MEDIA RELEASE
BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (CDA)

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CDA: Wêreld Waterdag se regte impliseer verantwoordelikhede
"Volgens die Suid-Afrikaanse Handves van Menseregte alle Suid-Afrikaners die reg tot voldoende water. Voldoende water is egter niks werd nie as die water besoedel of besmet is," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) ter herdenking van Wêreldwaterdag vandag.

"Soos alle regte, behels die reg op water ook verantwoordelikhede, en daarom is dit kommerwekkend dat 'n skaars hulpbron soos water in Suid-Afrika so dikwels rioolbesoedel word. Suid-Afrika se gemiddelde reënval is maar 464 mm per jaar wat dit 'n waterarm land maak, teenoor die wêreldgemiddeld van 857 mm. Dit plaas opnuut die fokus op die mense se Goddelike opdrag om die natuur verantwoordelik te bestuur," sê Botha wat ook die waarnemende voorsitter van die Christen-Demokratiese Alliansie (CDA) is.

"Elke jaar sterf daar na raming wêreldwyd sowat 2 miljoen mense omdat hulle nie toegang tot veilige water het nie. In Suid-Afrika het mense die afgelope aantal jare aan maagkoors (tifoïde) en cholera gesterf – 'n erge aanklag teen die vlakke van dienslewering in die land."

"So beskou, beteken die regte van die Handves van Menseregte vir baie mense min as die verantwoordelikhede wat daarmee gepaard gaan, versuim word. Dit herinner aan die reg op lewe, maar die hoë vlakke van plaasmoorde te midde van ander wat liedjies sing waarin mense aangehits word om boere te skiet."

CDA: World Water Day's rights imply responsibilities
"According to the South African Bill of Human Rights all South Africans have the right to sufficient water. Sufficient water means nothing if the water is polluted or contaminated," says Rev. Theunis Botha. Leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP) in commemoration of World Water Day celebrated today.

"As is the case with all rights, the right to water is also balanced by some responsibilities, and therefore it is a matter of concern that a scarce asset such as water is so often sewerage polluted in South Africa. South Africa's average rain fall is 464 mm per annum, compared to the world average 857 mm," says Botha who is also acting chair of the Christian Democratic Alliance (CDA). Each year approximately 2 million people die across the globe because they do not have access to safe water. In South Africa people have died from typhoid and cholera in recent years – placing serious question marks over government's commitment to service delivery."

"This means that the Bill of Human Rights does not mean much to many people as the responsibilities associated with these rights are not taken seriously. This reminds of the right to life, but accompanied by high levels of farm murders amidst people singing songs in which people are incited to shoot farmers."