

**MEDIA RELEASE
BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (CDA)**

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Ramos' 'he who pays the piper calls the tune' inappropriate

"Maria Ramos' reported statement that 'he who pays the piper calls the tune' is typical of the sort of callous arrogance that exists in South Africa at this time." So says Rev Theunis Botha, Leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP).

"With AA, BEE and Transformation all based on racism under the pretext of 'the previously disadvantaged', the fires of racism are continually being fanned by the government, and now it would appear by the private sector as well. What the government boasts of achieving comes at the considerable expense of the tax-payers; ABSA also must remember that their income is generated by the exorbitant bank charges and interest rates that they rake in from the public everyday."

"Ramos left Transnet for ABSA and it appears that she is using the 'Rugby Transformation' issue as a smoke screen for the fact that under her watch, ABSA is reported to be contemplating a 30% reduction in staff and the closure of some branches. Perhaps ABSA should consider using the sponsorship contributions to rather save some of the jobs they intend shedding. Besides if it means that sponsors are going to approach their support of sport on the basis of politically motivated agendas, it would be best for them not to sponsor sport at all. But then the enormously beneficial publicity and tax-cuts they receive apparently makes it all worth while, because if it didn't they obviously would not have done it."

"The CDP has for a long time been critical of government's prescriptive involvement in sport, and in particular, in rugby, which has done this country proud with World Cup, Tri-nations and Super fourteen successes. On the other hand, the completely untransformed soccer, has had to be bailed out by taxpayers money and has done very little to hold the name of South Africa high. Both government and the private sector must immediately stop using sport as a political ball and rather transform themselves into efficient public / service entities."

Ramos se opmerking oor 'wie se brood 'n mens eet, die se woord 'n mens spreek' onvanpas

"Maria Ramos se stelling, soos berig, dat wiens brood men eet, diens lied men singt, is tipies van die matelose arrogansie wat hom in die land vaardig gemaak het." So sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

"Met regstellende aksie, swart ekonomiese bemagtiging en transformasie wat almal op rassisme gebaseer is onder die dekmantel dat dit ter wille van die 'voorheen benadeeldes' bedryf word, word die vuur van rassisme deurlopend deur die regering gestook, en nou skynbaar ook deur die private sektor. Dit waaroor die regering so as prestasies spog, is aan aansienlike bydraes deur die belastingbetalers te wyte; ABSA moet in gedagte hou dat sy inkomste ook die gevolg van buitensporige heffings en rente is wat daagliks van die publiek gevorder word. "

"Ramos het Transnet verlaat, en dit kom voor asof sy die 'rugbytransformasie'-kwessie gebruik as rookskerm te midde van berigte dat ABSA oorweeg om sy personeel met 30 % te verminder, en om sekere takke te sluit. Miskien moet ABSA dit oorweeg om die borgskappe se geld eerder aan te wend om van die werkseleenthede wat glo in die slag gaan bly, te bereedder. Buitendien, as borge se borgskappe aan sport van politieke agendas afhang, is dit beter dat sport liefds glad nie geborg word nie. Die ruim publisiteit en die belastingkortings wat hulle kry maak dit klaarblyklik die moeite werd, want indien dit nie die geval was nie, sou hulle vanselfsprekend nie sou borgskappe toegestaan het nie."

"Die CDP is lank reeds krities oor die regering se voorskriftelike betrokkenheid by sport, en in die besonder rugby. Rugby skep gereeld geleenthede waaroor Suid-Afrikaners trots kan wees, soos om die wêreldbeker te verower, die drienasies en selfs die Super 14. Sokker daarenteen, wat heeltemal

ongetransformeerde is, moet deur die belastingbetalers kop bo water gehou word, en het nog min gedoen om die publiek op trots te maak. Die regering en die privaat sektor moet ophou om sport as 'n politieke speelbal te gebruik en moet eerder self transformeer om doeltreffende openbare en diensentiteite te word.”