



CONSTITUENCY PERIOD PROGRAMMES



Caucus NEWSLETTER

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ARTICLE ON CONSTITUENCY PERIOD

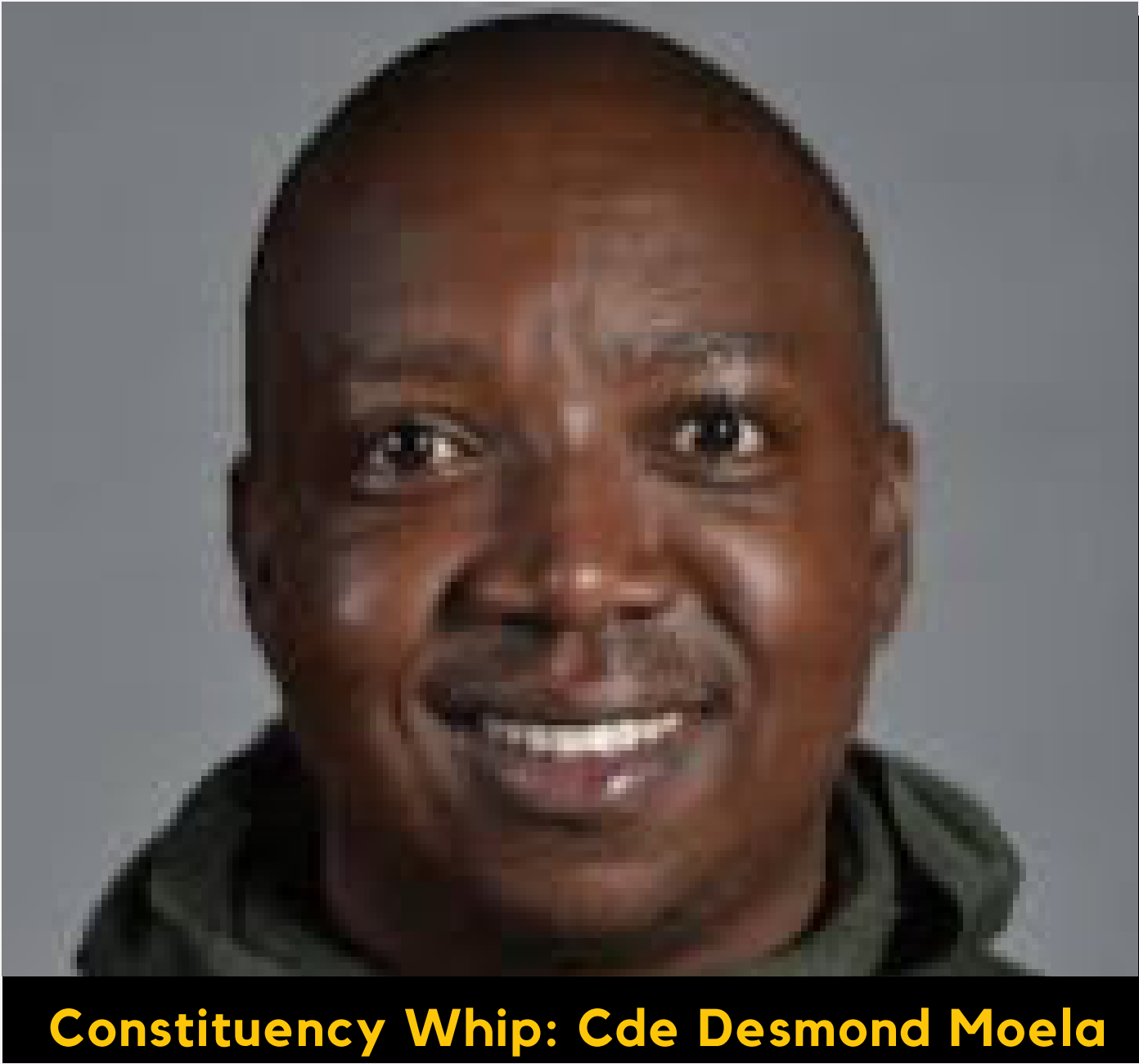
**By Cde Desmond Moela (MP)
Constituency Whip**

The ANC Caucus in the 6th term introduced a new approach to constituency work which changed the structure and functioning of the PCOs. The new constituency model outlined the functions of the PCO and the roles of the MP, management committee and support staff.

The PCO should ensure the link between public representatives and state institutions with their constituencies to ensure there is provision of quality public services to the people. The PCO should also ensure that the people participate in national affairs through their contribution in law making processes and holding their government accountable.

The second Constituency period of 2023 occurred from 03rd April to 17th April 2023. Every year, the ANC dedicates the month of April to the memory of the heroes and heroines of our anti-apartheid struggle. This year the ANC Caucus dedicated the constituency work to the memory of the late Comrade Chris Hani, who was assassinated 30 years ago.

In line with the HHH campaign Comrade Chris Hani led in the early 1990s, the Caucus Lekgotla held in March 2023 mandated all MPs to focus on solving basic service delivery challenges in their constituencies, including garbage collection, water and sanitation, potholes, flood damage, and reporting on the government's plans to address load shedding.



"The PCO should ensure the link between public representatives and state institutions"

Members also visited churches during Easter Weekend and mosques during the holy Month of Ramadan. The PCOs were also mandated to focus on voter registration and supporting ANC election programmes.

MPs and staff participated in the commemoration activities organised by the ANC, Alliance and MDM structures of Mama Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, Comrade Solomon 'Kalushi' Mahlangu, Comrade Chris Hani and Comrade OR Tambo. Our PCOs worked with Mayors, MPLs, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, councillors, and government and municipal officials to identify and solve their constituencies' basic service delivery challenges.

MPs and PCO staff captured photos and video footage of themselves working with community members in their identified projects. These were sent to the Caucus Operations Centre through the Senior Fieldworkers and posted on Caucus social media platforms and YouTube and TikTok channels. Members were requested to submit reports at the end of the Constituency period to the office of the Chief Whip. The pictures and videos shared showed that members and PCO support staff had an opportunity to bring hope and meaningful change to our communities. In memory of our fallen struggle icons, we must continue helping our communities find solutions to our nation's service delivery and other challenges.





REMEMBERING CDE THEMBISILE MARTIN "CHRIS" HANI AND HIS IMMENSE CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE AND THE FREEDOMS WE ENJOY TODAY



By Cde Mncedisi Nontsele, (MP), National Caucus Political Education Subcommittee Convener

It is 30 years since the brutal murder of one of the most outstanding leaders of our movement and the General Secretary of the South African Communist Party. It is also important to note that we commemorate the life of Cde Chris within a broader context of a Heroes Month, the April month in acknowledgement of contributions of other heroes and heroines of our liberation struggle whom we lost in the month. This includes, President Oliver Reginald Tambo, Solomon Mahlangu, Sphiwo Mthimkulu, Topsy Madaka, Ma Winnie Madikizela Mandela, Mbulelo Musi, Chris Mathlako and many others.

Cde Chris was a freedom fighter, a courageous, theoretically and practically grounded visionary leader, a conscious activist, an organic intellectual and a communist. He remains a shining example of what we mean when we talk about a genuine and true revolutionary leader. He is the best embodiment of the finest traditions and principles of our liberation movement. Cde Chris was born into a family of ordinary black working people in the rural village of Sabalele in Cofimvaba. At a very early age, he showed great promise as a bright young person with an extremely keen mind and a profound sense of perseverance. It was these qualities that enabled him to advance very quickly through high school and university, completing his junior degree at the age of 20.



"The memory of Cde Chris Hani must be immortalised through decisively changing the lives of our people for the better".

Comrade Chris was a well-known member of the ANC who rose through its ranks to serve in the ANC NEC since 1974. Comrade Chris was also an outstanding member of the peoples' army Umkhonto Wesizwe, again growing through its ranks, becoming a member of its leading commanding structures as a Commissar in the Luthuli Detachment joint ANC/ZAPU military campaign 1967, escaped to Botswana, returned from Botswana to Zambia 1968, infiltrated SA in 1973 and then based in Lesotho. He left Maseru for Lusaka in 1982 after several unsuccessful assassination attempts. He later served as the Overall Commissar, Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff of Umkhonto we-Sizwe.

Comrade Chris was a member of the SACP – again, he rose through the ranks of the Party, becoming one of its Central Committee members and a politburo member for many years. When he was brutally murdered, he served as the SACP's General Secretary.

Let us remember the words of Cde Chris Hani in his opening statement to the CODESA negotiations: "We want peace, but we are not pacifists. We are all militants. We are all radicals. That is the very essence of the ANC, for it is a liberation movement fighting for freedom for all our people. It is our unceasing struggles - in the prisons, in mass campaigns, through the armed struggle that has brought the regime to the negotiating table."

The memory of Cde Chris Hani must be immortalised through decisively changing the lives of our people for the better. Let all of us be inspired by his examples and deeds that need to be emulated.

Amandla!!!



Study Group on Communication and Digital Technologies performs oversight

Members of the Study Group on Communication & Digital Technologies embarked on a two-legged oversight visit as part of the Portfolio Committee. The members went to Gauteng, Free State province and the Northern Cape. These visits were focused on the most rural parts of the Free state (Senegal) and Northern Cape (Douglas). This was done with the intention to ensure that the SA Connect Project and Broadband Digital Migration are not just a pipe dream which looks good on paper, but are implemented by the department, such that these services are experienced first-hand by members of the communities. These projects will ultimately ensure that South Africans have access to reliable ICT infrastructure where they live.



The ANC government is accelerating connecting farms, schools, rural health centres, magistrate courts in rural towns, youth development centres and many more. The mood around the areas we visited was warm towards the ANC. However, our people expressed that the ANC government must fast track connection for all, so as to narrow the digital divide that exists in the country. They further expressed that improved service delivery will guarantee votes for the ANC come 2024!



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