



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL SECRETARY

235 Meyer street
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1401

04 February 2025

ANCYL EKURHULENI POST 07th REGIONAL CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS AND DECLARATION

African National Congress Youth League in Ekurhuleni held its second leg congress this weekend in Alberton Civic centre, 01st February 2025 to shape the Program of action to champion interest of young people in the region. The chairperson in his opening remarks declared unemployment as a disaster that should be addressed immediately. He made emphasis on the growing scourge of GBV, Drug abuse, alcohol abuse, abandoned buildings within the City of Ekurhuleni.

Delegates of congress engaged robustly and crafted a way forward on what should be the Program of Action. We are confident that this Youth League will be a champion of youth interest.

Our discussion document and commissions focused on the following topics:

- Governance, Skills revolution and economic transformation.
- Organisational renewal and redesign.
- Social transformation, Gender, youth and person disabilities.
- International relations, international balance of forces, Communication and battle of ideas.

DECLARATION AND RESOLUTIONS

The 7th regional congress commits that each and every branch must go through their Political Education throughout their term to ensure that political Education is integrated to the membership of the ANCYL. The Congress declares to open a regional political school that will be undertaken by all members of the Youth league in order for them to be elected into Positions of leadership. We have then resolved to name the Political school Bongane Jwili Political School.

The ANC Youth League in Ekurhuleni demands the immediate and full implementation of Social and Labour Plans (SLPs) by the 54 operating mines in the city. SLPs are a legal requirement under the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) of 2002, obligating mines to invest in local economic development, skills development, employment equity, and mine community upliftment. These plans are meant to ensure that mining activities benefit surrounding communities, rather than exploit them.

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We call for full transparency from the mines and demand that local procurement policies be enforced, ensuring that small, medium, and micro enterprises (SMMEs) in Ekurhuleni benefit from mining-related contracts. If the mines fail to comply with their legal and social responsibilities, we will have no choice but to mobilize for their closure. The time for empty promises is over—either the mines invest in our people, or they must shut down!

ANCYL Ekurhuleni Demands 40% Youth Representation on ANC Lists. The ANC Youth League in Ekurhuleni has adopted a firm resolution that 40% of the ANC's candidate list— both Ward and PR—must consist of young people under the age of 35 in the 2026 local government elections. There is nothing about us without us! The time has come for young people to take their rightful place in leadership structures to drive radical economic transformation, youth empowerment, and community development.

The ANC Youth League in Ekurhuleni is committed to strengthening the ANC's support in the 2026 local government elections by registering and mobilizing 100,000 new young voters. We declare that Elections campaign should not be halt so that we understand and attend to issues of our people throughout until the 2026 LGE for the ANC to achieve a 50+1 Majority. As the youth, we recognize that the future of our city depends on a government that prioritizes economic empowerment, service delivery, and youth development. Our campaign will focus on political education, voter registration, and grassroots mobilization to ensure that young people actively participate in shaping the future of Ekurhuleni.

Beyond the elections, the ANCYL is committed to mobilizing young people to contest all Ward Committee positions post-2026. We urge the youth to actively participate in non-profit organizations focused on economic and social matters, sports bodies, environmental initiatives, and other community structures. This will equip them with leadership experience and position them as future ANC candidates. The future of Ekurhuleni must be shaped by young, capable and progressive leaders who understand the struggles and aspirations of their generation!

This effort is not just about votes—it is about securing a progressive, youth-driven agenda that demands job creation, access to opportunities, and inclusive economic growth. The ANCYL will work tirelessly to ensure that young people not only vote but also hold leadership accountable to drive radical transformation in our communities. The youth are ready to lead, and the ANC remains their political home!

ANCYL Ekurhuleni Demands Immediate Action on the Ekurhuleni University of Science and Innovation. In February 2020, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced plans to establish a University of Science and Innovation in Ekurhuleni, a long-awaited development that brought excitement and hope to young people across the region. This university is not just a government project—it is the realization of a historic resolution of the ANCYL in Ekurhuleni,

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which declared, "A University in Our Lifetime!" However, five years later, young people are still waiting. While we appreciate the recent update by Executive Mayor Ald. Nkosindiphile Xhakaza, we must emphasize: we need this university NOW, not later! We appreciate the strong effort to revive the Godfrey Pitje Bursary fund to promote academic excellence and this congress declares that this Bursary fund must be expanded to cover post-graduate courses to strengthen academic development within the city.

The 7th regional congress declares that TVET colleges must be supported since 4th industrial revolution and Skills development are a primary fact in Ekurhuleni. TVET colleges are Alternative to university and they offer education pathway for students who may not be interested in or suited for university education but hands on training and work readiness. TVET colleges plays a vital role in addressing the skills gap and promoting economic growth. It is a need for young people to attain artisan skills so that they can be compatible to the market.

The soil turning and actual construction must begin during our term of office—no more delays, no more empty promises! Furthermore, we demand that the Executive Mayor includes young people in the University Advisory Panel he is about to appoint. This university is for the youth, and the youth must be part of shaping it! The ANCYL in Ekurhuleni will not rest until this institution becomes a reality, providing education, innovation, and economic opportunities for generations to come. The time for action is now!

ANCYL Ekurhuleni Welcomes Spaza Shop Policy, Demands Immediate Action on Noncompliant Shops. The ANC Youth League in Ekurhuleni welcomes the adoption of the Spaza Shop Policy by the Ekurhuleni Council during its meeting on 30 January 2025. This is a step in the right direction to formalize and support South African-owned spaza shops, ensuring they are registered and compliant with city regulations. As the ANCYL, we firmly believe that the spaza shop sector must be reserved for South Africans to empower local entrepreneurs and combat unemployment in our communities.

On 21 October 2024, the ANCYL Task Team gave the Executive Mayor 80 days to shut down all non-compliant spaza shops, and that deadline has now lapsed. While we note that President Cyril Ramaphosa has extended the registration period until 28 February 2025, we will not allow further delays. All ANCYL structures across the region will conduct audits of compliant spaza shops per voting district, and we will mobilize society through mass public meetings and actions to shut down all non-compliant spaza shops immediately after 28 February 2025. We call for Increased Support for SMMEs and Youth-Owned Businesses

The ANC Youth League in Ekurhuleni believes that addressing unemployment requires creating an enabling environment for SMMEs to thrive. We call upon the City of Ekurhuleni to set aside grants and funding programs for small businesses with innovative ideas in our communities. Supporting local entrepreneurs is key to eradicating unemployment and driving economic growth in the city.

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We commend the MMC of Finance for ensuring that more SMMEs doing business with the city are paid on time, as reported in Council—R1.3 billion was paid in the second quarter, with R500 million paid in December alone. This is a significant step toward the survival and growth of SMMEs. However, while we welcome these payments, we demand transparency on how much of this was allocated to youth-owned businesses. The City of Ekurhuleni must prioritize youth enterprises and ensure that business opportunities benefit local residents, not those from outside the city. We cannot continue funding people who do not contribute to our rates and taxes—Ekurhuleni's economy must benefit Ekurhuleni's people!

Furthermore, the ANCYL calls for the immediate advertisement of the Vukuphile Programme within this financial year to ensure that emerging contractors, especially young people, get opportunities in the construction sector. We also demand the return of the Fetula and Ximilani funds to assist and support emerging SMMEs, particularly youth-owned businesses. These funding mechanisms are critical in empowering young entrepreneurs, creating jobs, and building a self-sustaining township economy. The City must act now to uplift its young business community!

As per the national congress resolutions that declared that all chairperson of provinces and regions must be appointed as MEC's and MMC's to represent the youth demographics in legislature and councils, we therefore declare that our regional chair who was elected unopposed by united Ekurhuleni branches to be sworn in as an MMC in Dr Xhakaza's Mayoral Committee.

The Aerotropolis remains a beacon of hope for the young people of Ekurhuleni. We will ensure that it benefits the young people of Ekurhuleni, so that we achieve economic freedom now and not later. We delegates of the 7th Regional congress, declare that by the end of February we are going to meet the Airports company of South Africa (ACSA) CEO to discuss economic transformation of young people in the region.

We as delegates declare that the youth directorate be revitalized and all posts be advertised on a fixed term contract so that young people can be led by young leaders who understands their day to day struggles. The office must also be managed by a divisional head and not an executive manager. The congress also want to declare that the next City manager be a young person so that we can advance the youth development agenda and hold all Departments accountable on youth set aside policy.

The ANCYL Demands 20% Representation of young people in the current vacant posts of CCC Managers, Divisional heads and HOD's within our municipality. Young people are competent and they are educated, they should be utilised now not later. "The country that doesn't value it's youth has no future" -OR Tambo. This will enable young people to gather all the relevant experience to take charge and lead in senior management positions.

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We reassure the Congress that we as young people will always advocate for our 40% in all corridors of Power, including the upcoming ANC conferences from branch level to the highest structure of the organisation #40%Waleyompahla

We want to ensure that we are committed to fight against Substance abuse, human trafficking and gender based violence in all corners of the region. The ANCYL in the region remain pro supporters of the left countries and denounce the Western imperialist agenda. We also committed to have a Regional Podcast where societal, governance and political issues will be at play so that we have a very strong online presence and take a lead on youth debate.

We the delegates of the 7th Regional congress, solemnly dedicate ourselves to build the ANCYL as agent for change to Advance the National democratic revolution to achieve economic freedom now not later.

---ENDS--- Issued
by:

Regional Secretary
Silence Sibiya

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