



**COPE**

CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE

[www.copesa.org.za](http://www.copesa.org.za)

**LET'S BUILD  
PROSPERITY FOR ALL!**

# COPE@WORK

OFFICIAL CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE NEWSLETTER



**AUGUST 2024**



There has been a hive of activity in the Congress of the People in June and July, I am happy to share some of the party's activities and decisions as we march forward with determination and resilience.

## 2. REBUILDING COPE TO ADVOCATE FOR PEOPLE'S NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS

COPE's journey of rebuilding and repositioning since the May 2024 elections has involved a thorough introspection and analysis of its performance. The party has held critical top leadership meetings to chart a forward path, addressing the challenges of regaining public trust and re-establishing its political relevance.

Although this process has its challenges, it also presents significant opportunities for COPE to innovate, strengthen its organisational structure, and reconnect with its base.

By modernising its image, adopting progressive policies, and targeting young voters for long-term sustainable development, COPE aims to rebuild a stronger, more resilient party that can effectively advocate for the needs and aspirations of South Africans.

## 1. COPE'S STRATEGIC MEETING TO REBUILD AND REPOSITION

COPE's Congress National Committee (CNC) held its strategic planning meeting on August 3–4, 2024, in Bloemfontein. As the party's highest authority between Congresses, the CNC reviewed the post-election analysis from May 29, which is crucial for understanding our performance and planning for the future. The meeting focused on identifying strengths and weaknesses and developing a strategy for rebuilding the party, leading up to the National Congress scheduled for December 2024.

The discussion also covered new political developments and preparations for the upcoming Congress. We are committed to rebuilding and repositioning COPE as an effective political home for all South Africans, firmly believing that we can serve as a credible alternative in social democracy. Guided by Nelson Mandela's wisdom— "It all seems impossible until it is done"—we remain resolute in our mission.

### NEW HOME FOR COPE

The party has found a new Headquarters to run a piece of efficient machinery. We have moved to **25 Medgate Centre 05 Kingfisher Str, Heilderkruijn, Roodeport 1724**, Johannesburg new landline is **010 016 6896**

**From The Office of Acting Secretary General  
Erick Mohlapamaswi  
082 727 6749**

**3. RECRUITMENT AND RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP.**

The lifeblood of any organisation is its loyal membership base. To strengthen and expand its reach, COPE is launching a nationwide recruitment and renewal drive aimed at building robust and inclusive structures across South Africa. This initiative will ensure diversity from all social classes, reflecting the rich tapestry of our nation.

Guided by our core values of Reliability, Accountability, and Incorruptibility, we are committed to fostering a trustworthy and transparent environment. By adhering to these principles, COPE seeks to restore confidence in leadership and engage citizens actively in the democratic process, ensuring that every voice is heard and valued. We invite you to join us on this transformative journey toward a more equitable and just society.

The Congress National Committee (CNC) has introduced a new membership form and cards, with an annual fee set at just R30.00. Membership can be obtained by completing the form or by joining online via our website at [www.copesa.org.za](http://www.copesa.org.za). The membership bank account details are provided on both the form and the website.

To demonstrate commitment, all CNC members are challenged to lead by example by recruiting at least 50 new members each. Each province has been tasked with achieving a target of 1,000 new members by the end of October 2024. We will also reach out to existing members who have not yet renewed their membership and encourage them to do so.



**4. THE PARTY TO HOLD CONGRESSES**

The Congress of the People plans to hold congresses at all levels as part of its reorganisation and repositioning to play a more vital future role in the political environment. These congresses are not just platforms but crucial opportunities to inspire hope and build confidence in the party’s future among members, supporters, and voters.

Article 11(1) of the constitution provides the starting point or orientation to this process: “The Congresses, Conferences and Meetings of the party are the vehicles through which the members of the party exchange views and express their will through decisions and resolutions on the party vision, ideological direction, policies, strategy and programmes of action.”

In preparation for the National Congress scheduled for December 2024, the Congress National Committee (CNC)—a key component of our party’s internal structure responsible for coordinating activities and decisions—has adopted a plan to hold at least 10 Municipal Constituency Congresses per province, and 5 municipality conference with fewer than 5 municipality. These congresses will lead to the organisation of at least 6 Provincial Congresses, setting the stage for a legitimate National Congress in accordance with the Constitution.

The process will also involve reconstituting and holding legitimate congresses for the party’s chapters, including Women, Youth, Students, and Business. Following the National Congress, we will rapidly focus on establishing party structures across all 257 municipalities, aiming for comprehensive national presence.

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**5. A 10-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN TO GOVERN SOUTH AFRICA**

The CNC has reviewed the 2018–2024 Strategic Plan, which unfortunately was not effectively implemented. It was resolved that many of the strategic issues addressed in that plan remain relevant, and a significant part of it will serve as the foundation for the new 2024–2029 Strategic Plan. The meeting also engaged in a robust discussion about the possibility of developing a 10-year Strategic Plan, which will be considered in the future.

Long-term planning is crucial for guiding the party towards greater efficiency and effectiveness. The saying “You fail to plan; you plan to fail” resonates with our experience over the past five years. We are committed to learning from past mistakes and ensuring that the new Strategic Plan is implemented fully and effectively.