MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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CDP welcomes Malema hate speech ruling

"The Christian Democratic Party (CDP) welcomes the outcome of Julius Malema's hate speech trial," says CDP leader, Theunis Botha. "Not only is the song declared as hate speech, but Malema has to pay the cost of three days of the proceedings, the time the judge argues relevant evidence and arguments were brought before the court, indicating that he lost the case, hands down. In a highly polarised society, the last thing the country and people need, is a person who uses hate speech, irrespective of the context. It remains sad, however, that a case like this needed to end up in court, as a court is not the best way to solve relationship issues. The blame should, at least in part, be shared by the ANC which went full out to support Malema in this case."

"The CDP agrees with the judge that freedom of expression, in the form of hate speech, cannot be regarded as a superior right to human dignity. We also agree that the rights of minorities in the country are fragile, and that courts should pay attention to this reality. The Christian Democratic Party trusts that the ANC will not only abide by the ruling itself, but also by the spirit of it by not appealing, or simply switching to yet another song with the same message, as happened when the song, 'Kill the Boer, kill the farmer,' was earlier ruled to be hate speech. "

"We urge the ANC to adapt to the spirit of the constitution, especially the preamble which clearly states that those who abide by the constitution, pledge to contribute to healing the past.
"As Malema himself had proven over and over that he is not fit to play a positive role in the country's future, we trust that the ANC will now make haste in removing him from any leadership role."

CDP verwelkom die Malema-haatspraak-uitspraak.

"Die Christen Demokratiese Party (CDP) verwelkom die uitspraak in die Julius Malema-haatspraakverhoor," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die CDP. "Nie alleen is die lied as haatspraak bevestig nie, maar Malema moet die koste van drie hofdae opdok – die tyd wat die regter meen die partye saakmakende getuienis en argumente aangevoer het. Dit dui daarop dat Malema die saak loshande verloor het. "In 'n hoogs gepolariseerde gemeenskap is die laaste ding wat die land en sy mense nodig het, iemand wat haatspraak inspan, ongeag die konteks. Dit is nietemin hartseer dat 'n saak soos hierdie voor die regbank te staan moes kom, aangesien 'n hof nie die mees geskikte plek is om lapwerk aan gesindhede te doen nie. Die blaam moet minstens ten dele deur die ANC gedeel word wat Malema in hierdie saak so voluit ondersteun het. "

"Die CDP stem met die regter saam dat vryheid van uitdrukking nie 'n meerdere reg tot die menswaardigheid kan wees nie. Ons stem ook saam dat die regte van minderhede broos is en dat die howe dit in verrekening moet bring. Ons vertrou dat die ANC nou by hierdie uitspraak gaan berus – ook by die gees daarvan deur nie te appelleer nie of bloot 'n ander liedjie met dieselfde mening in te span nie, soos gebeur het na 'Kill the Boer, kill the farmer,' tot haatspraak verklaar is."

Die Christen Demokratiese Party (CDP) versoek dat die ANC die gees van die grondwet respekteer, veral die aanhef waar almal verklaar dat hulle die grondwet sal eerbiedig, en onderneem dat hulle sal bydra tot die heling van die verlede. Malema self het egter by herhaling bewys dat hy nie geskik is om enige leierskapsrol in hierdie land se toekoms te speel nie, en ons vertrou dat die ANC gou sal spring om hom uit enige leierskapsposisie te verwyder. "