Basebetsi ba utlwa boima

Thaba Nchu. Basebetsi ba ba ngata ba ngongereho haholo, mme ba ipotsha hore na ba tla kgutlela mesebetseng ha ho fediswa lockdown kapa e iswa maemong a fasetla se fedisang thibelo ka holihleho. Ba ngata difemenq ts'o ftshabelo le Thaba Nchu ba tsxelilehile hobane je jwale ba sa ditee hae ba emetse ho bitswa ho kgutlela mesebetseng ya bona.

Ba bang ba ferekeke hobane ba ba ditee hae me ba emetse ho fumantshwa tjhelete ya COVID-19 UIF eo boramesebetsi ba onse tso Kopa ya bono. Le ba maemo a thibelo a se a folokotstwe ho thola maemong a le 4 a, mme a se a le maemong a 3, basebetsi ba ba ngata ba ntse ba le hae, mme ha ba tsebe hore na ba kgutlela mesebetseng neng. Tabe e ngwee hape e ba tsebe hae ba lefutse lefutse. Ba lo tla kera hore basebetsi ba bang ba kgutlela ba kibone nga ba lefutse lefutse. Ba le mage hore ba sefasefase ba lefte ho tsuwa ho boramesebetsi ba bang hore tjheletseng ya tsoho le tjhelete ena e bokwa ke eng. Sene se tša pelalelo ya hore boramesebetsi ha ba sebese ditaba ka tsela e molaong mme e ka nna va e ba ho na le matshwepeneene a etswaeng ke boramesebetsi.


Motsoalwi se fome, Monghadi Johan Botha, o tshang ka tla fumantshwa tjhelete ya UIF. O re sethatong ho ile he lefuwa batho ba 4 feela. O hlalosite ho mathata e mang a ho se lefutse tjhelete ena e le hobane basebetsi ba bang ba fane ka tlhase loko le se na rapahlang, jwaloa di-bank accounts, mabito a fosaphetseng kapa mabito a fethelo. Ba tša meleho ba lela ba ho nyalwa esita le ho tšama ya basitse ho tshebetsa ya tsoho le tjhelete ena.

Di-shop stewards le botsamaisi ba unya ya SACTWU, bo neng bo emetse ke Monghadi Motlatse John Mofokeng, ba ile ba damulana ka ho shebisa le ho lokisa diphosho tšiisang hla helela di fomorong le ho di kmetsa ha mapheho botsamaisi. Ba ile ba damulana ka hore basebetsi ba tla nie ba kgutlele mesebetseng ka dipomang hore ba ntse emetse lefutse ya Mmesa ya COVID-19 UIF.

Monghadi Botha o tsewele pele ka hore bona jwaloa fome ba ntse ba sebese basebetsi kaofela mme ba fela basebetsi hanyane-hanyane ho tšiisang ho tla mona ho laletla dipelo ts'a mola. O boetse ho hlalosha hore basebetsi ba sebetsang fumantshwa ya ndiswotswa kaofela. Empa basebetsi ba ha dumele tšalositswe ena.

Matsatsi ka kameropa ena basebetsi ba lifi ka hore dinhlo di fetohilo – ho tšiisang lefutse lefutse, mme ha basebetsi ba ntse ba histwa ka lengele le ba bonongwe ho tšotheletla. Tsena ba re di etswa ka tšatse le tumelano tse ho di fetohilo le monga mme mme ho Monghadi Mofokeng.

There are many notable women around the world whose contribution in changing the course of the world politics and history is unquestionable. Generations upon generations of these kind of women emerged throughout centuries among many nations of the world.

Leila Khaled, a respected member of PFLP, Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and a symbol of Palestinian struggle, has over the years fought against Israel’s atrocities against the Palestinian people, is part of this legion of women who many have given up their lives to fight prejudice and injustice.

A decorated freedom fighter and respected stateswoman, Khaled made history in 1969 when she became involved in hijacking of a plane that was supposed to be carrying an Israeli politician, Yitzhak Rubin. The Trans World Airlines, TWA Flight 842 was flying from Rome, Italy to Tel Aviv in Israel when Khaled and Salim Issaani hijacked it to Syria with 127 people on board.

Khaled is recognised all over the world for her campaign against Israel’s occupation of Palestine. She is a firm believer in socialism, and often in some of her addresses takes swipe at capitalism.

Gender Based Violence
Dingaka tsa setso di fumantsha thupelo ya COVID-19


Dingaka tsa setso di bapala karolo ya bohlokoa ka haka na nana ya rona mabapi le kalafelo le diritha thse ding tse amang bopheko bo bophela setjhabeng. Ne e tla la taba e sa amohlelela eha ba e na tla itsheka thahana mosobetseng ona o mohelo wa setjhaba. Ha a thabisa ke hona ho bona ha sa salla moro boisele tlle. Bophela bo lembhelo le ho hwanta sewa sena.

Kahoo dingaka tsa setso Botshabelo di ile tsa ipoketsela boabapela bo Mme 'Mamoya Rakauanoane, mme bo ka mopapone sepetlela sa sedika sa Botshabelo ho fumantsha thahlosela dingaka le thupelo ya COVID-19.

Rakauanoane o hlosilela ho hlokahala hore dingaka ne ikamahanya me lohoho ona hobane ba kopana le ho sebetsa le batho letsatsi le tjabiang le de dikilelang. O itse: "Re lokela ho lokisa dikaba tse re hlohalobang le ho phela ka bokanolago ho tsona mme re ikamahanye le ya ho e mong. Koalepe o itse: "Taba ya ho hlokwa o e thse wena setso le le sebetsa ka hloko ya kokwanahloko e sa tsaka, empe re e ke ra e bona ka malho hobane e nyane haholo. E ke re ba hlela phethsho le ho ikita ka ho dula moo ho e leng bonojwana le gogoba, jwala botshwafong." Koalepe o hlohalosetse dingaka hore ha jwale kokwanahloko ha e ishireletswang ka yona le ho thibela ho ata le kokwanahloko, ho kenyetlapone ho ile ilo setso le sebetsa elo ho hlapa matsho, ho kwalaha molomo kopa ka bokahaha se setso ha ho hlolehela kopa ha tshimo, ho sebetsa tse, mme le le e liha ka tsele e boikatesi ho se le mele e tsukela ha ba na le.

Mong. Tlopo Koalepe o beha taba nakeng ya kopano ya hae le dingaka tsa setso.

B BILL MUST CONSIDER TRADITIONAL HEALERS

CAPE TOWN. The Select Committee on Land Reform, Environment, Mineral Resources had a joint meeting with the nine provincial legislatures and the South African Local Government Association (SALGA). The meeting received a briefing from the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries on the National Forest Amendment Bill.

The Bill seeks to amend the National Forests Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998). The purpose of the National Forests Act, 1998, is to promote the sustainable management and development of forests, and to provide for the protection of certain forests and trees. The objectives of the Bill are to: 

- provide for clear definitions, for example, natural forests and woodlands; 
- provide for public trusteeship of the nation’s forestry resources; 
- increase the promotion and enforcement of sustainable forest management; 
- increase the measures provided for in the Act to control and remedy deforestation.

The meeting welcomed the report, but expressed concern on areas not addressed in the Bill. For example, the Constitution respects traditional beliefs. Therefore, the Bill needs to consider these to allow traditional healers to do their work. The inclusion of stakeholders, such as traditional leaders and healers, must be clearly specified in the Bill. Forests on traditional land need must also be addressed in the amendments, in addition to how healers should function.

Furthermore, people with disabilities must be included in the Bill. Young people and women are mentioned, but it is equally important to include people with disabilities.

In addition, to contribute to development, the Bill must position rural constituencies in line with community forests. Regarding forest officers, the select committee said it must be given an opportunity to see the powers of these officers.

The meeting welcomed the proposed amendments stipulating that there will be no prospective mining in forests, which is long overdue. However, the crucial importance of public participation in processing the Bill was raised, so that Parliament is not being bullied with the law.

Committee members were given an opportunity to make further submissions on the Bill. ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, CAPE TOWN
**Parliament condemns femicide and gender-based violence**

Speaker-Thandi Modise

The Presiding Officers of Parliament, led by National Assembly Speaker Ms Thandi Modise and National Council of Provinces Chairperson Mr Amos Masando, join the mounting public outrage over the increase in femicide and gender-based violence.

Bold and resolute action, rather than outrage, however, is what our nation needs to change this shocking state of affairs in our country.

We know it has festered for too long, shielded by the veils of silence and fueled by patriarchy and sexism. We know that ending it needs effort from sections of society, particularly men as perpetrators — in the areas where we live, the places where we work and from all private and state institutions, including our justice and criminal justice systems.

The wheels of justice must turn and be seen to turn swiftly in bringing alleged perpetrators to book and meting out appropriate (harsher) punishment to discourage the occurrence of similar offences. But even more important, is ensuring an environment where these heinous crimes against a significant population of our society do not even take place in the first place. The brutal and senseless killing of Ms Tshegofataso Pule, a 28-year-old whose body was found hanging from a tree with multiple stab wounds, and Ms Naledi Phangindawo, a 26-year old stabbed to death, and many others whose names are not known, underscores the urgency in which perpetrators must receive a fitting sentence that will demonstrate that such heinous crimes have no place in society.

We welcome the commitment that members of the executive, deployed across the country as part of the national effort to combat COVID-19, will also engage communities about the increase in gender-based violence. Parliament will continue to intensify its oversight to ensure all interventions against the scourge are realized, and this include the implementation of the decisions of the Presidential Summit on Gender-Based Violence, overhaul and modernisation of the national register of gender-based violence offenders, resolving challenges rating to backlog of cases and delays in DNA testing, as well as ensuring availability of rape test kits in police stations.

As with our global co-operation to combat the Covid-19 pandemic, so, too, let us work together, as humanity, to fight the femicide and gender-based violence still stalking our nation.

The Presiding Officers have extended their heartfelt condolences to the families of Tshegofataso Pule, Naledi Phangindawo and other victims of femicide whose names may never be known publicly.

**NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT**

**Parliament condemns femicide and gender-based violence**

Speaker-Thandi Modise

Parliament condemns femicide and gender-based violence.

**Dithakangwata sa Baithaopi, Botshabelo Hospital**


Mong. Bumlelenk Makolane le Mme Julia Leponesa le ngwana ha ena ke pela ntile tsebeletsa setjhaba ka mora ho leboho's botsela.

**Mmoso wa Foreismetata, boetapeleng ba Mme Sefora Ntomela o ile a utlwe mohoo wa maemo a nyarosang ao mme Julia Leponesa a neng a dula ho ona. Ntile ya ha yae yae moebu e neng e sa tisita e ile ya ya mme ya ba ke bothata bo boholo ho ha ya e se a se a holeka le sebaka se phehethetseng sa sebaka. Ke ne ke tselelhie ke sa tsebe se o nka se etsang mme ke sena le bokgoni ba ho ka emisa lerako la bo-nna. Ke a leboho's botsela.**

Mmoso wa Foreismetata, boetapeleng ba Mme Sefora Ntomela o ile a utlwe mohoo wa maemo a nyarosang ao mme Julia Leponesa a neng a dula ho ona. Ntile ya ha yae yae moebu e neng e sa tisita e ile ya ya mme ya ba ke bothata bo boholo ho ha ya e se a se a holeka le sebaka se phehethetseng sa sebaka. Ke ne ke tselelhie le ho sebeletsa setjhaba ka mora ho leboho's botsela. Ke ne ke tselelhie le ho sebeletsa setjhaba ka mora ho leboho's botsela. Ke ne ke tselelhie le ho sebeletsa setjhaba ka mora ho leboho's botsela.


Mmoso wa Foreismetata, boetapeleng ba Mme Sefora Ntomela o ile a utlwe mohoo wa maemo a nyarosang ao mme Julia Leponesa a neng a dula ho ona. Ntile ya ha yae yae moebu e neng e sa tisita e ile ya ya mme ya ba ke bothata bo boholo ho ha ya e se a se a holeka le sebaka se phehethetseng sa sebaka. Ke ne ke tselelhie le ho sebeletsa setjhaba ka mora ho leboho's botsela. Ke ne ke tselelhie le ho sebeletsa setjhaba ka mora ho leboho's botsela. Ke ne ke tselelhie le ho sebeletsa setjhaba ka mora ho leboho's botsela. Ke ne ke tselelhie le ho sebeletsa setjhaba ka mora ho leboho's botsela.
Black South Africans should take ownership

"South Africa is a country alive with possibilities." That is the famous statement former State President Thabo Mbeki, used to utter during his tenure as the President of the republic.

The former President was well aware of the opportunities and possibilities that the country has for its citizens. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic South Africa was the second largest economy in Africa. When Minister of finance Tito Mboweni delivered his economic recovery plan in response to Covid-19, he mentioned that South Africans should prepare for a new economy, a new economy that will prioritise its citizens and place them in the forefront of economic growth. He went on to say that all Spaza shops in townships should have valid business bank accounts and must be registered on the GIP database. This alluded to the fact that the finance minister must have been aware of the potential township economy has to contribute to the GDP. It is worth mentioning that the township economy is worth millions of rand, and within this economy lies an ocean of opportunities that still have to be exploited.

Black South Africans need to take full advantage of the new economy that we are currently heading to. We need to take ownership of our township economy, and make it work for us.

The finance minister needs to guarantee frameworks that will protect and advance our economic aspirations. While only 70% of all spaza shops in townships and informal settlements are owned and controlled by foreign nationals, greater percentage of shops and restaurants in CBD’s are also owned and controlled by foreign nationals. This means that the circulation of money does not go back to people who buy most (townships), and it further means less tax is paid to government in many cases.

Our people need to be ready and willing to take ownership of new approaching economic trajectory. We cannot be left behind and be spectators in our own country. This can only be done if we empower ourselves and become economically conscious.

"A race that does not buy or trade among its people will also be slaves to other races", this quote by Chika Onyso should always serve as a reminder to our people that a race without any economic power will also be at the bottom on the food chain.

The SAPC in Free State stands ready to join efforts with the workers to fight against these injustices, within the constraints of the lockdown regulations. It would be direcstion of our political and revolutionary duty to remain locked down when the class whose interests the SAPC represents is being locked out.

Moreover, the SAPC call on all industries in the Sasolburg industrial cluster to provide and replenish the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) for workers. The_Context of the disease allows that almost all companies who manufacture or supply PPE may not be sufficient given the nature of work, and if not replenished, may exposes workers to undue risks of the infectious Covid-19. The SAPC urge workers to outright refuse to work under unsafe working environment.

SAPC in Free State also plead with Union leadership to consolidate worker unity and unapologetically take up the economic assault and daily shop floor struggles of workers to the door steps of the bosses, during these times of Covid-19. In this regard, the SAPC pledge to join efforts with Unions and workers. The SAPC will further explore, working with Unions, means to engage Department of Labour and Employment to pay special attention to the Sasburg industrial complex, and scrutinise the actions of various industries and investigate their compliance with lockdown measures and reduction activities reserve. The SAPC will further engage the Local and District municipalities to also pay attention to the industrial complex, all other commercial activities in the area, including ensuring that their workers are equipped and protected during these times of Covid-19.

ISSUED BY THE SAPC FREE STATE;
CONTACT: Bhekile Stofika – SAPC Free State Provincial Secretary Mobile: 071 600 4899

AGRICULTURE
lifefood of rural communities

Many African communities consider animals, especially a cattle, as an investment tool that has many uses in their every day lives, hence the Sesotho expression ‘gomo, modimo o nke e metsi’. Animals like cattle, sheep, goats, horses among others are kept and used for various reasons in African communities; draught animals like cattle and horses are used as a means of transportation, they are also used for milk and meat; their skins (and wool from sheep and goats) for leather in garments and tools or equipment. But cattle, sheep and goats may also be used for cultural and spiritual purposes by other African people.

While urban Africans, who are relatively affluent and have largely adopted the western way of life, are moving slowly away from maintaining their families with skins (and wool from sheep and cattle and horses) are used as a investment tool that has many uses.

For many families in the rural areas of Thaba Nchu, like Gladstone, animal husbandry is the lifefood of their economy. It contributes to the total economy of the district and province. Many people derive their livelihood from this sector of economy in which many are ‘self-employed’. Many have not only built modest houses, paid children’s education, but also maintain their families with proceeds from this type of activity.

Though they do not derive any meaningful commercial output from this, it is an alternative that they use to eke out a living under the circumstances. But what threatens their existence and renders their efforts naught today, is acts of crime and lawlessness in the region. Rusters act with impunity in robbing them of livestock they work so hard to raise and maintain. Many farmers in Thaba Nchu area say they are helpless in the face of systems that ought to support and protect them.

While this is a way of life that has been passed from one generation to the other, and occasionally not only by choice, but directed by the erstwhile political system that deprived them of opportunities and rights, including land ownership as well. It is a situation that needs urgent attention and intervention, they say. These subsistence farmers toil under other new challenges (market fail), improved stock of livestock, fencing, diseases and market to sell their products are among issues they face.

Many feel assistance from public services, like security and economic cluster, comes late if it comes at all.

The SAPC in Free State calls various industries in the Sasburg Industrial Complex to desist from coercing workers and unduly cutting their hard-earned salaries under the so called “voluntary salary sacrifices”. No worker is willing to agree to cut their already meagre salaries, under the given exploitative economic conditions and poor socio-economic reality facing South African workers.

Furthermore, the SAPC warns and implore Omnia Company to abruptly stop their “carrot and stick” tactics of enticing workers to take voluntary early retirement whilst, at the same time, deciding already that the workers for retrenchment. The workers for early retirement whilst, at the same time, deciding already that the workers for retrenchment. The workers for early retirement whilst, at the same time, deciding already that the workers for retrenchment. The workers for early retirement whilst, at the same time,

The SAPC calls on Union leadership across the spectrum, to be at the forefront, engaging and working with workers across affiliation in all industries, to confront this dire situation facing the workers. Without concerted worker efforts, the capitalists will- line in their greed- continue to squeeze the workers more and more.

Now that industries are impacted by Covid-19, bosses are forcing workers to share and shoulder the economic difficulties in a manner that maintains profitability for bosses while kicking workers out of their gates. These companies are insensitive, acting as if Covid-19 has not affected the socio-economic conditions of the workers.

They deal on almost daily basis with problems of stock theft, grazing facilities, animal health issues as well as market for their stock.

The stock theft unit that is meant to serve them is based in Bloemfontein. Many maintain that the situation or arrangement is not helpful because it is far from removed from them. They allege that there used to be a pound in Thaba Nchu in the past for stolen or wandering animals, but today they have to travel to a pound in Ladysmith for identification or retrieval of lost or stolen stock. This, according to many farmers, is not only an inconvenience, but it devastate them economically as well.

"Radiboko Masianoke, a farmer in one of the southern trust remarked: "It is difficult, very difficult for us farmers because of these wanton criminal acts by these rustlers. It is an unknown phenomenon in our communities. It was peaceful and we coexisted without looking over our shoulder(s) for fear of an enemy lurking behind." Another farmer, "Madingale Mosia, added: ‘It is difficult to raise the economy when crime is high in this area. Crime has to go down so that the economy is grown freely.'

*Not their true names.

THEME: END WORKERS’ SALARIES CUTS AND STOP RETRENCHMENTS – URGES SAPC
End Israeli occupation of Palestinian land

The South African Communist Party (SACP) was born in 1921 on the eve of the October revolution. The backdrop of the October revolution meant that the current Bolshevism emerged and has continued to be the major socialist current of the democratic and left forces in country. Starting mainly as a white party, it soon underwent a process of its Africanisation with 1923 being a nodal policing of this process. By this time not only was the party predominantly African, it had also recast its strategic appreciation of the South African question. It came through the Black Republic Thesis to understand the centrality of the national question as a fundamental aspect of the class question that the party sought to resolve. As its birth the SACP (CPSA) has ascribed to its ideological position to the Marxist - Leninist school/ perspective. By ascribing to Marxist-Leninist school – the party was locating itself as a revolutionary with in 1819, democratic and peaceful activities in support of the oppressed Palestinian people.

In the same vein, the SACP calls upon the African Union to demonstrably express active solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine, by adopting and implementing a programme of action to support their just struggle for democratic national sovereignty. The programme should include the objectives of the global Boycott, Sanctions and Divestment (BDS) movement against the apartheid regime of Israel. As a start point, imports of Israeli products produced from occupied Palestinian territories should completely be prohibited on our continent, as a sign of continental unity and clear message of solidarity with the oppressed and exploited people of Palestine. The SACP is appealing to all democratic governments of the world to protect and cherish the fundamental right to life, by assisting the Palestinian authority with health-care and personal protective equipment, medicine and treatment, as well as other forms of active and material support in the fight to contain the spread of coronavirus (Covid-19). The truce of the Israeli-War on Hezbollah of the United States (U.S.) used the Covid-19 global public health emergency as an opportunity to forge the so-called deal of the century concluded with the apartheid regime of Israel at the expense of the marginalised Palestinian people. The visit by the U.S. secretary of state to Israel on Wednesday, 13 May 2020, included a focus on imposing the U.S.-Israeli colonial agenda on the Palestinian people and furtherance of destabilisation in the Middle East, including targeting of Iran, among others.

The U.S.-Israel agenda entails a plan to annex one-third of the West Bank and, between now and July 2020, the Jordan Valley, a fertile strip of Palestinian land stretching from the north of the Dead Sea, along the eastern perimeter of the West Bank. The Jordan Valley borders Jordan. The expansion of the U.S. imperialist-backed colonial type occupation and apartheid domination of Palestine by Israel is designed for locking out and achieving control of access to Palestine. Unveiled on 28 January 2020 in a White House press briefing by the dramatic, right-wing populist U.S. president Donald Trump and his counterpart, Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the “deal of the century” is nothing but a U.S. imperialist-backed Israeli apartheid (CPSA) at all the Century. Its real aim is to deepen the colonial type subjugation, oppression and exploitation of the Palestinian people, expropriation of their land, and its occupation by Israel. This is the complete opposite of the purported “Peace to Prosperity: A Vision to Improve the Lives of the Palestinian and Israeli Peoples”. The world’s voices and actions for the renunciation of Palestine’s peoples of clearly its people’s right to self-determination must be deepened and widened.

It is high time that the United Nations applied real pressure on these international criminals and forced them to abide by international law. Peaceful resolution to the Palestinian question must also be bound up with justice. This requires the right of return for all Palestinians who were forced out of their land, reparations for land occupation and lost property, and international prosecution of the leaders and operators of successive apartheid Israeli regimes for the crime against humanity.

Over the decades, the people of Palestine have genuinely allied by all international agreements and well-meaning compromises for the peaceful resolution of the conflict caused by Israel. On the other hand, successive Israeli apartheid regimes have relentlessly violated international agreements, additionally interposing illegal construction of Israeli settlements on Palestinian land. The wanton violation of human rights by Israel, also characterized by the arrears and torture of children in complete disregard of numerous United Nations resolutions, must strongly be condemned by all peace-loving people of the world.

The U.S. remains the chief automatic supporter and enabler of the injustice committed by Israel against the people of Palestine. The imperialist regime of the U.S. used its Security Council veto power 43 times for a half-century between 1967 and 2017, in support of the Israeli injustice perpetuated against the Palestinian people. The injustice includes actions that resulted in the murder of Palestinians. The U.S. has also protected Israel from international accountability. In addition, the imperialist regime has armed Israel militarily and otherwise against Palestinians and other states. The U.S., therefore, is not part of a solution to the crisis. It is a major Israeli ally and part of the imperialist problem in the subjugation of Palestinians.

The world we live in today continues to be dominated by the sway of imperialism and capitalism. Capitalist globalization is the most unequal economic formation; widening the gap between the rich and the poor within and among peoples of the world. The present pandemic Corona Virus 19 once more, confirms the unequalness and unfairness of the capitalist globalization. The anarchy and crisis of capitalism has plunged the world economy into volatility, 12.

In the recent past imperialist aggressivenesses has grown in all sectors: the economy, working relations, social policy, the political system, ideology and culture.

The ANC Government has, in the last 26 years, promulgated and implemented a progressive constitutional and social policy regime on areas such as social security, labour laws and basic services. The challenges of rising of our country social life such poverty, unemployment, discrimination and underdevelopment persist though. The continuing capitalist accumulation regime circumscribes and contradicts the reconstruction and development that has been unfolding since 1994. Capitalists have proven very difficult to be relied upon.

Continues in the next edition

Introduction
The SACP (CPSA) was born in 1921 in the wake of the October revolution. The backdrop of the October revolution meant that the current Bolshevism emerged and has continued to be the major socialist current of the democratic and left forces in country. It is high time that the United Nations applied real pressure on these international criminals and forced them to abide by international law. Peaceful resolution to the Palestinian question must also be bound up with justice. This requires the right of return for all Palestinians who were forced out of their land, reparations for land occupation and lost property, and international prosecution of the leaders and operators of successive apartheid Israeli regimes for the crime against humanity.

Over the decades, the people of Palestine have genuinely allied by all international agreements and well-meaning compromises for the peaceful resolution of the conflict caused by Israel. On the other hand, successive Israeli apartheid regimes have relentlessly violated international agreements, additionally interposing illegal construction of Israeli settlements on Palestinian land. The wanton violation of human rights by Israel, also characterized by the arrears and torture of children in complete disregard of numerous United Nations resolutions, must strongly be condemned by all peace-loving people of the world.

The U.S. remains the chief automatic supporter and enabler of the injustice committed by Israel against the people of Palestine. The imperialist regime of the U.S. used its Security Council veto power 43 times for a half-century between 1967 and 2017, in support of the Israeli injustice perpetuated against the Palestinian people. The injustice includes actions that resulted in the murder of Palestinians. The U.S. has also protected Israel from international accountability. In addition, the imperialist regime has armed Israel militarily and otherwise against Palestinians and other states. The U.S., therefore, is not part of a solution to the crisis. It is a major Israeli ally and part of the imperialist problem in the subjugation of Palestinians.

The world we live in today continues to be dominated by the sway of imperialism and capitalism. Capitalist globalization is the most unequal economic formation; widening the gap between the rich and the poor within and among peoples of the world. The present pandemic Corona Virus 19 once more, confirms the unequalness and unfairness of the capitalist globalization. The anarchy and crisis of capitalism has plunged the world economy into volatility, 12.

In the recent past imperialist aggressivenesses has grown in all sectors: the economy, working relations, social policy, the political system, ideology and culture.

The ANC Government has, in the past 26 years, promulgated and implemented a progressive constitutional and social policy regime on areas such as social security, labour laws and basic services. The challenges of rising of our country social life such poverty, unemployment, discrimination and underdevelopment persist though. The continuing capitalist accumulation regime circumscribes and contradicts the reconstruction and development that has been unfolding since 1994. Capitalists have proven very difficult to be relied upon.

Continues in the next edition
The way in which the COVID-19 pandemic has been handled has thrown into perspective the effectiveness of different governance styles. Whereas some leaders, such as Trump in the USA, Bolsonaro in Brazil and Magufuli in Tanzania, all males, regard the pandemic as the equivalent of a war that must be fought using top-down authoritarian tactics, others, including President Cyril Ramaphosa, have adopted a more consultative and scientific approach with far greater success.

An interesting trend is that countries with female leaders, such as Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, New Zealand and Norway, have been more effective at handling the COVID-19 crisis than most countries led by men. Research has revealed that the characteristics shared by women leaders, such as patience, resilience, pragmatism, benevolence, trust in collective common sense and humility, have contributed to their success. The researchers also found that countries led by women tend to be societies in which there is a greater presence of females in positions of power in all sectors. They argue that the greater involvement of women results in a broader perspective on the crisis and paves the way for the deployment of richer and more complete solutions than if they had been imagined by an homogeneous group of men.

Humility and respect for science are key ingredients in the handling of a health crisis. It could be argued that female leaders are more likely to be skeptical and less likely to be dogmatic and opinionated, like some authoritarian male leaders. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of Ethiopia, is currently the only female out of the 54 presidents in Africa. Is this for the better?

The continent? Although South Africa has never had a female president, except for Kganyisa-Casahuari who was President for 14 hours in September 2008, we have a good representation of women in cabinet and other senior decision-making positions. Our response to the COVID-19 crisis has, on the whole, been excellent, with wide consultation at all levels of society and a strong respect for scientific opinion.

African health officials have had the benefit of their prior experience dealing with Ebola and MERS in handling the COVID-19 outbreak. They have also avoided the “authoritarian trap” by quickly disclosing the extent of the disease outbreak and communicating information and advice to their citizens so that there can be a joint effort in combatting it.

The pandemic has, however, highlighted the different attitudes that leaders have towards science. While medicinal remedies derived from indigenous knowledge have been widely and successfully applied in Africa, there is no known cure for COVID-19 based on them. In April 2020 Andy Rajoelina, President of Madagascar, announced the launch of a herbal potion that he believes prevents and cures people suffering from the disease.

The drug, COVID-Organics (CVO), contains extracts from sweet wormwood, a plant that has proven efficacy against malaria but no proven effect against COVID-19. The leaders of Tanzania, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Comoros and the Republic of the Congo have all reportedly placed orders for CVO.

Respect for science, and a healthy dose of humility, are key ingredients in dealing with the complex medical and socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Let’s approach the crisis in the spirt of harambee, “all pull together”.

The New Nation Movement is a body which guarantees citizens their rights. The National Health Insurance is our best bet for universal health coverage. We call on the state, our government in particular to urgently improve collaboration and cooperation of public sector first, and with private sector - business, community organisations and NGOs to close the telecommunication infrastructure gap in the country. To extend coverage of the entire country, stabilize connectivity, bring down further the cost of data, ramp up skill building campaigns to improve the quality of post Covid 19 recovery.

The constitutional Court is the custodian of the Constitution which guarantees citizens their rights. The New Nation Movement is a body of citizens who enjoy rights that are protected by the Constitution. They acted within their rights when they challenged the constitutionality of the Electoral Act, and the Constitutional Court (operating in conditions of democracy) made a ruling.

The country is in the state of democratic development and the ruling of the court entrenches constitutional democracy further. In every phase of development questions arise about what changes will bring or will not bring. Equally, in stagnation, questions are asked too.

The questions that come as a result of the ruling of the Constitutional Court will only be fully answered when the change brought by the ruling takes effect. For now, South Africa stand at the crossroad of Parliamentary process regarding legislating on the matter and the practical implementation of the change. What value will the amended system bring or fail to add, we can only ponder. Where are we going in, Democracy in South Africa?

(See Parliament’s reaction to the Constitutional Court’s ruling, p.8)

Professor Mike Bruton, writer and researcher, never tires in seeking knowledge, Quo vadis, Democracy in SA?

South Africa is lauded as one of Africa’s most developed countries, both in terms of economy and in its political management. While there are strong emerging economies on the continent South Africa has the biggest economy after Nigeria, with Egypt trailing behind. It can be argued therefore that if it (South Africa) is relatively in the right economic trajectory.

But this may not be as easy with her inter-political relationships and management thereof. This may be attributed to kaleidoscope of political scenarios provided for by the Constitution. This makes things pretty much unpredictable.

Arguably, its success of embracing constitutional democracy has catapulted her on the world stage, thanks to many South Africans, and the people of the world who fought for freedom, peace and equality for the country. And of course, not forgetting the influential influence of our world renown statesman, Nelson Mandela.

The maturity of approach that the South African people, under the leadership of the ANC and its alliance partners demonstrated during the transitional period up to the adoption of the new democratic Constitution, and the holding of the first democratic elections, attracted attention of the world. Many looked with keen interest- scepticism and great awe how South African people would dislodge the centuries old colonial establishment, to march forward to transform it into modern constitutional democratic system entrenched in human rights.

This was in an anticipated comparison to many of newly established democratic rules elsewhere on the continent and in world. Many thought that the newly gained democracy will fail. It continues to grow - now, towards the third decade of presenting South Africans, the continent and the world with one of the best constitutional democracy, seldom experienced by many countries in the world.

The constitutional Court is the custodian of the Constitution which guarantees citizens their rights.

The New Nation Movement is a body of citizens who enjoy rights that are protected by the Constitution. They acted within their rights when they challenged the constitutionality of the Electoral Act, and the Constitutional Court (operating in conditions of democracy) made a ruling. The country is in the state of democratic development and the ruling of the court entrenches constitutional democracy further. In every phase of development questions arise about what changes will bring or will not bring. Equally, in stagnation, questions are asked too.

The questions that come as a result of the ruling of the Constitutional Court will only be fully answered when the change brought by the ruling takes effect. For now, South Africa stand at the crossroad of Parliamentary process regarding legislating on the matter and the practical implementation of the change. What value will the amended system bring or fail to add, we can only ponder. Where are we going in, Democracy in South Africa?

(See Parliament’s reaction to the Constitutional Court’s ruling, p.8)

Our country has entered a critical phase in the campaign against Covid 19. Many people have contracted the disease and more are dying. We appeal to all citizens - all of us, to remain vigilant to avoid more tragedies as well as the overwhelming of our health facilities and people infrastructure!

The pandemic will pass but we have to dramatically reduce the negative social and economic impacts we are already experiencing.

The public service needs to up its effectiveness, its responsiveness, its caring potential and draw on its creativity to deal with the crises we are facing.

Technology can be abused to advance the interests of a few, but it also has the potential to meet people’s needs considerably, including the National Health Insurance, that is our best bet for universal health coverage.

We call on the state, our government in particular to urgently improve collaboration and cooperation of public sector first, and with private sector - business, community organisations and NGOs to close the telecommunication infrastructure gap in the country. To extend coverage of the entire country, stabilize connectivity, bring down further the cost of data, ramp up skill building campaigns to improve the quality of post Covid 19 recovery.

Telkom leadership for example, believes it is possible to introduce a system that strengthens integration cooperation of wireless, satellite, fiber and landlines. What’s delaying us?

The district development model is an excellent platform to work together in, through the integrated development plans to accelerate all our key priority programs.

An aggressive campaign to promote safety of the community, employment initiatives, better educational outcomes and provision of infrastructure that is regularly maintained as suggested, is key in each metropolitan and district area.

These efforts are urgent to address the horrible levels of poverty, inequality and unemployment, dramatized by the Covid 19 and the necessary lockdown imposed to contain the spread of this pandemic.

The dangerous and unacceptable levels of gender based violence, literally worsened the crises people were already facing.

We need to act urgently, differently for the sake of the people!
World Summit of Local & Regional Leaders

SENTINELS OF DREAMS

Local land regional leaders are central in ensuring coherence of ideas and concrete plans in how to advance and maintain a sustainable world through inter allia dialogue, research and innovative ideas. The World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders, Fabrizio Hochschild, Special Advisor to the Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, spoke to the representatives of countries from all over the world at the summit. Here follows his address:

“Sanibonani”

It is a great pleasure to join you for the 2019 World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders.

You are at the vanguard of harnessing global opportunities and managing global risks. You pioneer solutions to meet your communities’ hopes and needs. Your tasks are growing greater and more complex.

Our world today is marked by profound transitions. Last Saturday marked three decades of freedom. Last January marked three decades of democracy. And of course the greatest harbinger of the promise of the new era was 5 years later the end of apartheid and the democratic transition here in South Africa. Twenty five years on, as we look at the world today, it is perhaps the greatest surprise of all the megatrends that our world has seen. The world we live in has seen profound transitions. Last year, Oxfam reported that the world’s largest 20 economies to manage these changes. Changes that take into account your role at the present time. And we are at a defining moment. Last autumn, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a warning: we have just 11 years left to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees. We are already seeing the effects around us of our inadequate action: heat waves in Europe, drought in much of Africa, storms in Asia. And typhoons and earthquakes in Asia. Last year, an estimated 17.3 million people were newly displaced within their own countries as a result of disasters. These displacements are caused by growing inequality, without more energetic measures.

Displacement, of course, is only one demographic trend we need to manage. We are also facing rapidly changing in the age composition of our population – a second megatrend. Today’s youth generation is the largest in the history of the world. Between now and 2030, half the global population will be under 30. In Africa by 2050 one billion people will be under 18. We will manage to take advantage of this by providing sufficient jobs, education.

At the same time in a number of countries, we have shrinking populations and an unprecedented urbanization. We are also among the elderly, who in turn are living longer. What changes do we need to make in our societies and economies to manage these demographic transitions?

And how can we tackle, a third megatrend, the scourge of our time growing inequality – on the rise both between and within many countries? It is a significant contributor to the growing disconnect and distrust that people feel towards governments and other institutions.

There are more and more super rich while poor remain vulnerable. Globally, in 2000 there were around 200 to 300 billionaires. Today, there are more than 2000. Last year, Oxfam reported that the world’s richest 26 people own as much wealth as the 3.7 billion the poorer half of humanity. Meanwhile, over the same period, lower-level wage earners have seen their salaries decline or remain stagnant in real terms in most countries. How do we prioritise addressing these long-term, systemic issues alongside, say, the rise in new forms of violence – a fourth megatrend?

Armed conflicts seem to be growing more entrenched and complex – in Syria, for instance. Thirty per cent of armed groups are now thought to be active. Violent deaths outside conflict are growing too. According to the UN office for drugs and crime, last year, some 464,000 people across the world were killed in homicides – far more than the 89,000 killed due to war.

And then there is the disruption of new technologies a fifth megatrend. New technologies are spreading a unprecedented speed and hold great promise but also risks: to our security, privacy and democracy; to the world of work and social cohesion. Are our institutions ready to manage these changes? How can we build a safe future for our children in the 21st century? If our institutions and solutions are stuck in the 20th century?

Of all these “mega trends”, urbanization is arguably the most certain. Today, just over 50 per cent of the world’s population live in towns and cities, in Africa just over 30 per cent. By 2050 that rise will almost 70 per cent and much of it will take place in Asia and Africa, where the urban population will more than double. Despite the fact that urban growth is unavoidable, much of this growth will be unplanned. Moreover the principle arena in which the megatrends I mentioned will play out will be cities.

At present, cities occupy less than 2 per cent of the world’s total land but produce over 70 per cent of carbon emissions. The many cities situated close to the ocean will be the first to be affected by rising sea levels. Just today you saw what is happening in Venice with flooding due to climate change. Cities are also the locus of growing inequalities. They generate around 80 per cent of global GDP but are home to nearly one billion people classified as “urban poor”, often unemployed youth. And not unrelated to this, violence is also becoming an increasingly urban phenomena.

How these trends are managed will have profound – even existential – consequences for our world and for humanity. Light of these trends and threats to mark the 75th anniversary of the United Nations next year, the Secretary-General has chosen not only to have a big birthday party but instead to use the occasion to generate discussion on how to address these global transitions and how we can better manage them collectively.

To that end, I have been tasked by the UN Secretary-General with leading the UN 75 initiative: to stimulate dialogues with citizens around the world on: * the future we aspire to * the threats to that future * and the tools needed for global cooperation to overcome these threats and support the future we seek.

We want these dialogues to take place in classrooms and boardrooms, town halls and community centres, local government offices and houses of parliament, on the street and online.

Our website – www.un.org/75 – includes materials to enable people to take part – collectively and individually – as well as a feedback loop, because we want to ensure that the views and ideas generated are collected, analyzed and, crucially, brought to the attention of world leaders as they gather in New York in September 2020 to commemorate the UN’s 75th anniversary.

The official start of the dialogues will be January 2020 and I hope that all of you, and the communities you represent, will take part. This is an opportunity for you to shape the global agenda, and to advocate for innovative solutions to the global challenges that take into account your role at the cutting edge of global challenges and opportunities.

The motto of this conference is, “cities are listening”. The UN Secretary General wants to listen to you and through you to your communities. “Njihlabonga”

CONFLICTING REPORTS BY MEC AND ADMINISTRATOR POINT TO HOPELESS STATE OF MALUTA-PROPHUNG

CAPE TOWN. The Select Committee on Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Water and Sanitation and Human Settlements, has expressed unhappiness on the state of the Section 139 (1)(b) intervention at Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality, and has resolved to urgently visit the municipality to interact with the stakeholders in the municipality.

“At the centre of the committee’s preoccupation is to ensure that the municipality is functional and provides services to the people. But, as things stand, there is a level of hopelessness in finding solutions,” said Ms China Dubuvo, the Chairperson of the committee.

The committee noted that no Section 139 (1)(b) provincial executive is providing to the municipality as per section 154 of the Constitution.

Furthermore, the committee has raised concerns in relation to the ballooning Eskom debt in the municipality which is now standing at R5.2 billion. Also, the overall financial position of the Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality remains a major source of concern.

“Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality is unable to pay and pay and meet its financial obligations in a timely manner. It is liquid. The Chief Financial Officer of the municipality has confirmed to the committee that the money which was set aside for provisions of Section 139 has been utilized,” said the committee.

“Furthermore, the committee has also denounced the chopping and changing of the administrator within the municipality,” Mr Dodovu said.

The committee welcomes the report that the irregular decision to increase the salaries of the Manager of the Municipality and Chief Financial Officer was reversed.

In relation to the Mangungu Metropolitan Municipality, the committee has denounced the lack of movement by the municipality to implement the financial recovery plan as per the requirements of R 15(3)(a)(ii). Despite this, the committee welcomes the report that the Mangungu Metro is servicing the Eskom debt.

Meanwhile, regarding Metsimatholo Local Municipality, the committee has raised a concern over the fact that the Council failed to meet and conclude its business, thus by implication, failed to execute its executive obligations in the 2019/20 financial year. Furthermore, the committee expressed a concern over the information that the Integrated Development Plan process has not been adopted, a delay according to the committee, which will inadvertently affect the delivery of services negatively.

The committee also expressed dismay that the positions of Chief Financial Officer, Director: Organisational Development and Corporate Services, Director Economic Development and Planning, Director Technical and Infrastructure Services and Director: Social Services have been vacant for over two years.

The committee has called for the provincial executive to boost its support to the struggling municipalities as per the obligation of section 154 of the Constitution, and has committed itself to heightening its oversight on the implementation of these interventions.

ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES, CAPE TOWN
One of the main unintended side effects of the prolonged lockdown is worsening hunger. Granted, there has been significant contribution by the public sector in this regard by adopting a YCLSA proposition of the Basic Income Grant through a six months, augmentation to other beneficiaries like the aged and the children etc. The private sector has had its share of contribution in a variety of ways while whether or not its share is a “fair share” or not remains an issue for debate. The food packages and vouchers donated by both the private and public sectors to go a long way. To our disappointment some in our ranks and in higher echelons of the youth movement use them for petty squabbles and cheap political point scoring.

More disgusting when their sheer opportunism and factionalism is exposed by their inconsistency when they defend one Executive Mayor and attack another over a similar sentiment. It makes a meaningful contribution to the lives of many who go to bed without having had a meal for this or that reason. It adds value to those who would ordinarily consume medication without a meal. Even cannot be disregarded to take medication. It is obviously not immune to a variety of challenges like perpetual succession, sustainability, stability, funding, corruption etc., however, checks and balances ought to be put in place for operations, governance and finances.

A quick benchmark on the above cited areas where the soup kitchens takes place shows that they take place under the auspices of the community based initiatives. One such modality is the soup kitchen programme.

The YCLSA has its inaugural soup kitchen in Dr Maile Clinic in Kgotsong- Bothaville within the demarcation of Tishe Vanga district in the year 2016. Culling from the lockdown, the youth in this area are vegetarians, so Soup kitchen is ongoing in Nyakalongo-Allanridge, Kutloang-Oldenhoud, Thabong and other areas in the province at least.

While it may appear ceremonial or sentimental, it makes a meaningful contribution to the lives of many who go to bed without having had a meal for this or that reason. It adds value to those who would ordinarily consume medication without a meal. Even cannot be disregarded to take medication. It is obviously not immune to a variety of challenges like perpetual succession, sustainability, stability, funding, corruption etc., however, checks and balances ought to be put in place for operations, governance and finances.

A quick benchmark on the above cited areas where the soup kitchen is ongoing in Dr Maile Clinic in Kgotsong- Bothaville within the demarcation of Tishe Vanga district in the year 2016. Culling from the lockdown, the youth in this area are vegetarians, so Soup kitchen is ongoing in Nyakalongo-Allanridge, Kutloang-Oldenhoud, Thabong and other areas in the province at least.

While it may appear ceremonial or sentimental, it makes a meaningful contribution to the lives of many who go to bed without having had a meal for this or that reason. It adds value to those who would ordinarily consume medication without a meal. Even cannot be disregarded to take medication. It is obviously not immune to a variety of challenges like perpetual succession, sustainability, stability, funding, corruption etc., however, checks and balances ought to be put in place for operations, governance and finances.

A quick benchmark on the above cited areas where the soup kitchen is ongoing in Dr Maile Clinic in Kgotsong- Bothaville within the demarcation of Tishe Vanga district in the year 2016. Culling from the lockdown, the youth in this area are vegetarians, so Soup kitchen is ongoing in Nyakalongo-Allanridge, Kutloang-Oldenhoud, Thabong and other areas in the province at least.