

## **THE ANC CONDEMNS RECENT FARM MURDERS AT THE HANDS OF FARMERS**

The African National Congress (ANC) condemns in the strongest possible terms the recent farm murders where farmers allegedly murdered four people in separate incidents in Limpopo and Mpumalanga. In Limpopo, Mariah Makgato, Lucia Ndlovu and Ndlovu's husband were shot while allegedly collecting goods dumped on the Onvervagt farm. Makgato and Lucia Ndlovu died on the scene, and their bodies were reportedly dragged and dumped in a pigsty on the farmer's property. Ndlovu's husband was shot at but managed to flee and reported the incident. Farm owner Zachariah Johannes Olivier, Andrian Rudolph De Wet and Zimbabwean national William Musora, were arrested and charged.

The ANC further condemns an incident in Mpumalanga where a farmer and his security guard allegedly murdered two men last month. The bodies were burnt beyond recognition. It is alleged that the deceased were accused of stealing sheep. Two burnt bodies, believed to be those of Wanda Mahlangu and Thembeni Mnguni, have been found near Middelburg last Thursday.

We view these atrocious actions by the farmers as barbaric and inhumane. We call for the full might of the law to take its course against the perpetrators. We also encourage the citizens not to take the law unto themselves but to work with the relevant authorities to ensure justice prevails. We extend our unwavering support to the families of the victims during this time.

## **THE ANC WELCOMES THE HONOUR BESTOWED ON CHRIS HANI BY THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE**

The African National Congress (ANC) welcomes the University of the Western Cape's decision to confer an honorary doctorate posthumously to Chris Hani at a gala event on Friday, 30 August 2024, where other revered South Africans, including Justice Albie Sachs and Justice Dikgang Moseneke, were also honoured. Lindiwe Hani accepted the Honorary Doctorate awarded to her father, Chris Hani by the Institution.

The late Chris Hani was honoured for his lifetime contribution to the anti-apartheid struggle and his influence on South Africa's democracy. When he was assassinated on 10 April 1993, he was the general secretary of the South African Communist Party (SACP) and a member of the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the African National Congress (ANC). He was the leader of uMkhonto weSizwe (MK – the ANC's military wing). At his funeral, President Mandela called him "one of the greatest revolutionary leaders the country has ever seen.

The ANC commends the University of the Western Cape for the honour bestowed on Chris Hani, in recognition of his contribution to South Africa's democracy.

## **THE ANC MOURNS THE PASSING OF NICHOLAS WOLPE, THE FOUNDER AND CEO OF LILIESLEAF IN RIVONIA**

The African National Congress (ANC) mourns the passing of Nicholas Wolpe, founder and CEO of the Liliesleaf Trust. Wolpe was the son of Harold Wolpe and AnnMarie Wolpe, whose Rivonia farm, Liliesleaf, provided a haven for ANC activists, including President Nelson Mandela, during the 1960s.

As a movement and leader of society, we lower our revolutionary banners to honour the finest amongst us. As we bid farewell, we reaffirm our commitment to the foundational values of fighting for a united, non-racial, non-sexist, and democratic society.

Liliesleaf Farm, a place of profound significance in our struggle, served as a sanctuary and operational base for the underground movement in the 1960s. It was here that leaders such as Mandela, Walter Sisulu, and Govan Mbeki found refuge. The farm's acquisition by Harold Wolpe and Arthur Goldreich, transformed it into the nerve center of our liberation struggle.

After the end of apartheid, Nicholas Wolpe returned to South Africa and became deeply interested in Liliesleaf's history. He dedicated over 20 years to transforming the site into an interactive museum and national heritage site, ensuring that the memory of our struggle is preserved for future generations.

The ANC pays tribute to the Wolpe family's enduring legacy in the fight for South Africa's freedom.

## **FORMER PRASA EXECUTIVE JAILED FOR AN EFFECTIVE 15 YEARS**

The African National Congress (ANC) welcomes the recent sentence handed down to a former executive at the Passenger Rail Association of South Africa (Prasa) by the Pretoria specialised commercial crimes court, over fraud. Former head of engineering, Daniel Mthimkhulu, has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for falsifying his qualifications and other documents.

In early 2022, Mthimkhulu was found guilty of three counts of fraud for falsifying his qualifications and submitting a fake employment offer to drive his salary higher. Mthimkhulu was proven to have misrepresented his qualifications to Prasa after claiming to have a master's degree and a doctorate in engineering management. He also falsified a job offer from a German company to increase his salary.

Mthimkhulu was involved in massive capital projects within Prasa, and his lack of qualifications placed all the projects at considerable risk. We also remember the press conference where he was lauded by the recently appointed MK party MP, Hon Lucky Montana, for his role in modernising our rail infrastructure despite more than R2 billion spent on trains that were unsuitable for our country's rail network!

The ANC commends the Hawks for being instrumental in ensuring that Mthimkhulu was ultimately convicted.

## **BURNS UNIT AT BARAGWANATH HOSPITAL OFFICIALLY OPENS TO SERVE SOWETO, SA AND AFRICA**

A new wing in the Burns Unit at the Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital (CHBAH - Bara) officially opened on 26 August, thanks to a R100 million donation from the Roy McAlpine Charitable Foundation and in partnership with Wits University and the Gauteng Department of Health. The Burns Unit at Bara is the only public specialised burns unit located in Gauteng that serves all patients who cannot afford treatment at private facilities.

The unit sees more than 1000 admissions of adults and paediatric patients each year, and around 70 patients a week present for burn dressing. Most burn patients admitted at Bara are burned by accident, assault or suicide, the result of car crashes, shack fires, cable theft, illegal electrical connections, and acid. The unit's expansion aims to facilitate the development of a skin bank and a tissue engineering laboratory where synthetic and skin tissue for wound cover can be developed. This will mean that we no longer have to depend on skin from foreign countries because we have the expertise to do it here and will greatly enhance the unit's capacity and enable research to enhance the science and treatment of burns.

The generous contribution of R70 million by Scottish-born Roy McAlpine underscores his commitment to improving healthcare in South Africa. The ANC expresses its gratitude to those individuals who are committed to the country and willing to give back. It is a testament of their compassion and empathy.

## **THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE TRADE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND CHINA**

In line with the National Development Plan, the ANC is committed to expanding and deepening its trade and investment relations with both developing and developed economies. This was reflected by President Ramaphosa when he delivered his bilateral opening remarks during his state visit and the official talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday, 2 September 2024, in Beijing. President Ramaphosa asserted and emphasised the importance of addressing the structure of South Africa's trade. Whilst recognising and welcoming the increase in bilateral trade between South Africa and China, he, however, called for the narrowing of the trade deficit that exists between both countries.

China is South Africa's largest trading partner globally, while South Africa is China's number one trading partner in Africa. The bilateral state visit the President led resulted in the South African delegation signing eight agreements with their counterparts aimed at enhancing economic cooperation and implementation cooperation in the fields of human settlements, agriculture, science, and technology, amongst others.

The ANC Caucus fully supports the President's call on China to invest in South Africa's energy sector. China has a proven track record in developing innovative renewable energy solutions. Thus, the ANC Caucus believes the two countries can create sustainable and environmentally friendly energy solutions that will benefit both countries. In addition, we also welcome the call for both countries to build stronger business relationships, promoting cultural exchanges and tourism, and creating a favourable business environment, which will lead to job creation and economic growth.

## **THE ANC WELCOMES THE EXTENSION OF TRAIN OPERATIONS CAPE TOWN TO NOLUNGILE STATION IN KHAYELITSHA**

The ANC views rail as an essential and affordable means of transport, mainly benefiting the working class and the poor. Even though its usage has decreased over the last several years due to widespread theft and vandalism of rail infrastructure, the ANC has noted with enthusiasm that PRASA's commitment to ensuring that rail service is back on track is bearing fruit. PRASA's extension of the routes along its Cape Town central line to accommodate more commuters is one such positive action.

The Cape Town to Mandalay line on the central line has been extended to Nolongile train station in Khayelitsha. This means that Commuters can now access the services at the Philippi and Nolongile train stations.

The ANC believes that the reinstated service will improve public transportation in the region and provide more convenient and accessible travel options for commuters. All commuters will also be able to travel with ease of mind as the 'People's Train', comes with onboard safety features, such as CCTV cameras, an Emergency alarm, Smoke Detectors, and Automated doors that ensure nobody enters or exits while the train is in transit. Furthermore, it has also deployed security and customer services officials within the rail space to ensure a safe, comfortable and convenient journey.