



31 March 2025

Media Statement:

COPE LEADS BOLD PATH FORWARD WITH REBUILDING, REPOSITIONING AND RENEWAL

For Immediate Release

The Congress of the People (COPE) proudly announces the outcomes of its Congress National Committee (CNC) meeting held on March 29-30, 2025, under the rallying theme, “Restore the Dream, Build Prosperity for All.” With unwavering resolve, COPE has approved a series of transformative resolutions to rebuild and reposition our party as a strong, incorruptible, accountable and reliable alternative political party for all South Africans, black and white and yearning for ethical governance and a united, prosperous future.

In the face of poverty, broken communities and widespread disappointment, COPE remains strong, driven by a deep belief in our country's potential and the continued support of our members and supporters. This CNC meeting marks a turning point, a clarion call to action for all South Africans who share our vision of a country where freedom, equality and solidarity are not just ideals but lived realities.

Key Resolutions: A Blueprint for Renewal

The CNC has laid a robust foundation for COPE's resurgence, addressing organisational challenges head-on and setting clear timelines for action:

Leadership and Structure: We are tackling vacancies within the CNC by reopening recruitment for capable leaders by May 31, 2025, while initiating a constitutional process to address the President's intended retirement, ensuring a seamless transition by December 2025.

Grassroots Revival: To revive our base, COPE will launch ready constituency structures (branches) starting in the North West, Limpopo, Free State and Western Cape provinces and enforce ambitious membership recruitment and renewals.

Democratic Renewal: A revised project plan will see Municipal, Provincial, and national congresses and a National Congress (December 2025), ensuring fresh mandates and new leadership to carry us forward.

2026 Elections Strategy: Nominations for the 2026 Local Government Elections will open by June 2025, with candidate training starting in September 2025. A consolidated by-election strategy will boost visibility, targeting disillusioned voters with practical solutions.

Accountability and Visibility: Starting in May 2025, party leaders and public

representatives will submit mandatory monthly constituency reports, and we will enhance our digital and social media presence immediately to amplify our messages.

Our Value Proposition: A Hand-Up, Not a Handout

To our members, voters and all South Africans, COPE offers a compelling alternative rooted in social democratic principles. We champion a “hand-up approach”, seeking to empower citizens through sustainable development, self-reliance and an inclusive economy rather than promoting dependency. Our vision prioritises technological advancement, constitutional governance and direct democratic participation, ensuring leaders like the President, Premiers and Mayors are accountable directly to you, the people.

We stand for reliability, accountability and incorruptibility, values that guide our fight against government inefficiency, corruption and inequality. COPE is not just a political party but a movement to restore dignity, opportunity and unity to every community, from bustling cities to rural heartlands.

Resilience Amid Challenges

COPE acknowledges the hurdles we face, weak visibility, logistical setbacks and past leadership struggles, but we see these not as obstacles but opportunities. Our resolutions embody a party committed to overcoming challenges, tapping into the collective power of our members and the unwavering spirit of South Africans to succeed. The growing divisions in our society don't discourage us. Instead, they motivate us to fix them with practical solutions, honest leadership and a stronger focus on justice.

A Call to South Africans

To our members: Your dedication is the foundation of this renewal. Together, we will rebuild COPE into a formidable force. To voters: Join us in rejecting despair and embracing hope. COPE offers a future where your voice matters, your potential is unleashed and your prosperity is guaranteed.

As we march toward the 2026 Local Government Elections and beyond, COPE pledges to be a beacon of resilience and faith in South Africa's future. Let us unite to “Restore the Dream” and “Build Prosperity for All”- a dream not just for some, but for every citizen of this great nation.

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