



SACP

SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY

EASTERN CAPE

PEC BULLETIN



13th edition

Socialism is the future, Build it now!!!!

Background:

The SACP Eastern Cape PEC Bulletin is a medium of the SACP for propagating its views with the working class in an unmediated fashion.

While it is important to constantly engage and contest ideas within the bourgeoisie commercial media but SACP is alive to the reality that any commercial media is first and foremost inclined to reflect views of its masters (monopoly capital).

It also contains regular features such as letters to the editor, commentary and a variety of other exciting features on working class struggles, the economy, etc.

Guidelines for Submission of Articles

Style and Length:

The length for feature articles is 1200-1800 words.

Letters to the editor must not exceed 300 words and opinion pieces must not exceed 600 words.

Articles must be written in plain and simple English. Articles may contain words in other South African languages, with the English meaning bracketed.

Articles must be relevant to membership of our party and the working class in general, exciting and solicit debate and discussions.

Articles about recent events or contemporary issues in South Africa and the world will be given preference for publication in the SACP Eastern Cape PEC bulletin.

All SACP District Spokespersons, YCLSA Spokesperson and other Spokespersons of the MDM fraternal organisations are encouraged to submit articles about the recent activities; as they might not be covered in the mainstream media.

Due Date:

The SACP Eastern Cape PEC Bulletin is published monthly (12 issues per annum). The due date for the submission of articles is the 20th of each month.

Late submissions will not be considered for an edition of such month but for future editions.

Originality:

The SACP EC PEC Bulletin publishes original articles. We also publish articles which have appeared elsewhere in whole or in part.

Should you feel that republishing an article would be beneficial to SACP EC PEC Bulletin readership and that the article will reach a broader readership through our medium than the medium that first published it, then you need to bring this to the attention of the Editor.

All sources cited in the articles must be referenced.

Themes:

Different editions/ issues of the SACP PEC Bulletin will have specific themes (Joe Slovo Month, Chris Hani Month, Youth Month, Red October, SACP anniversaries, COSATU Anniversaries, ANC anniversary, etc.) therefore some articles must be tailored to suit the specific theme. Each issue/edition of the SACP EC PEC bulletin will indicate the theme of the next edition, so articles should be submitted as such.

Processing of Articles:

All articles shall be subjected to scrutiny by the SACP EC PEC bulletin editorial team.

The SACP EC Bulletin is particularly interested in fostering a culture of reading and writing amongst the leadership and membership of our party.

We will therefore give special consideration to the articles written by the general members of our party.

Articles will go through a review process, after which we will inform the contributor whether the article will be published or not.

The review process largely depends on the adherence to deadlines provided by the Editor and the content of the article as submitted.

Editorial Team:

Xolile Nqatha
Siyabonga Mdoti
Sisimone Rakaibe
Siyabulela Mbedla
Fundile "Blacks" Gade
Mawethu Rune
Nonkoliso Ngqongwa
Andile Mosha

Next Edition: Kindly forward your contributions to simdodi@gmail.com on Monday, 21 March 2016.

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THE FIGHT AGAINST ZIONISM IS THE JUST FIGHT- 07



As we enter the month of march, we enter are drawing closer to the local government elections in our country. Election period in its nature is a silly period, you see and hear strange things within and outside the movement.

This period therefore requires maximum unity in the congress movement. Our unity as the people's camp is the precondition of any revolutionary advance. We should all work to unite the people's camp for advancement of our revolution.

A fractured and weak people's camp can only serve to reverse our hard won gains and put the enemy in a position of strength.

The SACP in Eastern Cape has established elections structures to coordinate our election work. The party will roll out its elections campaign in every district, working tirelessly for the overwhelming victory of the African National Congress (ANC). We will work with the African National Congress and all progressive formations in putting our country in a second more radical phase of the transition.

We will do so not compromising the people's power, for our side will always be that of the people and the truth. We will work to unify the movement and our communities. However, our deep seated commitment to the movement and our loyalty to the people, as the South African Communists should not make some elements with the movement to think they can do anyhow with us.

It is our deep commitment to this movement and the people that will never allow us to surrender this movement to people who want to use it as their tool to accumulate resources. We shall never surrender our movement to unprincipled people who wants to capture this movement. We shall defend it, with and for the people.

Israel Apartheid Week.

From the 07 to 13 March it will be the Israel Apartheid Week. South Africans will be having many demonstration actions to pledge our solidarity to the people of Palestine who are oppressed by the brutal apartheid Israel. We are all going to put our energies in a just fight against Zionism, a fight against apartheid and a fight for humanity.



Israel continues to bomb people of Palestine, killing thousands of people including women and children. The apartheid Israel is no different to the apartheid South Africa which was declared a crime against humanity. As South Africans we could not have defeated apartheid, if it was not for the international solidarity.

It is in this context that we are calling for people of South Africa to support the all efforts and actions to end the oppression of the people of Palestine. The support for the people of Palestine and of any other oppressed part of the world is a just cause.

We should all support the people of Palestine whom are being oppressed by Israel, The people of Swaziland against the dictatorship of Mswati Tikundla, the People of Western Sahara who are still oppressed by Morocco.

We are calling upon members of our party, and the people of South Africa in general to support and participate in the Israel Apartheid week as organised by the BSA – South Africa, starting from the 07th to the 13 March 2016.

In this issue:

In the 13th Edition, we publish an article by the SACP Eastern Cape 2nd Deputy Secretary, Comrade Siyabulela Mbedla titled "Saving the ANC".

We will also have an article by Comrade Chris "Che" Matlhako, and Comrade Muhammed Desai. Cde Chris Matlhako is the SACP Central Committee Member, Member of the Politburo and Secretary of International Relations. Cde Muhammed Desai is the YCLSA National Committee Member and the DBS South Africa Coordinator.

The last article is written by Cde Alex Mdakane, The Provincial Secretary of our Young Communist League of South Africa (YCLSA) in Gauteng Province, who is also the National Spokesperson of the Israel Apartheid Week South Africa (IAWSA).

May you have a revolutionary read!

Siyabonga Mdoti, SACP Provincial Spokesperson.



The SACP and Communists activists wherever, are duty bound to be concerned by how the African National Congress as the leader of the Alliance has been penetrated by what everybody in the ANC itself is calling foreign tendencies.

Further, Communists must be troubled by fact that when the ANC is destroyed by those of its own, there shall be no hope for the people of South Africa in general, but more specifically for the Workers and the Poor, for the young students who by today are dropping out from universities, those who are dropping out from Secondary Schools because schools cannot take them to repeat matric, for the old and ailing senior citizens.

At all costs the African National Congress has to be saved by Communists for it to remain relevant, to drive the NDR and to facilitate our road to Socialism. It is necessary to accept that three symptoms are currently ravelling the ANC, and if not addressed may bring the mighty liberation movement to its knees, they are:

- Factionalism coupled with gate keeping and anti-SACP mentality.
- Organizational and state corruption and
- Deployee supremacy mentality

Factionalism and gate keeping have become the order in the ANC structures, more especially at the local state level, at sub-regional and branch level. It is a general observation in ANC branch to find that there is always a contradiction between the registered number of voters in a branch and those that are members of the ANC, it is also a norm in ANC branches that a segment of potential members are deliberately excluded in recruitment as members and those that are recruited their membership forms are deliberately left out of membership audit purposely. This is always targeting certain sectors of the branch population if they are considered a threat either to the branch leadership or the "Ward Councillor ". This summarily means there are potential members who are excluded and therefore denying the ANC its status of being the Mass Movement.

Organisational fraud and corruption is dominated by membership buying and launching branches outside the constitutional requirements. With tender-



entrepreneurship being the main point of rally in the ANC; there are occasions where one person receives funds to pay for up to the minimum required number of branch membership and signs all the forms and prepares membership list. Most of these corrupt activities are seen towards conferences and you have delegates to conferences being decided either in the offices of the Chief Whip , The Mayor , the Speaker or any other office bearer who wields much political influence or has more access to tenders . This has also robbed the ANC quality membership, quality debates, but instead has led to hostilities within the ANC and is also presenting opposition parties with opportunities to attract excluded members and therefore potential voters.

The anti-SACP mentality has gained more ground in ANC structures and this has become one of the causes of internal battles within the ANC. Most leaders in the structures of the ANC have seen Communists and party activists as threat to their ambitions of deployment and they are trying to silence and push them at the periphery of the mainstream politics at the branch, sub-region, region and provincial levels. In most scenarios there is an onslaught against communists, the example being the current embarrassing corruption cases in Skenjana Roji (BCM) and Mbuyiselo Ngwenda (NMBM) where communists have become the open targets of those ANC deployees who want to enrich themselves unduly.

What is more saddening is the silent approach by the ANC leadership to deal and to talk about a clear campaign to discredit the Communist Party and its cadres. The newly recruited members of the ANC are now seeing the SACP as a threat and are being used by ANC deployees in most cases to fight their personal battles.

It is also worth noting that this anti Communist epoch in the Alliance is driven by a certain cult in the movement that are unashamedly corrupt and are so much determined to get out of the way all those who are seen fighting against corruption, again the silence of the ANC leadership on rampant corruption is a cause for concern.

The deployee's supremacy is like when "a dog's tail shakes the dog, not the dog being able to shake its tale". What does all this mean? This means that ANC deployees, more especially at the local state have

acquired all powers from the ANC. They are Ward and PR Councillors, they are branch Chairpersons or Secretaries, they are Mayors, Speakers and Chief Whips and are accounting unto themselves as they regulate membership into their favour.

It is only their cronies who acquire ANC membership who are thereafter taught not to question the deployment of only their cronies who acquire ANC membership and in turn taught not to question the deployees, as such becoming the most supreme to do as they please in the branch. The unfortunate part is lack of organizational work on the part of the upper structures of the movement such as the PECs and RECs and are also linked to particular faction at local state

years of exile. As the SACP grows numerically, it gets penetrated by elements that are either aggrieved by ANC list processes or those who want to use the influence of the party to manoeuvre their way up the candidate lists.

South African Communist Party (SACP) needs first to adhere to its organizational principles and enforce the issue of dual membership to its members, educate its members on both the Communist Theory and that of the Alliance as the strategic centre of power. In order for the SACP to save the ANC and still use the current political epoch as a base for SACP; there must be massive, radical and original organizational work on the part of the party through massive recruitment and



level and branch level and are dependent on perpetuating a particular faction for their survival.

Some branches and sub-regions are having live communication with the regional and provincial secretaries while others are only known by name. PECs and RECs do not provide any organizational and political leadership intervention; the example is the recent Conference of the ANCYL where the provincial leadership left the conference for delegates to fight, injure or kill each other.

Saving the soul of the movement

As indicated earlier, the SACP has and must show concern on the development of the outlined tendencies in the ANC and its structures. The Provincial Secretary of the SACP in the Eastern Cape puts this clearly and simply "We can't hand over the ANC on a silver platter", and it must be a concern of all the SACP activists to have a united ANC.

The SACP structures must not be or be used as factions within the ANC branches and regions, as this has a tendency of compromising the SACP and its reputation, as an ally rich in political content and theory. This being an aspect that assisted the Alliance during the dark

political education at Voting Districts (VDs). With the growth of VD's and membership of the SACP, the party stands a good chance of contesting space in the ANC at branch and regional level. Political maturity and unity of VD's in a ward, which is branch in the ANC makes it simpler for the party to save the ANC from politics of money, deployment, factionalism and gatekeeping.

The SACP needs to analyse the "Reconfigured Alliance" with a view of whether there is a chance for reconfiguring the Alliance or the SACP being absorbed in the process of establishment of state.

The current deployment trends make it difficult for the SACP to really save the ANC as by and large it controls no majority at the state, it therefore leaves the ANC in total control of the state apparatus more especially at the Local State.

The current approach to all elections exposes the SACP and its cadres to manipulation by those managing nomination processes and undoubtedly causes tensions in the Alliance.

Siyabulela Mbedla, SACP 2nd Provincial Deputy Secretary.



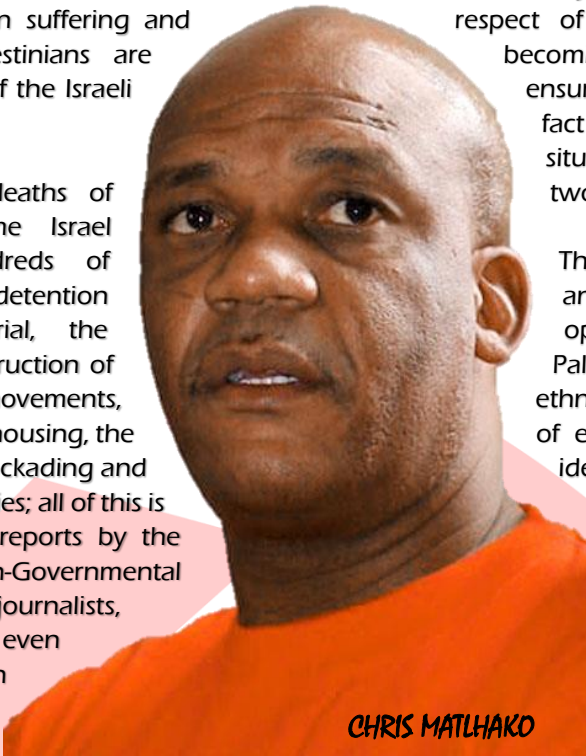
MOVING INTO ACTION

The unlawful occupation of Palestinian land, Palestinian suffering and the violence which Palestinians are subjected to – all at the hands of the Israeli state – is well known.

The headlines detailing the deaths of Palestinian civilians every time Israel launches a war, the hundreds of Palestinians in administrative detention held without charge or trial, the incarceration of minors, the destruction of homes, the severe restriction on movements, the unequal access to water and housing, the construction of a massive wall blockading and dividing Palestinian towns and cities; all of this is so well known - confirmed in reports by the United Nations and Non-Governmental Organisations, reports by journalists, academic writings and even organisations within Israel in addition to other sources. It therefore comes across as surprising why Israel is permitted to continue violating the rights of Palestinians with impunity and in gross violation of basic human rights as enshrined in the United Nations Universal Charter for Human Rights.

The fact is that the situation is very similar to that of apartheid South Africa - and we are not just referring to the sufferings of Palestinian and us Black South Africans as being similar. We are talking about the way in which Apartheid South Africa was almost immune from the Western world criticism and how today too Israel is almost immune.

The world was aware of the evil nature of the apartheid regime and the suffering of black people but Pretoria was allowed to continue with its awful treatment of non-whites because the presence of a neoliberal and capitalist orientated white government ensured that the specter of communism and socialism was kept at bay. As long as the elites – the white elites of South Africa together with a thin crust of blacks who were co-opted into the apartheid enterprise and their global supporters – were shielded from the suffering that the majority of South Africans experienced and criticism against South Africa was soft.



CHRIS MATLHAKO

The very same scenario is playing out in respect of Palestine/Israel. Therefore, it is becoming increasingly important to ensure that people are conscious of the fact that there is nothing normal in this situation. There is no conflict between two equal sides.

There is in Palestine an oppression by an apartheid Israeli state against an oppressed and excluded indigenous Palestinian population on the basis of ethnicity and religion. The importance of efforts to remind people that the ideology which fueled apartheid in South Africa is the same ideology and giving impetus to Israel's savagery and brutality - this cannot be overestimated.

Anyone who is watching closely will see that building more illegal settlements makes it impossible

for Palestinians ever to have their own state. What remains of Palestine – the Occupied Palestinian Territories – is fragmented by the apartheid wall that snakes its way across the land in a blatant attempt to occupy and seize more land.

Israel has no intention whatsoever of finding a solution – perhaps some Israelis do, but the government that is in power has not focused on solutions. This was the same situation in the 1980's in South Africa. It is our responsibility to support efforts that make it difficult for people, states and governments to ignore Israel's human rights violations.

One such event is Israeli Apartheid Week, which was initiated in 2004. Israeli Apartheid Week is an annual series of lectures, rallies, concerts, protests and other activists against the Israeli occupation and blockade of the West Bank and Gaza. Israeli Apartheid Week is held annually in February and March and will be held this year in South Africa between 7 and 13 March 2016.



The aim of Israeli Apartheid Week is to educate people about the nature of Israel as an apartheid system and to build Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaigns as part of a growing global BDS movement. Each year, Israeli Apartheid Week takes place across more than 200 universities and cities. It aims to raise awareness about Israel's ongoing settler-colonial project and apartheid policies over the Palestinian people.

Israeli Apartheid Week is more than just about educating people, it is about getting people to act, to drive change, to take a stand on the right side of history. Israeli Apartheid Week events seek to challenge this in creating an environment in which Israel's human rights violations are aired. If we are to assist in solving this issue we would need to know exactly what the root of the problem is. No one talks about solutions unless they recognise there is a problem.

Israeli Apartheid is a problem and Israeli Apartheid Week together with the BDS campaign and other solidarity actions are the solution. We welcome that this year the Israeli Apartheid Week team in South Africa, with the support of the Embassy of the State of Palestine will be hosting Professor Uri Davis. Dr Uri Davis, of Jewish origin, grew up in the Israeli town of Kfar Shmariyahu and is today an Associate Professor at Al-Quds University in Jerusalem, Palestine.

Dr Uri Davis has been at the forefront of the defence of human rights in Israel-Palestine. He has published extensively and is best known for his book titled "Apartheid Israel: The Struggle Within" (Zed Books, London, 2003). The book has been described as a "devastating critique" of Israel's Apartheid policies.

Davis has sometimes been compared to our own former General Secretary, Comrade Joe Slovo. Joe Slovo stood out from his community when, as a white comrade, he insisted on being critical of the White regime's policies and practices. Likewise, Uri Davis too, has broken from his own Jewish and Israeli community to speak out against the Israeli regime.



The hosting of Uri Davis also breaks the myth that those of us like the SACP who unashamedly support the Palestinian people are not against Jews or Judaism but against the ideology of Zionism - the foundation and ideology that drives and fuels current day Israel's Apartheid policies.

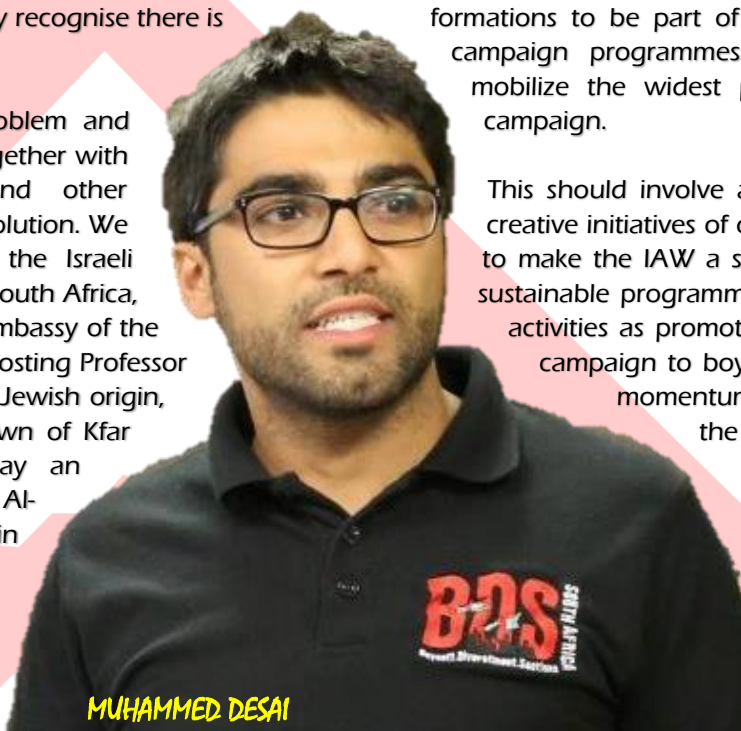
It is in the spirit of solidarity with the oppressed and their struggle for freedom that we as leaders and members of the South African Communist Party should support Israeli Apartheid Week and make an effort to support the campaigns in solidarity with the Palestinian people, a people who we have a debt to for it was them that stood with us during the darkest days of Apartheid.

We urge all our structures across the board and allied formations to be part of this process by organizing campaign programmes in their community and mobilize the widest possible forces behind the campaign.

This should involve and make use of the many creative initiatives of our people and communities to make the IAW a success but to also ensure a sustainable programme beyond the IAW. Regular activities as promoted by the BDS, such as the campaign to boycott Woolworths must gain momentum so that Woolworths feels the pinch.

We are confident that these activities and campaigning will have the desired effect in the same way apartheid South Africa was brought down to its knees.

We owe it to the Palestinian people and cause to do our best, because we ourselves are beneficiaries of unconditional international solidarity which contributed towards the April 1994 breakthrough.



Chris "Che" Matlhako and Muhammed Desai

**Matlhako - 13th Congress CC and PB member
Secretary for International Relations**

Desai - YCLSA National Committee member & BDS



THE FIGHT AGAINST ZIONISM IS A JUST FIGHT

Zionism is a movement which emerged among some European Jews during the nineteenth century. The main goal of Zionism was to establish a sovereign Jewish nation state in historic Palestine. It is important to note that Zionism is not representative of all Jews and is not equivalent to Judaism. One such person of Jewish origin is anti-Apartheid icon, Comrade Joe Slovo, who said: "Ironically enough, the horrors of the Holocaust became the rationalization for the preparation by Zionists of acts of genocide against the indigenous people of Palestine. Those of us who, in the years that were to follow, raised our voices publicly against the violent apartheid of the Israeli state were vilified by the Zionist [pro-Israeli] press."

Theodor Herzl, one of the founders of the Zionist movement, maintained that the creation of a separate Jewish national state was the only solution to ensuring that Jews are protected from discrimination. Since 1948 Zionism has become the ideological basis on which the state of Israel is justified as an exclusionary Jewish state and also shapes the social and political climate in which Israel continues to unlawfully occupy Palestinian land. Various international organisations have also been established to support the aims of Zionism.

Zionism is by its nature exclusionary in that it represents the global Jewish community as essentially a homogenous nation which in order to preserve its uniqueness needs to differentiate itself from all others. Like other religious and political ideologies that advocate a politics of exclusion and privilege, Zionism is against the notion of an egalitarian society. Israel's openly aggressive and expansionist policies have resulted in the seizure and occupation of Arab lands which is sustained through violence and discrimination. Israel's track record of an exclusionary state that befriends other states who advance the same politics of oppression and difference is well known. Israel continued to be an ally of apartheid South Africa, even through the boycott years of the 1980's, and rendered military and technical aid to apartheid South Africa. Slovo commented: "It is ironic, too, that the Jew-haters in South Africa – those who worked and prayed for a Hitler victory – have been linked in close embrace with the rulers of Israel in a new axis based on racism." Internationally there is a growing group of people; activists, academics, artists and members of civil society including Jews in Israel and elsewhere that have criticised the imperial Zionist project and condemned the actions of the Israeli state against Palestinians and minorities.

We have a responsibility, all of us peace and justice loving young communists, to stand actively in solidarity with the Palestinian people. One such form of solidarity is participating in the upcoming #IsraeliApartheid Week campaign.

Israeli Apartheid Week is an annual international series of self-organized events (including rallies, lectures, cultural performances, music shows, films and workshops) that seeks to raise awareness of Israel's apartheid policies, violations of international law and human rights abuses toward the indigenous Palestinian people. It is endorsed in South Africa

by over 85 organizations including our ruling party, the ANC, the SACP, and most definitely including the YCLSA.

The aim of IAW is to raise awareness of Israel's apartheid policies towards the indigenous Palestinians and serves to garner support for the non-violent Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel campaign, which seeks to bring an end to Israel's apartheid policies and violations of international law. For South Africans and our liberation, people of the world mobilized in their hundreds of thousands - if not millions - during the 1980s: they held protests, rallies, concerts, free Mandela events, lectures, film screenings and a host of other events and campaigns to raise awareness of Apartheid South Africa's racist policies and to build support for the boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign against Apartheid SA.

Today we have the opportunity to "give-back" by joining the international movement in solidarity with the indigenous Palestinian people (and their progressive Israeli allies) who are struggling against Israeli Apartheid - participating in Israeli Apartheid Week (IAW) is one such form of solidarity.

A fight against the oppression of Palestinians is a fight against the brutal and oppressive system of oppression and occupation which is rarely criticised in a capitalist orientated global system. It is a fight for justice and a struggle to unify those who have as their most important aim the liberation of all people suffering under economic, racial, religious, nationalistic or any other form of oppression.

Alex Mdakane is the YCL SA Provincial Secretary and National Spokesperson of the Israeli Apartheid Week South Africa Team. Israeli Apartheid Week (IAW) takes place between the 7th and 13th of March 2016.



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MZOLELI MRARA - PROVINCIAL CHAIRPERSON



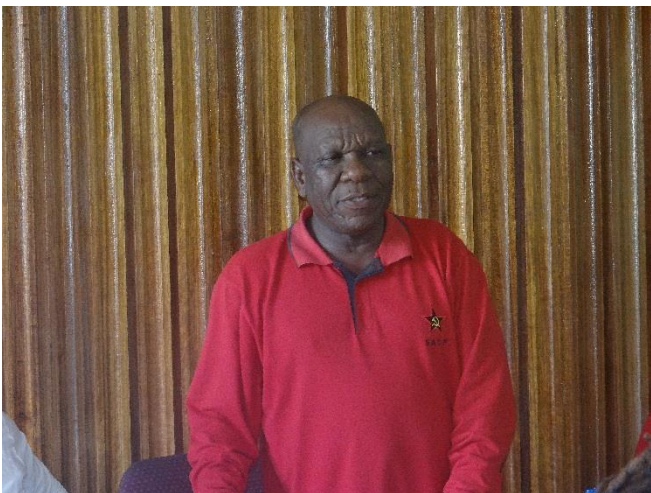
XOLILE NQATHA - PROVINCIAL SECRETARY



NTOMBIZODWA ZOTHANI - PROVINCIAL DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON



VUYANI LIMBA - PROVINCIAL TREASURER



SISIMONE RAKAIBE - 1ST PROVINCIAL DEPUTY SECRETARY



SIYABULELA MBEDIA - 2ND PROVINCIAL DEPUTY SECRETARY



HOW TO CONTACT THE SACP

SACP PROVINCIAL OFFICE

Siwani Avenue
Bisho
Block A, Unit 1
Bhisho Business Village
Tel: 0406350463
Fax: 086 600 7658
Email: nnonthoko@gmail.com
xolilenqatha@gmail.com
Administrator: Cde Noncedo Nothoko

ALFRED NZO DISTRICT OFFICE

Office B7
Rolyats Centre
Kokstad
4700
Tel: 0397273595
Fax: 0397274294
Email: sadtukok@futurenet.co.za
Administrator: Cde Xatyiswa

SKENJANA ROJI DISTRICT OFFICE

3rd Floor, Oxford House
Oxford Street
East London
5201
Contact: 0437228845
Email: ivy.yamile@samwu.telkoms.net
boycemelitafa@gmail.com
Administrator: Simphiwe Mkile

O.R TAMBO DISTRICT OFFICE

43 Nelson Mandela Avenue
Mthatha
5099
Contact: 0735536906
Fax: 0866687355
Email: smvunelo@ihlm.gov.za
mvunelos@webmail.co.za

JOE QQABI DISTRICT OFFICE

P.O. Box 144
Mount Fletcher
4770
Tel: 0791631631
Fax: 0865198221
Email: sydney.belebesi@gmail.com
ammpumpu@yahoo.co.za

K.K CHULE PADIYANA DISTRICT OFFICE

02 Mendi Street
Nomathamsanqa Location
Addo
6105
Tel: 0833194206
Fax: 0865055036
Email: klaasthabiso@gmail.com
Secretary: Thabiso Klaas

CHRIS HANI DISTRICT OFFICE

NEHAWU Building
Mathew Goniwe Regional Office
20 Robinson Road
Queenstown
5320
Tel: 0458383479
Fax: 0458396715
Email: sandilenyalambisa@gmail.com

MBUYISELO NGWENDA DISTRICT OFFICE

2nd Floor, Florence Matomela House
Govan Mbeki Avenue
Port Elizabeth
6205
Tel: 0825914699
Fax: 0864074745
Email: chumani.mfama@gmail.com
District Secretary: Mthiwabo Ndube

NCUMISA KONDLO DISTRICT OFFICE

02 Avalon Court
Butterworth
4960
Tel: 0605201851/ 0820910782
Fax: 0866002576
Email: siguye.ix@gmail.com
ldwadwa@yahoo.com

SOCIAL NETWORKS



SACP Eastern Cape



@SACPECmedia

