

MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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SA must use Security Council chair wisely - CDP

The Christian Democratic Party (CDP) called on government to use wisdom in its chairing of the UN's Security Council.

"The country certainly does not need another embarrassing situation as when it supported the Myanmar dictatorship," says CDP leader. Rev. Theunis Botha.

"We also find the intended promotion of the African agenda somewhat bizarre, as it appears that South Africa has, in the past, had a rather unusual interpretation of this agenda, with the country often not being supported by AU members who are also members of the Arab League, Ecowas and even the Francophone countries.

"It often seems as though SA regards the SADEC-perception as the Africa-perception, despite the fact, that especially South Africa, appears to be led by the nose by Mugabe.

"South Africa has a great opportunity to do the country and the continent proud, but then it needs to focus on doing the right thing rather than responding to what it sees through 'race tinted glasses'.

"The focus of the world will again be on South Africa with the ANC's centenary celebrations, while it is still reeling under the adverse publicity abroad for what is seen as South Africa's blundering at COP 17.

"Chairing the UN Security Council offers the ideal opportunity to restore some dignity to the continent and our country."

SA moet Veiligheidsraad-voorsitterskap wys benut - CDP

"Die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) het 'n beroep op die regering gedoen om die voorsitterskap van die VN se Veiligheidsraad met wysheid te benut.

"Die land het nie weer sulke verleenthede nodig soos toe Suid-Afrika die diktatuur in Mianmar gesteun het nie," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die CDP.

"Ons bevraagteken ook die voorgenome bevordering van die Afrika-agenda, aangesien dit is die verlede gelyk het of Suid-Afrika 'n bisarre vertolking van hierdie die agenda het, en nie altyd deur lidlande wat ook lede van die Arabiese Bond, Ecowas of selfs die Frankofonie gesteun is nie.

"Dit lyk dikwels of SA die SAOG-persepsie as die Afrika-persepsie aanvaar, ten spyte daarvan dat veral Suid-Afrika in daardie liggaam deur Mugabe aan die neus rondgelei word.

"Suid-Afrika het nou 'n gunstige geleentheid om die land en Afrika met trots te dien, eerder as te reageer op wat dit deur 'n ras-getinte bril sien.

"Die fokus van die wêreld sal opnuut op Suid-Afrika gevestig wees met die ANC se eeufeesvierings, maar die land trek oorsee steeds negatiewe publisiteit vir wat beskou word as Suid-Afrika se rol om COP-17 te laat vou. Die voorsitterskap van die Veiligheidsraad bied aan Suid-Afrika die ideale geleentheid om aansien in die land en die kontinent te herstel."