

# AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

## VETERANS LEAGUE

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 ANC Veterans League

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**ANC Veteran's League Third National Conference**  
**28 – 30 July 2023, Birchwood Hotel, Ekurhuleni, Gauteng**

### **Resolutions arising out of the Commissions and Conference Reports as approved by the Conference**

The Third National Conference of the ANC Veterans League was convened by the National Task Team (NTT) on 28-30<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in line with the processes and cut-off date decided by the NEC of the African National Congress.

The NTT prepared reports and documents which were presented to the National Conference

- The Convenor's Political Report;
- The Coordinator's Report on the work of the National Task Team;
- Policy discussion document;
- Renewal discussion document;
- Discussion document on Organising, Campaigns and Membership;
- Policy Framework on Coalitions;
- Status of VL Finances and Recommendations; and
- Discussion document on Money Politics and Revolutionary Morality.

The discussion documents together with resolutions and declarations from Provincial Conferences formed a basis for the Conference to focus on how the ANC Veterans League can contribute to effective policies and concrete programmes that will decisively push forward the

**RENEWAL OF THE ANC TO ADVANCE THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION**

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**TREASURER GENERAL**  
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fundamental Renewal of the ANC to improve the quality of life and well-being of the people of South Africa.

Hereunder follows resolutions developed from all the inputs at Conference and the deliberations from Conference Commissions which were approved by the Third National Conference.



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## **A. Resolution on the Renewal of the ANC**

### **1. Noting that:**

- 1.1. The 53<sup>rd</sup>, 54<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> National Conferences of the ANC identified Renewal as a matter of principal priority for the long-term strategic survival and success of the ANC and the national democratic revolution.
- 1.2. There is a deep concern among the veterans that these correct ANC resolutions on Renewal have not always received serious, systematic and urgent attention from the leadership of the movement, except on an occasional and seasonal basis when there are conferences.
- 1.3. In 2020, the ANC Veterans League established its Renewal Steering Committee to create momentum and ensure a sustained focus on the process of renewing the African National Congress in line with the ANC's own Conference Resolutions.
- 1.4. The Veterans League has identified the following key areas as the pillars of Renewal:
  - A systematic programme of political education and development of new cadres at all levels of the ANC and the broad democratic movement;
  - A new approach to how people join the ANC and the reconstitution of the membership process of the organisation to ensure quality ANC Members;
  - Rethinking the role and structure of the ANC Branch to be the principal vehicle through which ANC members lead the efforts of communities and citizens in advancing community development and service delivery agenda;
  - Placing the ethics and integrity agenda at the centre of the ANC's organisational and governance work to the reclaim moral authority that was so key in the struggle for freedom. This is only possible if the ANC adopts an uncompromising attitude to corruption and all forms of misconduct; and
  - Reassert and practically demonstrate its unwavering commitment to the principles of non-racialism and non-sexism.
- 1.5. To implement the above pillars, the VL suggested several practical proposals which are included in this resolution.

## **2. Further noting that:**

- 2.1. The Renewal of the ANC is not about what the government of the people must do, but what the ANC must do to renew itself so that it is in the best position to serve the people and defend and advance the National Democratic Revolution.
- 2.2. The profound challenge for the ANC and the motive forces is that, for all intents and purposes, the National Democratic Revolution, as founded, spearheaded and led by the ANC since its inception, faces a real threat of a strategic defeat. Something drastic needs to be done with a sense of urgency by all members and cadres of the ANC to avoid the strategic defeat of the agenda for the fundamental transformation of South Africa.
- 2.3. One of those areas of intervention is to correct flawed approach in membership recruitment by introducing a tight screening and criteria that is informed by the constitution of the ANC and the criteria of a member who will enhance the prospects of getting the best people into the ANC to come and advance the struggle for transformation as outlined in “Through the Eye of the Needle”.
- 2.4. We have to tackle disenchantment among communities who have no trust in the liberation movement due to the corruption and factionalism within the structures of the ANC. The ANC Branch must be re-organised and led in a manner that closes the social distance between ANC and communities.
- 2.5. Counter-revolutionary behaviour such as rampant corruption, resource-inspired factionalism and money politics have eroded the moral authority of the ANC and further undermined the intellectual and ideological hegemony of the National Democratic Revolution.
- 2.6. By all accounts, the position of the ANC as a leader of society is at its weakest and this has given space to the domestic right-wing and racist forces to gain confidence and work feverishly with their international allies on the “regime change” agenda that seeks to remove the ANC from power and roll back the transformation and democratisation journey.

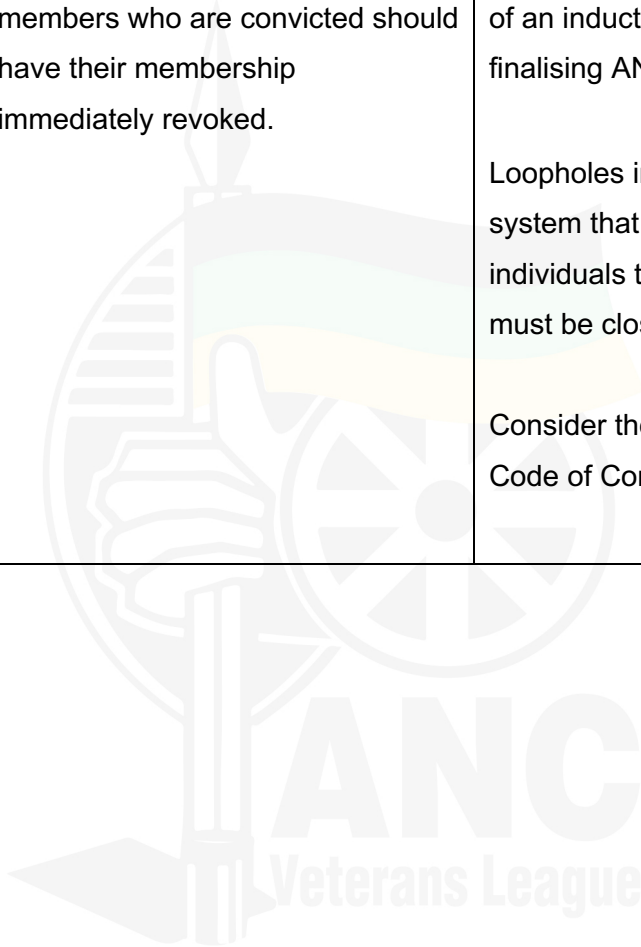
### **3. Believing that:**

- 3.1. The immediate challenge facing the ANC in the current phase is prioritising membership quality rather than quantity - “Better Fewer But Better”. The mass character of the ANC must not be confused with the loose approach to membership recruitment, management and development – we need an overhaul of the membership recruitment practices and processes of admission into the ranks of the ANC.
- 3.3. We also need to raise the quality of the ANC Branch to improve its work with communities as the branch remains the nexus of the ANC. This requires activism of the veterans in each Branch and the intensification of political education across Branches, Regions, Provinces and National structures.
- 3.4. Former leaders of the movement should be drawn actively into working with the current leadership to give impetus and momentum to the renewal agenda. In particular, the former Presidents should work closely with the current President to lead the renewal project.

### **4. Therefore resolves on the following Renewal proposals:**

- 4.1. Understanding that between National Conferences (NC), the NEC is the highest decision-making structure that can fill any policy gaps in the ANC in line with Rule 12.1 “The NEC is the highest organ of the ANC between National Conferences and has the authority to lead the organisation, subject to the provisions of this Constitution.”, this means that the NEC can make any policy between Cs as long as it is NOT in conflict with the Constitution. This vital role of the NEC has in the past not frequently, if at all, been used by the NEC. The VL NTT is proposing that within the present confines of the 2017 Constitutional framework and previous decisions of the NC, the following proposals for action in respect of the renewal of the ANC are put forward for consideration.
- 4.2. The table below sets out the issue, the motivation and the proposed way forward - which must be encapsulated in a short, medium and long-term programme of action that is integrated with the NEC programme of action. It is further proposed that the Veteran’s League play a leading role in certain aspects aligned to the provincial and regional structure priorities where these are relevant.

Issue	Motivation	Proposed way forward/action
<p>a. Renewing and tightening ANC membership</p>	<p>The current Rule 4 of the constitution is broad and does not allow the membership of the ANC to be restricted.</p> <p>People who have committed crimes should not be allowed to become ANC members and ANC members who are convicted should have their membership immediately revoked.</p>	<p>NEC to pass a resolution which:</p> <p>Introduces membership vetting (e.g. lifestyle audit) and criteria which automatically exclude membership or aspirant members who do not meet this criterion.</p> <p>Requires the successful completion of an induction course before finalising ANC membership</p> <p>Loopholes in the membership system that enables certain individuals to collect IDs in bulk must be closed.</p> <p>Consider the development of a Code of Conduct.</p>



Issue	Motivation	Proposed way forward/action
b. Political education	Strong political education and cadreship are under threat in the ANC	<p>Devise, maintain, adopt and implement for each province an ongoing political education. Appoint in each province a collective of our finest veteran leaders to do the training in each province. Get buy-in from ANC that such political education in each province is conducted by the VL working with comrades as identified by the respective PECs.</p> <p>Develop, introduce and maintain ongoing compulsory political education training courses at the regional and provincial level of the ANC for new and old members.</p> <p>Also, develop special political education courses at the OR Tambo school for all members.</p>
c. Establish, strengthen and capacitate ongoing national training for all National and Provincial disciplinary structures.	<p>Each Branch, Region, Province and National structure can establish disciplinary structures. They exist in isolation from each other, with widely differing capacities, skill sets, levels of understanding and knowledge.</p>	<p>A national training programme should be established, under the auspices of the National Disciplinary structures, for all our disciplinary structures.</p> <p>This will raise skill and knowledge levels and establish more uniformity of action and thinking in our disciplinary processes.</p>

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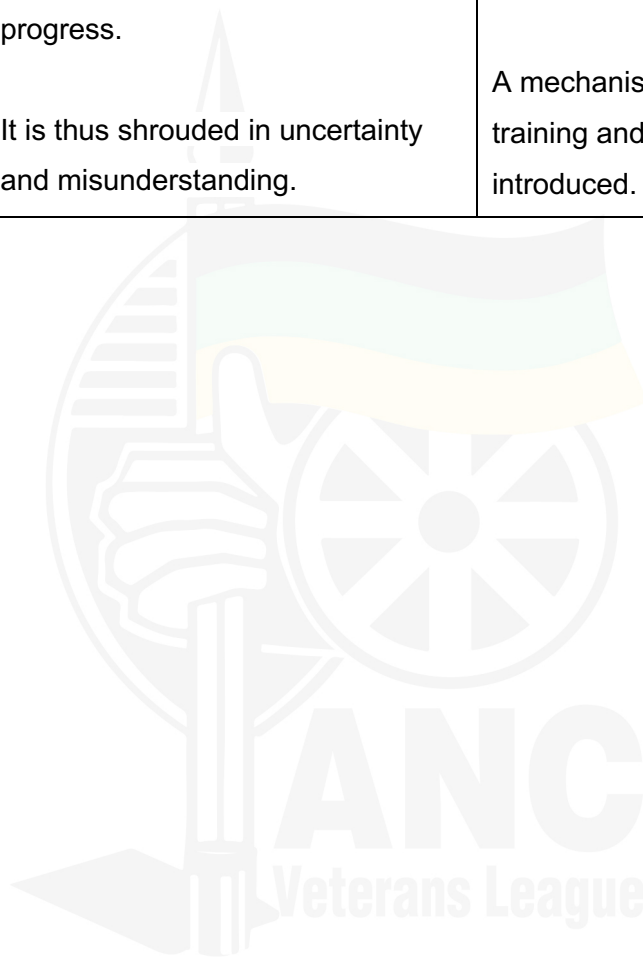
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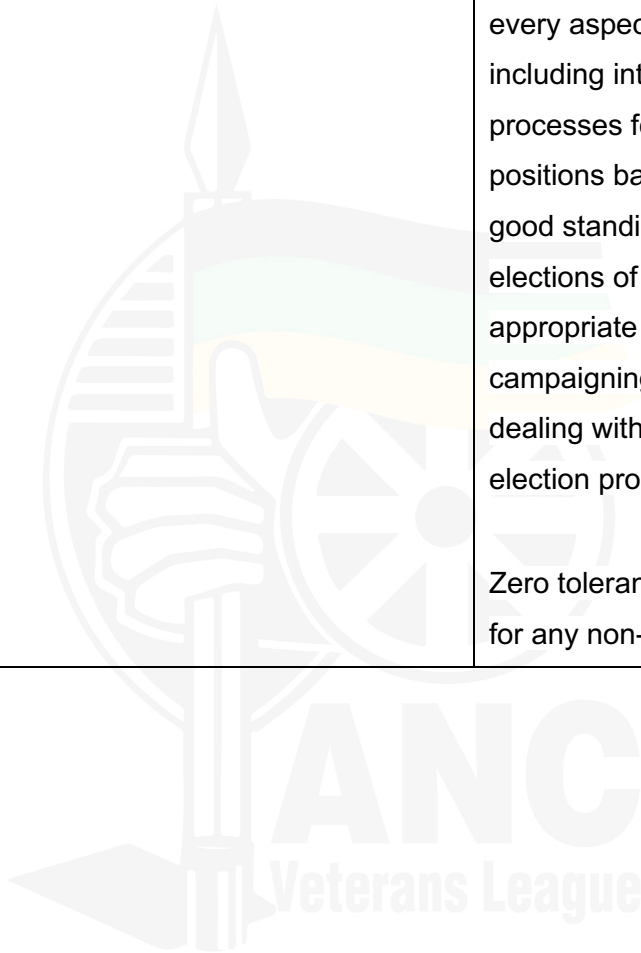
Issue	Motivation	Proposed way forward/action
<p>d.Strengthen and capacitate the Integrity Commission and the Appeal Tribunal of the Integrity Commission.</p>	<p>The Integrity Commission (IC) and the Integrity Appeal Tribunal are unique to the ANC. There are no precedents we can learn from. Therefore, we learn and develop the mandate and scope of these structures as we undertake new cases. It is a continuous work in progress.</p> <p>It is thus shrouded in uncertainty and misunderstanding.</p>	<p>The scope and mandate of the IC should concentrate on unethical behaviour and not consider policy matters.</p> <p>The IC must be staffed with experienced persons with the necessary skill sets.</p> <p>A mechanism for continuous training and learning should be introduced.</p>





Issue	Motivation	Proposed way forward/action
<p>e.Establish oversight and capacitation of all consequence management structures</p>	<p>The disciplinary structures comprise two separate and independent components. Firstly, the political structures that set up the disciplinary structures and make the political decision to initiate disciplinary processes and then implement the decisions of the disciplinary structures. Secondly, the actual disciplinary structures that conduct disciplinary enquiries independently of such political structures and the Presenters.</p> <p>A disjuncture has developed between the political and disciplinary structures. It has led that disciplinary procedures are mainly set up to enforce the bidding of the dominant group in the political structure. This is not meant to operate in this manner. Our disciplinary structures should operate in a balanced manner to serve the best interests of the ANC as an organisation, and not in promotion of narrow self-interest or factional interest.</p>	<p>Disciplinary processes should be conducted openly and transparently. This means that the leadership at each level must be seized with disciplinary matters. However, this must be done in a manner that ensures that disciplinary structures operate independently of the political structures, with no undue influence and without fear, favour and preference.</p> <p>The NEC must discuss at each ordinary meeting a progress report on consequence management tabled by the SGO.</p> <p>A DSG must be given the responsibility within the SGO for oversight of and dealing with all consequence management matters at every level of the ANC.</p>
<p>e.Plan of Action to Implement Zondo Commission Recommendations</p>	<p>The ANC has considered the Zondo Commission and made recommendations which are not implemented.</p>	<p>These recommendations must be implemented.</p>

Issue	Motivation	Proposed way forward/action
f. Electoral processes of the ANC	The work done by the Election Commission needs to be reviewed and strengthened.	<p>The Election Commission must be fully capacitated and strengthened.</p> <p>The Election Commission after a proper and appropriate consultation process must devise and place before the NEC a full set of recommendations that deal with every aspect of its mandate including internal electoral processes for ANC leadership positions based on all members in good standing voting in all elections of the ANC leadership; appropriate and acceptable campaigning procedures; dealing with non-compliance with election processes.</p> <p>Zero tolerance must be prescribed for any non-compliance.</p>



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Issue	Motivation	Proposed way forward/action
g Selection of public representatives	<p>Presently, the mechanism and process to select/appoint public representatives of the ANC at all three levels of government is exactly the same as we use to elect ANC leadership at all levels of the organisation. So, the pool from which we can elect public representatives is limited to the same pool of people, namely active members of the ANC.</p> <p>The ANC pool of membership is often distorted and limited, through factionalism, gatekeeping, etc. We need to broaden the pool of who to elect as public representatives and ensure they have the requisite skill sets.</p>	<p>Review and enhance the mechanism implemented for the 2021 local government elections to allow the ANC to create a pool of candidates with broader appeal and the requisite skill sets than what we have currently.</p> <p>This can have the added benefit to ameliorate the worse aspects of factionalism and gate keeping, as the reason for holding leadership positions for personal gain mostly falls away.</p>
h. Development and monitoring of ANC policies	<p>There is duplication and inconsistencies in the lengthy ANC policy documents that came from Conference.</p> <p>There is no effective system for monitoring the implementation of ANC policies.</p>	<p>Policy development in the ANC should be more focused. A clearer distinction between the policies of the ANC and the policies of the government should be made</p> <p>A simple but effective monitoring and evaluation framework should be implemented to monitor the performance of the ANC in government.</p> <p>Monitoring of branch BECs, BGMs and engagement with communities should also be introduced.</p>

- 4.3. The above are seen as transitional and strengthening measures, albeit very important until constitutional amendments which can further enhance renewal are implemented. In respect of the constitutional amendments, sufficient time must be given to consulting on them by all structures of the ANC. They must also be discussed and adopted at the NGC as recommendations for adoption at the National Conference of 2027.

## **5. Further resolves that the role of VL in respect of renewal should focus on:**

**5.1. Political education:** Veteran league members have a role to play in induction courses, ongoing political education as well as sharing the oral history of their times in the struggle. Thus:

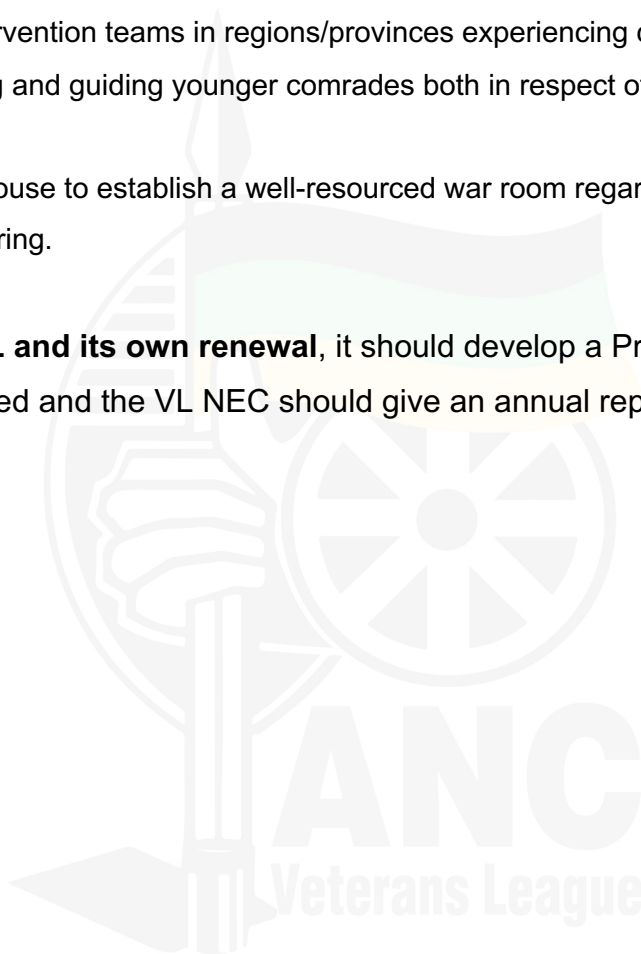
- a) VL branches will play a key role in the roll-out of the Branch political education curriculum that is being developed by the re-established Department of Political Education and Training. The work of the Veterans League should include educating ANC members on the history of the ANC and its Constitution and Code of Conduct as well as administering the Oath.
- b) Veterans will also be drawn into the regional, provincial and national political education programmes. Where necessary assist comrades to learn facilitation skills and new methods of learning and teaching (e.g, online);
- c) ANCVL provinces should initiate and support oral history and participate in liberation heritages projects where struggle stories and memories, especially from particular localities, can be recorded and remembered. This can also the sharing of such stories on remembrance days; and
- d) ANCL Provinces and branches should initiate and support inter-generational dialogues and make it their responsibility to nurture a new generation of activists who will have integrity and commitment, especially the young comrades in the ANC Youth League Branches.

**5.2. Participation in the consequence management structures of the ANC:**

- a) ANC VL members should be the guardians of the values of the ANC. Many have had long years of experience in dealing with organisational matters.
- b) They should thus be playing a leading role in the structures of the disciplinary and integrity commission, demonstrating in practice how leaders and members of the ANC must conduct themselves. Comrades with legal experience can play roles as presenters and investigators.
- c) It is proposed that the incoming NEC of the VL arrange for the training of potential comrades who can sit on such structures at all levels of the organisation.
- d) The ANC VL members in the training of the ANC members on ethics and integrity programme that will be rolled out by the ANC as part of the political education curriculum to proactively cultivate a culture of positive values.

### 5.3. Support to research, policy development, monitoring and evaluation of the ANC:

- a) Many ANC VL members have previously been councillors, MPLs or MPs or been in the public service. They have much to contribute to monitoring and evaluating current policies and contributing to ongoing policy development. Included here is a practical evaluation of the oversight work of the MP and MPLs, as well as an evaluation of the impact thereof.
- b) It is proposed that the incoming NEC of the VL set up projects/programmes where VL members can participate in:
- Monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes of government at all levels.
  - Be part of ANC intervention teams in regions/provinces experiencing challenges.
  - Mentoring, coaching and guiding younger comrades both in respect of deployments in the ANC and government.
  - Work with Luthuli House to establish a well-resourced war room regarding service delivery tracking and monitoring.
- 5.4. To **sustain the VL and its own renewal**, it should develop a Programme of Action which should be monitored and the VL NEC should give an annual report to all the structures of the VL.



## **C. Resolution on Organising, Mobilising and Campaigns to build a strong Veteran's League that will contribute effectively to the Renewal of the ANC**

### **1. Noting that:**

- 1.1. There is a need to clarify and amend the Constitution of the VL to align it with that of the ANC, update it and strengthen it. Proposals made in the Commissions will be considered and adopted in the session on Constitutional Amendments.
- 1.2. While there is agreement on the Constitutional Amendments, there is a need for further alignment and consistency that should be addressed by the forthcoming NEC;
- 1.3. In respect of branch size and establishment of regions, there should be maximum flexibility to accommodate the different circumstances facing different communities of veterans;
- 1.4. That the Constitution is a living document and further changes can be made in five years with a proper process as the VL develops;
- 1.5. The amendments to the Constitution need to be complemented by resolutions adopted by the incoming NEC.

### **2. Believing that the role of veterans is to:**

- 2.1. Be the custodians of the ANC culture, values and traditions including non-racialism;
- 2.2. Ensure that the ANC remains on course in its mission of the National Democratic Revolution;
- 2.3. Build and rebuild effective and vibrant branches of the ANCVL;
- 2.4. Ensure integrity and discipline in the ANC branches where they are located;
- 2.5. Assist and facilitate political education in ANC branches;
- 2.6. Ensure accountability of ANC structures to the entire membership and society in general;
- 2.7. Assist the ANC branch to identify community leaders with integrity to forge links and relations with the ANC;
- 2.8. Monitor the behaviour of both ANC leaders and deployees and ensure that the organisation acts decisively when there is wrongdoing;
- 2.9. Lead in ANC campaigns against corruption amongst its leaders and members and lead in

the eradication of factionalism within the ANC whilst promoting the democratic right to lobby and be lobbied; and

2.10. Work closely within our structures and with the broad democratic movement.

### **3. Therefore resolves as follows issues of membership:**

#### **3.1. Criteria for membership of the Veterans League:**

The following comrades who served, participated or worked in the following structures should be eligible for membership:

- a) ANC, MK and underground structures.
- b) Mass democratic movement and organisations opposing apartheid.
- c) Trade union movement, aligned to the congress movement.
- d) Faith-based organisations and academia, aligned with the congress movement.
- e) Traditional leader structures, who opposed apartheid.

The incoming NEC must consider a way of addressing members who have left the ANC and want to come back i.e. they no longer meet the 40 years of unbroken service.

#### **3.3. Political biographies and verification of membership**

3.3.1. The ANC constitution provides for qualification for membership as follows:

3.3.2. Rule 5.3: Applications for membership shall be considered by the branch executive committee, or such structure as the Provincial and Regional Executive Committee or the NEC may create from time to time to decide on applications. These structures may accept or refuse any application for membership provided such acceptance or refusal shall be subject to review by the next higher organ of the Veterans League.

3.3.3. Until such time as an ANCVL membership portal is implemented:

- a) The potential member should complete, or be assisted to complete, their membership information and a political biography online to ensure the completeness of records and to record a summary of the contribution of veterans for the archives of the ANC. The political biography should not be a tool to exclude comrades who have indeed served the ANC and the movement for over 40 years

- b) The ANCVL BEC is responsible for confirming that potential members qualify for >40 years of service and the ANC Branch Secretary is responsible for confirming that the potential member is in good standing status on the ANC Online Membership System
- c) When a new member is confirmed the name be submitted to the provincial secretary / coordinator and the national coordinator to update the membership records at provincial and national level respectively

### **3.4. Membership fees**

- 3.4.1. The ANC Constitution provides for payment of membership fees as follows: Rule 4.14: Members shall pay an annual subscription fee as determined by the NEC
- 3.4.3. Rule 4.15: Non-earning members or those on reduced incomes shall pay such fees as determined by the NC.
- 3.4.4. A significant number of members of the ANCVL have limited disposable income and that the age cohort of the ANCVL has less access to technology and technical know-how making registration and maintenance of membership on the ANC Online Membership system challenging;
- 3.4.5. Members of the ANCVL have in general served the ANC and the movement for the entire adult lives
- 3.5.6. It is proposed that, in recognition of the service of members of the ANCVL, the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Conference of the ANC consider proposing to the ANC NEC that:
  - a) Qualifying members of the ANCVL, ANC members who are over 60 years of age and who have served the ANC and the movement for at least 4 decades, be granted permanent member in good standing status with a membership fee per annum of R0;
  - b) Qualifying members of the ANCVL who can afford to make an annual donation to the ANC in an amount affordable to each member

## **4. Therefore resolves that the role of VL in branches should be to:**

- 4.1. Build strong and functional ANCVL and ANC structures in all provinces to reverse the dysfunction in many ANC branches and the reduced trust between ANC structures and communities;



- 4.2. Develop programmes that are aligned to the work of the ANC including guiding and strengthening local ANC structures, foster collaboration with all progressive elements in communities and civil society and political education;
- 4.3. Play central roles in formal ANC institutional structures such as the Integrity Commission, Disciplinary Committees, Political and Renewal Committees giving guidance and sharpening political focus;
- 4.4. Encourage formal education, skills development, home grown expertise and proper role modeling in collaboration with local educators, parents and responsible authorities;
- 4.5. Promote community service, empowerment and accountability. For this, deployment of the VL members at various levels of governance for coaching and monitoring must be put in place; councillors especially ward councillors must be trained and empowered;
- 4.6. Moral and political decay must be arrested - insist on lifestyle audits starting with the incoming ANCVL Executive setting an example followed by ANC NEC and the rest of the structures; and
- 4.7. Block and street committees must be revived, data about communities collected and service delivery teams set up for the purposes of interfacing between communities, experts and those charged with the responsibility of delivering services. Accountability and monitoring must be ensured at all levels and promote active citizenry and the values of the Congress movement.

**5. Therefore resolves in respect of sister organisations and care of our own\**

- 5.1. That the **relationship between the ANCVL and the MK Liberation War Veterans (MKLWV)** should be strengthened and that the MKLWV should be encouraged to take up membership of the ANCVL. On the challenges between the MKLWV and Government, the ANCVL will work with the MKLWV to resolve current challenges
- 5.2. To work with the Social and Welfare Committee of the ANC to address a challenge that affect Veterans, the MKLWV and Senior citizens of the movement.
- 5.3. To interact with the leagues of the ANC on values, ethics and integrity to develop a common approach.

## **D. Resolution on fundraising and financial sustainability**

### **1. Noting:**

- 1.1. The NEC of the ANC disbanded the NEC of the Veterans League in November 2022 and accordingly established the National Task Team in November 2022. The explicit mandate of the NTT was to take the Veterans League towards their conference at the end of July 2023.
- 1.2. The NTT established a fundraising committee whose main task was to work towards ensuring financially that the NTT and PTTs work towards the conference in July 2023, the establishment of constitutional branches as well as the establishment of the Provincial Executive Committees.
- 1.3. Both the National and Provincial levels of the ANC provided financial assistance that enabled the Veterans League to adhere to its constitutional obligations as witnessed in this conference this weekend.

### **2. Further noting that:**

- 2.1. The Veterans League does not have separate membership fees as members of the VL must first and foremost be members in good standing as ANC branch members.
- 2.2. Given the fact that the NTT has only been in office for less than one year, it was not in a position to present an audited financial report to this conference.

### **3. Resolves that:**

- 3.1. The incoming NEC ensure the consolidation of all Provincial and National financial status of the VL;
- 3.2. The incoming NEC work towards the auditing of all the VL financial statements and programmes at both provincial and national levels; and
- 3.3. The incoming NEC tabling the above within the next six months;

### **4. Further resolves that:**

- 4.1. The VL develop a long-term fundraising strategy at both the provincial and national levels in collaboration with the Treasurer General of the ANC.

## **E. Resolution on service delivery**

### **1. Noting that:**

- 1.1. Most municipalities are unable to provide quality basic services to communities. This lack of quality in service provision has a direct impact on sustainable reliable revenue base and revenue generation;
- 1.2. Communities frequently complain of incorrect billing systems and expensive municipal services, rates and tariffs.
- 1.3. The cholera outbreak and deaths are suspected to be linked to poor quality of water service delivered by some municipalities;
- 1.4. Non-responsive and untruthful councillors add to the frustrations of our communities and;
- 1.5. Widespread vandalism of municipal infrastructure.

### **2. Resolves that:**

- 2.1. The existing tools governing the operation of developmental local government, including those flowing from the national development programme which was posited in the Freedom Charter must be strengthened to ensure accountability and proper service to the people;
- 2.2. The role of the integrated development plan (IDP) as a community-driven comprehensive statement of how development must take place in communities must be restored. This includes ensuring that all development from any sphere or level is informed by the IDP;
- 2.3. Government must develop a robust monitoring mechanism to respond to needs raised by the people in IDP roadshows to foster accountability;
- 2.4. The billing system must be transparent, progressive and developmental. This must be a multi-pronged approach which includes linking it to local meter readers, ward-based local billing correction centres, etc; and

2.5. Municipal service delivery must be anchored on the context of clean cities. This should include ensuring that leaking sewerage and water taps are addressed swiftly; there are adequate refuse bins and frequent emptying of such; waste management system where people are trained to be responsible and cooperative; municipal waste management must extend to rural areas as well.

3. **Further hereby resolves**, based on the commitment expressed in the January 8<sup>th</sup> Statement declaring 2023 as “The Year of Decisive Action to Advance the People’s Interests and Renew Our Movement” that:

3.1. The **branches** of the ANC be mobilised through a programme of organisational renewal to focus on challenges facing the communities in which they find themselves and find solutions together with regional and Provincial structures of the ANC by engaging with Councillors, Municipal Mayors, Provincial Administrations and COGTA.

3.2. Government re-build management capacity and skills mix in municipalities to be able to act in a way that a developmental state should do. This will require that the ANC deal decisively with corruption and criminality which paralyses government, or captures government to serve the interests of individuals, and criminal syndicates rather than the people.

3.3. Support the Service Delivery Crisis Command Centre at the Headquarters of the ANC as decided by the ANC Lekgotla with full participation of Veterans, and cognisant of separation of the party and the state.

3.4. Call on the ANC provincial and local structures to empower and train councillors, especially ward councillors who are the critical link with communities, to carry out their role.

3.5. The District Development Model and other forms of local social compacting are important spaces where the VL can assist ANC branches to play important roles.

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## **F. Resolution on the ANC's Framework to Address Instability and Dysfunctionality in Hung Councils and Local Government Coalitions**

### **1. Noting that:**

- 1.1. 80 out of 275 municipalities are hung councils and some of them have stable while others have unstable coalition governments, a number which significantly increased since the 2021 municipal elections;
- 1.2. There is concern that new coalitions that have come into existence since the adoption of the NEC Framework are seen not to adhere to this decision and those that came before the adoption of the Framework are not being aligned with the NEC's principled approach.

### **2. Believing that:**

- 2.1. Unstable coalitions seriously impact service delivery and professional public service;
- 2.2. Political instability, especially from the right wing, is a worldwide threat;
- 2.3. Collective executive systems work better than executive mayoral committee systems; and
- 2.4. The current PR system punishes political parties that win more wards.

### **3. Further noting** and welcoming the nine principles embodied in the Framework to Address Instability and Dysfunctionality in Hung Councils and Local Government Coalitions which was adopted and made public by the NEC of the ANC on 28 April 2023.

### **4. Resolves that:**

- 4.1 The ANC should primarily focus on winning elections and delivering to the people instead of relying on coalitions to be in power.
- 4.2. Conference fully supports the ANC NEC Framework and calls for it to be applied consistently wherever the ANC is represented. The nine principles outlined in the Framework should be the basis for an urgent national dialogue that should involve political parties as well as civil society.
- 4.3. Transparency, accountability, and community participation should be the lynchpin around which the dialogue and actions should take place.

- 4.4. This approach is encapsulated in Principle 1 that coalitions must be based on a common minimum programme that focuses on measurable targets to service delivery and development in the communities. Such a programme must be made public and be subjected to discussions in community meetings,
- 4.5. Coalitions should be transparent and accountable to the people in their jurisdiction by giving quarterly reports and accounting to citizen on service delivery progress and milestones.

## **5. Further resolves that:**

- 5.1. The Veterans League shall mobilise veterans to engage with and assist the ANC at national, provincial, and local government levels to implement the principles in attending to coalitions at the local government levels;
- 5.2. The VL will monitor the extent to which this approach helps bring stability and functionality to local government councils. This will enable our movement to assess what further changes and adjustments should be undertaken to ensure that the ANC and the system as a whole become effective in delivering services to the people, rooting out corruption and involving the participation of the people.
- 5.3. The ANC should immediately pull out of coalition arrangements that are costly for the ANC and are not consistent with the Framework adopted by the NEC.

## **G. Resolution on peace and security**

### **G.1. Threats to security**

#### **1. Noting that:**

- 1.1. There are intensified activities of foreign forces seeking to undermine our revolutionary advances mainly perpetrated by Foreign Intelligence Services(FIS);
- 1.2. Continuing lawlessness, rampant crime and impunity undermine the authority of the state and national security;
- 1.3. The porousness of our borders threatens our territorial integrity;
- 1.4. Acts of criminality which threaten the well-being and safety of our people;
- 1.5. The problem of terrorism; information and cyber security threats;
- 1.6. Attacks and sabotage of our key national infrastructure undermine service delivery;

- 1.7. Illegal mining, businesses and illegal occupation of land; and
  - 1.8. Illicit smuggling activities of various products into the country;
2. **Believing** that these features are a threat to the ANC and that there is a need for an integrated justice management system and capacitation of the departments in the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster;
  3. **Resolves** that the VL should engage with the ANC Peace and Stability Committee and our yesteryear national security functionaries to look at national security legislations, best practices from progressive countries, case studies and scenarios to come up with a policy framework that would impact safety and security of our nation.
  4. **Further resolves** that the intelligence community focuses attention on these critical matters

## G2. Promotion of peace

1. **Noting:**
  - 1.1. That the Palestinian people have not only been robbed of their land and peace but have been brutalised under the jackboot of an Israeli government;
2. **Resolves:**
  - 2.1. To condemn the murder and harassment of the Palestinian people
  - 2.2. To call on the world to find its voice to condemn the Israeli government in the same way that it condemned and isolated the apartheid government.

## H. Resolution on energy crisis

1. **Noting** the severe amounts of load shedding, the impact of load shedding on the economy, high levels of energy poverty and the increasing cost of electricity.
2. **Believing**
  - 2.1. that the resolution of load shedding and energy security is required to facilitate economic growth;
  - 2.2. That while a just transition is essential, one needs to be mindful that it must not be at the expense of the capacity to provide electricity to the people, create jobs and fight unemployment.
3. **Resolves** that the following strategies to end load shedding and normalise the grid should be supported. These are for the government working with other stakeholders to:
  - 3.1. Stop load shedding in the short term, that is, within twelve months or so, by fixing ESKOM's existing plants using a turnkey refurbishment approach.
  - 3.2. Settle the ESKOM debt in 12-18 months by restructuring ESKOM's balance sheet.
  - 3.3. Put 30 000 MW on the grid in the medium term (3 years or so) by using mainly renewable energy.
  - 3.4. Create the capacity of a multi-disciplinary special security force unit which will include specialised engineers, forensic investigators, chartered accountants, intelligence, etc., to deal effectively with interest groups and criminal syndicates, including the underworld, which is holding us at ransom.
  - 3.5. Audit the management capacity and technical skills mix within ESKOM as well as subject all critical personnel in sensitive areas of the business to a vetting process as a matter of urgency to ensure ESKOM is fit for purpose.
  - 3.6. Capacitate the youth in the manufacturing, installation and maintenance of solar panels.
  - 3.7. Support the Energy Crisis Command Centre at the Headquarters of the ANC as decided by the ANC Lekgotla with the full participation of veterans and cognisant of the separation of the party and the state.



4. **Further resolves** that the VL should:

- 4.1. Participate in and make constructive input into the work of government and campaigns for sustainable solutions to the energy crisis.
- 4.2. Where there are failures, the VL should make representation to the ANC leadership and government to deal with whatever constraints are identified, including entrenched interests and criminality.
- 4.3. Initiate a campaign with the mother body to win the confidence of the people that load shedding is going to end and ensure that no one, including interest groups and criminal syndicates, stops the government from dealing with the energy crisis.



## I. Resolution on combating corruption

1. **Noting** that the revelations and findings of corruption through the Zondo Commission of state capture, court cases and other Commissions of Inquiry;
2. **Believing that:**
  - 2.1. Corruption is an enemy of the people and a counter-revolutionary activity that destroys the transformative intentions and developmental objectives of a revolutionary movement and the soul of the organisations;
  - 2.2. Corruption remains a matter of grave concern in the minds of many South Africans and voters.
3. **Therefore resolves** that the fight against corruption must entail the following elements:
  - 3.1. Comrades who are found or have been found to have participated in corrupt activities, soliciting bribes for services they were elected or appointed to provide to the people and corrupting the tender system to enrich themselves at the expense of the people must exit the organisation;
  - 3.2. Selecting the known and best quality leaders amongst its members who pass in terms of Eye of the Needle document and are leaders in their own communities;
  - 3.2. Not electing people tainted by corruption to leadership positions in the ANC and government;
  - 3.3. Raising the bar on the quality of the leaders they elect to lead the ANC; and
  - 3.4. Strengthening the role of integrity commission and disciplinary committees as per the Renewal proposals and ensure that they do their work without fear and favour; and
  - 3.5. ANC leaders should be humble and apologise where we have done wrong as an organisation, while demonstrating through action that we totally uncompromising about
4. **Further resolves** that that the ANC NEC should establish of a “Whistleblowing Centre” to which such corrupt individuals and practices can be reported.