

6TH EDITION JAN/FEB 2019

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10

POPE FRANCIS: REFLECTION POINTS TO ADDRESS SEXUAL ABUSE

Public outcry on sexual violence in the church

2019 ANC PART- MANIFESTO

*Promises by Cyril
Ramaphosa*

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Psalms 91 Verse 1, He that dwells in the secret place of the most high shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty
3 John verse 2, Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prosper.

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Announcements

Health Connect World Sector News

South Africa: The South African Department of health in the month of February, hosts a nationwide condom use campaign.

<http://www.health.gov.za/index.php/gf-tprogram/428-condom-campaign>

Crime buster Connect World Sector News

South Africa Nelspruit: former Police Officer, Loloya Skhumbuzo Mabunda appears at the Mhala Magistrate's Court today, on Sunday 24 February 2019. He was charged for attempting to steal a moto vehicle.

South Africa ANC: Spokes people Zizi Kodwa and Pule Mabe have been removed by the National Working Committee. This resolution comes after serious allegations surfaced against the. Zizi Kodwa is accused of rape while Pule Mabe faces a criminal charge.

U.S.A Chicago: Jail releases R Kelly after he finally posted bail of \$100.000. He currently awaits trial on 10 charges of aggravated sexual assault.

Finance/ economy Connect World Sector News

South Africa Cape Town: anonymous R232 131 750.69 powerBall Jackpot winner has been found. The winning ticket was sold by OK Minimark in Tygerdal, Cape Town.

Politics and unions Connect World Sector News

United Kingdom: Prime Minister Theresa May declared to allow MP's votes on the matter of postponing the UK's EU exit. She promises to hold back her agreement and all other changes currently discussed and agreed with the EU till the voting process on the 12 March.

Nigeria Election Results: Buhari wins 2019 presidential elections receives 15.2 million votes and Abubakar gets 11.3 million. The two contenders took the lead among the country's top five candidates.

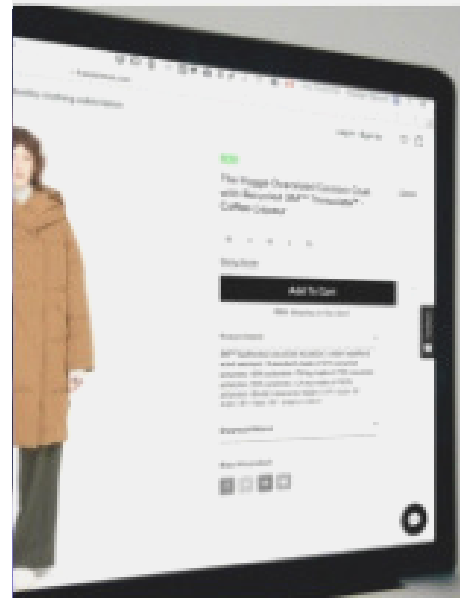
Religion/Philosophy Connect world Sector News

South Africa Johannesburg: Pastor Lukau of Alleluia Ministries International performs a suspicious miracles raising a dead men in a coffin (Brighton Mayo a Zimbabwean), Sunday 24 February 2019. In a video gone viral on social media, the pastor runs his hands through the corps and it awakens straightaway with its mouth wide open and takes a walk with its resurrected. The video has attracted much controversy with some calling the pastor a fraud, fake and more.



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ANC Part-Manifesto: Promises by Cyril Ramaphosa

Saturday 12 January 2019 20:45 GMT [CWSN] Manifesto By the Presidency



Image courtesy: Connect World TV

A government Tried and Tested for more than 24 years achieved victory and caused shame, under its new commander-in-chief Cyril Ramaphosa ahead the polls solemnly promises for another 5 year round of leadership.

SECURITY AND COMFORT FOR ALL

We will further improve the lives of millions of South Africans by working towards comprehensive social security, building houses close to work opportunities, providing affordable basic services and building reliable public transport.

- Expand access to social security benefits and increase UIF coverage
- Release state land for people to build their own homes
- Develop several major projects that brings together economic nodes, housing, smart technologies and public transportation
- Invest in safe, reliable and integrated public rail transport
- Prioritise the provision of clean water and decent, safe sanitation

Social security is a necessity for the social well-being of the people. Despite major achievements made to provide adequate social security coverage since 1994, there are those who are not covered by existing programmes, affecting those who work and those unable to work. Over the next five years, the ANC will make comprehensive social security coverage a major priority.

We will:

- Define a basket of social security benefits that all should access, with the delivery of a package of services free from administrative burdens.
- Address social grants exclusion errors by improving targeting (orphans, children, aged on farms, remote rural areas, disabilities).
- Increase UIF coverage as currently only 5% of unemployed people benefit from this Fund.
- Support child headed families through social security.
- Finalise a comprehensive policy on social security that will include low-paid workers and informal traders, as well as pregnancy and maternity benefit schemes.

While we have improved the lives of millions of South Africans through provision of housing and associated basic services, the spatial patterns of apartheid have not been addressed. Through the National Development Plan we seek to advance a coherent programme to transform human settlements and to ensure that the delivery of housing is used to restructure towns and cities and strengthen the livelihood prospects of households and overcome apartheid spatial patterns.

We will:

- Work closely with the private sector to develop major development projects that brings together economic nodes, human settlements, smart technologies and public transportation that impact on spatial transformation. These include building at least one new South Africa city of the future.

- Transform the property market to promote access to urban opportunity and social integration through access to well-located, affordable housing and decent shelter, thereby reversing urban fragmentation and highly inefficient sprawl.
- Release land at the disposal of the state for site and service to afford households the opportunity to build and own their own homes.
- Transform the composition and functioning of the property industry and accelerate legislative measures to eliminate speculative behaviour, including the establishment of a Property Sector Ombudsman.
- Improve the alignment of housing provision with other public investments and service provision, including schools and health facilities and transport networks, complementing more integrated residential, industrial and commercial development.
- Address the title deeds backlog, along with associated institutional and capacity gaps, to ensure that the transfer of title deeds move with higher speed.
- Develop a more coherent and inclusive approach to land by developing overarching principles for spatial development.
- Revise the regulations and incentives for housing and land use management.

On public transport, we will:

- Invest in rail infrastructure to ensure it is safe, reliable and integrated with other modes of public transport. Rail must be the backbone of our public transport system.
- Work with the taxi industry to transform the industry by supporting initiatives that will ensure it is safe, clean and provides a quality service.
- Support driver training and ensure industry players participate in the broader transportation agenda.
- Modernise the public transport permits to prevent corruption
- Support the roll-out of Bus Rapid Transport systems in other cities.
- Invest in public transport infrastructure.
- Support the integration of various modes of transport through a single ticketing system.
- Ensure that freight is shifted from road to rail.

Providing access to clean water for all has been the goal of the ANC since 1994 and we are proud of the progress we have made and we will continue to expand our water infrastructure. Sustainable use of our water resources and making water affordable are central to achieving this goal. While progress has been made in the provision of sanitation services, more must be done to eradicate bucket systems and pit latrines.

We will:

- Continue to prioritise roll-out and provision of water infrastructure to ensure availability of clean water to all South Africans.
- Eradicate bucket systems and pit latrines in various parts of the country.
- Review the policy on minimum free basic water to help further cushion the poor.

SAFE COMMUNITIES, SAFE LIVES

We will strengthen policing to rid our communities of all forms of crime, drugs, gangsterism and violence against women.

- Ensure police are better trained to investigate and conclude cases
- Increase the numbers and visibility of police men and women in communities
- Implement a national plan of action that addresses the causes of gender-based violence
- Equip police and courts to support survivors of gender-based violence
- Target drug syndicates through the new anti-gang units

BUILD SAFER COMMUNITIES GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Gender-based violence has reached crisis proportions. It affects every community in our country and touches the lives of most families in one way or another. Women are being violated and murdered in the worst manifestation of patriarchal relations. This is not acceptable. The ANC says the fight against gender-based violence must be intensified, and we welcome the growing, diverse number of voices that are joining the fight against gender-based violence.

The ANC believes in a multi-sectoral approach that responds to the need to step up the fight against gender-based violence and strengthen the broader interventions that address the causes and effects of such violence, particularly issues of patriarchy, economic relations and changing the way of thinking about gender relations.



We will:

- Work with all stakeholders to take forward the outcomes of the 2018 Presidential Summit on Gender-Based Violence, though, among others, a national plan of action against gender-based violence.
- Speed up educational programmes aimed at offering psychological and social support to vulnerable learners, and work with young children to change social attitudes.
- Call for stricter bail conditions for and harsher sentences in combating violence against women and children, particularly in cases of domestic violence and sexual offences.
- Capacitate and equip the police and the court system to support survivors of gender-based violence and sexual assault.
- Scale up the network of Thuthuzela Care Centres and other victim empowerment centres for a more effective response to incidents of violent sexual acts against women and children, reduction of victimisation and improved conviction rates and conclusion of cases.

High levels of crime pose a serious threat to the freedom and dignity of South Africans, with drugs, violent crime and gangsterism wreaking havoc in our communities. The causes of crime are rooted in unemployment, poverty and inequality and a comprehensive response to crime is required.

The ANC government has given national priority to crime prevention, involving all public institutions of justice and security and promoting community mobilisation and participation.

Undocumented immigration has an adverse impact on national security. We should ensure that those who come to South Africa do so legally and that the country knows what they do while they are in the country.

We will:

- Ensure that law enforcement officers are adequately trained to investigate cases to improve success rates.
- Strengthen resourcing, joint planning and budgeting across the criminal justice system, including strengthening capacity in areas of investigations and prosecutions.
- Increase police visibility in our communities by increasing the number of men and women in uniform.
- Strengthen Community Policing Forums and Community Safety Forums. Members of the communities must know their neighbours and be concerned about their lives.
- Ensure the reduction of crime, especially violence against vulnerable groups.
- Target drug syndicates through the implementation of the National Anti-Gang Strategy and the revised National Drug Master Plan.
- Work with law enforcement agencies and various organisations to fight the abuse by young people of substances like nyaope, tik, wunga, etc.
- Run national campaigns to build respect for the rule of law.
- Enact and enforce legislation to compel municipalities to regulate the location of taverns and liquor retailers away from schools and religious establishments.



- Take tough measures against undocumented immigrants involved in criminal activities in the country or in cross-border crimes, including those involved in illegal trading and selling adulterated food in townships and villages.

CAPABLE, HONEST GOVERNMENT

We will put an end to state capture, restore the integrity of public institutions and tackle corruption, while ensuring that government has the capacity, resources and people to serve citizens effectively.

- Take decisive action against state capture and corruption in public institutions and state owned enterprises
- Conduct lifestyle audits of public officials and prevent public servants from doing business with the state
- Make tender systems more transparent, efficient and credible
- Continue work to strengthen law enforcement agencies like the Hawks, Special Investigating Unit and National Prosecuting Authority
- Strengthen the oversight role of Parliament and provincial legislatures
- Support local councils to improve financial management, service provision and infrastructure building and maintenance

Corruption has negative consequences on our economy and society, impacting on the integrity of our institutions, our leaders and undermining the very moral and ethical basis of our young democracy. Ethical and moral leadership in both the public and private sector will be critical if our collective fight against corruption is to succeed.

We are committed to consolidating our resolve to crack down on corruption and state capture involving the public and private sectors, including collusion, price-fixing, tender fraud, bribery, illicit financial flows, illegal imports and misuse of tax havens. We will comprehensively fight corruption, combining both prevention and punishment.

We will actively promote a culture of integrity throughout the state, society and within our people's organisation - the ANC. We will ensure that leaders and members of the ANC and the broader movement and those entrusted with public responsibilities are uncorrupted, honest and self-disciplined with clear values who can resist moral pressures. We will not tolerate practices that harm the public interest. We will hold people accountable and those who loot public resources must face the might of the law.



KZN Councillors Workshopped On EPWP

Friday 8 February 2019 18:00 GMT [CWSN] Kesia Qulu

Photograph by Connect World TV

Public Works, Co-operative Governance (COGTA) and eThekweni Municipality host Expanded Public Works Programme EPWP Councillor Workshop for improved outputs in the fourth Phase.

At the closure of its third phase Kwazulu /Natal (KZN) commanders of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) host a seating of councillors to examine and guard principles of good councilship. Review Strategic focus, Expansion and Improvement Strategies and Roadmap for EPWP Phase four took the fore at the Durban city hall.

With passion and dedication to weed out flawed individuals and restructure systems in the EPWP as earlier called for by the Public works Minister Thulas Nxesi, KZN MEC for Public Works Ravi Pillay, MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube and Cllr Mayor Zandile Gumede took to stage addressing government officials and programme facilitators on ethical practice and service delivery associated with the programme to ensure a transparent and lawful recruitment process for applicants and overall good governance.

The country's beacon of hope for poverty alleviation and basic income for under privileged homes programme ends its third phase and ushers-in the fourth with new and improves methods of monitoring and supervision to especially cause an end to the threatening issues of ghost workers. "This means that money that is supposed to be paying someone who is doing a piece of work has been taken out and gone into a few people's pockets. This is when you talk of the practical manifesto of ghost workers. I am pleased that the city is undertaking a systematic approach to match the EPWP workers on the

payroll to the names and warm bodies that are supposed to be there", said MEC Pillay.

"During her speech as she rebuked criminal tendencies and listing mitigation strategies to be implemented within the imminent new phase of the programme, MEC Dube-Ncube said: "We will now have many monitors who will be on the lookout to see whether people under this programme are actually doing their job, so in case where there are those not doing their jobs and just seating at home and collecting a pay cheque, they are kicked out of the programme, and people who are serious about working and advancing are installed."

Progress reporting and challenges took spotlight in the bid to improve proper governance and job creation. Officials from the tripartite bodies made specialized presentations on various core elements of the processes that when refined deliver national objectives. Among several, Nokwanda Dube DD-EPWP Coordinating Public Works overview communicated the terms: 'Full-time equivalent being a determining strategy that measures the longevity of beneficiaries employed in the programme in the actual 230 annual workable days. While Ministerial determination remains the guide for the EPWP implementation entailing eg: beneficiary contractual directives such as duration, conditions and remuneration. Adherence to the above outlines will bring an end to the misunderstood objectives of the programme.

Since 2004 through, the Expanded Public Works EPWP reached hearts, changed lives and given bread and butter through work opportunities and training to more than 6 million beneficiaries nationally and millions in Kwazulu/Natal (KZN). Infrastructure, non-state, environment culture and social are sectors of impact and importance for the programme further provides training and enterprise developmental supports. More than 6.5 million jobs nationally and provincially have been provided to citizens to date



The state capture inquiry: Bosasa the Captor

Monday 17 December 2018 15:30 GMT [CWSN] Kesia Qulu

Photograph by iOL

Agrizzi claims over 80 officials were bought as South Africa's trusted state leaders sold their souls to the Bosasa fortune at the cost of justice and the poor.

Under the leadership of President Cyril Ramaphosa the state special enquiry commission lead by chief Justice Zondo continues to unpack. Angelo Agrizzi pops the seal and patiently leaks details that confirm what has been suspect to the messes for years.

In his testimony, he divulges sophisticates sequences of corruption which ensured continual money

laundering to the ANC and capture for the Bosasa entity.

The who to how Grizzly corruption babble song continues bombshell drops: How Former president Jacob Zuma received a 300 thousand stipend to control prosecutors, how Bosasa 1.8 million paid the ANC's North West election campaign five years ago, how the Department of Social Economic Development paid Bosasa for a service whose proceeds were paid to the ANC for its campaign, how former president Jacob Zuma's 72nd birth day cake was bought by Bosasa,

How Jumbo Liquor was the Bosasa money laundering tool through fake invoices for goods never purchased nor delivered with an unnamed agent who benefitted a 5 to 7% commission in the transaction, how the late National Union of Mineworkers Jackson Mafika took a bribe from Bosasa, how Minister Nomvula Monkonyana received a generous Christmas list baring: high quality whiskey, 200 kilograms of beef, 8 lambs and 40 cases of beer, how Bosasa employees were paid for silence, how 15K groceries to Simon Mofokeng Secretary General Chemicals, Energy, Paper, Print, Wood and Workers (Ceppawu) were used to secure Bosasa a Sasol contract in 1999.

The ex-Bosasa Chief Executive Officer names confirms a meeting in Pretoria's Sheraton Hotel between himself and former South African Airways Chief Dudu Miyeni where he gained access into Confidential National Prosecuting Authority file, he divulged the debt and control of the entity's hand into even decision, which affects inmates in the correctional facility he says, prisoners had to pay cash for food and cash and were denied private cell phone calls and had to use pay as you go phones a cash avenue for Bosasa, how OR Tambo and SAPO employees received money and gifts, how they looted from the Youth Center in North West to give the ANC, created ghost employees in the company and paid monthly bribes and kickbacks.

The Judicial Commission hot seat has since its formation called various public sector witnesses to testify. Former GCIS CEO Themba Maseko, former Deputy Finance Minister Mcebisi Jonas, ANC MP Vytjie Mentor. Fikile Mbalula, Phumla Williams former acting CEO of Government Communication and Information System, Advocate Ngoako Rama Minister of the DPISA, Jimmy Mzwanele Manyi former government spokesperson, Cheryl Carolus, former Airways Board Chairperson.

The State Capture Commission mission and objectives

As ordered in the north Gauteng High Court 14 December 2017 judgement and recommended by the former public protector Thuli Madonsela 2016 state of capture release, that a special commission of enquiry into the state capture aimed at investigating alleged corruption by public sector that rendered the country vulnerable be formed. On 23 January 2018 the then president Jacob Zuma, instituted it and Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng handed its chieftaincy to Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo.

The Commission of Inquiry into the state capture is a power house panel of six professionals who are doyen and expert minds. Khotso de Wee, Acting Secretary-General in the office of the Chief Justice, Advocates Paul Pretorius, Thandi Norman, Leah Gcabashe, Isaac and Vincent Maleka





Pope Francis: Reflection Points to address Sexually Abused

Friday 22 February 2019 15:55 GMT [CWSN] Kesia Qulu

The public outcry on sexual violence in the church called for an unprecedented summit of approximately 200 Bishops and religious leaders gathered in Vatican before Pope Francis for permanent solutions on the ongoing Clergy sexual abuse. For decades both men and women have silently fallen victim to the lustful desires of Priests and Bishops who sexually defiled many lives and go unpunished. 2019's February month of love on Thursday 21st saw the handing of a 21 "reflection points" document by Pope Francis to all participants. With each point several mitigation strategies are suggested as measures which can be implemented to ensure immediate protective action and remedy.

The cries of the dead and alive were articulated through in the efforts to bring about change. The voice of Juan Carl Cruz victim of predator Priest Chilean said: "Raping a child has been a crime in the first century, in the middle ages, and now and in future.

I don't see any excuse to not change radically, because the church is on borrowed time right now."

Herewith "Reflection points" 1 to 21:

- To prepare a practical handbook indicating the steps to be taken by authorities at key moments when a case emerges.
- To equip oneself with listening structures that include trained and expert people who can initially discern the cases of the alleged victims.
- Establish the criteria for the direct involvement of the bishop or of the religious superior.
- Implement shared procedures for the examination of the charges, the protection of the victims and the right of defence of the accused.
- Inform the civil authorities and the higher ecclesiastical authorities in compliance with civil and canonical norms.

"Observe the traditional principals of proportionality of punishment with respect to the crime committed."

- Make a periodic review of protocols and norms to safeguard a protected environment for minors in all pastoral structures: protocol and norms based on the integrated principals of justice and charity so that the action of the church in this matter is in conformity with her mission.
- Establish specific protocol for handling accusations against Bishops.
- Accompany, protect and treat victims, offering them all the necessary for a complete recovery.
- Increase awareness of the causes and consequences of sexual abuse through ongoing formation initiatives of Bishops, religion superior, clerics and pastoral workers.
- Prepare pathways of pastoral care for communities injured by abuse and penitential and recovery routes for the perpetrators.
- To consolidate the collaboration with all people of good will and with the operators of mess media in order to recognize and discern real cases from false ones and accusations of slander, avoiding rancor and insinuations defamation (cfr. Pope Francis's address to the Roman Curia, 21 December 2018)
- To raise the minimum age for marriage to sixteen years.
- Establish provisions that regulate and facilitate the participation of lay experts in investigations and in the different degree of judgement of canonical processes concerning sexual and / or power abuse.
- The rights to defence: the principal of natural and canon law of presumption of innocence must be also be safeguarded until the guilt of the accused is proven. Therefore, it is necessary to prevent the lists of the accused being published, even by the dioceses, before the preliminary investigation and the definitive condemnation.
- Observe the traditional principals of proportionality of punishment with respect to the crime committed. To decide that's priests and bishops guilt of sexual abuse of minors leave the public ministry.
- Introduce rules concerning seminarians and candidates for the priesthood or religious life. Be sure that there are programs of initial and ongoing formation to help them develop their human, spiritual and psychosexual maturity, as well as their interpersonal relationships and public ministry
- Be sure to have psychological evaluations by qualified and accredited experts for candidates for the priesthood and consecrated life.
- Establish norms governing the transfer of a seminarian or religious aspirant from one seminarian to another.
- Formulate mandatory codes of conduct for all clerics, religious, service personnel and volunteers to outline appropriate boundaries in personal relationships. Be specific about the necessary requirements for staff and volunteers and check their criminal record.
- Explain all information and data on the dangers of abuse and its effects, how to recognise signs of abuse and how to report suspected sexual abuse. All this must take place in collaboration with parents, teachers, professionals and civil authorities.
- When it has not yet been in place, establish a group easily accessible for victims who want to report any crimes. Such an organization should have a certain autonomy with respect to the local ecclesiastical authority and include expert persons (clerics and laity) who know how to express the church's attention to those who have been offended by improper attitudes on the part of clerics



IPCC Working Group II: Climate Change

Monday 21 January 2019 18:45 GMT [CWSN] Kesia Qulu

Photograph by The Clarion

According to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) South Africa is most affected by global rising temperatures thus requiring immediate investigative interventions in order to measure for accurate effects.

The Durban International Convention Centre was home to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) SR1.5 Special Report in October 2018, whose findings affirm to state arms, academics and industry professionals that global temperatures must be controlled and at all cost limited to 1.5C°. Democratic Alliance (DA) Deputy General, Dr Tsakani Ngomane spoke elaborately on the effects of dangerously high temperatures and in her speech hits the agriculture nerve pointing out that such high temperature lead to the death of livestock: "Further to the North, over Botswana, temperatures are rising at a rate of about 3C° per century – Botswana is in fact one of the regions with the highest rate of temperature increase in the entire southern hemisphere", she said.

Industry experts say South Africa is around 2C° higher than the previous Century. Human health, water security, agriculture and other areas of existence and livelihood are at threat. For a few days, delegates caucused on inclusive solutions which can be implemented and include community partnerships as well. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC is an assembly of more than 250 members from around the globe.

In an interview with Connect World TV, Dr Hoesung Lee- Chair of the IPCC Working Group II SR1.5 mind of the document is explained: "The message from the report is very clear that every degree of warming matters greatly therefore every action by all persons in the globe matters greatly. We as IPCC are very much keen on engaging all of the stakeholders in understanding of the severity of the climate change problems as well as the importance of taking early action to emulate these problems."

Steps you can take to reduce climate change:

Plant Trees

Turn off- all appliances when they're not in use

Replace domestic and electrical equipment with energy efficient

Insulate your dwelling space

Reduce meat and dairy product consumption

Take a train instead of a flight

Minimize trips you take to the shop by planning ahead instead

Get involved in the fight against climate change

Switch to electric vehicles

Use renewable energy

Have less meat





Image Courtesy: The Herald

Love: All Trusting and Unprotected Sex

Wednesday 21 November 2018 09:28GMT [CWSN]

Lwazi Hlangu Student

Picture Courtesy: Official Logo

It's Valentine's Day when love through the sexual hormone and organs find more attention from men and women around the world, calls and luring eyes set the tone with flowers.

Love is the most powerful emotional drive in the universe, which existence and control between a man and a woman triggers strong and often uncontrollable sexual mating desires often referred to as: "Attraction". Under this overwhelming feeling, parties especially women, lose their logic and entire selves in the other and allow the ruling emotion to control every sphere of their life. Career and Family often suffer most isolation and rejection during this time as passion through body and mind summon ones physical self for pleasure, stress reduction and reproduction purposes.

So, I struck a conversation with my friend over a well-deserving good cup of coffee overlooking the sea at Durban's North Beach, on a question: Which 'contraceptive' do you use my friend and prefer? None my darling and never have she replies.

which 'contraceptive' do you use my friend and prefer? None my darling and never have she replies. "I'm on DEPO and would rather not have sex if I must use a condom, it takes the pleasure right out of it. Sex between two people who trust each other is bonding when unprotected, though he leaves a part of himself inside you every time." Well at this time, I'm nodding away at a loss for words seeing how anyone can be as gullible as her in this day and age but I spared her my real thoughts as she was undergoing quiet a trying time.

Pretty much every adult has experienced this particular natural pleasure of life we call: Unprotected Sex and through it some conceived and became mothers, while others contract incurable disease and Sexually Transmissible Infections (STI). Without sounding like a neurotic or putting a damper on one life's greatest pleasure, young people hit the streets on Valentine's Days, other days alike and in general with no condoms in their pockets, or pregnancy preventative measures and let it all hang out in the name of love to a significant other who's sexing more than one. Some women and men are lucky to contract nothing from an unprotected multi-partner sexual relationship. According to UNAID 39.9 million people are living with HIV/AIDS and 1.8 million children worldwide and that a majority of these children were infected by their mothers during breastfeeding. There is no arguing that this lackadaisical populous of people account for a reasonable number of people living with HIV.



Deaths at DUT in 2019

Monday 11 January 2019 18:45 GMT [CWSN] Kesia Qulu

Image courtesy: Doctor Ngcobo / African News Agency (ANA)

A dark shade of death through violence and bloodshed ushers the Durban University of Technology in to its 2019 Academic Year.

The Durban University of Technology mourns the loss of third-year student, Mlungisi Madonsela and Lecturer Dr Euvette Taylor a registered homeopath, who both died in separate, unlinked occasions and circumstances yet shared the instrument of violence as culprit.

The story told by the sequence of events, witnesses and the status of both cases as declared by Law Enforcement report the reality of uncontrollable violence, brutality and altogether a life threatening habitat for both learners and personnel.

During a Province-wide free education demanding protest by students at the Durban University of Technology Tuesday, 5, it is said that “peace” within the protest as constitutionally mandated, left the room making way for a deadly confrontation between students, security and staff. Students and bystanders claim that a security guard from a private company pulled out his gun and shot at them, the gun and bullet which struck the abdominal of Mlungisi Madonsela and left him for dead at city hospital. Police has since opened a murder and public violence case against the DUT student.

Spokesperson Colonel Mbhele said about 30 students threw stones at the administration building on Tuesday where they injured one staff member and a security guard. “From there they proceeded to Gates 3, 4 and 5 and did the same thing.”

The faculty of Health Sciences at University through another violence, loses a successful homeopath, the mail and guardian’s 2017 top 200 young South Africans title holder. Much speculation lingers the streets as to the cause which cut short the life of lecturer, Dr Euvette Taylor. Some students say he was stabbed, while some say he was suffocated to death due to the strong smell of gas present in his room at the time.

Colonel Mbhele, the official voice of the Police in the City of Durban confirmed that: “A 30-year-old male was found dead in his room as the campus with assault wounds. A case of Murder was opened at the Berea police station. His VW Amarok Bakkie was found abandoned in Umlazi”.

Eskom: Stage 3 load-shedding to Insolvency

FRIDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2019 17:00 GMT [CWSN] KESIA QULU

Corruption, mismanagement, fraud and state capture has brought darkness to S.A and plunged the public owned utility into a R420 billion debt.

South Africans have since the year 2019 began experienced stages 1, 2, and 3 load- shedding which meant lights out for longer periods at a time.

Eskom reports reveal a scary bucket list of culprits behind the severe lack of service deliver and downfall of Africa's biggest utility company, whose failure has in many ways affected the livelihood of households and in some instances caused near death experiences due to powerless streetlights among others.

The public has through media in recent times come to learn that ;aging fleets which are over 35 years and low quality maintenance causing frequent plant breakdowns, coal shortage, Corruption, huge debts by municipalities, inability to generate sufficient sales and altogether bad management are at blame.



It seems that the decline of the parastatal has been looming as far back as the 90s when the Eskom cry for help was ignored. Lack of action ushered in all the country's current state of electricity disruptions. "The root course goes back to the late 90s when Eskom needed to make decisions on building new stations by 1999 at the latest, to meet demand by 2007 but was not allowed to. This meant that the final investment decision could only be taken in December 2006 which was too late. This was later exacerbated by delay in the construction of Medupi and Kusile plants. It should also be noted that one of the key reasons for the delays was an accelerated design period as a result of the late decision and the subsequent over-optimistic expectations on delivery dates." Said Brad Ross-Jones Manager in the General Group in his Eskom's performance presentation to National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA).

"Briefing the Private Enterprise portfolio Committee on Wednesday, director general Thuto Shomang said," Default is threatening the economy. The number of employees increased from 32 000 in 2007 to 48 000 in 2018 with associated costs growing from R9. 5billion to R29.5 billion over the period." Eskom claims 15% of the entire state debt and is said to be technically insolvent and facing closure by April 2019.

President Cyril Ramaphosa's rescue and long-term sustainability solution entails the de-bundling of the state entity in to three parts. Ramaphosa gave assurance that Eskom would remain 100 percent state owned. His decision has faced much disapproval and criticism by COSATU and opposition parties.

Ramaphosa has established a special cabinet task-team to deal with the power utility crises. The appointed members of the team are ; Deputy President David Mabuza, Public Enterprise Minister Pravin Gordhan, Energy Minister Jeff Radebe, Transport Minister Bheki Cele and state security Minister Dipuo Letsatsi-Duba.



Nigeria elections: Vote rigging and violence

Saturday 23 February 2019 19:00 GMT [CWSN]

Kesia Qulu

Image courtesy: twitter

Bloodshed in the South, gunfire in the North-East and further chaos throughout the country where the portion of citizens as reports of technical challenges and vote rigging surface.

A presidential and parliamentary week long-delayed elections finally held on Saturday 23. At the crack of dawn, voters took to the polls to make their mark against their preferred presidential candidate. Around 120 000 stations were opened from 7 am.

Situation room on a Twitter group of independent election monitors said: "16 deaths have been recorded across 8 states. Disruption of voting, ballot boxes, and papers set ablaze by political thugs in Lagos." While Analysts SBM Intelligence reported a total of 233 people were killed in 67 separate election violence associated events.

In an interview, Police Spokesperson Nnamdi Omoni said some criminals dressed in military clothing came into voting stations in the Okrika area and confiscated voting materials. "Police have moved in to restore order in Okrika and INEC (Independent National Electoral Commission) is making efforts to ensure voters are not disenfranchised in the area, he said.

Buhari 76-year-old Nigeria's current seating president, former army general and businessmen who took rains from Good Luck Jonathan 4 years back, won the hearts of voters through the promise of 10 million jobs, infrastructure, and corruption eradication. However, the rise of living and authoritarianism charges labeled against him are said to threaten his second win.

Challenger Atiku Abubakar 72-year-old for vice president of Nigeria in-between 1999-2007 and businessman campaign declared to privatize the leviathan state-run oil firm in order to grow the economy and raise the Naira currency and put an end to multi-exchange rates. AFP reports that officials in Port Harcourt, have begun counting votes.

S.A Matric Class of 2019: The DBE and IEB narrative

Tuesday 15 January 2019 17:45 GMT [CWSN]

Kesia Qulu

Top achievers from the matric class of 2018 on stage. Image Courtesy: Kayleen Morgan/EWN



Both Department of Basic Education (DBE) and the Independent Examination Board (IEB) celebrate overall higher performance achievement by matric class of 2018, compared to the year 2017. In Johannesburg Thursday 3 January 2019, Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga with zeal and pride delivered a well anticipated report that her matric class of 2018 achieved an overall pass rate of 78.2% greater than 2017's 75.1 improved from 72.5% by class of 2016. She outlined that for eight years the South African Class of Matric passed above the 70% threshold.

From both Full-Time and Part-Time 790,843 candidates successfully wrote the 147 set of question papers in the 2018 national exams. She said the country's near 7,000 examination centres were incapitated with 8 million printed question papers, 7.6 million scripts, supervised by 65,000 invigilators. 141 marking centres were secured and 41,000 markers appointed for the validation of scripts.

Provincial top achievers: above 80% were led by Gauteng at 87.9%, Free State at 87.5% right behind by a few points, the Western Cape at 81.5% and the North West at 81.1.

Provincial Underachievers: below top achievers and in the seventies, Mpumalanaga at 79%, Kwazulu/Natal at 76.2%, Northern Cape 73.3%, Eastern Cape 70.6% while the province of Limpopo came in lower than its counterparts at 69.4% an improvement from its 2017 overall pass.

The Independent Education Board (IEB) reported from a private assessment agency front, its 98.92% class of 2018 achievement, a few points higher than the 98.76% overall pass reported in the previous year. CEO Anne Oberholzer said 90.65% qualified for entry into a degree which is an upclime from last year's 88.5%.



27 February 2019 (Geneva, Switzerland) – Berlin is the host city of the 11th IAS Conference on HIV Science (IAS 2021), the International AIDS Society (IAS) announced today. The city hosted the 9th International AIDS Conference in 1993, but this is the first time that it will host the IAS Conference on HIV Science.

IAS 2021 will take place at Messe Berlin on 18-21 July 2021. It is expected to convene 6,000 scientists, clinicians, public health experts and community leaders from over 140 countries.

“HIV remains an important issue on our national and international agenda,” Germany’s Federal Minister of Health, Jens Spahn, said. “To further reduce the spread of HIV, we have made HIV self-testing widely available in Germany and will pass a bill to provide PrEP prescriptions free of charge for people with substantial risk of infection.

“further research, concerted efforts and innovations are needed to end AIDS by 2030. We will therefore continue to invest in HIV research to find a vaccination and cure for HIV, and

we are delighted that the IAS Conference on HIV Science in 2021 will bring together the renowned scientific community in Berlin to share state-of-the-art knowledge that contributes to preventing new HIV infections and to improving the lives of people living with HIV.”

Germany is highly regarded for its leadership in HIV research and its capital is also home to the first and only reported case of a sterilizing cure for HIV, commonly known as the “Berlin patient”. German doctor Gero Hütter from the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin treated Timothy Ray Brown, an HIV-positive man, with acute myeloid leukaemia. Hütter led the process of a bone marrow transplant of haematopoietic stem cells from a naturally HIV-resistant donor, and Brown has continued to be free of readily detectable virus in the absence of therapy for 12 years. This case continues to serve as a scientific landmark suggesting that HIV infection might one day be curable.

“It is the evidence-based approaches that help us tackle the most complicated health challenges,” IAS President-Elect Adeeba Kamarulzaman, who will be the IAS President in 2021, said.

Berlin to host 11th IAS Conference on HIV Science in 2021

*Wednesday 27 February 2019 22:30GMT [CWSN]
The International Aids Society*



Type two diabetes patients can finally say goodbye to the daily dose of insulin injection and pop a pill instead, thanks to the MIT research team.

The team of scientists have successfully designed a tiny pill the size of a blue berry fruit whose content is a needle made of compressed insulin that slowly releases from the time it makes impact with the stomach. The pill was intelligently designed to avoid as much drug contact with the interior of the stomach. The insulin inside the pill is almost 100 free-dry and compressed internally with a needle latched to a compressed spring held in position by a disk composed of sugar. When the user swallows the drug water inside the stomach, it melts-down the sugar disk which then releases the spring and causing the needle to be injected on the stomach wall.

The system behind the pill ensures that the pill not only enjoys safe landing in the stomach but that the needle finds and connects with the stomach lining. Due to absence of pain receptors in the stomach wall, researchers are confident that patients will experience no pain.

This innovative science meets technology engineering to normalize the lives and bring hope to hundreds of people around the world who live burdened by daily insulin injection shots, which can be a deterrent in the patients' daily routine and lifestyle. David H. Koch Institute Professor, member of MTI's Koch Institutes for integrative Cancer Research and senior author of the study Robert Langer said: "We are really hopeful that this new type of capsule could someday help diabetic patients and perhaps anyone who requires therapies that can now only be given by injections or infusion."

I think the scientists made an important breakthrough with the new system that will work from within the body than getting insulin injections repeatedly that hurt you physically each time you use them. As an insulin user for years, I am grateful to the scientists for designing a lifesaving system, said Bikuma.

Insulin Pill technology Revolution

Thursday 14 February 2019 22:30 GMT [CWSN] Kesia Qulu



Photo cred: medgadget

ACTIVITIES OF SECRETARY-GENERAL IN ETHIOPIA, 8-11 FEBRUARY

Wednesday 13 February 2019 15:00 GMT [CWSN] The UNWOMEN Media Office

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres arrived in Addis Ababa from New York on Friday evening, 8 February.

On Saturday, the Secretary-General met with Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chair of the African Union Commission. They jointly chaired a meeting of the Commissioners of the African Union and senior officials from the United Nations Secretariat.

Mr. Guterres and Mr. Mahamat then held a press encounter. The Secretary General said that strategic cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations is a fundamental asset for the work of the United Nations in the world.

Pointing to recent positive political movements and the recent peaceful elections in Madagascar and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Secretary-General said winds of hope are blowing across Africa. "I believe", he added, that "Africa is becoming an example, an example where it is possible to solve conflicts and it is possible to prevent conflicts."

The Secretary-General then visited the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and held a town-hall meeting with staff. While there, the Secretary-General met with a number of girls who were participating in a project, the African Girls Can CODE Initiative, which is a programme of UN-Women and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The four-year programme is designed to equip young girls with digital literacy, coding and personal development skills. The Secretary-General encouraged the girls to continue with their scientific education.

Back at the African Union, the Secretary-General met with Prime Minister Erna Solberg of Norway. The Secretary-General and the Prime Minister discussed a range of issues of mutual concern, including multilateralism, climate-related issues, cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union as well as sports and development.

During the day, the Secretary-General had bilateral meetings with the outgoing Chair of the African Union, President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, and the incoming Chair,



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

President Abdel Fattah al Sisi of Egypt. He also met with Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed Farmajo, President of Somalia; Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, President of Burkina Faso; and Joseph Dion Ngute, Prime Minister of Cameroon.

Back at the hotel, the Secretary-General delivered remarks at the Africa Leadership Meeting on Investing in Health, hosted by President Kagame. Investments in health, and more broadly, in the continent's human capital, are among the best steps we can take to ensure the success of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Mr. Guterres told the gathered leaders. (See Press Release SG/SM/19458.).

He called for expanding the fiscal space for health and reducing fragmentation of support from donors. "I call on all partners to ensure successful replenishments of the multilateral global health financing mechanisms," the Secretary-General added.

During that day, he conducted interviews with the BBC World Service and France 24. On Saturday evening, he attended a gala dinner hosted by Abiy Ahmed Ali, Prime Minister of Ethiopia.

On Sunday morning, at African Union headquarters, the Secretary-General had a series of bilateral meetings: Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo; Hage Geingob,

President of Namibia; Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of Zambia; Béji Caïd Essebsi, President of Tunisia; and Faustin Archange Touadera, President of the Central African Republic.

The Secretary-General then joined the Heads of State and Government of the African Union at the unveiling of a statue of the late Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie I.

In remarks delivered on Sunday at the opening session of the thirty-second Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, whose theme was "Year of the Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa - Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacements", the Secretary-General underscored his determination to forge ever closer ties between the United Nations and the African Union. "Indeed, there has been a quantum leap in our strategic cooperation with the African Union," he said. (See Press Release SG/SM/19459.)

The Secretary-General saluted Africa's inspirational leadership in finding durable solutions to forced displacement. Africa has a gold standard for solidarity with refugees and internally displaced people, he said. He outlined the shared agenda of the United Nations and the African Union on issues relating to peace and security, development and climate change.

Africa's tourism Indaba 2019 date brought forward

Wednesday 13 February 2019 15:00 GMT [CWSN]
The Africa's Tourism Indaba Media Team



Picture Courtesy: KZN Department of Education

The 2019 Africa's Travel Indaba will take place from 02-04 May 2019 at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre in Durban.

This means that Indaba has been brought forward by four days. Last week, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced in his State Of the Nation Address (SONA) that the national election will take place on 08 May 2019. This would have coincided with Indaba.

A task team was set up by the CEO of South African Tourism (SA Tourism), Sisa Ntshona to explore all available options and it was decided that moving Indaba forward was the best possible option.

The Task Team is comprised of representatives of the following organisations:

SA Tourism

Department of Tourism

Durban ICC

Tourism KZN

Tourism Business Council of South Africa (TBCSA)

eThekweni

Tourism Business Council of South Africa (TBCSA)
eThekweni

The task team took into account various factors and permutations in reaching the new date.

The national election is the cornerstone of our democracy and is a celebration of our freedom in South Africa, says Ntshona.

"It's an important date and occasion for all South Africans and we need to acknowledge and respect the date."

At the same time, I must express my heartfelt gratitude to the Tourism Industry for their understanding of the situation, I have received many calls, emails and texts with advice and support. I am really impressed to experience how the tourism sector gets together. I also want to thank the Indaba Organising Committee involved with Indaba – they are: Tourism KwaZulu Natal, ICC and eThekweni (Durban Tourism) – for being accommodating with regards to the change, added Ntshona.

From a Tourism Business Council of South Africa (TBCSA) perspective, we presented comprehensive views of the sector to the task team and ultimately the key thing for us was to get a new date as quickly as possible, commented Tshifhiwa Tshivhengwa, CEO at TBCSA.

"We will now work with all our trade partners to ensure that there is smooth transition into the new date as many would've had plans in place already for the previous date. We still have a key role to play in achieving Indaba's objectives of selling South Africa and the continent to the rest of the world."

Indaba is the African continent's biggest travel exhibition show.

Last year over 7 000 delegates attended from 80 countries.

Registrations for buyers and exhibitors are still open.

For more information, visit: www.indaba-southafrica.co.za

The United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies

MEDIA ADVISORY

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ITU prepares for World Radiocommunication Conference 2019

Virtual press briefing on 28 February 2019, 13:00

ITU presents outcomes from preparatory meetings for the World Radiocommunication Conference 2019

Monday 25 February 2019 16:30 GMT [CWSN] The ITU Media office

Geneva, 25 February 2019 – 2019 will see one of ITU's most important meetings: The World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-19), to be held in Sharm el-Sheikh from 28 October to 22 November 2019.

World Radiocommunication Conferences, held every three to four years, are mandated to review and, where necessary, revise the ITU Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum as well as satellite orbits.

At WRC-19, ITU's 193 Member States will discuss a range of issues, such as the allocation of new frequency bands for 5G (IMT-2020), high-altitude platform stations (HAPS), regulatory actions to support the use of new and enhanced technologies in satellite applications, maritime and aeronautical services, as well as for intelligent transport systems.

To help prepare for the forthcoming WRC-19 the 2nd session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM19-2) has been meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, from 18 to 28 February to collate the technical studies related to each WRC-19 agenda item and clarify the various options for WRC-19 to consider.

WHAT: Main issues for consideration at the World Radiocommunication Conference 2019.

WHEN: 28 February 2019, 13:00 – 13:45 (CET)

WHERE: Centre International de Conférence de Genève (CICG), Room 18, Rue Varembé, Geneva, CH-1211, Switzerland. Remote participation is available. Click below for information.

WHY: ITU's 193 Member States and private sector members have concluded the preparatory studies on the regulatory, technical, operational and procedural aspects of all the topics and issues on the agenda of the ITU World Radio Communication Conference (WRC-19), Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, 28 October -22 November 2019.

This information will facilitate the preparation of proposals by ITU Member States to WRC-19 and help explain the complex issues on the agenda.

WHO: Mr Khalid Al-Awadi (United Arab Emirates), Chairman of CPM19-2, and Mr Mario Maniewicz, Director of the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau

Sign up for the Bonitas Comrades Webinar

Wednesday 20 February 2019 18:00 GMT [CWSN] The Comrades Marathon Media Team



Picture: Bonitas.co.za

Sign up for the Bonitas Comrades Webinar at:
www.comrades.com

Comrades Marathon runners who have been unable to attend the Bonitas Comrades roadshows can access and be part of the interactive online training seminars hosted by the Official Comrades Coach, Lindsey Parry, courtesy of Bonitas Medical Fund.

With Comrades training season upon us, the Comrades Marathon Association (CMA) has implemented a series of online seminars, covering various topics, to get athletes in South Africa and across the world race-ready for the 94th edition of The Ultimate Human Race.

Comrades Coach, Lindsey Parry has urged runners to click through to the Comrades Marathon website: <http://www.comrades.com/events/webinars> and sign up for the free Bonitas Comrades webinars.

Coach Parry says, "We encourage athletes to register for these seminars as they will provide a step by step guide to help you prepare properly for the race, avoid the common causes of injury and give runners an opportunity to ask questions from the experts."

The next webinar will be hosted on Monday, 25 February 2019, covering the following topics:

- 15 Weeks to race day – Now what?
- Where you should be right now?
- Is seeding important?
- Why separate marathons and ultras by 3 weeks?
- What you need to do for the next 4 weeks?

Subsequent webinars have been scheduled for:

- Monday, 25 March 2019
- Monday, 29 April 2019
- Monday, 27 May 2019

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2019 DA Part-Manifesto: One job in every home by Mmusi Maimane

Monday 25 February 2019 18:45 GMT [CWSN] The DA Media Office

South Africa's oppositional party promises to eradicate corruption and provide employment in each home

"If we can put at least one job in every home, it will completely transform these homes. The freedom and dignity that an income brings is hard to describe to someone who has never had to worry about food."
"A job in every home will mean that no one has to go hungry, ever again. That is how we start to turn houses into homes."

"I want people to own their land and to own their homes because property ownership is everything. It allows you to borrow money against the property, it allows you to pass it on to your children in your will, and it allows you to sell it if you so choose."

"Our police service will be a well-trained, properly equipped and highly motivated crime-fighting unit. Only the best professionals will lead it and the days of deployed cadres filling top positions will be gone for good."



PhotoCred: The Citizen

We will rebuild our economy by maximising the sectors that are key to job creation – sectors like Manufacturing, Agriculture and Tourism. We will then pass the Jobs Act, which will offer tax incentives for people to come and open businesses that create jobs.

"We'll also introduce a year of voluntary National Civilian Service, which will create a bridge between school and the world of work, providing youth with work experience."

"I'm not interested in a system where people must live at the mercy of the State on land owned by the State. That's not freedom."

"I want the provinces to have more control over the police. This will allow us to build stronger partnerships between Metro and Provincial Police so that we can better fight crime. I also want a Rural Safety Unit to make sure that all our citizens living on farms are protected."

"In the South Africa I want to build, we will be energy-secure and sustainable thanks to our advances in renewable energy and our welcoming of independent power producers. If we sell off the SOE's that don't work and if we can eradicate corruption, then we can build the country of our dreams."

"I want to create a new, independent and fully-resourced Anti-Corruption Unit, staffed by both specialist prosecutors and investigators. Tenders will be awarded out in the open, and no politician will do business with the State. Zero tolerance is the only way."



Picture: Parliament

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pursuit to get their first
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Mboweni's 2019 Maiden budget speech

Wednesday 20 February 2019 16:30 GMT [CWSN]
Budget speech by the presidency

From Eskom to Social grants, herewith Mboweni's 2019 Maiden budget speech, he increased no tax or Vat. Among his areas of focus Eskom was top of the list with a R69bn in financial aid with conditions over 3 years. The appointment of the Chief reorganisation officer is the main conditions.

Herewith the Part Speech:

SAA still requires a further 4bn
Land Reform receives 10bn
The price of beer and cigarettes will rise.

"Most of the spending goes to education, and we will strengthen early childhood development and support higher education for the most deserving." he said

Tax revenue and raising SARS capacity

First, we must look at the President's task list. Then we must match the resources we have to the plan. In this current year, tax revenue has been revised down by R15.4 billion compared to our October estimate. Approximately half of the increase in the shortfall since October is due to higher than expected VAT refunds. This lowers revenue collection for the year, but puts money back into the economy.

SARS is being fixed. My thanks go to Judge Nugent and his Panel for their wise counsel. On their recommendations:

A new Commissioner will be appointed in the coming weeks.

A new Illicit Economy Unit launched in August 2018 will fight the trade in illicit cigarettes and tobacco.

The large business unit was a major source of tax collection, and its skill was renowned. This unit will be reintroduced and will be formally launched in early April 2019.

SARS is strengthening its IT team and its IT systems and this is crucial for our tax collection efforts.

Information sharing agreements with allies will help fight cross-border tax evasion schemes.

Judge Davis will assess the tax gap, which is the difference between revenue collected and what ought to be collected. We will also review the proliferation of duty free shops inside South Africa.

Fiscal prudence requires some tax changes. We propose additional revenue measures of R15 billion in 2019/20. There will be a slight upward adjustment of the tax-free threshold for personal income taxes, with no change in the current personal income tax brackets. Together these will raise R12.8 billion.

The excise duty on a can of beer goes up by 12 cents to R1.74

A 750ml bottle of wine will have an excise duty of R3.15, which is 22 cents more

The duty on a 750ml bottle of sparkling wine goes up by 84 cents to R10.16

The duty on a bottle of whiskey will go up by R4.54 to R65.84

A pack of 20 cigarettes goes up by R1.14 cents to R16.66

The excise duty on a typical cigar will go up by about 64 cents to R7.80

There will be no change to the excise duty on sorghum beer

Fuel levies will increase by 29 cents per litre for petrol and 30 cents per litre for diesel

The Road Accident Fund levy increase is not enough to match the Fund's R215 billion liability. We urge the Department of Transport to quickly resubmit the Road Accident Benefit Scheme Bill for Parliament's urgent consideration. It will help stabilise fuel prices.

The National Treasury will work with the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Economic Development to explore the introduction of an export tax on scrap metal.

State-owned enterprise restructuring

Madam Speaker, I said in October that we would have no holy cows when it comes to our approach to state owned enterprises.

Eskom

In the State of the Nation Address, the President announced a clear and executable plan for electricity. At the core of this plan is the subdivision of Eskom into three independent components. This will set the electricity market on a new trajectory, and allow for more competition, transparency and a focused funding model.

Pouring money directly into Eskom in its current form is like pouring water into a sieve.

I want to make it clear: the national government is not taking on Eskom's debt. Eskom took on the debt. It must ultimately repay it. We are setting aside R23 billion a year to financially support Eskom during its reconfiguration.

The fiscal support is conditional on an independent Chief Reorganisation Officer (CRO) being jointly appointed by the Ministers of Finance and Public Enterprises with the explicit mandate of delivering on the recommendations of the Presidential Task Team. We will make announcements in this regard in the coming weeks.

Minister Gordhan and the strong team he has built at the Department of Public Enterprises will continue to exercise close and ongoing monitoring of Eskom.

Other state-owned enterprises

On other state-owned enterprises, we are reviewing our framework for state-owned enterprise support. Government has revised the contingency reserve upwards to R13 billion for 2019/20 to respond to possible requests for financial support.

Financial support will be budget neutral as far as possible.

During this past financial year, total guarantee utilisation increased by R51.1 billion:

Eskom used an additional R50 billion of its R350 billion guarantee in 2018/19.

Denel was granted a further R1 billion guarantee.

SAA guaranteed debt increased by R6.2 billion.

My congratulations to the Land Bank, which repaid debt, reducing government's guarantee exposure. Other entities reduced their guarantees, unfortunately in some cases as a result of appropriations.

We must tighten the guarantee rules. If a state-owned enterprise applies for a government guarantee for operational purposes, it will be required to appoint a CRO in concurrence with the National Treasury and its bondholders. The CRO will undertake a full operational and financial review. When banks need state support, we appoint a curator. When provincial and municipal finances are in disarray, government can take over the running of the administration. These rules should also apply to all SOEs.

Cabinet is considering a proposal to end the issuing of guarantees for operational purposes. Expiration dates on guarantees will also be strictly enforced. As the President announced, strategic equity partners will be found where possible.

The consolidated fiscal framework

To summarise: in this coming year, we expect revenues of R1.58 trillion and spending of R1.83 trillion. That means we will spend R243 billion more than we earn. Put another way, we are borrowing about R1.2 billion a day, assuming that we don't borrow money on the weekend.

This coming year, interest expenditures will be R209.4 billion. This is R1 billion per day. The expenditure and tax adjustments are designed to largely counteract the additional allocation for Eskom and the revenue shortfall. As a result, gross national debt will still stabilise at about 60 per cent of GDP in 2023/24, broadly in line with our October forecast.

We are masters of our own destiny.

Our determination to regain our fiscal prudence will form the basis of our economic recovery. We will be on our way back to the plum years.

As we face the future, I am reminded of the words of one of the continent's independence leaders, Ghana's Kwame Nkrumah:

"... the task ahead is great indeed, and heavy is the responsibility; and yet it is a noble and glorious challenge – a challenge which calls for the courage to dream, the courage to believe, the courage to dare, the courage to do, the courage to envision, the courage to fight, the courage to work, the courage to achieve – to achieve the highest Excellencies and the fullest greatness of (people). Dare we ask for more in life? "

Restoring our finances and fixing our state owned enterprises will take great courage. But it can be done.

Division of revenue

Madam Speaker, the Budget remains redistributive. Taxes raised in wealthier areas fund poorer provinces and municipalities. In this budget, 47.9 per cent of nationally-raised funds are allocated to national government, 43 per cent to provinces and 9.1 per cent to local government over the medium term, after providing for debt-service costs and the contingency reserve. Pro-poor spending continues to grow in real terms.

Medium-term spending plans

Let me start my presentation on government's spending priorities by taking you through the key interventions government is taking to reduce compensation spending.

Wage bill adjustments

The public wage bill is unsustainable. We must shift expenditure to investment.

National and provincial compensation budgets will be reduced by R27 billion over the next three years.

The first step is to allow older public servants who want to do so, to retire early and gracefully. This will save an estimated R4.8 billion in 2019/20, R7.5 billion in 2020/21 and R8 billion in 2021/22. In time this will be complemented by limits on overtime and bonus payments as well as pay progression. The system of staffing our diplomatic missions is unjustified and should be reviewed urgently.

As a gesture of goodwill, members of Parliament and provincial legislatures and executives at public entities will not be receiving a salary increase this financial year. My colleague, Minister Ayanda Dlodlo will outline the details of the early retirement framework during the course of the week.

Fulfilling government's programme of action

The budget proposes total non-interest spending over the next three years of R5.87 trillion. This after taking into account measures taken over the three years to consolidate the public finances. The largest allocations are R1.2 trillion for learning and culture, R717 billion for health services (including National Health Insurance) and nearly R900 billion for social development.

The President set us these five tasks:

Accelerate inclusive economic growth and create jobs.

Improve the education system and develop the skills that we need now and into the future.

Improve the conditions of life for all South Africans, especially the poor.

Fight corruption and state capture.

Strengthen the capacity and capability of the state to address the needs of the people.

Mr President, let me illustrate how the Budget talks to your priorities.

Accelerate inclusive economic growth and create jobs

The private sector is the key engine for job creation. Government's policy actions aim to end the uncertainty that has undermined confidence and constrained private sector investment. The R300 billion worth of pledges made at the Investment Conference last year demonstrate that there is pent-up private sector demand if we grab hold of the opportunity.

Visa requirements are being relaxed to make it easier for tourists to visit and invest in South Africa.

We have also increased the income eligibility thresholds for the highly successful employment tax incentive scheme. Jobs for 1.1 million young people are supported by this programme.



Picture Courtesy: Daily Maverick

EFF Manifesto: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Saturday 2 February 2019 18:45 GMT[CWSN] The
EFF Manifesto

1. Youth development cuts across all aspects of the EFF manifesto, because the jobs the EFF government will create, the businesses that will be financed, the fee-free education that will be provided and the social assistance programme will primarily benefit the youth.
2. The EFF government will mainstream youth development in all sectors of government and pursue active programmes to professionalise youth work.
3. The EFF government will develop mechanisms to monitor the implementation of youth development initiatives.
4. The EFF government will pass legislation that will ensure that all government departments and all public institutions employ a minimum of 40% of people between the ages of 18 and 35.
5. The EFF government will pass legislation that will ensure that all government departments and all public institutions spend 50% of their procurement budget on youth-owned businesses.
6. The EFF government will ensure that all private corporations employ a minimum of 35% of people between the ages of 18 and 35.
7. The EFF government will ensure that all communities have a Youth Information and Advisory Centre which will inform, educate and guide young people on possible career paths and educational opportunities available in South Africa.
8. The EFF government will ensure that a minimum of 40% of budget allocation to government departments in all spheres of government is specifically set aside for youth empowerment and upliftment.

9. Under the EFF government, the NYDA will be autonomous from any direct influence or micro-management by government in an effective, efficient and integrated manner, whilst rallying and advocating support for the implementation of women and youth-driven development strategies.
10. The EFF government will integrate and institutionalise youth development at local government level.
11. The EFF government will build NYDA offices in every municipality.
12. The EFF government will allocate R2 billion to the NYDA, with a minimum of 50% of that allocated to companies, programmes and projects controlled by women.

- CRIME

1. The EFF government's approach to fighting crime will take into consideration that crime is a socio-economic consequence and should be fundamentally uprooted by economically developing our communities and providing criminals with quality jobs and careers.
2. The EFF government will by 2024 establish satellite police stations that will be open 24 hours in a day and seven days in a week in every ward of the country where there currently is no police station.
3. The EFF government will re-open police and satellite police stations in Marabastad, Zandspruit, Kocksoord, Azaadville, Morula Sun, Melville, Zithobeni and Thembelihle in Gauteng by 2022.
4. The EFF government will re-open police and satellite police stations in Siyathemba, Emjindini, Botleng, Tjakastad, Kwazamokuhle, Msogwaba, Daanjie, Hectorspruit, Lebohang,
8. The EFF government will ensure that all police stations are housed in properties owned by the state.
6. The EFF government will ensure that each police station has officers with specialised skills to deal with cases of sexual violence against and abuse of women and children and to support victims.

7. The EFF government will require all police stations to have DNA kits by the end of 2019.
8. The EFF government will retrain all police officers by 2022 so that they are able to process and investigate sexual violence and intimate-partner violence crimes, in a way that takes cognisance of the short-term and long-term mental and physical health of the victim.
9. The EFF government will determine the number of police officers to be allocated to a station in relation to the number of people within the station's catchment area.
10. The EFF government will employ an additional 100 000 police officers by 2023.
11. The EFF government will repair all broken police vehicles by 2020.
12. The EFF government will purchase an additional 7 000 police vehicles by 2022, on condition that 50% of all parts are made in South Africa.
13. The EFF government will absorb all police reservists and security guards.
14. The EFF government will increase police visibility.
15. The EFF government will impose strict rules on gun ownership and will aggressively recover illegal guns.
16. The EFF government will deploy a special task team to deal with gangsterism and drugs in places such as the Cape Flats in Cape Town,
17. The EFF government will improve the capacity of crime intelligence to include the usage of technology to solve crimes.
18. The EFF government will train additional detectives.
19. The EFF government will re-capacitate Community Policing Forums across the country and encourage the formation of crime watch and street committees in crime hotspot communities and areas
20. The EFF government will give rewards for citizens who submit evidence depicting alleged criminal activities, including drug dealing, social crimes and domestic violence

21. Racism shall be declared a punishable criminal offence
22. As part of its massive drive for rural development, the EFF government will introduce a specialised unit to deal with the problem of stock theft in rural and farming areas
23. Sentences for rhino poaching will be increased
24. The SABC must dedicate one hour per day on all radio and television stations to educate the public about crime prevention and community policing
25. All immigrants shall be registered and have their fingerprints captured by the new Department of Home Affairs and Internal Security.

- EDUCATION

1. The EFF government will introduce free decolonised education for all, advancing topics pertaining to indigenous knowledge, sovereignty and economic freedom in the curricula.
2. The EFF government will criminalise all parents who do not take their children to school.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT:

1. The EFF government will make universal provision for early childhood development (ECD) programmes and will make it compulsory for children from the ages of three years and upwards to be enrolled in an ECD for free.
2. The EFF will develop a common ECD curriculum focusing on nutrition programmes, book reading and storytelling, and other land-based activities to enhance children's understanding of their surrounding environment.
3. Under the EFF government, all ECD practitioners will be employed on a full-time basis, with full pay and pension contribution by government.
4. The EFF government will train an additional 40 000 ECD practitioners by 2021, of whom a minimum of 50% must be women and the youth.

BASIC EDUCATION:

5. The EFF government will introduce free decolonised education for all, advancing topics pertaining to indigenous knowledge, sovereignty and economic freedom in the curricula.
6. The EFF government will increase the use of information and communication technology for teaching, with the aim of achieving universal coverage in computer literacy by 2024.

7. Under the EFF, each learner will get a tablet loaded with all necessary study material, tutorials and educational videos.
8. The EFF government will prioritise indigenous ways of teaching, learning and development.
9. 'One education system, one country' – Under the EFF government, all students will fall under one school system and all matric learners will write the same examinations. Independent Examination Board (IEB) will be abolished.
10. The EFF will provide scholar transport for all learners who stay more than 2 kilometres from the school.
11. The EFF government will electrify all schools everywhere by 2021.
12. The EFF government will provide two nutritious meals a day to all learners in all schools by 2020.
13. The EFF government will ensure that there is clean water in every school by January 2021.
14. The EFF government will provide security in all schools.
15. The EFF government will encourage all learners to do mathematics.
16. Under the EFF government, all schools will have remedial teachers.
17. The EFF government will ensure that there are safe flushing toilets in all schools by 2021.
18. The EFF government will build new schools with technology integration in the classroom, sports facilities and computer labs to reduce the teacher-to-pupil ratio to 1:40 for primary schools and 1:30 for secondary schools.
20. The EFF government will ensure that all learning and teaching support materials are delivered in September the year preceding a new school year and will publish a report in November of every year on the delivery of learner-teacher support materials.
21. The EFF government will launch a yearlong #TeachersMatter campaign, starting in 2020, to look at both the professional and personal needs of teachers, including training in soft skills, emotional wellness, financial literacy, assistance with debt management etc.
22. The EFF will build high-technology teacher training colleges to equip educators of the future with adequate technological skills to impart to learners.
23. The EFF government will introduce peer review evaluation for teachers that focuses on development.
24. The EFF government will launch a #ReturnToSchool campaign in 2020 for all people who have dropped out of school, including domestic workers, sex workers and girls who have left school.

OVERVIEW ON COMPONNETS WITHIN OUR CAMPAIGN PACKS

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- Sound or Health and Wellness
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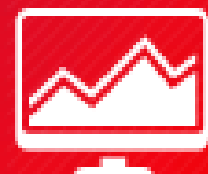
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