MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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CDP requests Cabinet reshuffle

"The ANC's outburst on criticism regarding the clearly extravagant expenditure on recently announced luxuries for the government, is of great concern. This includes a R170 million revamp of the Presidential office.

"Is the ANC totally out of touch with the value of hard earned money?" So asks Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP).

"Does the party understand the implications of the recent reports on unauthorized expenditure, and the AG's report that stated that many government departments do not even understand the principle of how to use separate columns for income and expenditure.

"A further concern, is that the Minister of Public Works, Gwen Mahlangu-Nkabinde, announced in March this year that she felt the proposed expenditures were excessive and ordered that the matter should be reconsidered. According to her this is still the position.

"This raises the question, does the ANC recognize the Minister's authority – or do they see her as someone who has lost her grip on what is going on. It would appear that the department under her supervision is being regarded as easy game for plunder. What is interesting is that both her and the Public Protector have the same version when it comes to the police office rental debacle.

"We suggest that the President use the reports of the AG and Public Protector to initiate a Cabinet shuffle, and so rid it of ineffective ministers.

"The Christian Democratic Party recommends a smaller, streamlined cabinet with capable ministers," says Botha.

CDP vra kabinetskommeling

"Ons is baie bekommerd oor die ANC se uitbarsting op kritiek op die duidelik buitensporige voorgestelde uitgawes op luukshede vir die regering wat onlangs aangekondig is. Dit sluit R170 miljoen in wat toegewys is vir die opknapping van die president se kantoor.

"Het die ANC alle voeling met swaarverdiende geldwaarde verloor?" So vra ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

"Verstaan die party die implikasies van onlangse verslae van die Ouditeur-generaal oor departemente se ongemagtigde uitgawes, en dat baie departemente volgens 'n verduideliking van die OG nie eens verstaan hoe om uitgawes en inkomstes in verskillende kolomme aan te teken nie?

"Wat meer kommerwekkend is, is dat die minister van Openbare Werke, Gwen Mahlangu-Nkabinde in Maart vanjaar aangekondig het dat sy voel die voorgestelde uitgawes aan die kantoor van die president is buitensporig, en dat plan gemaak moet word. Volgens haar is dit steeds die posisie.

"Dit laat die vraag ontstaan oor hoe die ANC haar beskou – skynbaar as iemand wat geen greep op die werklikheid in haar departement het nie soos dit ook wil voorkom uit haar en die Openbare Beskermer se weergawes oor dieselfde polisie-kantoorakkomodasiedebakel. Dit lyk of sy beskou word as iemand onder wie se toesig dit maklik is om die departement ongemerk van miljoene rande te plunder.

"Die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) stel voor dat die president die verslae van die OG en OB gebruik om van onbevoegde ministers ontslae te raak. Ons sal eerder 'n kleiner, gestroomlynde kabinet wil hê wat uit bekwame ministers bestaan."