MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

22 MARCH 2011

Zuma se Libiese ommekeer – om Mugabe te beskerm

"Dit lyk asof pres. Jacob Zuma se stert-omswaaiery oor die afdwing van 'n vliegverbod die gevolg van 'n groot skrik was – dat hy bekommerd is dat 'n soortgelyke lot pres. Robert Mugabe en ander Afrika-despote te beurt kan val." So sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) in reaksie daarop dat Suid-Afrika die resolusie, wat stappe insluit om die burgerlike bevolking te beskerm, eers in die VN-Veiligheidsraad gesteun het, maar nou oor die gevolge beswaard is.

"Daar is net geen manier waarop die regering se militêre adviseurs die president en sy besluitnemers nie behoorlik oor die implikasies sou ingelig het nie. Die stert-omswaaiery is opportunisties, en 'n poging om die brood aan beide kante gesmeer te hou. Dit lyk trouens of Zuma die knie buig voor Julius Malema, wat sterk geassosieer word met die voorste lawaaimakers – Kuba en Hugo Chaves van Venezuela.

"Die militêre optrede gee die Libiese bevolking die eerste werklike kans om van 'n despoot wat meer as veertig jaar lank groot hartseer oor die wêreld en in sy eie land veroorsaak het, ontslae te raak. Boonop word hulle hierdeur 'n werklike kans gegun om die wraak wat Ghaddafi beloof het, vry te spring.

"As die land in sy buitelandse beleid meer beginselvas sou wees, sou dit dalk as aansporing dien dat beginselvastheid 'n bepalende norm binnelands sal wees."

Zuma's Libyan about turn – to protect Mugabe

"It seems as though Pres. Jacob Zuma's about turn on the enforcement of a no fly zone over Libya resulted from shock – that he realised what in principle could happen to buddy Robert Mugabe and other African despots." So says Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP) is reaction to South Africa first supporting the no fly resolution, which included steps necessary to protect the civilian population from attacks, in the UN Security Council, and then reacted negatively to the results.

"There is absolutely no way in which government's military advisors would not have properly advised the president and decision makers on the implications. The turn about is opportunistic, and is an effort to butter the slice of bread on both sides. South Africa's antics are so unexplainable that it almost seems as though Zuma may have ceded to pressure from Julius Malema, who has close ties with the loudest protest voices – those of Cuba and Venezuela's Hugo Chaves.

"The military action gives the Libyan population the first real opportunity in more than 40 years to rid themselves of a despot brining much sorrow to people all over the world and in his own country. This also virtually ensures that the people will not be exposed to the wrath Ghaddafi promised.

"If South Africa was more principled in its foreign policy, it could have served as inspiration to ensure that principles become the norm domestically."