MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

25 JULY 2011 (3)

CDP reageer op Noorse tragedie

"Ons gebede gaan uit na die mense van Noorweë wat pas onder 'n groot menseslagting deurgeloop het. Ons veroordeel die optrede van die verdagte ten sterkste," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

"Ons is egter ook onthuts oor die skynbare behae wat sommige mense daaruit put om die voorval as die uitvloeisel van 'n Christen se optrede verdag te maak. Die Noorweegse polisie het ook dadelik die verdagte die etiket van 'n Christen-fundamentalis omgehang, terwyl dit wat die verdagte aanhang, min indien enige raakvlakke met tipiese Christelike fundamentalisme toon. Geen Christen, fundamentalis of andersins en by sy volle verstand, sou so 'n afskuwelike daad pleeg wat duidelik teen die Woord van God indruis."

"Die relatief min steun wat die Christen-demokrasie in Suid-Afrika geniet, anders as byvoorbeeld in Wes-Europa, dui daarop dat die basiese grondslae van Christen-demokrasie in Suid-Afrika nog swak begryp word. Dit sluit elemente in soos godsdiensvryheid, positiewe gesinswaardes, menseregte met werantwoordelikeheid en grondwetlikheid."

"Dit sal dus jammer wees as die bose dade van 'n geestesongestelde die Christen-demokrasie skade sal laat ly. Lande waar Christen-demokratiese partye deel van regerende alliansies is, word oor die algemeen goed geregeer."

CDP reacts to Norse tragedy

"Our prayers are with the people of Norway after the mass murders which took place in that country. We condemn the actions of the suspect in the strongest possible terms," says Christian Democratic Party leader, Theunis Botha.

"We are, however, concerned at the apparently orchestrated efforts of some to draw a parallel between being a Christian and these horrible shootings. The Norse police also immediately described the incident as that of a Christian fundamentalist, whilst what happened has little if anything in common with Christian fundamentalism. No Christian in his right mind, fundamentalist or otherwise, would have committed such an atrocity which is clearly in direct contravention of the Bible."

"The relatively small support Christian Democracy enjoys in South Africa, as opposed to Western Europe, indicates that the principles of Christian Democracy are not well understood in South Africa. These include elements such as freedom of religion, positive family values, human rights with responsibility and constitutionalism."

"It will be sad indeed should the evil deeds of a mentally disturbed man cause harm to the concept of a Christian Democracy. As a general rule the countries are ruled well, where Christian Democratic Parties are included in governments."