

22 April 2025

To all media houses

COPE MOURNS THE PASSING OF POPE FRANCIS

For immediate release

COPE Mourns the Passing of His Holiness Pope Francis

The Congress of the People (COPE) extends its deepest condolences on the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis, a global symbol of peace, love and empathy. We join the Catholic Church, its followers, and the broader global community in mourning this immense loss.

Pope Francis was a remarkable man whose life exemplified the finest qualities of humankind, compassion and an unwavering commitment to justice and unity. His voice uplifted the downtrodden, gave hope to the oppressed and inspired millions to embrace compassion and solidarity. His legacy will continue to shine as a guiding light for a world rooted in kindness and understanding.

COPE Acting National Treasure TebohoLoate said: "Pope Francis was a true servant of humanity. His compassion lifted the spirits of the oppressed and gave hope to the hopeless. His life challenges us to build a world rooted in justice, love, and unity."

Pope Francis was a transformative figure, both visionary and pragmatic, who never hesitated to challenge world leaders on issues of moral responsibility. Towards his final days, he advocated for peace and ceasefires in war-torn countries such as Ukraine, Sudan, Syria, Gaza and Yemen, urging global leaders to reconnect with their shared humanity.

He was also one of the world's most outspoken voices on climate change and immigration. consistently urging action to protect both the planet and the dignity of all people.

COPE joins the world in grieving this immense loss and pledges to honour Pope Francis's enduring legacy through our continued commitment to peace, justice and dignity for all.

Issued By: Teboho Loate **COPE Acting National Treasure** 061 267 3301

For More Information Contact COPE Media Officer 061 994 7572

25 Madgate Centre, 5 Kingfisher Street. Heldekruin, Roodepoort Johannesburg 1724



Tel: 083 450 1358

