



AZAPO
AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

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TO: MEDIA STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FROM: AZAPO Secretary for Legal and Constitutional Affairs
DATE: January 03, 2022
SUBJECT: IMPLICATIONS OF AUDIO LEAK OF PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA DURING AN ANC MEETING

AZAPO notes with concern and dismay the contents of a leaked audio on social media. This leaked audio on social media is supposedly the voice that sounds like that of the President of the country, President Ramaphosa. Interestingly, the office of President Ramaphosa has to date not denied the authenticity of the audio. This by itself gives credence to the fact that this indeed is President Ramaphosa speaking in the said audio. In the audio President Ramaphosa seems to suggest he knows of people within the ANC who used money stolen from the State to fund their political campaigns in the run up to ANC internal party elections, specifically the ANC NASREC 2017 Conference. This revelation is compounded by the admission of President Ramaphosa when he states he would rather sacrifice himself instead of blowing the whistle on those who stole public funds under his watch. He will do all this to protect the ANC.

AZAPO would like to remind State President Ramaphosa of the requirements of his Oath of Office – that of upholding the laws of the country and defending the Constitution without any fear or favor. What is clear is that the conduct of a sitting President should at all material times be in sync with the decorum of his office. AZAPO would like to emphasize the point that interests of the country supersede those of the ANC as a party. Furthermore, *Section 34 of the Prevention and Combatting of Corrupt Activities Act* places a duty on any person who holds a position of public authority and who knows or ought to reasonably have known or suspected that any other person has committed an offence of corruption to report such knowledge or suspicion or cause such knowledge or suspicion to be reported to any police official. AZAPO thus calls upon State President Ramaphosa to do the right thing and disclose all the information at his disposal about crimes committed by his ANC comrades. Furthermore, AZAPO calls upon the various individuals who campaigned for ANC internal party elections to come forward and disclose the source of their funding. By so doing they

will set the record straight regarding the allegation of having used public funds to run their campaigns.

AZAPO would like to draw the attention of the citizens of this country to the anomaly of the *SAPS* and the *Directorate for Priority Crime Investigations* who only serve as spectators to the rampant corruption in this country. These law enforcement agencies hide behind the excuse that no crime has been reported, even where a crime has clearly been committed. This country lacks a proactive policing and investigation systems to end the scourge of corruption. Ordinary members of society are left at the mercy of unscrupulous ANC politicians who seem to believe that it is their right to steal from the State to amass personal power at the expense of the poor citizens.

Given the legal and moral implications as outlined above, AZAPO insists on the following to happen urgently:

- That the State President demonstrates that he takes his oath of office seriously by acting in a manner consistent with such an oath, by reporting the crimes that he is aware of to law enforcement agencies.
- Failure to report such crimes should lead to the President being called out for breaching his oath of office and under such circumstances the President should resign as President of the Republic of South Africa (he can then continue to serve as president of the ANC to whom he seems to owe loyalty).
- That all those who campaigned for the internal ANC elections disclose the names of their funders and the source of their funding to dispel any suspicion that they were complicit with the looting of the State.
- Failure to disclose their funders and sources of funding, will compel the *Office of the Public Protector* to investigate this apparent abuse of State resources.
- That the law enforcement agencies should take proactive measures to ensure that all possible information that would serve as evidence is collected and presented to the NPA to initiate prosecutions against those who looted the state.

AZAPO hopes that the above action steps are implemented so that they act as deterrent to the craft and looting culture endemic to the ruling ANC. AZAPO insists on there being consequence management – The President should be held to account as the head of state under whose watch corruption seem to reign supreme.

Ends.

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