MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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National Peace Accord now scrapped
"From the compilation of the new cabinet it is clear that the National Peace Accord, on which the constitution is based, is no longer part of the ANC's framework. With the sacking of Marthinus van Schalkwyk, the last commitment, however weak it was, had been removed," says Rev Theunis Botha, Leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP).

"With the inclusion of Ngoako Ramathlodi, a staunch critic of the constitution as it supposedly favours whites, it was abundantly clear that reconciliation in this country has limited appreciation. This is also reflected in the virtual stripping of minorities from cabinet. Zuma missed out on the opportunity to remove incompetent ministers such as Tina Joemat-Pettersson and Nathi Mthethwa completely out of this massive cabinet of 71 ministers and deputy ministers.
"We also believe that the compilation reflects our notion from the president's inaugural speech, that there will be a shift to the left. The President in his inaugural speech said exactly what was expected of him, after the ANC majority was reduced at the last election. He has responded to the successes of the EFF, which ran a campaign based on radical Marxist policies, by committing himself to exactly the same radical transformation policies to be pursued by his government over the next five years.

"His reference to the more stringent application of BEE and Affirmative Action, does not auger well for any other than ANC cronies and again creates uncertainty for minorities. As usual, the failures of the ANC, during the past twenty years, were laid at the door of Apartheid and Colonialism, conveniently forgetting, the positive developments in the country experienced before 1994.

"It is obvious that the country has taken a giant step to the extreme left and that the negative legacies as a result of this, is going to be experienced for at least the next twenty years and beyond."

Nasionale Vredesakkoord nou van baan
"Uit die samestelling van die nuwe kabinet is dit duidelik dat die Nasionale Vredesakkoord, waarop die grondwet geskoei is, nie meer deel van die ANC se verwysingsraamwerk is nie. Met die afdanking van Marthinus van Schalkwyk, is die laaste verbintenis ongeag hoe power, uit die weg geruim," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demkratiese Party (CDP).

"Met die insluiting van Ngoaka Ramathlodi, 'n verbete kritikus van die grondwet omdat dit kwansuis wittes sou bevoordeel, is dit duidelik dat daar min waardering vir rekonsiliasie in die land is. Dit word ook weerspieël deur die bykans volledige wegveeg van minderhede uit die kabinet. Zuma het ook die kans verspeel om volledig van onbevoegde ministers soos Tina Joemat-Pettersson en Nathi Mthethwa uit die reuse kabinet van 71 ministers en adjunk-ministers ontslae te raak. Ons glo ook dat die samestelling ons waarneming uit die president se aanvaardingstoespraak van die presidentskap, dat daar 'n swenk na links op hande is.

"Die president het in daardie toespraak presies gesê wat verwag is, na die ANC se meerderheid na die verkiesing gekrimp het. Hy het reaktief opgetree na die EFF se suksesse met sy radikale Marxistiese veldtog, deur homself tot presies dieselfde radikale transformasiedoelwitte te verbind. Sy verwysing na nog strenger toepassing van SEB en 'regstellende optrede' hou niks goed in vir enigeen anders as die ANC meelopers nie, en skep weer onsekerhede vir minderhede.

"Soos gebruiklik het hy die ANC se mislukkings oor die afgelope twintig jaar weer op die brood van apartheid en kolonialisme gesmeer, en gerieflikheidshalwe vergeet van positiewe ontwikkelings in die land voor 1994. Dit is ooglopend dat die land 'n reuse stap na links geneem het, en dat die land daarom oor die volgende twintig jaar swaar gaan dra aan die nalatenskap daarvan."