MEDIA RELEASE
BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (CDA)

15 February 2010

Opposisiepolitiek – 'n ware lewensvatbare alternatief

"Gereelde stemme gaan op vir 'n politieke herskikking in Suid-Afrika – gewoonlik met die doel om 'n sterk opposisie vir die ANC te vorm of selfs om die ANC in 'n toekomstige verkiesing te verslaan. Die Christen-Demokratiese Alliansie (CDA) stem saam dat 'n herskikking nodig is, maar nie gebaseer op politieke lapwerk wat ideologies iets oplewer wat niks beter as die bestaande regering is nie." So sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) en waarnemende voorsitter van die CDA.

"Deesdae is daar bykans nie 'n politieke kommentator nie – links of regs – of hy meen die huidige situasie in die land is onaanvaarbaar, en blameer in 'n mindere of meerdere mate die leemtes in die grondwet. 'n Sterk gemene deler is dat niemand, selfs die grootste optimiste, werklik 'n meesterplan kan belig wat as roetekaart uit die tameletjie kan dien nie. Enige poliek-sosiologiese werk wat oor hierdie situasie van magteloosheid by 'n deel van die kieserkorps handel, wys op die gevaar dat dit tot politieke geweld kan lei. So iets moet voorkom word."

"In die meeste beskaafde lande is daar nou 'n terugkeer na konserwatiewer waardes. In baie van die Wes-Europese lande is Christen-demokratiese partye nou die sterkste partye in regerende koalisies, terwyl die euforie rondom pres. Barack Obama gou verdamp het, en die onlangs gestigte konserwatiewe beweging, die Tea party, in peilings reeds meer steun as die Demokratiese Party kry. Kiesers wat na 'n waardestelsel streef, moet egter nou verbysterd toekyk hoe pres. Jacob Zuma se buite-egtelike sekskapades skynbaar ook nie so vreemd in opposisiegeledere is nie. Terwyl die bewerings rondom die DA se Lennit Max nog bewys moet word, kan die leiers van sommige ander opposisiepartye nie klippe gooi nie. Een leier het 'n dogter wie se pa nie die leier se man is nie, 'n ander is na bloedtoetse gedwing om sy vaderlike pligte na te kom, terwyl gerugte random 'n vierde se buite-egtelike verhouding met 'n getroude man nog nooit ontken is nie."

"Ons doen 'n beroep op Suid-Afrikaanse kiesers om kennis te neem van internasionale verwikkelinge, en ook hul steun by morele opsies in te werp. Van ons kant onderneem ons om harder te werk om eenheid of minstens samewerking tussen Christen-demokratiese party in Suid-Afrika te bewerkstellig, sodat kiesers 'n werklike lewensvatbare morele alternatief gebied sal word."

Opposition politics – a real viable alternative

"One regularly hears calls for a political realignment in South Africa that will serve as a strong opposition to the ANC and even to in future defeat the ANC at the polling booth. The Christian Democratic Alliance (CDA) agrees that a re-alignment is necessary, but not based on stitching together political off cuts offering an ideological alternative that is no different from the present government." So says Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic party (CDA) and acting chair of the CDA.

"At present virtually all political commentators – left or right – find the situation in the country unacceptable, and to a lesser or greater degree blame it on some of the shortcomings in the constitution. None, however, not even the most optimistic, offer any solutions. Unfortunately, political sociologists covering situations such as these, where a segment of the population experiences extreme frustration borne out of an inability to do something about it, point out that it could eventually lead to political violence. This must not happen. "

"There is a tendency at present in most civilised countries for a return to more conservative values. In many of the Western European countries Christian Democratic Parties are the largest parties in ruling coalitions. The euphoria surrounding the election of Pres. Barrack Obama is also dwindling. Recent polls indicated that the young Tea party movement in America is more popular than the Democratic Party."

“In South Africa, voters need to take note that Pres. Jacob Zuma’s indiscretions are not all that uncommon in opposition ranks either. Whilst allegations around the DA’s Lennit Max still need to be proven, some other opposition parties can also not say too much. The leader of one of these parties has a daughter not fathered by her husband, another leader had to undergo blood tests forcing him to do his fatherly duties, whilst rumours around a fourth’s extra-marital relations with a married man has never been refuted.”

“We call on South African voters to take note of international tendencies, and also support the moral option for the country. From our side we undertake to work hard to unite, or at least create cooperation between, South Africa’s Christian democratic parties, and in so doing offer the electorate a real viable moral alternative.”