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***PROCEEDINGS OF THE MINI-PLENARY SESSION OF THE NATIONAL***

***ASSEMBLY***

\_\_\_\_

Members of the mini-plenary session met on the virtual

platform at 14:00.

House Chairperson Ms M G Boroto took the Chair and requested

members to observe a moment of silence for prayer or

meditation.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon members, before we

proceed, I would like to remind you that the virtual mini-

plenary is deemed to be in the precinct of Parliament and

constitutes a meeting of the National Assembly for debating

purposes only. In addition to the Rules of the virtual

sittings, the Rules of the National Assembly including the

Rules of the debate apply. Members enjoy the same powers and

privileges that apply in a sitting of the National Assembly.



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Members should equally note that anything said in the virtual

platform is deemed to have been said to the House and may be

Ruled upon.

All members who have locked in shall be considered to be

present and are requested to mute their microphones and only

unmute when recognised to speak. This is because the

microphones are very sensitive and will pick up noise which

might disturb the attention of other members. When recognised

to speak, please, unmute your microphone and connect your

video. Members may make use of the icons on the bar at the

bottom of their screens which has an option that allows the

member to put up his or her hand to raise points of order. The

secretariat will assist in alerting the Chairperson the

members requesting to speak.

When using the virtual system, members are urged to refrain or

desist from unnecessary points of order or interjections.

Lastly, I wish to remind you that we are meeting in this mini-

plenary session, therefore, any decisions will be taken in a

full plenary session of the Assembly. Hon members, the first

item on the Order Paper is subject for discussion in the name

of hon M Nyhontso on; Establishing shared values in a

polarised diverse society that could cement a common



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nationhood and bring a sense of belonging to the most

vulnerable. I now recognise hon Nyhontso.

**DEBATE ON: ESTABLISHING SHARED VALUES IN A POLARIZED, DIVERSE**

**SOCIETY THAT COULD CEMENT A COMMON NATIONHOOD AND BRING A**

**SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE MOST VULNERABLE.**

Mr M NYHONTSO: House Chairperson, South Africa as we know it

is a polarised society in many respects. The gap between the

super-rich and downtrodden masses is very high. The

fragmentation of people on racial, ethnic and even tribal

level continues to be a serious feature in day-to-day life of

the people. Even the idea of a rainbow nation is now termed

out of night-time discussions. South Africa want to remain a

skunk in the eyes of the international community.

In the past, when apartheid authorities called the shorts,

appears to be difficult to shut off. It is two steps forward

and three steps backwards. This is beyond stagnation. It is

going back to the past. International crime syndicates are

never broken down and stopped in their tracks by the cluster

of security in the country. We have drug lords who are

established in their territories of crime and the selling of

nyaope is now a norm in the community of the poor. This breaks



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up families and destroying communities. The economy is on a

downward spiral. It has been so far a long time already. The

economy is a basis for the development of a people’s way of

life.

The culture of respect is fast draining away. Opportunist rush

to the courts for self-aggrandisement instead of self-defence

in the court of law. This makes the rights offered by the

constitutional democracy to be abused and rendered ...

[Inaudible.] ... for the rich who can pay their way out of the

trouble, out of jail and out of suffering for the ills they

have made in society. Crime and punishment is no longer a

shared value. South Africa is perceived as a corrupt country.

The former liberation movement in the corridors of power is

known for ... [Inaudible.] ... consumption.

Their corrupted values are seen by many as to put their snouts

in the feeding trough. Redistribution of wealth from the hands

of the few to uplift communities is not a shared value any

longer. The thieves who rob people of their territories rights

to land are going about scot-free without reparations and

restoration of the birth right of the indigenous peoples of

our beautiful land. Casual racism is coming up from time to

time. In the institutions of higher learning this is



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intolerance of people of darker skin in the high schools. It

is pure racism once again raising its ugly head.

The state President referred to tribalism as the cause and

effect of July 2021 unrest in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal. If a

higher office like that of President make such a complaint, it

means we are in a situation that, Sobukwe, the founding

president of the PAC said: “apartheid multiplied” Afrophobia

has come back to express itself in new guises. Vigilantism are

doing as they want, because the officers of peace and

government officials are out to take bribes and corrupt the

system of administration. No country runs on an *ad hoc* basis

and get itself right. The PAC is of the view that we must

discuss our nation once more in this House.

Do we all citizens have intrinsic value to be seen to want a

life of decency? Do we all pledge our loyalty to Africa, where

our beautiful land is? Do we all belong? Why are others better

in their development and way of life better than others? Why

are we othering others? The African revolution to building

sensible of society where justice prevails and peace reigns.

Who will betray if Parliament fails to debate these issues?

Thank you very much, hon House Chairperson.



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Mr T B MUNYAI: Hon Chairperson, we have load shedding here in

Gauteng. I would not be able to show my video. My apologies,

with your permission.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Thank you. It is

accepted.

Mr T B MUNYAI: Esteemed hon Chairperson and the people of

South Africa, the ANC in its 5th National Conference, strategy

and tactics characterised the democratic transition having and

I open quote:

Brought an end to the abhorrent system of apartheid

colonialism and assured a new era of democracy, peace and

justice. The foundation has been laid for society to develop

into truly, united, nonracial and nonsexist nation.

Hon House Chairperson, any organisation that does not have a

strategy and tactics, will not understand this question under

the debate because, it will parish.

Esteemed hon Chairperson and the people of South Africa, we

locate this debate within the context of historical

colonialism of a special type. It must be understood and



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answered, so therefore, this question must be understood

through the national democratic revolution. And how our answer

to this question contribute to the revolution and the vision

for united, democratic and nonracial and non-sexist and more

equal South Africa.

It is very important that we use this platform to assess the

progress made and challenges that remain. The point is: What

then becomes the role of every citizen within society? Of

course, the role of the state in the current conjuncture.

There is an old Marxist saying and I quote:

We cannot only understand our efforts and liberation, if we

do not understand the enemy’s efforts a domination and

oppression.

Esteemed hon Chairperson, our understanding of shared values

in a polarised, diverse society and to build a common

nationhood must be understood in the context of our national

struggle for national liberation, against national oppression

and national dispossession. It should be determined by our

grasp of its antithesis.



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The mechanism of a national oppression, if the speakers, do

not understand or have a grasp of its antithesis, they are

likely to really be lost in the value of despair in the

content before this debate.

Failure to understand how and why we were oppressed could lead

to a strategic error in our efforts at national liberation. It

is only when, like other hon members have accurately

characterised the nature of the oppression, that we can adopt

strategy and tactics of not only resisting and struggling

against, but overcoming such oppression.

The ANC strategy and tactics asset that and I open quote:

We should build a developmental state, with strategic

political capacity and technical capacity.

To intervene to the question under this debate, it is in the

interest of the people to resolve the question under

consideration.

Ensuring peace and prosperity also requires a democratic

government to address the original sins of dispossession which

stripped up the dignity of Africans.



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As Sol Plaatje alluded in 1913 in “The African became the

pariah of his land,” this is the essence which means the

liberations of Africans in particular and black people in

general, from political and economic bondage and also social

power.

We should not only understand that we should be at the helm of

the state machinery to change the life of our people for the

better. However, also understand the issue of economic power

and other social powers. It means uplifting the quality of all

South Africans, especially the majority of the poor.

Hon House Chairperson, by the way, the ANC is unashamedly,

bias to the working class and the poor. The state has taken a

great stride to address inequality and section 25 of the

Constitution, through the constitutional amendment, which the

opposition parties did not support, for the purpose of

expediting the redistribution of land for the people of South

Africa so that they can work it as enshrined in the Freedom

Charter.

Our democratic Constitution through the breakthrough of the

1994 National Elections and also as the Constitution as

adopted in 1996, reaffirms the ANC commitment of building a



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nonracial, nonsexist, inclusive and democratic society. That

means more equal society.

In this essence, it means the liberation for our people,

Africans in particular black people in general, from political

and economic asserted this issue earlier.

Hon House Chairperson, this are the values that our own

government had sought to uphold in all its programmes. If you

are not in government, you will not understand this

development or progress made by this ANC-led government.

The impact of colonialism on our values is one of the critical

issues that we need to follow-through at all times. As we

continue as the nation to build an inclusive society founded

on the democratic values as enshrined in our Constitution, we

must however, strengthen our fight against the values

entrenched on our people by colonialism, imperialism and

apartheid.

One of the glaring detrimental issues of colonialism and

apartheid was to entrench itself on the deep-seated

understanding of the personal wealth constituted on truly

measures of success.



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Hon House Chairperson, I need to bring this element where the

forces opposed to progressive change such as the AfriForum,

who want to bring the old apartheid flag in the midst of a

progressive government. That should be fought side-by-side the

same way, we fought the symbol of apartheid, imperialism and

colonialism.

These elements of trying to reverse the gains of a democratic

government, should be fought side-by-side by all South

Africans together, regardless your political party line.

Today, our people have the right to adequate shelter. Let me

just put it this way, for the past 28-years, the ANC-led

government has built many houses. Going forward, we are

concerned about the quality of those houses. For the past 28-

years, the ANC-led government has built more clinics and

hospitals. Going forward we need to build the quality of

health care through the introduction of the National

Insurance.

The ANC-led government electrified many houses across the

spectra of the whole country. So, the critical issues, is the

restoration of the dignity of the vulnerable people in our

country and through the provision of the basic services and



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the social safety net. Thank you very much, hon House

Chairperson.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon members, let me

indicate to hon members that as you will be speaking, when I

show my face, it is the indication that you are left with one

minute. It is an indication of the speaker to wrap up. Thank

you very much.

Ms N K SHARIF: Thank you very much, House Chairperson. Living

in South Africa sometimes feels like the worst decision people

can make, we find ourselves in a downward spiral of despair

for what tomorrow brings. As a country, we are faced with

countless struggles that test our resilience on a daily basis.

Our resilience remains constant but weary. There is a massive

lack of humanity, there is no equality, we face the worst

imaginable violence and struggle through each day without a

care by those leading us.

The lack of accountability for those who are shamelessly

eating money that is meant to improve people’s lives are signs

that we are losing our humanity. If we continue on a

trajectory that shows no empathy for our fellow woman, we will

create a society that will ruin future generations, a future



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with no humanity, is no future at all. The Notorious B.I.G aka

Biggy Smalls once said: “We can’t change the world, unless we

change ourselves.” If anybody has forgotten or stopped

believing in the power of the people of this land, I am here

to remind you that its real, and it is powerful. You have the

power to bring change within yourself, and in turn, will have

the power to change the world.

I want you to remember that not all heroes wear capes. The

potential of the people in this country outweighs and

supersedes everything else. I want you to remember that

leadership is not about a title or a rank, leadership is about

people. Leadership is about putting others before you, making

sacrifices for the betterment of others and building safe

environments where we can trust that we have everyone’s

interest at heart, and not only a select few. We must lead

with empathy, we must lead selflessly and we must hold

ourselves accountable.

We have seen South Africans come together on so many

occasions, giving each other a hand up and standing together.

I am, because you are. This concept transcends all cultures,

religions, race, class and everything else that seek to divide

us. I am, because, you are, is a value that we must hold dear



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to us and protect. The power of a united people can never be

underestimated. Human nature has a tendency to only look out

for oneself, survival of the fittest, as they said, but it

doesn’t have to like that. We always have a choice. This is

what makes us human, our ability to choose between right and

wrong, the ability to feel emotions and have and, use logic

and reason. We can and we must, do better. We all deserve to

live in a country where we feel safe.

We deserve to live in a country that cares for our wellbeing

and provides opportunities so we can use our talent, passion

and determination to improve our lives and others, all of us

deserve to be happy and live peaceful and content lives where

we can meet our own needs but also the needs of those around

us.

In the words of Hip Hop Artist, Joey Bada$$:

This for my people, tryna stay alive and just stay peaceful.

So hard to survive a world so lethal. Who will take a stand

and be our hero, of my people, yeah?

I thank you.



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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Thank you, hon Sharif.

I don’t have a name from the EFF, but I realise that the

members are here.

Ms N CHIRWA: I will be debating it, Chairperson.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Thank you, hon chirwa.

You may proceed.

Ms N CHIRWA: Thank you very much, Chairperson. This is a very

strange topic for debate, particularly, coming from the PAC of

Azania, the party claiming to be of African people, and which

ought to be inspired by the ideological clarity of Mangaliso

Sobukwe, Ashby Peter Mda, Peter Nkotseu Raboroko and many

others. The 1959 Pan Africanist Manifesto characterises

European imperialism and colonialism as a chain of reaction

whose genesis is the quest for expansion of capitalist

production, which led to the land robbery and political

subjugation of African people here, and other people elsewhere

in the world.

This robbery and subjugation was established by the barrel of

the gun, and its architecture is still solid to this day. The

Pan Africanist Manifesto argues that the only way through



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which there can be a sense of common nationhood, that Mr

Nyhontso speaks of, is through the liquidation of the forces

of oppression, and the assertion of African people’s rights to

shape their own destiny. It goes further and says that, it

would be impossible to liquidate the forces of oppression and

for African people to shape their own destiny if we have

amongst ourselves leaders who have been captured by the white

ruling class to do its bidding and sanitize the aspirations

for true liberty amongst African people.

The foremost Pan-Africanist theoretician at the time, Peter

Raboroko, asserted that the attainment of true liberation must

be as a result of the actions of African people themselves. In

his criticism of the ANC at the time, Raboroko argued:

The gravamen of the Africanist charge against the

Charterists, therefore, is that they have betrayed the

material interests of the African people. They have

sacrificed these interests upon the political altar of an

ungodly alliance, an alliance of slave owner, slave driver

and slave.

He went on to argue that:



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To them, master and slave, the exploiter and the exploited,

the oppressor and the oppressed, the degrader and the

degraded, are all equals. To them, indigenous African

nationals and immigrant European foreign nationals, the

dispossessed and their dispossessors, the victims and their

robbers, are all countrymen. For them the progressive and

the reactionary, the African subject and his foreign

overlord, are all brothers.

Mr Nyhontsho, the history of your own party is littered with

rich literature providing a succinct disposition of why we are

where we are as a society, and it provides solutions as well.

The polarisation you speak of, is rooted in imperialism and

colonialism that your chain of reaction theory speaks of.

There can be no unity while the material conditions of African

people are still as they were at the height of colonialism and

apartheid. When your own leaders were part of the ANC Youth

League, they wrote the African Creed at the end of the Youth

League Manifesto. That creed proclaimed that “Africa’s Cause

Must Truimph”, and at the centre of that triumph, is the

return of the land and of the country’s riches back to African

people.



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Without the return of that which was robbed from us, our

society will continue to be divided and polarised. Today, it

is black people who stay in rat infested and flea ridden

shacks because they have no homes of their own. It is black

people who snake through the queues in public hospitals, only

to be told there is no medication for their illnesses. It is

black people who are evicted from farms they had been calling

home for generations. It is black children who attend

dysfunctional schools, only because the party in government

employs unqualified teachers, and fails to deliver textbooks.

It is black women who are raped and murdered in the townships

of this country, only to see their tormentors walking the

streets, because policing for poor black people is not a

priority in this country. That is the root of the

polarisation, and without addressing that root cause, there is

no solution to the problems that this country faces. The

President of the PAC must go back to read PAC basic documents,

and not betray the cause which his predecessors died fighting

for. After he has done so, he will realise that there is no

common nationhood between the oppressor and the oppressed,

between the colonizer and the colonized, until all that

belongs to African people has been returned to them, and until



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all African people are free to determine their own destiny.

Thank you, Chairperson.

Mr M HLENGWA: Hon House Chairperson, the mood in the country

right now is indeed sombre. At the outset, the IFP thanks hon

Nyhontso for tabling this very important debate. The South

Africans still in healing from our past. We have swept the

most uncomfortable topics under our carpets. Leaving millions

to suffer and millions without gainful employment.

If we ask ourselves what we want for our country and what this

should look like, the simple answer, is that we all want the

South Africa that works. And we all want to build a prosperous

and united nation, that we can all be proud of.

House Chairperson, it is for obvious reasons that the

construction of the gigantic flag, the Department of Sport,

Arts and Culture was never going to sit well with the public.

We wanted share scale and despite its grand ambition of

uniting all us of behind our flag. South Africans across the

board rightful protested this costly cost cosmetic monument,

because the daily living reality of our people, is

joblessness, growing in inequality and poverty.



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South Africans no longer feel safe. South Africans no longer

feel their hard taxes are funding the items that should be

improving their lives, such as better transport, quality

healthcare, education and infrastructure. South Africans are

tired of shutting down their businesses due to Electricity

Commission, Eskom’s inability to generate enough power to keep

the lights on.

South Africans are not feeling particularly patriotic, because

the problems of illegal immigration, porous borders have not

been adequately addressed. South Africans no longer feel that

they can trust the current administration, to steer us in the

right direction.

House Chairperson, we can be sure that our country is not

short of ideas and solutions to the above mentioned challenges

and in pursued of togetherness, social cohesion and patriotism

and broader upliftment of poor most vulnerable.

South African can stand united where all the people are at

work, creating enough jobs and growing the economy, while

rooting out corruption and ensuring the safety and wellbeing

of all South Africans will certainly build the sense of

patriotism.



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Therefore, House Chairperson we can unite behind the

legislation that will reserve the allocation job placement and

the law to the No Skill Center for South Africans. We can

choose to unite behind the IFP’s Private Members Bill which

will put South Africans first and get our country back to

work. We can also get behind the clear and decisive plan for

my national, provincial and local government and how the

mostly basic ... [Inaudible.] ... of our people.

In building upon our country’s spirit of resilience, hard work

and patriotism, the IFP’s Employment Services Amendment Bill

should be adopted by this House, will place millions of our

unemployed young people in jobs.

House Chairperson, in closing the IFP firmly believes that we

meet and cement common nationhood, by putting South Africans

first. If every citizen of the illegible working ages secure

the job, we will have a South African, the country and the

economy of South Africans that we can all be proud of. It’s

about going back to the basics and putting our people first.

Thank you House Chairperson.

*Afrikaans*:



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Mnr P A VAN STADEN: Agb Voorsitter, ek wil graag twee kort

gedeeltes vanuit President Mandela se toespraak aanhaal, wat

hy met sy inhuldiging as President op 10 Mei 1994 gelewer het:

*English*:

Out of the experience of an extraordinary human disaster

that lasted too long, must be born a society of which all

humanity will be proud. *Never*, *never and never again*

shall it be that this beautiful land will again

experience the oppression of one by another, and suffer

the indignity of being the skunk of the world.

The ANC-led government has after 28 years failed the hon

President Mandela on all aspects of life. This government has

over the past 28 years left the elderly, defenceless and

orphans lying on the cold and in the rain to get by with

within their own with what they have.

We see this, every day in the media by promises, they do not

pay the grants on time or that’s all this to these

institutions. Per year in this country our struggle on the

daily basis to get the education they deserve in mother tongue

language.



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The oppression of the ANC-led government against minority,

Indian coloured and white students that struggling from

becoming doctors and nurses because of a colour of their skin,

is an outrage and it will be a disappointment in the eyes of

old President. Our current shortages of doctors and nurses and

the current state of our public hospitals and clinics are

proof of this ANC’s oppression which plays out on a daily

basis in all communities.

*Afrikaans*:

Ja, Suid-Afrika is ’n wêreld in een land en ons gemeenskappe

hoef nie gepolariseer te wees nie, maar die ANC-regering en

partye soos die EFF bou daardie mure tussen gemeenskappe met

rasse skrede op en is besig om ’n nuwe apartheid in Suid-

Afrika tot stand te bring.

Dit is maklik vir die ANC en die EFF om ander vir elke

probleem en mislukking te blameer wat in hierdie land opduik.

Die vraag is egter: Waarom het jy as die ANC-regering

toegelaat dat jy jou eie onbevoegdheid, ’n vastrapplek gegee

het vir korrupsie, wanbestuur en wanadministrasie wat daagliks

lei ...



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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon Van Staden, I am

sorry, there is a hand, hon Munyai.

Mr T B MUNYAI: House Chairperson, on a point of order: I want

to check ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon Munyai, don’t just

order before you raise your hand. Now, I recognise you

...[Inaudible.] ...don’t do that.

Mr T B MUNYAI: Sorry, hon House Chairperson, I want to

understand, if really the hon Van Staden, meant when he says

the ANC government is bringing a new apartheid or not.

Mr P A VAN STADEN: Hon House Chair, I don’t have time for

[Interjection.] ... after that.

*Afrikaans*:

Dit is maklik vir ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon... okay proceed, I

want to respond and say let’s not ... that’s not a point of

order please. Please proceed.



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*Afrikaans*:

Mnr P A VAN STADEN: Dit is maklik vir die ANC en die EFF om

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hierdie land opduik. Die vraag is egter: Waarom het jy as die

ANC-regering toegelaat dat jy jou eie onbevoegdheid ’n

vastrapplek vir korrupsie, wanbestuur en wanadministrasie

gegee het, wat daagliks lei tot die ineenstorting van kritieke

infrastrukture. Moenie ’n vinger na ander wys, as jou eie

onbevoegdheid soos ’n helder lig skyn nie. Julle speel ’n baie

gevaarlike speletjie.

Alle Suid-Afrikaners het die reg tot hul kultuurerfenis en

daarom moet die erfenisterrein uitgebrei word en alle kulture

en erfenisse van alle groepe moet bygevoeg en uitgebrei word

en nie weggevat word nie.

Moenie gaan karring met die Afrikaanse Taalmonument in Paarl

nie. Dis ’n monument, wat volgens my inligting, in die vorige

termyn deur ANC-LPs van die Kuns en Kultuurkomitee as die mees

eerlike monument in Suid-Afrika bestempel is. Waarom wil

hierdie regering nou daardie monument se naam gaan verander?



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Hierdie regering moet die diversiteit van hierdie land as ’n

bate erken en aan elke groep in hierdie land sy plek in die

son gun.

*English*:

We want to build the nation, we want to build South Africa,

yes. That is why we are in Parliament but to build a nation

and to strife for social cohesion, this government must stop

with its cheap politics. You must recognise with the problems.

Causes of problems must be acknowledged and identified instead

of blaming the minority groups for your failures. I saying it

again, yes we want to build South Africa, not this ...

[Inaudible.] ... that politics of this government must come to

an end.

Spend with little group of taxpayers that still lived in South

Africa, money wise and getting the country’s infrastructure

back on track. Prioritize the spending of money in a correct

and lawful manner, but if you are going to spend R22 million

on a 100 flag pole then you are leaving not only the elderly,

defenceless, orphans all alone in the cold and the rain but

every single South African in this country.



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It is time to get rid of racial driven and new apartheid

policies and laws and get the economy back on track. Let’s get

the economy growing but you will not succeed if you continue

with this type of black economic empowerment, BEE. Wealth

cannot be distributed but it must be accumulated for all South

Africans but that can be done when these laws are scraped and

stop that politics of being chased out the door.

House Chair, I want to leave you with these inspirational

words of Martin Luther King Jr:

If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if

you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have

to keep moving forward.

Thank you, hon Chairperson.

Ms C M PHIRI: You must start moving forward yourself.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon Phiri, don’t do

that. You repeat, you know that’s a warning. You know what

should happen. Hon ... [Inaudible.] ... confirm before we

proceed, if there ‘somebody ... ... [Inaudible.] ... okay we

now move to the UDM an invite the hon Kwankwa. Is hon Kwankwa



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here? Let me check. Okay we will come back. Again the ATM...

who’s that, who is opening the video now? Okay nobody

speaking, GOOD, hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON: House Chair, it is difficult to create a sense

of collective belonging in the society as unequal as ours,

that is not founded on social economic environmental or

special justice. We are a country of diverse cultures,

languages and colours, with a right spaced Constitution. But

we are also still a country in which the relationships between

race and class, and race and space are to a very large extent

determined by apartheid classifications and privileges. The

... [Inaudible.] ... living standards between suburbs,

townships and informal settlements in our towns and cities are

so wide that it feels are inhabiting different universes. We

must ask hard questions to ourselves as lawmakers.

Over the past 28 years, to what extent have we succeeded in

building bridges between formerly divided communities.

08:54Where has nation-building poetically trotted up by

successive governments since the 1990s had an effect? Why are

we continuing to build houses for black people in the same

kind of places that the apartheid government built them, far

away from the action in our towns and cities? Why have we



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allowed our land reform processes to proceed in such a snail’s

pace that has barely had any impact on landownership patterns

today? Why former Model C schools generally so much better

than those attended by the majority of our children?

The recent report of violence, tolerance and hatred at

Stellenbosch University highlights the long road we still have

to forge before get to a fair, just and united nation we’d

like to be. Last year, a research indicated that 21% of women

that experienced physical violence by a partner. South Africa

is one of the world’s most unsafe places for women where

statistics tell us that a woman is murdered every three hours

in South Africa.

We can’t talk of common nationhood, while our men predate on

women, mothers, wives and girl children. As parliamentarians

we must contribute immeasurably to reduce inequality. When we

are more equal, we will have laid the foundation for a common

sense of belonging and pride. I thank you.

Ms A L A ABRAHAMS: House Chair, postapartheid South Africa

emerged on the world stage as one of the most multicultural

nations and an example for peaceful reconciliation. As a

society, where races and cultures like Khoisan, Afrikaans,



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Indian, Zulu, Xhosa, Pedi, Tswana and Moslem, to name but a

few, will all intergrow in fortune and new union, showcasing

enviable leadership to a once oppressed country. In 1994, our

nation celebrated the death of a previous South African

identity of being an apartheid state and was reborn as the

rainbow nation. An opportunity to embody Ubuntu living, we

understood and embraced the concept that to have a beautiful

garden, we need more than one type of flower.

We lost sight of this opportunity due to the failed leadership

which followed. We still tarnish our rainbow nation identity

today with an ANC-imposed identity of a corrupt failing state

– a state without electricity, crisis level unemployment and

sickening gender-based violence statistics, a state going

depression and anxiety. The choice is ours, whether we accept

this new ANC identity or challenge it and find our way back to

the euphoria once felt using our resistance to propagate

growth and change. As young South Africans, we want to move

forward; we want a prosperous future, not burdened by the

nostalgia of the past or the sins of our fathers. As young

people, our identity is one of hope, as we hold the key to our

nation’s future.



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We need to re-evaluate ourselves as this rainbow nation,

starting in this very Chamber as Members of Parliament and

leaders. Before the Parliament fire, I would look around the

NA Chamber, and feel immense pride when I could see with my

own eyes that the DA is the only party with a truly diverse

group of MPs. This diversity extends to all provinces and

cities where we have representation, showing leadership

without corruption and improving the security of all people

where we govern through innovative solution-driven ideas while

other political parties build trenches of resistance that

hinder progress.

The DA-led Western Cape government mix social housing

development. Conradie Park is an example of an integrated

start of what society can be. A community that will see a

diverse group of South Africans living in unity, with a law of

averages have been applied to bridge the inequality gap. The

DA-led Western Cape government’s COVID-19 “Hospital of Hope”

in the CBD as well as other field hospitals in Khayelitsha and

across the prince are shining examples of what is possible=le

without looting and corruption, a selfless government

committed to the wellbeing of its residents.



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We do not need to wait until conditions become ideal. We can

simplify our lives and live in ways that affirm human values

and principles. There is light at the end of this dark tunnel

because a South African identity is the rainbow nation –

Ubuntu living, driven by our common purpose to see our country

prosper, recommitting ourselves anew to save South Africa from

the corrupt, greedy and selfish few. We should not be seized

with power, imposing hardships and instilling despair, instead

overcome the breaking down of each other, understanding that

the relationship between the privileged and the

underprivileged is symbiotic.

We need to look at each other from the simplistic point of

humanity and create new positive common stories that make us

one people. I conclude with a verse from Maya Angelou: “Lift

up your faces, you have a piercing need, for this bright

morning dawning for you. History, despite its wrenching pain,

cannot be unlived and if faced with courage, need not be lived

again. [Time expired.] Thank you, House Chair.

Ms N T MKHATSHWA: House Chairperson, hon members, citizens of

South Africa ...

*IsiNdebele:*



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... lotjhani. Angithome ngokuthokoza kumhlonitjhwa we-PAC,

umhlonitjhwa Nyhontso ngokusilethela ikulumiswano le

eqakathekileko. Sithokoza khulu mhlonitjhwa. Kubayini ngithi

ikulumiswano le iqakathekile? Bahlonitjhwa ...

*English*:

... this motion looks into a number of issues, the first

being that of shared values. While some of us may have a

common understanding on what is wrong or right, there are

still some in our country that want to deviate from that

common understanding. A common understanding that is clearly

articulated in the Constitution that governs all of us. The

founding provisions of our Constitution, by virtue of the

Constitution being the supreme law of the land superseding all

other law and government action, should be a foundation for

the building of shared values amongst citizens. Yet, the case

of Theuns in Stellenbosch and the abuse of Namhla in Umtata

undermine the founding provisions of our Constitution that

advance non-racialism and non-sexism. They undermine the

founding provisions of our Constitution that speak to human

dignity, their treatment of equality and the advancement of

human rights and freedom.



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So, hon Nyhontso, you are correct to suggest that we discuss

this matter of shared values, considering how years of

colonialism and apartheid would have polarised our people. I

want to caution us from using the words polarised and diverse

synonymously. When we speak of social polarisation, hon Van

Staden, it is a negative term; it considers a segregation of a

society as a result of discrimination along the constructs of

class, race and gender, to mention but a few. Thus placing the

people at different ends of the spectrum. So, we do need

certain reforms, hon from the FF Plus, to ensure that we are

able to redress the inequities of colonialism and apartheid. I

am concerned that when we are discussion a matter on building

nationhood, on having shared values, clearly when you listen

to the FF Plus, there is a disjuncture amongst us as social

partners as Members of Parliament in this Parliament, and that

is where we must begin if we want to champion an understanding

of national identity, of nationhood within our country.

When we speak of diversity, I think of us speaking about

different races, religions, gender, age, sexual orientations

and physical abilities coming together to form a community

where we recognise and value the cultural differences of our

people. Diversity acknowledges that the people in a community

can be heterogeneous retaining unique characteristics of their



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traditions and cultures, yet appreciating the importance to

coexist. In fact, a diverse society welcomes the celebration

and sharing of people’s unique cultural ways of life,

languages, art etc. Diversity is built on acceptance and

respect.

So, I guess the next question is then: Considering that we are

polarised as a consequence of colonialism and apartheid,

appreciating our diversity, can we build shared values that

will cement a nationhood that can bring a sense of belonging

to the most vulnerable and in fact all South Africans? And the

answer is yes, and we must commit ourselves to that. When I

say ourselves I mean all of us. All of us as South Africans,

through what the President Cyril Ramaphosa always refers to as

a social compact. All of us need to be hands on deck;

government, private sector, social institutions — all of us.

President Thabo Mbeki says something very positive happened in

our country in the aftermath of the emergency of the COVID-19

pandemic. He says for the very first time since 1994 we had

all social partners, more or less, saying the same thing about

what needs to happen; government, business, labour, civil

society, communities and constituencies all saying that the

pandemic needs us to join hands and work together to change



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the situation and address the consequences of the pandemic.

President Mbeki further challenges us by reminding us that

this need for us to join hands and work together existed

before COVID-19, and we have been braving through the place of

unemployment, poverty and inequality.

The proposal from the private sector to invest R1 trillion

whilst the public sector invest R2,4 trillion to support the

Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan, ERRP, to build an

inclusive economy in response COVID-19 and the widening

inequalities is evidence of our ability to come together

joined by a common view, common approach and a common

commitment. Hon members, COVID has shown us that we can

indeed, as South Africans, social compact. Now, the question

is, dearest South Africans: It is now more than ever, where we

must ask ourselves and introspect whether it took a moment

when the lives of the poor and the rich were threatened for us

to appreciate the importance of a common plan in achieving the

country’s fundamental need for socioeconomic transformation in

ensuring the self-liberation of all South Africans.

We have to go into this social contract, hon members. It has

to be done. The manifesto of the governing party, going into

local government elections, outline that we must urgently



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finalise the social compact between social partners to achieve

our country’s fundamental social transformation to reduce and

eradicate the plague of unemployment, poverty and inequality.

You find this national call in the manifesto for local

government elections because it is only through a broader

social compact that we can pull together the resources needed

to bring government’s plans into implementation.

We want to commend the work of the President, through the

National Economic Development and Labour Council, NEDLAC,

consensus, on the ERRP, in trying to foster this social

compact. This plan, through which all of us as South Africans

should work together to build a new economy, we must commit

ourselves as hon members to ensuring that all our departments

contribute to this important plan.

It is imperative that we build an ethical and capable

developmental state with a capability to translate policy and

plans into realities. A developmental state should first and

foremost have the capability and legitimacy to intervene in

the economy to ensure that it really distributes access and

income in an equitable manner to address the class, gender and

race contradictions in our society.



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Hon Nyhontso, we need a social compact with business in order

for us to eradicate the polarisation we are concerned about.

In building nationhood, you work towards building a socially

cohesive society. The National Development Plan, NDP, says to

build a socially cohesive society, South Africa needs to

reduce poverty and inequality by broadening opportunity and

employment through economic inclusion, education and skills

and specific redress measures.

Allow me, hon members, to expand a bit on education.

Institutions of higher learning are quite essential public

goods as they provide citizens with skills and knowledge to be

active participants of the economy addressing class, gender

and race polarisations rooted in years of colonialism and

apartheid. But also institutions of higher learning are spaces

where value systems can be harnessed and shaped as ...

[Inaudible.] ... argues where diversity can be embraced as

mutual respect and inclusiveness is promoted.

At the University of Stellenbosch about 30 000 black students

applied out of 55 000 applications, and only 1 000 black first

year students enrolled out 5 700 first years. I am not a

mathematician, hon members, but something does not add-up for

me. My suspicion is that there is a deliberate attempt in the



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selection process to approve certain applications ... [Time

expired.] ... Thank you very much, hon House Chairperson.

Mr A M SHAIK-EMAM: House Chairperson, I think the first

question we should ask is: What happened to pre 1994 when

there was a cry and a call for people of diverse backgrounds,

irrespective of their colour or their religion, to come

together to fight apartheid with a united cause to liberate

our people? What happened to that after 1994?

I see that we talk about a very diverse society, common

nation, and bringing a sense of belonging, suddenly we are

fine. But it is not about belonging it is about entitlement.

What we find currently today is that racism is more a problem

today, created by politicians in this country, than it ever

was pre-1994. And politicians today divide you on race,

religion, tribe, economic strength and now they divide you

even on gender as well. Where are those cultural, religious

norms and standards that we once upon a time applied in our

lives? Where is that struggle that we fought together to

liberate each other so that we can be united in our fight for

a better quality of life?



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Who are the real enemies and the root cause of why our people

— almost 11 million people are hungry in this country or

jobless? Who? Is it not our very same people that fought for

liberation and today are marginalising and oppressing their

own people? Why? It is because of greed and selfishness, and

one of the root causes of this is that we are responsible for

that because of the vulnerable state we are in. we are

manipulated by politicians and political parties to come out

there and support them, and the moment that is done and then

the government gets the votes, we never ever see them again.

Now, the question that we need to ask is: What do we need to

unite again? Should we not be putting our differences aside?

Should we not be leaving alone the issue of colour, religion

and race that you belong to, but as one united nation with a

common interest of creating a better life for everybody in

this country? That is what we should be fighting and striving

for. Let us forget about the colour. Let’s forget where we

come from, how much we have and how much we don’t have. Let us

work together in the interest of this beautiful country. That

is my plea to our people here and all political parties. Don’t

divide us anymore on religion, race and colour. It is not what

we want; we want to be united.



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Millions of people are suffering in this country while a few

are benefiting and becoming millionaires ... [Time expired.]

Thank you, House Chairperson.

Mr N L S KWANKWA: Chairperson, we would also like to take this

opportunity to thank hon Nyhontso for raising this very

important debate and it occurs at a time where the current

context facing South Africa at the moment is one where is

characterized by inequality, extraordinarily high levels of

poverty as well as unemployment.

Previous speakers already cited the high levels of

unemployment in South Africa, because we know that South

Africa suffers from a chronic unemployment problem.

We are saying, as a party, for as long as issues of

inequality, for as long as ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... intlupheko mama iyeyomntu ontsundu eMzantsi Afrika ...

*English*:

... for as long as ...



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*IsiXhosa*:

... abona bantu batyebileyo, abanemali eMzantsi Afrika

ingabantu abamhlophe. Thina bantu kufuneka samkele ukuba

ngoomantshingilane, sibengabantu abacoca izindlu zabantu

abanemali nabamhlophe.

*English*:

For as long as there’s no clear transformative agenda ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... ebambekayo encedisana nokuba intlupheko ingabiyeyomntu

ontsundu, bakwazi abantu bakuthi ukuba bazibone benyukela

ngasentla siza kohluleka ukuba sibe yimbumba yamanyama

eMzantsi Afrika.

*English*:

The problem in South Africa is the minute you talk about

transformation ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... babanengxaki abantu ...

*English*:

... but the minute you talk about reconciliation ...



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*IsiXhosa*:

... kufuneka sangane sigonane, zibe izisu zethu zilambile.

Kubalulekile ukuba sivumelane ngomgomo esiza kuza nawo oza

kusihlangula entluphekweni uze uphucule imeko yomzi ontsundu.

Le ntlungu yokuba abantu bakuthi bayalamba ...

*English*:

... access to resources, they occupy the margins of the South

African economy ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... ibangela ukuba aba bantu bebesicinezele iminyaka le yonke,

bangafuni ukusuka kwiindawo abakuzo, ukuncedisana nokuphuhlisa

umzi ontsundu. Kaloku thina siza kuphinda sihambe

*English*:

... with a begging bowl ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... sisiya kucela ingqesho kubo. Yile nto ibangela ukuba

ucalu-calulo lusithi mbende kwiindawo zonke. Luye luqinise

ngakumbi kumaziko emfundo nakwiindawo zokuhlala. Bayazi

mhlophe ukuba babambe kwaye balawula kanye ezo ndawo

zoqoqosho.



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*English*:

We need to make sure that those fundamentals are addressed and

are in place for the benefit of our own people ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... ukuze sikwazi ukulungelalanisa ...

*English*:

... playing fields. Up until we are able to do ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... ezonto asinakuze sikwazi ukuzenza kwaye asinakuze sikwazi

ukuqubisana neminye imingeni esivelelayo ...

*English*:

... even the resources that people are supposed to be paying

in the form of tax for monies that they make out of the

country ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... bazama ukuqiniseka ukuba benza ...

*English*:

... tax avoidance and evasion as much as possible ...



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*IsiXhosa*:

... banciphise imali eya kwingxowa yeenkonzo zikarhulumente

eza kusincedisa ukuba kwenziwe ...

*English*:

... income redistributive policies, so ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... kufuneka siyiqale ekuqaleni siyilungise ime ngendlela

ukuze sithi xa simanyana, singamanyani ngezisu ezilambileyo.

*English*:

Thank you, Chair.

Mr M G E HENDRICKS: Hon House Chair, since transforming our

country form an apartheid system to a democratic dispensation,

it is necessary that we all identify with its shared

democratic values.

The Constitution was, in fact, crafted to assist in achieving

these. Backed by a Constitution that contains a pro-people’s

Bill of Rights meant that everyone’s rights within the border

of our country is and remains secured.



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But despite having a wonderfully constructed Constitution, our

nation seems not to have overcome its apartheid past and

because of that, continues to be racially divided. That’s why

we would like to thank the PAC for putting this on the agenda.

The DA and FF-Plus must rein in AfriForum. They must say, as

elected representative Afrikaners, not in our name. I hope I

will hear that today.

When the nation feels cared and protected by its government,

it will naturally have a proud sense of belonging. The people

on the Cape Flats don’t have that sense of belonging.

Al Jama’Ah feels that while it’s only the ANC, with Al

Jama’Ah, not as praise singer, but the party that oversight,

like we agreed in the trenches, that van give the nation a

feeling of care and protection. The PAC and other parties that

were also in the trenches should add to this oversight.

As for the social divisions in terms of income, etc. our

education reveals the extreme poverty the vast majority of

African children are still living under. It’s no wonder that

white students feel free to display the authority by urinating



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on the belongings of black students. Some white students still

believe that they have a right to display an oppressive flag.

The racist incidents at Stellenbosch University and others we

do not know of, is a manifestation that whites have a sense

that they have a right to do as they please.

Al Jama-Ah is of the view that to cement nation and then to

bring about a sense of belonging among all a few steps must be

followed to achieve this goal. It is possible to do so in the

concept reflected in the practice that all levels horizontally

and vertically.

On the horizontal play, the government should show that they

identify with these values in the daily dealings with

communities. For example, [Inaudible.] that they are against

all forms of corruption, and that we don’t really see enough

of.

On the vertical play, civil society also play its role. Not

the role that is played by AfriForum, that is not helpful in

bringing about transformation.

South Africa does not have uhuru [peace] but negotiate ...



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If AfriForum denies transformation, going to court, then uhuru

must be on the radar. Thank you very much, hon House Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon Langa, what you

have been doing on the platform is not allowed by the Rules of

the National Assembly. You cannot be on the platform and

answer a phone like that. That happened with hon Matiase but I

realized he was not aware because after the call he

immediately switched off. So, please, let’s respect this

House.

Mr T M LANGA: Apologies, Chairperson.

*Afrikaans*:

Dr L A SCHREIBER: Voorsitter, die aanhef tot Suid-Afrika se

Grondwet skets die visie van ’n land verenig in ons

diversiteit. Op dieselfde wyse is die leuse van ons land se

wapenskild ook eenheid in diversiteit**,** eerder as eenheid in

eenvormigheid.

Nou, daar is ’n baie goeie rede waarom ons Grondwet soveel

klem op diversiteit lê. Dit is omdat Suid-Afrika een van die

mees taalkundig en kultureel uiteenlopende lande ter wêreld

is. Die skrywers van ons Grondwet het goed verstaan dat ’n



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land so uiteenlopend soos ons s’n slegs vorentoe kan beweeg

wanneer ons ons inherente diversiteit vier, koester en

respekteer, eerder as om daardie diversiteit te probeer

versmoor met gedwonge eendersheid.

Die idee dat Suid-Afrika se diversiteit as ’n bate eerder as

’n las beskou moes word was revolusionêr. Volgens hierdie

visie sou alle Suid-Afrikaners verenig rondom basiese

grondwetlike waardes soos vryheid, die oppergesag van die

gereg en menswaardigheid, terwyl elkeen steeds die reg sou hê

om hul taal te praat of deel te neem aan die kulturele lewe

van hul eie keuse. Dat hierdie insig, op papier ten minste,

die hoeksteen vorm van ’n groot deel van ons grondwetlike

bestel was een van die mees merkwaardige deurbrake ooit vir

Afrika liberalisme.

Maar minder as drie dekades later ondermyn die ANC hierdie

visie van eenheid en diversiteit. Oor die afgelope 18 maande

het die nasionale regering die grootste aanslag sedert 1994

teen ons land se ryke diversiteit van stapel gestuur en in

byna elke geval het hulle veral een spesifieke groep in hul

visier gehad – Suid-Afrika se uiteenlopende Afrikaanssprekende

gemeenskap. Eers het Minister Blade Nzimande die sewe miljoen

sprekers van Afrikaans beledig deur aan te voer dat Afrikaans



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kamstig ’n uitheemse taal is. Dit was slegs danksy die DA se

verset dat hy uiteindelik gedwing was om ’n regsmening aan te

vra wat in duidelike terme bevestig het dat Afrikaans wel ’n

inheemse Afrika taal is.

Maar minder as ’n week later en kort nadat sy vlagpaal

ordentlik geval het, loods Minister Nathi Mthethwa toe die

volgende aanslag deur eensydig daarop aan te dring dat

Afrikaans uit die Afrikaanse Taalmonument in die Paarl

verwyder word.

Net soos Minister Nzimande, gaan Minister Mthethwa hom in die

DA vasloop. In samewerking met van ons land se voorste

kunstenaars, bied die DA hierdie Saterdag ’n protes-konsert in

die Paarl aan waar ons boodskap duidelik is. Ons sal nie

toelaat dat Minister Mthethwa se aanval op ons diversiteit

slaag nie.

Ek doen vandag ook twee direkte beroepe op Minister Mthethwa.

Eerstens, skrap onmiddelik die waansinnige voorstel om die

Afrikaanse Taalmonument se naam te verander en daardeur die

monument van sy identiteit en simboliek te stroop. Tweedens,

aangesien hy duidelik niks vir die taalmonument voel nie,



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versoek ek dat die Minister dadelik ... [Onhoorbaar.]

[Tussenwerpsels.]

*English*:

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon Schreiber, I’m

sorry for that, I see a hand of hon Letsie on the platform.

Mr W T LETSIE: Chair, I was just saying we can’t hear hon

Schreiber here. We have tried to get the English

interpretation, it’s not here. So, it’s very difficult to

follow what he’s saying. We know he might not be saying

anything but we do want to hear.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Okay. But, Mr Chato,

the interpreter? It’s there, I don’t know. Let them fix it.

Thank you very much.

Hon Annette Steyn, your hand is up also?

Ms A STEYN: Chair, I just want to ask the member to retract

what he said to say he might not say anything. I think it is

not needed, Chair. Sometimes we listen to other speakers and

we can’t understand because the interpretation is not there.

But it’s not a good thing to say that. Thank you, Chair.



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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Okay. I missed that

one. The hon member I didn’t see you but please let’s refrain

from doing that.

I will allow Dr Schreiber to proceed now.

And please let me be assisted with the interpretation.

*Afrikaans*:

Dr L A SCHREIBER: Voorsitter, die eerste beroep is dus dat die

Minister onmiddelik die waansinnige idee om die Afrikaanse

Taalmonument se naam te verander skrap en die tweede beroep is

dat aangesien Minister Mthethwa duidelik niks vir die

taalmonument voel nie, versoek ek dat die Minister dadelik

beheer oor die Afrikaanse Taalmonument aan die DA-beheerde

Wes-Kaap afwentel sodat ons ordentlik na hierdie kosbare deel

van ons land se erfenis kan kyk. Baie dankie.

The MINISTER OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE: Thank you very much,

House Chair. To Ministers and the Deputy Ministers here

present, hon members, members of the media, ladies and

gentlemen, the approach here, we are focusing on as the

contextualising of the polarisation of South Africa and the

genesis of shared values. The polarisation of our society has



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deep roots in the colonial history and the generations of

liberation struggle of our people often assume the racial

economic and epistemic nature of the oppression of indigenous

community of our people, also an unforgettable legacy of land

dispossession with its attended colonial education and

cultural religious practices that supplanted indigenous

epistemologists. Such epistemic violence dismembered families

and the philosophical fibre of knowledge systems of the

African in his or her land of birth.

The reconstruction of South Africa from a racially conceived

and relentlessly engineered social construct of systemic

inequality exclusion and division into an inclusive society

has been on the agenda since the earliest days of resistance

to colonialism. It took a definite form and purpose with the

emergence of early African nationalist movements in the late

19th and early 20th centuries. The 31st of May 1910, was the

launch of the union of South Africa after the South African

war ended with the treaty of Vereeniging. A negotiated

settlement between the Afrikaners and the English had one

common point of convergence that is the exclusion of the

indigenous people of our country. This exclusion negated all

the possibilities of social cohesion in South Africa from the

very early stage of the evolution of our society. Colonial



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conquest therefore had two contradictory consequences. On the

one hand it brought together different communities into one

state in a single territory. On the other hand, this very

conquest was used by colonisers to prevent the unifications of

these communities into a nation.

Essentially, the colonisers actively ensured that they

obstruct any inclination to building a nation. There was,

therefore, no nation or nation-building effort to talk about

before the 1994 democratic break through. The liberation

movement responded and it replied. It replied through the

Freedom Charter. The liberation movement’s mission of

existence was to unite the oppressed majority primarily and in

turn use that milestone to unite all the people of our land.

This is a bedrock upon which the Parliament of the people, the

African National Congress, was formed. The settlers ganged up

to exclude indigenous people from political social and

economic life on the land of their birth. The liberation

movement on the other hand forged ahead in building and

consolidating unity for all.

The first blueprint of social cohesion against the imperial

exclusion as political agenda was the adoption of the Freedom

Charter. The Freedom Charter clearly states that, and I quote:



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We, the people of South Africa, declare for all our

country and the world to know that one, South Africa

belongs to all who live in it, black and white, and that

no government can justly claim authority unless it is

based on the will of all the people.

Our people have been robbed of their birth right to learn

liberty and peace by a former government founded on injustice

and inequality, that our country will never be prosperous or

free until our people live in brotherhood enjoying equal

rights and opportunities, that only a democratic state based

on the will of the people can secure to all their birth right

without distinction of colour, race, sex or belief. And

therefore, we, the people of South Africa, black and white,

together equals, country many brothers adopt this Freedom

Charter and we pledge ourselves to strive together sparing

neither strength nor courage until the democratic changes here

set out have been one.

The inclusive nature and character of the Freedom Charter is

the cornerstone of social cohesion that ... [Inaudible.] ...

onto our 1996 democratic Constitution of the Republic. Talking

to social cohesion and nation-building, the two concepts are

in most cases used interchangeably that’s conflating the



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complementary meaning of one to the other. What is positive

though, is the embracing of the two undergirding a need to

build a nation. Nation-building is defined as, and I quote:

“Diverse origins, history’s languages, cultures and religions

come together within the boundaries of a sovereign state with

a unified constitutional and legal dispensation and national

public education, and integrated national economy and shared

symbols and values as equals to work towards eradicating the

divisions of injustices of the past to foster unity and to

promote a countrywide conscious sense of being proudly South

African and committed to the country and open to the country

and the world. The national strategy for developing an

inclusive ... [Inaudible.] if South African society defines

social cohesion as, and I quote:

The degree of social interaction and inclusion in

communities and society at large and the extent to which

mutual solidarity finds expression amongst individuals

and communities.

We seek, House Chair, to build a national democratic society.

The strategic objective of such is a creation of a united

nonracial, nonsexist democratic and prosperous nation. The

attainment of this society we are striving for will depend



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largely on the success in the prosecution of the national

democratic revolution. Our strategic perspective informs us

that the main content of the national democratic revolution is

a liberation of Africans, in particular blacks in general, for

political and socioeconomic bondage, especially the poor,

majority of whom are African and female. At the same time, it

has the effect of liberating the white community from the

false ideology of racial superiority and the insecurity

attached to oppressing others.

The national democratic societies’ vision is for grounded by

building a democracy with the social content, a capable

developmental and ethical state informed by our own realities.

This will in some respects reflect elements of the best

tradition of social democracy which include a system which

places the need of the poor and social issues such as health

care, education and social safety nets at the top of the

national agenda. Intense role of the state in the economy life

of the whole societies imperative and this is the

interventionist nature and stance of the democratic

government. This is what the ANC government has been and

continues to be ceased with since the dawn of democracy. It is

accompanied by critical element of value system based on human



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solidarity striving for active citizenry, pride on the

nation’s identity, patriotism, etcetera.

It is against this bedrock that we took on the task to

establish shared values in the polarised diverse society that

could cement a common nationhood and bring a sense of

belonging to the most vulnerable. To this extent different

sectors of society become key in nation-building and social

cohesion agenda. Precisely because patriarchal operation was

embedded in the economic social religious cultural families

and other relations on all communities, its eradication cannot

be an assumed consequence of democracy. All manifestation and

consequences of patriarchy from the feminisation of poverty,

physical and psychological abuse undermining and self-

confidence to open and hidden forms of exclusion from

positions of authority and power need to be eliminated in our

society. Critically in this regard is the creation of material

and cultural conditions that would allow the abilities of

women to flourish and enrich the lives of the entire nation.

Social cohesion in a national democratic society will also

depend on the extent to which the rights of those in the lower

rungs of socioeconomic ladder are protected. Such a society

should proceed from the obvious premise that workers’ rights



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are human rights and these rights should ... [Inaudible.]

expression in law government measures to ensure decent jobs

security and a living wage. A nation’s success depends also on

its ability to encourage harness and incorporate into its

endeavours the creativity daring and energy of use. This

relates to such issues as access to social and economic

opportunities engendering activism around issues of

development and values of community solidarity and creating

the space for youth creativity to flourish.

On national symbols, House Chair, national symbols are

significant, especially in public spaces as a way of

communicating a particular message with citizenry. The symbol

such as statues, coats of arms, badges monuments, and so on,

are sum of many ways in which history moss, norms, values can

be educational and or inculcated into the conscience of the

nation. One scholar Pål Kolstø. captures this better

succinctly when he says, and I quote:

If state symbols can be linked to events and situations

that a citizen psychologically associate with pride, joy

and high spirit, these good feelings may rub off on the

flag and other national symbols and enhance their

emotional value.



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One of the most obvious ways through which this is done is

participation in international sports event even though few if

any may feel anything special about a new design flag, many

will come to feel a lump in the throat and tears in their eyes

when as the national flag is slowly raised and the national

anthem played, the top athletes of the nation ascend to the

winners block at international sport tournaments. Whatever

that happens few people will ask about ethnic ideological or

social membership of the athletes. In such situations the

athletes do not represent any particular section of society,

but the nation and its state.

I want to state categorically that we are steadfast and

committed to ensure that we decolonise and transform the

heritage landscape in our country. It cannot be that the

formerly oppressed South African majority continue to be a

cultural minority in the public spaces. We will without

apology ensure that we fast track and accelerate this problem

so that in the final analysis those who are represented are

the people who have to be. In conclusion, in the quest to

building a new society ... thank you, House Chair. [Time

expired.]



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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon Nyhontso, you have

saved five minutes from your previous slot, so you have eight

minutes to conclude.

*IsiXhosa*:

Mnu M NYHONTSO: Sihlalo weNdlu, mandithabathe eli thuba

ndibulele kuwe, ndibulele kubo bonke abantu ...

*English*:

... who understand this topic. The idea behind this debate

hon Chairperson, is for this House to debate the National

Question. The idea to bring this debate is to bring to the

attention of the nation ...

*IsiXhosa:*

... indlela esihlala ngayo singama-Afrika apha e-Afrika.

*English:*

The idea is to debate this topic where we must all know that,

as Sobukwe would say:

Africa is for Africans and Africans is for humanity and

humanity is for God.



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The idea was ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... ibukukwenza ukuba silazi ...

*English:*

... the colour of our skin, the shape of our nose and the

texture of our hair does not count in a free Africa. This what

the founders of the PAC, Sobukwe, Peter Raboroko, Mothopeng

taught us that, for us to have a united nation we must first

understand that we are human beings and we belong to the human

race, irrespective of colour or creed.

*IsiXhosa*

Ngoko ke, ndiyabulela kakhulu ngale ...

*English*

... topic and thank you very much. [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon members, let’s

check how we behave around our gadgets. We do not want to hear

what you are doing there, we are in the House here and you are

having conversations. Make sure that we don’t hear those

conversations. Why do you fiddle with your gadgets if you know



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that you are not speaking? Please, hon members, let’s respect

one another and let the decorum of the House be upheld even

though we are on a virtual platform.

Debate Concluded.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HIGHER**

**EDUCATION,**

**SCIENCE AND INNOVATION - ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO STELLENBOSCH**

**UNIVERSITY**

Ms N T MKHATSHWA: Thank you very much, House Chair, we must

indicate that we would have appreciated more time to present

this report to the House considering its relevance and

generally not only because of what’s currently happening at

Stellenbosch University but because of the need for us to play

continuous oversight over the institution’s transformation

journey.

On 16 February 2022, the committee visited Stellenbosch

University where we engaged with council management, student

leaders, the institutional forum and workers to gain an

understanding of the institution’s transformation journey.



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In the previous debate, there was an analysis which we made

during this oversight. At Stellenbosch University, 30 000

black students applied out of 55 000 applicants. Only 1 000

black first-year students were enrolled out 5 700 first-year

students. For me, there is a bit of suspicion to this because

it almost seems as though that there is an attempt to be

selective in the approval of applications.

Now, if we do not allow for the natural makeup of these

institutions as per the demographics of the country they are

microcosms of, then we will have incidents like where Theuns

thought it was okay to urinate over his fellow black student’s

belongings because perhaps Theuns thought that the University

of Stellenbosch exists in isolation to the rest of democratic

South Africa; where his racism would perhaps be accommodated.

Through the oversight that we do in higher education

institutions, institutional autonomy at times becomes a

hindrance when it is incorrectly used as a defence mechanism,

yet it must be a collective interest to communities to be

assured that these institutions are serving the public

interests of harnessing young people who when they enter our

communities as graduates, would be able to contribute to the

strengthening the continuous journey of social change, where



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together we seek to create a South Africa that truly belongs

to all who live in it as articulated in the Freedom Charter.

We, as the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education, Science

and Innovation, acknowledge the fact that we need to see

transformation and equality in the higher education sector

between historically disadvantaged institutions and

historically privileged institutions. That means that, we need

to eradicate a culture of historical whiteness in historically

privileged institutions in ensuring that these institutions

are safe and inclusive spaces for all young people to thrive

in harnessing their skills and knowledge to be active

participants of our economy.

There are number of matters that were addressed on this

oversight visit. We looked into the issues of language in

higher education and there was an agreement that we don’t seek

to eradicate Afrikaans. In fact, in the ANC we speak about

inclusivity, but we need to make sure that in the higher

education space, we are diverse and inclusive enough in terms

of languages used for teaching and learning to accommodate the

different representation of students in the space. We received

a briefing as well from the department on that.



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What stuck out from what the student representative council,

SRC, said was that, we need to ensure that these policies and

frameworks that are printed and conceptualized become a

learned reality for all students and workers in the

institution. That is something that we, as a committee, are

committed to by ensuring we support the sector in achieving.

Down with sexism and down with racialism. We present this

report for the House to consider. Thank you so much, House

Chair.

Ms C V KING: Thank you, House Chair, transformation normally

implies deep change in knowledge and curriculum. It mostly

entails questions about inclusion, identity, diversity, power,

intellectual tradition and intellectual justice.

In the higher education context in South Africa,

transformation has a different meaning. Its definition is

rooted in our country’s apartheid history. Multifaceted and

complex is how transformation at higher education can be

described. It involves integrated processes of continuous

institutional change in all aspects of university functioning.

Transformation is therefore the driving force that moves

universities from the current state to a desired state based



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on the inclusive process of spaces of democratisation and

restitution.

The oversight was to establish Stellenbosch University’s 2022

academic readiness, its financial sustainability, and

transformational progress. Stellenbosch University’s vision to

be Africa’s leading research-intensive university, globally

recognised as excellent, inclusive and innovative to advance

knowledge in service to society, has no doubt to ensure its

academic programme and finances are geared towards achieving

their vision.

At a university such as Stellenbosch, which its separatist

history of more than a decade, they endeavored to place

transformation at the centre of their operations. Based on its

Vision 2024, Strategic Framework 2019-24, 2022-27

Institutional Plan, the university has centred its

transformational agenda on eight themes, which are:

Transforming institution, talent in the institution,

internationalisation, teaching and learning, student

experience, social impact, research for impact, and

leadership.



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To ensure achievements for its transformational agenda,

Stellenbosch University increases transformational key

performance indicator, KPI, for all employees from 20% to 25%,

employment equity plans included for the appointments

committee of the senate, the rector’ strategic fund used for

the advancement of the new generation of academics, conducting

research on transformation and various staff publishing on

transformation, visual redress such as having the preamble of

their constitution in three languages in front of the Old Main

building, welcoming benches in 15 languages on the Rooiplein,

renaming HB Thorn Theatre to Adam Small Theatre, renaming RW

Wilcocks building to Krotoa building and making its emblem

inclusive showcasing the three official languages of the

Western Cape.

Well, with all of the concerted effort to ensure

transformation, what led to this oversight? Could it be the

DA’s fight against the institution on its intentional

transformational agenda to suppress Afrikaans and the Nama

Khoi languages in its language policy? That certainly was the

real reason for it. However, with enough exerted pressure, the

university had this to say in its report to the portfolio

committee:



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Stellenbosch University is committed to multilingualism

by using the three official languages of the Western

Cape. Stellenbosch University supports the view that

Afrikaans and Nama, Khoi and San languages are indigenous

languages and was confirmed by the Stellenbosch co-

ordinating council.

On the increase in application of its black student comprising

of African, Coloured and Indian students from 22 000 in 2021

to 55 000 in 2022, progressive initiative are embarked on such

as offering under and postgraduate degrees in IsiXhosa,

IsiXhosa interpretation and translation services and

introducing Mobilex, which provides online trilingual glossary

of terminology.

Now, let’s get to the real reason why this oversight was

brought to the fore. Recent event of a rape incident at one of

the university’s hostels and the peeing incident of a white

student on the study material of a black student are the

reasons why this report was pushed forward. The incident of

gender-based violence falling under the radar to the more

popular incident of race. We await the report on the incident

which marred the institution and advocate for restorative

justice.



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Transformation should be felt in one’s being, a transitional

intertwining of university and community, a move away from

just a black and white issue to the bigger picture of

inclusive innovative progress.

On a lighter note, and the committee will know, Candice King

has spoken. Thank you, Chair.

Ms N CHIRWA: Thank you, House Chair. It would not across our

our imagination that between two months since this committee

conducted an oversite visit to the Stellenbosch University we

will be faced by a despicable incident of empty black racism

even after receiving a firm caution and guidance on the racist

Boeremark Afrikaner culture that characterise an institution

that sit at the heart of the disposition of land of African

people.

One Theuns du Toit resolved to urinate on the belongings of an

African child. He did this because he is the ultimate

representative of the racist culture of Stellenbosch. His act

was a conformation of what his institution thinks of black

people - as being is not worthy of respect, humanity or

dignity. The committee and this report reflect truth,

Chairperson, of Stellenbosch being a centre for Afrikaner



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volkdom, which failed to attract black professionals and as a

management structure riddles by white Afrikaner men. Women

only occupied 40% of senior management positions while the

representation of black African senior staff sit at a lousy

4%.

The university could not and to date has not been able to

provide a gender and racial breakdown of their dropout rate,

which are likely to disproportionately affect black male and

black female students who are subjected to the indecency of

racism.

In terms of all the metrics of equal representation of staff

being and governance of institution, Stellenbosch University

failed. This was an institution of predominantly black

students. As is the case of frequently across the country,

Stellenbosch University would have been long put under

administration. There is clearly no intention by this

institution to be African even while it exist in Africa and it

exist as an exclaim of white priority complexes and it

disrespect for black people.

The decline in a need for indigenous languages reveals that

black people have given up on Stellenbosch as a side to get



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education and in defence therefore, of all the African people

who were urinated on by Theuns du Toit and its unnamed racism

compatriot and there are many victims. The EFF reject this

report, Chairperson. Thank you.

Mr S L NGCOBO: Thank you, hon Chairperson. The report of the

Committee of Higher Education on a recent oversight to

Stellenbosch University has not come at a more relevant time

in South Africa’s social political space. The intent of this

committee’s oversight was to access the university’s readiness

for 2022 academic year. Yet, what they found there are issues

of inadequate and slow transformation within the university.

The committee had various presentation from senior professors

regarding the issues of diversity, inclusion and

transformation. In fact, in support of the university view

that there has been progress, Mr A Moos, Chairperson of the

University Council, stated that the University of Stellenbosch

is committed to unity in diversity by inculcating tolerance of

and respect for different perspectives and believes.

Unfortunately, he is ... I am sorry, Chairperson. Something is

just disturbing me. Unfortunately, he is and various other

presenters were vaulted into the stack reality that a culture



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of racism, intolerance, diversity and superiority in the

university, amongst some. This was brought to light when a

white student Theuns du Toit felt it necessary to urinate on a

black’s learner desk.

The criminality of his actions show the proud display amongst

fellow students that indeed there is a well-established base

of racism within institution. And this cannot be tolerated.

The actions by du Toit showed a hatred and undervaluing for

black education and supported the sentiment made by the

university’s the Student Representative Council, SRC, in

arguing that transformation was indeed superficial.

Only seven days ago, it was also reported that a student at

the same university had been allegedly arrested on charges of

rape. Now hon Chairperson, this brings into question the

effectiveness and the commitment by the university that

supposedly support out constitutional values in addressing

transformation, unity, tolerance and respect as alluded by Mr

Moos. More must be done and in fact imposed on the university

under the prescripts of our Constitution.

This university has been known ... Well, Chairperson, the ANC

support the report. [Time expired.]



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*Afrikaans***:**

Dr W J BOSHOFF: Dit is Wynand Boshoff van die VF Plus, agb

Voorsitter. Om in die badkamer te urineer en nie op iemand se

boeke of rekenaar nie, gaan oor maniere. Iemand wat dit doen

verteenwoordig niemand nie. Hy wangedra hom en moet die

gevolge dra. Verkragting is net so, maar erger.

*English:*

An oversight visit is always something to look forward to.

Colleagues in the committee are attentive, eager to learn,

critical in a well-natured way, and always witty. It is a pity

we hardly ever agree.

The oversight visit to the University of Stellenbosch is a

case in point. Although we were terribly late, the chair

apologised profusely and the university accepted it with

dignity. Then they started with their presentations.

All dignitaries did their best to project a highly transformed

institution of high academic value. The university has a good

idea of what the committee would like to hear and really

wanted to say it.



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The numbers in the room did not quite reflect the numbers on

the white board. The room looked quite transformed, the

numbers less. And for my agile minded colleagues that was not

difficult to detect.

Now, we all know that Stellenbosch is the alma mater of

several prime ministers and other key members of the pre-1994

establishment.

The present management would rather that we see the university

is a top performing research institution which is well

governed and creates a third income stream. Also as the

university of choice for all population groups which does not

give preferential treatment to Afrikaans students

The university’s nickname is not even Maties anymore, but the

more “inclusive” word “Stellies”. Which made me chuckle as I

thought of Simon van der Stel as a key figure in early

colonial settlement – not so very inclusive. A perception

developed in my mind that the people in Stellenbosch said:

We want to remain an excellent academic institution. Make a

list of everything we have to change to stay the same. Names

of buildings? Check. Language policy? Check.



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The committee noted. The problem is that once one follows that

route, one has accepted its premises. The most important one

is that transformation demands that each institution should

reflect the whole country’s population.

The FF Plus insists that an Afrikaans higher education

institution in the south and one in the north is justifiable –

as recommended by Prof Jakes Gerwel about 20 years ago. But

universities agreed that it need not be the case and ascended

a treadmill of which the government has the speed control.

My conclusion is that if this committee has to choose between

quality and transformation, they will choose transformation

every day. The FF Plus does not share that view and will not

vote for the report. I thank you.

Mr W M THRING: House Chairperson, the ACDP notes that the

committee, as part of its oversight mandate over the Post

School Education and Training system, conducted an oversight

visit to Stellenbosch University. The purpose of the oversight

visit was to engage with the university’s management, council

and stakeholders on the progress made with the university’s

transformation journey.



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The ACDP positions that our tertiary institutions play an

important role in moulding the minds and hearts of our young

people and in so doing, are able to contribute meaningfully

and positively to the many social ills and economic challenges

facing South Africa. It is in this light that the ACDP has

condemned the urinating incident at Stellenbosch, as a

violation of the dignity and privacy of our student, Babalo,

by a fellow student, Theuns du Toit. This must never be

allowed to happen again, ever.

The ACDP is aware that learning and culture is our largest

national budget item of some R441,5 billion. Our unemployment

rate however at 35,3% is one of the highest, with

approximately 3,4 million or 35% out of 10,2 million young

people aged between 15 and 24 not in education, employment or

training. In the transformation space, the ACDP asserts that

this presents a ticking time bomb, a crises of education,

employment and training of young people in South Africa, which

if not arrested, can only result in an escalation of social

and economic ills in our country.

The ACDP agrees with the committee’s recommendation for the

development of a national plan for the implementation of the

Language Policy Framework to secure dedicated funding to



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assist with the development of indigenous languages as

languages for teaching and learning.

We further welcome the recommendation that Higher Education

institutions should refrain from introducing mandatory

vaccination policies without reasonable consultation with all

students and staff. The ACDP is not anti-vaccine, but pro-

choice and as a result will continue to oppose any and all

mandatory vaccine policies on campuses. The logic is simple:

If both vaccinated and unvaccinated, are able to contract and

transmit COVID-19, why discriminate against the unvaccinated

who choose to exercise their constitutional right to bodily

and psychological integrity.

Finally, the ACDP asserts that we cannot have transformation

for the sake of transformation. Transformation must be applied

equitably, in that when applied, it must benefit all in South

Africa - black and white. I thank you.

Mr B N HERRON: House Chair, the portfolio committee’s

oversight report on the progress of the University of

Stellenbosch’s transformation journey must obviously be

considered in the context of the recent dehumanising and

racist case of a white student breaking into a black student’s



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dorm room to urinate all over his things. While the university

council and the management presented a firm commitment to the

university’s transformation, it is the SRC’s leadership input

that we should pay attention to; because the latest experience

of the students’ community must be the measure ...

[Inaudible.] ... claim progress of the transformation journey

as credible.

The report makes it clear that despite the transformation

plans, the latest experience of the students’ community, is

that there is lack of transformation and dated around the

university and that the transformation ethics seems to be

largely superficial. The lesson for all of us is that

transformation plans are worthless if they are not translated

into fundamental change.

The progress of the transformation journey was exposed by the

most recent racist incident, has not fully embedded in the

university’s community. University community being the

leadership, staff and the students had not achieved the

tolerant and safe space for learning regardless of race or

culture.



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What happened on the university’s campus is also a reflection

of our South African society, where racism and intolerance

still permeate. A duty to build a non-racial South Africa

where we can all thrive rests with all of us. But, there is a

duty on white South Africans to examine our place and our

conduct to this beautiful and complex land of ours. And to

reject those who seek to divide our fellow South Africans.

As the Stellenbosch SRC leadership said: It’s about our

mindset. We have somehow liked us to retreat to a ...

[Inaudible.] ... that separate us from the project to

rebuilding our country after centuries of oppression. They

would like to see the project of building a thriving nation

with common values and diminishing inequality as belonging to

others who are ... [Inaudible.] ... on courage to complain and

point fingers.

The racist event at the university, despite our noble plans,

their noble plans for transformation is a call to action. We

all have to be part of the solution and building a country for

all to prosper is not the work of others. Thank you.

Mr M NYHONTSO: House Chairperson, we support the report. Thank

you.



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*Sesotho:*

Mong W T LETSIE: Ke a leboha Modulasetulo.

*English*:

The ANC is dismayed by the perpetual emergence of the ugly

head of racism at the University of Stellenbosch. The inhumane

treatment by the white student, Du Toit, who urinated on

another student’s belongings who is black, with resistance and

no shame, demonstrate that our path at national reconciliation

and social cohesion will continuously be diverted by

institutional cultures, which embrace discriminate practices.

We wish the student who experienced this act strength; and

calls on the university to ensure that the student and all

others affected are provided with various support to enable

them to transcend this experience and continue their studies

without no impairment. We welcome the suspension of Theuns du

Toit, but far reaching consequences should be taken to

communicate non tolerance to racism and it not belonging to

any of our Higher Education institutions.

The response of the University of Stellenbosch should be a

thorough transformational process which acknowledges ...

[Inaudible.] ... institutional racism which is embedded in



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various institutional cultural practices in the residents,

sports, academia and its staff relations. They must expel him

with others who continue to practice such despicable

behaviour.

Our oversight visit to Stellenbosch University was a stark

reminder that 28 years into our democracy, we still have

institutions which systematically maintained white dominance.

Despite the university transformational key performance area

constituting 20 to 25% of the total key performance areas,

African academic staff is a below par 7% coloured staff and

14% and Indian staff at 3%. The university is a classically

expression of the west characteristics of racial dominance and

patriarchal state of our institutions.

The university continues to pride itself as an enclave of

African dominance rooted in the philosophy of ... [Inaudible.]

... university, which the idea of the establishment of the

South African university to consolidate the social economic

and cultural capital through Afrikaner nationalism. The

university has 685 personnel and in terms of demographics, 486

of those are white, followed by 79 coloureds, 64 foreigners,

28 Africans and Indian staff. In terms of the distribution by

gender since 2021, the university has 411 male senior



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personnel and only 274 female senior personnel. The university

continues to reproduce its ... [Inaudible.] ... democratic

structure through its enrolment which enrolled only 39% first

years from historically disadvantaged South Africans, as the

Chair would have alluded earlier.

While 65% ... [Inaudible.] ... enrollers are white students.

This happens despite black applicants being more than double

the number of white applicants. Reflecting the systematic

reproduction of dominance. When we raise this, Members of

Parliament like hon Schreiber accuses us or attacking

Afrikaans as a language and Afrikaner as people - how

pedestrian.

In this report we have made a recommendation for the

development of indigenous language to strengthen them as

languages of meaningful academic discourse and source of

knowledge for various academic discipline in higher education.

I hope that our hon members are listening. Just to correct hon

King, we didn’t go to Stellenbosch because the DA has pushed

us to. We went there because we go to all institutions and I’m

worried that hon King has failed to call Stellenbosch, at

least once, on their clear agenda of racism, I wonder why. The

University of Stellenbosch should undertake a paradigm shift



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... [Inaudible.] ... position itself as a South African

institution. We support the oversight report. Thank you very

much. [Time expired.]

Debate concluded.

**REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND**

**INNOVATION ON COMMISSION FOR GENDER EQUALITY (CGE) REPORT ON**

**FOLLOW-UP HEARINGS ON GENDER TRANSFORMATION AT TERTIARY**

**INSTITUTIONS 2019/20**

Ms D P SIBIYA: Hon Chairperson, allow me to switch off the

video. As the portfolio committee we committed ourselves to

strengthening oversight over our post-school education and

training sector, in ensuring that they do their part in

implementing the priorities as contained in the National

Strategic Plan On Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, GBVF.

We also committed to ensuring that there is a gender

transformation in the different section sectors of the Post-

school education and training, PSET, system. I present the

committee report on consideration of the Commission for Gender

Equality, CGE, on its report on follow up hearings on gender



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transformation at tertiary institutions 2019-20, for adoption

by the house.

The CGE has conducted follow hearings at the University of

Johannesburg, University of Free State, Stellenbosch

University, University of Zululand, University of Mpumalanga

and Nelson Mandela University, and Sol Plaatjie University.

The CGE is doing a commendable work to bring the

transformation challenges that are still existing in tertiary

institutions.

As a committee, we have observed the slow pace of

transformation at Stellenbosch University and challenges

explained by students regarding accommodation and water

challenges at the University of Free State. We are gravely

concerned about the safety and security of students in some of

the university campuses due to poor infrastructure facilities

and the inability of universities in providing safe spaces for

victims of GBVF incidents.

Hon Chair, The CGE through its hearings has revealed the low

levels of compliance with legislation that specifically

challenges gated gender transformation by universities. Women

representation in the faculties of science was 32% and



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engineering 27%. At Stellenbosch University there was still a

greater representation of men in many of the senior positions

as opposed to women. The University of Stellenbosch had a

limited budget in relation to gender transformation and their

GBVF policy.

We recommend that the CGE in its work should work closely with

the institution to assist them with the development of

policies aimed at improving gender transformation. We commit

to continue the monitoring of the implementation of mitigation

by the institution to address areas of concern by the CGE. I

recommend that the report be adopted. Thanks a lot,

Chairperson.

Ms C V KING: Thank you Chairperson. At the time of ...

[Inaudible.] ... for the quality investigations were

discussed University of Fort Hare, UFH, the students Nosicelo

Mtebeni’s dismembered body was stuffed in in a suitcase by a

boyfriend who is also a student Aluta Pasile.

Yesterday political parties joined hands in Mthata to march

for justice for Namhla Mtwa. How is it then that a rape

incident at Stellenbosch University, SU, that occurred care

the same time as the urinating incident could not even evoke



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enough emotion for picket at the court where the alleged

perpetrator was released on bail?

The Constitution of South Africa as a supreme law prohibits

GBVF with all its manifestations. Chapter Two of the

Constitution the Bill of Rights ensures “the quality and

dignity of humans in all citizens in South Africa, section

9,10,12 (1) and (2) of the Constitution prohibits violence.

However, we live in a country where violence, especially GBVF

is prevalent. On this background, a Chapter 9 Institution

commission for gender equality was established in terms of

section 187 of our Constitution, to promote respectful and

protection development and the attainment of gender equality

in South Africa. This mean they had to see to it to monitor

and evaluate policies and practices of organs of state at any

level, statutory bodies and functionaries, public bodies, and

authorities and private enterprises as well as research and

makes recommendations to Parliament.

The Commission for Gender Equality, CGE, receive investigates

of complaints of gender discrimination, and as the power to

subpoena and institute litigation. During the 2019-2020

financial year, the CGE embarked on follow up investigations,

specifically targeted at gender transformation within various



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institutions of higher learning to understand the gender

dynamics linked to the slow pace of transformation within

institutions of higher learning, taking into consideration the

labour legislation aimed at transformation. Of which, the

following institutions were subjected to the University of

Johannesburg, UJ, University of Free State, UFS, Stellenbosch

University, SU, University of Zululand, UZ, University of

Mpumalanga, UMP, Nelson Mandela University, NMU, and Sol

Plaatjie University, SPU, and the Department of Higher

Education.

Media reports of sex for marks scandals, allegations of sexual

harassment in the institutions of higher learning, the slow

transformation around LGBTQ+, and the placement of women and

persons with disability in senior management and the slow

uptake on the adoption of gender policies, ... [Inaudible.]

... the commission to investigate.

You chaired an accelerated academic mentoring programme to

provide career development opportunities with a goal of giving

stimulus to transformation of academic staff, profile in terms

of race and gender to develop the next cohort of academic

leaders, but at a 1,1% uptake of people with disabilities.



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Concerns were raised about the University of Free State

accommodation in QwaQwa Campus, especially with access to

water and long distances to walk buy water in high crime

areas. The commission found that although transformation is

taking place ... [Inaudible.] ... it is taking place at a

slow pace with the prevalence of more men in senior positions

as opposed to woman and its student placement policy makes no

mention of accommodating persons with disability.

The UZ developed a policy and procedure on talent management,

which targets women and people with disability for training

programmes at developing leadership and readiness. The

commission recommended that UZ must reflect on work of the

commission of 2018-19 report. The UMP was applauded for the

allocation of funds to address GBVF and the implementation of

the Ministerial Task Team, MTT, initiative. The NMU lingered

behind in gender parity in respect of its staff members, in

faculties of scientists engineering and law. The SPU shows ...

[Inaudible.] ... and more progress of woman representation in

senior management and in the ... [Inaudible.] ...

There is quite slight improvement, gender transformation

remains a challenge. No amount of grandstanding will remedy

these situations without implementable multifaceted gender



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transformation policies in place. As we are waiting on the

overdue Ministerial Task-Team report on gender transformation

at institutions of higher learning.

As I conclude, I end off by echoing the words of Dr Thandi

Mgwebi, a member of the Ministerial Task Team, MTT, who said

that and I quote:

The university sector should consider selling the

benefits of transformation rather than force or impose

change.

I thank you, hon Chairperson.

Ms N N CHIRWA: Hon House Chairperson, greetings to the

commander in chief of the EFF, Julius Sello Malema, all the

officials of the EFF, commissars, fighters and ground forces

of the EFF. Sadly, what brings us here is much more than what

meets the eye. The true matter of today is that this

Commission for Gender Equality, CGE, a Chapter 9 institution

meant to protect and usher equity and justice for the women of

this country and in the higher education sector, has chosen to

protect Minister Blade Nzimande over the thousands of students

whose lives remain vulnerable either as victims of sexual



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violence or future victims of sexual violence in our

universities and Technical and Vocational Education and

Training, TVETs.

The facts are that the current crop of leaders and executives

in the CGE will keep flocking us with reports that do nothing

for us but burden us with what should be done and should be

their responsibility. Like hundreds others of their reports by

the CGE, this is another meaningless one that only serves to

make the CGE commissioners feel like they are doing something

when they are doing nothing. Technical and Vocational

Education and Training colleges and universities will continue

being led by primarily men — white men. Technical and

Vocational Education and Training college students across the

country will continue facing the danger of being sexually

harassed and violated by lecturers and fellow students, and

having no tangible recourse because institutions like South

West Gauteng College in Soweto continue hoarding sexual

harassment policies that fail to even define what sexual

harassment and violation is, and the department, as per usual,

does absolutely nothing to resolve this crisis.

It is no surprise at all that institutions like Rhodes had the

audacity to suspend and expel students for their activism



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against sexual violence and demanding justice for the rage

they experience in their institution. There is no Blade

Nzimande or Buti Manamela that will fight rape culture and

usher in a wave of justice for victims of sexual violence in

institutions of higher learning. Every person sitting in this

room knows this, and so does the CGE. The CGE ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon Chirwa, please

hold. Hon Papo, your hand is up.

Mr A H M PAPO: Chair of the session, member Chirwa called

inister Blade Nzimande and Deputy Minister with their first

names which is a violation of the Rules of the National

Assembly.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Hon Chirwa, the order

is sustained. We know what Rule 82 says to us. Please, let us

adhere to the Rules of this House, as you proceed.

Ms N N CHIRWA: Noted, Chairperson. I’ll repeat it: There is no

Minister Blade Nzimande or Deputy Minister Buti Manamela that

will fight rape culture in our institutions of higher learning

and usher in a wave of justice for victims of sexual violence

in institutions of higher learning. Every person sitting in



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this room knows this, and so does the CGE. The CGE should

actually learn a thing or two from the Public Protector, Adv

Mkhwebane, on what a Chapter 9 institution does when

recommendations are being ignored by institutions and by

Ministers. There is a legal recourse where the EFF has been

begging the CGE to take their ignored reports to the courts,

and they have not done this because they owe their allegiance

to the ANC-led government that has never prioritised justice

for women in this country. We reject this report as much as we

reject the rape apologist and rape enabling government of the

ANC. Thank you, House Chairperson.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms M G Boroto): Thank you. We will

proceed. The FF Plus, you are on the Speaker’s List but I

don’t have a name.

Dr W J BOSHOFF: Hon Chair, it will be Wynand Boshoff. Can I

proceed?

*Afrikaans*:

Die HUISVOORSITTER (Me M G Boroto): Gaan voort, agb lid.

Dr W J BOSHOFF: [Onhoorbaar.] ... Agb Voorsitter, ek is die pa

van drie dogters. Een is in die beroepswêreld in ’n professie



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wat tradisioneel deur mans oorheers word. Die tweede studeer

in ’n rigting wat eweneens tradisioneel ’n mannewêreld is en

die derde is nog op skool.

Toe die oudste een begin groot word het ek vir haar gesê sy

moet maar ’n feminis wees, want ek sien baie jong mans maar

nie baie ridders op mooi perde nie. Dit raak nou tyd om

dieselfde raad die derde keer te gee, net meer so want

intussen het ek baie geleer wat ek toe nog nie geweet het nie

en nou ook gewens het dat dit nie so was nie.

’n Sentrale probleem is dat daar ’n reuse waarde-vakuum in

byna alle gemeenskappe in Suid-Afrika bestaan. As een boodskap

duidelik uitgedra word, dan is dit dat die tradisionele

waardestelsels uitgedien is. Dit is jammer, want in die

skepping van ’n nuwe waardestelsel is dit noodsaaklik om

liewer aansluiting by vorige stelsels te vind, as om ’n totale

breuk te veroorsaak.

My elementêre kennis van tradisionele Afrika-waardestelsels is

dat die belange van ’n vrou lewenslank deur haar familie op

die hart gedra word. As ’n man sy vrou sleg behandel, is dit

haar manlike familielede se plig om in te gryp. In Afrikaans,



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waarvan ek ’n bietjie meer weet, is daar min beledigings so

groot soos om iemand ’n vroueslaner te noem.

Dit beteken nie dat ’n mens na die verlede wil teruggryp nie.

Tradisionele waardestelsels het ook aanvaar dat die vrou se

rol in die huis is en dat mans alleenlik die beroepswêreld

betree. Dat ’n vrou haar studieloopbaan van Graad 1 tot

nagraads na die beste van haar vermoë deurvoer, lei natuurlik

daartoe dat sy ook professionele ambisies van haar eie wil

nastreef.

’n Skadukant van die moderne samelewing is dat gesinne

verbrokkel. Vir baie seuns is die vaders wat hulle moet leer

van respek vir vroue en hoe ’n gentleman hom gedra nie daar

nie. Kerke het nie meer die gesag wat dit eens gehad het nie,

wat beteken dat al meer jong mans net eenvoudig doen wat hulle

wil, en wat hulle wil is nie goeie maniere nie.

Basiese respek en dat nee, nee is, is iets waarvoor jy nie ’n

kursus in geslagsake in die 21ste eeu nodig het nie, ook dat

seks ’n goddelike geskenk vir geliefdes is en nie iets

waarvoor jy betaal met gunsies of geld nie. ’n Basiese

opvoeding behoort dit duidelik te maak.



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Nog ’n saak wat vir die *Commission for Gender Equality,*CGE**,**

[Kommissie vir Geslagsgelykheid] belangrik is, is die

ontplooiing van vroue in senior poste. Ons vrouens is slim.

Ons moet ophou om hulle groot te maak asof hulle sekere

beroepe nie kan beklee nie. En dan moet ons hulle aanstel

omdat hulle die werk kan doen, nie omdat die kwota vir mans al

vol is nie.

Dan het ons die groeiende lys van geslagte buiten die

tweedeeling van man en vrou, waarvoor daar kleedkamers

voorsiening gemaak moet word. Dit skep probleme en dit is

amper as om te sê, ons bou maar karre wat nie meer slotte het

nie want dit is net ’n skelm wat ’n kar sal steel. Die

probleme wat deur so iets voor die deur gelê word is oneindig.

Agb Voorsitter, die VF Plus aanvaar wel hierdie verslag,

alhoewel daar baie punte is waarop ons wesenlik kan verskil.

Ek dank u.

Ms M D HLENGWA: Hon Chairperson, the report regarding gender

equality in higher education is important, as it provides us

with a view of how transformation is taking place at the

various institutions in South Africa. In keeping with the

theme of previous reports considered by this House, the report



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speaks to many challenges of transformation in tertiary

institutions. We must emphasize the importance of

transformation as a vehicle that brings about the mixture of

culture and tolerance between previous ...[Inaudible]

...communities.

Transformation must bring about hopeful opportunities for

every South African, an agenda that promotes unity, direct

prosperity for our nation. With that in mind, the report goes

on to highlight certain shortcomings by university

institutions in a bid to address inequality,

underrepresentation and lack of transformation. The

representation by various groups of people help to bring about

the availability of this institutions to a wider range of

people.

We all are in agreement that; education is the single most

important tool for the uplifting of many communities, and this

accessibility must remain a key objective of the Department of

Higher Education. The IFP supports the recommendation by the

committee that the Commission for Gender Equality, CGE must

improve its visibility and advocacy programmes, especially

among the Stellenbosch and Free State universities. The



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encouraged gender-based violence must be met with resistance.

The IFP supports this report. Thank you.

Ms J S MANANISO: Let me thank you Chairperson and as well

greet the hon members on the platform. Hon members, let me

borrow the words of one of our own Deputy Chair of the NCOP,

hon Sylvia Lucas, when she was addressing the Women Chatter

Report Back on Saturday. She said I quote:

Implementing commitments towards gender equality requires

intentional measures to incorporate a gender perspective,

in planning and budgeting frameworks and concrete

investment in addressing gender gaps.

The agenda of equity equality and affirmative action is not

for compliance, but a constitutional imperative in addressing

the imbalances of the past and the current. Chairperson, the

Commission for Gender Equality has highlighted serious concern

with regards to institutions of higher learning, with regards

to issues of slow pace in terms of transformation, as well as

issues of gender-based violence and femicide in this

particular ... [Inaudible] ...sector, and the inability to

have some institutions to provide safe spaces for victims of

the gender-based violence, GBV incidents.



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We condemn the entitlement by some lecturers, who force

students into sleeping with them, just for sex for marks. To

our colleagues who are assigned to govern, manage and lead

institutions of higher learning, the Gender Agenda must be

part of all your policies, plans, operations, target

performance, budget, and monitoring and evaluation. As we have

alluded and indicated during the engagement with CGE, it is

important that as CGE and Chapter 9 institutions, they make

sure they go to this institution and ensure that they engage

them with regards to these issues. If they see gaps, they must

as well capacitate those who are leading these particular

institutions.

Social transformation is urgent and eminent for all races,

sex, class, religion, culture and beliefs and not for the few.

Our institutions must be free from all forms of oppression,

discrimination, apathy, and exclusion. Hon Boshoff, I

understand that, you won’t understand this one because you

still believe that you must maintain Orania as the island. So

we are speaking about inclusion. We are speaking about dealing

about oppression and discrimination.

*IsiXhosa*:

Mazijike izinto ...



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*English*:

... in all the recommendations that were set by CGE. We want

people to implement and if not, there should be consequence

management. Gender Agenda cannot be postponed. Let all South

Africans test all the systems in place to break the demons of

social oppression, that seeks to perpetuate poverty,

inequality and unemployment.

Hon Chair, I would like to address honourable King. On her

statement, she spoke about green standing. It is very worrying

because of she’s been doing that in all her statements in

terms of the debates. When you speak issues of transformation,

we don’t speak about “I” or about “us”, we speak about “we”.

So, we still believe that, as a nation we must work together

in ensuring that we transform all the spaces. As usual, some

of us are not surprised, hon Chirwa today you did the usual

thing of playing the man not the ball. Gender Agenda is for

all of us to make sure that we address it. As the ANC we

support this particular report. I thank you.

Debate concluded

The Mini Plenary rose at 16:25

