

**MEDIA RELEASE
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ANC must come clean and cough up

“In the interest of sound constitutional principles the ANC must come clear on who is paying for the hosting of a symposium in Ethiopia on the history of the ANC and who is paying for Pres. Jacob Zuma as well as ANC Chair, Baleka Mbete to attend.

“Is the ANC paying, or the tax payers?” So asks Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP), reacting to news reports on the matter.

“The Public Protector has already pointed out the undesirability of this type of conduct when Zuma, then only president of the ANC, and Julius Malema, president of the ANC Youth League, were speakers at an official youth day celebration in Botshabelo, but the opposition parties only received invitations to attend. The ANC can thus not plead ignorance on the undesirability to fund party political events from the state’s coffers.

“If the state did pay, the ANC must make haste to refund the state.”

ANC moet gou antwoorde verskaf – en opdok

“In die belang van gesonde grondwetlike beginsels moet die ANC en regering gou lig werp op wie die kostes bydra vir die aanbied van ‘n simposium in Ethiopië oor die ANC se geskiedenis, en die bywoning daarvan deur pres. Jacob Zuma en me Baleka Mbete, ANC-voorsitter, se bywoning finansier. Betaal die ANC self, of word dit op die belastingbetaler se koste gedoen?” So vra ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese part (CDP) in reaksie op nuusberigte hieroor.

“Die Openbare Beskermer het reeds op die ongewenste praktyk gewys na Zuma, toe nog net ANC-president, en Julius Malema, ANC-jeugligapresident, as sprekers van ‘n ampteke jeugdagviering in Botshabelo opgetree het, maar die opposisie net uitnodigings gekry het om dit by te woon. Die ANC kan dus nie onkunde pleit oor die onaanvaarbaarheid om partypolitieke aangeleenthede uit die staatskas te finansier nie.

“As die staat betaal het, moet die ANC die staatskas vir elke sent daarvan vergoed.”