



Workers International Vanguard League

Workers International News

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WIVL TO CONTEST THE 2009 ELECTIONS



Editorial

The failure of capitalism: The essence of the neo-liberal capitalist policies lies in tatters. For years the IMF (International Monetary Fund), the World Bank, the Harvard scholars (who currently advise the SA government), have preached the gospel of privatization, of flexible labour, of minimal state involvement, of weakening exchange controls, of commercialization of public services, of the free reign of the hedge funds. When workers were demanding increases above the arbitrary 3%-6% inflation band, we were insulted and told that we were greedy, an elite, etc etc. When workers demanded permanent jobs at a living wage, we were told about unseen international market forces, about the necessity of 'globalization'. Billions are starving. Every 6 seconds a child dies from hunger. There is enough food to feed everyone, yet only a few eat- such is the cruelty of modern capitalism. The capitalist states of the world keep the masses of the world in permanent hunger. At the first sign that imperialist financial institutions are in 'trouble', ie have falling profits, these same state apparatuses step in and nationalise. Major banks in the USA and Britain were nationalised. At the same time that the state uses 'means tests' to cancel grants to the poor, the major states in the imperialist centres pour in trillions of dollars to save the banks. Their plan is that once the banks are scoring huge profits, they will be handed back to the monopoly capitalists. By nationalisation the imperialist states are taking public resources such as the savings and tax from the working class, and rescuing the capitalists. At the same time, the working class is kept in a state of hunger.

In South Africa over \$250 Billion was taken from the stock exchange in 3 weeks in October to help ensure the 'stability' of the imperialist banks. One of the results is that resources of pension funds that held stock on the Johannesburg Stock exchange, were grabbed to help to prevent a collapse of overseas imperialist banks. Anyone with a private pension who is retiring soon would find their payout drastically affected. The 300 000 people who put their savings into Sasol Inzalo have just had their savings severely cut. If they sold their shares now they would get back much less than they originally put in. It is a myth that 'South Africa' is not affected by the global capitalist crunch. The bulk of the stock exchange is controlled by banks in the imperialist centres.

A false economy: Housing prices increased by over 10 times within a space of 3 years. Yet there has been no underlying fundamental changes which have justified this; the socially necessary labour time for the production of a housing unit has not changed much, if anything, with more modern techniques, the value should have come down. This disjuncture between the current housing cost and its real cost is one of the major contradictions underlying the current economic crisis. The speculatively high housing prices spurred on a 'construction boom', this in turn spurred on a boom in industry. All on a false basis. Speculatively high prices occur in all sectors of the world capitalist economy: The cost of a barrel of oil in Nigeria is closer to \$4 but the world price is 10-30 times higher. The cost of cereal is 25 cents per box but the price is 50 times higher than this. Mass profits for the imperialist monopolies is based on world super-exploitation of the working class. These monopolies need the working class to be kept in a permanent state of hunger in order for them to continue reaping super-profits. Mass retrenchments, low wages, place a limit on the expansion of capitalist profits; eventually a stage is reached where there is such an abundance of goods but not enough 'buyers' and the



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system 'implodes'. It implodes until they can artificially regenerate themselves such as conjuring up a new war or even a new imperialist world war.

Some lessons

The first lesson that can be drawn from the global crisis is that if banks can be nationalised to 'save' them, why can the food and housing sectors not be nationalised to provide enough food and adequate shelter to the working class?

The second major lesson is that the state is an agent of monopoly capital as it places the profits of the capitalists above the needs of the working class.

The third major lesson is that the economic crisis reflects itself in a political crisis for the capitalist class. Never before have the US elections been so openly based on winning the hearts and minds of the working class (the blue collar worker). Both Democrats and Republicans offer different sides of the same coin to the working class. Now is the time for the revolutionary left to intervene in each and every country. While the capitalists are in crisis, the opportunities are there for a real revolutionary international (Fourth International) to be reborn. On the other hand, if the left fails to rise to the occasion the rise of right wing reaction can easily take place.

In South Africa, both trends can be seen. On the one hand the rise of xenophobic violence, the split of the ANC into 2 factions fighting over the spoils from the imperialist masters' table. On the other hand there is a fast growing leftward movement among the masses. Part of this is rapidly being attracted to the WIVL. All efforts need to be made to ensure the growth of a mass revolutionary WIVL, on a revolutionary programme and principles. We call on workers and supporters everywhere to mobilise support for this in every workplace and in every working class community (**see the 2 letters below**).

Forward to the rebuilding of the Fourth International!



The masses are starting to come to WIVL



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31.10.08

Forward to Working Class Power!

Dear Comrades

Re: Open letter to the working class and working class organizations on the 2009 Elections

The WIVL has decided to contest the 2009 elections at national level. We call on working class activists and organizations to support us in this campaign of further exposure of parliament. The broad framework of our aim of participation relies on the Communist International thesis on revolutionary participation. In South Africa this means the following:

Framework of revolutionary parliamentarianism in South Africa

1. Every revolutionary crisis reflects itself in a parliamentary crisis; The current crisis of imperialism, the crisis in the local capitalist economy and the crisis the working class faces is reflected in the current crisis in parliament and even in the split in the ANC. The revolutionary left will be missing a massive opportunity if we did not seize the moment to further expose parliament. In past periods we thought that because of lack of service delivery the masses would completely boycott parliament- they did not. There are still millions of the working class and poorer sections of the petty bourgeois (middle class) who have illusions in parliament. Revolutionary participation in parliament is necessary to take many of the masses through the experience that parliament will deliver nothing for them;
2. No Soviets or workers' councils exist but parliament does. Soviets cannot be artificially created but are organs that develop as the class struggle sharpens. Parliament does exist and entry into it is important to expose it. Even during the period before the October 1917 revolution when the masses were on the march and mass soviets existed, it was still necessary for the Bolshevik party to enter elections to the Constituent Assembly. Thus they were able to expose the CA, that it could not deliver on the demands of the working class; the Bolsheviks left it at the decisive moment when it has been exposed and thereby weakened it; In our case the exposure of parliament will help show the necessity of independent working class organization *outside* of parliament;
3. For those who say that we cannot control our representatives in parliament we say: the masses will say that you want to organise a revolution which is 100 times more difficult, how can we have confidence in you to lead the revolution if



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you cannot even exercise control over your delegates in the bourgeois parliament? They will be right. Just because some elected delegates may turn renegade or opportunist is no reason to avoid revolutionary exposure of parliamentary participation. There needs to be a principled basis for revolutionary participation.

Platform and structure

We forward our draft programme as the basis for revolutionary participation in parliament. This clearly states that the road to Socialism is outside parliament and indeed against it. Parliamentary participation amounts to sending our agitators into the camp of the enemy, fighting on the basis of the programme. During the election campaign support and solidarity should be given to mass struggles which help to expose the role of parliament as an agency of the capitalist class. After the elections support for such struggles should continue and should help sharpen the exposure of parliament.

There needs to be strong mechanisms of accountability, something which a broad front cannot achieve: Each candidate has to sign a pledge beforehand which outlines:

1. They will immediately resign if called upon by the party;
2. They can be immediately replaced upon decision by the party;
3. They will only receive the wage of an average skilled worker, R5000 per month, with the rest of the funds going to the party for advancing the struggle;
4. They will at all times fight to expose parliament on the basis of the programme;
5. If there are class struggles against parliament, this takes preference over parliamentary operations; they should lead such struggles;
6. At no stages should they get involved in bourgeois haggling over legislation but put forward alternatives that expose parliament;
7. At all stages be accountable to the party, even to the extent that if the party decides they will not take up their seats in parliament but walk out at any stage, they will be bound to do so.

Invitation

We invite you to support the WIVL approach for revolutionary participation in parliament. We invite you to support the WIVL election campaign and for you to give input on the programme as well as the WIVL Election Manifesto. We look forward to your reply.

A luta continua! Build a mass revolutionary WIVL!
Forward to the building of an independent revolutionary working class party!
Forward to the rebuilding of the Fourth International!
Forward to Working class power! Forward to Socialism!

Yours in struggle

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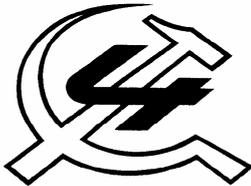
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wivl@sn.apc.org website: www.workersinternational.org.za 31 .10.08
Forward to Working Class Power!

Dear Comrades/Friends

Re: Urgent Appeal to the working class, working class organizations and democratically-minded sympathisers to support WIVL's participation in the 2009 general Elections in South Africa

The WIVL has decided to contests the 2009 elections at national level. We call on working class activists, -organizations and sympathisers to support us in this campaign of further exposure of parliament. The mere fact that we will be the only group engaging in revolutionary exposure of parliament means that the bourgeoisie and their agents will put every obstacle in the way of our participation. This means, as they have done in the past, the Electoral Commission is likely to put prohibitively high deposits as a means of sidelining us. In 2003 the deposits were set at R150 000 for national level and R30 000 per province. This meant having to have R420 000 (about \$42 000) just to get on the ballot. We think that they may hike this even further this time around. Further, the mass media is likely to give little or no coverage to activities and protests organised by us. Thus we would have to generate our own media across the country.

This means that enormous resources are needed for our campaign of exposure of parliament, while at the same time building structures of resistance to capitalist exploitation, primarily branches of the WIVL, across the country.

We differ from all parliamentary parties in that they are chasing votes, trying to become part of the system. For us, if we can get sufficient votes to send some agitators into parliament to help further unmask it, this will be useful. For other parties, after the elections they fold up their machinery- spend the next period going back on their promises, start building connections with big capital, until the next election in 5 years time when they realise they need to chase for votes once more. For WIVL, it is different; on the day of the elections and immediately thereafter we will intensify the exposure of parliament; hopefully with the help of a few agitators in parliament, but mostly through mass action campaigns outside of parliament.

A key aspect of the current campaigns we have launched is that food, jobs and adequate housing for all can only come through the working class in power. The working class would not be able to take power through parliament but rather against it. We have



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also launched a 365-day campaign for womens' rights. We need to organise visits and mass actions in all corners of the country, possibly even visiting neighbouring countries.

By the time the Electoral Commission makes its announcement of the new deposits needed it may be too late to raise the funds just to get on the ballot paper. Overall we feel we need a **minimum** of R1 million (\$100 000) for the campaign. We believe this is achievable. It means 100 000 workers each giving R10 or more. [For workers in other countries, this could be roughly taken as each worker giving 1 Euro, or \$1 or 1 pound]. However, any contribution, large or small is most welcome. We call on workers in workplaces and working class communities to make collection lists and to give contributors proof of deposit of the relevant amounts.

The divisions within the ruling party is underpinned by frustrations of the masses not being met. The leadership of the 2 fractions are fighting for the crumbs from the imperialist masters' table. The masses have begun to look past the ANC. Developments like this come rarely in history. Let us seize the moment and advance revolutionary politics by a thousand, if not a million steps. Already hundreds of workers are now joining WIVL, a first for our existence.

This election campaign is not only the responsibility of the working class in South Africa but of all working class fighters and supporters around the globe. A mass revolutionary WIVL is already a reality but this rapid development needs urgent support. Political consolidation and extension of groundwork is urgently needed. We thus appeal to supporters locally and internationally to help make revolutionary participation and exposure of the 2009 elections possible. A mass revolutionary vanguard party is within touching distance.

Funds may be deposited directly into our account:

Name of account: **Workers International Vanguard League (WIVL)**
Bank: **First National Bank**
Branch code: **201609**
Type: **cheque**
Account number: **50080016832**

For international deposits the SWIFT code **FIRZAJJ** should be used with the above details.

Where possible, email us or fax or post us a note of the amount and date of deposit.

A luta continua! Build a mass revolutionary WIVL!
Forward to revolutionary exposure of parliament!
Forward to the rebuilding of the Fourth International!
Forward to Working class power! Forward to Socialism!

Yours in struggle
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Incwadi eya kubasebenzi malunga nolonyulo luka 2009

U-WIVL ugqibe ukuba azigqatse kulonyulo luka 2009 kumgangatho wesizwe. Sibeth' ikhwelo kubasebenzi, amaqabane nemibutho isixhase kweliphulo lokubhentsisa ipalamente. Ubume obubanzi benjongo zethu zokuthatha inxaxheba kukukholosa ngengcingane ezibhaliweyo ezingqinelwe ziingxoxo zeCommunist International ngokuthatha inxaxheba yotshintsho olululo. EMzantsi Afrika oku kuthetha oku kulandelayo:

Ubume botshintsho olululo lwendlela yepalamente eMzantsi Afrika

1. Nalo lonke uvuthondaba lotshintsho olululo luzibonakalisa ngeengxaki zepalamente; iingxaki zangoku zama impiyali, iingxaki zoqoqosho longxowankulu balapha kunye neengxaki ezijongene nabasebenzi zibonakaliswa ziingxaki zangoku epalamente nasekwahlukaneni kwiANC. Abasekhohlo botshintsho olululo bayakuba baphose ithuba elikhulukazi ukuba asilithathanga elithuba lalomzuzwana sibhentsise ngakumbi ipalamente. Kumaxesha adlulileyo sicinge ukuba ngenxa yokunqongophala kokuziswa kwenkonzo eluntwini abantu abaninzi bazakwala ngokupheleleyo ukusebenzisana nepalamente - abenzanga njalo. Kusekho izigidi zabasebenzi namacandelo abakumgangatho ophakathi abasokola kakhulu abasenenkohliso kwipalamente. Ukuthatha inxaxheba yotshintsho olululo epalamente kuyafuneka kuzokuhambisa uninzi lwabantu kumava okuba ipalamente ayizukubanika nto;
2. Akukho qumrhu labasebenzi lilawulayo okanye amabhunga abasebenzi akhoyo kodwa ipalamente ikhona. Amaqumrhu abasebenzi akanokwenziwa ngazandla zamntu kodwa yimibutho ekhula njengokuba umzabalazo womgangatho usibabukhali. Ipalamente iyaphila yaye ukungena kuyo kubalulekile ukwenzela ukuyibhentsisa. Nakwangexesha phambi kwe revolution ka October 1917 xa inkitha yabantu yayimatsha yaye inkitha yamaqumrhu abasebenzi ebekhona, kwakuseyimfuneko umbutho weBolsheviks ungenele ulonyulo lwentlanganiso enamagunya okuwisa imithetho yombuso. Ngalo ndlela zakwazi ukubhentsisa i-CA, ngokuba ayikwazanga ukunika amabango abasebenzi; iiBolsheviks zayishiya ngexesha elinzima kuyo xa sele ibhentsisiwe yaye zayenza buthathaka; Ngokwemeko yethu ukubhentsiswa kwepalamente kuyakunceda kubonakalise imfuneko yombutho ozimeleyo wabasebenzi *ngaphandle* kwipalamente;
3. Kwabo batshoyo ukuthi asinakukwazi ukubalawula abameli bethu epalamente sithi: inkitha yabantu izakuthi ufuna ukulungiselela i-revolution leyo inzima ngokuphindaphidwe kalikhulu ngaphezulu, singathembela njani kuwe ukhokele i-revolution ukuba akunakukwazi kwa ukusebenzisa ulawulo kubathunywa bakho kwipalamente yongxowankulu? Bazakube benyanisile. Ngenxa yokokuba abanye abathunywa abonyuliweyo bangabangabakreji okanye ozungulichele ayisosizathu sokuphepha ubhentsiso ngokwe revolution uthabatho nxaxheba kwipalamente. Kukho imfuneko yesiseko esingumthetho-siseko wokuthatha inxaxheba yotshintsho olululo.



Udweliso lwenkqubo yeqela nesakhiwo

Sithumela inkqubo yethu esisayiyilayo njengesiseko sokuthatha inxaxheba yotshintsho olululo kwipalamente. Le ixela ngokucacileyo ukuthi indlela ebheka kwi Socialism ingaphandle kwipalamente yaye ngenene ichasene nayo. Ukuthatha inxaxheba yotshintsho olululo kuthetha ukuthumela abaphembeleli bethu kwinkampu yotshaba, besilwa ngokwesiseko senkqubo. Ngexesha lophulo lolonyulo inkxaso nentsebenziswano kufuneka yenziwe kwimizabalazo yesininzi leyo inceda ibhentsise indima yepalamente njengesixhobo songxowankulu. Emva kolonyulo inkxaso yalo mizabalazo kufuneka iqhubekeke yaye kufuneka incede yenze bukhali ukubhentsiswa kwepalamente.

Kufuneka kubekho indlela eqinileyo yokuthembakala, into leyo impembelelo ebanzi engenakuyiphumeza: Mthunywa ngamnye kufuneka atyikitye isibhambathiso kwangaphambili amagqabantshintshi:

1. Bazakurhoxo kwangoko xa becelwa ngumbutho;
2. Bangamelwe kwangoko ngokwesigqibo sombutho;
3. Bazakufumana kuphela umvuzo womsebenzi oqhelekileyo, i-R3500 ngenyanga, intsalela yemali iye embuthweni ekubhekiseni phambili umzabalazo;
4. Maxesha onke bayakulwela ukubhentsisa ipalamente ngokwesiseko senkqubo;
5. Ukuba kukho imizabalazo yomgangatho echasene nepalamente, oku kuzak'qala kunemisebenzi yepalamente; yaye kufuneka bayikhocele lomizabalazo;
6. Akufuneki nangaliphina ixesha bathathe inxaxheba kwimpikiswano zemithetho yobungxowankulu kodwa babhekise phambili eminye ebhentsisa ipalamente;
7. Ngamaxesha onke bathembakale embuthweni, kwa nasekubeni xa umbutho ugqibe awuzukuzithatha izihlalo zawo epalamente kodwa uphume nangaliphina ixesha, bazakunyanzeleka benze njalo.

Isimemo

Siyakumema uxhase lendlela ka WIVL yenxaxheba yotshintsho olululo kwipalamente. Sikumema uxhase iphulo lolonyulo lika WIVL nokuba uphose igada kwinkqubo kunye nakwi Manifesto yo Lonyulo ka WIVL. Silindele impendulo yakho.

Umzabalazo uyaqhubeka! Yakha isininzi sika WIVL!

Phambili ngokwakhiwa kombutho ozimeleyo wotshintsho olululo wabasebenzi!

Phambili ngokwakhiwa kwakhona kwe Fourth International!

Phambili ngolawulo lwabasebenzi! Phambili kwi Socialism!

Owenu emzabalazweni

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Ukuhlaba amadlala kwiFreedom Charter ngokweMarxist

Isiphene sokuqala esibalulekileyo seFreedom Charter sesokuba isekwe phezu kwesizindlo sokuba kwelishesha langoku kungabakho ukukhula kobungxowankulu besizwe obumsulwa. UAnglo American, Liberty Life, Sanlam, Rambrandt no Old Mutual balawula isambuku sonke soqoqosho loMzantsi Afrika. Bonke abadla bodwa basebenza eMzantsi Afrika kwabona balawulwa ngoongxowankulu abakhulu abakumakomkhulu ama impiyali. Umzekelo, oyena dla yedwa omkhulukazi osebenzayo, uAnglo American wamiswa ngo 1921 enomzi ogcina imali waseMelika, uJP Morgan njengentloko yezabelo. Lo mzi ugcina imali mnye, kunye neminye imizi yama impiyali egcina imali, izintloko zezabelo kumzi omkhulu ogcina imali (SARS) woMzantsi Afrika, ngenene iyawulawula. Ukukhula kobungxowankulu eMzantsi Afrika kengoko kuxhomekeke kongxowankulu bezimali bama impiyali. Ngesisimo sikhulu kangaka, iFreedom Charter ithe cwaka. Oku kuthetha ukuthi iFreedom Charter ayizimiselanga kumzabalazo ochasene nolawulo lwama impiyali. Ukuba ulawulo lwama impiyali aluzukucelwa mngeni, ke oko kukuthi 'amanqaku okubekwa kwezinto zokuvelisa phantsi kwesizwe' [nationalisation clauses] eFreedom Charter asisigqumathelo sabathile abamnyama abakumgangatho ophakathi sokuba babe ngabalingane bongxowankulu abanganeno bama impiyali eMzantsi Afrika. Ngalo ndlela injongo ibikukubekwa kwezinto zokuvelisa phantsi kwesizwe ikakhulukazi njengakurhulumente waseZambia owabeka imigodi yelotho phantsi kwesizwe, kodwa kusafuneke ehlawule imbuyekezo kuAnglo American, yaye kodwa isekulawulo olupheleleyo ezandleni zama impiyali. Olo yaba lulwahlulelwano lwabathile abakumgangatho ophakathi baseZambia kunye nama impiyali.

Ama impiyali awunciphise uMzantsi Afrika ube yingingqi yabasebenzi abatshiphu, obonelela okokuqala ngezivelo zendalo kumakomkhulu ama impiyali. Ama impiyali athe acinezela ukukhula kongxowankulu balapha nabakumgangatho ophakathi. Oko kukuthi iFreedom Charter ayizimiselanga kucela mngeni ezizimo, ukuthi abathile abamnyama abakumgangatho ophakathi abakwiANC abakwazi kwa ukumela imfuno zesininzi sabakumgangatho ophakathi, ingakumbi abasebenzi eMzantsi Afrika.

Ama impiyali adale ukwahluka-hlukana kokusebenza okusendaweni zonke yaye ngalo ndlela akusoze kubekho umbuzo wokukhula kobungxowankulu belizwe. Ulwahlulwa-hlulo lwehlabathi phakathi kwama impiyali kubonisa ukuba igama 'ukuthanda isizwe', liqhinga elisetyenziswayo yaye lishiywe lixesha. Ukucinga ngokukhulisa ubungxowankulu besizwe linyathelo elibuyela emva kwimpucuko yehlabathi. Kwelinye icala, ubukho bokwahluka-hlukana kokusebenza kwihlabathi kuthetha ukuba impumelelo yeSocialism ingabakho kuphela kumgangatho wehlabathi. Urhulumente wabasebenzi oyedwa uyakusoloko enengxaki yokujongana nokunganeli kwezinto zokuphila yaye nokunganeli kwezinto zobugcisa. Oku akuthethi ukuthi xa amathuba elungile abasebenzi



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mabangathath' ulawulo – ibonisa kuphela unxulumano phakathi kwabasebenzi abathabatha ulawulo kumhlaba welizwe kunye nexanduva lwehlabathi elifunekayo kukhulo lweSocialism. Oku kuthetha ukuthi xa abasebenzi bethabatha ulawulo kumhlaba welizwe, kuyakufuneka ukuba bafumane inkxaso ngabasebenzi abathabatha ulawulo kwe linye okanye ngaphezulu ikomkhulu lama impiyali, ukuze ukukhulele ngakwiSocialism kuphumelele. Xa oku kungenzeki, ke ingcinezelo yongxowankulu-ama impiyali ekugqibeleni izakukhokelelela ekuweni korhulumente wabasebenzi. Ukuwa kweUSSR kunye norhulumente bempuma yeEurope bubungqina obaneleyo boku.

Inkqubo yeFreedom Charter ngale ndlela iyavumelana nengqiqo kaStalin yemigangatho emibini ye revolution kumazwe angabacinezela, ukuthi kuqala kufuneka kubekho ixesha le capitalism yesizwe, lilandelwe lixesha elithile kwingomso elingenamhla, ixesha le socialism yesizwe (ubunyani, umgangatho we socialism soze kufikelelwe kuwo). I-CPSA yavalwa umlomo ngo 1950 yaye yabunjwa ngokutsha njenge SACP ngo 1953, ekwathetha ukuba ba, ngokubonakala ngokwendlela ebabecinga ngayo yokwakha i-ANC ikhokele umgangatho wokuqala we 'revolution yesizwe yolawulo lwentando yesininzi', iyakube idlale indima yokukhokela ekurhwebeni, yaye ngokubaluleke ngamandla ekubeni izakuthatha oluphi ukhondo iFreedom Charter ekugqibeleni. Oku kuxhaswa yinkqubo yeSACP, eyamkelwa ngo 1989 (The Path to Power) etshoyo ukuthi: *"Ngokwemeko yoMzantsi Afrika oku kuthetha ukuthi, ingakumbi, ukudlala indima ekhokelayo ekwakheni impembelelo yokukhululeka kwesizwe."* Njengokuba umbono weSACP yayingowexesha le capitalism yesizwe kumgangatho olandelayo womzabalazo eMzantsi Afrika, kuyalandela ukuba ngebeyikhuthazile ingcinga yeFreedom Charter njengexwebhu longxowankulu yaye lokukhulisa i-capitalism ngokomlinganiselo wesizwe. Oku kananjalo kuxhaswa yinkqubo yeSACP ka 1989 etshoyo ukuthi: *"Ezona njongo ziyintloko zerevolution yolawulo lwentando yesininzi lwesizwe ziyilwe kwiFreedom Charter."* Ekulambatheni ekuceleni umngeni kuma impiyali iFreedom Charter asiloxwebhu lokukhulula abantu, kodwa lixwebhu elinqongophalisa, libuyisele emva yaye eliphambukisa abasebenzi boMzantsi Afrika kwiSocialism. Oku kungokuba, ngaphandle kokucela umngeni kuma impiyali, iFreedom Charter ngokwenyani yinkqubo yokwamkela abathile abamnyama bomgangatho ophakathi njengabalingane bawo anganeno.

Ifuthe lokwahlula-hlula umzabalazo weSocialism ekubeni ngowe 'revolution yolawulo lwentando yesininzi lesizwe' ulandelwe ngumgangatho we 'Socialism kwilizwe elinye' lithathwe kwiStalinism yehlabathi. I-Communist International phantsi koStalin yongamela uMbutho waMakomanisi aseChina angene kumbutho wesizwe iKuomintang ngeminyaka yo 1920, iyeke umlo wolawulo lwabasebenzi. Umzabalazo waphambukiswa kwakhiwa imbumba nongxowankulu nabakumgangatho ophakathi balapho, ngokuchaseneyo nabacinezeli bangaphandle. UMbutho waMakomanisi aseChina wonganyelwa ukuba wakhe iKuomintang. Xa iKuomintang yaba selulawulweni bajika imipu



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yabo yaye babulala amaKomanisi amaninzi. Nangona kweziziphumo zentlekele, umbutho wamaKomanisi ehlabathi phantsi kwempembelelo zikaStalin wayithumela kwamanye amazwe lomfela-ndawonye wamaKomanisi namaqela angakhokelwa ngabasebenzi njengendlela yokuphumelela amabango e revolution yolawulo lwentando yesininzi kwikona zonke zehlabathi, ukuquka uMzantsi Afrika. Ngalo mfela-ndawonye ukhetha amathuba aluncedo kuwo, uLenin ngo April 1917 wabhala:

*“Nabanina **ngoku** othetha kuphela – ‘ ngolawulo ngokozwi lakhe lolawulo lwentando yesininzi lwe revolution yabasebenzi nabalimi besizwe’ ujanqela emva ebomini. Ngalo nyani kanye uthe **wawelela kwicala longxowankulu echasene nomzabalazo womgangatho wabasebenzi. Yena mele simbeke ecaleni kwindawo yolondolozo lwembali ye’Bolshevik’ yokufuna ulwazi ngexesha phambi kwe revolution (ungababiza indawo yolondolozo lwembali ye’Bolsheviks zakudala’).**”*

Ngamanye amagama, uLenin wayethetha ukuthi nokuba apho abasebenzi bambalwa, injongo kusafuneka ibe lulawulo lwabasebenzi ngozwi lakhe njengendlela kuphela yokufezekisa i-revolution yolawulo lwentando yesininzi.

Ubungxowankulu beFreedom Charter

Kwintshayelelo yayo iFreedom Charter izibophelela ekumiseni ‘urhulumente wolawulo lwentando yesininzi’. Kanye lengcinga ‘yorhulumente wolawulo lwentando yesininzi’ ithetha urhulumente wongxowankulu. Oku kuxhaswa nguLenin kwi *State and Revolution* sakhe, xa ebhala:

*“Iriphabliki yolawulo lwentando yesininzi lelona qokobhe le capitalism linokwenzeka, yaye ngenxa yoko, xa oongxowankulu bathe bafumana ulawulo (ngooPalchinsky, oChernov, oTseretsi nabangane) lolu qokobhe kanye, bazinzisa ulawulo ngokuqinileyo kangangokuba **akukho kutshintshwa, nokuba ngabaphi abantu, okanye amaziko, okanye imibutho kwiriphabliki yongxowankulu kunokuligungqisa.**”*

Oku landelayo kule ntetho ingentla kaLenin kukuba akukho tshintsho lwenkokheli zeANC (uZuma okanye uMbeki) okanye utshintsho lwemibutho esepalamente lunokukhokelelela kwiSocialism. Indlela kuphela ebheka kwiSocialism kufanele ize nge revolution yeSocialism ngabasebenzi bethabatha ulawulo. I-SACP iyamphikisa uLenin ngale ngcinga yolawulo lwentando yesininzi: *“AmaKomanisi oMzantsi Afrika akucinga ukuphumelela kwenjongo zeCharter kuyakuphendula imfuno zabantu zakufuphi kanye nezingxamisekileyo yaye kubeke isiseko esifunekayo sokuqhubela phambili kwiSocialism”* (The Path to Power). Injongo zeFreedom Charter zolawulo lwentando yesininzi asiyonto ingenye kodwa zinjongo zokuqhubeka ngemivuzo yobukhoboka yobungxowankulu. Oku



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kuxhaswa ngakumbi yiFreedom Charter ngokungaquki kwinjongo zayo ukubhangiswa kwemigangatho yoluntu. Oku kuthetha ukuthi ukubakho kobubudlelwane bobungxowankulu bukhoyo buzakuqhubeka, ukuthi abasebenzi bazakuqhubeka bekhona yaye basezakuqhubeka ngokuxhatshazwa. Ongxowankulu bangatshintsha ukuthi abathile abamnyama bomgangatho ophakathi bangazibandakanya nabo njengabalingane abangeneno (ama impiyali akazukucelwa mngeni). Kwisiqendu somhlaba, uthintelo lobunini bomhlaba *ngokobuhlanga* bucetywa ukuba bupheliswe, kodwa hayi ubunini bomhlaba buqu. Ngalo ndlela kwakhona, kumhlaba, abathile abamnyama bomgangatho ophakathi bazakuba ngabanini-mhlaba abanganeno bongxowankulu njengokuba isambuku somhlaba sisezandleni zama impiyali. Ingcinga engacacanga yegama 'abantu' liyasetyenziswa xa kucaciswa isiqendu seFreedom Charter 'sokubeka ubutyebi belizwe phantsi kolawulo lukarhulumente'. Njengokuba kungekho njongo zakubhangisa imigangatho, igama 'abantu' liquka imigangatho yonke, oongxowankulu, abakumgangatho ophakathi nabasebenzi. Ekungaceleni mngeni kuma impiyali ukumiswa 'koongxowankulu abangakhethe hlanga' kungathetha kuphela ukuthi abathile abamnyama abakumgangatho ophakathi bazakuba ngoongxowankulu abanganeno. Obubulingane bunganeno kananjalo bubonakala kwilungelo elixelwayo 'lokwenza izinto ezenziwayo'. Ekungathatheni ulawulo lobutyebi belizwe kuma impiyali, ukwenza izinto ezenziwayo kuphela okunokwenzeka kukubanezivumelwano ezipheleleyo nama impiyali yaye ngalo ndlela ube phantsi kolawulo lwawo. Ngolo hlobo ukuqonda kuphela okunokufunyanwa kule nto kukuba iFreedom Charter izimisele ukumisa ulawulo lwentando yesininzi longxowankulu, apho inkokheli zeANC ziba nentumekelelo yokudlala indima yokuba nganeno ekubeni ama impiyali egcinwe kulawulo lokwenyani.

Xa i-capitalism yayiqala kumazwe ayecinezelwe nakwasephantsi kolawulo lwamazwe anamandla kwezimini, yathatha unyawo ngokucinezela ngamandla ukukhula kwabakumgangatho ophakathi balapha nongxowankulu balapha. Umzabalazo wokukhula kongxowankulu balapha eAfrika wathatha imo yomzabalazo ochasene nengcinezelo (ngokuchasene nolawulo lwezopolitiko oluthe ngqo lwamazwe amakhulu angaphandle). Injongo yayiyeyokuba abakumgangatho ophakathi bafumane ulawulo lwezopolitiko njengendlela yokubhekisa phambili ukukhula kongxowankulu balapha. KwiAfrika yonke, ukungaphumeleli kwabasebenzi ekuthabatheni ulawulo kwadala ukungaphumeleli ukufumana inkqubo yabantu yolawulo ngokwentando yesininzi. Ama impiyali asongamele nakuba ngenkokheli zopolitiko zalapha zomgangatho ophakathi. Ekungabikhwani kokupheliswa kokongamela nolawulo lwama impiyali ngalo ndlela ke akunakwenzeka ukukhula okuqinileyo kongxowankulu balapha, njengokuba bebezakuba kukhuphiswano ngqo nongxowankulu bezimali behlabathi. Ukukhula kongxowankulu abamnyama, phantsi kwezi meko, kungaba kuphela ngabalingane abanganeno bama impiyali eAfrika. EMzantsi Afrika emva ko 1948 kwakusele kukho abathile balapha abakumgangatho ophakathi (amaAfrikaner omgangatho ophakathi) awayelawula egameni lama impiyali.



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Igcuntswana longxowankulu balapha lavunyelwa likhule ngokuba linikwe ukuxhamla kwiinkampani ezinjengo Sanlam. Abakumgangatho ophakathi bama Afrikaner aqalisa ubudlelwane bobukhoboka kubasebenzi abamnyama. Ukutshabalalisa abaphathi bama impiyali balapha eMzantsi Afrika, iNational Party, iANC zifune isiseko sezopolitiko, abasebenzi abamnyama, abathi banikezwa yiSACP. Ukutshintsha umzabalazo ube ngowokuba ngabangane abanganeno bama impiyali, i-SACP yayila 'inkqubo yengcinezelo yodidi olulodwa', ebizwa ngokuba owona mlo wawuchasene 'nolawulo lwangaphandle' eMzantsi Afrika kunye 'nabaxhasi balo abamhlophe'. Okungekhoyo ngokupheleleyo kumbono weSACP kumlo ochasene nama impiyali yaye okwakunganakwanga ngokupheleleyo yinto yokuba isambuku sezoqoqosho sasisesandleni sama impiyali. Abasebenzi abamhlophe babebekwa kwingcinga efanayo nabalawulayo yaye ngolo hlobo iyantlukwano phakathi kwamaqela amhlophe namnyama abasebenzi yazinziswa ngumbono weSACP. Ngaphandle kokulwa ama impiyali, 'i-revolution yolawulo lwentando yesininzi lwesizwe' ingavelisa kuphela uMzantsi Afrika wongxowankulu. Ngenene ungaphumelela kuphela utshintsho ekubeni izakuba ngubani umphathi onganeno kwama impiyali. I-SACP inike ukuba sisizathu semivuzo yobukhoboka eqhubekayo yabasebenzi kunye nokongamela okuqhubekayo kwama impiyali, ngento yayo eyibiza 'inkcazo eyingcinane' yemigangatho emibini.

Inkcazo yeFreedom Charter njengexwebhu longxowankulu elijonge ekukhuliseni abathile abamnyama abakumgangatho ophakathi ixhaswa yenye yenkokheli eziphambili zomgangatho ophakathi zeANC, uMandela ngokwakhe.

Kwinqaku, elibizwa ngokuba 'Kubude:Bobomi bethu' elashicilelwa kwi *Liberation* ngoJune 1956, uNelson Mandela wenza le ntetho ilandelayo ngeFreedom Charter:

'Ekubeni iCharter imemezela utshintsho lolawulo lwentando yesininzi olunephumo ezininzi, ayisilulo kwaphela uyilo olusephepheni eliluhlaza lorhulumente wenkqubo yobuSoshali, kodwa yinkqubo yokumanya imigangatho eyahlukahlukeneyo namaqela phakathi kwabantu phantsi kwesiseko solawulo lwentando yesininzi. Phantsi kweSocialism abasebenzi babambe ulawulo lukarhulumente. Bona nabalimi belizwe xa bebonke bangabanini bezinto zokuvelisa, umhlaba, imizi-mveliso nezixhobo zokusila. Yonke imveliso yeyokusetyenziswa yaye hayi inzuzo. ICharter ayicingi elotshintsho lwezozoqoqosho nelezopolitiko lunzulu. Ubhengezo lwayo "Abantu bayakulawula!" lucinga utshintshelo lolawulo hayi nakomnye umgangatho wokuhlala kodwa kubantu bonke belizwe ingaba ngabasebenzi, amahlwempu, amadoda asisigxina okanye onxowankulu.

Yinyani into yokuba ekufuneni ukuba imizi egcina imali, imigodi yegolide nomhlaba ukuba ubephantsi kolawulo lwesizwe iCharter yenza inzame zokubulala amashishini nemigodi yoodla-bodwa nakumashishini



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amafama abefudula ephanga ilizwe inkulungwane yeminyaka yaye egweba abantu balo ebukhobokeni. Kodwa elo nyathelo liyafuneka ngokupheleleyo yaye liyafuneka ngoba ukuphumeza iCharter akunakucingelwa, okuyinyani akunakwenzeka, ngaphandle kokuba yaye de abadla bodwa kuqala boyisiwe yaye ubutyebi belizwe bunikezelwe ebantwini. Ukwahlulwa nokulawulwa ngokwentando yesininzi kwabadla bodwa kuyakuvula amadlelo amatsha kukhule ngempumelelo ongxowankulu abangengobaseEurope. Okokuqala kwimbali yelizwe ongxowankulu abangengobaseEurope bazakuba nethuba lokuba ngabanini egameni labo nelungelo amatye okusila nemizi-mveliso, yaye ukurhweba noshishino labucala lizakunyuka yaye luphumelele ngokungazange kubonwe ngaphambili. Ukutshabalalisa abadla bodwa kuthetha ukupheliswa kokuxhatshazwa kwesininzi samasebe abantu abaninzi zizigwili zemigodi nazizityebi zemihlaba yaye kuzakubakho ukukhula jikelele kumgangatho wokuphila kwabantu. Kungokuba kanye iCharter inika amathuba amakhulukazi kwimpembelelo yonke elwa ubukhoboka ngokwemeko ephathekayo kumaqela nemigangatho yonke etsala inkxaso kuyo.'

Ngalo ndlela umongo weFreedom Charter yeyabathile abamnyama abakumgangatho ophakathi bakhule babe ngoongxowankulu. Oko kukuthi lomgangatho zinkokheli ngqo zeANC yaye njalo ezomfela ndawonye (ANC-SACP-COSATU). Kwi revolution yaseFrance ka1789, abasebenzi banika isiseko sesininzi kumzabalazo ochasene nenkosi ezibuswa ngomhlaba, ekubeni ongxowankulu abatsha bezinkokheli ezizinzululwazi zalo mzabalazo. Abathile abamnyama bomgangatho ophakathi zinkokheli ngqo zeANC, nakuba isiseko sabo esiyinkitha yabasebenzi. Ngalo ndlela kwizihlo zozibini, inkqubo yomzabalazo yonqongophaliselwa ekubhekiseni phambili imfuno zongxowankulu.

Zingakwazi inkulelane zomgangatho ophakathi ukuzisa impumelelo yamabango olawulo lwentando yesininzi apheleleyo?

Ukungabi nako kwenkulelane ezingongxowankulu okanye abakumgangatho ophakathi ukuphumeza inkqubo yolawulo lwentando yesininzi kususela kwelishesha langoku lama impiyali esiphila kulo. Odlabodwa abakhulukazi nemizi egcina imali balohlulahlulile ihlabathi phakathi kwabo. Umlo womhlaba apha uthetha umlo ochasene nodlabodwa balapha nemizi egcina imali elawula indawo ezinkulu zomhlaba. Le mizi minye nodlabodwa ibhijelene nongxowankulu behlabathi bezimali. Umlo wamabango olawulo lwentando yesininzi uthetha umlo ochasene nongxowankulu, ababambe umhlaba nezinye izinto zokuvelisa (imizi egcina imali, imigodi, imizi-mveliso) ezandleni zabo. Kananjalo kuthetha umlo ochasene nongxowankulu bezimali behlabathi (imizi yehlabathi egcina imali nodlabodwa). Oku kuthetha ukuthi ongxowankulu nabakumgangatho ophakathi abayimisila emva kwabo abanakuwazalisekisa amabango agcweleyo olawulo lwentando yesininzi e revolution yoMzantsi Afrika



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njengokuba oko kuzakwenza imbambano nongxowankulu buqu kunye nama impiyali. Ukusombulula umbuzo womhlaba kungathetha ukuhlutha ongxowankulu abakhulu abanomhlaba, ababopheleleke inyawo nezandla kuma impiyali. Ongxowankulu nabakumgangatho ophakathi bazakusebenza njalo njengabachithi, izithintelo kwimpumelelo yamabango agcweleyo olawulo lwentando yesininzi. Indima yokuchasa ulawulo lwabasebenzi yale migangatho yayisele iqinisekisiwe nguLenin ngo 1905 xa wayebhala: *“ukuphumelela kwe riphablik yolawulo lwentando yesininzi, iyakuba sisiphelo esigqibeleleyo sobu revolutionary bongxowankulu, yaye kwanabakumgangatho ophakathi.”* Ngasekuxhalabeni kwabo ngendima yokuthengisa yabakumgangatho ophakathi nabalimi belizwe xa bebonke, uLenin noTrotsky babemanyene. Babexhalabile kukuthi xa bephumelele amabango abo (babe ngoongxowankulu yaye bafumane umhlaba), abazukuba namdla wokubhekisa phambili umzabalazo ngokubanzi wamabango abanzi olawulo lwentando yesininzi. Ngalo ndlela uLenin noTrotsky ngo 1917 babeth' ikhwelo kwiBolsheviks zingathabath' inxaxheba kurhulumente wethutyana (wolawulo lwentando yesininzi), bambhentsise yaye bandulule umzabalazo wokuthabatha ulawulo baqalise ulawulo lwabasebenzi njengendlela kuphela yokuphumeza amabango olawulo lwentando yesininzi omhlaba noxolo (kunye nenkqubo yolawulo lwentando yesininzi ngokubanzi).

Oko kukuthi umgangatho kuphela onokukhokela umzabalazo wamabango olawulo lwentando yesininzi ngabasebenzi abathabathe ulawulo. Oku kuchasene noluvo lweSACP ebeth' ikhwelo lokuqhubeka nolawulo lweANC (abamnyama abakumgangatho ophakathi) 'benze nzulu' ulawulo lwentando yesininzi. Kwa okwenzekileyo kanye, uzokuma ngo kunye nokususela ngo 1994, kubonise ukuba xa inkokheli zeANC sele ziphumelele kwizihlalo zazo zamalungelo awodwa, zima ngokuchaseneyo nokulangazelela kwenkitha yabantu. Ngenene, i-revolutionism yabo iphelile.

Inqakwana lesiphelo

Inkqubo esetyenziswayo yiSACP yiFreedom Charter. Kukunika umbuso kwiFreedom Charter enceda abathile abamnyama abakumgangatho ophakathi abakhokela iANC bathintele inkitha yabantu ekuphumeleleni amabango abo agcweleyo olawulo lwentando yesininzi. Oku kubonakaliswa kukuvanga amabango olawulo lwentando yenkitha yabantu, ngeRDP, Gear, Asgisa yaye ngoku ngesivumelwano kulonyulo esikhuthazwa zinkokheli zeSACP nezikaCOSATU. Akunje ngokuba inkokheli zeSACP nezikaCOSATU zifuna ukuba sikholelwe, ukuba i-ANC iyayityeshela iFreedom Charter. Into efunekayo asiyo Charter ebeka abasebenzi nongxowankulu kumgangatho 'olinganayo' yaye obeka abakumgangatho ophakathi ekukhokeleni umzabalazo kodwa leyo iqulathe inkqubo egcweleyo yolawulo lwentando yesininzi yaye engabeki ngokungacacanga ukufikelela kulawulo lwabasebenzi njengendlela kuphela yokuliphumelela (ngokoluvo lukaLenin njengokuba licaciswe ngokubanzi kwi *State and Revolution* sakhe). Ngokufutshane, indlela eya ekuphumeleleni amabango agcweleyo olawulo lwentando yesininzi ifumaneka kuphela



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ngokulawula ngokozwi lakhe ngabasebenzi; akukho mgangatho wumbi unenjongo zokulwela amabango olawulo lwentando yesininzi agcweleyo ngaphandle kwabasebenzi. IRevolution yaseFrance ngo 1789 yayikokokuqala nokokugqibela ukuba abakumgangatho ophakathi nongxowankulu banga, ngokweqondo elibalulekileyo, fezekisa amabango olawulo lwentando yesininzi lwenkitha yabantu. Ukuqala kwama impiyali ehlabathi kuthethe ukuba abakumgangatho ophakathi balapha nongxowankulu abanako ukufezekisa amabango olawulo lwentando yesininzi yaye inyani bama njengemiqobo echasene nawo.

Ngaphandle nje kwegama layo, ngoko, iFreedom Charter ime ngokuchaseneyo nomzabalazo weSocialism. Oku kungenxa yokuba iFreedom Charter yinkqubo yabathile abamnyama abakumgangatho ophakathi, ukuba bomkelwe njengamalungu abalingane balapha abangeneno bama impiyali. Ixesha kudala lilindelwe lokucela kwenkqubo entsha ye revolution yoMzantsi Afrika njengexalenye yomzabalazo wehlabathi ngokubanzi weSocialism. 5.08.08



WIVL is starting to unmask the Freedom Charter as a capitalist document



**COSATU AND SACP LEADERS BETRAY THE FIGHT
AGAINST HIGH FOOD PRICES!
EXPROPRIATE THE FOOD SECTOR AND
SHOPRITE, WOOLWORTHS, SPAR, PICK 'N PAY !**

We salute the hundreds of thousands of Cosatu members and supporters who turned out in force to protest against high food and electricity prices. Despite issuing leaflets saying that no union should settle below 15% for wage increases this year, there was no co-ordination by Cosatu leaders of workers across sectors to achieve this. Many unions settled for 10-12%, with the metalworkers union making an extreme sacrifice, of 10% in exchange for their 3 year agreement being extended to 4 years.

Food, electricity and transport went up by more than 30% (the electricity price was backdated to the date that Eskom asked for). Just to keep pace with inflation, workers wages should have increased by a minimum of 30% and should have been backdated to when the prices started to increase. The wage settlements means that in real terms the working class is suffering greater starvation this year. Meanwhile the Governor of the Reserve Bank, one of the chief agents of imperialism in South Africa, Tito Mboweni, was awarded a 28% salary increase. Not a word of protest was raised by the ANC-SACP-Cosatu alliance that is supposedly driving transformation. Mboweni is one of the main proponents that wages should be kept within the 3-6% band, saying that unionized workers are an elite, are selfish, etc etc. He was rewarded by imperialism for a job well done, namely promoting lower wages for the working class, and higher profits for the capitalist class. This anti-worker agent is set to retain his post under a Zuma-led regime. In recent months, Zuma, Blade Nzimande and Vavi were touring the imperialist centres to re-assure imperialist bankers that 'nothing will change' under a Zuma-led regime. In other words, super-exploitation of the working class will continue. Blade and Vavi walked through the 'Open doors' of imperialism to reassure them that imperialist control will not be threatened.

While Cosatu leaders acknowledge that the fight for zero-rating more basic foodstuffs is only an aspect of the fight against high food prices, they have directed the fight towards economic policy 'reform'. Firstly, while zero-rating of food provides some relief, it turns the focus away from the capitalists who have artificially raised the price of food on a scale never before seen in history. It supports the notion that because food prices are high globally, therefore nothing can be done about this. In other words, if the international agencies and banks set high prices, there is nothing we can do about it except perhaps tax them locally a bit more. In the meantime the working class will not be able to afford the high prices and will die of hunger in greater numbers as is happening now. Further, in the light of the ANC withdrawing the 'expropriation bill', it means that the commanding heights of the economy will remain in the hands of the major imperialist monopolies and banks. The call for a state-owned food enterprise for maize, bread, milk, and some vegetables, is thus a non-starter- it cannot even get off the ground as the bulk of the arable land is in the hands of the imperialist monopolies. The Cosatu leaders call for engagement on monetary policy and agrarian reform as the main means for fighting high food prices, diverts the struggle away from the food monopolies and imperialist



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banks. How can a change in monetary policy force the monopolies to lower food prices? High food prices are a result of the bulk of the land and food processing being in the hands of international monopolies and banks. Already Monsanto, the US food giant, controls 500 000 hectares of maize production in South Africa through their control of the sale of genetically modified seeds. Anglo American, through Tongaat Hulett controls a sizeable portion of the local maize production. Monsanto and Anglo American are indirectly controlled by US banks such as JP Morgan Chase. The crisis of the international banks causes them to force up food prices to make up for lost or reduced profits. Monopolies such as Tiger Brands, which has been proven to have artificially inflated the price of bread since at least 1994, is also mostly owned by giant US banks JP Morgan Chase, SSB, etc. The Cosatu and SACP leaders submit to the ANC, who will not take any steps to force the reduction of food prices.

Cosatu leaders were at pains to stress (see Cosatu statements of 1.08.08 and 4.08.08) that the 6th August general strike was about the high electricity price and not a 'protest against food prices'. The Cosatu leaders are diverting workers hopes to a Zuma presidency for lower food prices and other demands. This is false hope, given the reassurances already given to imperialism that 'nothing will change'. The support by the Cosatu leaders for a government committee on food prices that will deliver a report within 6 months is nothing else but postponing the fight on high food prices to be part of an ANC-Zuma election campaign. If the ANC, SACP and Cosatu leaders have assured international banks that 'nothing will change', how will it be possible to lower food prices? The international banks warned the ANC during the recent Mbeki-Zuma infighting, not to drastically increase social spending. This is because the capitalists need a climate where the working class is hungry and more willing to accept lower wages and higher food prices. If the working class are more well-fed then they would be less likely to accept lower wages. The state of hunger is directly related to the levels of profits the capitalists make. The Cosatu and SACP leaders do the big capitalists a favour by postponing the fight against high food prices. Meanwhile, the working class continues to starve and big capital continues to massively profit from artificially high food prices. This mass starvation alongside capitalist profiteering will continue under any ANC presidency.

The way forward

Working class unity needs to be built in the fight against high food prices; this means building anti-high price committees across union barriers, uniting the employed and unemployed, uniting with the social movements; building such committees in industrial areas and in working class communities.

We propose a Workers Summit against high food prices. We propose that committees give ultimatums to the food and retail giants to reduce the price of basic food by half. This should be supported by pickets, and mass action until the demands are met.

EXPROPRIATE THE FOOD SECTOR, PICK 'N PAY, WOOLWORTHS, SHOPRITE, SPAR, AND PLACE THEM UNDER WORKING CLASS CONTROL! REDUCE THE WORKING DAY TO CREATE WORK FOR ALL UNEMPLOYED! SUPPORT THE STRUGGLES OF WORKERS FOR BASIC UNION RIGHTS AT WOOLWORTHS AND OTHER FOOD AND RETAIL COMPANIES! THE TIME HAS COME TO RECALL UNION LEADERS WHO DO NOT ADVANCE WORKING CLASS INTERESTS!



WORKERS INTERNATIONAL VANGUARD LEAGUE

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25 October 2008

To the CEO

Shoprite/Pick 'n Pay/

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: **Ultimatum to reduce food prices by 50%**

It is with shock and anger that we realise that your company has been part responsible for raising the price of food over the past 2 years and more, for the sake of profiteering. This has directly added to the growing starvation of the masses. In this period the rise in food prices has been linked to speculation and has no basis of real increase in input costs. There is a massive surplus of food world wide; subsidies in the US and the EU have been used to pay farmers not to produce and thus creating an artificial scarcity. Monopolies now control the bulk of the arable land in the world which creates the basis for speculation and super-profitteering from food. Trillions of dollars worldwide are being used to bail out the imperialist banks but there is no plan to feed the hungry. Your company has directly and indirectly benefited from speculation on food prices; we know that each of your companies is linked to international banks such as SSB, State Street, Bank of New York, JP Morgan Chase, Deutsche bank, Barclays, etc.

- ❖ Food prices were too high even before speculation massively exploded on the world
- ❖ Companies like Tiger Brands have artificially raised food prices since 1994 and possibly even before this. Yet these artificial hikes have not been reversed
- ❖ Your company acted as a conveyor belt of high prices and even raised prices further



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- ❖ The price of wheat has fallen by 40% since the beginning of the year, yet the price of bread has gone up over the period
- ❖ The world food commodity prices such as maize and milk have fallen since the beginning of the year, yet the consumer prices have not fallen
- ❖ The smaller traders are being squeezed out of existence due to the massive discounts given to bulk buyers. These bulk discounts do not translate into lower prices to the scale needed by the working class
- ❖ The constitutional right to food and water is being made subject to your profiteering
- ❖ In effect the international banks are being propped up by profits made by high food prices, irrespective of plunging hundreds of millions more people into starvation.

In the light of the above we demand:

1. An immediate cut in basic food prices by 50%
2. And end to casualization; more workers to be employed; workers right to be unionised should be respected
3. Free food for the unemployed, pensioners and low-wage workers

Should these demands not be met by the 31st October 2008 we will embark on a national and international mass action campaign, including, marches, pickets, protests, consumer boycotts, direct action campaigns, starting in November and ending when the above have been achieved.

If the banks could be nationalised to save them, why should the food sector not be expropriated and placed under workers control to save the hungry masses. The right to food and water should not be subject to profiteering.

Yours sincerely

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The Democratic Alliance (DA) is a danger to the working class

Introduction

The capitalists constantly remind themselves of the 'miracle' of the 1994 transition that aborted the revolution and imposed bourgeois democracy on the working class. From the working class point of view the tragedy is the absence of a revolutionary working class party to represent the interests of the urban and rural working class. All parties in parliament serve the interests of the propertied classes. They differ only on how best to serve the interests of their capitalist masters. To maintain political equilibrium each parliamentary party claims that if they were put into political power they would effectively deal with the horrendous economic and social problems (crime, housing, unemployment, etc), affecting the vast majority of the working class. The world capitalist economy is in a deep and serious crisis. There are millions more unemployed, there are millions more in starvation. We expose, below, the myth of the DA's plans to 'assist' the working class under these hard times.

The principles of the DA

One of their main principles is *'the right of all people to private ownership and to participate freely in the market economy'*. In other words, the DA says we should all aspire to become capitalists. But the current structure of the SA economy is such that 5 monopolies own and control most of the wealth, including the land, the banks, the mines, the factories, the bigger shops. These monopolies are Anglo American, Liberty Life, Old Mutual, Sanlam and Rembrandt. The DA opposes expropriation and nationalisation under workers' control. Thus it is impossible for the over 40 million people in South Africa to become owners of the means of production, ie to have private ownership (of the places of work). There are a handful of junior BEE capitalists- they have no independent existence as they received their 'start-up' capital from the same 5 monopolies, who still pull the strings. A few hundred thousand occupy managerial positions and high positions in the state but the vast majority have only their labour power that they are forced to sell to the big 5 capitalist monopolies, in order to survive. Behind the *'right of all to private ownership'* the DA hides their support for the monopoly capitalists. For the millions of the unemployed and low-waged workers the DA says that they are participating *'freely in the market economy'*. How can this be *'free'* participation? If you do not have work then you die of starvation. In fact if too many people become self-sufficient, who would go and work for the monopoly capitalists? Thus the capitalist class, with the assistance of their state will always ensure that as many as possible of the masses are kept in desperation, keeping wages at a minimum, and always maintaining a huge enough pool of the unemployed.

The DA's Anti-crime plan

They have outlined 5 points for their *'criminal justice plan'*: 1. Deploying 60 000 more police officers; 2. Five hundred more prosecutors; 3. Putting prisoners to work to earn their keep; 4. Using the latest technology to fight crime; and 5. establishing a directorate for victims of crime.

Nowhere in the DA plan is there a single attempt to deal with the root cause of the hunger, desperation and social decay, namely to deal with unemployment, high prices



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and low wages. Instead they are dealing with symptoms of social decay that is now spreading from working class areas to the middle class areas and to the industrial areas. At the same time the DA is preparing the repressive arms of the state to deal with a workers' uprising, ie they are preparing to protect and serve their capitalist masters by crushing the political resistance of the masses. For the unemployed worker who steals some cheese from Woolworths or Pick 'n Pay there will now be more police to deal with him and he will be more speedily tried and sent to jail. The state will increase their level of spying on the working class under the excuse of 'crime-fighting'. Instead of pushing greater job creation the DA now calls for the re-introduction of slavery under the guise of prisoners working for free for monopoly capital- such is their dedication to help increase capitalist profits. In general the level of protection of the capitalist class and their 'assets' will be increased. The increased number of police will not mean a greater crackdown on gangsterism. Those who have taken action against gangsters in the past have been arrested, while the gangsters continue to roam free. In fact the capitalist class needs the gangsters to continue to destabilise working class organization so that the opposition to capital is weakened. A directorate of victims of crime will not prevent crime against workers but merely offer counselling afterwards, ie trying to make workers come to terms with the fact that they have nothing and always will have nothing while the capitalist class will always control their lives. This is a sop to workers to try and make the plan seem 'friendly'.

Millions are unemployed, homeless, earn low wages and live in overcrowded conditions. The DA plan will keep the working class in chains. The Democratic Alliance and the Independent Democrats are in control of the City of Cape Town Metropolitan municipality. Their track record is worse than the ANC. They have argued in the case of the people of Zillerraine Heights, for banning orders in the High Court, evicting people from the entire Metro region, except the dumping ground, Happy Valley. They have supported the banning of the leadership of the Anti-Eviction Campaign in Delft from organising and regulating themselves. (Two of the leaders of the Delft pavement dwellers, Jerome Daniels and Riedwaan Isaacs, were jailed because the courts wanted to teach the Anti-Eviction Campaign a lesson- they have been recently released on strict parole conditions banning them from any AEC activity). The DA and ID have even gone to the extent of spending R600 000 to have the Red Ants on a 24-hour standby to demolish homes and evict people.

While the DA and the ID claim to be against the corruption in the arms deal scandal, they, through the City of Cape Town, co-hosted an Arms Fair at the Ysterplaat Military base, recently, where the same arms companies that participated in the corrupt Arms deal, were also stall holders who were displaying their weapons for sale.

The way forward

The working class needs to strengthen existing progressive social movements and also set up their own committees to direct their struggles, uniting employed and unemployed workers. The working class needs to ensure control over the unions and social movements. The right of instant recall should be an important part of the working class movement. Working class independence from the capitalist class and the state must be strived for. We need to revive the fighting spirit of the 1980's, this time to establish working class power, the only means to achieve workers' democratic demands such as jobs, housing and health care. Forward with Socialist revolution! Bury the DA!



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Your new Tata (or new car) may be killing you

The essence of this article had been submitted to a number of mainstream newspapers, who although initially expressed interest in the issue, just never thought it worth publishing. One of the newspapers, after receiving the article asked their environmental reporter to write about how the motor car manufacturers are supposedly at the forefront of the battle for reduced Sulphur content in fuel (<http://www.motoring.co.za/index.php?fSectionId=753&fArticleId=4601786>). This supposed progressive role of the motor manufacturers is contradicted by reality. George Monbiot, for example, writes extensively how the motor manufacturers together with the oil barons have continually stymied developments of solar-powered cars as well as the development of power from renewable energy sources.

There is growing anecdotal evidence in South Africa that emissions from catalytic converters is associated with respiratory disease such as asthma. Despite significant increase in deaths from asthma in recent years, institutions such as the University of Cape Town, UCT, claim they do not have the resources to research the area of the link between Platinum group metal particles and hydrogen sulphide emissions from catalytic converters, and respiratory disease. With their lung institute being named after a capitalist pharmaceutical giant, Boehringer Ingelheim, this is not surprising. Given Anglo American's huge funding of UCT and their huge interests in Platinum mining, this is also not surprising. (The biggest use of Platinum internationally is for catalytic converters). Given the massive problems that the motor industry is facing, the publication of the article would negatively impact on already greatly reduced sales. The vested interests of monopoly dictate that silence on the matter is the best solution, even if many people may have their health affected by toxic emissions from their products, after all, the bottom line of profits are more important than the health of mere people.

When motor companies like Tata are confronted by angry customers complaining over the bad smell from the exhaust fumes they 'sympathise' but claim their vehicles comply with SABS and Euro standards.

The problem with the Euro 2 standard (accepted by the SABS) is that it does not measure Sulphur or Platinum particle emissions. The Euro 2 standard measures levels of hydrocarbons, Carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions.

There is a growing body of evidence that emissions of particles of Platinum group metals (used in catalytic converters in all new cars for the past 5 years in South Africa), is associated with breaking down of Vitamin C and NADH (an essential nucleotide), necessary for the normal functioning of the body. The emissions of Platinum group metal particles from catalytic converters are thus directly associated with undermining the immune system. Such for example, are the findings of Claudio Botre and Alessandro Alimonti, Italian scientists. The University of Notre Dame has also found evidence linking an increase in allergies and asthma with emissions of Platinum Group metal particle from catalytic converters introduced in the US 32 years ago.

As if this was not bad enough, the use of Platinum group metals in catalytic converters cause a toxic by-product, Hydrogen Sulphide. This H₂S compound may be detected by the acute smell of rotten eggs or onions associated with the exhaust fumes from the



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Tata or any new vehicle. The Tata salespeople admit that the Tata does have a worse smell than other new vehicles, although they all have it. A recent study of Dr Sheldon Roth and Verona Goodwin into the health effects of Hydrogen Sulphide confirm that its impact include disruption of mucosal layers, undermining immunity, retarding tissue repair capability, increased cough and nasal symptoms, upper respiratory tract infections, persistent cough, persistent phlegm, wheezing, reduced pulmonary function, impaired enzymatic systems. Animal studies reveal sensory neuron loss and impaired ability to learn and relearn. They even raise the pertinent question as to whether Hydrogen Sulphide could be regarded as a cumulative poison. In other words, apparently small doses, over time, could add up and have a deleterious effect. Indeed they make the strong case that indeed it is a strong contender for being classified as such. Hydrogen Sulphide bonds with the metals that exist within the body's enzyme sites, impairing they ability to function. Some of the bonds formed by Hydrogen Sulphide are not reversible. This means that over time the normal functioning of the body could be compromised. This also begs the question as to whether there is a safe level of these Sulphide emissions. The World Health Organization puts a guideline of exposure of 5 parts per billion over 30 minutes. Nobody has bothered to check the level of exposure of motorists and pedestrians to Hydrogen Sulphide. Mazda claims to be leading the way to move away from Platinum group metal catalytic converters but no-one has yet come up with converters that have zero-Platinum and zero-Hydrogen Sulphide emissions.

The deleterious effects of Hydrogen Sulphide have been known for decades (at least since 1923). It raises the question of the role of the monopolies in controlling research, how a multi-billion dollar industry (Platinum-based catalytic converters and related mining) can arise on the full knowledge that its products are harmful to human health. Such is the barbarism of modern capitalism. The concerns raised by Green Left Weekly in their 1995 article on toxic by-products of oil, are vindicated.

In the light of the recent increase in the number of deaths from respiratory disease, Workers International Vanguard League demands that adequate funds be made available on an international basis to research the effects of the emissions from catalytic converters. This could be funded through increased taxes on Platinum mining companies as well as on all the motor manufacturers.

Some references are given below:

Health effects of Hydrogen Sulphide: Knowledge gaps

<http://environment.gov.ab.ca/info/library/6708.pdf>

'Clean' car exhausts that emit toxic gases.

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article1658158.ece>

Study finds Catalyst Metal Emissions Substantial, Allergy, Asthma link seen - platinum and palladium emissions :Diesel Fuel News

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0CYH/is_1_6/ai_82006248

28.03.2007, Ecology, The Environment and Conservation

The trouble with cat converters

http://www.innovations-report.com/html/reports/environment_sciences/report-81709.html

Dial 10 111 for murder?

The Government, the capitalist media and Business Against Crime all make a fuss of crime and encourage people to make use of the call centre no 10 111 to report incidents. A closer look at the functioning of the 10 111 call centres reveals the reality of the role of the police.

If there is a break-in or incident at a big business, the police respond to calls rapidly. When people call in from working class communities, it is a different matter. Often, hours go by before police respond. Sometimes a police van would just stop an address where an incident was reported, hoot once and then drive off. They would of course record it as their having responded to a call. 10 111 call centre operators face angry community members who sometimes call in to say, 'Please don't bother to send anyone, the person who called you hours ago has already died!'. Or when a little girl in a working class area has been raped and the family calls back after 4 hours to say the police have not yet arrived.

In this context of the police actually serving big capital and not the working class, the conditions of the operators at the 10 111 call centre comes into sharp focus. The Sunday Times (27.04.08) reported rampant racism still existing at this call centre. A police superintendent, Kheswa, was subjected to racism and psychological trauma by her superior Phumzo Gela, through statements like 'You must go to church and pray that God makes you white' – claiming that only the white officers are doing their job, and that Kheswa was not doing enough to address absenteeism among the call centre staff. Gela has since moved on but the conditions in the call centre remain the same.

These include:

1. The call centre staff are driven to work, often having to spend hours at the back of a claustrophobic, police van; Even if the operator is pregnant, she still has to sit in the cold at the back of the van;
2. The staff are not police force members but are clerical workers. The police ministry and the public workers ministry both dispute that they are they ones to take responsibility for the call centres, thus there is no avenue for operators to lodge their grievances;
3. Call centre staff sit on lop-sided chairs- some have even brought their own chairs from home;
4. They do not receive trauma counselling- often they receive calls as attacks on people are occurring and callers describe in detail what is happening to them;
5. They often have to work double shifts of 16hours and shifts that are so close to each other that their family life and rest period is undermined. Thus an operator may work from 22h00 to 0600am. After spending hours



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- travelling home, they would only be able to rest for 2 hours as they would have to wait to be picked up, spending hours on the road again and then start the next shift of 14h00, the same day that they finished off shift;
6. Simple conditions like being forced to produce a sick certificate if they are off sick for one day, and unilateral deductions of wages, are forced on them;
 7. There are discrepancies in wage levels; their meal breaks are 2 x 20 minutes instead of 2 x 30 minutes or 1 full hour;
 8. Understaffing is such a major problem that sometimes the number of calls waiting to be answered, goes up to 300;
 9. Basic hygienic conditions are non-existent- sometimes staff have to queue for the single toilet roll;
 10. The computers are outdated and are slow, making the rate at which data is captured to be undermined;
 11. If an operator is sick, the police send someone to their homes to check and see if they are really sick (but from calls from the community they have a different approach);

The 2010 committee has been to visit the call centre and found it 'ready' to handle response to the expected calls from tourists.

The question to be asked: Are the conditions in the 10111 call centres just bad planning or is it a structural, design problem. The way to police treat the working class is consistent with the terrible conditions that the 10111 call centre staff face. The 10111 staff have over and over again raised their demands with the police 'unions', to no avail. Popcru, a police union, is a full affiliate of Cosatu, yet such atrocious conditions at the 10111 call centres are allowed to continue. The capitalist class benefits from the 10111 call centre being dysfunctional, as they need the working class to be continually destabilised so that the resistance against the capitalist system is weakened. A fully functional 10111 call centre would expose the real role of the police, as the agents and protectors of big capital and not of the working class. The 2010 committee gives the 10111 call centre the thumbs up because they examine it from the perspective of its role to assist in the defence of the rich, middle class tourists- they have no interest in what happens to the working class. Will the Cosatu leaders act to defend the 10111 staff??

The next time you call 10111 bear in mind the true role of the police and why the call centre staff are also themselves in need of help.

EXPROPRIATE SHOPRITE, WOOLWORTHS, SPAR, PICK 'N PAY ! DOWN WITH XENOPHOBIA!

We call on the working class to defend the Somali Traders and workers from the xenophobic threats by the Zankhanyo Retailers Association. Although the threats appear to have been changed it is still necessary to highlight certain important points:

THE BIG CAPITALISTS ARE THE MAIN CAUSE OF HIGH PRICES

We need to unite against the main enemy, the capitalist class. The big capitalist companies like Tiger Brands, Parmalat, Dairybelle, Pick 'n Pay, Spar, Shoprite and Woolworths, are responsible for massively high food prices, for pushing us all into starvation. There is proof that bread and milk prices were unfairly raised since at least 1994, yet the big retailers have done nothing, except pass on these high prices to us. These same companies have spread across Africa, where they are also profiteering from the hunger of our fellow brothers and sisters.

The only reason that the Somali trader is able to compete with Shoprite, Spar, Pick 'n Pay and Woolworths is that these big retailers are massively inflating their prices and are used to making huge profits from food. Why else have the Somali shops spread so quickly? (the Somali trader is prepared to operate with only a small mark up). Now even the big, food suppliers are starting to clamp down on the discount for bulk buying that the Somali traders are using. Many of the Nafcoc members and traders in Khayelitsha are ANC members. The Freedom Charter has promised them a place in the sun for profiteering. The problem is that the Freedom Charter also promises the bosses of the big companies, like Shoprite that they can also profiteer.

WE NEED TO UNITE AGAINST THE BIG RETAILERS

The very existence of Shoprite and Pick 'n Pay means that the small trader will get squeezed out and will be pushed into starvation. The Zankhanyo traders threaten the Somali trader but do nothing about the main culprits, Shoprite and the other big retailers. A destruction of the Somali traders will not benefit the members of Zankhanyo as many of them will **still** be starving; all that will happen will be that more of the working class will go to buy from Shoprite and other big retailers. Whether they realize it or not the only ones to gain from attacks against the Somali traders will be the big retailers. **What the Zankhanyo retailers should do, is work together with the Somali Association, with all the experience and connections that they have, to buy in bulk and to pass on the benefits of low prices on to their customers (the working class). This would help to force the big retailers to reduce their food prices.**

WE MUST SUPPORT THE STRUGGLES OF THE WORKING CLASS

The Zankhanyo and Somali Associations should support the struggles of the working class against high prices and against exploitation of retail workers:
A demand and ultimatum should be directed to Shoprite, Woolworths, Spar and Pick 'n Pay to immediately reduce the prices of bread, milk, maize and other basic foodstuff by half. Expropriate the food sector, including the big retailers and place them under workers control! Support the struggles of the retail workers against casualization, low wages and lack of union rights!

**DEFEND THE SOMALI TRADER AND WORKER! DOWN WITH HIGH PRICES!
SUPPORT THE RETAIL WORKERS STRUGGLES! DOWN WITH XENOPHOBIA!
Workers International Vanguard League, Action Forum Against High prices,
Frontline Africa**



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**HLUTHA USHOPRITE, WOOLWORTHS, SPAR, PICK 'N PAY!
PHANTSI NGE XENOPHOBIA!** (Uloyiko olungenasizathu sivakalayo
sokudibana nabantu basemzini)

Sibeth' ikhwelo kubasebenzi bakhusele abarhwebi abangamaSomali kwintsongelo ye xenophobia yeZanokhanyo Retailers Association. Simele simanyane ngokuchasene notshaba oluyintloko, oongxowankulu. Iinkampani ezinkulu zongxowankulu ezinjengo Tiger Brands, Parmalat, Dairybelle, Pick 'n Pay, Spar, Shoprite noWoolworths, banobutyala ngokunyuka kakhulu kwamaxabiso okutya, ngokusityhalela sonke endlaleni. Kukho ubungqina bokuba amaxabiso esonka nobisi enyuswa ngokungalunganga kususela ubuncinane ngo 1994, kude kube ngoku abathengisi abakhulu akhonto bayenzileyo, ngaphandle kokugqithisela lamaxabiso aphezulu kuthi. Ezinkampani zinye zinwenwele kwiAfrika yonke, apho kananjalo zizuza iingeniso ezinkulu ngokulamba kwabantakwethu nodadebethu.

Isizathu kuphela sokuba abarhwebi abangamaSomali bakwazi ukukhuphisana noShoprite, Spar, Pick 'n Pay kunye noWoolworths sesokuba ababarhwebi bakhulu banyusa kakhulu amaxabiso abo yaye sele beqhelile ukwenza iingeniso ezinkulu ekutyeni. Yintoni engenye eyenze ivenkile zamaSomali zinwenwe ngokukhawuleza kangaka? (Umrhwebi ongumSomali ukulungele ukuqhuba kuphela ngamaxabiso anyuke kancinci). Ngoku kwa abathengisi be stokhwe sokutya abakhulu baqalisa ukucinezela kwisaphulelo ngokuthenga ngesambuku eso abarhwebi abangamaSomali basisebenzisayo.

Isininzi samalungu eNafcoc kunye nabarhwebi eKhayelitsha ngamalungu eANC. IFreedom Charter iwathembise ukuxhamla ngokwenza iingeniso ezinkulu. Ingxaki yile iFreedom Charter kananjalo ithembise abaqashi benkampani ezinkulu, ezinjengo Shoprite ukuba nazo kananjalo zingaxhamla iingeniso. Kwa ukubakho kukaShoprite noPick 'n Pay kuthetha ukuba umrhwebi omncinci uzakucinezelwa yaye bazakutyhalelwa endlaleni. Abarhwebi bakaZanokhanyo basongele abarhwebi abangamaSomali kodwa abenzanga nto ngaboni abazintloko, uShoprite kunye nabanye abarhwebi abakhulu. Ukutshabalaliswa kwabarhwebi abangamaSomali akuzukuwanceda nto amalungu kaZanokhanyo njengokuba isininzi sawo sizakuqhubeka sityiwa yindlala; kuphela okuzakwenzeka yinto yokuba isininzi sabasebenzi bazakuya kuthenga kwaShoprite nakwabanye abarhwebi abakhulu. Nokuba bayayiqonda lo nto okanye hayi abazakuzuza kuphela kuhlaselo lwabarhwebi abangamaSomali ngosomashishini abakhulu. Ngeminyaka yo 1980 i-IFP yayisetyenziswa njengesixhobo songxowankulu abakhulu ixhase uhlaselo lwabasebenzi ababesilwa ubungxowankulu, ngoku uZanokhanyo usebenza njengesixhobo (bevuma okanye bengavumi) sikaShoprite kunye nabanye atshabalalise abaphikisi babo.



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Ibango kunye nesisongelo sokugqibela kufanele sijoliswe kuShoprite, Woolworths, Spar nakuPick 'n Pay banciphise kamsinya isonka, ubisi, umngqusho kunye nezinye izinto ezityiwayo ngesiqingatha. Hlutha icandelo lokutya, ukuquka abarhwebi abakhulu yaye babekwe phantsi kolawulo lwabasebenzi! Khusela abarhwebi abangamaSomali. Phantsi nge Xenophobia! Xhasa imizabalazo yabasebenzi kwaShoprite, njalo njalo elwa nokungxungxiswa, imivuzo ephantsi nokungabikho kwamalungelo emanyano zabasebenzi!

AntiWar Coalition statement on Oct 2008 visit of US warship to South Africa

The AntiWar Coalition and Earthlife Africa calls for mass protest against the presence of the US Weapons of mass destruction (USS Theodore Roosevelt) that has been invited by the SA government to dock in Table bay harbour. There has been a deliberate mis-information campaign by the authorities to destabilize demonstrations against the warship by releasing of different dates of arrival. The NNR puts the date at Friday 3rd October, while the Navy puts it at Sat 4th October, the SABC reports that the ship will only dock on Monday 6th October.

We are calling for a mass demonstration against the warship for Sat 4th October at 10am at the Cape Town harbour. Protestors are encouraged to bring their own slogans and posters. Should we receive news of an earlier arrival we will send out a further notice.

It should be remembered that the mass killing of innocent people in Afghanistan and Iraq was carried out by the pilots and soldiers on this ship. Although there are many atrocities that were carried out by this band of thugs, one that comes to mind was the bombing of a wedding celebration in Afghanistan, launched from this ship. For mass murder in Afghanistan this ship and its crew were awarded medals by the US government.

We call for Cosatu and its transport and military affiliates to block any servicing or provisioning of this ship.

We call for the working class to confront any crew from this ship should they attempt to land.

We condemn the SA government for honouring and giving legitimacy to this group of armed imperialist bandits. How ironic that this government is paving the way for an armed assault on the people of Iran and the working class across the globe, the minister of defence also being a member of the SACP. The silence of the SACP on this matter shows that the real role of the SACP is to be the policemen for world imperialism.

AntiWar Coalition rejects claims of commanders of US warship

The Anti-War Coalition rejects the Commanding officer of the USS Theodore Roosevelt's claims that they are here to counter piracy, illegal fishing and drug smuggling:

1. The illegal and predatory invasion of Iraq in 2003 was nothing else but oil piracy of the worst order. This piracy is confirmed by the recent multi-billion dollar oil contracts awarded by the puppet Iraq regime to Exxon Mobil, Shell, BP and Chevron;
2. The worst culprits of depleting the world's fish resources are the fish monopolies; they are responsible for over-fishing and exploiting workers as well; in the name of acting against 'illegal fishing' the might of the military is being put against the survivalist fisher, whose catch is negligible compared to the damage the monopolies are causing;
3. It has been well documented that the CIA has long been involved in drug smuggling, the proceeds of which they use for their nefarious and dubious activities.

The true aim of the trip is now exposed: it is a public relations exercise to start a new phase of open US imperialist -SA military co-operation. This shows not the strength of US imperialism but its weakness. Revealed now is the status of the SA government as a puppet of imperialism. This is the start of a new phase of open military colonization of the African continent.

We have also seen that a number of the soldiers on the US warship are from Chile. How short their memories are! Back in 1973, it was US imperialism that overthrew the democratically elected Allende regime and the bloody era of dictator Pinochet started.

We call for the soldiers to refuse orders from their commanders, for them to join the antiwar movement and to turn their power against the US imperialist regime which bails out the profits of the greedy banks but dumps the American worker on to the street, with less health care and greater suffering.

We will continue to picket every day at 11am at the Waterfront (opposite Waltons at the traffic intersection) until the warships of imperialist plunder leave.



Demonstration at Arms Fair at Ysterplaat military base



Workers International Vanguard League

Zulu) i-Internationale

n'zigqila zezwe lonke
Vukan'ejokwen'lobugqili
Sizokwakh'umhlaba kabusha
Siqed'indlala nobumpofu.

Iamasik'okusibopha
Asilwise yonk'incindezelo
Manj'umhlab'unesakhiw'esisha
Asisodwa Kulomkhankaso

Maqaban'wozan'sihlanganeni
Sibhekene nempi yamanqamu
I-Internationale
Ibumb'uluntu lonke

The Internationale

Words by Eugene Pottier (Paris 1871)

Music by Pierre Degeyter (1888)

Arise ye workers from your slumbers
Arise ye prisoners of want
For reason in revolt now thunders
And at last ends the age of cant.
Away with all your superstitions
Servile masses arise, arise
We'll change henceforth the old tradition
And spurn the dust to win the prize.

So comrades, come rally
And the last fight let us face
The Internationale unites the human race.
So comrades, come rally
And the last fight let us face
The Internationale unites the human race.

No more deluded by reaction
On tyrants only we'll make war
The soldiers too will take strike action
They'll break ranks and fight no more
And if those cannibals keep trying
To sacrifice us to their pride



Workers International Vanguard League

They soon shall hear the bullets flying
We'll shoot the generals on our own side.

No saviour from on high delivers
No faith have we in prince or peer
Our own right hand the chains must shiver
Chains of hatred, greed and fear
E'er the thieves will out with their booty
And give to all a happier lot.
Each at the forge must do their duty
And we'll strike while the iron is hot.

The Internationale was written to celebrate the Paris Commune of March-May 1871: the first time workers took state power into their own hands. They established in the Commune a form of government more democratic than ever seen before. Representatives were mandated on policy questions by their electors, they were recallable at any time and were paid wages that reflected those of their constituents. The Commune was a working body, not a talk shop. The distinction between legislative and executive arms of government was abolished. Marx's [*Civil War in France*](#) is a superb account of the history and significance of the Commune. The Commune was drowned in blood by the conservative French government in Versailles, cheered on by the ruling classes of the world.

Workers have adopted a similar pattern of organisation whenever they have challenged the capitalist class for state power: in the form of the Soviets in Russia in 1917; collectives in Spain in 1937; the Workers Council of Greater Budapest in Hungary in 1956; the cordones in Chile in 1973; and, in many struggles throughout the world. The internationale is the battle-cry of the international working class in our struggle for Socialism.



WIVL mass meeting in October 2008 in rural town of Cofimvaba