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To All Media Houses / Editors

COPE CONDEMNS TRUMP'S BASELESS ATTACKS ON SOUTH AFRICA AND THE G20 PRESIDENCY

The Congress of the People (COPE) strongly condemns former President Donald Trump's baseless and inflammatory attacks on South Africa, including his misguided boycott of our G20 Presidency.

Such a statement is not only factually incorrect but reeks of ignorance and arrogance, failing to reflect the qualities expected of a world leader.

Trump's administration has been a common denominator in escalating global conflicts, wars, and the tragic killings of innocent civilians worldwide, from the Middle East to Ukraine, perpetuating instability through unilateral aggression and disregard for international norms. In stark contrast, South Africa remains a beacon of peace, championing a foreign policy rooted in dialogue, reconciliation, and multilateralism.

Our nation, born from the ashes of apartheid through non-violent struggle, continues to advocate for global harmony and justice. Trump's egregious attitude undermines these values and ignores South Africa's democratic resilience and contributions to world peace.

The international community has overwhelmingly welcomed South Africa's G20 Presidency, recognising our role in fostering inclusive global cooperation. The theme for this year's summit, "Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability," encapsulates a shared global vision embraced by nations across continents.

Solidarity calls for unified action against division; equality addresses systemic injustices affecting the Global South; and sustainability urges collective efforts on climate and economic resilience.

This theme has been hailed by leaders from the EU, BRICS partners, and the UN as a timely framework for addressing pressing challenges like poverty, inequality, and environmental crises.

It demonstrates the world's trust in South Africa's leadership to drive equitable progress. COPE urges Trump to retract his divisive statements and engage in constructive dialogue. South Africa will not be deterred; we stand committed to a prosperous, peaceful future for all.

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