



## **EFF PRESS STATEMENT ADDRESSED BY CIC JULIUS MALEMA**

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The EFF confirms that we will be contesting all the Local, District and Metropolitan Municipalities in all the 4468 Wards in the upcoming Local Government Elections. We have in less than 7 days convened rigorous Branch General Assemblies in all Provinces, Regions, Sub Regions and Wards to elect capable Ward Candidates for the upcoming local government elections. We have submitted Ward Councillor candidates in all of South Africa's 4468 Wards and will fight for victory in all of them.

While we are of the strong conviction that the existing environment does not permit for free and fair elections due to restrictions of gatherings, we have nonetheless complied with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) due date and time and submitted all our candidates before 21h00 on Monday the 23rd of August 2021. We are not sure whether all other political parties have complied with the due date and we have since written to the IEC to demand a detailed technical report on the times each political party submitted candidates for local government elections. We did so because the rules and timetables for elections must be adhered to by all political parties. We call on the IEC to be honest because its independence and autonomy seems to be disappearing under the current leadership.

We take this opportunity to congratulate EFF Branch Command Teams, Regional Command Teams, Provincial Command Teams and Central Command Team members for the hard work and discipline demonstrated during the BGAs to elect Councillor candidates. We particularly thank our members and Ground Forces who partook in the BGAs with maximum discipline and focus. The work of all members of the EFF in the past week is a clear illustration that we have a solid, dependable and

organic movement that is willing to fight for total victory in the Local Government Elections. The EFF is currently at its strongest position and will give the most formidable fight in the local government elections.

We call on all our branches to immediately continue with the hard work of campaigning for total victory in all the Wards. BCTs of the EFF must in the immediate convene Community meetings to introduce our Ward Councillor candidates, and seek guidance from members of the community on what are immediate issues that need the attention of the EFF and issues that must go into the manifesto. Branches of the EFF are instructed to immediately establish Voting District Elections Task Forces (VDETFs) which will be the campaign structures of the EFF in the Local Government Elections.

All EFF branches in South Africa should have solid and dependable VD based structures and programmes to campaign for the victory of the EFF. The immediate programme includes the public consultations and listening campaign where branches must listen to all members of their wards on what they want to see in the EFF Elections Manifesto for 2021 Local Government Elections. Like all our previous manifestos, our 2021 local government has an election manifesto which will be an organic outcome of deep community consultations.

The official launch of the EFF Local Government Elections Manifesto will happen on the 26th of September 2021 here in Johannesburg and the launch will coincide with the official opening of the EFF Head Quarters. The launch of the Manifesto will proceed even when elections are postponed to a further date by the Constitutional Court processes. The manifesto launch will happen after massive public consultations that will happen at VD, Branch, Sub regional, regional, provincial and National levels.

After the launch of the Elections Manifesto, we will campaign for the total victory of the EFF and will not be restricted by any regulation which is aimed at suppressing our democratic right to campaign for the removal of incumbents from political office. It will be tragic to retain the ruling parties in office because everywhere the current ruling

parties are governing, whether black or white, they always marginalize and undermine black people.

The EFF is the only hope for our people and our Ground Forces must courageously communicate this message to all voters. Over the next weekend, all regions of the EFF that have not yet convened their Regional People's Assemblies must do so and we expect maximum discipline in all the remaining RPAs. Once elected, the Regional Command Teams must hit the ground running and work with branches to establish VDETFs and speak to our people.

We call on government to open the country for free and fair elections. Free and Fair elections are not determined by what happens on voting day, they are primarily defined by the Democratic right to freely and fairly campaign before voting day. Disallowing political parties from campaigning undermines the freeness and fairness of elections, and will compromise South Africa's democratic project. Political parties must be allowed to convene political gatherings and engage members of the community on alternatives.

The EFF is concerned by the growing militarization of South Africa and repeats that it is only illegitimate governments that rely on and depend on soldiers to protect them from the masses. A legitimate government must always be able to persuade its people and not always use the threat of force, and worse from the military.

The recent direction and pace of South Africa's Constitutional Court leaves a lot to be desired. The manner in which the Constitutional Court handled the case involving former President Jacob Zuma and the IEC application to postpone elections can only be characterized as gross incompetence. The Constitutional Court must understand what urgency means and must also avoid playing into factional politics.

As we said before, the current government is determined to mutilate and therefore incapacitate the State through privatization of critical and important state owned assets and companies. We as the EFF are strongly opposed to the privatization of ESKOM, TRANSNET, SAA, MANGO, DENEL and all the strategic assets. It is

becoming apparent now that the current white capitalists controlled government will dispose of all its strategic assets for the benefit of white people. The capture of this administration is worse than what was said to be capture of the previous administration.

The people of South Africa are currently leaderless and this is reflected by the rising levels of poverty, unemployment and suffering. The levels of poverty and unemployment in South Africa are deepening and everything is getting worse. This anti-black government cannot guarantee access to basic services such as water and electricity. Municipalities are dysfunctional and majority defined by factional in-fighting.

The extent and levels of unemployment in South Africa is at a crisis level. Despite rapid job losses caused by COVID regulations and failure to manage South Africa's democratic economy, the racist banks and financial institutions continue to repossess the houses, cars and assets of people who have lost their jobs. Government has not done anything impactful to protect black owned small and medium enterprises particularly in the informal sector. The departments of small businesses and trade and industry are the most useless when it comes to protection of existing jobs.

We want to caution the current government that rising levels of unemployment will worsen crime levels and will lead to social instability and violent uprising that no army or police force can contain. There are more than 10 million people in South Africa who are capable of working, are looking for jobs and cannot find jobs because there are no jobs in South Africa.

Despite our protest action to the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) to source vaccines from Russia and China, the South African government continues to solely import vaccines from the West because the current administration is controlled by the US led Global Order.

This government continues to frustrate efforts to source vaccines from Russia and China despite their proven superior efficacy, even against the delta variant of COVID-19.

It is evident now that the current administration is obsessed with transactions as opposed to saving lives and insulating our people from the Corona Virus Disease.

We still demand that the South African government must source scientifically proven and tested vaccines from all parts of the world, not just from the West.

We also wish to remind the people of the entire African continent that the West with their history of colonialism and present neo-colonialism have never been and will never be friends of black people all over the world. It is therefore foolish to rely on the West to save the lives of black people.

It is only a dependable, strong and solid EFF that can stop South Africa's degeneration, joblessness and poverty. We call on all our Ground Forces to intensify the work of the organization and engage in disciplined work to speak to our people.

**ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS**

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