

Address To The Popcru National Executive Committee

09 FEBRUARY 2013

PROTEA HOTEL, EAST LONDON



Chairperson of the NEC

National Office Bearers of POPCRU

Members of the National Executive Committee of POPCRU

Comrades, welcome to the first sitting of the POPCRU National Executive Committee in 2014. We meet after several developments in both the country and the international community. As an organization we are not immune to events which happen elsewhere as we also exist in an environment that relies on many external factors to thrive. As we gather here today I am certain that somewhere else forces of darkness are also conniving to throw us off our course. It is for this reason that we should never sit on our laurels and relax. We should strive to be better than we are today and continue to fight for what we believe should be the reality in our country, the alliance, the federation and here in the union.

The year 2014 is very significant on several fronts. It is the first time that we will have to continue the struggle for equal rights and total emancipation without our founding father, Tata Nelson Mandela. 2014 is also an election year. The African National Congress will this year reclaim power with a two-thirds majority, but this will not happen automatically. The organization is part of other unions in the federation which is driving a powerful war-room in order to mobilise and campaign for the ANC. We, as individual leaders

have also committed to support initiatives that are aimed at securing a massive win for the ANC.

We have witnessed in the past few weeks, something that one can safely call a soapie as the DA and Agang merged and a couple of days later declared their divorce. It is not the merger or the divorce that concerns us, but the revelations that followed. The involvement of CIA sponsored foreign funders in the merger suggests to us that we are at war and we should never take anything for granted. The enemies of the revolution, Comrades are not these opposition parties only but it is those faceless people who operate through them.

We should as a progressive organization mobilize our members and communities, and make them aware of what is at stake if we do not go an extra mile to galvanize support for the ruling party. It is without doubt that those who failed to infiltrate our country will keep trying to overthrow the party of the people. Their primary aim is to take control of as many countries as possible so that they can keep claiming to be some sort of a super-power to the rest of the world while they enrich themselves with our resources. They have failed in Syria where they were hoping that by causing total chaos, they can attack the government under the guise of bringing peace to the people. We should not view this in isolation and think that it only happens far away from us. It can happen here, if we lose focus. The enemy is relentless; this means our struggle should be even more powerful.

The federation, COSATU is under attack. We have as POPCRU promised our members and workers in general that we will protect the unity of the

federation at all cost. We have spoken at length about NUMSA's intentions to destroy the federation. They have drawn the battle lines in the public arena and attacked all of us in the process.

NUMSA and other unions under its rule have deviated from everything that we stand for. I therefore believe it is time for the federation to take decisive action against these detractors as we cannot successfully build a house while others among us are hell-bent on destroying every brick we lay. These comrades have declared war with just everyone in the alliance and went against decisions and resolutions of the federation. They have detached themselves from the collective and should therefore be treated as such.

Moving onto our sectors Comrade Chairperson, we are very proud of the progress made in the South African Police Service with regard to the Public Service Act Appointees. The implementation of the Upgrades directive from the DPSA has however not covered all categories of employees. Discussions are still underway with the hope of finding an amicable solution to the issues. We are pleased however that many of our members who took to the streets with us in August last year have received their upgrades.

We have also managed to reach an agreement with the employer over the Constable upgrades. In light of this and other achievements we are embarking on a process of developing a new salary structure that will accommodate all employees from the constable level to Level 12 where Kernels are placed. The employer has endorsed this process which will assist us in ensuring that everyone is catered for in the correct notches. Comrades; at the Department of Correctional Services, the pending legal

case over the 2nd phase of the OSD has halted much of the work that we had envisaged would be over by now. In Traffic, we are hoping that the Task Team that had been set up towards the end of 2013 will get into full gear and begin to work.

Comrades, we have a very busy year ahead of us and should be ready to take every task in our stride as we protect and fulfill our commitment to this organization.

I declare this NEC sitting officially open.

Amandla!