**MEDIA RELEASE**
**by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)**

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**When service deliver protests turn into street wars**

"From the current service delivery protests in Mpumalanga and Northwest which has now cost lives, one must deduct that the ANC is confronted with a perception problem when it comes to convincing voters that service delivery has improved, as was suggested by a recent poll by the Institute for Race Relations," says Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP). "History has taught us that these street wars can quickly spread to other parts of the country and that South Africa is fast developing a season of violent protest. Electricity available to a household with no income, is problematic. Flushing toilets are a problem when the sewerage systems are not properly maintained, or have even totally collapsed. Access to drinking water means little if it is contaminated."

"The biggest problem is that the statistics, and what one observes in reality, do not correspond. What one sees rather reflects what one reads in the reports of the Auditor General. You can lie to some of the people some of the time but you cannot lie to all the people all of the time. We urge government not to be tempted into making unrealistic promises to the electorate ahead of the coming elections, as that may bring votes but will increase expectations that could result in even more disquiet if those promises are not met. And they will remain unrealistic as long as the ANC continues with its policy of cadre deployment."

"The Christian Democratic Party has on numerous occasions urged the government not to allow the Trade Unions to lead them by the nose. These unions appear to have better understanding of coercion and violence than of good labour practices. We also wonder if the ANC Youth League, which boasted that it was due to their hosting of the International Youth 'Festival' that uprisings in Tunisia and Egypt took place, will now also take 'credit' for the street wars raging in our country, the loss of life, and the uprisings in other countries such as Iran?"

**Wanneer diensleweringsproteste in straatoorloë ontaard**

"'n Mens moet uit die huidige proteste oor swak dienslewering in Mpumalanga en Noordwes, wat nou al lewens gekos het, aflei dat die ANC met 'n persepsieprobleem te kampe het om kiesers te oortuig dat dienslewering verbeter het, soos onlangs in 'n opname deur die Instituut vir Rasseverhoudinge te kenne gegee word," aldus ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP). "Uit ondervinding weet ons dat hierdie soort onluste gou soos 'n veldbrand oor die land kan spoel, en dat Suid-Afrika 'n tradisie van 'n onlusteseisoen begin ontwikkel. Elektrisiteitsvoorsiening aan huishoudings met geen inkomste is problematies. Spoeltoilette is 'n probleem as die rioleringstelsel nie behoorlik in stand gehou word nie, of heeltemal in duie gestort het. Toegang tot drinkwater beteken niks as dit nie veilig is nie."

"Die grootste probleem is egter dit wat 'n mens waarneem, en die statistiek, nie dieselfde verhaal vertel nie. Dit wat 'n mens waarneem is veel meer in pas met verslae van die ouditeur-generaal.
"'n Mens kan 'n ruk lank daarmee wegkom om vir kiesers met donkie-ore toe te rus, maar uiteindelik besef te veel mense hulle is velle oor die oë getrek. Ons doen 'n beroep op die regering om nie voor die versoeking te swig en allerlei onhaalbare beloftes aan die kiesers te maak nie, aangesien dit wel stemme in die sak kan beteken, maar na die verkiesing tot selfs nog groter ongelukkigheid kan lei. En daardie beloftes sal onhaalbaar bly solank as wat die ANC met sy kader-ontplooiingsbeleid volhard."

Die Christen-Demokratiese Party het al verskeie kere die regering gemaan om hulle nie so deur die vakbonde se militante optrede aan die neuse te laat rondlei nie. In dié land het baie vakbonde meer 'vaardigheid' met afpersing en geweld as met behoorlike arbeidspraktyke.
"Dit sal ook nou interessant wees om te sien of die ANC-jeugliga, wat deur die aanbied van die Internasionale Jeug-'fees' krediet opeis vir die omverwerping van die regerings van Tunisië en Egipte, nou ook vir die huidige geweld en sterftes in ons strate die krediet gaan opeis. Gaan hulle ook spog oor die onluste in lande soos Iran?"