BATHLAKOANE BA MANZIMNYAMA

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06 December

2010

Mr PS Sizani, MP, Chairperson

Attention: Ms Phumla Nyamza
Committee Secretary
Portfolio Committee on Rural Development and Land Reform
PO Box 15, Parliament
CAPE TOWN 8000

Fax: 086 504 6848 or 021 403 3852

Sir/Madam

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS TO THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON RURAL

DEVELOPMENT AND LAND REFORM: RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND REFORM

GENERAL AMENDMENT BILL (B33 - 2010)

Purpose

The purpose of this letter is to request the Portfolio Committee on Rural Development and Land Reform to make provision in the Rural Development and Land Reform General Amendment Bill (B33 - 2010) for the re-opening of land claims for those South Africans who could not claim for various reasons during the 1994 – 1998 window period.

Background

On 13 August 2009 we sent a letter to the State President requesting him to use his executive powers to allow our clan to lodge a land claim, seeing that we did not get an opportunity to lodge during the 1994-1998 window period, please refer to the attached letter sent to the State President and his response (Marked as Annexure A and Annexure B). The State President referred us to the Mpumalanga Provincial Department of Rural Development, Agriculture and Land Administration. This department indicated that they cannot assist because the land claim process has closed (please refer to the attached letter Marked as Annexure C) and that there is no law empowering them to allow us to lodge a land claim, from this we have learnt that the Executive Powers of the State President are not enough – hence we would like to turn to the legislative process of asking Parliament to help us.

Discussion

We hereby request that the Rural Development and Land Reform General Amendment Bill (B33 - 2010) be used as a vehicle to open the land claims process again, so that we can lodge our claim.

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS MANIFESTO

As the ruling party the ANC committed themselves in their 2009 Manifesto that they will:

 Review the appropriateness of the existing land redistribution programme, introduce measures aimed at speeding up the pace of land reform and redistribution and promote land ownership by South Africans.

We have in the meantime written to the Constitutional Review Committee to have Section 25 of the Constitution to be reviewed to assist in the acceleration of the Land reform process.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of our letter to ensure that you have received it and you are considering our submission.

Kind Regards

John Mokoena (078 705 8544)