

FREEDOM DAY VIRTUAL RALLY TO BE ADDRESSED BY

CIC JULIUS MALEMA

27 APRIL 2020

The people of South Africa

Comrades in the Continent and the Diaspora

Officials of the EFF

Members of the War Council

Commissars of the Central Command Team

Provincial, regional and branch leaders

Fellow fighters and the fearless Ground Forces of the revolution,

I greet you all in the name of Economic Freedom to commemorate this historic day in our nation's history

1. This day which has come to be known as Freedom Day comes at a time when we are going through great difficulty, not only as a nation but as a people all across the world.
2. Since our the last press conference as political leaders with the President of the Republic, we have been reluctant to speak because we shouldn't cause confusion. We allowed the president to lead all of us because we are in a war and in a war you can't have many commanders because it will potentially cause confusion and create an impression that the Centre is not holding.
3. The novel Corona virus has struck all of humanity, resulting in many changes to ordinary life. We are expected to all remain in our homes, and sacrifice many privileges as the national lockdown that has been put in place by government continues.

4. It is a virus that has shaken the foundations of healthcare across the world and put at the centre of global discourse the need for alternative and people-orientated healthcare systems.
5. We want to take this opportunity to salute the people of South Africa for complying with the lockdown regulations and for being strong during this difficult time.
6. As the EFF family we wish to pass our condolences to all those who have lost their loved ones because of the Corona Virus, here in South Africa, the continent and the world.
7. May their souls rest in perfect permanent revolutionary peace and may you find closure and healing as we continue the battle against this invisible enemy.
8. The impact of the measures put in place to combat the spread of the Corona virus have affected us all. Poor families have been placed in difficult economic situations, many losing their jobs and not knowing where their next meal will come from.
9. The economy has come to a standstill, as small businesses continue to face the uncertainty brought by the lockdown.
10. Families are instructed to remain in their homes, and many have as a result been forced to stay in cruel conditions, being subjected to domestic violence and having nowhere to turn.
11. The Basic and Higher Education Sector have come to a standstill, with no coherent plan on how the future of this country is going to be catered for.
12. Our lack of industrialization as a country has meant that the transition to online forms of learning will see many poor students and historically black institutions left behind.

13. Our lack of technological and scientific development has meant that we are unable to develop effective measures to curb the spread of the Corona Virus and protect our economy.
14. As a result, we are playing no proactive role in the development of a vaccine, which leaves us as at the mercy of the likes of capitalists like Bill Gates
15. Our healthcare sector faces a possible collapse. It is a sector that is understaffed and under-resourced, with many necessary equipment such as ventilators and functional ICU's non-existent.
16. The structural problems that have faced our country since 1994 are worsened and deepened by the impact of this virus. It has revealed to many that the current economic status quo is not sustainable.

ON THE 1994 POLITICAL DISPENSATION

17. Fellow fighters today marks a day of historic shift in the politics of South Africa
18. It is on this historic day, 27 April 1994 that South Africa participated in its first democratic elections, where all citizens black and white were allowed to participate in the election of their own government.
19. This political right came after decades of struggle by our liberation heroes, who fought both the British and Apartheid regime for the right to govern their own affairs, their own people and their own land.
20. In 1994, black South Africans who had been battered and bruised by the racist Apartheid regime took a stand.
21. On this day, black South Africans removed the inhumane government of Hendrik Verwoed, D.F Malan, Pik Botha and the racist F.W De Klerk.

22. It was on this political ticket that Africans from Soweto, Mitchells Plain, Botshabelo began to chart a way forward for a new South Africa where the will of the majority would be represented.
23. It is a path that was reached through sacrifice, sweat and blood of our forefathers and mothers, who gave their all in the fight for their right to determine their future.
24. The 1994 dispensation came after decades of political struggle and ultimately it led to the negotiated settlement that gave us our constitutional democracy.
25. It is important for us to remember that 1994 did not come as a result of the goodwill of the leaders of the Apartheid regime as many would like to have us believe today.
26. 1994 was a product of resistance by the leaders of the great nations of Africa such as Shaka Zulu, Sekhukhune, Hintsa and Moshoeshe.
27. It was a product of the blood of Steve Biko, the ideas of Ongkopotse Tiro, the intelligence of ZK Mathews, the resilience of Robert Sobukwe, the bravery of Chris Hani and the fearlessness of Mama Winnie Madikizela Mandela.
28. It was the armed struggle led by the likes of Chris Hani, Sabelo Pama, Jafta Masemola and Mama Nomvo Booie that confronted a regime that used violence to oppress our people with determination.
29. It was the unity of students, workers and religious leaders, who with stones in their hands refused to betray Africa and fought for independence even when it meant they would lose their lives.
30. Who can forget the role of the young lions of the 80s who responded positively to OR Tambo's call to render South Africa ungovernable and apartheid machinery unworkable.

31. The democratic dispensation of 1994 is a product of these and many other unsung heroes, not the kindness of racists who succumbed to revolutionary spirit of resistance.
32. It is a day that has come to be known as Freedom Day, as it was a day that was meant to be the first step towards the liberation of our people. We must remember this day and celebrate its victories while also reflecting on its shortcomings.
33. The 27th of April is remembered as a day where we achieved political freedom after years of negotiation between the liberation movement and the Apartheid regime.
34. As revolutionaries, it is important that we remember this day as an important transition to a democratic dispensation, but not one where we achieved Independence.
35. It was in nations such as Burkina Faso, where Thomas Sankara seized the land and built a productive agricultural and industrial economy, and refused to pay colonial debt where Independence was achieved.
36. It was in Ghana, where Kwame Nkrumah built an economy with Africans at the centre, championing calls for continental unity for an independent Africa where Independence was achieved.
37. It was in the economically sabotaged Zimbabwe, where Robert Mugabe enforced the agreements of the Lancaster Agreement after being betrayed by Britain where Independence was achieved.
38. In South Africa, the 27th of April is a day where we achieved political freedom, but not Economic Freedom and Independence.
39. Many sacrifices and compromises were made, which saw the economy remain in the hands of the oppressor.

40. The likes of President Nelson Mandela did this with the hope that political power would be used to wrestle our economy from the hands of the white minority.
41. Unfortunately, this has not been done.
42. Those who control our Apartheid economy use their power to control our political landscape.
43. They stifle all efforts that will see the freedom of black people from their position as gardeners and domestic workers in our economy.
44. We therefore remain permanent interns of white monopoly capital, abused by racists in their homes, in the work place and in society in general.
45. As all of this happens, the liberation movement has lost its teeth and become an ally of those who make us to be servants in our own land.
46. It continues to fulfil its mandate as a mediator between African people and white minority rule, using its political power to protect the interests of imperialism.
47. It is a liberation movement that has fallen to greed, selfishness and corruption.
48. It is a liberation movement that failed to use its political power to industrialize our economy, build independent capacity in all sectors and create a developmental nation off the wealth of the land.
49. As early as 1900s, the land of black people was taken from them through violent colonial dispossession, and subjugation of our people to governments and laws they never took part in establishing.

50. Despite these realities, we still have a CONSTITUTION in SOUTH AFRICA that says that those who wish to reclaim their land should only reclaim the land that was taken after June 1913.
51. The reality is that by 1913, more than 80% of land that belonged to Africans was taken through wars of dispossession.
52. The consequences of landlessness of our people are still living with us to this day, because black people and Africans in particular are the most affected by high levels of poverty, unemployment and homelessness.
53. The struggle for the return of the land is at the centre of our struggles and cannot and should not be suspended even at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic.
54. The CORONA Virus pandemic has brought into sharp focus the landlessness of our people.
55. Our people are cramped in informal settlements townships and majority do not have even small pieces of land to plant crops during this difficult period.
56. The gains of 1994 have therefore become useless and South Africans continue to witness a degeneration of their conditions.
57. We are today going to make some key reflections on the CORONA pandemic, its impact on the economy and what has been government response thus far.

From the beginning, we as the ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS pledged maximum support to the interventions led by Government in the collective efforts to combat the rapid spread of this deadly virus.

58. We fully support the lockdown because unlike many other viruses and diseases, CORONA is a highly contagious disease, which easily spreads from

human to human and sometimes can infect people just by touching surfaces where it is.

59. We call on all our people to remain disciplined and obedient to all the regulations that have been announced by government.
60. We should maintain high standards of hygiene and must not leave our homes even when it is not necessary.
61. We know that this is a difficult period, but all available evidence has demonstrated that CORONA is highly infectious and can easily transmit from one person to another.

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED FROM CORONA?

62. The CORONA outbreak has brought into sharpest focus, **the economic, social and spatial inequalities** that exist between black and white people in South Africa.
63. Even when they want to be in self-isolation, our people do not have spacious houses to isolate into because they stay in shacks.
64. Even when they want to keep maximum hygiene standards, a huge number of our people do not have access to clean water.
65. The CORONA virus has exposed sharply what the ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS has been raising since its formation.
66. The outbreak of **CORONA has demonstrated** that every nation needs a stable, dependable and capable government with sovereign capacity to generate own revenue and will to build INDEPENDENT industrial and manufacturing capacity to produce critical goods, equipment and services.

67. Neo-liberal economists and politicians have for years been arguing for a small and weak government which must only administer policy regulations when the private sector provides all other services including healthcare, education and all other critical services.
68. The current **CORONA pandemic has demonstrated** that the private sector cannot be relied upon for the provision of basic services for all our people, particularly healthcare services.
69. BIG BUSINESS whether black or white is not loyal to any nation and does not care about the people, they are only LOYAL to profits.
70. The **CORONA virus has demonstrated** that big capitalists from Stellenbosch and the Oppenheimers are not friends of government and are not at all defined by patriotism. The patriotism of big business in South Africa and everywhere in the world is towards profit maximisation, not towards a people.
71. That is why even in these times of need, big businesses continue to be self-seeking and their contribution comes nowhere close to the minerals, wealth and cheap labour of the people they have exploited over the years.
72. The **CORONA virus has demonstrated** that politicians from the ruling party cannot be trusted with the lives of our people. That is why they steal and loot food even in the darkest hour of need.
73. They distribute food and water in a partisan way and worse at times through factional means during a time of crisis, when we are all supposed to put aside our differences and unite against the invisible enemy.
74. The **CORONA virus has demonstrated** that the slow pace of delivery of communications infrastructure and usage of technology as we called for in all our manifestos has a huge impact on the education of particularly poor and rural masses.

75. The CORONA Virus has also vindicated the progressive policies of the ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS on the question of LAND, JOBS, INDUSTRIALISATION, EDUCATION, Social Grants and constant provision of QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR ALL.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

76. As a result, we are going to present concrete short- and long-term solutions on what is to be done on the following critical areas:

- a. **HEALTHCARE PROVISION,**
- b. **SOCIAL ASSISTANCE,**
- c. **EDUCATION and**
- d. **THE ECONOMY.**
- e. **SOLIDARITY WITH THE AFRICAN CONTINENT AND POOR NATIONS.**

77. Some of the interventions we will announce here have been contained in the many media statements we have issued and many letters we have written to the President and Members of the Executive.

78. All EFF Public Representatives have committed a third of our monthly salaries to the FIGHT AGAINST CORONA VIRUS.

79. WHAT THIS MEANS IS THAT for 3 months, the EFF Councillors, Members of Provincial Legislatures and Members of Parliament would have contributed millions into the FIGHT AGAINST CORONA VIRUS.

80. So, while Councillors from other political parties, MPLs and MPs are stealing food parcels from poor people and are arrested for drinking and driving, violating the lockdown regulations by driving with alcohol in their cars, We in the EFF are sacrificing our salaries so that we defeat the CORONA virus.

81. WE WILL BE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN INTERVENTIONS AGAINST EXTREME LEVELS OF POVERTY AND NEGLIGENCE BY GOVERNMENT, AND THIS WILL BE ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.
82. Our Public Representatives in Metsimaholo are at the forefront of provision of basic water and other essential services to the people of Metsimaholo.
83. Our Public Representatives have been helping in different informal settlements throughout the country, which must be formalised with basic necessities and have been resisting the nonsensical evictions carried out by Municipalities.
84. Our Public Representatives in CAPE METRO have been preventing the Municipality from evicting poor people from their areas of residence.
85. OUR PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES have been involved in overseeing the work carried by GOVERNMENT and have opened many police cases against acts of corruption by politicians from the ruling party.
86. The EFF's proposals and recommendations are therefore informed by the real struggles of our people in communities because that is where we are.
87. OUR PROPOSALS AND INTERVENTIONS AS THE EFF are aimed at saving lives, and we agree with the observation made by the PRESIDENT OF GHANA that whilst we all have the capacity and knowledge to revive collapsed economies, we all do not know how to breathe life into dead people, so everything we do must be about saving the lives of our people.

HEALTHCARE PROVISION

88. In terms of healthcare provision, we as the EFF believe that government should use this period to build permanent healthcare systems and infrastructure that will respond to all the needs of our people.

89. Instead of temporary hospitals, Government should build an extended network of hospitals, clinics and polyclinics in all Wards, townships, informal settlements and villages.
90. GOVERNMENT must make sure that some of the HOTELS, LODGES and other hospitality infrastructure must be converted into quality healthcare facilities, and some must be permanent for provision of primary healthcare to our people.
91. The screening and testing of communities must not be done only during this period but must form part of SOUTH AFRICA'S HEALTH SYSTEM going forward, including outreach campaigns to educate our people about preventative measures as it is the case now with Coronavirus.
92. **Government should convert existing government infrastructure that is not being used for anything into accessible quality healthcare facilities.**
93. These should not be temporary because South Africa's health burden is one of the most devastating health burdens in the world.
94. The POPULATION OF SOUTH AFRICA is less than 1% of the global population, but more than 15% of HIV/AIDS related deaths come from South Africa.
95. The DEFEAT OF CORONA must also mean that we deal with the heavy disease burden that defines our country.
96. In the same way many Countries built military reserves post WORLD WAR 2, we should build HEALTHCARE RESERVES, where ordinary citizens and professionals in other fields are trained and capacitated in the essentials of primary healthcare.
97. SOLDIERS, TEACHERS, POLICE, COUNCILLORS, MEMBERS OF PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURES AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT must be

provided with basic training to administer primary healthcare such as disease detection, screening and administering of FIRST AID care to all people.

98. SOUTH AFRICA should build its pharmaceutical capacity to produce generic medicines and vaccines.
99. We are aware that for some time, the Cuban Centre for Genetic Engineering has attempted to build a relationship with South Africa and that was not given maximum attention. Now is the time to revive and strengthen the relations with Cuba and build pharmaceutical capacity to produce our own medicines not only for South Africa, but for the entire African continent.
100. Our country currently imports more than R30 billion of pharmaceutical products from other parts of the world, it is high time we begin to produce our own medicines.
101. South Africa should begin to locally manufacture and produce medical equipment, including Ventilators.
102. The South African Government currently owns DENEL, which produces high-tech fighting machines and aeroplanes. That capacity must be directed towards the production of medical equipment.
103. HOW DO WE EXPLAIN THAT WE CAN BUILD FIGHTER JETS IN DENEL, FIGHTING FLYING MACHINES, BUT WE CANNOT BUILD A VENTILATOR WHICH HELPS PEOPLE TO BREATHE?
104. WHY DO WE HAVE CAPACITY TO PRODUCE MACHINE GUNS TO FIGHT WARS, BUT CANNOT PRODUCE MACHINES TO SAVE LIVES?
105. The CSIR should be given maximum support and capacity to produce medical equipment, and the CSIR supported programme to produce TEST KITS by black South Africans must be given maximum support.

106. There is currently no sound reason why our country cannot produce its own surgical masks, which are needed in the containment of the CORONA VIRUS.

107. WE NEED TO BUILD LOCAL INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY TO PRODUCE OUR OWN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

108. THE CORONA PANDEMIC MUST BE A CLARION CALL THAT WE NEED TO BUILD INWARD INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY, AND NOT COMPLETELY RELY ON THE WEST AND EAST FOR THE PROVISION OF BASIC NECESSITIES.

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

109. SINCE OUR FORMATION as the ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS, we have called for the doubling of social grants for old people, child support grants, disability grants and all other grants that are provided by the State for those who cannot help themselves.

110. We fully welcome the increase of social grants and the INTRODUCTION OF BASIC INCOME GRANT for unemployed people.

111. Our demand in this regard is simple, these increases must be made permanent. The OLD AGE grant must never be reduced and must instead be increased to R2800 per month. The child support grant must not be reduced but must be increased and left at R800 per month. The BASIC INCOME GRANT must not be reversed and must instead be increased to R1000 per month.

112. These interventions will play a significant role in boosting local economic activities and in the reduction of poverty for our people, NOT ONLY DURING THIS PERIOD BUT FOREVER.

113. WE WANT TO CAUTION THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT THAT IF YOU WANT PEACE IN THIS COUNTRY, YOU SHOULD KEEP THE BASIC INCOME GRANT FOR ALL OUR PEOPLE WHO DO NOT HAVE JOBS AND ARE NOT EMPLOYED AND IT MUST BE INCREASED.
114. SOME PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE established temporary shelters for homeless people, and we appreciate this development.
115. WHAT WE WILL NOT APPRECIATE IS TO TAKE HOMELESS PEOPLE BACK TO THE STREETS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTAINMENT OF CORONA.
116. South Africa let us be amongst some of the few countries in the world to abolish homelessness.
117. The HOMELESS PEOPLE currently housed by government should be rehabilitated, and integrated back into normal society.

EDUCATION

118. THE ELECTIONS MANIFESTO OF THE EFF made a commitment that all learners and students must be given access to computers and other essential technological learning devices such as TABLETS. The ruling party committed to provide these to all the people but was unable to do so.
119. The CORONA outbreak and the lockdown vindicates our position and we demand that even under the current circumstances, GOVERNMENT must provide laptops and tablets to all the learners and students.
120. ALL EDUCATIONAL CONTENT IN SOUTH AFRICA NOW AND FOREVER MUST BE ZERO-RATED IN TERMS OF DATA COSTS.

121. When ICASA issued Vodacom, MTN, Cell C and all other networks with spectrum, they made a commitment to install internet in schools and provide computers and laptops. These companies have reported that government has not come to the party and is not leading and telling them where to install the internet or where to take computers and laptops.
122. We must find new ways of facilitating learning and teaching, and now is the time to go to all these companies and demand that they play a far much direct and practical role.
123. There must not be a learner or a student anywhere in South Africa without a laptop and tablet that does not have internet.
124. WE DEMAND that government must work with content developers to ensure that all these laptops, tables and computers are pre-loaded with learning material. It cannot be that, only the children of the rich and mostly whites continue to learn.
125. Institutions of higher education should not leave any student behind, and this is the time institutions of higher learning should be consolidating resources, aligning systems and teaching from a centralized system where possible.
126. ALL UNIVERSITIES AND POST SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS MUST DISTRIBUTE LAPTOPS AND TABLETS TO OUR ALL STUDENTS.
127. Like we said with HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT, we should build internal capacity to produce electronic devices and gadgets that will assist with TEACHING AND LEARNING.
128. We need reliable network infrastructure particularly in rural areas. The SABC must provide educational programmes both on TV and radio for all the grades especially for matriculants.

Winnie Mandela Combined School

129. There is no freedom without free quality decolonized education. We have a commitment that this dream must be realised in our lifetime.
130. In realising this dream, there is an absolute necessity to free all existing educational institutions, from early childhood development to universities, from racist capitalist control.
131. The sustainability of freedom depends on education; a free quality and decolonized education system that does not reproduce a racist history of Africa, and of black bodies.
132. A decolonized education exposes white supremacy and teaches black pride; pride in Africa, not a despise of the African continent and its people, whilst reproducing an admiration of Europe and whiteness.
133. This education system must have a new way of teaching, learning and a new curriculum. The reality however is that we could never ask racists to give us such a system.
134. The progressive movement must inspire a new decolonised curriculum, in learning and teaching systems from early childhood development, up to universities.
135. Each progressive researcher has to take it upon themselves to re-imagine new ways of teaching black children to find their own history, culture and languages as worthy of admiration. A new curriculum that produces confidence and pride in black children without hating their skin colour and thinking only white things are worthy of emulation.
136. This is indeed an important struggle and the EFF cannot wait to be in government first before engaging in it. We have already taken a decision to start a new school from scratch; the Winnie Mandela Combined School.

137. We have already found land on which to build the school. We have contacted the Winnie Mandela family regarding the naming of the school after Mama Winnie.
138. Over the next five years we will work day and night to establish this school along the values of decolonisation and socialism. It will be an independent school from EFF with its own independent and highly qualified Board of trustees.
139. It will be a school for the poor, dejected and talented black children. Its admission policy will be based on prioritisation of poor orphans who lost their parents to HIV and AIDS, poor victims of domestic violence and the poor in general.
140. We will provide these children of the poor with the best world class facilities that include sports, recreation and arts, as well as highly qualified teachers.
141. The EFF is not a rich political party. Its constituency is not rich people, but through this initiative we hope to inspire those with some wealth in the black community to start emulating our example.
142. Let us start to build well equipped schools for talented black children instead of wasting money on private jets, expensive holiday mansions in Islands of luxury.
143. There is no better investment than the education of a black child; such an education must be unapologetically decolonized if it is to produce a kind of confident black who does not worship whiteness or seek after its approval.
144. This is the kind of black being that can only be produced by a free decolonized education system; such a black being will lead us all into a prosperous Africa in peace with itself.

CURRENT CONDITIONS AND SOE'S

145. Fellow South Africans, While we battle against the invisible enemy known as the Corona Virus, the gains that were made in 1994 of political freedom are being misused and reversed
146. Through our political freedom, we have been given an opportunity to draft legislation that will change the lives of our people
147. It is our political freedom that allowed us to gain control over State Owned Enterprises, that if were to be used correctly can be the foundation of an independent economy.
148. It is our political freedom that ought to guide how our economy operates, how our banking system functions and how the wealth of the country is distributed equally.
149. The current conditions are not reflective of these possibilities.
150. Instead of the politics guiding the markets and economy in South Africa, it is capital that controls and guides our politics.
151. As a result, we find ourselves at the mercy of what big business demands and the mining industrial complex comprised of the Ruperts and Oppenheimers.
152. It is because of the misuse of political power in this country that we find our SOE's being sabotaged and collapsed, so that they can be sold to the highest bidder.

153. In this way the little that is left of our sovereignty is being surrendered and all possibilities of economic freedom and independence are being destroyed.
154. SAA today has been killed by Pravin Gordhan, who after undermining the business rescue process and collapsing government plans to rescue SAA, wants to behave like a saviour by delaying retrenchments of workers. These very retrenchments are engineered by him.
155. We will now witness hundreds of SAA workers being retrenched during a health crisis, and we will emerge from Corona virus without a national airline.
156. Eskom is facing a similar fate, as energy production is surrendered to capital after the deliberate sabotage through load shedding and political bullying by Pravin Gordhan.
157. It is the same bullying and arrogance that sees Gordhan undermine the Eskom Board and SAA Business Rescue Practitioners, resulting in the collapse of these entities.
158. It is Pravin Gordhan's arrogance that led to the likes of Vuyani Jarana resigning from SAA, because of constant interference and undermining of the rescue of SAA
159. The gains of the 1994 democratic transition are today undermined by the same cabal that compromised on the demands for Independence at the negotiation table.
160. Leading these efforts is one Pravin Gordhan
161. These are the current conditions that fundamentally undermine what those who came before us fought for.

THE ECONOMY

162. Commissars, Comrades and the people of South Africa, the economy of SOUTH AFRICA POST CORONA MUST NOT HAVE THE SAME FEATURES AS THE ECONOMY BEFORE AND DURING CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC.
163. We demand that all state owned companies be protected and some should be repurposed. Workers should not be retrenched particularly those of SAA and ESKOM. If there should be anyone who should be retrenched it is Pravin Gordhan
164. We demand that in the immediate, GOVERNMENT MUST BUILD AND SUPPORT INTERNAL CAPACITY to manufacture and produce basic essentials not only in the health sector, but in all other critical sectors.
165. WE DEMAND that government should in the immediate build FOOD SOVEREIGNTY, meaning that South Africa must build the capacity to produce food for all its people, and must extend that capacity to produce food for the entire African continent.
166. FOOD SOVEREIGNTY requires that South Africa must decisively deal with the LAND QUESTION.
167. IN THE IMMEDIATE, ALL AVAILABLE STATE-OWNED LAND must be availed to black small-scale farmers and people who want to produce for survival. The state must support them with agricultural implements and guaranteed off-take of agricultural products from the State.
168. FOOD PRODUCTION AND THE ENTIRE FOOD VALUE CHAIN MUST NOT BE LEFT TO THE CONTROL OF WHITE FARMERS, MULTINATIONAL PACKAGING COMPANIES AND MONOPOLY RETAILERS.
169. The South African GOVERNMENT must finalise the process of building a STATE BANK, and ensure that all the recipients of social grants, basic income grants use the STATE BANK for the receipt of all their grants.

170. Amidst the difficulties it is facing, GOVERNMENT MUST RENATIONALISE SASOL and decisively prevent any attempts for the takeover of SASOL by multinational corporations, particularly from CHINA and the WEST. THE PUBLIC INVESTMENT CORPORATION (PIC) MUST LOOK INTO INCREASING ITS SHARES IN SASOL and partner with government to ensure that it is owned and controlled in SOUTH AFRICA.

171. WE MUST REJECT any attempt to privatize South African Airways, and demand that all workers, both SAA and SA Express be paid their salaries, and keep their jobs.

172. GOVERNMENT must stick to the commitment they made to save SAA, employ capable and competent management, and do away with business models that have proved unworkable. This means SAA must buy its own aircrafts instead of leasing, and cancel all inflated contracts.

AVOID THE IMF AND WORLD BANK:

173. It not a secret that the continued dependence on the INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK has placed a lot of nations, particularly AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND STATES in permanent poverty.

174. We refuse that GOVERNMENT must take loans from the IMF and WORLD BANK because

- a. IMF Loans have been used in the whole African continent as an instrument of recolonization, and we do not want to sacrifice our independence because of a situation we can domestically manage.
- b. Historically, the IMF and the World Bank have never been interested in the development of the people as a whole expect the few people in

America and Britain. All they have done is spread misery, pain, unemployment, hunger and crisis.

- c. They have done so in Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, in Ghana, Zambia, Angola, even here in South Africa.
 - d. It is not true that the IMF and WOLRD BANK loans do not have conditions. IMF says, the level of access to its loans depends on country's balance sheet, capacity to repay, the. member's outstanding Fund credit and other conditions.
 - e. In addition to these conditions, the IMF further says a country is required to cooperate with the IMF to make efforts solve its balance of payments difficulties and to describe the general economic policies that it proposes to follow.
 - f. What this means is that conditionalities will apply to South Africa if it proceeds to borrow money from the IMF.
 - g. The IMF and the World Bank is not an option and we should be made to believe there is no ideology with people whose ideas have never produced any human progress.
175. Instead of the IMF and WORLD BANK, we believe that South Africa should look into the following options;
- a. UNCLAIMED BENEFITS— THERE ARE BILLIONS OF RANDS OF UNCLAIMED BENEFITS and MONEY IN INSURANCE COMPANIES which have been generated through profits of workers' pensions. GOVERNMENT must look into this as a source of the money we need during this crisis.

- b. GOVERNMENT RESERVES – Government must use its own reserves and reprioritise funds from unnecessary government budgets into the fight against CORONA VIRUS.
- c. LET US INVESTIGATE THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES held by the South African Reserve BANK— LET US HAVE AN OPEN DEBATE ON WHETHER THE RESERVE BANK CANNOT USE FURTHER INSTRUMENTS OTHER THAN INTEREST RATES TO ALLOW MORE MONEY INTO THE ECONOMY AND THE NATIONAL REVENUE FUND.
- d. THE MOST ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL NATIONS IN THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM HAVE REDIRECTED RESOURCES FROM THE BANK OF ENGLAND TO FIGHT THE CORONA VIRUS.
- e. WE ARE IN A CRISIS, and we should internally exhaust all avenues to save our country from the crisis before we rush to the IMF and WORLD BANK.
- f. IT IS NOT TRUE THAT THE IMF AND WORLD BANK WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH OUR INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY EVEN WHEN WE OWE THEM MONEY.
- g. The South African Reserve Bank must play a far much bigger role in making money available to government and the economy broadly.

ACCOUNTABILITY, ANTI-CORRUPTION AND MONITORING

- 176. Comrades In all these interventions, Government should establish strong and solid accountability mechanisms.
- 177. All corrupt individuals must be charged and government must be transparent about the SOLIDARITY FUND. We are aware that already those

deployed in the SOLIDARITY FUND wants to operate outside of the Laws of the Republic.

178. We are aware that those managing the SOLIDARITY FUND want to appoint BIDVEST AND IMPERIAL as the only companies that will buy and deliver all the essentials needed to fight the CORONA VIRUS.

179. PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA must desist from using these key institutions to empower his friends and those who contributed to the CR17 campaign. This is no time to please friends. We are in a war.

180. WE DEMAND THAT all people who work for the SOLIDARITY FUND including BOARD MEMBERS and Executives should do so on a voluntary basis. If they are not willing to perform their functions on a voluntary basis, government should redeploy some of its administrators to go do work in the SOLIDARITY FUND.

181. The theft and looting of food parcels by the ANC Councillors is proof enough that these people cannot be trusted with the lives of our people.

182. We have written to the President to demand that all Councillors and all Politicians must be removed from the delivery of food parcels and we repeat the demand that no politician must be allowed to distribute food parcels during this period.

183. All the tax benefits, especially the deferments that are given to companies must benefit workers, and so far, this is not clear.

184. BIG BUSINESSES MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO USE THE TAX BREAKS provided now as instruments for tax avoidance.

ON THE JUDICIARY

185. There's an attempt to manipulate our Judiciary and there is an attempt to capture it to serve the interests of white monopoly capital.
186. We must be honest about the transformation of our judiciary since 1994 and why such transformation is necessary
187. Our judiciary is still subject to the ideological perspectives of the Apartheid era, as many Apartheid judges remain in our courts and Apartheid laws such as the Riotous Assemblies Acts remain in effect.
188. It is a judiciary that is not guided by the politics that are needed to create a just and equal society, based on justice and redress.
189. The laws of our country and of any nation are created with politics in mind, and the current politics dictating our judicial sector protect the rights of those who have benefitted from the suffering of the African majority
190. The dignity of our people cannot be restored, because the land rights of the benefactors of colonialism are protected
191. Our legal system is used to fight political battles and escape accountability, in the same manner that Apartheid Presidents used the legal system to escape accountability and manipulate the judicial system.
192. Today the capture of our political system by those with money is defended by our courts, and documents implicating the State President and funders are sealed from the public.
193. Judges are used to defend illegal rogue units that spy on political opponents and undermine the Constitutional rights to privacy and misuse tax agencies to settle political scores.

194. Chapter 9 institutions are attacked for seeking transparency and justice against those who abuse our political system in service of corruption and intimidation

195. In the midst of all of this, institutions that are supposed to defend our freedoms gained in 1994 such as NGO's and the media are complicit, choosing sides in the political arena.

196. These are the current conditions that undermine the spirit and memory of political freedom that we ought to be celebrating today

Artists and Entertainers

197. We are aware that the crisis brought about by Covid19 will affect artists and entertainers the most. Majority of these people depend on festivals and events to make a living

198. Because of the necessity for social distancing, it is clear that we will not see concerts, parties, weddings, festivals and other gatherings through which they make a living.

199. Accordingly, we have taken a decision to financially support all artists that have been consistently working with the EFF. All musicians and entertainers who have ever been on our stage or events will get financial support to help ease the economic burden brought by Covid19.

200. The reality is that these artists would have been with us today if our rally had taken place to commemorate Freedom Day. They would be with us on June 16, Africa Day, our Anniversary on 26th July, on Women's Day, Heritage Day and other events.

201. With the little we have, we will support them; we will remember them in this difficult hour.

PREMATURE RE-OPENING OF THE ECONOMY:

202. We want to use this opportunity to caution **GOVERNMENT** against premature re-opening of the economy, most of which is influenced by **BIG BUSINESSES** who are not making profits during this period.
203. We were inspired and encouraged when the Minister of **HEALTH** brought experts and professors to address the nation on scientific reading of the current period.
204. We however do not understand the science behind the premature re-opening of the economy.
205. The reality is that majority of workers who will go back to work prematurely are black people and knowing the negligence of big businesses in South Africa, particularly the Mines, our people will be at risk of contracting the virus.
206. **GOVERNMENT MUST BE CAUTIONED NOW THAT IF WORKERS CONTRACT THE CORONA VIRUS, INFECT THEIR FAMILIES, FRIENDS AND COMMUNITIES, GOVERNMENT AND THEIR CAPITALIST FRIENDS MUST TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MURDER AND ATTEMPTED GENOCIDE.**
207. **CYRIL RAMAPHOSA AND ALL THE COMPANIES THAT ARE RUSHING INTO PREMATURE RE-OPENING MUST KNOW THAT THEY WILL HAVE BLOOD IN THEIR HANDS IF OUR PEOPLE DIE AS A RESULT OF THE PREMATURE, RECKLESS AND SENSELESS RE-OPENING OF THE ECONOMY.**
208. **EACH AND EVERY COMPANY THAT RE-OPENS DURING THIS PERIOD MUST BE DIRECTLY HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE WORKERS AND WE AS THE EFF WILL MAKE SURE**

THAT NO LIFE IS LOST DUE TO RUSHED AND SENSELESS RE-OPENING OF THE ECONOMY.

209. **OUR SUBMISSION IS THAT FOR EACH WORKER THAT CONTRACTS THE DISEASE DUE TO PREMATURE AND SENSELESS RE-OPENING, THAT COMPANY SHOULD PAY A FINE OF R5 MILLION TO THE FAMILY OF THE DECEASED.**

210. **IT MUST STRICTLY BE SCIENTIFIC BASIS THAT SHOULD NECESSITATE THE REOPENING OF THE ECONOMY.**

211. **WE ARE CALLED UPON TO SURVIVE UNDER LOCKDOWN REGULATIONS, AND THE PAST MONTH HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT WE CAN SURVIVE.**

212. Fellow Fighters and ground forces we must be honest if we are to change our course and ensure that the sacrifices of our forefathers do not go to waste

213. It will take a brave generation to protect the gains of 1994 and take the baton to lead us towards Economic Freedom and Independence

214. That generation must be a generation of Pan-Afrikanists.

215. It is a generation that must understand that there is no free South Africa without a Free Africa

216. There is no Freedom Day in South Africa without the total liberation of the African continent

217. We must further the gains of political freedom by building an integrated African economy

218. Fellow fighters we must defend our SOE's, because without them there is no home for independent economic development
219. We must encourage African leaders to abandon their obsession with power and unite behind a common and immediate goal of an integrated political system, towards one economy and one African State
220. Africa must have one government, a central economy and one President.
221. The tragedy of Corona Virus gives us an opportunity to unite as a continent to develop out of this crisis a new economy.
222. We must use this time to develop our industries, to develop our health care sector and to develop our trade relations
223. We must go back to the ideas of Gaddafi, of an African economy and currency based on the mineral wealth of our continent, not imaginary markets
224. Today we see the likes of the United States printing money with no consequences to the value of their currency
225. This is because they control the markets that determine the value of currencies, and they do this without any gold, oil or valuable mineral resources
226. We see the United States manipulating international institutions because they want to be the dominant global power and they do this at the expense of nations that have mineral and raw resources
227. For true freedom, we must unite with progressive international forces to combat imperialist powers

228. We must unite with Cuba, whose legacy is progressive and shows itself today through its deployment of medical staff and resources across the world to combat the Corona Virus
229. We must emerge from this pandemic with an African economy that will gift the world a more human face
230. As we commemorate Freedom Day, let us keep in our hearts the less fortunate and those who are marginalized the most in our society
231. Let us protect one another, let us protect women and children, the elderly and the disabled
232. Let us protect Africa and her children and be caring to all of her people
233. As many of our hard-fought freedoms are denied to us today in combat the spread of the Corona Virus, let us all remember that the most basic human right is the right to life
234. To protect this right, let us all remain in our homes and observe the guidelines given to us by our respective governments across the world

SOLIDARITY WITH THE AFRICAN CONTINENT AND POOR NATIONS.

235. Fellow Fighters. Already in the 1950s, Fanon wrote about Africans as the Wretched of the Earth. He located the racism directed at the people of African descents to be the greatest and most violent of all oppressions.
236. All peoples of the world despise Africans. Nothing about Africans invites respect, dignity, humanness and beauty in the eyes of the world. We represent slavery, underdevelopment, poverty, disease, hunger, suffering and illiteracy

237. Everyone thinks they are better than an African; they can meet the worst forms of suffering like the holocaust or gulags; they still will see themselves as better than Africans.
238. Meaning instead of a human tragedy making them identify with Africans, they will still think of their own human suffering as better than being an African.
239. Why, because being African is being trapped in a skin colour, a body that we can never escape. How do you escape being yourself? Such will only lead to self-destruction, self-mutilation and permanent self-sabotage
240. These are our conditions and image in the world. Therefore a genuine conversation about Freedom Day must reflect on this status of African people. The fact that these conditions have continued long after the African continent has declared itself independent and free of colonial rule.
241. The African body has not attained humanity and dignity even in the eyes of itself; even in the eyes of those who inhabit it. It still feels like a curse we want to escape. A burden we want to dump.
242. With the global outbreak of Coronavirus in Wuhang China, the black body still found its way to bearing the blame for a virus that never came from its continent
243. In Guangzhou province, the home to Asia's largest African migrant population a state sponsored propaganda has come to blame African migrants for bringing and spreading Covid19.
244. The "local authorities have identified Africa as the source of the largest number of imported COVID-19 cases. Among all foreign cases identified in Guangzhou, 76 percent are said to be from African countries, including 36 percent from Nigeria alone."

245. How is it that a virus that originated from China somehow came to be blamed on black bodies by the same Chinese authorities? in less than 100 days since the first case of coronavirus was reported in Wuhan, authorities in China are saying coronavirus is from Nigeria.
246. The black body is so despised that it must be blamed for any disease anywhere in the world. As a result of this state propaganda, African migrants are being targeted in China, beaten up randomly on the streets, not allowed into shopping malls and evicted from buildings they rent.
247. This tragic development during a time that requires global solidarity already shows you what the world is willing to do in order to put Africa in its rightful place; at the bottom as an evil continent infecting the whole world with death and disease.
248. We must not forget that just before the global outbreak of Covid19, the world was discussing the migrant crisis in Europe, mainly from the African continent. Europe, in particular countries like Italy, France, Spain, Britain and Germany were closing their borders against one of the largest migrant crisis in centuries.
249. The destabilisation of Libya saw hundreds of thousands of African people seek asylum in Europe. This very conflict resulted in renewed slavery of African people, forced into chains and free labour in the twenty first century.
250. Euro-American politics of borders and keeping the foreigner away were at the centre of a new rising global order. Many people called it the return of fascism. They destabilised countries in the middle-east and Africa through brutal wars, and yet set out to build high walls to keep migrants of the very stranded countries away.
251. It is therefore not shocking that China itself, when pressed under the crisis of a pandemic which originate in their own country, could turn on the most

vulnerable African migrants, blame them and seek to cleanse their communities of black bodies. In Guangzhou, coronavirus is associated with black bodies.

252. The reality is that this is also how Africa treats itself; colonisation, as Fanon explained, created the conditions in which we look at ourselves through the eyes of the coloniser

253. When we see ourselves, and we see each other, we see the indignity and animality that the coloniser sees when they look at us. This is why the leadership of independent African countries has failed to break the chains that imprison the African mind

254. In the hands of their own leaders, Africans receive the same animal treatment that they get from China, Europe and North America. When Africans criticise their leadership for corruption, nepotism and dictatorship, the African leadership subjects them to the same brutal massacres, imprisonment and brutality that manifested in other countries

255. The African migrants receive the same treatment we see in China, right here in South Africa. In Cape Town, African migrants who occupied the Cathedral for asylum were forced out by the City without any public outrage.

256. In fact each year, South Africans, together with their ANC leadership in government engage in annual theatres and orgies of xenophobic violence against Nigerians, Zimbabweans, Congolese who live amongst us. From time to time, the properties of African migrants are looted, burned down or destroyed

257. The SAPS leads countless raids on those it calls undocumented migrants who happen to be Africans all the time; they beat them up, arrest them and transport them to the boarder - all this happens without any public outrage

258. Today, people are everywhere on social media outraged by what the Chinese are doing, yet this is precisely what they do to other Africans right here

in South Africa. They celebrate and encourage forced removals and deportation of African migrants right here in South Africa.

259. The African black body will never be treated with dignity far away when it fails to find a treatment of dignity here at home. The Chinese do to Africans, what Africans do to each other every day.

260. This must tell all of us that Freedom cannot be realised in a single African country. No single African person can say they are free and hope to earn equal respect from the rest of the world, when other Africans live in chains and indignity.

261. African freedom means the freedom of all Africans wherever they are in the world. There is no South African freedom, peace and prosperity that can ever be achieved without the freedom, peace and prosperity of the whole African continent and diaspora.

262. When financial and economic relief was communicated by President Ramaphosa, there was no mention of the continent and all the African migrants who live amongst us

263. The food parcels and all the grants are meant for South Africans only. Even the small business grants are structured for South Africans only. The migrants, even those who are registered with permanent residency will be overlooked, excluded and probably even deported during this covid19 crisis.

264. This is the reason all other countries in the world will never see a black lives as worthy of dignity, respect and remorse; we do not feel remorse to each other right here on the continent , we do not feel solidarity for each other.

265. Do you think small and big businesses of British citizens will not get tax relief from SARS? Do you think they will not get payment holidays from

Standard Bank? Do you think the British Citizens in America will not get financial help from the USA government?

266. They answer is simple; they will because white people look out for each other and our own government loves white people than black people; they see it as their duty to keep white people happy and safe, even at the expense of Africans in general.

267. In all these interventions, in particular interventions that provide food and temporary shelter for the most vulnerable of our people, we must not forget our brothers and sisters from neighbouring countries who remain in our country during this difficult time.

268. We must shelter everyone, we must feed everyone, and we must make sure that everyone despite their nationality, whether they have documentation or not. No one should find himself/herself without food because they are from Zimbabwe, Malawi, Lesotho, Botswana, Nigeria and everywhere else in Africa.

269. They are our brothers and sisters, and we must share the little we have in these times of crisis.

270. But our solidarity and unity with our African brothers and sisters in Africa and all poor nations must go beyond our narrow borders. Our public healthcare system in the African continent, as it is the case here in South Africa, it is broken and serves the few rich.

271. There are countries that have less than 10 ventilators that are much needed during this period to fight COVID-19, those that seems to have more, these medical equipments are concentrated in facilities that services the few. Other countries like Somalia do not have even a single ventilator.

272. WHEN WE MANUFACTURE VENTILATORS, MASKS AND ALL ESSENTIALS, WE MUST ALWAYS THINK OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE AFRICAN CONTINENT.

273. Intensive care units is even far much less. The World Health Organization estimate that 44 countries in Africa have a total of 5 000 intensive care units.
274. WE MUST SHARE both intellectual and physical infrastructure with African countries, and all poor nations.
275. We should be inspired by Cuba's medical internationalism guided by socialist values, values that put lives before profit at all times. We must all be grateful for the visionary leadership of Commandante Fidel Castro who started the Cuban Medical Internationalism more than 60 years ago.
276. We thank the Cuban doctors who have gone to the frontline and fight Coronavirus, and we also want to welcome them to South Africa.
277. All interventions including supporting industrialization and protection of our economy must always take into account the much larger role South Africa must play in the African continent.
278. All interventions to open up the new kind of economy must open up the African economy before opening up to the West and Asia.
279. All interventions that seeks to provide personal protection equipment must do so for our healthcare workers here in South Africa and where possible for other African countries that do not have.
280. All interventions that seeks to ensure adequate supply of medicines and other necessary supplies to fight Coronavirus here in South Africa must do so with Africa in mind.
281. We condemn the cutting of WHO funding by Donald Trump, he must stop politicizing the covid19 and come to the party to save world from this invisible enemy.

282. We will not win the war against Coronavirus here in South Africa while the rest of the continent and poor nations are losing the battle because we will achieve nothing.
283. We want to urge our governments and governments across the world to prioritize human life over profit and egos at this time.
284. We want to remind all governments that there is no economy without people, and any easing of conditions to combat the spread of Corona virus must be based on science and not profit.
285. We Salute our Drs, Nurses, Police, Soldiers, petrol attendants, shop keepers and the frontline staff for your sacrifices, you are our real heroes.
286. STAY AT HOME
287. CONTINUE TO WASH YOUR HANDS
288. HASTA LA VICTORIA SIEMPRE
289. VICTORY IS CERTAIN
290. I THANK YOU