



AZAPO

AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

TO : ALL MEDIA HOUSES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM : AZAPO SECRETARIES FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION, PUBLICITY & INFORMATION

DATE : JULY 05, 2022

SUBJECT : AZAPO ON ECONOMIC BENEFITS, DE-DOLLARISATION PHENOMENON AND THE MEANING OF SOUTH AFRICA'S MEMBERSHIP OF BRICS

Currently South Africa is economically depressed largely because of misgovernance by the ruling party and its elite. The escalating Oil prices render possibilities of economic recovery a pipe dream. It is during times like these that the country must revisit all options it has at its disposal to bring about economic relief to its citizens. The Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) is of the view that one such option is South Africa's involvement in the BRICS programme. BRICS offers South Africa an opportunity to access Oil from Russia at a much cheaper rate than is currently the situation. South Africa's involvement in BRICS must start to show positive results that will benefit the country and puts it back on the path to sustainable economic recovery.

AZAPO calls upon the South African government to activate its BRICS standing and access cheaper Oil directly from Russia. South Africa should trade freely with Russia as per the BRICS agreement. In fact, South Africa should welcome the call by Russia's Minister of Industry to BRICS partners to set up Oil and Refining facilities jointly with Russia, using Russian Oil. This is the opportune time for South Africa's membership of BRICS to benefit South African citizens.

The desirable economic scenario is when President Ramaphosa and his government agrees to have an Oil Refinery and Pipeline built by Russia so that South African citizens can *get petrol for as little as R7.00*. The de-dollarisation phenomenon should benefit the BRICS member countries, South Africa included. Logically therefore, the much-anticipated fuel hike of **Wednesday July 06th 2022** should not happen. After all, why is South Africa a BRICS partner country?

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AZAPO therefore calls on the South African government to reactivate economic trade channels with Russia that will among others enable South Africa access to Oil at reasonable rates as already mentioned. This approach will go a long way in helping our country from descending deeper into the morass of economic despair. *It will enhance the view that as a sovereign state, South Africa is self-reliant and able to take progressive socio-political and socio-economic decisions in the interests of its citizens.*

AZAPO maintains that the sanctions being imposed on Russia must be of no significance to South Africa as a BRICS partner. The same NATO countries calling for sanctions against Russia are buying Oil and Gas from Russia to protect the interests of their Citizens. South Africa cannot be expected to abide by the rules that even those who make them cannot abide by. *The point should be reiterated that South Africa is a sovereign state, which is supposed to do what is good for its citizens without succumbing to outside political and economic pressure.*

NATO countries and the USA should stop this economic terrorism against smaller countries while they act like hypocrites to secure their interests by trading with Russia.

Ends

Issued by AZAPO Department of Publicity & Information

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