



# Resolutions

31 October – 01 November 2020

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## POLICY AFFIRMATIONS

### Resolution 1: Protect and expand secure private property rights to ensure sustainable land reform

Nothing that:

Secure private property rights that prevents arbitrary dispossession is the foundation for economic growth. Without secure private property rights, South Africa will battle to see economic growth and lift the 30 million citizens still trapped in poverty into prosperity;  
To redress South Africa's legacy of dispossession, we urgently need an efficient and just land reform process.

Resolves that:

- The DA does everything in its power to prevent any attempts by government to embark on a programme to expropriate private property without compensation. Property expropriation without compensation is a red line that must never be crossed, and will lead South Africa to economic devastation.
- The DA will never compromise on this principle and must fight using all means available to prevent expropriation without compensation from being legalised. Instead of watering down private property rights, efficient land reform can only ever be realised by deepening and expanding access to secure private property rights, especially to those that have never owned property.
- This can be achieved by urgently surveying and providing individual private title to the 16 million South Africans who still live on communal land without secure property rights.
- This can also include the use of subsidies and tax breaks to open up the agricultural land market to land reform beneficiaries, providing full private title to beneficiaries who are currently only allowed to lease land from the state, and urgently finalising all valid restitution claims that were filed before the 1998 cut-off date.
- All DA governments continue to prioritise the roll-out of title deeds for social housing built by the state.

**Proposer:** John Steenhuisen

**Seconder:** Andrew Louw

**Sponsored by DA structure:** Ward 6 Branch Ilembe



## Resolution 2: Job opportunities available within the Tourism sector

The DA believes that we need to grow the economy at a much faster rate if we are going to absorb the millions of people who want to work but cannot find employment in the labour market particularly after the job-killing lockdown period. Every person deserves a chance to access job opportunities. With the local government elections approaching there are a number of concrete actions that local government can take in this regard.

Noting that:

- A. Tourism is regarded as a modern-day engine of growth and of job creation and is one of the largest industries globally.
- B. The tourism sector contributed 2,8% (or R130 billion) to South Africa's gross domestic product
- C. (GDP) in 2017, making it larger than the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry.
- D. In 2017, one in every 22 employed people in South Africa were working in the tourism sector, totalling over 720 000 individuals representing 4,5% of the 16,2 million people employed at the time.
- E. South Africa's unemployment rate rose to 30.1% in the first quarter of 2020 from 29.1 percent in the previous period and above market expectations of 29.7 percent.
- F. Thanks to the ANC government and their mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic, and an extended
- G. lockdown, hundreds of thousands of jobs within the tourism sector have been lost.

The DA therefore resolves that; irrespective whether it is in government or in opposition, it will work hard to create a conducive environment for tourism, and the flourishing thereof by;

- 1. encouraging job creation and opportunities within the tourism sector by investing in
- 2. infrastructure (including engaging in public-private partnerships) such as the upgrading and maintenance of roads leading to and from tourist sites and areas of interest to tourists, upgrading and maintaining tourism sites and the upgrading and maintenance of communications systems,
- 3. promoting domestic tourism so that South Africans themselves become tourists in their own country thus personally appreciating and therefore supporting tourism and its importance in the growth of our economy and job creation,
- 4. ensuring that areas attractive to tourists are free from crime and grim so that new and existing tourists visit these areas and return to them.

**Proposer:** Manny de Freitas

**Seconded:** Sonja Boshoff

### Resolution 3: Promote and defend access to mother tongue education

Noting that:

- Our country's Constitution recognizes eleven official languages and stipulates that all languages must enjoy parity of esteem and must be treated equally, and that the state must take practical and positive measures to elevate the status and advance the use of indigenous languages;
- The Constitution further states that everyone has the right to receive education in the official language or languages of their choice in public educational institutions where that education is reasonably practicable;
- Despite the Constitution's promotion of the right to mother tongue education, the state has failed dismally to expand access to mother tongue education. In fact, due to the overwhelming shift to monolingual English education as a primary language of instruction at many schools and in all but one South African university, the state has actively reduced access to mother tongue education in direct contravention of the Constitution.

Resolves that:

- The right to mother tongue education where reasonably practicable is a non-negotiable and fundamental element of the Bill of Rights, and is no less important than any other constitutional right;
- Urgent and active steps be taken to expand access to mother tongue education at every institution where it is reasonably practicable;
- The state significantly expand investment in developing all of South Africa's official languages to ensure that mother tongue education becomes "reasonably practicable" in public primary schools, high schools, universities, and all other public training institutions across the country.

**Proposer:** Leon Schreiber

**Seconder:** Councillor Thabani Mthethwa

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** Ward 22, Stellenbosch Constituency

### Isixazululo: Thuthukisa futhi uvikele ukufinyelela kwimfundo yolimi lwebele

Kuyaqapheleka ukuthi:

- Umthethosisekelo wezwe lakithi wamukela izilimu ezisemthethweni eziyishuminanye futhi uyakubalula ukuthi zonke izilimu kumele zihlonishwe futhi ziphathwe ngokulinganayo, futhi umbuso kumele uthathe igxathu elibonakalayo ukuphakamisa nokukhuthaza ukusetshenziswa kwezilimu zomdabu.

- Umthethosisekelo uphinde ukubalule ukuthi wonke umuntu unelungelo lokuthola imfundo ngolimu lwakhe olusemthethweni azikhethela lona ezikhungweni zemfundo yomphakathi lapho izimo zaleyomfundo zisesimeni sokwenzeka.
- Nakuba umthethosisekelo ukhuthaza ilungelo lokusetshenziswa kwezilimu zendabuko, umbuso uhluleke wancama ukufinyelelisa emfundweni ngezilimu zomdabu. Empeleni nje ngenxa yokufudukela mawala ekusebenziseni kolimu lwesi Ngisi kwezemfundo njengolimu oluhamba phambili ezikoleni eziningi cishe nakuwowonke amanyuvesi ase Ningizimu Africa ngaphandle kweyodwa, umbuso wehlise kakhulu izinga lokufinyelela ezilimini zomdabu kwezemfundo, okuyinto ephambene kakhulu nomthethosisekelo.

Isixazululo sithi:

- Ilungelo lokufunda ngezilimu zendabuko/zebele lapho izimo zikuvumela lokho kumele kwenzeke ngokungenambandela futhi kuyisahluko esinqala sikasomqulu Wamalungelo abantu futhi ayikho ngaphansi kwanoma iliphi ilungelo elikumthethosisekelo.
- Kumele kuthathwe izinyathelo ezingqala ngokuphuthuma ukusabalalisa imfundo ngezilimu zomdabu/zebele kuzozonke izikhungo lapho kunokwenzeka lokho.
- Umbuso usabalalise ngokubonakalayo ukutshala ekuthuthukisweni zonke izilimu ezisemthethweni zase Ningizimu Africa ukuqinisekisa ukuthi imfundo ngezilimu zomdabu kuyafinyeleleka ngokugculisayo kuyo ezikhungweni zemfundo yomphakathi ezisemazingeni aphansi nasemanyuvesi nazozonke izikhungo zokuqeqesha zomphakathi ezweni lonke.

**Iphakanyiswe ngu:** Leon Schreiber

**Yesekelwa ngu:** Councillor Thabani Mthethwa

**Ngokuxhaswa yisakhiwo se DA:** segatsha ward 22 esiyingini sase Stellenbosch.

### **Resolusie: Bevorder en verdedig die reg op moedertaalonderrig**

Ons let daarop dat:

- Ons land se Grondwet elf amptelike tale erken en vereis dat alle amptelike tale gelykheid van aansien geniet en billik behandel moet word, en dat die staat praktiese en daadwerklike maatreëls moet tref om die status van dié tale te verhoog en hul gebruik te bevorder;
- Die Grondwet stipuleer verder dat almal die reg het om in openbare onderwysinstellings onderwys te ontvang in die amptelike taal of tale van eie keuse waar daardie onderwys redelikerwys doenlik is;
- Ten spyte van die Grondwet se verskansing van die reg op moedertaalonderrig, het die staat klaaglik daarin misluk om toegang tot moedertaalonderrig uit te brei. Die oorweldigende verskuiwing na Engels-medium onderrig as primêre onderrigtaal in baie skole en aan byna alle Suid-

Afrikaanse universiteite beteken inderwaarheid dat die staat toegang tot moedertaalonderrig verklein het, wat neerkom op 'n oortreding van die Grondwet.

Gevolglik onderneem ons:

- Dat die reg op moedertaalonderrig waar redelikerwys doenlik 'n ononderhandelbare en fundamentele element van die Grondwet se Handves van Menseregte uitmaak, en dat dit net so belangrik is soos enige ander grondwetlike reg;
- Dat dringende en aktiewe stappe geneem moet word om toegang tot moedertaalonderrig te bevorder by elke instelling waar dit tans redelikerwys doenlik is;
- Dat die staat beleggings in die ontwikkeling van al Suid-Afrika se amptelike tale beduidend moet verhoog om te verseker dat moedertaalonderrig "redelikerwys doenlik" word in primêre skole, hoërskole, universiteite, en alle ander openbare onderwysinstellings dwarsoor die land.

**Voorsteller:** Leon Schreiber

**Sekondant:** Raadslid Thabani Mthethwa

**Geborg deur DA-struktuur:** Wyk 22, Stellenbosch Kiesafdeling



## Resolution 4: Cut the public sector wage bill to help stabilise public finances

Noting that:

- The size of South Africa's current public sector wage bill is the product of years of political patronage, and has become wholly unsustainable to the point where it poses a threat to the fiscal survival of the country;
- At over 12% of GDP, South Africa's public wage bill is higher than the average for OECD countries;
- The remuneration of managers in the public sector – 29 000 of whom are paid more than R1 million per year – is comparable to their counterparts in Norway;
- Despite draining the fiscus, taxpayers and the South African public do not get quality service delivery in return for one of the biggest public wage bills in the world;

Resolves that:

- The public sector wage bill be significantly reduced by cutting the amount of taxpayer funds spent on salaries for managers and administrators not covered by Occupation Specific Dispensation (OSD), and that the 29 000 managers being paid more than R1 million per year be reduced by a third;
- As far as possible, frontline public servants like teachers, police officers and nurses covered by OSD be shielded from dramatic wage cuts. The burden of reducing the wage bill must instead fall on the 29 000 managers earning more than R1 million per year, and salary freezes and wage cuts should only affect frontline workers if significant cuts to the salaries of managers are insufficient to reduce government debt and stabilise public finances.

**Proposer:** Nicole Graham Seconder: Yogis Govender

**Sponsored by** DA Central Durban Constituency

## Resolution 5: Embrace federalism by devolving substantial powers to well-run local and provincial governments

Noting that:

- The DA is a federal party that believes in giving power to the people and locating service delivery as close to citizens as possible;
- South Africa's Constitution devolves substantial powers to provinces and municipalities, but provinces and municipalities have not always pushed the envelope to assume all the powers that rightfully belong to them;
- In well-run DA municipalities and the DA-run Western Cape, the biggest impediment to further accelerating effective service delivery is the failure of the national government to live up to its constitutional responsibilities;
- Because the DA is the only political party with a proven track record of good governance that prioritises effective service delivery, our governments are often forced to step in and compensate for service delivery failures by the national government, leading to ballooning unfunded mandates.

Resolves that:

- The DA at all levels adopt a pioneering, brave and activist approach to devolve more substantial powers from the national government sphere to well-run provincial and local governments with the demonstrated capacity to deliver services effectively. This includes, but is not limited to, devolving control over police, railways, ports, water storage, and electricity generation away from national government level;
- Any devolution of powers away from the national sphere to provincial and local government spheres must be premised on the principle that "funding follows service delivery," thereby ensuring that all delivery mandates assumed by provincial and local governments are adequately funded.

**Proposer:** Western Cape Premier: Alan Winde

**Seconder:** Stellenbosch Executive Mayor: Gesie van Deventer

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** Stellenbosch Constituency

## Resolution 6: Becoming the party of fiscal discipline

Noting that:

- South Africa's public finances are in a parlous state. Without major intervention to restore fiscal sustainability, interest payments on government debt will consume all government revenue, and South Africa will face a full-blown sovereign debt crisis;
- We have careened into this crisis as a result of a decade of profligate government spending, funded mainly by debt, and directed mainly at consumption rather than productive investment. In particular, government salaries and bailouts for failing state companies have ballooned out of all control, while real spending on healthcare, education and infrastructure has dwindled;
- The key consequence of this explosion of debt is that South Africa currently spends R235 billion a year on interest payments just in servicing debt. This means there is less money available for core spending commitments, like social welfare for the poor, education, safety and healthcare, and productive infrastructure that spurs economic growth;
- As a result of the COVID-19 lockdown, government tax revenue has collapsed by R304 billion, and government is borrowing R770 billion in 2020/21 alone to fund ordinary expenditure and COVID-19 response. The consequences of the lockdown for the country's finances are that debt will exceed 80% of gross domestic product, and will continue to rise, and that total borrowings will approach R4 trillion;
- Most importantly, as the risk associated with South Africa increases, so the interest rate charged on our borrowings increases too. South Africa now pays roughly 9.35% to borrow money in the bond market. As interest payments mushroom, our ability to fund basic services for the poor will become increasingly hindered, until we reach the point where we are unable to borrow more, and unable to service existing debt – a full-blown debt crisis.

Resolves that:

- The most urgent first job of a DA-led national government will be to restore financial sense and sustainability to our national finances. This will inevitably involve some difficult medicine. In order to stabilise the budget deficit, bring down debt and restore fiscal discipline, there is an urgent need to reduce spending by R250 billion over the next three years, averaging R83 billion per fiscal year;
- The Democratic Alliance will be the party of fiscal discipline, and prudent tax policy, because this lays the best foundation for economic growth that creates jobs.

**Proposer:** Geordin Hill-Lewis

**Seconded:** Dr Dion George

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** George 1 constituency, Western Cape

## Resolution 7: Outlaw cadre deployment to build a better government

Noting that:

- Cadre deployment is the root cause of corruption, state capture and failing service delivery in the public sector;
- Cadre deployment means that incompetent and corrupt officials are appointed on the basis of political loyalty instead of merit, thereby crowding out highly skilled and non-political professionals from the public service;
- Our country's current legal framework puts politicians in charge of appointments, dismissals and discipline in the public sector, thereby giving politicians total control over the careers of all public servants.

Resolves that:

- Cadre deployment be outlawed in all spheres of the public administration and state-controlled entities through legislative changes that make it illegal for politicians to have any power over the careers of public servants, make it illegal for any public servant to hold office in a political party, and make it a legal requirement that all public service appointments be made strictly on the basis of merit;
- The independence and capacity of the Public Service Commission (PSC) must be bolstered, and that the PSC's powers to act decisively against corruption, mismanagement and cadre deployment in the public sector must be significantly enhanced;
- Dedicated public service training institutes must be opened, and all public servants must pass a stringent and mandatory public service entry examination before they may be employed in the public sector.

**Proposer:** Leon Schreiber

**Seconder:** Cilliers Brink

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** Stellenbosch Constituency

## Resolution 8: Deregulate the labour market and collective bargaining to create jobs

Noting that:

- At over 30% on the narrow definition, South Africa already had one of the world's highest unemployment rates prior to the lockdown crisis. The economic devastation caused by the lockdown crisis has likely already caused an additional 3 million job losses;
- Overly regulated and inflexible labour laws, as well as collective bargaining rules that empower politically connected unions over individual workers and employers, continues to lock millions of citizens out of productive employment, and is one of the key drivers of South Africa's consistently high levels of unemployment.

Resolves that:

- DA governments (where possible), must empower workers and employers by deregulating the labour market while opening up the collective bargaining rules to give workers more choice;
- This must include, but is not limited to, making it easier to employ new workers, enforcing the need for secret ballots on planned industrial action across all sectors of the economy, scrapping the legal requirement that causes collective bargaining agreements reached between individual employers and particular trade unions to be extended to "non-parties" across entire industries or sectors, empowering individual economic sectors to set their own minimum wages, and offering tax exemptions to small businesses to help them absorb the cost of minimum wages.

**Proposer:** John Steenhuisen

**Seconder:** Jacques Smalle

**Sponsored by DA structure:** WARD 8, FAR NORTH CONSTITUENCY, MAKHADO



## Resolution 9: ICT

This congress notes that:

- Data in South Africa is expensive compared to other surrounding countries.
- National government has failed to meet its own targets set for digital migration.
- Radio frequency spectrum is essential for both audio and visual media to broadcast and mobile operators' ability to provide data to consumers.
- The availability of spectrum could reduce data costs by a great deal.
- Affordability of internet access is pivotal in helping people to create opportunities for themselves and build new skills online and take part in the digital world.

This congress resolves:

- To put pressure on national government to roll out spectrum.
- To oppose the Electronic Communications Amendment Bill which allows for mandatory infrastructure sharing by operators which may strip operators of their property rights.
- To support local governments' efforts in their quest to roll out data.
- To ensure that ICT access informs policy planning for development.

**Proposed by:** Kamogelo Mangena

**Seconded by:** Michael Shackleton

## Resolution 10: Crime

This congress notes that:

- Crime remains a topical issue in South Africa.
- The DA understands that in order for businesses to thrive and people to live a comfortable life, every citizen should feel safe.
- No-one can have freedom while they live in fear
- Mechanisms for lodging complaints and investigations are centralised by the police. Often times, the public are discouraged to report such incidents due to corruption, turnaround time for feedback and poor reception by the South African Police Service.

This congress resolves:

- To improve powers and the resourcing of IPID. The directorate is severely underfunded and under-resourced to fulfil its mandate.
- To fast-track all unresolved cases and complaints laid by members of the public.
- The internal disciplinary process of the SAPS be done independently of the government entities.
- A mandatory audit and vetting process be carried out by the State Security Agency on every SAPS personnel including political principals and members of committees that preside over police service entities.

**Proposed by:** Michael Shackleton

**Seconded by:** Kamogelo Mangena

## Resolution 11: Child malnutrition

This congress notes that:

- Child malnutrition remains a life-long issue for many South African households.
- Social grants are immediate and feasible route to protecting children and families with no income.
- There are 19.7 million children under 18 years old in South Africa. Children are financially dependent on adults.
- South Africa's move to lockdown meant that most people who provide for their children through informal business could not do so, and school feeding schemes

The congress resolves:

- To support the subsidisation of certain nutritious food.
- To fast track the registration of vulnerable homes that are not on the receiving of social grants.
- To support the option of parents to utilise food vouchers to replace monetary payments in order for parents to be able to buy nutrition for their children and reduce corruption committed as a result of SASSA payments.

**Proposed by:** Kamogelo Mangena

**Seconded by:** Michael Shackleton

## Resolution 12: Provide tax relief to citizens and reduce government spending

Noting that:

- With a tax-to-GDP ratio of 27.3%, South Africa has one of the highest overall tax burdens in the world, and the 12th highest personal income tax burden in the world;
- Government revenue collection is collapsing as a result of the economic and lockdown crisis. However, given that taxpayers are already overburdened, the gaping revenue hole cannot be filled by succumbing to the populist urge to simply increase tax rates even further;
- South Africa had already fallen over the “Laffer curve” before the lockdown crisis, which meant that tax collection declined even as tax rates increased on everything from income tax, Value-Added Tax (VAT) and excise duties.

Resolves that:

- The only way to stabilise revenue collection while ensuring that citizens have enough money in their pockets with which to meet their basic needs and begin reviving our dying economy, is by providing very substantial tax relief to overburdened taxpayers;
- South Africa’s tax system must be entirely overhauled to significantly reduce the burden of taxation, to ensure that tax policy rewards innovation, and to ensure that tax policy stimulates investment and economic growth;
- Instead of raising taxes, we resolve to significantly reduce government spending by reducing the size of the state, reducing the public sector wage bill, and privatising or closing down the vast majority of state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

**Proposer:** Dean Macpherson

**Seconder:** Ghaleb Cachalia

**Sponsored by** DA Structure: North Durban Constituency

## NEW POLICY PROPOSALS

### Resolution 13: Ending childhood stunting

Noting that:

- In South Africa childhood stunting remains a developmental hurdle for children between ages 0 – 5 and that stunting is a manifestation of chronic undernutrition.
- Stunting in the first five years is more damaging than later in life, resulting in both an increased risk of severe infection as well as intellectual impairment – compromising children's school performance and employment prospects, and increasing the risk of obesity, heart disease and diabetes in adolescence and adulthood.

The DA resolves:

- To ensure that every child in a government approved crèche gets a minimum of porridge in the morning, a peanut butter sandwich in the afternoon in order to prevent childhood stunting.

**Proposer:** Mbali Ntuli

**Seconder:** Sakhile Mngadi



## Resolution 14: The need for foreign/international policy

Dr Rory Jubber on behalf of the DA Abroad:

Noting that:

1. The Democratic Alliance believes in the rule of law, constitutional and representational democracy, human rights, the promotion of the market economy, the freedom of expression and the freedom of the individual more generally,
2. The Democratic Alliance, as the main opposition party of a G20 nation, should be able to clearly situate itself in the international order; and,
3. That any international positioning of the Democratic Alliance should originate from the values expressed in (1).

Therefore, resolves that:

- I. the Democratic Alliance formulates clear foreign/international policy that conforms to the fundamental values and principles of the party;
- II. the Democratic Alliance forms a policy commission with the express purpose of formulating foreign/international policy in the form of a document;
- III. the Democratic Alliance reviews its foreign/international policy on a yearly basis to ensure it reflects changes in the geopolitical environment; and,
- IV. that any such foreign/international policy that arises from (i) (ii) and (iii) asserts clearly and unapologetically that the Democratic Alliances stands with nations that endorse constitutional and representational democracy.

**Proposer:** Dr Rory Jubber

**Seconder:** Ashor Sarupen

## Resolution 15: End farm attacks and murders

Noting that:

- Farm attacks and murders continue to plague farmers, farm workers and rural communities across the country;
- Farm attacks are often accompanied by heinous acts of violence, with victims routinely tortured, maimed and raped before being murdered. In many cases, entire families have been wiped out in farm attacks;
- Farmers are routinely demonised in public discourse, and farm attacks are often accompanied by hate speech that directs hate against victims on the basis of their identity as farmers or farm workers;
- Rural communities and farms are particularly vulnerable to violence given the great distances between police stations.

Resolves that:

- Farm attacks and murders be declared a hate crime and a priority crime category, with a set of harsher sentences if prosecutors prove that the motive for the crime was hatred or contempt based on the victim's identity as a farmer;
- Specific rural safety plans be drawn up for every rural police district in the country. At local station level, rural community policing units will be established for every police station that serves at least one rural sector. These units will comprise volunteers from the local community that will assist the SAPS in rural sector policing. Volunteers will join a local unit and will only be utilised in the rural sectors which its assigned police station serves.

**Proposer:** Dianne Kohler-Barnard

**Seconder:** Noko Phineas Masipa

**Sponsored by** DA Structure: Central Durban Constituency

## Resolution 16: Protect our streets

Noting that:

- Communities across South Africa are plagued by violent crime, and South Africa has one of the highest rates of violent crime in the world;
- South Africa's current system, where policing is wholly controlled by the national government, is an international anomaly. Around the world, governments have long recognised that policing is a function best carried out at local and regional levels, because a police service must always be in touch with local communities. Unfortunately, with the SAPS controlled from Pretoria, South Africa's police are largely out of touch with the communities they are supposed to serve.

Resolves that:

- Police services in South Africa be devolved to empower capable provincial governments to assume responsibility for managing their own police forces along with the required budgets. Police services being managed by well-run provincial governments must be the norm, with national government only given control in cases where provincial governments are demonstrably incapable of managing their own police forces.

**Proposer:** Andrew Whitfield

**Seconder:** Dean Macpherson

**Sponsored by** DA Structure: Tsitsi-Kouga Constituency

## Resolution 17: Prevention and combatting of hate crimes against the LGBTQIA+ community

Noting that:

- South Africa's constitution was the first in the world to protect people from discrimination because of their sexual orientation. The country was also the first in Africa to legalise same-sex marriage.
- 53% of LGBTQIA+ persons have been discriminated against, faced violence or will have been murdered before the age of 21 in South Africa

The DA resolves that:

- That the President should proclaim a permanent department with the SIU dedicated to investigating crimes on Gender and Sexual Orientation-based Violence Perpetrated against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI)

**Proposer:** Mbali Ntuli

**Seconder:** Sakhile Mngadi

## Resolution 18: Commitments to make Conversion Therapy for LGBTIQ+ youth illegal in the Republic of South Africa

The DA recognises that South Africa has, since the dawn of Democracy in our country, made huge progress in the legal protection of the LGBTIQ+ community in our country. Unfortunately, Conversion Therapy, a pseudo-science approach to 'curing' people of homosexuality is still rife in South Africa.

Noting that:

The South African Society of Psychiatrists states that "there is no scientific evidence that reparative or conversion therapy is effective in changing a person's sexual orientation. There is, however, evidence that this type of therapy can be destructive"

The DA resolves to:

- Promote legislation to make Conversion Therapy to LGBTIQ+ youth under the age of 18 illegal.

**Proposer:** Martin Meyer  
**Seconder:** Caelee Laing



## Resolution 19: Rent control in metros where the DA governs

The DA recognises that South Africa's cities are still plagued by the impact of Apartheid Spatial Planning. Rent of properties close to economic opportunities are increasing at an alarming rate, and this, combined with Gentrification is making it very hard for people to be able to live close to these economic opportunities.

Noting that:

23% of South Africans spend between 11% and 20% of their income on transport, and that rental increases and that gentrification is making it harder for working class South Africans to live closer to economic opportunities in the Metro's

The DA resolves to

- Initiate Rental Control in the City Centre zones where the DA governs that are linked to the rate of inflation
- Where we govern in metro governments, the City owned residential rental property will not increase by more than the property inflation rate

**Proposer:** Martin Meyer

**Seconder:** Mbali Ntuli

## Resolution 20: Sustainable development: waste management

Noting that:

- Every year, an estimated 11.2 billion tonnes of solid waste is collected worldwide, and decay of the organic proportion of solid waste is contributing about 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions;
- Disposal continues to dominate the South-Africa waste landscape. According to the outdated 2011 national waste information baseline (NWIB), South Africa generated ~108 million tonnes of waste in 2011. The 2011 estimate indicates that 10% of the total waste stream is being recycled with the remaining 90% being landfilled.
- Household waste is managed by municipalities and/or by their appointed service providers. Commercial and industrial waste is typically managed by the private sector in larger municipalities, and to some extent the municipalities themselves. Although private stakeholders also own landfills, municipal landfills are open for private sector disposal. It is more convenient for investors and businesses to partner with the private sector waste generators and waste handlers.
- According to DEA (2017), the waste economy contributed ~R24.3 billion to the South African GDP in 2016. It provided 36 000 formal jobs and supported ~80 000 informal jobs/livelihoods. A further R11.5 billion per year could be unlocked by 2023 by diverting up to 20 million tonnes of waste. The anticipated spin-offs could include 45 000 additional formal jobs and 82 000 indirect jobs, as well create of 4 300 SMMEs.
- In 2014, the national Department of Science and Technology (DST) Waste Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Roadmap estimated that an additional R17 billion per year worth of resources could be unlocked if 100% of the 13 identified waste streams could be beneficated. If the amount of industrial waste were to be reduced by 20%, and domestic waste by 60%, it would unlock R9.2 billion resource value to the economy.

Resolves that a DA National Government will:

- Prioritise the impending Waste Crisis which threatens to overwhelm inadequately capacitated Local, District and Metropolitan councils.
- Drive the separation of Organic and Inorganic Waste streams in a sustainable, cost effective waste collection transformation.
- Provide legislative support by expediting the process of establishing e-waste recycling and buy- back centres.
- Through prioritisation of the Waste Sector as a strategic market and resource, drive job creation through implementation of the Circular Economy.

**Proposer:** Tiaan Kotzé

**Seconded:** Jill Humphreys



**Sponsored by DA Structure:** DA Ekurhuleni Environmental Resource and Waste management caucus

## Resolution 21: Water management

Noting that:

Prof Anthony Turton, Water Policy Editor for the Official Journal of the World Water Council, wrote the following, 20 years ago:

“SA falls into the category of Structurally Induced Relative Water Abundance (SIRWA)”

Water abundance is made possible in a relative sense as a result of the ability to mobilise sufficient social and infrastructural resources to effectively manage availability.

1. We are now in the next phase he postulated at that time, which is WP (Water Poverty).
  - a) With a relatively low level of resource availability; WP countries such as ours cannot manage the debilitating effects of water scarcity because of lack of social resources. Underdevelopment of water reticulation results in a gradual decline of almost all developmental indicators. A logical outcome of this condition will be long-term economic stagnation, deteriorating public health, a low level of infrastructural development and a high probability of social instability and political decay. The crisis of an expanding population and declining resource base (water), exacerbates the threat. This is an example of the classic Malthusian collapse.
2. Water in South Africa is currently managed and traded as ‘stock’. It would be much better managed in flux. It needs to be recognized as existing in different categories and classes.
3. SA currently has 38 cubic litres of water. With the current rate of population growth, in 10 years’ time, we will need 65 cubic litres. All our available water needs to be recycled, reconstituted and reused.
4. AMD water is discharged into rivers and dams with extremely high levels of salinity, with the only dilution factor being sewage and drainage water. The effect on the agricultural sector and food security is potentially cataclysmic.
5. Sewage; our failing water treatment plants are incapable of managing the staggering and ever-increasing volumes that need to be processed. The obvious consequence is direct discharge into our rivers, waterways and wetlands. Not only is food security threatened due to the necessity of using rivers and waterways for irrigation, our biodiversity in this essential natural infrastructure is often completely destroyed. None of this is sustainable.
6. Our aquifers are not being recharged as there are no Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems being nationally implemented.
7. Our rivers and waterways are being eroded as the torrents in urban areas are not being attenuated upstream or in individual properties. Most of this water is going into the oceans; therefore, lost to our urban water requirements.
8. Water is the essential economic enabler. When it is effectively managed, industry thrives.

9. There is currently no consolidated Water Policy in South Africa, underpinning the National Water Act, in order to meet constitutional aspirations.

Resolving that a DA government would:

With proper consultation and available science develop a Water Policy that would recognize:

1. The need to categorise water availability in terms of usage. Drinking water should not be used for industrial purposes.
2. Water harvesting should be a policy objective
3. Sustainable Urban Drainage should be implemented nationally

**Proposer:** Jill Humphreys

**Seconders:** Lucky Dinake

**Amendment:**

6. Our aquifers and other ground water systems are not being recharged as there are no Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems being implemented nationally.

7. Our rivers and waterways are being eroded as the torrents in urban areas are not being adequately attenuated upstream or in individual properties.

8. Water is essential for all life, the functioning of ecosystems, climate resilience and is also the essential economic enabler. Where it is effectively managed, industry thrives.

**Proposer:** Lori Coogan

**Seconders:** Vincent Earp



## Resolution 22: Securing the Energy Future of South African Citizens and Addressing the Climate Crisis

Noting that:

- South Africa cannot attain an ideal rate of GDP growth and the expansion of economic capacity due to Eskom's inability to provide reliable and affordable electricity supply;
- An energy suppressed economy exacerbates unemployment, retards meaningful job creation, and condemns millions of our citizens to endemic poverty;
- The concentration of the means of power generation and electricity supply capacity under a dysfunctional and incapable state monopoly is the primary cause of load-shedding and unnecessarily oppressive economic stagnation;
- Eskom's aging fleet of thermal-coal power stations are a primary cause of greenhouse gas emissions and dangerous environmental pollution which is a major contributor to respiratory diseases and anthropogenic climate change;
- As a founder signatory to the Paris Agreement of 2015 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) South Africa must contribute its fair share in limiting global warming to no more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels having due regard to the impact of limiting measures on our ability to grow our economy and achieve a degree of parity with already economically advanced nations.

Resolves that:

- Immediate legislative and regulatory intervention be exercised to empower independent private electricity suppliers to generate and freely trade as much renewable energy as possible without delay;
- Tax breaks be issued and expanded to assist and incentivise companies and households which invest in the deployment of renewable energy generation systems;
- In the short-term: Eskom be split into two separate and independent electricity supply and generation entities in order to ensure their focus on their specific functions;
- In the medium term Eskom's remaining assets including its fleet of thermal coal power stations be environmentally upgraded to minimise emissions (with proven existing technology) and/or sold with such emission requirements in place so as to both secure ongoing affordable and available supply of electricity and the desired reduction of carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation by 80% by 2030 with due regard to the balancing of constraints placed on economic growth.

**Proposer:** John Steenhuisen

**Seconded:** Traverse Le Goff

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** Good Hope Constituency

## Resolution 23: Establishment of 'Ecocide' in South African law as a crime against humanity

Noting that:

- Human and animal life in South Africa is dependent on a sustainable natural environment, which must endure for generations to come in order for our society to succeed.
- No capital crime presently exists in South African Statutes to remedy and deter significant environmental crimes, which makes them criminally punishable with jail time and large fines.
- Corporations and individuals must respect the boundaries of environmental sustainability or the environment will no longer be able to support human populations and life on land or at sea and we must ensure this can be enforced through legislation beyond what presently exists.
- A clean and intact natural environment does attract enormous economic and financial value and if prices were attached to them, they would attract far higher prices in their pristine state than when diminished by destruction.
- To destroy nature does directly rob our citizens of public goods which they are entitled to and which are essential to our survival.
- All South Africans are guaranteed the rights to an environment that is protected under the South African Constitution in Section 24 of the Bill of Rights, and a harsh capital crime to make this practicable in law is necessary.
- The deliberate action of destroying and desecrating the natural world is frequently becoming more commonplace like for instance the destruction of the Amazon Rainforest and careless oil-spills which occur through human carelessness and deliberate neglect to act in an ethical or moral manner.
- The wilful and egregious wholesale destruction of the natural environment amounts to the equivalent of a genocide against nature.
- Momentum is growing for the crime of Ecocide to be recognised by the international Criminal Court as a serious violation of international, continental and domestic law.

Resolves that:

- The DA proposes the establishment of the crime of "Ecocide" and that it is incorporated into South African law attracting the harshest possible penalties permitted under law.
- The DA proposes the establishment of a "South African Environmental Protection Agency" as an official arbiter of environmental crime, to focus on specialised environmental protections and enforcement and to work alongside and augment the work of the Green Scorpions.
- The DA proposes the formulation of specialised environmental courts within the South African legal system to focus entirely on environmental crimes and expediting their legal outcomes which often require urgent technical attention and legal enforcement. These types of criminal violations should

stand apart from other domestic crimes due to their far-reaching impact and consequences on human and animal populations, which require their own legal apparatus to address and enforce.

- The DA call on the South African Government to lobby the African Union to incorporate an equivalent continental statute of the crime of "Ecocide" into the scope of their recognised criminal violations in the context of relations amongst African States. The DA call on the South African government to lobby the United Nations and the International Criminal Court to incorporate an equivalent international statute of the crime of "Ecocide" into the scope of their recognised criminal violations in the context of relations amongst the states of the world.

**Proposer:** Tiaan Kotzé

**Seconder:** Malcolm Ian De Klerk

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** DA City of Ekurhuleni Environmental Resource & Waste Management Caucus

## Resolution 24: Urgent establishment of a Parliamentary Ad-hoc Committee on the climate and ecological crisis

Noting that:

- The South African National Climate Change Response White Paper published in 2018, has acknowledged that should we fail to “limit the average global temperature increase to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, the potential impacts on South Africa in the medium to long-term are significant and potentially catastrophic.”
- The CSIR has noted that South Africa must respond to the risks presented by climate change meaningfully to avert the worst impacts which will affect lives and livelihoods detrimentally.
- In 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released the 630-page Special Report on Global Warming at 1.5° which disturbingly identified South Africa as a “climate change hotspot” which is warming at twice the global average meaning we will feel the impacts sooner and more acutely.
- The dire and far-reaching consequences of anthropogenic Climate Change beyond 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels represents an unacceptable risk and to the Republic of South Africa and demands a response that is proportionate to the threat it poses to our society.

Resolves that a DA National Government will:

Commit to meeting the targets agreed to as per the Paris Agreement in line with the global commitments to keep warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The DA calls for the urgent establishment of a Parliamentary Ad-Hoc Committee on the Climate and Ecological Crisis.

**Proposer:** Chris Pappas

**Seconded:** Hannah Shameema Winkler

### **Amendment:**

Resolves that a DA National Government will: (add to bullet point 1)

“Commit to meeting targets as agreed to as per the Paris Agreement with due regard for the skewed needs faced by developing countries in their quest to achieve required levels of economic growth”.

**Proposer:** Ghaleb Cachalia

**Seconded:** James Lorimer

## Resolution 25: Urgent defence of South Africa's biodiversity and responding to the climate and ecological emergency

Noting that:

- Worldwide population sizes of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles have seen an alarming average drop of 68% since 1970 and this is due to unprecedented human interference of nature through unsustainable land-use changes causing the collapse of natural ecosystems and habitats.
- Over 1 million animal species on Earth are at risk of extinction by 2050 as identified by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) in the Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019) amounting to an "Ecological Emergency" unless rapid interventions are put in place.
- Nature is essential for human existence on planet Earth and its economic contributions underpin modern economies. Should natural ecosystems and habitats be eliminated from the face of the earth due to our failure to protect them meaningfully, their losses to the global web of life and humanity would be replaceable and detrimental to our existence.
- The Economy is a wholly owned subsidiary of the natural environment.
- Loss of natural habitats and ecosystems are accelerating rapidly, and their loss is a major contributor to Climate Change as they massively sequester carbon.
- South Africa is a party to the International Convention on Biological Diversity (1993) and by way of treaty has agreed to uphold the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, none of which have been achieved and many of which are at points of critical failure which require immediate remediation in order to avert disaster.
- That as identified by the CBD Secretariat in the Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 Report (2020), "A sustainable future relies on recognizing that bold, interdependent actions are needed across a number of fronts, each of which is necessary and none of which is sufficient on its own. This mix of actions includes greatly stepping up efforts to conserve and restore biodiversity."
- The WWF Living Earth Report (2020) further states: "Nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in millions of years. The way we produce and consume food and energy, and the blatant disregard for the environment entrenched in our current model, has pushed the natural world to its limits."

The DA resolves that:

- The DA ensure it takes all possible action to ensure that the South African Government consistently works to uphold and meet the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- Urgent legislative action and policy changes must be made to permanently protect and defend existing natural ecosystems and animal habitats both on land and at sea as part of a "Global Safety Net" of biodiverse conservation sanctuaries to urgently stop species loss and to act as a climate stabiliser as envisaged in the esteemed scientific journal Science Advances.

- Urgent interventions be taken to drive and significantly expand conservation efforts by 1000% of current levels.
- The DA commit to ensuring that the highest possible level of environmentally sustainable practice is invoked, that it eliminates single-use plastics, maximally deploys widespread urban greening, and that every opportunity to invest in conserving, rewilding, and augmenting the natural environment and protecting biodiversity are taken both in policy and practice.
- The DA must aggressively defend, uphold and enforce Section 24 of the Bill of Rights on the Environment contained within the South African Constitution and enforce the law where infractions of our foundational rights have occurred.
- The DA must strongly advocate for the transition to the use of regenerative farming practices on a national basis which are ecologically sustainable in response to desertification and climate change.
- The DA lead an historic public-private civil society partnership which seeks to boldly plant 10 billion indigenous trees over the next 5 years, and to establish new biodiverse forest and grassland ecosystems and natural habitats to build our national climate resilience and adaptation.
- The DA work aggressively to create and massively expand permanently protected natural reserves and sanctuaries on land and at sea which amount to up to 40% of South Africa's land mass, and the maximum allowable in our maritime economic zones and the Marion Island dependency for natural habitats and ecosystems in harmony with human populations.

**Proposer:** Aimee Kuhl

**Seconded:** Hannah Shameema Winkler



## Resolution 26: COVID-19 and the wildlife trade

Noting that:

- Humans have triggered the sixth period of mass extinction and have destroyed 83% of all mammals and half of all plants;
- COVID-19 has made it clear that we can no longer address public health without also addressing our treatment of animals: how we trade, keep or treat them and how we protect their natural habitats;
- 70% of emerging infectious diseases in humans come from non-human animals, and COVID-19 is in all likelihood no different;
- Species, their habitats and biodiversity not only have an intrinsic right to be protected, but should in fact be much better protected, since together they aid human health by providing vital ecosystem services such as clean air and water, and protection against soil erosion, desertification and drought;
- Trade and commodification are the key reasons for human contact with wildlife;
- Preventing further pandemics over the next decade by protecting wildlife and habitat would equate to just 2% of the estimated financial damage caused by COVID-19 and would be almost cancelled out by another benefit of the action: cutting the carbon dioxide emissions driving the climate crisis;

Resolves that a DA National Government will:

- Take action to curb the wildlife trade as it is one of the most effective strategies to prevent future pandemics, and is necessary to reduce animal suffering and protect biodiversity and the people;
- Only allow the breeding, captivity, interaction and trade in wild animals and their body parts, whether indigenous or exotic, if it is for legitimate, proven, in-situ and ethical conservation reasons.

**Proposer:** Lindy Wilson

**Secunder:** Nazley Shariff



## Resolution 27: An end to the Captive Predator Breeding, captive and “canned lion” hunts and lion bone export

Noting that:

- Exploitative and cruel practices such as captive lion breeding for human interaction, canned hunting and the lion bone trade have been normalised for commercial purposes.

The DA resolves that a DA National Government will:

- Place an immediate national ban on lion and other big cat bone trade for commercial purposes, including from captive sources.
- Destroy all big cat bone stockpiles.
- Ensure that a forensic investigation and financial tracking of the industry is undertaken.
- Issue urgent regulations restricting the keeping and breeding of big cats.
- Undertake a complete and audited list of all big cat breeding and keeping facilities nationally and make this list publicly available

**Proposer:** Mbali Ntuli

**Second:** Hannah Shameema Winkler

### **Amendment:**

“The DA will engage reputable zoological and conservation international agencies to determine the effects of canned lion hunting and the bone trade with a view to determining whether an immediate ban is practicable, desirable or enforceable prior to any actions which may include:

- an immediate national ban on the lion and other big cat bone trade for commercial purposes, including from captive sources.
- The destruction of all big cat bone stockpiles.
- Any forensic investigation and financial tracking of the industry.
- Urgent regulations restricting the keeping and breeding of big cats”.

**Proposer:** Ghaleb Cachalia

**Second:** James Lorimer

## Resolution 28: Big Cat Industry

Noting that:

- The promotion of international trade in wildlife is inconsistent with the State's role as custodian of the environment and of biological diversity, and the environmental right in section 24 of the Constitution is not properly enforced or upheld and this has led to the objectification of the natural order and the living beings that are integral to it, which in turn leads to their commodification.
- There are no longer ANY wild lions which exist in South Africa part from game reserves and domestic environments. In a short space of time once thriving population of wild Lion Prides have been eliminated from South Africa entirely.
- Due to absolutely no government oversight we have tigers and lions now living in residential areas like Bryanston, Houghton, Sandton to name but a few as domestic pets in built up residential areas. If just one of these were to escape, they could cause immense harm to many people and it would all but certainly end in tragedy for both people and the animal concerned.
- Exploitative and cruel practices such as captive lion breeding for human interaction, canned hunting and the lion bone trade have no conservation value and are disgusting and abhorrent practices which give rise to "Carole Baskins" and "Joe Exotics" which were featured in the Netflix Series "Tiger King."
- Current environmental policy has reduced the country's natural resources to a mere 'faunal biological resource' and the unethical exploitation thereof and this has led to a range of highly problematic policy positions from defending the captive lion breeding industry to promoting a global return to trade in products such as lion bone, rhino horn and ivory right in the middle of an extinction crisis which threatens life on earth.
- The report of the PPCEA on the Colloquium on Captive Lion Breeding for Hunting in South Africa which was adopted by the National Assembly in December 2018 found that there "was an overwhelming consensus for the need to bring an end to the controversial aspects of captive lion breeding industry in South Africa and it "resolved that the Department should initiate a policy and legislative review of the lion bone trade and captive breeding industry "with a view to putting an end to this practice".
- South Africa's captive predator breeding industry is abhorrent in the eyes of the legal fraternity, the Constitutional Court and even the 'ethical' trophy hunting industry. It is extraordinarily difficult to justify its continuation on the grounds that it supports a mere 600 jobs and 500 others through a multiplier effect. And these jobs are built on the wholesale death and destruction of endangered that are a point of pride for South Africa. The industry is lucrative for a handful of breeders and traders who put tourists and employees at risk in terms of health and safety.
- The economic arguments in favour of continuing the industry are weak and at odds with Parliament's instruction that the industry be terminated.

- Neither the government nor anyone else knows the exact number of predators in captive facilities nor how many breeding, interaction or hunting facilities exist in South Africa.

Resolves that:

- The DA move to put an end to Captive Lion Hunting.
- The DA end the disgusting practice which removes new-born lion cubs from their mothers to serve as playthings for human petting.
- Convene stakeholder meetings with scientific experts and our best conservationists to discuss the dismantling of the captive Big Cat industry, including experts from the fields of animal welfare, sanctuary management and forensics, the SPCA as well as NGOs.
- Ensure that strengthened animal protection legislation is introduced as soon as possible with a focus on enhanced animal welfare and care with due respect for their sentience, along with the strengthening and oversight of the appropriate environmental legislation pertaining to the issuing of permits for the keeping, trade and hunting of wild animals and their body parts.

**Proposer:** Luyolo Mphithi

**Seconded:** Alexandra Abraham

## Resolution 29: Banning the use of animals in circuses

Noting that:

- 40 countries around the world have banned animal circuses to stop the exploitation of wild animals in the name of human entertainment;
- Animal circuses are widely acknowledged to cause great suffering to the wildlife kept in captivity by the circus owners;
- There have been numerous incidences of animal cruelty uncovered in animal circuses;
- Animal circuses exist purely for entertainment purposes and serve no educational or conservation purpose;
- Most animal circuses have closed down, except for one in South Africa, as public support has drastically decreased due to concerns over the treatment of wild animals in circuses;
- Using animals for entertainment purposes often involves very cruel and inhumane methods for training of wild animals to perform “tricks” and “stunts”;
- Many existing circuses have adapted, in line with concerns over animal welfare and public sentiment, by removing live animal performances and including other innovations, such as only human performers and holograms, in their programmes.
- DA policy recognises animal sentience. Animal suffering can never be justified.

Resolves that a DA National Government will:

- Enact legislation which puts an immediate end to the inclusion of performing animals (domestic and wild) in circuses.
- Require circuses to release their animals to sanctuaries where they will be free to live out the rest of their days without any further human exploitation. Circuses should contribute to the upkeep of the animals in sanctuaries.

**Proposer:** Cheryl Phillips

**Seconder:** Nelio Nhacuangue

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** Rustenburg/Kgetlengrivier Constituency

## Resolution 30: An end to zoos

Noting that:

- The caging of wildlife in zoo enclosures does not encourage conservation of animals but rather their commercialisation as products for human entertainment in the zoo environment;
- Caging of wildlife in zoo enclosures is an outdated, cruel and unnecessary practice which denies the animals contained in them the right to live full and content lives in their natural habitat, it does not in any way live up to their experience of life in the open world and the zoo environment consigns them to lead miserable existences constrained to what are tiny enclosures and places them entirely under the care of human beings;
- During times of economic downturn the welfare of these animals and their funding can be cut substantially, zoos can fall into severe disrepair which can kill and maim animals, and even though budgets can be cut with the stroke of a pen the welfare costs of these animals do not disappear, they just do not get taken care of and this has led to wildlife in South African zoos starving to death, not getting water, not receiving appropriate medical care, and being left in enclosures with other dead animals for weeks in conditions most human beings would find a violation of human decency;
- The South African national parks system has the potential to be a massive economic contributor to the tourism sector, and resources directed to zoos would be better expended on augmenting these natural resources which are presently underfunded and in need of urgent attention due to the ecological crisis.
- Securing educational outcomes is best achieved when wild animals are observed in their natural habitat and not in artificial and frequently far too small enclosures where natural behaviour is altered and causes great stress;
- South Africa has numerous world-renowned vast national parks where wildlife may be observed in their natural habitat - where complex familial and social structures are allowed to flourish allowing observers authentic experiences to achieve far better educational outcomes in nature as it exists;
- Encouraging South Africans to visit and support our national parks not only engenders a deep appreciation for our wildlife, but also highlights the importance of protecting and respecting our natural heritage;
- Teaching young school-going children about wildlife can best be achieved through visits to national parks and by watching wildlife far more intimately and without cruelty through incredible documentaries which render zoos redundant and archaic;
- The ethical and moral gravitation of contemporary environmental policy advocates strongly toward the shutting-down of zoos which serve little conservation value in real terms, and can have detrimental effects on wildlife populations and ecosystems when they are harvested from the wild leaving ecological holes which can actually lead to massive disturbances to existing ecosystems;

- The DA's policy on animal sentience recognises that animals should be treated with ethical consideration due to their rich emotional life with propensity to experience great suffering and stress. Thus, supporting zoos is not in line with existing DA policy;
- Case in point: There has been wide-spread public outcry and condemnation by the NSPCA over the plight of Opal the Orangutan who had been kept isolated in captivity for over 30 years at the Natal Zoological Gardens by circus owner Brian Boswell Wilke. Orangutans are considered sentient beings that are highly intelligent and emotional animals that live in complex social groupings. To keep them isolated is akin to placing them in a prison in solitary confinement. It is appallingly cruel, and it is widely accepted by experts that wildlife kept in captivity undergo significant harm to their well-being as it induces severe psychological distress. Opal's case is just one example of many tragic examples of animals in captivity that the tide of public sentiment has moved against.

Resolves that a DA National Government will:

- Begin a process with the aim of a sharp acceleration in the shutting down of all existing zoos;
- At the end of the phase-out of zoos, repurpose these premises to be used as animal sanctuaries and rehabilitation facilities.
- Adopt and implement legislation which puts an end to the opening of any zoos and eliminates them from South Africa.

**Proposer:** Roy Jankielsohn

**Seconder:** Selme Pretorius

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** Free State Province



## Resolution 31: Against inclusion of Threatened Or Protected Species (TOPS) under the Meat Safety Act 2000 for consumption and sale of derivative parts

Noting that:

- The farming of threatened, protected, and endangered wildlife such as rhinoceros, hippopotamus, giraffe, to name a few, for consumption of meat products and other animal derivatives in domestic use and for export presents alarming concerns for animal welfare and conservation efforts as it will directly increase their risk of extinction and demeans their intrinsic value and right to life as it conflates their continued existence with the purpose of only serving an exclusive economic function for human beings failing which without that they will then be permitted to go extinct;
- Protecting threatened or protected species (TOPS) in this manner will not impact on the industrial commercial ranching activities of the existing meat industry;
- Over 1 million animal species on Earth are at risk of extinction by 2050 as identified by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) in the Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019) amounting to an "Ecological Emergency" which means preserving threatened and protected species must be a priority;
- DEFF and the relevant provincial authorities are unable to account for present wildlife ranching, that it becomes apparent that the department will be wholly unable to provide effective oversight on additional ranching facilities that are breeding threatened or protected species for commercial use;
- The inclusion of TOPS species under a Meat Safety Act for human consumption is unprecedented and has garnered international attention and condemnation and the backlash has significantly damaged brand South Africa and our tourism prospects;
- The Landmark Pretoria High Court ruling by Judge Jody Kollapen in 2019 set a legal precedent on wild animal welfare that must be used to inform any decision to farm wildlife for commercial use.
- South Africa's natural heritage is world-renowned and based on our annual tourism revenue derived from eco-tourism which amounts to billions of Rands and millions of foreign tourist arrivals, South Africa cannot afford to damage its eco-tourism brand.

Resolves that:

- Not allow for the inclusion of Threatened Or Protected Species (TOPS) under the Meat Safety Act for consumption and/or sale of derivatives locally or for export.



**Proposer:** Hannah Shameema Winkler

**Seconded by:** Jill Humphreys

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** Germiston, Ekurhuleni

## Resolution 32: Ending the abhorrently inhumane and incredibly cruel practice of mass live animal export

Noting that:

- Live export is an incredibly cruel process which forces thousands of animals to be crammed together in unsanitary conditions while being placed in closed-off and badly ventilated spaces where they cannot move for days and sometimes weeks without any veterinary care or assistance while on ships and other vehicles that often sink, are subject to severe weather and which are otherwise subject to mechanical breakdown. These are vehicles which are not designed to provide any reasonable or humane conditions, but simply to transport the animals as cheaply as possible regardless of what harm may be inflicted upon them.
- The banning of this practice will not harm South Africa's domestic livestock industry as this does not stop them from engaging in their primary income generating activities like meat production.
- There is no 'nice' or humane way to send animals halfway around the world to be killed for meat. It is not necessary to do this as refrigerated meat is far easier to ship.
- The DA has acknowledged and respects non-human animals as sentient beings and that they are able to feel the same pain and emotions as human beings, and the DA also recognises their right to basic universal freedoms much like that which is provided in the constitution.
- Roughly 2% of the animals on any live export journey die from just from the journey itself. This is considered entirely normal. On a 5,867 cattle order for instance, that means it is acceptable for 117 animals to die just from being trampled, heat stress, exhaustion, distress while giving birth, and from dehydration and starvation.
- Many of the human beings who oversee this process deliberately harm the animals, are physically abusive to them, and engage in detestable cruelty almost like a sport, viewing the animals as nothing more than property and not living beings who can feel pain and emotions.
- Many of these animals are sentient to the point of displaying intelligence similar to that of human children, they mourn their dead and form friendships and social groups.
- Live export is despicable: Many of the animals who are placed on ships are pregnant and die giving birth due to the stress of live export on the high seas. Their young are normally crushed to death and die in transit, and if they survive are killed on arrival.
- These animals suffer from severe exhaustion, heat stress and dehydration, suffering extremes of temperature and often without sufficient food, water or rest. Many die as a result and are trampled to death especially on the high seas in rough weather like typhoons.
- Shipping thousands of live animals which stand tightly packed next to each other in sweltering heat and in their own faces and excrement on top of some

of their fellow cattle that have succumbed and died create the perfect circumstances for the rise of zoonotic diseases which can lead to global pandemics in human beings like COVID-19, MERS, Swine flu, Avian flu and many more. The dead are regularly thrown overboard like waste to be eaten by sea-creatures.

- There are constant incidents of devastation, like the Panamanian-registered 11,947-ton "Gulf Livestock 1" ship which was carrying 5,867 cattle and which sunk on the 3rd September 2020 in bad weather. What this means in graphic terms is that 5,867 cows who should never have been at sea suffered an horrific fate, first being subject to the initial crush weight of a capsizing ship in which they would have all first piled upon each other in mounds against bulkheads as the ship slowly listed to the side and then eventually capsized. The cattle who survived this and did not suffer from lethal blunt-force trauma and broken bones as a result, or who did not have heart attacks from stress and fear from their fellow cattle hitting them at speed and then piling up upon top of them would have been engulfed by rough seas and struggled to swim in the ocean eventually becoming exhausted, sinking below the waves and then drowning in the depths of the ocean.

A DA National Government resolves to:

- Enact legislation which puts an immediate end to the live export of all 'livestock'.

**Proposer:** Michael Bagraim

**Seconder:** George Michalakos

## Resolution 33: Companion animal legislation

Noting that:

- Annually, thousands of companion animals such as dogs and cats are abandoned, subject to cruelty and euthanised due to huge gaps in legislation and the regulatory framework;
- An unregulated industry leads to rampant illicit trade and lack of concern for the welfare of the animals bred. The introduction of a regulatory framework is urgently required and will benefit both breeders and animals;
- The NSPCA which has been given the sole mandate to prosecute and investigate animal cruelty across the entire country with no government funding;
- One unsterilized female dog and her offspring can be responsible for the birth of 67 000 puppies in a 6-year period. One unsterilized cat and her offspring can be responsible for 420 000 kittens being born in a 7-year period;
- A conservative estimation with figures being published from a few SPCA branches shows that more than 470 000 dogs and cats are euthanised every year within some of the branches of the SPCA. This figure does not take into consideration private welfare organisations with total euthanasiation figures conservatively tallied at over 600 000 per year;
- There are two by-laws that minutely deal with breeding and no provincial or national legislation that deal specifically with the breeding of domestic or companion animals. In turn, there is no regulation and no monitoring due to the lack of supporting legislations.

A DA Government resolves to:

- Adopt a Regulatory Framework into legislation to manage and curb the unregulated breeding of domesticated companion animals.

**Proposer:** Benedicta Van Minnen

**Seconder:** Hannah Winkler

## Resolution 34: Changing current baboon management protocols to align with Democratic Alliance policy on sentience of animals and international best practice

Noting that:

- Baboons form an integral part of natural ecosystems found through South Africa;
- Baboons are sentient animals and have well-established, complex family and social structures;
- Current Baboon Management Protocols are outdated. The use of bear bangers and paintballs as aversion practices are robustly condemned by the world-renowned Jane Goodall Institute and are not International Best Practice;
- Out-dated, unwieldy Buffalo and Rhino tracking collars, plus duplicate large ear tags are attached to these small primates. Tags and large collars interfere with the natural foraging behaviour of primates and reduce their alertness to predators, and dangers such as traffic;

The DA resolves that:

- When the DA is in government and when it is in opposition, it will uphold its' stated policy that all animals are afforded respect and care as sentient beings. This will include Chacma Baboon troops, which are a vital part of the Heritage of all South Africans, and risk extinction on The Cape Peninsula by 2030;
- Strategies, policies, systems, processes and protocols should be based on best practice, informed by verified scientific research, valid and interrogated data, innovation and least traumatic intervention;
- Re-location of individual Baboons, out of their Natal troops (families) must only be done in consultation with NSPCA and affected Communities (or Registered and long-standing CBO'S);
- Management of troops should include using long-term contraceptives to control population size, where possible this will be promoted above euthanasia or relocation;
- GPS Microchips should be implanted as required to track individual animals, this should be promoted above inappropriate collars and ear tags which both cause repeated chafe and tear injuries to the baboon when worn;
- DA Governed Local councils, where Baboon troops occur, will be required to supply all residents with Baboon-proof waste bins to reduce the temptation of food scraps being available, thus attracting Troops into residential areas and facilitating negative human/domestic pets/ baboon interactions. Where baboon-proof bins are not available for longer than 90 days residents may lock their bins with a functional locking system. The

same will apply to City bins placed on sidewalks and public open spaces where Baboons reside;

- Where Baboon troops occur within 3km of an urban edge, by-laws will be introduced and enforced where residents will be fined for non-compliance such as: a) not ensuring windows and doors are suitably barred b) not obtaining and using baboon-proof waste bins. Where communities or residents wish to have food gardens, or permitted farming, it must be done with a baboon mitigation plan, which is signed off by the relevant CBO's and Local Authority;
- New residential developments and new build houses will have conditions within Title Deeds to substantially encourage the reduction of human/baboon interactions thus reducing human/wildlife conflict;

**Proposed by:** Carolynne Victoria Franklin

**Seconded by:** Timothy James Brauteseth

## Resolution 35: Fireworks

The Democratic Alliance, being sensitive to the fact that fireworks are used for religious and cultural celebrations in South Africa and respecting the right to freedom of religion and related customs, but also being mindful of the need to protect our environment -

Notes that:

- The use of conventional fireworks causes damage to the environment;
- The use of conventional fireworks can lead to uncontrolled fires;
- The use of conventional fireworks results in hundreds of injuries every year, the majority in children under 16 years of age;
- The effects of percussion fireworks on birds and animals, both domestic and wild is far reaching and traumatic;
- The effects of conventional fireworks on people suffering from photosensitive epilepsy, people who are bipolar and people suffering from PTSD are seizures, panic attacks and uncontrollable anxiety;

Resolves that a DA National Government will:

Enact legislation which would:

- Immediately limit the sale and use of fireworks to dates that coincide with the use of fireworks for religious and cultural events and for such purposes only;
- Strictly enforce laws/bylaws pertaining to the sale and use of fireworks;
- Work towards totally phasing out acoustic fireworks within 5 years.

**Proposer:** Michael Bagraim

**Seconder:** Cheryl Phillips



## Resolution 36: Caucus leadership elections

I, Maritha Coetzee, wish to submit the following resolution:

That no Caucus Leadership be elected unless the full Caucus is in attendance or that those who cannot attend be given the opportunity to vote through a proxy.

It is of critical importance that a caucus leadership presents the will of all belonging to that caucus. It too often happens that someone is elected who clearly does not represent the will of the majority of its members just because everybody was not able to attend and the election proceeds because a date was established without considering everybody.

Either a date suitable for all must be chosen or councillors must be allowed to vote through a proxy vote.

**Proposer:** Maritha Coetzee

**Seconder:** Dr Chris Bester

### **Amendment:**

The proposed wording of this resolution is problematic as it could have unintended consequences. We have some very large caucuses (e.g. the City of Cape Town DA caucus has 154 members). To get all members present at a meeting can be extremely difficult and may delay the election permanently. Such a requirement could also open up to a small minority being able to block the election proceeding and thus leave the caucus without an elected leadership. Proxies are not an acceptable mechanism. Instead, the normal processes of adequate notification and quorums should be utilized.

I thus propose that the resolution be reworded in its entirety to read as follows:

“Caucus regulations should include a requirement of at least 10 working days’ notice of an election for any caucus leadership position. A minimum quorum of 2/3 of the caucus membership shall be applicable for the leadership election to proceed.”

**Proposer:** Ian Neilson

**Seconder:** Felicity Purchase

## INTERNAL PARTY RELATED

### Resolution 37: Saluting the courage of DA members for tirelessly serving their communities

Noting that:

- The COVID-19 pandemic and the hard lockdown implemented by the national government posed – and continues to pose – an unprecedented challenge to lives and livelihoods across South Africa;
- While members of other political parties viewed the lockdown as an opportunity to commit acts of corruption and steal from the poor, DA members, activists, councillors, mayors, members of provincial legislatures and members of parliament worked tirelessly to protect lives and livelihoods;
- In many cases, brave and caring DA members across the country used their own resources and put themselves at risk in order to assist vulnerable fellow citizens.

Resolves that:

- DA members, activists, Mayors, MMC's, our Premier, Provincial Ministers, Provincial Speaker and Deputy Speaker, MPLs and MPs from around the country be saluted and thanked for their ceaseless dedication to the people of our country in the face of an unprecedented disaster. Through their courageous actions, it is the brave men and women of the DA who have demonstrated more clearly than ever why only our party can be trusted with promoting and safeguarding the lives and livelihoods of the people of South Africa.

**Proposer:** John Steenhuisen

**Seconder:** Nqaba Bhanga

**Sponsored:** Ward 6 branch iLembe

## Resolution 38: Saluting the DA-run Western Cape for saving lives and livelihoods during a pandemic

Noting that:

- The COVID-19 pandemic and the long hard lockdown implemented by the national government posed – and continues to pose – an unprecedented challenge to lives and livelihoods, including in the DA-run Western Cape;
- While ANC-run health services immediately collapsed under the weight of decades of corruption, misrule and an incapable state, the DA-run Western Cape stood out as a shining beacon of good governance which built hospitals while other provincial governments dug graves;
- The DA-run Western Cape built four world-class emergency hospitals and brought the spread of COVID-19 under control faster than anywhere else in the country. Just as importantly, while ANC-run provinces used the pandemic to embark on a looting spree and showed contempt for the protection of jobs and livelihoods, the DA-run Western Cape maintained its world-class standard of honest and capable government, and did all it could to protect livelihoods from irrational lockdown regulations.

Resolves that:

- The DA-run Western Cape government be saluted and commended for building hospitals to quickly bring the pandemic under control, implementing measures to protect health care workers like the “red-dot” taxi project, and the urgent reprioritisation of funds to support businesses and protect livelihoods;
- The Democratic Alliance is enormously proud of the work done by the Western Cape government and provincial cabinet under the leadership of Premier Alan Winde, and encourages the provincial government to continue serving as an honest, capable and courageous beacon of hope to the citizens of South Africa.

**Proposer:** John Steenhuisen

**Seconder:** Bonginkosi Madikizela

**Sponsored by DA Structure:** Ward 6 branch, Illembé