

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)**

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**CDP reacts to formation of Coalition for Democracy**

The Christian Democratic Party views the co-operation agreement between five opposition parties, as more of a politically expedient move than a real answer for the political situation in South Africa, says Rev Theunis Botha, Leader of the CDP.

“The CDP has since 1999 identified the need for Christian Parties to come together to represent the majority voice of South Africans in the political arena. We have on numerous occasions, including April of this year, approached the various Christian Parties represented, in and outside parliament, in an effort to establish a union.

“It would appear that honesty and integrity are not high on the agenda for some of the parties that have decided to work together with others, in what can at best be described as a co-operation agreement. This has however been in place for many years and has had very little effect on the balance of power.

“What this co-operation agreement means for the electorate, in real terms, is difficult to understand, as each party will still enter the election under its own banner. This means that scarce resources, such as finance and manpower required to run an effective election campaign, is still wasted, due to duplication.

“The CDP fails to see how this agreement is going to help the voice of the Christian majority in South Africa, to be heard.”

**CDP reageer op vorming van Koalisie vir Demokrasie**

Die Christen-Demokratiese Party beskou die samewerkingsooreenkoms tussen vyf politieke partye meer as ‘n politieke noodsaaklike skuif as ‘n werklike oplossing vir die politieke situasie in die land, aldus ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die CDP.

“Die CDP het reeds in 1999 die noodsaaklikheid vir samewerking tussen Christelike partye besef om saam te staan en die Christene in Suid-Afrika se meerderheidstem te verteenwoordig. Ons het talle kere, ook in April vanjaar, verskeie Christenpartye wat in die parlement verteenwoordig word, asook daarbuite genader met die oog daarop om ‘n eenheid te vorm.

“Dit kom voor asof eerlikheid en integriteit nie hoog op die agenda is vir sommiges van die wat besluit het om met ander saam te werk nie; ‘n samewerking wat ten beste beskryf kan word as ‘n samewerkingsooreenkoms. So iets bestaan egter al jare lank en het min invloed op die magsbalans.

“Dit is moeilik om te verstaan wat die ooreenkoms vir die kiesers inhou, aangesien elke party steeds onder sy eie vlag aan die verkiesing gaan deelneem. Dit beteken dat skaars hulpbronne, soos finansies en mannekrag wat nodig is om ‘n doeltreffende verkiesingsveldtog te voer, steeds verspil sal word deur duplisering.

“Die CDP kan nie insien hoe hierdie ooreenkoms daartoe gaan bydra dat die stem van die Christen-meerderheid in Suid-Afrika gehoor gaan word nie.”