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To all media houses.

## **COPE MOURNS PASSING OF STRUGGLE ICON GERTRUDE SHOPE**

For Immediate Release

The Congress of the People (COPE) extends its heartfelt condolences on the passing of ANC stalwart Gertrude Shope, a courageous freedom fighter and the beloved mother of Lyndall Shope-Mafole, COPE's first General Secretary.

Her immense contribution to South Africa's liberation struggle and unwavering dedication to freedom and equality shall remain enshrined in the annals of history.

In many of her roles, she was a mother to many young South African leaders, in particular to Congress Of The People (COPE) and its membership.

We offer our deepest condolences to the Shope's family, her party the ANC and those affected by this profound loss," said Acting COPE National Treasurer Teboho Loate.

May her legacy continue to guide and inspire future generations.

End

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