



SACP

SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY

EASTERN CAPE

DEC BULLETIN

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE



COSATU



16th 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.

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- Xolile Nqatha
- Siyabonga Mdoti
- Sisimone Rakaibe
- Siyabulela Mbedla
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Next Edition: Kindly forward your contributions to simdodi@gmail.com before Monday, 20 June 2016.

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In concluding the workers month, it is of significant importance to pay tribute to the workers of the world. It is important to pay tribute to the labour unions throughout the globe.

As the left forces internationally, we should strive to consolidate the workers' unity, defend and deepen the hard won gains of the workers and the poor. It is important to strengthen the international workers' federation for advancing the struggles of the workers and a more internationally coordinated approach in dealing with the brutal bourgeoisie mode of production.

"The Communists disdain to conceal their views and aims. They openly declare that their ends can be attained only by the forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions. Let the ruling classes tremble at a Communist revolution. The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win." - Karl Marx & Frederick Engels – Communist Manifesto

The Communist Manifesto advises us that as communists we should always be with the people and that our aims must never be known only to us. It makes it categorically clear that communists have no other interests outside those of the working class. It is in this context that we should always through our actions be with and for the workers and the poor.

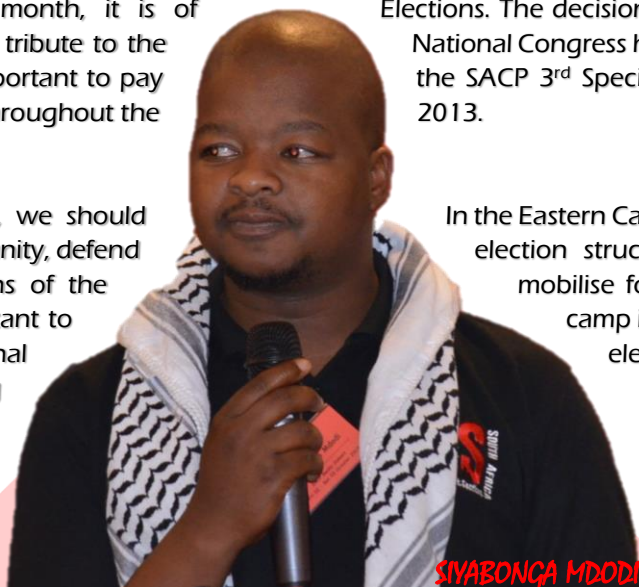
The South African Communist Party (SACP) has always work closely with organised and unorganised workers of South Africa. We have been in the forefront of building progressive trade unionism in South Africa. We have for decades, led the workers struggle.

We have been and we continue to be actively involved in the struggle for the total ban of Labour Brokers, as they represent the modern day slavery. We will continue to mobilise people against this brutal form of super exploitation.

The SACP remains committed to the principled fight against job losses and retrenchments in our country. In our country the challenge of unemployment, inequality and poverty remain racialized, gender entrenched and mostly affect young people.

2016 Local Government Elections:

The SACP has taken a decision to support and work tirelessly for the overwhelming victory of the ANC led movement in the forthcoming Local Government



Elections. The decision was taken by the SACP 13th National Congress held in 2012 and reaffirmed by the SACP 3rd Special National Congress held in 2013.

In the Eastern Cape we have already set up the election structures in place, to efficiently mobilise for the victory of the people's camp in the 2016 Local government elections.

We will campaign for the ANC, quite aware of the challenges faced by our structures in the province, challenges in Alfred Nzo, Buffalo City and Amathole.

We have always asserted that these challenges ought to be resolved for the movement to move forward unified and foreign tendencies having been purged.

It is of paramount importance that none of us in the alliance should be under the illusion that, in the alliance there is a big brother who does not need other allies.

As we will campaign vigorously for the victory of the ANC in the Local Government Elections. We should continue calling and campaigning for amongst other things:

The transformation and the diversification of the Financial Sector to serve the people. This would mean that the structures of the party throughout the province must strengthen the Financial Sector Campaign Coalition (FSCC) to coordinate the campaign for it to be more efficient. We must build the FSCC to be a viable formation for mobilization of all progressive forces.

We should campaign for a comprehensive social security net as part of our campaign to transform the financial sector and address the plight of the masses of our people on the ground.

In-sourcing of outsourced operations at all levels of state and in its various branches and agencies. We must also campaign for an end to the deepening exploitation of the workers and ultimately of the system of economic exploitation – which means that we must strengthen our support for progressive trade union struggle for socialism while deepening the National Democratic Revolution.

We wish you a revolutionary read!

Siyabonga Mdodi – SACP Provincial Spokesperson



ADDRESS TO THE SACD SKENWANA ROI DISTRICT CONGRESS BY XOLILE NQATHA - SACD PROVINCIAL SECRETARY

Dear Comrades, please receive revolutionary greetings from the South African Communist Party Provincial Executive Committee and from thousands of our members from villages, townships, farms, informal settlements and workplaces through-out the province.

Coming here and being among you in this district will always be a home coming to me for the rest of my life irrespective of my capacity or position I

hold. Rest of life mean a commitment never to betray the party and the workers and poor. This is the everyday test of a party cadre under the current conditions. We are always surrounded by temptations all day and all times, we see the lives of thieves that look attractive and yet it is a life of lies and short-live joy based on lies and robbery, it is bound to end.

This is the context we welcome your theme for this congress, Party cadres to the front to rebuild working class power! What is a party cadre? What does it mean? To be a cadre of the party means being genuine, it means being loyal to the party at all times. It means believing in the cardinal principle of always pinning your hopes to the organization and the people. It means acting like a frame that holds a photo in shape and never act in a manner that undermines the unity of the party and speak ill about the party and its leaders to secure favours and positions for yourself.

We have been here for few years and know that when people have already made decisions to betray and live this party they speak ill about it and accuse its leadership. This is done to present themselves as victims to get sympathy and justify their reasons for leaving. This district has always been a pillar of party during difficult moments over the past 24 years. As we face the current challenges, as our revolution as at the eye of the storm, as it is on trial we need genuine cadres to the front, to fog Cong and self-serving communists. A genuine Party Cadre goes to the front to defend the party and contribute safe guarding the revolution from

the present real threat of being derailed. You cannot go to the front for self-serving reasons and betray the party and the working class. We cannot assume that when you are in the front you working for the revolution.

What then are these challenges and conditions that require this party cadre to the front?

Our Central Committee meeting of 26th to 28th February 2016 and the subsequent Political Bureau Meetings of 1 and 22 April 2016 had extensive discussions on the current challenges facing our country and our movement. Our members

and people in general are looking for leadership during this period and during the last few weekends we deemed it necessary that our structures be fully briefed to ensure coherence in our communication, messaging and actions. Our revolution is at the eye of the storm, the challenges requires working class clarity and unity as there is no other class that can rescue our revolution from this great possibility of derailment and serious reversal of the gains we have registered over the past two decades of democratic government.

We recognise that there is a need for a deeper analysis of the current conjecture and particularly the challenges facing our movement; the threats, which are all integrally linked, and broadly noted by our Party as being manifested at three levels; global, domestic and internal or organisational. Clarity for the party cadre and the workers class on challenges is very important as the threats can make even working class to support their class enemies who will butcher them once they hold the seat power and when they realise, it would be too late for workers class to reverse such a development. (Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua). The challenges of the country are presented by DA, Kadalists and proto-fascists such that you can undermine and not even see the progress we have made as the ANC led broad liberation movement.

Some of these forces were part of us celebrating the achievements but today they speak as if they just arrived and discovered that we messed their country and all of us who remain loyal to the broad movement are sell

XOLILE NQATHA



outs and they, and they alone, can change things for the better overnight. Their revolutionary slogans are very attractive given the real challenges of poverty, unemployment and growing inequality the majority are facing 22 years of freedom.

They even threaten to remove a democratically elected government through a barrel of a gun, they don't know war, and they think it is a picnic. They are holding meetings with the DA, the principal shopsteward of imperialism to consider options of working with them to remove the ANC from power. All these are indication that this is not about the workers and poor but about their self-serving interests to be filthy rich on the carcass of our movement.

Like all before them, they will fail dismally on this task and very soon even those who still worship and believe them (that pinning their hopes on individuals that the people) will soon see that they are gone, they are the ones who have betrayed our revolution.

Over the past five years, the SACP has consistently warned that the multi-faceted global capitalist crisis, with its destructive impact on jobs, human security and environmental sustainability, is far from over. This global capitalist crisis has impacted upon the already problematic structure and vulnerabilities of South Africa's political economy. For the SACP, monopoly capital with its ties to imperialism remains the major strategic adversary in the struggle for national democratic transformation due to its massive and ongoing expropriation of our national resources through super-exploitation of workers, tax base erosion, capital flight, transfer pricing and financialisation, exacerbating conditions of unemployment, poverty, and inequality in our country.

As a consequence of this crisis, corporate capture of the state becomes one avenue of securing its expansion and sustenance. This corporate capture of the state is best achieved, among others, through a regime change agenda aimed at a renewed neo-liberal offensive, increased austerity measures, whole-sale privatisation, and the rolling back of hard-won labour gains.

Regime change could take one of many approaches, it could either be through 'hard power' or a military coup; or 'soft power' or 'Colour Revolution'. In South Africa, the approach has been a 'soft power' approach. The

'soft power' approach has two legs. The first leg is to discredit the governing party by capturing all three arms of the state, namely the Executive, Parliament and the Judiciary and presenting it as a failed state. We should always remember that the entry-point for destabilization is corruption, parasitism and bureaucratic complacency. Some of our leaders have allowed themselves to be willingly captured.

Parliament is being portrayed as in a state of disarray. And the objectivity of some of the decisions of the Judiciary, particularly on matters of political significance, has sometimes been questionable. The second leg is to use civil society, along with a more amenable political party to stage protests around genuine governance concerns, for example service delivery, university fees, corruption, etc., to further discredit the governing party and mobilise sufficiently so that the amenable political party can win an election, failing which, to force a regime change through a popular insurrection.

While the country is being faced with an external threat of regime change, which does not differ much from that being experienced by other BRICS countries, the nature of corporate capture in South Africa is even more complex in that it is characterised by an intra-class struggle – that is a struggle between established capital and an emerging compradorial, parasitic, domestic bourgeoisie with political connections.

Elements of corporate capture are certainly not a recent phenomenon. The adoption of the 1996 GEAR policy programme, riding rough-shod over the 1994 RDP electoral mandate, was an early sign that individuals in key parts of our state (many deployed after stints at Goldman Sachs) had been corporately captured. But there have also been a succession of more venal attempts at state capture through the perversion of "black economic empowerment" (BEE). Brett Kebble's criminal circle was able to pervert senior government officials, partly through personalities within the ANC and ANC Youth League. The SACP exposed former ANC YL's Julius Malema's campaign for the "nationalisation of the mines" for what it really was – corporate capture of a new kind. Malema's "nationalisation" campaign was funded by BEE mining interests at a time when their highly-leveraged mining shares were under water. The "nationalisation" call was little more than an attempt to bail-out these interests at public expense.



More recently, the SACP has blown the whistle on Koos Bekker's Naspers/Multichoice/Media 24 empire and the manner in which it has infiltrated key state departments; delayed, indeed captured, the much needed digital migration process; and undermined the public mandate of the SABC.

But looming over these more brazen examples is the more insidious forms of corporate capture, the manner in which established monopoly capital, through its domination of markets, including the media market, has shaped public discourse on what is good and what is bad. This is corporate capture of the mind, the shaping of what is thinkable, and what is unthinkable, with its endless emphasis on pleasing investors, on letting markets rule, on shrinking tax rates for the rich, on making the labour market more flexible, and so on.

Concern about the role of the Gupta family should, therefore, not be seen neither as a new concern nor as siding with one wing of private corporate interests against another. The practice has to end as this intra-class struggle does not support the strategic agenda of a democratic developmental state and significantly impedes the advancement of a second, more radical phase of our transition. Furthermore, the real danger of a secure-state emerging to protect the interest of the parasitic bourgeoisie exists.

Corporate capture of the state has also manifested in factionalism and fragmentation of leadership within the movement. Decisions within the movement have often become influenced by the interests of capital rather than that of our people. The buying of votes has become a common practice and the determination to occupy key leadership positions within the movement has become life-threatening.

The popular acclamation of the Constitutional Court judgment by a wide array of South Africans is a clear warning sign and indicator that decisive action to end the continuing loss of moral authority, political paralysis and fragmentation within the movement is needed.

In this context the key task at present is to ensure a unified South African response that defends our democratic transformational mandate and our national sovereignty against both internal and external destabilising forces. In particular, as the SACP we call on calm heads to prevail within government and across our

movement. The reckless role of shadowy forces to subvert sensitive, strategic public institutions for entirely unpatriotic ends while our economy stands on the brink must be immediately halted.

Given the real danger of the ANC experiencing significant losses in the forthcoming local government election, we will require all our members to participate fully in the campaign towards ensuring an ANC victory. We dare not give up. We must continue to build unity within the movement and to fight against factionalism. (BCM list conference)

While campaigning for the ANC, it remains important to maintain an independent image as the SACP and to continue to advance mass activism on the ground. We must continue to campaign for:

- The transformation of the financial sector.
- A comprehensive social security net as part of our campaign to transform the financial sector and address the plight of the masses of our people on the ground.
- A national minimum wage.
- In-sourcing of outsourced operations at all levels of the state and in its various branches and agencies.
- An end to deepening exploitation of the workers and ultimately of the system of economic exploitation – which means that we must strengthen our support for progressive trade union struggles and intensify the struggle for socialism while deepening the National Democratic Revolution.

We must strengthen our campaigns against corruption and ideological and political work to deal a blow to factionalism, patronage, gate-keeping, manipulation of internal processes and hijacking of democracy in our movement. Coupled with this task, we must deal with the new tendency by some who are involved in committing these “political crimes” against our movement in the name of fighting imperialism. We cannot wage any successful fight against imperialism while we are hamstrung domestically by these problems, corporate capture and others.

Xolile Nqatha – SACP Eastern Cape Provincial Secretary, ANC PEC Member and Member of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature.



UNITE THE WORKERS AND DEFEND THEIR GAINS

On 01 May 2016, Workers around the country gathered in different rallies to celebrate Workers Day which is also called May Day. May Day originated in the United States of America in Chicago, chosen by the socialists and communists. In the late nineteenth century, the working class was in constant struggle to gain the eight [8] hour work day. Working conditions were severe and it was quite common to work ten [10] to sixteen [16] hour days in unsafe conditions.

Death and injury were common place at many work places. Working people started agitating to shorten the work day without cut in paying 1860's. It was late in 1880's that organised labour was able to gather enough strength to declare eight [8] hour work day.

The Federation of Organised Trades and Labour Unions held its National Convention in Chicago in 1884 and proclaimed that eight [8] hours shall constitute a legal day's labour from and after 1 May 1886. "On 01 May 1886, more than 300 000 Workers in 13 000 businesses across the United States they walked off their jobs in the First May Day Celebration in history. Many people were killed for the eight [8] hour work day to be realised. The Workers have a responsibility to unite and defend this gain in respect of the workers who died for this gain to be realised.

We are advised that the Holy Word says a man shall eat the sweet of his forehead. This where the exploitation of workers begin as many Christians would want us to believe. We however define a worker as anyone who sells his labour power in order to receive remuneration. Workers operate in a different market. Where it is the buyer that determines the prices and conditions of the service and / or product. This is because of the cruelty of the ruling classes in society, the capitalist class.

In a capitalist state like ours, there are two [2] Primary Classes i.e. capitalist class and the working class. The capitalists also referred to as bourgeoisie own land and means of production. The working class only own their labour power. They are the largest in society. It is because of how far are workers from proximity of in the means of production that they sell their labour power



as commodity in the labour market. This at the end is a one [1] sided relationship where it is the capitalists that benefit from this market exchange. The capitalists depend and rely on the working class [Workers in particularly] for the transformation of their raw material into a finished product. This relationship is characterised by Karl Max in laws of dialectics as Unity of opposites. This is the contradictory forces at play in a dialectical process are

often not accidental or external to each other. They are united in the same process. The capitalists only exist because workers are involved in productive labour in factories mines and shops.

In this relationship the boss owns factories and workers do not own them. Workers every day in the factories work for the bosses to make profits while they receive very small wages and salaries. This is why South African Mine Workers have a song "*Sisebenzi emgodini kanzima, sisebenzel' imali encane.*" This is very cruel system which exploits workers for peanuts. This is the system which does not value workers. This should tell all of us that the enemy of workers is white monopoly capital. The only way to fight this cruelty of capitalism is by doing what has been suggested by Karl Marx in the Community Manifesto that Workers of the World Unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains." Contrary to what Marx suggested, there is a small section of opportunists who divide workers by creating all this confusion about the Alliance that COSATU is in with the ANC as the Governing Party. This obsession over COSATU and the Alliance is distracting us from the real enemy which is the monopoly capital.

COSATU organised its May Day or Workers Day rallies under the theme "Celebrating 30 years of defending collective Bargaining, Workers Jobs and our hard won rights." This should categorically tell everyone what COSATU has been about over the 30 years of existence, contrary to the lies that have been opportunistically peddled. Those that are calling for the new federation, irritated by the unity of the Alliance need to be reminded of statement by Cyril Ramaphosa on the founding congress of COSATU. "The formation of this



Congress represents an enormous victory for the working class in the country. Never before have workers been so powerful, so united and so poised to make a mark on society. We all agree that the struggle of workers on the shop floor cannot be separated from wider political struggle for liberation on this country." It was on the very same congress that COSATU made it clear to associate itself with the congress movement. This was proclaimed by the same Elijah Barayi that the doom sayers are claiming as their icon. The struggle of workers cannot even at this day and age be separated to the struggles of society. It is still proper that COSATU to associate itself with the Congress Movement because its adoption of the National Democratic Revolution which is a direct route to socialism. This is where the working class will finally get rest. The NDR seeks to resolve three [3] interrelated contradictions, such as the resolution of National, class and gender questions. The Workers would be naïve to be spectators in their own struggle.

Despite the fact that there are workers who see themselves as an opposition to COSATU, COSATU still have campaigns that seek to address the plight of workers. These campaigns includes:-



Total ban of Labour Brokers; Fight against job losses and retrenchments; Defend collective bargaining workers' rights to strike; Demand a legislated national minimum wage
Implementation of NHI & implementation an integrated, affordable public transport system

COSATU is indeed a Federation that is at work. We however would be fooled to believe that COSATU does not have its challenges. The major threat in Trade Unions and COSATU Affiliates in particular is the proximity of Unions to investment arms. This inspires Comrades to contest each other uncomradely with the hope to take control of the money. The sooner COSATU conquers this deadly disease, the better it is for the workers.

What is to be done?

Workers are an advanced detachment of the working class. We depend on their class consciousness to reach

socialism. Workers must never be deterred by individuals in their goal of socialism now.

We understand that our current condition cannot be taken for granted people fought for the rights and dignities we enjoy today and there is still a lot more to fight for. The sacrifices of so many people cannot be forgotten or we will end up fighting for the same gains all over again. Undermining the ANC led alliance now because we have issues that we do not agree with at the moment is suicidal and might cost workers the gains that have been fought for. We must unite workers and defend their gains.

The reliable ally of COSATU, the SACP in the message it gave to the National May Day Rally suggests that "Let us unite our movement, Let us close ranks, and Let us defeat the strategic agenda of the imperialism and monopoly capital". The party also suggest that as we

defend collective bargaining, workers jobs and workers' rights, we must also go to the offensive mode to carry the fight to our class enemies. It says as long as each component of the Alliance Fights battles in isolation, we will remain on the defensive. Let us combine worker power on the shop floor, with popular power in our communities, in our townships and rural villages,

with democratic state power together, Let us go on to the offensive to drive second radical phase of the National Democratic Revolution. This tells us that unity of the Alliance is of paramount importance. It is therefore important that we must all unite workers and defend the Alliance, It can never be that we never learnt from famous Animal Farm by George Orwell where animals identified their enemy as anything with that goes upon two [2] legs and their friends as anything that goes upon with four [4] legs or has wings. We must clearly identify our enemy as white monopoly capital and our friends as the entire working class.

We must listen and solve problems of workers in the shop floor whilst we continue service our members. We must understand why members join unions and we must make them not to regret joining. Our responsibility is to ensure that we must unite workers and defend their gains.

Ayanda Jam – POPCRU PEC Member & COSATU Local Secretary.



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