

# AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICA (AFRICAN NATIONALISTS)

*Provisional Headquarters:*

P. O. BOX 20894  
DAR ES SALAAM  
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Our reference

Your reference

Date 18th July 1977

STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (NEC) ON THE  
EXPULSION OF TAMI BONGA FROM MEMBERSHIP OF THE AFRICAN  
NATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICA (AFRICAN NATIONALISTS);  
THE SUSPENSION OF GEORGE MDUDUZI MBELE FROM ALL ACTIVITIES  
OF THE ANC AT ALL LEVELS PENDING AN INVESTIGATION INTO  
HIS ACTIVITIES AND CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH TAMI BONGA;  
THE ABOLITION OF THE POSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY,  
AND THE APPOINTMENT OF COMRADE JONAS D MATLOU AS THE NEW  
CHAIRMAN OF THE ANC (AFRICAN NATIONALISTS)

1. In view of the rapidly changing situation in Southern Africa the ANC of South Africa (African Nationalists) were faced with a demand for urgent and radical structural changes in our operational machinery in order to adjust the organisational activities of our cadres in the frontline areas and inside South Africa to the pressing needs of underground resistance to South Africa's fascist rule.
2. The advanced units of our Organisation in Southern Africa met in March 1977 to review the activities of the entire ANC (African Nationalists) machinery in South Africa and outside.
3. The nature of the review and its decisions had to be conveyed to the units and branches in Europe. An emissary was appointed and empowered to execute these decisions. But unfortunately the frantic and repeated appeals to Bonga and Mbele to provide funds to enable the emissary to travel to Europe were unsuccessful although considerable funds had been received from supporting fraternal solidarity organisations at the time these appeals were made.
4. The emissary arrived in London on the urgent mission in July 1977 using assistance provided by the local branch of the ANC in the UK in spite of the nonchalant and dilatory attitude of Bonga and Mbele to the urgency of the Mission.

5. A NEC meeting was called for by the emissary who himself is a member of the NEC but Bonga and Mbele at first reacted in a hostile manner and refused to call a NEC meeting to hear the report from Africa. They threatened to go it alone. The emissary was then compelled to threaten dire consequences would fall upon the two recalcitrants (Bonga & Mbele) if they failed to accede to hold a NEC meeting as six members of the eight NEC members were free and available in London whilst the Secretary - General of the ANC (African Nationalists) Comrade T X Makiwane was a party to the review mentioned in paragraph 2 above and concurred with the decisions to be conveyed by the emissary. Due to the sensitive nature of the decisions it had not been possible to relay them to Comrade Pascal Ngakane, the only member of the NEC absent.
6. Bonga and Mbele attended the NEC meeting held on Saturday, July 16, 1977 and Mbele was in the chair.
7. The NEC meeting was apprised of the grave danger to which the ANC (African Nationalists) was exposed owing to security risks with which Bonga was connected. It was agreed that the NEC meeting should adjourn until Monday July 18 to go into the nature of the security allegations against Bonga and the relevant facts. Other members of the NEC contributed new facts concerning some of these security allegations against Bonga.
8. Both Bonga and Mbele failed to attend the NEC meeting on the 18th July although they knew that sensitive security matters had to be heard, discussed and resolved. No apologies for their absence from the meeting were received from Bonga and Mbele.
9. The NEC having fully examined the seriousness of the charges against Bonga and the verifiability of the evidence, considered it proper to act decisively to save our Organisation. It was resolved to expel Bonga from membership of the organisation forthwith.

George Mbele, in view of his collusive attitude in not taking action to investigate Bonga in spite of the grave allegations against Bonga led the NEC to suspend him from all activities in the ANC (African Nationalists) pending an investigation of the extent of his own involvement with Bonga in the light of available evidence. It must be stressed that Mbele's lack of keenness to do anything to protect the very life of the Organisation; his failure to take remedial action where it was possible in order to facilitate an investigation of Bonga led the NEC to resolve to suspend him and to institute an enquiry into Mbele's activities outside South Africa as well as inside South Africa.

10. The nominal position of Administrative Secretary which was created to facilitate purely office-routines was found by the NEC (having received repeated complaints from our membership) to be a divisive one. Bonga had converted it from a purely nominal post that does not exist in the ANC Constitution into an Executive one in which he took decisions on non-administrative matters referred to him in correspondence and other communications normally addressed to our Organisation. Bonga engaged in divisive activities wherever he went among our members and even tried to set up his own rival and separate organisation. But alas! Those members whom he approached repudiated his endeavours and reported him to Mbele and the NEC. Unfortunately Mbele turned a blind eye to these reports of disruptive activity, thus infuriating the membership. To safeguard our Organisation; to consolidate the fraternity and revolutionary solidarity of our entire membership; and in order to reshape the structural functioning units of our Organisation to meet the challenge of events in Southern Africa, the NEC resolved to abolish the post of Administrative Secretary even in a nominal capacity.
11. The NEC also received a report that Bonga and Mbele were acting as the sole members of the NEC Working Committee without convening meetings of it. Thus Comrade Jonas D Matlou a loyal and senior member of the NEC was effectively excluded by Bonga and Mbele from the day-to-day work of the Working Committee. Bonga and Mbele took executive decisions; disposed of ANC funds; and undertook missions abroad without calling Working Committee meetings to consult on these matters.
12. In view of these serious events and the need to push ahead with our revolutionary tasks, the NEC appointed Comrade Jonas D Matlou to assume the position of Chairman of the NEC.
13. We appeal to all our members to continue their support for our struggle to liberate South Africa. As we go forward the enemy will devise new and more subtle means of dividing our ranks. But if we act resolutely and maintain our unity of purpose and organisation - victory is surely awaiting our dedicated actions.

Long Live the South African Revolution! AMANDLA! MAATLA!

Issued by:-

National Executive Committee  
African National Congress of South Africa (African Nationalists)

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