MEDIA RELEASE
BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (CDA)

20 January 2010

CDA onthuts oor oproepe vir terugkeer tot animistiese gebruike
"Ons is onthuts oor al hoe meer oproepe wat nie net die terugkeer na animistiese gebruike soos rituale slagtings en voorvaderverering insluit nie, maar oproepe wat op pleidooie vir verdere morele verval neerkom." So sê die leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) en waarnemende voorsitter van die Christen-Demokratiese Alliansie (CDP), ds. Theunis Botha.

"Die jongste is die oproep van die Zoeloekoning dat alle mans in KwaZulu-Natal nou ingevolge 'n praktyk wat tweehonderd jaar gelede onder die Zoeloes in onbruik begin verval het, besny moet word. As bykomende motief voer hy die stryd teen MIV / Vigs aan, wat heelmoontlik beteken dat belastingbetalers geld weereens gebruike sal word.

"Terwyl die kwessie of besnydenis enigsins die oordrag van die siekte beperk nog in dispuut is, is dit wêreldwyd bekend die werklike probleem die beoefening van losbandige seks is. Die beste bekamping is in die herstel van morele waardes en huwelikstrou gesetel, en nie die aftakeling daarvan en veelwywery nie.

"Ons beklemtoon opnuut dat ons afkeer aan sekere praktyke nie op kulturele gebruike gemik is nie, maar op aansprake van Christenskap en dan die beoefening van praktyke wat lynreg teen Bybelse opdragte indruis. Hoewel ons ons met die allergrootste respek distansieer van 'n beweerde profesie van eerw. Kenneth Meshoe, leier van die ACDP, dat die komende wêreldbeker-sokkertoernooi 'n mislukking gaan wees weens sake soos die voorgenome rituele slagtings by stadions ter ere van voorvaders, deel ons die afkeer daarin en sal ons ons ook bly beywer om te keer dat dié praktyke plaasvind. Ons wil graag sien dat die toernooi geslaagd is en dat die land daarby sal baat – maar dan om die regte redes."

"Ons bly by ons missie om groter samespanning tussen Christen-demokratiese partye te bewerkstellig, en daarom is ons standpunt oor eerw. Meshoe in hierdie verband vir ons uiters onaangenaam. Diegene wat die weersin in die voorgenome praktyke ignoreer, het beslis nog nie kennis geneem van petisies wat diereregtegroepe wêreldwyd opstel met die oog op aan Fifa te rig nie. Dit kan alles daartoe bydra dat buitelandse kaartjieverkope – veral in Europa – enduit nie aan die verwagtinge voldoen nie."

CDA concerned over the increased number of calls for a return to animistic practices
"We are concerned about more and more calls for, not only a return to animistic practises such as the ritual slaughtering of animals and ancestral worship, but also other issues that could lead to further moral decay in the country. So says Christian Democratic party (CDP) leader and acting chair of the Christian Democratic alliance (CDA), Rev. Theunis Botha.

"The latest is a call by the Zulu king that all males in KwaZulu-Natal should now be circumcised according to a tradition that has not been upheld by the Zulu nation for over 200 years. As motivation he claims that this will assist in preventing the spreading of HIV / Aids, which means that tax payers money will once again be used. Apart from the fact that this notion is still disputed, it is globally accepted that the real problem is promiscuous sexual practices. The best way to combat the problem is still, to limit sex to marriage and to restore moral values. Not the erosion thereof, by practising polygamy."

"We again stress that our opposition to these practises are not aimed against cultural tradition, but claims of Christianity with conduct in direct violation to the Bible. Getting back to the slaughtering of animals etc: With regards to Rev. Kenneth Meshoe's, alleged statement, that the coming Fifa event is set to be a major failure because of the planned ritual slaughtering we would have to distance ourselves from it. On the other hand we are equally appalled by the planned actions, and remain

determined that this should be stopped. We dearly want to see a successful tournament – but then for the right reasons. Despite this difference of opinion with Rev Meshoe, which we find unpleasant, we remain true to our commitment for better co-operation between Christian Democratic parties.

“Those ignoring the protests to the planned rituals, have clearly not taken note of the petitions, of animal rights groups world wide, attracting thousands of signatures, evidently to be sent to Fifa. This may well contribute to the continued drop in demand for tickets, especially in Europe.”