



## **EFF CONDEMNS THE DENIAL OF BROADCASTING OF CAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL ON SABC**

Friday, 16 July 2021

The EFF condemns the impromptu decision by the Confederation of African Football (CAF) to deny the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) rights to broadcast the champions league final between Kaizer Chiefs and Al Ahly.

In what can only be described as consistent sabotage of the SABC, the pay-to-watch entity Supersport bought the exclusive rights to broadcast the CAF Champions league final on the eve of the what is posed to be the most watched football match in the continent.

The denial of the SABC to air the football match is made worse by the fact that the SABC met all commercial terms to air the game, yet CAF denied the public broadcaster on the basis that Supersport has secured all rights to the game, even free-to-air rights which would allow the SABC to broadcast the game.

The EFF condemns CAF, for ambushing the SABC with this information in the last minute, essentially denying millions of South Africans who do not have access to the pay-to-view channel from watching a historic football match between two of the biggest sporting clubs in the continent.

The despicable efforts by Supersport are yet another exhibition of the greed of capital in South Africa, that is determined to monopolize every facet of society. It is clearly not enough that the economic exclusion in this country has subjected people to dehumanizing poverty, capital has now resolved to even strip our people of sport, that those in the heights of power have presented as a means to leverage social cohesion.

We are particularly disappointed that this nefarious swoop comes under the leadership of Patrice Motsepe at CAF, who campaigned on the ticket of democratizing broadcasting rights of African footballing competitions, to allow the continent to view them freely.

It is clear that Motsepe's regime will bring no substantial change to the broadcasting space of footballing competitions in Africa and the continent is going to continue to be at the mercy of France and capital in the entertainment industry.

This must be noted as one of the many concerted efforts to undermine and collapse the SABC, in order to monopolize broadcasting in South Africa and exclude millions of people from local and continental content.

**ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS**

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