

Declaration

Of the
**5th Triennial Provincial
Conference**
Of the
**South African Democratic Teachers
Union (SADTU) Northern Cape Province**

*Held at the Department of Water Affairs Building,
Upington 16 – 18 September 2011*

The SADTU Northern Cape 5th Provincial Conference, which bring together the Provincial, Regional and Branch leadership of the Union, representing over 5,000 Educators, met under the following theme:

“Organise and Empower Education Workers to deliver Free Quality Public Education and Build Socialism”

Adopted the following declaration:

ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES

In relation to the draft 2030 Vision of SADTU

The Conference resolved to internalize and align the Provincial programmes to the five Pillars of the draft 2030 Vision as will be adopted by the forthcoming National General Council;

In doing so the conference further resolved to evaluate the extent to which the union has serviced its membership and transform education;

In evaluating the union's programmes, the Conference had to reflect on the following questions:

- *Are the members informed of the developments in education and the country at large?*
- *What role is SADTU playing in the education transformation?*
- *What role are we playing to break the cycle of poverty?*
- *Are we well equipped to respond to the social ills such as rape, alcohol and substance abuse and the effects of HIV/AIDS?*
- *Are we as teachers making a difference in the lives of our learners and the society in general?*

In relation to the Organization

- *2030 Vision* to be formally adopted in the forth coming NGC to guide us for next 20 years in pursuance of organisational renewal.
- *Membership service*: That the Union should strengthen the training of Site-Stewards on recruitment and induction of new members; That the recruitment, retention and servicing of members should be ongoing using the National Strategy; and that vulnerable sectors should be given a priority;
- *On SIHOLD and SAFRICAN*: That SIHOLD as an investment arm of the union should be strengthened so that members should begin to benefit from the proceeds of the investments; SAFRICAN should establish regional offices that will be accessible to members for purposes of processing their claims; Both organizations must provide financial support to branches for capacity building programmes;
- *Implementation of the NGC resolution on the accident cover for members on union related travelling*: We call on the NEC to fast-track the implementation of the resolution;

- *On ABET, ECD, FET and non-CS educators:* That SADTU needs to familiarize themselves with the conditions of service of such category of employees so as to service them properly;
- *Resourcing of Branch Secretaries:* That all branch secretaries should be resourced with communication tools in order to maximize the service to membership;
- *On Temporary Educators:* That we re-affirm the Congress resolution on converting the status of the temporary educators to permanent status;

In relation to Education

- *On the Teacher Laptop initiative:* To cause the department to fast-track the roll-out programme and to de-link such from the post levels;
- *On the Dinaledi programme:* The programme should be extended to all the schools and should cover all phases;
- *On the QLTC:* In order to realise the objectives of the QLTC the department must provide the necessary support materials and create an enabling environment in all the schools;
- *On ABET and ECD:* To re-affirm our position on ABET and ECD practitioners that they must be urgently integrated into the mainstream; these educators must also receive and enjoy the same benefits as other educators.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ISSUES

In relation to Socio-economic and Labour issues

The Conference resolved

- *On Health:* That the Union should intensify education and awareness programmes and encourage our members to participate in these education and awareness campaigns; To support the roll-out programme of the ARV's within the community clinics;
- *On Payment Date:* That the Union together with the Department should investigate the possibility of changing the payment date to the suitable date that will enable educators to meet their financial obligations without penalties;
- *On the Pay progression:* To bring back the automatic annual pay progression and de-link it from Teacher assessment;

POLITICAL ISSUES

In relation to the Political Tasks of the Union

The Conference resolved

- *On the ideological clarity and the COSATU 2015 Plan:* Leaders of SADTU elected in the ANC structures must be held accountable for defending the wrong tendencies in the ANC; All leaders from branch to national level must subscribe to the Communist University for them to be rooted in the Marxist-Leninist principles so as to advance the working class interest within the ANC structures; To further re-affirm our 7th National Congress resolution on Political Education;
- *On Developing the **Framework** for succession towards the 2012 ANC Conference:* The Political Commission of SADTU should develop a framework that will be presented to COSATU Political Commission for indulgence; SADTU engagement on the choice of the ANC leadership should not be based on blind loyalty but on the principle of collective leadership and should further be informed by the implementation of the Polokwane resolutions;

- *On the Unity of the Alliance:* To strengthen the relationship between the Alliance partners at Regional and local level; SADTU members should be encouraged to participate in all the Alliance activities and campaigns; The autonomy and independence of the each and every alliance partner should be respected.
- *On Service Delivery:* That SADTU must engage with the ANC at all levels in respect of service delivery issues and to avoid the repeat of service delivery protests.
- *On Fraternal Organisations and First time Voters:* To strengthen our participation and support to our Fraternal Organisations such as YCL, ANC Youth League and COSAS; To develop programmes through Curtis Nkondo institute to empower women to learn the relevance of the struggle and to teach and encourage the children to vote for the ANC;
- *On Political Education:* SADTU through COSATU must organise regular socialist forums; ANC-led Education desk in ward committees should be used as a vehicle for political education;
- *On Building the University in the Northern Cape:* That SADTU as custodian of education should actively participate and engage with all stakeholders involved in the establishment of the university in the Northern Cape;
- *Appointment of the HOD of Education:* applaud the visionary leadership of our ANC led government for appointing Mr Tshepo Pharasi as the *HEAD OF DEPARTMENT* of Education as this move will stabilise and strengthen the administration arm of government
- *On Nationalisation Debate:* Having noted the debates on the matter, we hereby re-affirm the ANC NGC resolution on the matter;
- *On the Centenary of the ANC:* That SADTU must have a dedicated programme of contributing towards the achievement of the 1million membership target of the ANC;

- *On the Cuban five:* That all the progressive forces must be galvanised in order to isolate and put pressure on the imperialists to release the Cuban five;
- *On the ill-discipline in the ANCYL:* Condemn the behaviour of some members of the ANCYL for attempting invading the Luthili House and strong action disciplinary action must be taken by provinces against those rowdy elements
- *On the Mandela Day:* SADTU should campaign for the entire involvement of her members to selflessly render their services and expertise in the community
- *Service delivery:* Councils are heavily reliant on government grants for sustainability, we must encourage our members and communities to pay for services to ensure the realisation of quality service delivery to our communities.
- Sadtu through COSATU should initiate campaign from local levels against the sharp increase of Municipality rates (such as electricity) as it denies workers access to their basic human rights

The Conference elected unopposed the following leadership collective:

Provincial Chairperson: George Masegela

Deputy Provincial Chairperson: Senzo Mphalala

Provincial Secretary: Siphon Mayongo

Deputy Provincial Secretary: Ruth Oliphant

Provincial Treasurer: Jimmy Allies

Provincial Education convener: Gaelebale (BB) Mahumapelo

Provincial Sport, Art and Culture: Bernadine Bostander

Provincial Gender Convener: Ellen Allies

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