

RESOLUTIONS

SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

The Conference adopted the Social Transformation Report of the 2017 National Policy Conference. The highlights of the rich discussions and debates are presented below:

- a. Our Social Transformation agenda is part of the continuing journey of social change that began in 1994 when we entered into a Social Contract in the form of the Reconstruction and Development Programme through which we sought to create A Better Life For All, so that together, we can create a South Africa that truly belongs to all who live in it as articulated in the Freedom Charter;
- b. Accordingly, the Policy Proposals that are being presented, are aimed at building A Better Life For All; and ensuring that we accelerate our march towards a truly reconstructed, transformed, unified and developed South Africa, whose citizens, Black and White, equally enjoy better and fulfilling lives;
- c. This we do within the context of the Resolutions of the 53rd ANC National Conference which committed all of us to ensure a radical socio-economic transformation aimed at ending oppression, poverty and inequality; and create a society in which all belong, live freely and prosper.
- d. We would like to emphasise at all times the co-existence of socio-economic rights. There is a tendency to emphasise radical economic transformation at the expense of radical social transformation which is an inalienable right, a First Generation Right in The Constitution, and the foundation of the Freedom Charter.
- e. Among others, our critical responsibilities are to transform our society and to prioritise the rights of women, children, and people with disabilities as well as the previously disadvantaged; work tirelessly to reduce discrimination and violence against women and discrimination and violence against children. As the ANC we need to lead in the de-linking of “women and children” as a near singular ‘vulnerable’ group as it tends to entrench the idea that women are minors as was the case under apartheid era laws. At the same time it also brings into stark relief the inequality under law that children face. We therefore welcome the recent High Court decision that nullified the common law defence of ‘reasonable chastisement’ as a legal defence for parental and care-givers assault of children. This brings the legal framework in line with criminal law of assault as it pertains to adults. This development will contribute significantly to reducing overall levels of inter-personal violence and the cycle of violence as South Africans will need to embrace the idea that violence is not an acceptable means to deal with conflict or differences. At the heart of fundamental social change and transformation are changes at the level of ideation so that people think and act differently and in ways that builds a more peaceful society.
- f. Our Social Transformation agenda has been very clear over the years that we are in fact in the processes of building a new society. We are not ‘re-building’ as this almost gives the impression that there was a time in our history where universal equality, respect for human rights and dignity existed for all. Colonial oppression, discrimination and violence including violence associated with systemic social and economic exclusion is what we have inherited and we need to build a new society that is peaceful, equal and just as envisioned in our National Development Plan, the UN’s Agenda 2030 and Africa’s Agenda 2063.
- g. We make the case that inequalities at the social and economic levels over centuries needs to be addressed if we are to reduce social ills in our society. There is global evidence that societies that are unequal socially and economically are more prone to have people who engage in the harmful use of alcohol and drugs, to have high levels of violence and high levels of gender based violence.;
- h. In any society plagued by high levels of social and economic inequality and related social ills there are of course people who are particularly vulnerable. It is for this reason that we take an intersectional approach to protect the most vulnerable amongst us. An intersectional lens will show us that black lesbians living in poor rural and urban spaces are amongst the most vulnerable. They are subjected

to discrimination based on their gender (being women), their sexual orientation, their race and class. This intersectional lens and concomitant strategies will allow us to protect people like Eudy Simelane a star player in Banyana Banyana who was killed in April 2008, at the age of 31 years, because she was openly lesbian.

- i. Similarly, the girl-child is just as vulnerable. We have a historical responsibility to in particular stop the sexual exploitation of the Girl-Child so that they, are allowed to grow up in safe, loving and nurturing environments and have the opportunity to play their important roles in society. We point out that the sexual violence meted out to the girl-child, can only be fully addressed when we build a society that does not condone sexual violence in anyway and that we build a culture where no person, no matter how powerful or important feel that they have a level of impunity in terms of raping women. The most recent incidents of what we term rape promoting cultures was evident when young women at Rhodes University were banned for life from studying due to protest action against leniency by university authorities towards sexual predators including a young man convicted of rape.
- j. Further, we have to ensure effective protection of the Child, including the Right of Children to Education; ensuring, among others, that children are not used to highlight and/or settle political and social grievances;
- k. In line with earlier references to 'ideation' being necessary for building a new society and one that also seeks to address the cycle of violence we have to engage constructively around whatever challenges and problems we may have, and thus help each other not to engage in violent protests, including the unnecessary destruction of property as a means of highlighting grievances; the strengthening of local community based organisations that are not party political, such as advice offices may contribute to building new forms of engagement among people and also how people engage with government. At the same time constructive engagement by communities requires more responsive and accountable local governance and generally government at all levels that is accountable to its own rules and procedures and where there is no room for those who are corrupt and use government for personal enrichment while there are such high levels of poverty and inequality. Government must lead by example. And for government to lead by example, the ANC must be exemplary with respect to building accountability within its own structures.
- l. Through these policy proposals, we have to help the youth to grow up as responsible citizens; for our youth to engage in sporting and cultural activities and to concentrate on the important aspects of growth, especially concentrating on their education and skills development;
- m. We have a duty to ensure that the Youth grow-up as disciplined and responsible adults, who shall have learned great attributes consistent with those imparted to all of us by such leaders of the ANC as Chief Albert Luthuli, Oliver Tambo, Nelson Mandela and many others who have made it possible for us to gather here today as free citizens;
- n. At all times, and in all the things we do, we have to increase the levels of women empowerment. While we have made some important progress in the public sector on this matter, we need to ensure that we effect more improvements.
- o. Obviously, in this regard, the biggest challenge is still in the private sector, and therefore our policies have to help us to make drastic and visible changes in women empowerment in this area, so that through the empowerment of women in this sector, we are able to help bring more social transformation;
- p. As we do this, we have to continue our struggle against patriarchal beliefs and tendencies that continue to suppress and oppress women; while we have significant challenges in relation to violence against women and sexual violence in particular, we have also made significant progress since 1994. One of our ore stellar achievements was the huge reduction in the mortality rates associated with unsafe abortion through the passing of the Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act which explicated the constitutional provisions of the right to bodily integrity and autonomy. The ANC must, therefore, vehemently oppose the proposed changes to this Act made by the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) as it will not only rob women of their constitutional rights but also rob them of their very lives as these proposals will again push women into the hands of illegal and dangerous back-street abortion providers.
- q. Again, as part of the important work of helping the people to escape the degrading conditions of poverty we must also improve our implementation of integrated human settlements developments; improve our fight to eliminate the squalor of informal settlements; and help give dignity to the people by eliminating the title-deeds backlog and household tenure security;
- r. We have a duty to help our Military Veterans through the improvement and implementation of the various Policies directed at this important sector of our society;
- s. As we engage in these efforts, of improving the

lives of our people, we must make sure that we do so guided by the ethos of Batho Pele, so that whatever, we do, as ANC deployees at all levels of government, we strive to bring real social transformation to our communities;

- t. Of importance, we have an on-going duty to achieve Social Cohesion and accelerate the project of Nation Building so that we are able to create a just and inclusive society that draws on our rich heritage;
- u. Clearly, we must, at all times ensure that through policy and practical implementation we fight and defeat racism, because failure to do so, would mean we could never achieve the lofty objectives contained in our Constitution;
- v. Overall, ANC policy is in place, and while refinements and adjustments to policy are necessary to meet the changing and shifting societal demands, the key task is ensuring the accurate implementation of our policies. To this end, the ANC capacity to facilitate, monitor and evaluate this implementation must be strengthened.
- w. We have no doubt that all these policy resolutions, will help us move forward towards the attainment of our historical mission of Socio-Economic Transformation to which, we, as ANC members, have committed ourselves.

1. In relation to Social Cohesion, Nation Building and the Development of Society, the Conference RESOLVED that:

- 1.1. ANC branches must be effective agents of change as leaders in communities if the ANC is to drive the radical social transformation agenda, and to achieve social cohesion and nation building.
- 1.2. To this end ANC members must be exemplary in their conduct in their families, in their community and in their organisations.
- 1.3. ANC branches must lead our communities in a programme of regular community dialogue throughout the year on issues of social ills, and on social cohesion and nation building.
- 1.4. ANC branches must be clear on the difference between the ANC anthem and the South Africa National Anthem and must sing the National Anthem with appropriate respect and etiquette. ANC branches must utilise the government information booklets on National and AU Symbols as well as Anthems, to ensure that national symbols are known in our communities and treated with appropriate etiquette.

There should be more local production and content screened on our televisions and broadcast in national and community radios to reflect our values. A practical and sustainable percentage must be determined

- 1.6. ANC branches must strengthen their relationships with key stakeholders such as inter-faith organisations, sports and cultural leaders, private sector and traditional leaders to enhance moral regeneration, social cohesion and nation building. Furthermore, ANC branches must intensify their communication and engagements with ANC government, Local Municipalities and Provinces
- 1.7. Relevant legislation in relation to hate crimes should be better enforced; all forms of racism, crude and subtle, including tribalism or xenophobia, must be eradicated; the mind-set shift from an image of an African as being a victim to being a victor must be addressed.
- 1.8. African history and African symbolism should be promoted including pre-colonial African history. The struggle for freedom and democracy must be documented in all languages. Libraries must promote the literary works of local and African writers. The use of indigenous languages must be promoted. This must include the urgent inclusion and diversification of statues on the Union Buildings Precinct and other high profile places in order to reflect African history.
- 1.9. The cultural values of diverse communities, including in particular African cultural values, which advance togetherness and co-existence across the spectrum of human existence must be promoted.
- 1.10. Patriarchy divides society and must be combatted in all its forms. Gender-stereotyped socialisation of girls and boys must be addressed to build social cohesion. As part of this work the active agenda of promoting women representation in key levers of power should be intensified. Leaders of society should be capacitated to deal with matters of gender abuse.
- 1.11. The public must be educated on the consequences of criminal damage to public property during protests. Government needs to impose heavy penalties to those who damage and destroy public property.
- 1.12. The Social Cohesion Advocates should be allocated across the provinces to support the Premiers in driving the moral regeneration and social cohesion initiatives.

2. In relation to Safety of Women and Children, Eradication of Substance Abuse and Gangsterism, and Promotion of Sports, Arts and Culture, and Empowerment of vulnerable groups, the Conference RESOLVED that:

21. Education, sport, recreation, arts, cultural and heritage activities, clubs and programmes are important vehicles to combat substance abuse, gangsterism, violence against women and children, and other social ills, as well as to achieve social cohesion and nation building, and should also be localised.
22. Street, Block and Village Committees, in which ANC members are active, are key vehicles of social protection and social transformation. These Street, Block and Village Committees must know exactly what is happening in each street in relation to violence against women and children, substance abuse, crime and be able to ensure that there are safe houses for victims, and that the police and social workers fulfil their functions. ANC branches must also be active in and strengthen the Community Policing Forums and Community Safety Forums. Members of the communities must know their neighbours and be concerned about their lives.
23. The ANC needs to lead the processes related to removal of offensive names and signage and the geographic name changes. Part of this work involves the decentralisation of administration of heritage to the provincial level. There should be Arts and Culture units at each municipality, and local Arts Councils as well as community arts centres. Municipalities should be encouraged to support local cultural industries through the LED programme. Local arts and culture programme should be implemented. Municipal facilities such as town and community halls should be utilised for local arts, culture activities and indoor sports.
24. The ANC should bring back the ANC Cultural Desk with representation of Creative and Cultural Industries Federation of SA (CCIF-SA) and have cultural ambassadors to pursue cultural diplomacy. The ANC's Cultural Desk needs to develop a Cultural Diplomacy Document. A Cultural and Creative Industries Transformation and Performance Charter needs to be introduced. ANC should ensure that there is continuous building of national monuments to commemorate and remember our rich history and heritage.
25. ANC branches cannot remain silent on violence against women and children, on vulnerability of the elderly, people with disabilities, people living with Albinism, of the LGBTIQ community. ANC branches must be aware of changing forms of crimes against vulnerable groups arising out of anti-social beliefs.
26. The provision of safe public transport, in particular for girl learners who live far from schools, is an important element of prevention of violence against women and children.
27. In particular, ANC men must be visible in 365 days campaigning against all forms of violence and abuse in particular violence and abuse against women and children. ANC branches should rise and hold men's marches against all forms of violence and abuse in their communities under the banner of Not in My Name - Count Me In.
28. Overall, ANC policy is in place, and the key task is ensuring the implementation of the policy. To this end, the ANC capacity to monitor and evaluate this implementation must be strengthened.
29. The social challenges of racial tensions, xenophobia, violence against women, children and other vulnerable groupings, substance abuse and gangsterism will all be vastly improved through strengthening integrated human settlements, through an active sports and culture programme in schools and in communities and through improving the implementation of existing social transformation policy.
210. Inequality, unemployment, and poverty underpin the social ills in our communities, and so, education and skills development, and internships and work exposure programmes that equip the youth with skills required and appropriate to the economy and economic opportunities are also important pillars of building social cohesion and the nation.
211. Effective resourcing of government structures to fulfil their functions must be focused on and in particular sport and recreation facilities must be properly resourced. The Department of Women needs to be fully capacitated to discharge its mandate effectively including enhancing its provincial footprint.
212. Izindaba on the progress on the empowerment of women per sector needs to be held on a regular basis.
213. The State must provide sanitary towels to girls and women, starting with the indigent girl learners and young women and those in the care of state institutions. Measures to improve affordability of sanitary products must

- be implemented including zero tax rating.
214. The comprehensive strategy for and the co-ordination and monitoring of the protection of vulnerable groups led by the Department of Social Development must be resourced to enable effective protection of children, the elderly, people with disability, and people with Albinism across relevant departments and spheres of government.
 215. The ANC must conclude its review and processing of the Kader Asmal Report on Chapter 9 and other Institutions supporting constitutional democracy.
 216. The Charter of Positive Values must be included in the curriculum of Life Orientation in schools. The revitalization of Provincial Chapters of the Moral Regeneration Movement should take place in all provinces, driven by the Premiers and relevant MECs to ensure greater coherence with the national programme. Part of this work includes the revival of the ANC's Commission for Religious Affairs to coordinate the efforts of the ANC with the religious sector, as well as the ANC's programme of action on moral regeneration.
 217. The socialization of our children, and in particular the socialization of boy children, to respect each other, to be healthy and active citizens, to take on roles in a non-gender stereotyped manner, is the foundation of addressing social ills, and ensuring the mind-set change necessary for social transformation, gender equality, non-racism, and social cohesion. Take a Girl Child to Work should be expanded to Take a Child to Work.
 218. Parenting was identified as a key area of weakness in addressing social ills and in driving the social transformation agenda. Support to parents to develop appropriate parenting skills must be strengthened through government services, and through dialogue involving key stakeholders such as religious, sports and traditional leaders. Public education on the safety of children, including the prevention children being left in the care of strangers, must be undertaken by ANC branches.
 219. Abuse of religion for sexual predation by some religious leaders must be combatted
 220. Gender parity in sport must be promoted at all levels, including national teams. Green jackets must be awarded for all sporting codes.
 221. Standardisation of school sports across the country both in poor and affluent areas. Sporting infrastructure must be extended to rural and township schools and be part of all new school building. Sport should liaise with Traditional Authorities in the roll out of sport facilities and programmes to rural areas. Parents should be encouraged to support their children in their sporting activities.
 222. Sport and physical education must be integral to school curriculum from Grade R to Grade 12. Sports professionals must be utilised to teach sporting codes. Anti-doping programmes in school sports should be introduced.
 223. A 5% sport ticketing levy should be introduced for all major and designated sport tournaments to fund sport development.
 224. The Draft Bill to ban alcohol advertising should be converted to a Money Bill with a levy to fund sports, arts and culture and educational programmes.
 225. Policy review to determine the school sports policy should be the prerogative of the Ministries of Basic Education and Sports and Recreation -and not the SGBs.
 226. Policy is required to regulate mushrooming unethical churches and traditional practices.
 227. Legislative review is necessary to amend all laws relating to children that is inconsistent with the Constitution, particularly in relation to age of marriage, age of consensual sex, and statutory rape.
 228. The calls to decriminalise Sex work must be subjected to a high level discussion and engagement with relevant multiple stakeholders, and to continue to engage society on this to determine the societal norm. Sex workers must be protected.
 229. ANC must strengthen and capacitate neighbourhood watch and CPFs to continue working with law enforcement agencies, and in particular SAPS, to combat human trafficking and sex slavery.
 230. The need for police stations and service delivery institutions should be determined by considering the population size, proximity to residents, and the nature of services required.
 231. Decisive action against drug lords and environments for anonymously reporting crime should be created.
 232. The Victim Empowerment Centres, Victim Support Units, and Thuthuzela care centres should be up scaled and fully resourced, in-

- cluding up-scaling the availability of social workers, including in schools. The integration of services and the utilisation of the Gender Based Violence Command Centre must be taken forward. SAPS officials must be trained in gender sensitivity and appropriate practice in dealing with victims of sexual offences and domestic violence.
 - 233. Public education and awareness on criminal evidence required for successful prosecution of cases of violence against women and children is required.
 - 234. The full might of the criminal justice system, including the denial of bail and the sentence regime, should be utilised in the combatting of violence against women and children, particular in relation to domestic violence and sexual offences.
 - 235. In new courts, the Children's Courts should be designed to prevent children from exposure to other dimensions of the criminal justice system. Cases involving children should be prioritised for speedy finalisation in the courts.
 - 236. The user friendly of disability specific access to government buildings for people with disabilities should be accelerated.
 - 237. A comprehensive programme must be implemented that addresses minimum qualifications required for ECD practitioners, minimum norms and standards of ECD infrastructure, State remuneration for practitioners who work with children up to the age of 4 as they provide an essential service.
 - 238. Regulation of advertising using children and women, and reporting on abuse of women and children, must be reconsidered to avoid undue social media exposure of children and young women.
 - 239. Explore the introduction of mechanisms for organisations and employers to access information in the sex offender register to protect children.
 - 240. Child headed households including street (homeless) children must be prioritised in social protection policy, in EPWP opportunities.
 - 241. The child support grant should be extended from the age of 18 to 21 for beneficiaries that are still studying in order to eliminate the advent of vulnerability.
 - 242. The Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act (PEPUDA) must be amended to enhance the promotion of equality between men and women public representatives.
 - 243. Municipalities must regulate the location of taverns and liquor retailers to be away from schools and religious establishments. The Liquor Amendment Bill should also address this matter.
 - 244. SASSA national administration should be aligned with provinces to ensure that there is seemliness decision making and ensure that there is accountability of provincial offices to the national office. SASSA needs to urgently speed up the process of provision of adequate and decent pay points as older person are often paid in the rain or heat.
 - 245. The government's internship programme offers valuable work exposure for graduates and thus entry requirements must enable and not unduly restrict entry and access. Part of this work must intensify career guidance programmes for the youth, as well as allocation of more bursaries.
 - 246. TVET college qualifications must be de-stigmatised through a prestige programme of partnering with local business and local municipalities to create opportunities of streamlined job access for graduates.
 - 247. The NYDA must be strengthened and resourced to deliver effective youth programmes with the national youth service, the EPWP youth programmes and other youth employment programmes as flagships of youth development in government. Consideration should be given to reinstating the Young Pioneers and the Masupatsela as leading information disseminators. Youth employment programmes should embrace new technologies.
 - 248. There is a need to professionalise youth work for all youth development practitioners.
 - 249. The mind set of dependency among the youth should be discouraged.
- 3. In relation to Social Cohesion and Social Transformation through Human Settlements, the Conference RESOLVED:**
- 31. To implement structured support to black-owned companies in the housing and residential property sector, with special attention to those owned by women, youth, military veterans, and people with disability. 30% set aside should benefit these designated groups.

REPORT OF THE 54TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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32. Transformatory urban planning and management that changes apartheid spatial residential patterns must be focused on, with a move away from dense single-use residential areas to those with appropriate recreational and sports facilities, other socio-economic amenities and the necessary public transport systems.
 33. In the creation of new cities and towns, planning should promote de-racialisation of society and development consolidation of peri-urban areas
 34. This must include accelerated implementation and consolidation of human settlements development legislation to utilise suitably positioned land for housing, and the enforcement of existing law and by-laws.
 35. Land invasions must be curbed through appropriate by-laws. Fast track the amendment of the Prevention of Illegal Eviction Act 1998 (PIE) to deal with land for housing development.
 36. To implement a rapid urban land re-distribution and release through constitutional means in order to meet development needs in a structured manner. Mining and other private sector land-owners should be encouraged to release their land to the state for human settlement purposes.
 37. The sale of subsidised houses by beneficiaries should be prevented and beneficiaries who no longer need the house must be assisted to return the house to the State for compensation or allocation of an alternative opportunity in another area. The rental of subsidised houses to non-beneficiaries be discouraged especially in the face of growing need. Accelerate the issuing of title deeds and registration of subsidy houses in favour of the “family” rather than the individual beneficiaries.
 38. Uniformity in the standard of housing provision across all provinces must be addressed and remedial improvements of houses at risk must be completed.
 39. Provision of housing for military veterans must be fast-tracked and completed, with appropriate consultation, in line with applicable legislation.
 310. To conduct an audit of all unfinished housing programmes and implement a programme to complete unfinished housing projects.
 311. Human settlements housing options must include site and service schemes, options for people to build their own houses, high rise accommodation, affordable rental stock for

those who are transitional residents in urban areas for work and other purposes, the transformation of hostels into family units, and the provision of student accommodation and other priority needs.

312. The causes of shack farming are in part as a result of the need for income generating opportunities, and must be addressed by plot size control and by laws regulating the building of informal housing.
313. The allocation of subsidised houses must be consulted with Traditional leaders when developed on land availed by traditional leaders.
314. Water provision must be addressed as an integral part of human settlements and the Water Act should be reviewed to ensure that water resources are a public good.
315. Our communities must be served by water tankers where permanent infrastructure is not yet provided to the community.
316. Municipalities must commission viability studies for building of small dams to ensure water security
317. Sanitation at community and household level must be improved and the bucket system eradication must be intensified.
318. Community libraries, parks and socio-economic amenities should reflect on the planning of new communities from the initial planning stages.
319. Institutionalise and mainstream Programmes aimed at youth development such as a Housing Youth Brigade in order to ensure their sustainability
320. The ANC should champion proper service delivery especially in areas named after our leaders.

Conference RESOLVED that following the 54th Conference, the NEC must adopt a Social Transformation Action Plan to:

- a) Facilitate implementation of these policies with specific roles of the ANC in the national, provincial and municipal spaces;
- b) Enable accurate monitoring of progress in implementing the policies.
- c) Outline the role of the ANC in championing and leading community development.