MEDIA RELEASE
BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (CDA)

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Springbokbesluit onkant
"Die regering moet die Springbokempleem uitlos!"

So sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) in reaksie op die nuus dat die Springbokembleem onder regeringsdruk volgende jaar by die rugby-wêreldbeker op die mou sal pryk.

"Dit kom daarop neer dat die Afrikaner se vyande in die mou lag," sê Botha. "Bykans alle groot sportsoorte se beheerliggame, soos Fifa en die IOK, verbied rassisme en politieke inmenging in sport. Fifa het al lande soos Iran, Griekeland en Kenia weens politieke inmenging uitgeskop, en Brasilië en reeds twee keer vir Nigerië voor 'n keuse van kopgee of skorsing gestel."

"Kom dit by Suid-Afrika lyk dit of rassisme in die vorm van ras-transformasie en selfs kwotas en die regering vrye teuels het, en dit boonop veral danksy die verbale vermoëns van Buthana Komphela, aan die baie groot klok gehang word. "Tog lyk dit of die Internasionale Rugbyraad nie bereid is om voet neer te sit nie. Tot 'n borg kom maak sy politieke rug styf as dit by rugby kom. Is dit omdat die Afrikaner se verweefdheid met rugby nog te sterk is?"

"Dit is nou tyd dat die IRR sy rug styf maak, sy paternalistiese houding oor die Suid-Afrikaanse regering laat vaar, en sorg dat die sport vry van politieke inmenging bedryf word. Nou speel die IRR self liederlik onkant. As die regering by sport betrokke moet wees, laat dit wees by die daarstelling van behoorlike geriewe veral in agtergeblewe gebiede, en ingryping beperk tot daar waar sy ontplooide kaders sekere sportsoorte in die grond in 'bestuur'."

Decision on Springbok off sides
"Government must leave the Springbok emblem alone!"

So says Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democtartic Party (CDP) reacting to the news that the Springbok emblem will be on the sleeve in next year's Rugby World Cup tournament.
"This boils down to the Afrikaners' enemies laughing up their sleeves," says Botha.

"Virtually all major sporting bodies, such as Fifa and the IOC, ban racism and political interference in their sporting codes. Fifa even expelled countries such as Greece, Kenya and Iran for political intervention, and countries such as Brazil, and Nigeria, were placed on terms to concede to, which they did."

"When it comes to South Africa it seems as though a completely different set of rules apply. Not only are racial transformation and quotas rife, but due to the vocal nature of Buthana Komphela's political intervention, this is no secret. Yet, it does not seem as though the IRB is in the slightest bit interested in doing what its constitution requires. Is this because there is still so much Afrikaner involvement with rugby? The IRB must now stop taking a paternalistic view on the SA government and assure that the sport is played without political intervention. At present the IRB is playing the game in an off side position."

"If government insists on being involved in sport, let it be in the form of establishing proper facilities, especially in the rural areas, and ensure that sports codes, where cadres are deployed, are not run into the ground."