



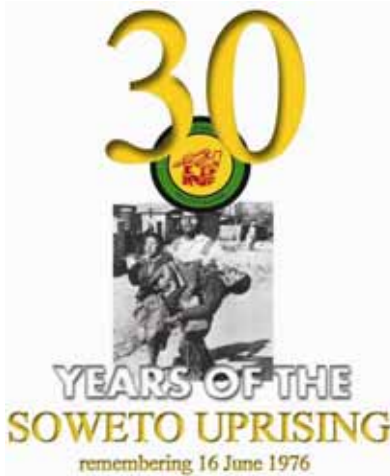
NEC BULLETIN

for ANCYL Branches

Issued by ANC Youth League Communications

Issue No 1 of 2006
31 January 2006

NOTE TO BRANCHES: This Bulletin contains decisions of the National Executive Committee which should guide the work of the organization at all times. The perspectives contained in the ANCYL Online Newsletter, Hlomelang must be used to inform and stimulate political engagement in the Branch. Members are encouraged to regularly visit the website for updates at <http://www.anc.org.za/youth>



Commemorating 30th Anniversary Of The Soweto Uprising: 'YEAR OF THE YOUTH'

This year represents a significant milestone for youth struggles. The importance of the events that came to pass in 1976 in South Africa's political life when the youth entrenched its role as a motive force of the national democratic revolution cannot be downplayed. In commemorating 30 years of the Soweto Uprising and honouring the memory of those young people who laid down their lives so we could be free, our programme of work this year will be based on the theme '**YEAR OF THE YOUTH**'.

This Lekgotla was enriched by inputs from various stakeholders with the most prominent being the Secretary-General of the African National Congress, Cde Kgalema Motlanthe. We discussed various issues informed by both the input of the Secretary-General and the political overview presented by the President of ANC Youth

The National Executive Committee of the ANC Youth League held its annual Lekgotla from 26 January 2006 until 28 January 2006.

League as well as the overall analysis of the state of the organization presented by the Secretary-General of the ANC Youth League.

This important gathering took place against the backdrop of a number of important developments in our country and abroad, these being the African Union ordinary summit in Khartoum, the elections in Palestine, the arrest of a number of freedom fighters in Swaziland.

The Lekgotla fully appreciated the significance of the ANC's January 8th statement in our ongoing

BAFANA-BAFANA: AFRICAN CUP OF NATIONS

The NEC expressed disappointment at the performance of Bafana Bafana in the African Nations' Cup (CAF), but appealed to the nation to support the national team and be more understanding in their criticism. The ANCYL perspective on the matter is contained in detail in Vol 1 No 21 of Hlomelang, the ANCYL Official Online Publication, wherein we called for a national plan which should create a nucleus of innovation and talent through which we can build an invincible team.

political work to mobilize the youth behind the vision of the ANC and the launch of the ANC's local government election manifesto.

The critical impact and role of young people in advancing the vision behind the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative of South Africa (ASGI-SA) was firmly grasped by the Lekgotla.

Reflection and appreciation of all these critical developments informed our overall engagement and political programme for this year.

This year we will commemorate the 30th

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Our commitment to sustainable development remains firm. The obligation to achieve the Millennium Development Goals of the UN is a collective responsibility from which none should be absolved. The ANC takes these seriously and the significant steps taken to achieve these must be applauded. The overarching mandate the ANC sought from the electorate at the last elections included significant targets for 2014 wherein the ANC undertook to reduce poverty and halve unemployment. Similarly, the ANC Youth League's own congress resolution to achieve a 0% new infection rate by 2010 is a further commitment to sustainable development.

anniversary of the Soweto uprising, 62 years of existence of the ANC Youth League, the 50th anniversary of the women's march on Pretoria,

The Lekgotla paid serious attention to the role and mandate of the ANC Youth League and affirmed that the ANC Youth League is a militant, disciplined organ of the ANC. We acknowledge first and foremost our loyalty to the ANC and our unwavering commitment to the execution of the tasks of the national democratic revolution.

We are an integral part of the progressive youth movement both domestically and internationally, and we remain ready to assume our role and advance the developmental agenda.

True to its historic character as enshrined in its founding manifesto, the ANC Youth League remains an internationalist organisation in character. We are therefore not intimidated by the expectations of the role we are to play in shaping the international youth developmental agenda and giving life to a progressive youth movement in Africa.

The ANC Youth League remains the future of our glorious movement, the ANC, and a political preparatory school for new layers of leadership of the ANC. This is a responsibility we will not shy away from and remain ready to execute it with diligence.

ANC Youth League And The African National Congress

We vow to work tirelessly to defend and maintain the cohesion and unity of the ANC. The ANC Youth League has a fundamental role in advancing the vision of the ANC and in rallying South Africa's youth around this vision. Their political orientation and ascension to the ANC must be underpinned by a rigorous programme of political education to ensure that all our members are disciplined cadres of the movement properly inducted into the culture, traditions and values of the ANC.

We remain firm in our resolve on the succession issues within the ANC. The NEC Lekgotla re-affirms its position against the creation of two centres of power and will seek to advance this debate within the structures of the movement.

Our support for the ANC Deputy President remains unwavering on both the corruption and rape charges. In reiterating its support the NEC is guided by its commitment to the fundamental constitutional principle of 'innocence until proven guilty' and a need for fairness in the administration of justice. The NEC remains pained at the gross injustices the ANC Deputy President has been subjected to throughout the investigation of both the corruption and rape allegations.

The ANC Youth League and all its structures will rally behind the ANC and ensure a decisive electoral victory in the forthcoming local government elections. Our political programme will advance the vision of the ANC and our cadres will play a critical role in ensuring that we reach every voter and ensure that our people come out in numbers to vote for the ANC.

It is our assertion that the ANC remains the only party that has advanced the agenda of youth emancipation and has put in place programmes to deal with the socio-economic challenges facing young people.

Our members must remain vigilant in defence of the revolution and must jealously guard the unity and cohesion of the ANC. The developments around the

emails/chatroom where certain individuals are implicated in counter-revolutionary activities are a source of serious concern to the NEC. The very existence of these emails represents blatant counter-revolutionary activities which must be vanquished without mercy. The ANC must do everything in its power to get to the bottom of this issue and move decisively in dealing with those forces behind this counter-revolutionary agenda.

ASGI-SA

Youth And Economic Participation

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The NEC affirmed that the organisation remains a key instrument at our disposal for the defence of our ideas and mobilisation in defence of the revolution. The sustenance of the organisation at all levels can therefore not be negotiable and branches remain the basic unit of the organisation and every member of the organisation, inclusive of leadership at all levels, have an obligation to ensure that branches remain vibrant and in good standing.

The NEC appreciated the need to find innovative ways to empower and provide tangible benefits to our members. To this end, the new membership system to be rolled out this quarter will seek to incorporate incentives that not only empower our members, but enable mobilization and easier contact with every member. Our membership database will similarly serve as an instrument to assist those who seek employment.

The Lekgotla re-affirmed the NEC's commitment to work tirelessly to root out careerism, factionalism and all other tendencies which undermine the unity and cohesion of the movement from the ranks of the ANC Youth League. In defence of our unity as the Youth League, the NEC resolved to be resolute in enforcing organisational discipline at all levels of the organisation.

The ANC Youth League will embark on a deliberate programme to recruit into its ranks minority groups in accordance with the non-racial and non-sexist character of the ANC.

The NEC, having received a report from the National Disciplinary Committee unanimously endorsed the report of the NDC for the expulsion of the Youth League Deputy President, Reuben Mohlaloga from the organisation. The NEC further accepted the unconditional apology by the Chairperson and Secretary of the Eastern Cape, and reaffirmed the correctness of the position of the Youth League on the two centres of power.

The NWC will develop a framework which will guide the process of filling of the vacancy resulting from the expulsion of the ANCYL Deputy President.

The NEC welcomes the ASGI-SA initiative and believes that this intervention carries great potential in advancing South Africa's economy along a higher growth trajectory. We acknowledge that ASGI-SA is not a policy framework, but rather a targeted intervention that seeks to deliberately address specific imbalances in our economy.

The NEC re-affirms its belief that increase in training and lowering barriers to employment for young people remain critical aspects of any intervention aimed at creating a sustainable socio-economic environment conducive to sustained growth and ultimately development.

The NEC further believes that ASGI-SA must not over-emphasise growth at the expense of development. Development should find practical expression within the overall framework of ASGI-SA.

We remain concerned that the skewed growth of our economy continues to express itself in the form of favouring those already empowered by private capital and disempowers those who do not have access to capital.

In ensuring that the challenges facing young people find prominent expression within ASGI-SA, a meeting with the country's Deputy President is a matter of urgency.

The NEC reiterates the urgency and importance to ensure that the Integrated Sustainable Youth Development Strategy becomes a reality to anchor the youth development agenda within a consolidated

and coherent environment, which finds expression through a Youth Development Agency. The envisaged Youth Development Agency, which will emerge as a result of the merger of the Umsobomvu Youth Fund and the National Youth Commission, will therefore address youth development in a comprehensive manner across the socio-economic spectrum.

There continues to be divergence in emphasis between economic growth and human resource development. To this end, education plays a critical role to ensure that our schooling system is

responsive to the needs of the economy and churns out skills relevant to the growth of our economy.

Serious interventions must be made to ensure that the entire schooling system provides a sufficient foundation to prepare a learner for higher education or employment at the end of his/her schooling in an equitable and efficient manner. Matric results continue to be the singular benchmark and test of the quality of the education system, yet the glaring inequalities between urban and rural schools on the one hand, and township and suburb schools on the other, continue to undermine any effort to usher in quality education.

International Relations

As an integral part of the international progressive forces, we will continue to bring our influence to bear in advancing the liberation of the peoples of the Saharawi Republic (Western Sahara), Palestine and Swaziland. Through our active participation in multilateral forums, we will continue to encourage and promote dialogue among these peoples with a view to finding peaceful solutions to their struggles.

Our resolve to advance the struggle for a just and equitable world which is at peace with itself has never been greater. Our programme of action will therefore place significant emphasis on this area of work with particular emphasis on Africa.

This year will see a concerted programme to lead the formation of a progressive youth movement in Africa. In tandem with such a programme, we will intensify our contact with the youth of Zimbabwe, Cote d'Ivoire, the Sudan, the DRC, Ethiopia and other African youth in the diaspora.

The restructuring of world bodies like the UN, the WTO, the IMF and the World Bank remain a critical challenge as these institutions continue to ignore the plight of the developing world in their functioning. Fairness in matters of trade continues to be a major source of concern.

We will work with the rest of the developing world to ensure that we hold these multilateral institutions and agencies accountable with regard to commitments they have made, particularly around issues of the reduction of the debt and further build on the achievements of the last G8 Summit in Gleneagles.

The ANC Youth League will lead the campaign to institutionalise the voice of youth within the structures of the UN. To this end, the ANC Youth League President, in his capacity as President of IUSY, will lead a delegation to meet the Secretary-General of the UN, Kofi Annan, later in the year to deliberate on these issues.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSTITUTION

As the country celebrates the 10th Anniversary of the adoption of the country's constitution, the NEC calls upon South Africa's youth to become champions in defence of our revolution and the constitution.

The NEC further acknowledged the 10th Anniversary of the institutions established to advance youth development, being the National Youth Commission and Provincial Youth Commissions.

Local Government Elections 2006

We salute the ANC in recognising the role of the youth in all facets of South Africa's socio-political and socio-economic life. The NEC applauds the commitment demonstrated by the ANC in ensuring that over 40% of its local government candidates are young people.

As we move in earnest toward the local government elections, young people must not be hoodwinked by the deception of the Democratic Alliance which continues to regard young people with contempt,

while speaking with a forked tongue promising them Utopia.

The ANC is the only organisation that has a proven track record as a champion for youth empowerment. The NEC calls upon South Africa's youth to come out in their numbers to cast their vote for the ANC on 1 March 2006. Let us take responsibility for our future and use the power of the ballot to vote for a government that truly cares about young people's development.

This Bulletin is also available in PDF from the ANCYL web site at: www.anc.org.za/youth