

The Progressive Business Forum has kicked off the year with a bang. This follows year-end events in Durban and Johannesburg, both addressed by ANC Treasurer General Dr Mathews Phosa, and two PBF trade delegations, one to Vietnam (led by Deputy Minister for Water and Environmental Affairs Ms Rejoice Mabudafasi), and the other to Chennai, India (led by Ethekewini Deputy Mayor Cllr Logie Naidoo), at the end of last year. The PBF got off to a festive start at the "Under African Skies" celebration in Polokwane on the eve of the January 8th Rally. Over 1500 participants attended the PBF Presidential Gala dinner.

Not three months into 2011 and the following can be reported:

■ **PBF companies** were invited to the launch of the ANC elections album at a prestigious gala dinner at the Sun City Superbowl, which was addressed by ANC President Jacob Zuma.

■ **Training:** The Dynamic Tendering training course was presented in Johannesburg, Durban, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. Some 460 delegates attended this course.

■ **Growth Assist:** Over 100 PBF companies accepted an invitation to attend a South African / China Seminar and B2B session which was held at The Oval on the campus of Ernst & Young in Johannesburg.

■ **SA/China Chapter:** Minister of Arts and Culture Paul Mashatile addressed a business luncheon of the Chapter in Cyrildene, Johannesburg.

■ On 24 March, the PBF has organised an ANC Presidential Gala Dinner at Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand.

MUCH MORE TO COME

Much is being planned for the next quarter of 2011.

Firstly, a round of networking events is being arranged in all four centres where the PBF is active, namely Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth.



During May, ANC Treasurer General Dr Mathews Phosa will formally launch the PBF in the Nelson Mandela Metropole, and will address the PBF in Cape Town. Ministerial events are planned for Durban and Johannesburg.

During May, a PBF trade delegation will visit Havana, Cuba and the PBF will be participating in the North East Asia Exhibition to be held in Harbin, China. A second PBF trade delegation is also planned for Mauritius.

In addition, the PBF will be co-hosting an Africa Day celebration together with the Embassy of Cuba. The PBF is also in the process of finalising arrangements for hosting incoming trade delegations from China, Korea and Cuba, all of which will entail invitations to PBF companies to attend B2B meetings with the view to creating opportunities for participating companies to expand their international footprint.

Renier Schoeman

Renier Schoeman
Co-Convenors: PBF

Daryl Swanepoel

Daryl Swanepoel

PBF GROWTH UNSTOPPABLE

We are pleased to be able to report that the number of PBF participating companies has now exceeded the 5 000 mark. This enthusiastic response by corporate South Africa underlines the need and desire of business in South Africa to engage the ANC and its representatives in government.

From its inception the PBF has been about 'bringing people together'. It was created in 2006 to create a platform for dialogue between the movement and corporate South Africa.

Participation is open to all individuals or companies who commit themselves to sound and ethical business conduct. As management we urge you to encourage your colleagues in business to join and further strengthen our growing family of progressive businessmen and women.

Coincidentally, we recently did an exercise to determine the number of jobs created by PBF participating companies. At last count these companies employed over 500 000 people.

2011 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

The local government elections are scheduled for 18 May.

We call on PBF participating companies to support the ANC's efforts to secure a strong mandate to implement its developmental policies. In the ANC, business will find a responsive government which aims to grow the economy and to create jobs in partnership with the private sector.

Support the movement and encourage your employees to exercise their hard earned democratic rights on 18 May.

2011 ELECTION SPECIAL

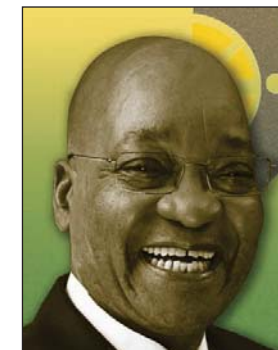


PROGRESSIVE BUSINESS FORUM
DIALOGUE

NUMBER 5

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A partnership for local economic growth



ANC PRESIDENT JACOB ZUMA

On 18 May 2011, South Africans will go to the polls to elect the people who will represent them in local government. This is an essential part of our democratic process, for it is at a local level where the most significant changes in people's lives are felt. In these elections, voters will be able to choose their ward councillors, who will work to address the challenges that most directly affect them.

The issues raised in this election are of great significance for the business community. Local development stimulates economic activity and increases opportunities for business.

In our 2011 local government manifesto, the ANC is focusing on building local economies to create jobs and improve living standards. This is the most pressing issue facing South Africa at the moment. We have therefore launched the New Growth Path, which aims to create at least five million jobs in the next five years. This will require government at all levels to lead economic

development, working with communities, the private sector and labour. We are making a call for all sectors of society to partner with the ANC and government at all levels to make this undertaking a success.

The progressive business community has a particularly important role to play in this regard. While government will play its part in creating the right conditions and investing in necessary infrastructure, the private sector has the means to drive economic growth, improve skills levels and create new employment opportunities. By working together with local government, business will be able to identify localities that show potential for greater economic activity and will be able to identify what investment needs to be made to ensure that such activity is feasible and profitable. Municipalities have an important role to play in fostering local business, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives. In addition to the resources being made available through a national small enterprise fund, municipalities will set aside a portion of their procurement spend for local cooperatives.

The ANC manifesto acknowledges the great strides that have been made in changing the face of our communities for the better. However, there is still much more we need to do to

improve local public services and broaden access to them. Businesses are major consumers of municipal services. Improving the quality of these services will have a significant impact on the functioning of these companies and reduce the cost of doing business. We therefore urge all members of the business community to take an active interest in the work of local government. This community has skills, insights and resources that could be put to good use to help address the many challenges facing local government.

As a country, we have made great progress in improving our communities. Working together we can build better communities.

Jacob G. Zuma

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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Changing our communities for the better

The ANC launched its 2011 local government elections manifesto with a call to all South Africans to be part of the effort to build better communities. Between now and the election on 18 May, ANC members and supporters will be going from house to house across the country to encourage voters to get involved in the areas where they live.

Already we have achieved much in our localities, the places where the injustices of the past have been most keenly felt. But there is still much that needs to be done. We need to improve the functioning of local government and expand access to quality, reliable public services. We need to stimulate economic activities in areas that have been neglected for decades, and where so many of the poor live. We need also to continue with our major programme of infrastructure provision, so that all our people can have proper transport infrastruc-

ture, housing, electricity, clean water, sanitation and community facilities.

We have learnt much from our experience in local government. Perhaps the most important lesson is that the state cannot bring about the necessary change on its own. Real development depends on the active involvement of the people, taking their own decisions about what the local priorities are and where resources need to be directed. They need also to be involved in monitoring implementation, and working with local government structures to address problems where they arise.

Local development is about partnership. This election will be about building thousands of partnerships, in every village, town and city in South Africa. We invite all members of the PBF to join these partnerships and to change our communities for the better.



ANC SECRETARY GENERAL
GWEDE MANTASHE

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER GENERAL

Vital role for progressive business



ANC TREASURER GENERAL
MATHEWS PHOSA

As we approach another milestone in our democracy, we can justifiably be proud of everything we have achieved together. We have done much to change our country for the better.

We are pleased that the Progressive Business Forum (PBF) has been part of this change. Since its formation it has provided a platform for business people from all parts of the country and across all sectors of the economy to participate in forging a new path. It has been a place for engagement and dialogue, not just about the challenges that business faces, but about the challenges that society as a whole must overcome.

The PBF has always been forward-looking, focused on finding solutions rather than dwelling on problems. Its members

see for themselves an important role in building an economy from which all may benefit. They understand that this country will only go forward if all its citizens work together towards the goal of shared progress and equal opportunity.

The PBF has grown tremendously and has developed into a vital part of the broader progressive community. As we embark on a new era of promoting local economic development, building local infrastructure and improving the provision of public services, we can be sure that the members of the PBF will be an integral part of these important efforts.

The ANC is looking to the future. The progressive business community is an essential part of building that future.

MANIFESTO PRE-LAUNCH DINNER 26 FEBRUARY 2011, SUN CITY SUPERBOWL



Among those celebrating the launch of the ANC's election album at the Sun City Superbowl were President Jacob Zuma, ANC National Chairperson Baleka Mbete (below centre), Minister of Justice Jeff Radebe (above left) and ANC North West Provincial Chairperson Supra Mahumapelo (above right).



- build child-friendly facilities in municipalities over the next five years. Working with national and provincial government, municipalities will build Childhood Development Centres, which promote an educational component in child-care;
- create family-friendly parks in local municipalities which will provide safe spaces for children and their families to engage in sporting activities and general recreation;
- place social workers in school districts to provide social support services to learners and help prevent instances of child abuse.
- establish support for safe houses and shelters in each community that will provide temporary but potentially life-saving support for abused people, particularly women and children;
- enforce by-laws that restrict the sale of alcohol close to schools and other places frequented by children and families, such as places of worship and recreational facilities;
- extend the distribution of community libraries, including upgrading of existing libraries with new materials, information and communications infrastructure and internet access;
- extend provision and upgrading of community arts centres to enable thousands of artists to practice and develop their skills in the field of music, drama, craft and filmmaking.

INTEGRATED AND SAFER COMMUNITIES

- The ANC Government will:
- create 400,000 housing units in the next five years, on well-located land with services and within a 30-45 minute journey to work that uses less than 8% of disposable income for transport;
 - upgrade informal settlements in 45 municipalities in the next five years and ensure they have security of tenure and access to basic services;
 - empower metros and large cities to play a direct role in the provision of housing, developing and managing the built environment and improving and expanding public transport networks;
 - promote alignment of the planning processes in the different spheres of government;



- create 80,000-mixed income social and rental housing units in the next five years, so that low-income earners can live in proximity to where they work;
- drive a national clean communities campaign, working together with relevant departments at all levels and our communities;
- strengthen the fight against crime by increasing the visibility of SAPS personnel members at police station level, including focused patrolling in cities and highways;
- mobilising communities against crime by promoting the formation of street committees and village committees as part of community efforts to combat crime, and through partnerships with the private sector, community groups and municipalities.

ACTIVE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

- The ANC government will:
- further strengthen the voice of communities and ensure that adequate support is provided for empowerment of communities on decision making processes affecting their lives;
 - review and strengthen the legislative framework, where necessary, for Ward Committees and community participation;
 - ensure that 90% of all ward committees are fully functional and better resourced in the next five years;
 - work together with communities to support community-initiated social activities such as burial societies, stokvels, religious groups and so on.

EFFECTIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- The ANC government will:
- ensure that all ANC councillors serve those they represent and are accountable to them. In this regard, the ANC will strengthen its own organisational system, which will allow greater community participation in choosing ANC local government candidates in future local government elections;
 - ensure that each municipality publishes and regularly reports on its local performance plan with targets for improvement in local services, and be expected to achieve them. Where necessary, and informed by its monitoring mechanisms, national and provincial government will make interventions at local level to remedy weaknesses that are identified through the monitoring;
 - ensure that national and provincial governments provide support to municipalities lacking capacity in management, and delivery of services;
 - ensure that all national and provincial programmes which are to be implemented locally are clearly communicated and reported to communities;
 - review tendering systems by making them transparent and deal systematically with corruption and shoddy contractual work. Contractors who have delivered poor services will be blacklisted and forbidden from doing business with any government structure.

The ANC government, working together with the people – communities, business and workers – has been hard at work implementing the priorities of its mandate and addressing people’s concerns.

We have kept the economy developing, reduced absolute poverty, expanded basic services to unprecedented levels and made our communities safer.

This local election represents another opportunity for communities to use their power to take forward these priorities.

There is a lot we still have to do.

TOGETHER WE CAN BUILD BETTER COMMUNITIES!

2011 MANIFESTO LAUNCH: PRESIDENT JACOB ZUMA

We have listened to the people

The elections come as we prepare for the centenary of the ANC, which remains the most consistent political formation in this country. Together we put an end to apartheid, achieved peace and stability, made the lives of millions of our people better, developed the economy, and established a firm foundation for even faster progress.

Through the implementation of the major infrastructure programme over the years, the ANC government has helped create jobs and protected our communities from the worst effects of the global economic crisis. In addition to meeting basic needs like water, electricity and housing, our infrastructure development programme has built and revitalised many clinics, hospitals and schools.

There is a lot we still have to do, and since the 2009 general election, and looking into the future, we have carried the message of ‘working together we can do more’ to address the problems our country faces. And more importantly we said we needed to do things differently to ensure faster change. At the local levels this is even more important.

The ANC and its local election candidates have interacted with our communities – in thousands of community meetings and community protest actions. We heard people’s concerns. As the ANC government, at all level, we share the blame for the problems our people experienced at the local levels. The ANC government, together with the people, will ensure that all ANC councillors serve those they represent and are accountable to them.

Among the many challenges we will deal with is the fact that many municipalities, especially in the rural areas, are still struggling – lacking capacity and resources to fulfil their functions. Government launched the Local Government Turnaround Strategy in December 2009. The strategy is a major



initiative to consolidate and strengthen municipalities through active support from national and provincial government and effective community participation.

Where necessary, and informed by its monitoring mechanisms, national and provincial government will make interventions at local level to remedy weaknesses that are identified through the monitoring. We will ensure that all national and provincial programmes, which are implemented at local level, are clearly communicated and reported to communities. We will ensure that each municipality publishes and regularly reports on its local performance plan with targets for improvement in local services, and be expected to achieve them.

To protect and improve our local public services, the ANC government, together with the people, will ensure the building of municipal access roads, water infrastructure, sanitation and electricity, especially in the rural areas where many

people still lack access. To improve the quality of life of our children and households, we will build child-friendly municipalities over the next five years.

To do things differently economically, we need to ensure that we have an economic growth path that creates more jobs, decent work and reduces income inequalities. Government has unveiled and is implementing its New Growth Path (NGP) programme. The NGP will require government at all levels to lead economic development, working together with communities, the private sector, and labour.

The ANC government, working with the people, will undertake a number of measures to build more united, non-racial, integrated and safer communities.

Together we will strengthen the fight against crime through a number of measures. We will increase the visibility of police officials at police station level, including focused patrolling in cities and highways.

We will mobilise the community against crime through the active formation of street and village committees, in partnership with the private sector, community groups and municipalities.

The success of our measures depends on more active community participation in local government. Without active community participation and empowerment, the challenge of ensuring an effective accountable and clean local government will not be realised.

We will review and strengthen the legislative framework, where necessary, for Ward Committees and community participation. Ward committees will be central in mobilising communities. National and provincial government will provide support and resources for other forms of participatory democracy at the local level.

This local election represents an opportunity for communities to use their power to take forward these priorities of the ANC government.

SUMMARY OF ANC 2011 MANIFESTO

People have the power to make their communities work

The fourth Local Government elections since the dawn of our democracy in 1994 bring another opportunity for South Africans to build on the progress we have made in realising our vision of a better life for all.

Together we put an end to apartheid, achieved peace and stability, made the lives of millions of our people better, developed the economy, and built a firm foundation for even faster progress.

ACHIEVING TOGETHER

South Africans have worked with government to ensure meaningful change in their lives. People have the power to make sure that their municipalities work with provincial and national governments to turn national programmes into local services and development.

Working together we have achieved much:

■ Since 1994, six million households have gained access to clean water and electricity has been connected to nearly 5 million homes.

■ Over 2.5 million houses have been built for the poor giving shelter to over 10 million people.

■ By 2010, 14.5 million people were receiving social grants – 9.5 million of these were children under 14. This year the Child-Support Grant will be extended to children under 18 years, an additional two million children.

■ In nurturing a love for education and eliminating finance as a barrier to access to higher education and training, we have offered more opportunities for children of the poor. Also more than 8 million children at primary and secondary schools benefit from school-feeding schemes.

■ Communities are safer today as we aggressively intensify our campaign against crime. Crime



Through the experience of government and working with communities we have continuously learnt which policies are working and where change is needed.

statistics show a decrease in most crimes, including armed robberies, housebreakings and contact crimes. The murder rate, for example, declined by 8.6% in 2010.

■ Our infrastructure programme has boosted the economy and expanded access to services. Implementation of the programme has helped create jobs and protect communities from the worst effects of the global economic crisis.

■ In addition to meeting basic needs like water, electricity and housing, the programme has built and revitalised many clinics, hospitals, and schools. It has brought more tarred roads, streetlights and sporting and recreational facilities in many communities. Thanks to the ANC's gender-equality policy, more women are represented in local government (about 42% of councillors are women). We are set to achieve 50:50 gender-equality after the 2011 local elections.

ENSURING FASTER CHANGE

Through the experience of government and working with communities we have continuously learnt which policies are working and where change is needed.

In our 2009 Manifesto, which received the nation's mandate in the election, the ANC committed itself to continue working together with all South Africans around five priorities:

- creation of decent work,
- access to education and training,
- accessible quality health care,
- fighting crime and corruption,
- rural development, land reform and food security.

In localising priorities of the 2009 Manifesto and in meeting key challenges facing our communities, we will:

- build local economies to create more jobs and sustainable livelihoods,



- improve public services and access,
- build safer, integrated communities,
- promote active community participation in local government,
- ensure effective and accountable local government working together with national and provincial government.

MORE EMPLOYMENT AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

The ANC Government will:

- establish a Jobs Fund of R9 billion over the next three years to finance new job-creation initiatives. In addition, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) has allocated R10 billion for investment in job-creating economic activities. These initiatives will have a direct impact in building local economies;
- create 250,000 jobs per year through over R800- billion investment in infrastructure through scale projects in energy, dams, roads, public transport and communication infrastructure;
- embark on a massive *S'hamba Sonke* (walking together) programme which will use labour intensive methods of road construction and maintenance, including a massive pothole patching programme that is already being rolled out;
- create 4.5 million work opportunities through the Expanded Public

Works Programme;

- support small enterprises, cooperatives and the informal sector with non-financial and financial means. A single small enterprise fund will be created, by merging Khula, the South African Micro-Finance Apex Fund and the Industrial Development Corporation's small business funding;
- support rural smallholder farmers with seeds, tractors, and storage facilities; setting up rural co-operatives; and access to water infrastructure. Water reservoirs, windmills and irrigation schemes will be rehabilitated and community participation in the management of these schemes will be encouraged. Crops, livestock and grazing will be protected with the installation of fences;
- establish community and village markets as a way of ensuring food security while improving household and community income;
- establish rural youth brigades for activities in literacy, environmental protections, HIV and AIDS education, as part of the Rural Youth Service Corps Programme. The programme will engage up to one million young people over the next few years, combined with measures to expose young people to work experience through internships in private and public sectors;
- work closely with traditional leadership structures in the implementation of rural development programmes;

- create work opportunities and support domestic manufacture of components in the green economy through further installation of solar-heater geysers in new low cost houses;
- expand home, community and institutional food gardens, which will be supported as a means of promoting food production, reducing food insecurity and enhancing sustainable livelihoods;
- ensure that local jobs summits take place and their resolutions implemented to build local economies.

IMPROVING PUBLIC SERVICES

The ANC government will:

- speed up the provision of municipal access roads, water infrastructure, sanitation and electricity, especially in the rural areas;
- expand Free Basic Services – presently covering water and electricity – to include refuse removal to all poor households;
- invest in maintenance and refurbishment of municipal infrastructure – bulk water and electricity distribution, waste-management and roads;
- establish primary health care teams in municipalities to work on programmes addressing social abuse, HIV and AIDS, and broaden the scope of reproductive rights through provision of contraception and sanitary towels to the indigent in municipalities.