

2019 AZAPO NATIONAL CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution 01/2019 On the AZAPO BCMA Merger and AZANLA

THIS 2019 NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AZAPO HELD IN PORT ELIZABETH ON 29 NOVEMBER-1 DECEMBER 2019

Noting:

1. That the 1994 merger of AZAPO and BCMA resulted in the merged political organisation retaining the name AZAPO.
2. That AZANLA became a formation of AZAPO by legal and political operation of the AZAPO-BCMA Merger.
3. That 2. above meant that AZANLA was thenceforth under the full political and legal control of AZAPO as its Formation.
4. That AZANLA, as per the political direction of AZAPO its Mother Body, did not participate in the initial Military Integration process that was started in 1994 to integrate Military Wings of the Liberation Movement and statutory bodies into the South African National Defence Force (SANDF).
5. That AZANLA enjoyed the call to integrate into SANDF subject to its political and institutional association with AZAPO that was considered as the integral part of the Liberation Movement (ANC, PAC and AZAPO).
6. That AZAPO facilitated the establishment of AZANLAMVA at the latter's 2008 Founding Congress in Tshwane as was required by the post-1994 political processes to recognise and honour individuals who rendered military service of one sort or another to the country.
7. That AZANLAMVA, in fulfilment of the 2011 Military Veterans' Act, was part of the Founding Associations that established the umbrella South African National Military Veterans' Association (SANMVA) at the 2013 Founding Conference in Boksburg.
8. That some former AZANLA Fighters have in their individual capacities decided to desert AZAPO and joined other political parties as an exercise of their Constitutional right to freedom of association.

THEREFORE RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the historical fact that AZANLA and AZANLMVA are AZAPO's Formations, which fall directly and squarely under the political and legal authority of Mother Body AZAPO.

2. To mandate AZANLAMVA to amend its Constitution to articulate and give effect to the organic relationship expressed in 1. above.
3. To recognise the right of those former AZANLA Fighters who decided to desert AZAPO and join the political organisations of their choice.
4. To direct AZANLAMVA to continue to recognise the historical connection of such members as mentioned in 2. above to AZANLA and AZANLAMVA with respect to the services owing to them in terms of the 2011 MVA Act as well as their membership rights in terms of the AZANLAMVA Constitution.
5. To remind AZANLAMVA that, over and above its 2011 MVA Act responsibilities, it has a revolutionary duty to wage the struggle for land repossession, liberation and socialism under the Political Programme of AZAPO.

Carried Unanimously

B. Resolution02/2019:Resolution on Nomenclatures for Secretariats

Noting

1. That the use of the preposition “of” in front of areas of operation or line function of each Secretariat tends to suggest “ownership” by the Secretariat of the scope and area of operation or belonging to/being owned by that portfolio
2. That this type of description inadvertently denotes “possession” rather than “responsibility” as well as some form of ‘alienation’
3. That there is also a disconnect and misalignment in having a member of the Standing Committee designated as “Director”

THEREFORE RESOLVES

1. To accordingly designate secretariats to be for those areas of operation as it pertains to that portfolio by describing them as Secretary (Responsible) “for” instead of Secretary “of” thus: Secretary Responsible for Labour and in the short form as “Secretary for Labour”.
2. To designate the ‘Director of Elections’ as the Secretary Responsible for Elections and Public Representation in short: Secretary for Elections and Public Representation.

Carried Unanimously

C. Resolution 03/2019 :Resolution on the Zondo Commission of Inquiry into State Capture

That this National Congress of AZAPO held on the 29th November to 1st December 2019 in Port Elizabeth

Noting

1. The sterling work being done by the Zondo Commission of Inquiry into State Capture in exposing corruption and malfeasance in South Africa, and
2. **Observing** the disenchantment of society with the absence of arrests and prosecutions of the culprits.

THEREFORE RESOLVES

- a. to commend the Zondo Commission for the good work done in exposing malfeasance
- b. to urge the Commission to issue interim reports to enable speedy investigations and prosecution of the wrongdoers, and
- c. to instruct the AZAPO Secretary General to communicate this resolution to the Zondo Commission.

Carried Unanimously

D. Resolution 04/2019 :Resolution on the Deteriorating State of Governance

That this National Congress of AZAPO held in Port Elizabeth on the 29th November to 1st December 2019

Noting

- a. The progressively deteriorating state of governance in the country
- b. The looting of State resources at every level of the State by the governing party
- c. **Realizing** that such maladministration and corruption robs our citizens of their right to a dignified life, and

Further Accepting that

- d. AZAPO has a political, moral and patriotic duty to intervene,

THEREFORE RESOLVES

- i. To strengthen AZAPO at every level to enable it to intervene

- ii. To instruct Leadership at Regional, Provincial and National levels to cause Branches and Units to be formed all over the country.
- iii. To assess the progress in this regard on a monthly basis by the Standing Committee.
- iv. To ensure that such Units and Branches receive sufficient political education and guidance to enhance effectiveness.
- v. To devise a programme of action and interaction with our society.
- vi. To evaluate progress made at every Central Committee Meeting

Carried Unanimously

E. Resolution 05/2019 :Resolution on State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs)

That this National Congress of AZAPO held in Port Elizabeth on the 29th November to 1st December 2019

Noting

The mismanagement, plundering and destruction of State Owned Enterprises by the governing party and its corrupt deployed cadres.

Affirming the belief of AZAPO in the critical role the SOE's can play in empowering the State to intervene in a positive manner in the economy of the country.

THEREFORE RESOLVES:

- i. To condemn the looting of SOE's by the governing party and its cadres
- ii. Demand that the law enforcement agencies bring all the wrongdoers to justice without delay.

Carried Unanimously

F. Resolution06/2019 :Resolution on Kwazakhele Environmental Clean up

That this 24th AZAPO National Congress of AZAPO held in Port Elizabeth on the 29th November to 1st December 2019

Noting

1. The area of Kwazakhele in Port Elizabeth nearby and surrounding areas of Great Daku Hall that is underdeveloped has a lot of refuse dumping areas that are all over the place not removed.
2. That on its own is a health hazard and puts resident at health risk.

THEREFORE RESOLVES

- a. To mandate the Provincial Executive Committee (PEC) and local Branches to engage the Municipality and the Mayoral Committee to clean-up the area as a foundation to start engaging and participation in community issues for local government.

Carried Unanimously

G. Resolution 07/2019 :Resolution on Gender-Based Violence(GBV)

That this National Congress of AZAPO held in Port Elizabeth on the 29th November to 1st December 2019.

Noting:

The shocking, appalling and out of control scourge of abuse,, sexual assault and murder of women and children in our country.

HEREBY RESOLVES:

- i. To condemn this scourge in the strongest terms possible.
- ii. To mandate the Standing Committee of AZAPO to find ways to collaborate with all forces of Society, State, Civil society organisations, etc, to fight this scourge.
- iii. To mandate all members of AZAPO and Structures to embark on own initiatives to eradicate and end the scourge of women and children abuse and murder in our society.

Carried Unanimously

H. Resolution 08/2019 :Resolution on Sub-Regional Structures in Municipalities

That th^{is} Congress of AZAPO held in Port Elizabeth on 29th November to 1st December 2019

Noting

- i. the changing circumstances brought about by electoral politics in our country.
- ii. that AZAPO has not adapted an organizational structure to suit the new era.

Realising that in the era of electoral politics it is crucial to reach as many people as possible

THEREFORE RESOLVES:

1. That the Constitution has to provide for the establishment of sub-regions.

2. That as much as possible the sub-regions be based on Municipalities as presently constituted.
3. That in the case of Metros, such sub-regions be based on Suburbs and Townships.
4. That such sub-regions report to the regions under which they fall
5. To mandate the Standing Committee to appoint a three person panel to work towards recommending effecting such amendment of the Constitution.
6. That the recommendation to effect such amendments be approved by earliest Central Committee following the congress and be ratified by the next congress of AZAPO.
7. That in view of the pending Local Government Elections, such sub-regions be established with immediate effect.
8. That the Provincial Executive Committees report on progress in writing to the Central Committee

Carried Unanimously

I. Resolution 09/2019 : Resolution on Non-payment for energy services

RESOLUTION ON THE NON-PAYMENT OF ESKOM ELECTRICAL ENERGY SERVICES

This 2019 AZAPO National Congress held at Daku Hall, Kwazakhele, Port Elizabeth on the 29 November to 1 December 2019:

NOTING THAT:

1. ESKOM is an important State-owned company that is burdened with a spiralling debt approaching R450 billion, representing approximately 17% of the total sovereign debt, with declining volumes of energy sales that make it difficult to service its own debts
2. ESKOM is a critical anchor to the generation of economic activity and the development of the State through the provision of electrical energy
3. ESKOM ran out of cash and came close to complete collapse on multiple occasions in 2019
4. ESKOM experiences revenue losses due to low payment levels with Soweto contributing 37% (13.3 billion) of the overall Municipal overdue debt of about R35.7 billion
5. The revenue loss of R1.7 billion growing at an estimated 20% per annum due to energy theft arising from ghost vending, meter tampering and illegal connections and illegal vending contributes to about 10% of annual energy losses
6. Black communities carry huge and historical energy debts that are difficult and almost impossible to service

7. Black communities are intermittently experiencing power cuts as a result of ESKOM interventions that seek to service only those who pay for energy provision
8. ESKOM interventions ranging from technology changes to consumer education have not yielded the desired results

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT:

1. The pervasive culture of withholding payment for rendered services germinates from the consumer boycotts that were used as weapons against an illegitimate regime, and
2. This culture was then embedded into the psyche of society through the introduction of the South African democratic government policy that advocated for the provision of free basic municipal services for water and electricity

REALISING THAT:

1. The role of ESKOM as a State-owned company that anchors and facilitates economic activity and socio-economic development cannot be undermined
2. The sustainability of ESKOM is dependent on the support of the State and energy consumers
3. There is a need to change the mindset of Azanians towards sustaining their State-owned companies through payment of services
4. The rising prices of services make it difficult for people to commit to payment of services in a climate of no economic growth and instead push Black communities deeper into abject poverty
5. The skirmishes between ESKOM and communities are likely to be a constant activity as people will continue to illegally connect themselves to the electricity grid
6. AZAPO cannot stand idle on the side and not contribute to solutions towards ESKOM's stability and sustainability

THEREFORE RESOLVE THAT:

1. AZAPO agitates for sustainability of ESKOM as a State-owned company that contributes to the developmental agenda of the State
2. AZAPO advocates for the introduction of a flat rate tariff commensurate with the average energy consumption per living standard measures of the different communities for a predetermined period of time
3. ESKOM be encouraged to fix and normalise their services to the paying communities
4. ESKOM be advised to provide energy consumption patterns to the consumers and enable them to see their consumption and the associated reflective costs for their planning
5. AZAPO vigorously fight against possible privatisation of energy provision in South Africa. Carried.