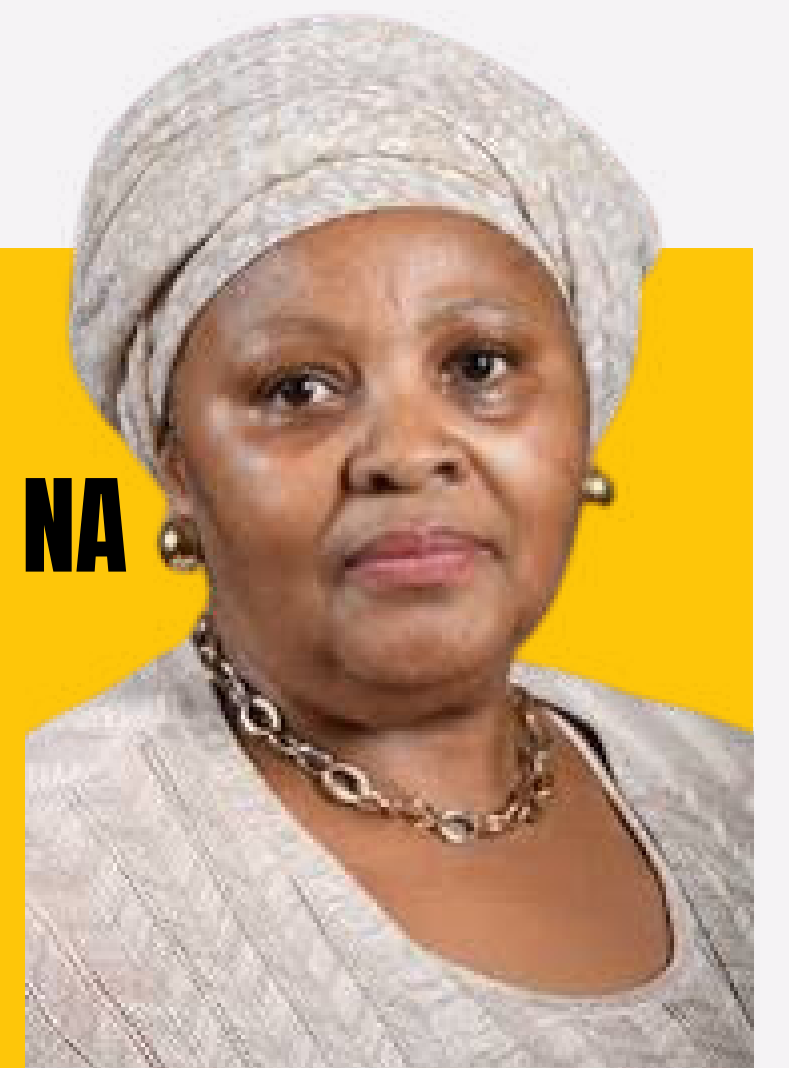




**Speaker of the NA
Cde Nosiviwe
Mapisa-
Nqakula**



Caucus NEWSLETTER

27 October 2023



CELEBRATION OF 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF OLIVER REGINALD TAMBO'S BIRTH

By Cde Dali Tambo, Artist Against Apartheid

I stand before you today with a deep sense of honour and gratitude as we gather at the historic Long March to Freedom site. This remarkable place encapsulates the spirit of resilience, courage, and sacrifice that defined the struggle for the liberation of South Africa.

Today, we come together not only to celebrate the legacy of our heroes but also to underscore the importance of preserving and promoting the Long March to Freedom as a leading South African liberation heritage monument.

As parliamentarians, you are descendants of South Africa's greatest freedom fighters and a long generational line of continuous leadership across the span of 400 years.

These icons have handed the baton over to you, and you are continuing their quest for a better life for our people. We all know the Long March to Freedom should be a place of National Pilgrimage and National Identity. A site sanctioned and given prominence by today's leadership for today's and tomorrow's generations through footfall, visitation and state occasions.

A site of national pride. It's already unique globally as the largest and best bronze sculptural liberation heritage monument anywhere in the world. But it must grow, and fulfil its destiny. As many foreign visitors have commented – were it in their country about their struggle and history, it



Cde Dali Tambo

it would be treated and funded as a National Treasure, a vital national liberation monument, a vital national building tool for true social cohesion, a national tourism attraction par excellence and a compulsory historical and cultural part of the education of our youth. We strongly believe it will one day form the epicentre of our tourist and cultural economy.

None of the 101 icons depicted in the LMTF asked for nor expected any reward for their sacrifices and commitment to freedom. They gave their brilliance, bravery and their best for us as a people. How should we reward them? One way would be to complete their sacred mission of economic and land liberation through their sacred Movement, the African National Congress, and the alliance. The other powerful way to reward them is to remember them. Renowned author Viet Tan Nguyen said,

Memory is a battlefield and monuments are built on this contested ground. They are fronts in political theatres of war; sites where vying factions negotiate history, a society's identity, and consequently its political future."

South Africa's heritage landscape is congested with monuments and built heritage related to the white historical cultures and socio-political experience used vigorously by the colonial and apartheid regimes to reinforce their ideologies of white supremacy. We need to unapologetically tell our side of the story, the story of liberation, and that is the purpose and goal of the Long March to Freedom; by creating audacious new heritage, to transform and bring balance to our heritage tourism landscape, we give it depth and infuse in public memory statues of liberty honouring those who so tirelessly fought against colonialism and apartheid.

The Long March to Freedom is special; out of all the heritage tourism sites, we are special. Will the Long March to Freedom ultimately be the greatest anti-racist, liberation heritage tourism venue in the world? Will it speak to what it was, the greatest international solidarity movement of the 20th Century? 200 or 300 years from now, will generations of South Africans and the world learn of our d



“THEY GAVE THEIR BRILLIANCE, BRAVERY AND THEIR BEST FOR US AS A PEOPLE.”

CELEBRATION OF 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF OLIVER REGINALD TAMBO'S BIRTHDAY

South Africans hold their heads up high in the knowledge that their ancestry springs from the genealogy of revolutionary giants who fought tooth and nail for them and loved them more than they loved themselves? Who knew that they would not see freedom but, through their efforts, ensured that one day we would.

We call them "Legion" for they are many. We only have 101 across 400 years of struggle. Help us, my dear comrades, give them their due support, recognition, and remembrance of our forebears, values, high morals, and example of humanity and love.

We are not run of the mill, ten to a penny, around every corner. We deserve to be taken seriously to enjoy our leadership, our Movement's and society's support because our story is your story – collectively and personally, our story is your story! If we do not enjoy that, we will close this monument.

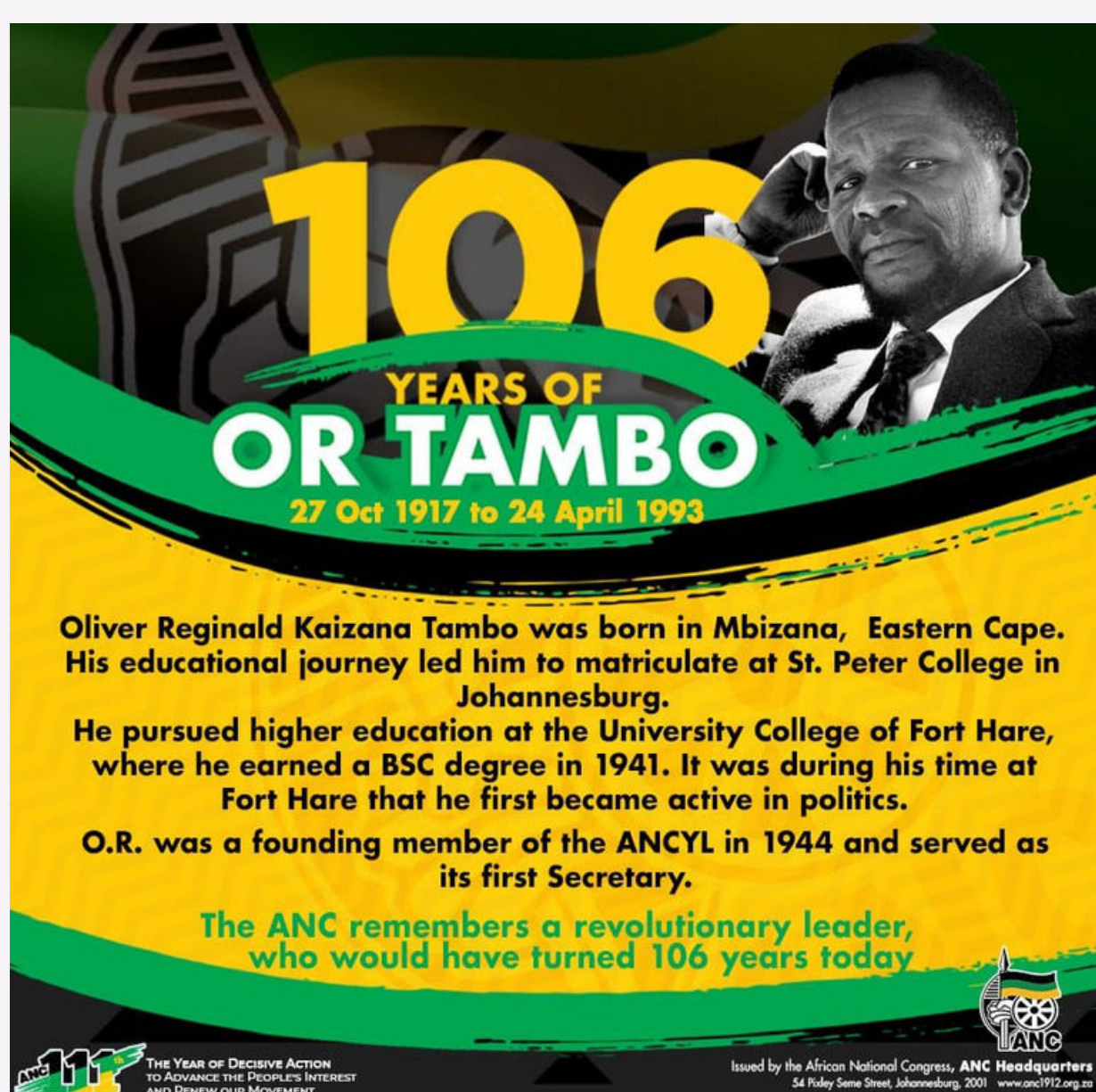


Cde Dali Tambo & ANC Chief Whip

We can not endure another four years without funding, maintenance, facilities and salaries for our dedicated staff. We call upon our leadership to decide —will we get political, social and economic support going forward, or will we be forced to our shame to shut it down? I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Whip of the governing party, the Honourable Pemmy Majodina, and the other members of Parliament who have graced us with their presence today. Your commitment to the cause of preserving our history and honouring those who fought for our freedom is a beacon of hope and a testament to the values that bind us as a nation. The Long March to Freedom is not merely a collection of statues; it is a living testament to the struggles and triumphs of our people.

Each figure stands as a silent guardian, reminding us of the sacrifices made by countless individuals who dared to dream of a free and just South Africa. It is a visual narrative that speaks to the hearts and minds of generations, a powerful symbol of our collective journey towards liberation. As we gather here, we must recognise the urgent need for government support to ensure the continued preservation and enhancement of the Long March to Freedom. It is our responsibility to ensure that the stories of those who fought for freedom are not lost to time but serve as a source of inspiration for future leaders and citizens.

I appeal to the esteemed members of Parliament, led by Honourable Pemmy Majodina, to champion the cause of the Long March to Freedom. Let us work together to secure the necessary resources and support to maintain and expand this site, ensuring that it remains a symbol of our shared history and a testament to the resilience of the South African spirit. By supporting and preserving this heritage treasure, we will ensure that their legacy lives on, inspiring generations to come.



OPENING AND WELCOMING ADDRESS TO THE CELEBRATION OF THE 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF OLIVER REGINALD TAMBO

By Chair of Caucus, Cde Seiso Mohai

Comrades and compatriots, Welcome to this auspicious occasion that marks and celebrates the 106th anniversary of the late Oliver Reginald Tambo. A tireless champion for the victory of Africa's cause, whose entire life-abiding legacy of selfless service to the people of South Africa and the African continent at large we continue to draw inspiration to.

We therefore gathered here to honour Oliver Tambo, a revolutionary democrat and progressive internationalist who championed the cause of human rights, not only in South Africa but across the globe. As such, should Oliver Tambo be alive, his voice in support and solidarity with the people of Palestine and the call for peaceful dialogue to resolve the conflict between Palestine and Israel would be the most vocal.

Furthermore, as we know from his many documented speeches and writings, Oliver Tambo would refuse to separate his life and role in the liberation struggle from the collective of his generation, the likes of Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Walter Sisulu, Lillian Ngoyi, Moses Kotane, Ruth Mompati, Mama Sophie De Bruyn, Themba Harry Gwala, Moses Mabhida, Joe Slovo, Ruth First, Frene Ginwala, Mama Winfred Madikizela-Mandela, Joe Cgabi and many others whose sacrifices have laid the foundation for the liberation of our country whose fruits we are enjoying today.

On behalf and in the name of Oliver Tambo, we salute these heroes and heroines of our struggle for their selfless service to our people and the country during the most difficult times. Moreover, Oliver Tambo would also refuse any temptation to downplay the selfless sacrifices and courageous role of the masses of our people as architects of their own future in the liberation of this country. For this, we lower our banners in his respect and memories; we equally salute the sacrifices made by our people, the

women, the workers, the youth, the religious community, the students, the death-defying combatants of Umkhonto We Sizwe, and the rural and urban poor of our people.

We thank the family of Oliver Tambo, the late Mama Adelaide and her children for their generosity in sharing a husband, a father, a grandfather, an uncle, a father-in-law and a brother with the people of South Africa and the African continent at large.

It is therefore fitting that, as global humanity continues to face multiple challenges, ranging from deepening inequality between the poor South and the rich North, geopolitical tensions and rivalries, pandemics, natural disasters, renewed upsurge of patriarchal domination in the form of Gender-Based Violence in South Africa, and the persistence of poverty, unemployment and inequality, we reaffirm the leadership values of Oliver Tambo at the cutting edge of the renewal of the African National Congress, a movement that Oliver Tambo dedicated his entire for in service of the people.

We do this cognisant of the bumpy road ahead as those who have engineered and benefitted from the weakening of this organisation of Oliver Tambo through, among other things, corruption will not accept the renewed ANC lying down. We call on all South Africans, especially the youth as the future leaders, to learn, emulate and reclaim the leadership values of this revolution



By Chair of Caucus, Cde Seiso Mohai

titan in our ongoing task of democratic renewal and consolidation.

In honour of this giant of our struggle today, we declare to the Tambo Family and the people of South Africa as the ANC under the leadership of comrade Cyril Ramaphosa, that the only price we can bet is to reaffirm the battle cry that reverberated throughout the three decades of Tambo's leadership: "Backward Never, Forward Ever, Victory is Certain!!!"



THE 9TH BRICS PARLIAMENTARY FORUM - SOUTH AFRICA

By Speaker, Cde Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula & NCOP Chair, Cde Amos Masondo

South Africa hosted the 9th BRICS Parliamentary Forum (PF) Assembly, which took place at the Emperor's Palace, Ekurhuleni in Gauteng, from the 27th to 29th September 2023. For the year 2023, South Africa assumes the BRICS Chairmanship, hence the privilege to host the 15th Heads of State Summit and the 9th BRICS PF Assembly. The BRICS Parliamentary Forum is the collaboration between the National Congress of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the Parliament of the Republic of India, the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, and the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa.

The central purpose of the BRICS PF Assembly was to reinforce and cultivate connections at the highest echelons of parliamentary chambers, committees, and groups of parliamentarians. This year's 9th BRICS PF Assembly theme is,

"Harnessing Multilateralism and Parliamentary Diplomacy to Deepen BRICS and Africa Partnership for accelerated implementation of the Africa Free-Trade Agreement."



By Speaker of the NA, Cde Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula & NCOP Chair, Cde Amos Masondo

The adoption of the declaration and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) during this Forum marked significant and transformational milestones, reflecting the united vision to strengthen relations within these nations and, importantly, with Africa, aiming to drive inclusive growth and sustainable development forward. The historic signing of the MoU was a critical testament to the commitment to consolidating the BRICS Parliamentary Forum as a hub for democratic parliaments in the Global South.

The successful hosting of the Forum emphasised South Africa and its Parliament's significant and impactful role in international dialogues and discussions.

The MoU serves as a transformative blueprint, marking a new era in institutionalising the parliamentary dimension of our cooperation.

The embrace of new members and the fortification of relations with diverse African parliamentary assemblies and national parliaments characterise fostering cooperation and shared progression. Congratulations to the new BRICS partners: The Argentine Republic, The Arab Republic of Egypt, The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, The Islamic Republic of Iran, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and The United Arab Emirates. We trust that their presence will invigorate this promising intergovernmental organisation.



THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC PROTECTOR



By Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Cde Qubudile Dyantyi

Today, as we optimistically celebrate the 60th Anniversary, we are reminded of the great sacrifices that our courageous forefathers have made in the fight against racism, colonialism and imperialism. We salute them for having laid the foundation for the unity of all Africans at home, and in the diaspora. The legacy of colonialism in Africa goes beyond its divisive impact, leaving behind extensive destruction and entrenching divisions such as national boundaries, linguistic divisions between Francophone and Anglophone countries, and exacerbating tribal conflicts. These persistent consequences continue to fuel civil unrest and political instability, perpetuating the cycle of regime change. The office of the Public Protector is essential in ensuring an effective public service that maintains a high standard of professional ethics and that government officials carry out their tasks effectively, fairly, and without corruption or prejudice. These same ethics should be applied at a higher standard to the individual of the Public Protector.



Public Protector, Kholeka Gcaleka

It further plays a critical oversight role over the government to enhance accountability and contribute to the constitutional transformation project. The credibility of the office relies on the public's trust in its ability to act without bias. The perception that the office is not morally upright or independent can erode public trust and confidence in the institution. This trust is crucial for the effectiveness of the work of the office and the overall functioning of our constitutional democracy; it is critical for maintaining the rule of law and helps maintain a fair and just society by preventing corruption, abuse of power, and other forms of misconduct within government.

The office has evolved and has been given extensive powers by our courts. This has made the office highly contested and has, at times, been susceptible to political influence. However, the section 194 inquiry has demonstrated how resilient the institution of Public Protector is with established rules, established practices and independent investigators who work with diligence. We have further learned how important it is to keep checks and balances in place to ensure that the holder of the office does not abuse their authority. The people of South Africa need the Public Protector South Africa to embody the transformational values enshrined in our Constitution. The service of this office must demonstrate loyalty to the people of South Africa, particularly the most vulnerable.

CALL ON THE YOUTH TO REGISTER TO VOTE AND VOTE FOR THE ANC

A CALL ON THE YOUTH TO REGISTER TO VOTE, AND VOTE FOR THE ANC

By Whip of the study group on Home Affairs, Cde Moleboheng Modise

In 1995, on the occasion of the first National Youth Day public holiday, President Nelson Mandela said that 'the youth, as the future of our country, have an important part to play in shaping our new democratic constitution'.

The democratic Constitution Madiba spoke of in 1995 provides for the Right to Vote. This right to vote is a product of sacrifices made by men and women of our country and, in the main, the youth of our country, who laid down their lives for the freedom we enjoy today.

A vote is our individual and collective power to determine and shape the affairs of our country. It is through the power of our vote that we can protect and deepen our democratic gains. Our vote is our voice!

However, the protection and deepening of our democracy gains require the participation of our youth in the elections. Statistics show that out of the total population of 62 million, over 20 million are youth and yet just over 8 million of the youth are registered to vote.

We are all worried about the low voter registration amongst the youth of our country!

We are urging our youth to register to vote and vote for the African National Congress!

It is important to remind the youth of our country that by not registering to vote, they deny themselves a constitutional right and the power of their votes to



By Whip of the study group on Home Affairs, Cde Moleboheng Modise

direct, shape and determine the affairs of our country. The democratic government led by the ANC continues to prioritise the youth of our country in various ways. For instance, the ANC-led government through school feeding schemes ensures that no child learn on an empty stomach. The ANC-led government is also ensuring that those who may not have money for school fees are supported through the no-fee school programmes.

In addition, the ANC-led government decided in its National Conference in 2017 on the policy of fee-free higher education.

As a result of this policy of the ANC of fee-free higher education, most of our poor students get state financial support for their studies through the National Student Financial Aid Scheme, the NSFAS.

The youth are also witness to the many schools, clinics, and dams the government has provided.

All these things and more happened

and are happening because the people of our country, through their votes, determine the kind of government they want and will address the many challenges they face.

As Madiba said years ago, with freedom comes responsibility. The youth of our country are called to take active part in the affairs of their nation. They are called to undertake the patriotic duty of registering and participating in the elections. The youth are encouraged to be active citizens and be counted in taking our country forward.

The Independent Electoral Commission, the IEC, will announce the date for voter registration in due course, and the youth are encouraged to register to vote.

In addition, the IEC provide an online platform for voter registration. The requirement to register to vote is a South African Identity Document, the ID.

The youth of our country can also visit their local IEC offices during weekdays to register to vote.

The youth can also check their registration status by sending SMSs to 32810.

To find their local IEC offices, the youth can follow this link:

<https://www.elections.org.za/pw/About-Us/Find-IEC-Local-Offices>

We conclude by reminding the youth of our country of the words of former President Thabo Mbeki when he said: "We dare not take for granted our right to vote!"

Register to Vote ANC!

PEOPLE OF PALESTINE, YOU ARE NOT ALONE

By Chairperson of Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Cde Mandla Mandela

Assalaamu alaykum and peace be with all of you.

Leadership of the resistance in Palestine and all Palestinians living under Apartheid Israel's brutal occupation, we send you greetings from Cape Town, South Africa.

We and all freedom loving people of the world stand with you as you stand in the face of the genocide being perpetrated by the Apartheid Israel occupation in Gaza and the West Bank.

We stand with you as you face the axis of evil supported by imperialism and all those who support Apartheid Israel and its war crimes, crimes against humanity, it's ethnic cleansing in Gaza and all of Occupied Palestine.

We shall overcome and the people of Palestine will be free!

The people of South Africa fought occupation for 350 years of colonialism but we liberated ourselves from the brutality of six decades of Apartheid.

The world stands in shock as Apartheid Israel obliterates Gaza and perpetrates heinous crimes against humanity.

Palestine will be free because your struggle is a just struggle.

We stand with the people of Palestine. The world stood by in silence and complicity as Apartheid Israel killed thousands of Palestinians.



Cde Mandla Mandela

We will never be silenced even as Apartheid Israel is perpetrating war crimes with the full support of the Imperialist powers in the West.

Apartheid Israel has launched its terror again on Gaza and wants to eliminate 2.2 million Palestinians from the world's largest open air prison. The resistance will continue.

A poster for the Palestine Solidarity March. It features a photo of a crowd at the top. The text reads: "PALESTINE SOLIDARITY MARCH", "FRIDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2023", "10H00 ARRIVAL AT BELGRAVE SQUARE PARK", "12H30 MASS JUMAH AND INTER-FAITH PRAYERS", "13H00 MARCH TO THE ISRAELI EMBASSY", "13H30 PICKET, MESSAGES OF SOLIDARITY AT ISRAELI EMBASSY". It also includes the meeting point: "Meeting Point: Belgrave Square Park, Jon Shoba Street, Hatfield, Tshwane" and the ANC logo. At the bottom, it says "SUPPORTED BY" followed by various logos including the South African flag, ANC, and others.

We call on all freedom loving people of the world to condemn Apartheid Israel's holocaust in Gaza and all of occupied Palestine. We must continue to intensify the struggle on all fronts until Palestine is free.

We were able bring an end to Apartheid South Africa and can assure you that through international solidarity, we will bring an end to the Zionist Apartheid State of Israel.

We call on our government which on numerous occasions has said it supports the Palestinian struggle to lead by example by calling on the Minister of Transport to cancel the flight permits of EL AL the national airline of Apartheid Israel to South Africa. Mr President Ramaphosa just as we called on the global community to cut ties with apartheid South Africa, we call on you to likewise cut ties with Apartheid Israel by closing down their embassy and sending their ambassador packing back to the Zionists State of Israel.

We call on all South Africans to add their voices in support of the Palestinian resistance, and all Palestinians living under occupation. Just like President Nelson Mandela called us to pick up arms and defend ourself against the aggressive apartheid regime of South Africa, the Palestinians have a right to resist occupation and a right to defend themselves against the Zionist State of Israel and its imperialist regimes in the West.

Free free Palestine!!