



7 November 2023

COPE DISTANCES ITSELF FROM THE REMARKS MADE BY COLLEEN MAKHUBELE.

For immediate release

The Congress Executive Committee (CEC) of COPE has noted with deep concern and utter disappointment the video clip that is circulating in which our member, Colleen Makhubele purported to speak on behalf of COPE, making certain unfortunate comments about the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas.

We would like to place it on record that the member was not authorised to speak on behalf of the party, and her views do not represent the party's policy position. It must be noted that she is just an ordinary member and does not hold any leadership position within COPE.

The President of COPE issued a media statement on 11 October 2023, in which he expressed the official policy position of the party. Our policy position is always to seek peaceful resolution of all conflicts around the world, and to this end, we support the two-states solution as contained in the Oslo Accords.

Having come across this video clip through social media, the Congress Executive Committee discussed it on Thursday, 2 November 2023, among many organisational items. It resolved to seek an explanation from the Gauteng provincial leadership, where she is an ordinary member.

On Saturday, 4 November 2023, the CEC held a virtual meeting with the Gauteng leadership to discuss the matter. After deliberations, it was confirmed that she was out of line and needed to be held accountable in terms of the Code of Conduct for members of COPE. The province was tasked with taking this process forward and reporting back to the national authoritative body in due course.

Issued by: Teboho Loate
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