MEDIA RELEASE
BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (CDA)

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CDA challenges Zuma to create climate conducive to fulfill his New Year's wishes

The Christian Democratic Alliance (CDA) supports Pres. Jacob Zuma's New Year call for national unity, a suspension of negativity and that all should be ambassadors for the country.

"We challenge the president, however, to show the way by creating a climate conducive to what he calls for," says CDA acting chair and leader of the Christian Democratic party, Rev. Theunis Botha. "The realisation of unity in a multi cultural society is challenging, which means that opinion formers of polarised extremes must move closer to the middle ground. "The Christian community, experiencing estrangement amidst polygamy, traditional sacrificing of animals to appease forefather spirits, liberal abortion practices and others, requires measures, to be put in place, that will make them feel at home in their country of birth.

We suggest the following:

- Alter the Commission for the protection and promotion of the rights of Language, Religious and Cultural Communities into a constitutional commission according to originally intended principles. This implies that legislation needs to be rewritten, the appointments be in line with the principles and that it be sufficiently funded and empowered to do its intended work.
- Free the judiciary from political interference and subordination to other government spheres.
- Reduce the intervals between which ministers and other opinion formers condemn farm attacks in order for the message to be clear that farmers are not free prey.
- Sufficiently enable schools to perform religious education under the supervision of properly empowered, autonomous school governing bodies.
- Entrench mother tongue education also at tertiary level so as to put the minds of communities at ease.
- Halt to cadre deployment policy, especially the recirculation of comrades which have already been found wanting.
- Abolish affirmative action (which is not the same as corrective action). One cannot expect that someone should act as an ambassador for his country if he, because of his skin colour and gender, does not qualify for appointment in particular positions, in the first place.
- Stop handling Mugabe with kid- gloves, as this encourages suspicion that his actions are regarded as acceptable, especially when opinion formers frequently call for him to come and handle land reform in SA.
- Stop all calls for expropriation of property contrary to the constitution and international treaties of which South Africa is a co-signatory.
- In order to demonstrate sincerity to root out corruption, decisively address the arms deal and many other matters hanging in the air.

The year 2010 does not have only one day of reconciliation, one human rights day (including the rights of minorities), one family day, one day to focus on those who have disabilities, 14 days of activism against violence against women and children, and one Christmas, but 365 days. "We pray that 2010 will be a year in which tangible unity between Christian Democratic Parties in SA will be realised, not only in structure but especially in the hearts of those involved."

CDA daag ZUMA om ‘n klimaat te skep wat bevorderlik is vir sy Nuwejaarswense

Die Christen-Demokratiese Alliansie (CDA) ondersteun pres. Jacob Zuma se Nuwejaarsoproep op nasionale eenheid, ‘n staking van negatiwiteit en dat almal as ambassadeurs vir die land moet optree. “Ons daag die president egter uit om voor te loop en die klimaat hiervoor te skep,” sê die waarnemende voorsitter van die CDA en leier van die Christen-demokratiese Party, ds. Theunis Botha.

“In ‘n mutli-kulturele samelewing is oproepe op eenheid moeilik, wat ook beteken dat meningsvormers van die gepolariseerde uiterstes nader aan die middelgrond moet beweeg. “Die Christengemeenskap, wat te midde van veelwywery, tradisionele slagtings ter ere van voorvadergeeste, liberale aborsiepraktyke en ander praktyke vervreemding ervaar, het ‘n behoefte daaraan dat maatreëls in plek gestel word om nie soos vreemdelinge in hul eie land te voel nie. Ons doen die volgende aan die hand:

- Omskep die Kommissie vir die Bevordering en die Beskerming van die Regte van Taal-, Godsdiens- en Kultuurgemeenskappe in ‘n grondwetlike kommissie soos wat dit bedoel en oorspronklik veronderstel is. Dit beteken dat die wetgewing dienooreenkomstig herskryf moet word, die aanstellings daarmee versoen word, en dit genoegsaam gefinansier en bemagtig word om sy werk te doen.
- Bevry die regspraak van politieke inmenging en ondergeskiktheid.
- die intervalle waartydens ministers en ander meningsvormers plaasaanvalle veroordeel sodat die boodskap duidelik genoeg inslaan dat boere nie vrybuit is nie.
- Gee voldoende ruimte dat skole gosdienonderrig onder die toesig van outonome beheerrade kan laat floreer.
- Verskans moedertaalonderrig genoegsaam om gemeenskappe gerus te stel – ook tot op tersiêre vlak.
- Staak die kader-ontplooiingsbeleid, en veral die hersirkulering van comrades wat reeds vasgebrand het.
- Skaf “affirmative action” (wat nie dieselfde as regstellende aksie is nie) nou af. Dit is dik vir ‘n daalder om te verwag iemand wat die slagoffer hiervan is, entoesiasties ‘n ambassadeur vir die land moet wees (hy is immers gediskwalifiseer om die aanstelling te kry weens sy velkleur en geslag).
- Hou op om Mugabe met sagte handjies te hanteer, want dit skep die wantroue dat sy optredes hier te lande as aanvaarbaar beskou word – veral as meningsvormers gereeld met uitsprake kom soos dat Mugabe hier aangestel moet word om die grondhervormingsprogram deur te voer.
- Verbied alle onteieningspraatjies wat nie met die grondwet en internasionale verdrae waarvan Suid-Afrika mede-ondertenaars is, versoenbaar is nie.
- Om opregtheid met die stryd teen korrupsie te demonstreer vlek die wapentransaksie en ander voorvalle wat in die lug bly hang oop.

Die jaar 2010 het nie net een versoeningsdag, net een menseregtedag (wat groepregte moet insluit), een gesinsdag, een herdenkingsdag vir mense met gestremdhede, 14 dae teen geweld teen vroue en kinders of een Christusfees nie ... daar is 365. “Ons bid ook dat die jaar 2010 ‘n mylpaal sal oplewer in die soeke na eenheid onder Christen-demokratiese partye in Suid-Afrika.”