-off date.

Only constitutionally launched ANCYL branches in good standing will be able to send delegates to congress.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

The following is required for each member:

- Completed membership application form signed by the member.
- Proof of payment of the member's membership fee (Only a bank deposit slip or deposit slip printed at the back of the application form.
- Paid correct membership subscription.

34. **The following does not constitute valid ANCYL membership for credentials purposes:**

- Application forms for which there's no proof of payment.
- Application forms not signed, or signed by someone other than the prospective member.
- Application forms without an identity number or incomplete identity number.

- Lists of people's names (even lists with contact details, ID numbers, signatures, or proof of payment) without the individual's membership application forms.

35. However, the branch can mandate a recruiter or BEC member to deposit membership fees in the bank account on behalf of applicants or members in circumstances where it is difficult for individual members to do so. ***In such a case, the branch must use a bulk deposit form to list the names, surnames; amount paid, contact numbers and ID numbers of all members whose forms were deposited in bulk.*** Such list shall be stamped by the bank during the time the membership fee is deposited. An affidavit from the BEC is required to serve as proof that the group deposit was a result of the mandate of the branch.

BRANCH REQUIREMENTS

For each branch the following must be provided:

- Original membership application forms valid as at the cut-off date.
- Original latest branch BAGM report and attendance register.
- Membership forms valid as at the time of the BAGM.
- In the case of a special branch, a written confirmation of approval by the PEC.
- In case the original membership forms are lost, the BEC should submit clear copies of membership forms.

36. A branch will not be considered as an ANCYL branch in good standing, if it:

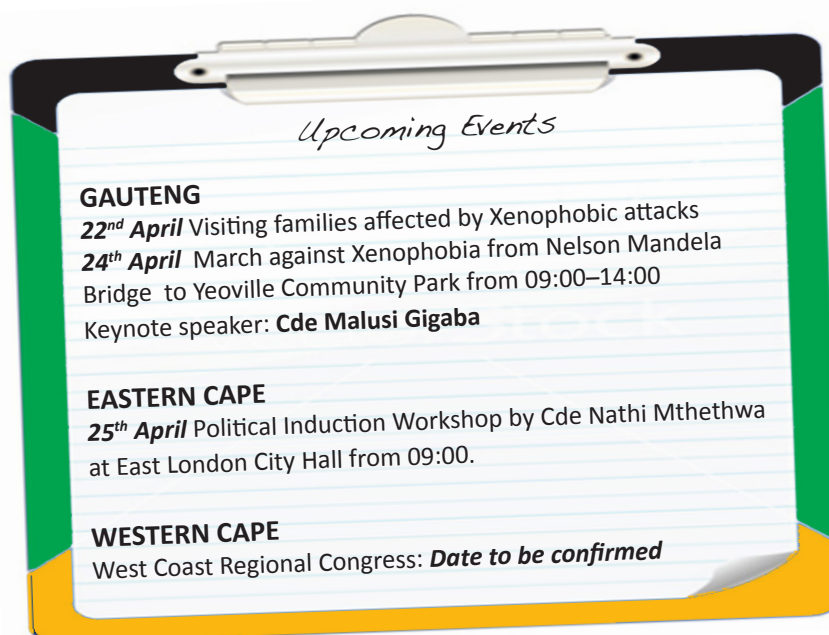
- Has not been launched as a ward-based branch,

except in instance of a special branch with written approval by the PEC.

- Has less than 100 paid up and verified members as at the cut-off date.
- Has not held a BAGM with quorum.
- Had less than 100 paid up and verified members at the time of the BAGM.
- Does not submit an original BAGM report with the attendance register of the launch.

37. CONFIRMATION OF THE AUDIT FINDINGS

- Following the completion of each regional and/or provincial audit, the National Audit Task Team will provide the relevant provincial secretary with a copy of a preliminary audit report. The Branches will then have five days within which to raise queries.
- An ANCYL branch can appeal preliminary Audit outcomes through its BEC following proper channels – starting at the Regional, Provincial, and National through the office of the ANCYL Coordinator as final arbiter.
- The National Audit Task Team should then respond to any queries and make any necessary corrections. They may review any branch records, but should not consider documentation that was not submitted to the original Audit Team, unless if there was a deliberate exclusion.
- Once the audit has been completed the audit team should make available the preliminary audit report to the Provincial Secretary. The Provincial Secretary and the REC should ensure that all branches receive the audit outcomes. The final audit report shall be made available to the Provinces once it has been signed off by the Secretary General/National Coordinator.



REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL CONGRESSES

38. The Region and the Province must have established a minimum of 70% branches of Demarcated Municipality Wards in the Region and Province, audited and confirmed by the SGO, in order to qualify for a Regional or Provincial Congress.
39. Regional and Provincial congresses will be constituted by audited branches of the ANCYL in the Region or Province and in keeping with the Constitution of the ANCYL, Branch delegates shall constitute at least ninety percent (90%) of all voting delegates to Congress.
40. An audit report following the audit outcomes and the query process has to be signed-off by Secretary General and shall be sent to the relevant Provincial Secretary within a reasonable time before congress.
41. Delegates to any congress shall remain valid if they were elected in a BGM, which took place only within three months to the relevant congress. Under exceptional circumstances, the National Task Team can waive this provision.

PROCESS FOR BRANCH DELEGATE ALLOCATION

42. The process for determining the allocation of branch delegate spaces is guided by the following sections of the ANCYL Constitution:

Voting delegates:

- At least 90% of the voting delegates at Congress shall be from branches, elected at properly constituted branch general meetings. The number of delegates per branch shall be 50/50 and in proportion to its paid up membership.
- The number of delegates to be nominated for congress by each region / province shall be fixed by the PEC / NEC in proportion to the paid up membership of each region / province.
- The number of delegate spaces allocated to each congress will be in proportion to their total verified paid up membership.

43. ALLOCATION TO BRANCHES

The delegate spaces allocated to the province will be divided among all branches in good standing in proportion to their paid up membership.



ROAD MAP TO THE ANCYL NATIONAL CONGRESS

ACTIVITY	DUE DATE	STRUCTURE RESPONSIBLE
National Task Team workshop with the ANC Audit Team	14 th April 2015	NTT
Membership recruitment and cut off date for the national congress	18 th April 2015	PEC / REC
Membership audit	19 th – 29 th April 2015	National Co-ordinator (Audit Team)
Approval and National Coordinator sign off the audit final reports	30 th April – 01 st May 2015	ANCYL National Coordinator
Adoption of the formula for the allocation of delegates to the national congress	14 th April 2015	NTT
Branch General Meetings to nominate delegates for the national congress	5 th May – 6 th June 2015	PEC, REC, PTT & NTT
Verification Branch General Meetings by the Audit Team (for efficiency this verification will take place concurrent to the BGMs)	15 th May – 16 th June 2015	National Co-ordinator (Audit Team)
Resolution of disputes arising from Branch General Meetings shall be done concurrently with the continuation of BGMs	Ongoing work from the start of BGMs	PEC, REC & NTT
Pre-registration of branch delegates to the national congress	17 th – 21 st June 2015	SGO
Confirmation of all registered branch delegates and printing of their name tags	22 nd & 23 rd June 2015	SGO
Congress registration and collecting of name tags for all delegates	24 th June 2015	SGO
ANCYL National Congress	25th – 28th June 2015	NTT & PECs

