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218 CDP – Policy Conference

With the 2019 elections in view, the Christian Democratic Party (CDP) held its yearly policy conference over the past few days at Nuanetzi Game Lodge in Limpopo. The conference was attended by representatives of the CDP's Federal Committee and reflected the multi ethnic character of the Party. A number of important policy directions were re-confirmed. The object of the conference was to look at its policies in light of the ever changing political scenario in South Africa and to take stock of where the Party presently finds itself. Rev Theunis Botha has been unanimously reaffirmed as Party Leader.

The aim of the conference was to map out the way forward for the CDP in view of the rapidly changing political scenario in South Africa. The Party's raison d'etre (justification for existence) was unanimously agreed to; mainly that the Party is not exclusively founded on Christianvalues and norms, but that the Bible will nevertheless be the only guide upon which principles and policies are determined. Policy directions and Party actions will have to stand the test of Biblical scrutiny.

The CDP, once again, commits itself to reflect the diversity of the South African population; without compromising its Christian principles in any way. The Party confirms its respect for the RSA Constitution and declares that South Africa belongs to all citizens legally living in the country. The Party invites all like-minded people who hold to a Biblical World View to join us and help us to bring the country back on track.

Some of the important proposals unanimously agreed to at the conference included the following:

• Protection of all minority groupings in accordance with sections 18,30,31,235 and other relevant sections of the RSA Constitution. Thisincludes every citizen's right to use his language of choice and to mother-tongue education to the highest level.

• Effective, transparent and clean government. This includes areduction in the size of state departments and the number of state officials. This will result in the limited finances available, being more effectively utilised to ensure better living standards and quality of life for all.

• The CDP is a serious contender for private ownership of land and property, for all SA citizens and, therefore, recognizes that land reform in the RSA should be given urgent attention. Compensation for historically unlawful land expropriation should be dealt with in an unbiased and impartial manner through a properly managed system. The CDP is of the opinion that section 25 and other relevant clauses of the RSA Constitution provide the necessary provisions to satisfy all role players involved. This section is clearly formulated and contains the necessary protection clauses against the expropriation of land without reasonable compensation. The CDP shall therefore strongly oppose any amendment to the Constitution to facilitate expropriation without compensation. The CDP will allocate government owned land to competent emerging farmers and set up an efficient and effective project to help such farmers with the necessary skills and assistance to become productive and so to ensure food security for all those living in South Africa. Land in the trust areas also needs urgent attention and discussions are to be entered into with traditional leaders to ensure the economic well-being of those living on such land.

• The right to security (section 12); in other words a professional, efficient and effective police service. The CDP strongly opposes and will deal decisively with violent crimes that for years have been at unacceptable levels. The Party will deal firmly with criminal elements within the police services; it will provide the police with the necessary manpower and equipment to deal effectively with crime; especially against women and children and when it comes to the criminal and lawless destruction of existing state infrastructure such as schools, transport systems, government buildings and property.

• The Party commits itself to a competent and independent judiciary; Where punishment fits the crime.

• The Party supports free education at tertiary level to all students who have the necessary academic qualifications. It is committed to quality education at all levels.

• The Party will encourage businesses to invest in the creation of job opportunities.
• The CDP commits itself to the advancement of Biblical Family values. Besides the above, policies were also discussed and formulated on economics; foreign affairs; agriculture; welfare and social matters.

PERS VERKLARING

2018 CDP –Beleidskonferensie

Met die oog op die 2019 verkiesing het die Christen Demokratiese Party (CDP) sy jaarlikse beleidskonferensie oor die afgelope paar dae by die Nuanetzi Game Lodge in Limpopo gehou. Die konferensie, wat bygewoon is deur verteenwoordigers van die CDP se hoofbestuur en wat die party se multi-etniese karakter weerspieël, het ‘n aantal belangrike rigtinggewende beleidsbesluite geneem. Eerwaarde Theunis Botha is eenparig as party leier herbevestig.

Die doel van die konferensie was om die pad van die CDP voorentoe in die lig van n veranderde politieke scenario in Suid-Afrika uit te stippel, en bestek op te neem van waar die party hom tans bevind. Die bestaansrede van die CDP is eenparig deur die konferensie bevestig, naamlik dat die party nie slegs primêr op Christelike waardes en norme fundeer is nie, maar dat die Bybel tewens die enigste rigsnoer is waarop beginsels en beleid baseer word. Beleidsrigtings en optredes moet daarvolgens deurlopend die toets van Bybelse riglyne slaag en die party het hom weereens eenparig hiertoe vebind.

Die CDP het hom ook weer daartoe verbind om verteenwoordigend van die diverse SA bevolking te wees sonder enige prysgawe van die party se Christelike beginsels. Die Party bevestig sy respek vir die Grondwet van die RSA en verklaar uitdruklik dat Suid-Afrika aan alle burgers wat wettig in die land woonagtig is, behoort. Die Party rig daarom ‘n uitnodiging aan alle eendersdenkende Suid-Afrikaanse burgers wat n Bybelse lewens- en wereldbeskouing handhaaf om by die CDP aan te sluit om die land weer op koers te kry.

Van die belangrike besluite wat op die konferensie aanvaar is, sluit die volgende in:
• Beskerming van alle minderheidsgroepe soos vervat in Artikel 18,30,31,235 en ander relevante artikels van die Grondwet van SA. Dit sluit die reg van elke burger om die taal van sy eie keuse te gebruik en moedertaalonderwys tot op die hoogste vlak te ontvang.
• Effektiewe, deursigtige en skoon regering. Dit sluit ‘n vermindering van die buitegewoon groot aantal bestaande staatsdepartemente in ten einde beperkte finansies doeltreffender aan te wend om die lewenskwaliteit van die breê bevolking te verbeter. Die vermindering in die getal staatsamptenare is ook as ‘n prioriteit aangestip.

• Die CDP is ‘n sterk voorstaander van private eienaarskap van grond en eiendom vir alle SA burgers en erken daarom dat grondhervorming in die RSA noodsaaklik is en dringend aandag verg. Kompensasie vir histories onwettige landonteiening deur middel van ‘n billike en onpartydige stelsel wat behoorlik bestuur word, is nodig. Die CDP is van mening dat Art 25 van die Grondwet van die RSA en sy tersaaklike klousules daarvoor voorsiening maak dat die saak tot die bevrediging van alle belanghebbendes aangespreek word. Die betrokke Artikel is duidelik geformuleer en bevat die nodige beskermingsklousules teen die onteiening van grond sonder billike vergoeding. Die CDP sal dus ‘n verandering van die Grondwet om voorsiening te maak vir die onteiening van grond sonder billike vergoeding STERK opponeer. Die CDP sal grond wat alreeds in die besit van die staat is aan kundige opkomende boere toe ken en ‘n doelmatige projek van stapel stuur om sodanige boere met kundige hulp by te staan en so te verseker dat grondhervorming gepaard gaan met die optimale benutting

daarvan om voedsel sekuriteit te verseker tot voordeel van alle inwoners. Grond in trustgebiede verg ook dringende aandag en wye konsultasie in hierdie saak, ook met tradisionele leiers, is nodig ten einde die ekonomiese welvaart van persone wat sulke grond bewoon, te bevorder.

• Die reg op veiligheid (Art 12) met ander woorde ‘n doeltreffende en effektiewe polisiediens. Die CDP neem sterk standpunt in teen geweldsmisdaad wat vir jare reeds onaanvaarbaar hoog oral in die land is. Die Party beywer hom daadwerklik om op alle owerheidsvlakke die polisiediens van kriminele elemente te suiwer en die polisie van die nodige mannekrag en toerusting te voorsien om sy taak doeltreffend te verrig, veral ook ten opsigte van geweld teen vroue en kinders en die kriminele en onregmatige vernietiging van bestaande infrastrutuur soos byvoorbeeld skole, vervoerstelsels, regeringsgeboue en eiendom.

• Die Party beywer hom vir ‘n bevoegde en onafhanklike regsbank; strafnaatreëls moet die oor treding weerspieël.

•Die Party sal besighede aanmoedig on in die skepping van werksgeleenthede te investeer.

• Die Party ondersteun gratis onderrig aan studente op tersiere vlak wat akademies daarvoor kwalifiseer.

From the political desk
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