

ATM MANIFESTO:

2024 NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

www.atmovement.org

ATM

AFRICAN TRANSFORMATION MOVEMENT

OFFICIAL SIGN-OFF

It is hereby certified that this ATM Manifesto:

- Was developed by the Extended National Executive Committee in preparation for contesting 2024 National Elections;
- Takes into account all the relevant prescripts of the ATM Constitution, legislation, policies, and other mandates for which the ATM is responsible for;
- Is aligned with the ATM Election Strategy for Contesting 2024 National and Provincial Elections, which ATM will contest.

Discussed and Agreed on by the Extended National Executive Committee on:	22 November 2023
Endorsed by the Secretary General on: **.....2023:** **Date:**	..... T. Khukula
Approved by the President on: **.....2023:** **Date:**	..... V. Zungula

FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA

FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA

We are Ready to Serve, Ready to Govern!!!

The imminent 2024 national general elections carry profound historical significance in the tapestry of South African history, especially as we commemorate the 30th anniversary of our democracy. It prompts us to reflect on the commitments made a quarter of a century ago during the inaugural democratic elections. In acknowledging the enduring challenges that persist in our society, the African Transformation Movement (ATM) recognizes the pressing need for transformative action. Positioned at the outset of a new era, the ATM stands as a beacon of hope, presenting itself as an alternative political home that extends its embrace to all South Africans.

In a ground-breaking approach to governance, the ATM redefines the role of politicians, affirming that they are in office to serve the people, not to bask in celebrity status. ATM's manifesto is a visionary blueprint that puts South Africans at the forefront, addressing key issues across various sectors.

Stringent measures against drug dealers, corrupt police officers, and unethical public servants, underscore ATM's commitment to justice and integrity. A robust system of effective border controls, coupled with enforcement of immigration laws which ensures legal movements to the Republic, bolstering national security.

The manifesto emphasizes a paradigm shift where South Africans are prioritized for jobs, business opportunities, and government contracts, fostering economic empowerment. Economic transformation takes centre stage, advocating for mass economic participation through locally manufactured goods to drive job creation. The bold proposition of state ownership of minerals, local processing, and exporting finished products aims to fortify the nation's economic backbone. ATM champions Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), calling for increased government budget allocation to stimulate entrepreneurship.

Educational transformation is a linchpin of this manifesto, promoting a skills-based curriculum tailored to the needs of the economy. A unique focus on the country's mineral wealth aims to equip South Africans with the expertise to process and refine their resources. Infrastructure investment remains a priority, with a commitment to building libraries, skills development centres, and educational facilities in townships and villages.

Land expropriation without compensation is proposed to ensure productive utilization of land, addressing food security, human settlements, and fostering economic participation. The transformative vision extends to the urban landscape, with plans to expropriate hijacked buildings in the inner city, creating world-class housing for affordable, quality living near economic hubs.

ATM positions the State at the heart of development, service provision, and problem-solving, promising a central role in shaping a progressive South Africa. This manifesto embodies a commitment to an inclusive, prosperous, and responsive nation, where citizens are not just served but are active participants in building a better tomorrow.

As we proudly present our manifesto during the significant period of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the ATM underscores its unwavering commitment to prioritizing the promotion of gender equality, and the protection of minority and vulnerable groups, with a specific focus on the welfare of women and children. This manifesto serves as a comprehensive blueprint for a South Africa that actively champions the rights and well-being of all its citizens, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, or socio-economic status. Through legislative measures, community engagement, and the creation of supportive frameworks, ATM aims to foster an environment where everyone, regardless of gender or background, can thrive and contribute to the nation's progress.
This manifesto is more than a document; it is a testament to our mission to build a South Africa where every individual, especially women and children, can live free from fear, discrimination, and violence.

This Manifesto of the ATM is based on the following ten (10) Primary Pillars of hope that will Put South Africans First by bringing change for a better tomorrow:

1. Peace, Justice, Safety, and Security.
2. Sustainable Economic Growth that Creates Jobs.
3. Land, Rural Development, and Food Security.
4. Sustainable Human Settlements and Basic Services.
5. Education and Skills Development.
6. Health and Social Services.
7. Royal and Faith Affairs.
8. Youth and Early Childhood Development.
9. Empowerment of Women and Other Vulnerable Groups.
10. Building a Corrupt-free and Responsive Developmental State.

In reflecting on the state of our nation, it is disheartening to observe a recurring trend where leaders prioritize personal agendas over the needs of society, fostering a sense of hopelessness among citizens who feel underserved. The government's historical failure to address the myriad crises facing our country has left a void that citizens, civil society, private sector, faith, and royal leaders have been compelled to fill. Rather than being at the forefront of solutions, the government's lack of effective action has inadvertently shifted the burden onto the shoulders of those who should be beneficiaries of their governance. This prevailing dynamic underscores the urgent need for a new era of leadership, one that places the welfare and aspirations of the people at the forefront, rekindling faith in the ability of governance to genuinely serve and uplift society.

We are READY TO SERVE! READY GOVERN!

……

Vuyolwethu Zungula

ATM President

Table of Contents

From The President To The People Of South Africa 2

1. Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern 1

   1.1 Founding Provisions And Objectives 1

   1.2 Political Principle 3

   1.3 Core Values [Put South Africans 1st] 3

2. Peace, Justice, Safety And Security, Now 4

3. Sustainable Economic Growth That Creates Jobs 8

4. Land, Rural Development And Food Security 16

5. Sustainable Human Settlements And Basic Services 18

6. Education And Skills Development 20

7. Health And Social Services 26

8. Royal And Faith Affairs 30

9. Youth And Early Childhood Development 31

10. Empowerment Of Women And Other Vulnerable Groups 32

11. Building A Corrupt-Free And A Capable Developmental State 38

1.READY TO SERVE: READY TO GOVERN!

1.1 Founding Provisions and Objectives

(a) The ATM is a faith-based National Political Party, established to create and develop a modern, healthy, happy, functional, democratic, fair and prosperous society that prides itself on integrity and inclusivity. It is thus established to seek political power, contest National, Provincial and Municipal Elections, and to ensure widespread presence all over South Africa.

(b) Our political ideology is **Humanism** in general and **African Humanism** in particular. The philosophical understanding of the ATM behind this Humanism ideology is that: **"There is Only One God and Only One Race, the Human Race".**

(c) The aims and objectives of the ATM are to:-

(a) offer all South African citizens a good quality of life, including, but not limited to, a peaceful life free from crime, a good health, food security, compulsory and free quality education, and employment and/or self-employment;
(b) promote Ubuntu [African wisdom], African languages, religious diversity, unity and patriotism among South African citizens;
(c) protect and advance the interests of vulnerable people like children, the elderly, disabled people and women;
(d) work for total liberation of the people of South Africa from all forms of racism, sexism, oppression, discrimination, poverty and ignorance, and promote Mixed Economy that is redistributive and empowering in nature; and
(e) promote a prosperous nation that supports environmentally sustainable development, world peace, disarmament and friendship among nations as well as unity of and close cooperation among African countries.

(f) Advocate for social justice and equality by addressing economic disparities, promoting equitable access to resources, and reducing income inequality.
(g) Support the preservation and promotion of South Africa's diverse cultural heritage, traditions, and artistic expressions while fostering an inclusive and tolerant society.
(h) Foster innovation and technological advancements to enhance South Africa's competitiveness in the global economy, thereby creating job opportunities and improving living standards.
(i) Strive for good governance, transparency, and accountability in all sectors of society, including government, business, and civil society.
(j) Strengthen South Africa's diplomatic relations and collaboration with other nations to achieve regional and global stability, peace, and security.
(k) Promote research, education, and science and technology development to advance knowledge and empower the South African workforce.
(l) Encourage citizen participation in the democratic process, ensuring that the government is responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people.
(m) Collaborate with non-governmental organizations, community groups, and other stakeholders to address social issues, provide social services, and empower local communities.
(n) Emphasize the importance of ethical leadership, accountability, and anti-corruption measures to build a trustworthy and responsible government.
(o) Work towards a healthcare system that provides accessible, affordable, and high-quality healthcare services for all South African citizens.
(p) Strengthen the rule of law and the justice system to protect the rights of all citizens and maintain public order and safety.
(q) Collaborate with international organizations and institutions to enhance South Africa's global standing and address common challenges like global health crises, climate change, and economic stability.
(r) Encourage entrepreneurship, innovation, and small business development to stimulate economic growth and reduce unemployment.

(s) Strive for a society that values and promotes inclusivity, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or other personal characteristics, fostering a culture of acceptance and respect.

1.2 Political Principle

(a) The Political Principle of the ATM is to transform South Africa into a peaceful, ethically-governed and economically viable State that upholds values entrenched in the supreme law of our country, the Constitution, supported by Ubuntu and Divinity, while embracing our hard-earned Human Rights, respecting one another and embracing diversity through non-racialism, for the benefit of all citizens.

(b) This will be achieved by uniting South Africans, who have different beliefs, religions, life-styles and ideologies; build a progressive democratic State, which addresses the needs of all those who live in it.

1.3 Core Values [**PUT S**outh **A**fricans 1st]

(a) The ATM subscribe to the following core values:

(i) **P**EACE: Create a society that is at peace with itself through active social dialogue and decisive leadership.

(ii) **U**BUNTU: ***"Umntu ngumntu ngabantu"*** (People is people because of other people; I am because you are; Humanity of the human being) – to live and breathe the values of Ubuntu on a daily basis as a people of the land;

(iii) **T**RANSFORMATION (African): Be forward thinking and innovative in the running of the affairs of the state;

(iv) **S**ERVANT LEADERSHIP: Be a servant of the people first and foremost, to ascertain sound leadership and governance; and

(v) **A**CCOUNTABILITY: Build a state governed with ethics and integrity to guarantee good governance and curb criminal activities in the public office.



2. PEACE, JUSTICE, SAFETY AND SECURITY, NOW

The foundation of the country's justice and legal system is based on a negotiated settlement. The Constitution which informs the basis of all laws is a result of compromise not the will and aspirations of millions of South Africans. As South Africa grapples with escalating crime rates, dwindling trust in the criminal justice system, and a decline in satisfaction with law enforcement, the ATM recognizes the urgent need for a transformative approach to ensure the peace, justice, safety, and security of our nation. The upcoming 2024 National General Elections provide a crucial opportunity for change, and the ATM is committed to Putting South Africans First by addressing these critical challenges.

Recent statistics in the peace and safety cluster reveal alarming trends. Over the past three years, both the Victim of Crime Survey and the South African Police Services, report an increase in murders. Satisfaction with the police and courts is on a rapid decline, particularly concerning the efficacy of the courts. South Africa finds itself in a state of internal conflict, jeopardising its social and political stability. The root causes are attributed to a lack of ethical leadership, the abandonment of divine values, and a departure from Ubuntu.

Porous borders enable crimes such as gun, goods, human trafficking, vehicle smuggling and other cross border crimes have become an occurrence. The phenomenon of protection fees has become prevalent in our communities as they impact both individuals and business operations. The low number of SAPS officers compounds the inability of the State to be effective in the fight against crime.

The prevalence of assault and rape, coupled with a disheartening police system, contributes to underreporting among victims who fear and mistrust the law enforcement authorities. The victimisation process lacks a victim-friendly approach. ATM acknowledges the need for an empathetic and supportive environment for survivors to come forward, fostering trust in the policing and judicial systems.

In line with the upcoming elections, **ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:**

1. Community Education and Empowerment:
    a. Launch initiatives to educate and empower communities, fostering a culture of law-abiding behaviour.
    b. Establish community-driven programs to enhance safety awareness and encourage citizens to actively contribute to their own security.
    c. Assist and empower Community Policing Forums.
2. Police Training and Resource Allocation:
    a. Ensure comprehensive training for police officers, focusing on dealing with organized crime.
    b. Provide necessary resources to law enforcement agencies, emphasizing the combat against organized crimes such as drugs, human trafficking, firearms trafficking, vehicle theft, hijacking, corruption, money laundering, and cyber-crimes.
3. Crime Reduction Strategies:
    a. Ensure the full implementation of existing effective strategies to combat crime.
    b. Counter the proliferation of firearms, a major contributor to violent crime.
    c. Improve safety and security in high-crime areas through community engagement, collaboration and the deployment of special tasks teams.
    d. Combat crime generators, including taxi and gang violence, and faction fighting.
    e. Enhance security measures at major public events to ensure the safety of citizens.
4. Protection of Women and Children:
    a. Implement measures to reduce crimes against women and children, addressing the root causes and providing support to survivors.
    b. Advocate for policies and programs that create a safer environment for vulnerable populations.

5. Improved Local Service Delivery:
    a. Enhance service delivery at the local level to mitigate the risk of service delivery protests.
    b. Promote effective communication between local government and communities to address concerns and prevent social unrest.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

- A Constitutional review process to ensure the Constitution is a reflection of the will of the people.
- Ensure that, in prisons, soft crime offenders are not mixed with hard-core criminals.
- Introduction of Capital Punishment to deal with heinous crimes and serial murders, ensure that heavier sentences are imposed for deserving categories of crime.
- Review the parole system and deny bail for certain categories of crime such as murder, rape, armed robbery and car hijacking.
- Review of the citizenship system and legal framework to ensure only native citizens run for public office and citizens with dual-citizenship are barred from occupying public office.
- Include criminal psychologists and other related experts in the correctional services.
- Transform our justice system by elevating components of the African-Customary Law in the modern society especially in rural areas.
- Ensure full integration of all former liberation movement soldiers (MK & APLA) into the security cluster to assist in combating crime.
- Stop the deliberate hunting, killing and discrimination of the LGBTQ+ community as we stand for the restoration of dignity and protection of all citizens.
- Deal decisively with the barbaric act of attack, murder, sexual assault, rape and violence against people with albinism.

- Strengthen community policing initiatives to build trust between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve, with an emphasis on crime prevention, community engagement, and problem-solving.
- Effective border controls to ensure legal movement of non-citizens and full enforcement of immigration laws.
- Life sentences without the possibility of release or parole for drug dealers, corrupt police officers & public servants.
- Employment of Police Reservists to boost police visibility, fight crime and increase the ratio of police to citizens.
- Training of citizens to take criminal statements and send to nearest police station in order to boost prosecutions.
- Deployment of SAPS Special Forces & SANDF to crime rampant areas where illegal mining, human and drug trafficking, forced prostitution, hijacking of buildings, production of counterfeit goods take place.
- Independence of Intelligence Department to protect the security of the state.
- Special Police force task teams to protect and investigate killings of Royal leadership.
- Labour convict system to ensure inmates work for the State for free as part of rehabilitation.
- Enhance victim support services, including counselling, legal assistance, and financial support, to ensure the well-being of victims and their families.
- Develop youth rehabilitation and diversion programs to address the root causes of juvenile delinquency and provide guidance and mentorship to at-risk youth.
- Improve the efficiency of the criminal justice system, reducing case backlogs, expediting trials, and ensuring timely justice for all.
- Launch a comprehensive campaign to combat domestic violence and gender-based violence, with increased protection for victims, awareness campaigns, and mandatory training for law enforcement and judicial personnel on handling such cases.
- Establish a victim compensation fund to provide financial support and assistance to victims of crime, including medical expenses, lost wages, and counselling.
- Enhance police accountability mechanisms, including independent oversight bodies and the implementation of body-worn cameras for officers to ensure transparency and accountability in law enforcement. ***Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!***

3. SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH THAT CREATES JOBS

South Africa holds the second largest economy in Africa, sharing an industrialised and upper-middle-income status with Botswana, Gabon, and Mauritius. In the post sanctions era, there were notable economic growth, with the GDP tripling in 2011. However, recent years have seen a decline. However foreign exchange reserves increased significantly from 2016 to 2017. Despite this, the stark reality of this economic landscape manifests in pervasive hopelessness, widespread unemployment, and deep-rooted poverty.

South Africa faces several challenges that impact economic growth:

1. Inefficient Government Bureaucracy: Businesses highlight the inefficiency of government bureaucracy as a significant impediment to smooth operations.
2. Political Instability: Political instability has been identified as a concern, potentially influencing investor confidence.
3. Corruption: Corruption remains a pervasive issue, affecting various sectors and contributing to a challenging business environment.
4. Lack of enforcement of laws: poor enforcement of labour, immigration laws by government on companies contributes to disparities in the labour market.

South Africa's recovery from the late 2000s recession has been driven primarily by private and public consumption growth. However, export volumes and private investment are yet to fully rebound. The long-term potential growth rate, under the current policy environment, is estimated at 3.5%, with per capita GDP growth improving at a slow rate.

The persistent issue of load shedding in South Africa not only jeopardizes the daily lives of our citizens but also poses a significant threat to the stability of the economy. As the nation grapples with frequent power outages, essential services, businesses, and households face severe disruptions, placing the livelihoods of the people in peril. The

gravity of the situation is exemplified by multinational companies which, in response to the unremitting challenges posed by load shedding, have expressed their intentions to disinvest in South Africa, leading to joblessness.

High levels of unemployment, exceeding 32%, coupled with pervasive inequality, represent critical economic challenges. Recognized by both the government and citizens, these issues have created a complex web of interconnected problems, including crime, which further hampers investment, growth, and employment. Crime is notably considered a significant constraint on investment by 30% of enterprises in South Africa, placing it among the top concerns.

It is crucial to address the impact of external factors on South Africa's economic health. On April 29, 2020, Standard & Poor's Global Ratings (S&P) further downgraded South Africa's sovereign credit rating into non-investment grade, commonly referred to as junk status. The unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic on South Africa’s public finances and economic growth were cited as significant factors influencing this ratings action.

The structure of the South African economy is defined by oligopolies that control more than 90% of market share in virtually all industries. The economic framework keeps out new players and there are barriers to entry for new players which would ensure a competitive economy that grows the economy and creates jobs. This dominance by a few companies negatively affects the government’s construction of economic policies, as the policies are pro-business. This current structure an economy that can be manipulated by elites to serve their capitalistic agendas is a recipe for inequality, poverty, increase in cost of living, depression, unemployment, collusion, manipulation of prices as we saw with the different cartels who monopolised various sectors such as the sale of bread, and the construction of the 2010 world cup stadiums. The recent manipulation of the rand by banks which led to widespread poverty, repossession of houses, cars, and other assets depicts the extent to which capital can go in order to make profit.

In the face of recent economic challenges, Standard & Poor's Global Ratings (S&P) has delivered a sobering assessment, projecting that South Africa's cost of servicing public debt is set to rise to approximately 6.5% of GDP by 2023. Additionally, S&P forecasts a 4.5% contraction in South Africa's GDP for the current year, a slightly more optimistic outlook compared to the South African Reserve Bank's projection of a 6.1% shrinkage. These predictions emphasize the urgent need for comprehensive economic strategies to address debt dynamics and stimulate robust recovery.

South Africa, endowed with abundant natural resources including gold, diamond, iron, copper, petroleum, uranium, salt, and platinum, stands at a crossroads. Despite this wealth, the country grapples with interconnected challenges such as poverty, inequality, marginalization, and the struggle for sustainable economic development. The grand words of potential progress must now be translated into concrete actions that uplift the lives of all South Africans.

In the broader Southern African Development Community (SADEC) region, particularly in rural areas, ensuring access and usage of affordable and quality financial services is pivotal. While access to financial services has received attention, the focus on increasing usage is critical for the reduction of poverty and inequality. Beyond individual well-being, the macroeconomic benefits of enhanced financial inclusion contribute to the overall promotion of economic growth. Unfortunately, the exclusion of women from financial services is a persistent issue in many SADEC countries, hindering the full realization of economic potential.

South Africa's economic growth trajectory has been marked by fluctuations. In the decade preceding the first democratic elections, trade and capital flow sanctions, coupled with political turmoil, hampered economic growth. Post-1994, improvements were observed, driven by a more liberal trade regime and the removal of trade barriers. However, recent years have seen challenges emerge, including the global financial crisis and shifting global alliances, making the export business more daunting and impacting economic growth.

Export promotion is identified as a crucial strategy for meeting South Africa's growth and development goals. However, this imperative comes with a caveat. Increased exports often correlate with higher levels of greenhouse gas emissions, posing a dilemma in the pursuit of responsible growth. Balancing economic ambitions with environmental sustainability is a pressing challenge that demands innovative and strategic solutions.

As South Africa approaches the 2024 National General Elections, addressing these economic complexities becomes paramount. The ATM envisions a South Africa where economic policies align with environmental responsibility, where financial inclusion is a reality for all, and where political stability reinforces economic resilience. By Putting South Africans First, ATM aims to guide the nation towards a future characterized by sustainable economic growth, reduced inequality, and inclusive prosperity. Vote ATM for a South Africa that Transforms Challenges into Opportunities!

The African Transformation Movement (ATM) is committed to addressing these challenges and fostering sustainable economic growth that creates jobs. Our agenda includes:

1. Economic Transformation: Implementing strategic economic reforms to streamline government bureaucracy, enhance labour market flexibility, and attract skilled workers.
2. Investment in Education and Skills Development: Prioritizing education and skills development to address the shortage of skilled workers and boost productivity.
3. Anti-Corruption Measures: Implementing robust anti-corruption measures to create a transparent and ethical business environment.
4. Crime Prevention Strategies: Developing comprehensive crime prevention strategies to address security concerns and boost investor confidence.
5. Job-Centric Policies: Formulating policies that specifically focus on job creation and inclusivity, aiming to reduce unemployment and inequality.
6. Opening up markets: preventing monopolies and oligopolies by promoting fair competition and preventing anti-competitive practices.

ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Taking an advantage of shift of global power towards developing countries by maximising South African regional and international influence over the next 20 to 30 years. Policy-making should be driven such that it grows the economy, reduce poverty and inequality, and improve quality of life of all South Africans.
- Deliberately promote those who previously had unequal access to opportunities because of gender, religion, race, colour and other points of disadvantage. We will do this mindful that creating opportunities requires the construction of a stable and growing economy.
- Ensuring that the government pay service providers within stipulated time frames, especially the small and medium businesses.
- Prioritising economic growth that integrates environmental, economic and social objectives.
- Transform the structure of the economy to enable various players and remove the barriers to entry for economic participation in some industries.
- Improvement of the legal framework and oversight mechanism to fight against illicit financial flows, base erosion, and profit shifting.
- Review of the country's membership and signatories in international organisations and statues to ensure national interests of the country are not undermined by international organisations and treaties.
- Regulating multinational companies in the digital economy such as Uber, Airbnb and others in order to ensure they operate in line with the respective laws of the country and their operation in the country benefits the citizens of the country.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

Maximizing Regional and International Influence:

- Leverage the shift of global power towards developing countries by actively participating in regional and international forums, alliances, and partnerships.

- Advocate for policies that enhance South Africa's influence in global decision-making bodies to ensure a voice in shaping economic and social policies.

Promoting Equal Opportunities:

- Implement affirmative action policies that actively promote individuals who have historically faced discrimination based on gender, religion, race, and other points of disadvantage.
- Recognize that stable and growing economic conditions are essential for creating opportunities and prioritize policies that foster economic stability.
- Effective enforcement of laws (labour, BBEE, immigration) to ensure companies comply with the respective laws of the country. Prioritisation of citizens for job opportunities.
- Determination of percentage of funding for PIC to fund local production driven initiatives.
- Determination of commitments by government funded companies to create minimum prescribed number of jobs for all publicly funded initiatives.
- Abolish labour brokers, and harsh penalties against companies and individuals that exploit workers and create working conditions akin to slavery.

Timely Payments to Service Providers:

- Enforce strict timelines for government payments to service providers, especially small and medium-sized businesses, to ensure their financial stability and encourage broader economic growth.
- Implement transparent and efficient financial management systems to streamline the payment process.

Integrated Economic Growth:

- Develop and implement policies that prioritize economic growth while balancing environmental, economic, and social objectives.
- Encourage sustainable practices in industries to minimize the environmental impact while fostering economic development.

Boosting Export Promotion:

- Focus on export promotion initiatives to boost economic growth, create jobs, and enhance South Africa's global competitiveness.
- Implement targeted strategies to promote export-oriented industries that align with the country's strengths and capabilities.

Industrialization through Manufacturing and Beneficiation:

- Shift the economic focus towards industrialization by encouraging manufacturing and beneficiation processes within South Africa.
- Diversify the economy by reducing dependence on exporting raw materials, which is crucial for sustainable development and job creation.
- Reopening of closed and abandoned factories for local production.

Disadvantaged Ownership in Emerging Sectors:

- Prioritize policies that provide opportunities for historically disadvantaged individuals to have ownership in emerging sectors, such as mining and manufacturing.
- Implement measures to break down barriers to entry and promote inclusivity in these sectors.
- Transformation of the township and rural economies to ensure mass economic participation of citizens

State-Owned Bank and Communal Banks:

- Establish a state-owned bank connected to communal banks to reshape the banking sector's structure and provide marginalized communities with ownership and access to financial services.
- Use the state-owned bank to facilitate financial inclusion and support community-based economic development.

Protecting and Transforming the Informal Sector:

- Structure the informal sector in a way that protects the interests of local and indigenous people.
- Implement policies to regulate informal businesses, ensuring fair practices and opportunities for local communities.
- Employment of Small Business Inspectors to ensure all small businesses comply with the relevant and respective legislation.
- Structure the informal economy as a catalyst for local manufacturing through banning the import of certain basic goods.
- Local production in each District of basic goods such as soap, towels, candles, footwear, clothes, milk and dairy products, cleaning products etc in order to ensure diverse producers in the economy.

Support for SMMEs and Local Procurement:

- Provide financial and other support to Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), including subsidies for the taxi industry and training and funding for community-based entrepreneurs.
- Enact a government policy that compels government spending of at least 50% to be directed to local SMMEs to stimulate local economies and create a conducive environment for SMME growth.
- Set aside all government contracts under R10 million purely for SMME's.
- Provide access to markets for SMME's and co-operatives through legal frameworks of eco-systems. SMME's and co-operatives must benefit from the respective

economies in their localities. E.g. school uniform production for public schools to be enabled that SMME's and co-operatives be the preferred suppliers.

Incentivizing Sustainable Export Sectors:

- Develop and implement policies that incentivize export sectors to simultaneously drive economic growth and decrease greenhouse gas emissions.
- Align export incentives with sustainability goals to promote environmentally friendly practices within export-oriented industries.
- Compulsory local processing of minerals and exportation of finished goods. To ensure mine and farm workers are co-owners of the mines and farms that they work in.

Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!



4. LAND, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD SECURITY

The ATM believes that land is a very essential component of any country, which without it no ownership, development and production can be claimed. In all its facets and faces, development like agricultural development, technological development, infrastructural development and economic development, all depends on land and can only be done on land. All necessities like food, water, shelter, clothes, fresh air, etc. come from the land. ATM acknowledge the imbalances of land ownership in South Africa and fully agree that an effective policy should be put in place to correct this. However, all that should be done in a manner that does not violates democracy, human rights, the rule of law, secure property rights and peace. State control over land undermines political rights, locks up the collateral value of land, and violates the principles underlying economic efficiency.

Rural Development may be defined as a positive advancement of existing human capacity, practices and potential of people in rural areas through improvement of rural institutions and systems, expansion of rural infrastructure, and growth in rural economic activities for better rural life and its continued contribution to lifestyle development. Rural



development does not mean urbanization of rural areas, rather the incorporation of the indigenous knowledge and natural resources management to achieve development in rural areas. There is a growing recognition that past and present rural development initiatives have not translated into concrete delivery within rural localities with the required adequate scale and impact.

The current food insecurity situation has a gender bias, with women-headed households more vulnerable than male-headed households; and girls under six years of age more prone to stunting due to poor nutrition than boys. There is a clear racial bias, with Black South African households making up the vast majority of food insecure homes. There is also a glaring rural bias, with rural households being far more prone to food insecurity than urban homes. The widespread inequality and grinding poverty affecting half of our population results in inadequate food supply, poor nutrition, unstable food supply and weak emergency food management systems. Inadequate social safety nets, high unemployment and high prevalence of HIV/AIDS further exacerbate food insecurity. The chronic lack of food security experienced by more than a third of the country's population highlights severe, threatening inequalities in South African society.



ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Eradicating rural poverty by ensuring that rural communities have equitable access (the opportunity to reach, use or visit) to basic services like infrastructure, education health care, sanitation, etc.
- Making rural communities vibrant and rural villages sustainable and economically sound.
- Programme of action to ensure all households with available land are given the necessary support and resources to farm in order to boost food security.
- Work with Royal leadership to ensure a sustainable rural development programme.
- Expropriation of land without compensation to ensure food security, adequate human settlements, and economic participation of the natives.
- Limit land ownership strictly to South African citizens.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

- Create jobs in rural areas by investing more on rural enterprises, small-scale farmers, agro-industries, agri-parks, rural infrastructure, rural health care facilities and other initiatives that seek to eradicate rural poverty.
- Prioritise a policy intervention that support land reform which redistributes the land to dispossessed and landless people, along with investment in farming equipment and technical skills transfer to beneficiaries. This land reform policy must be done in a manner that does not tamper with the peace and stability of the country.
- Support Rural Development and Food Security by introducing “Green Revolution” in rural areas and ensure that it is integrated with other rural development initiatives (e.g. village business malls). Rural Development must not just be about agriculture.
- Enhance the land tenure security in communal areas, prioritising women.
- Resuscitate agricultural colleges and reintroduce agriculture and entrepreneurship as subjects in lower levels of basic education. Also, modernise agriculture to be the career of choice for youth.
- Embark on a FARMING REVOLUTION to ensure all households with arable land have the necessary resources and support to farm in order to boost food security.
- Hiring Assistant Agriculture Practitioners to spearhead the Farming Revolution.
- Legislate that retailers source a minimum 50% of their produce from local emerging farmers in order to boost the market for emerging farmers.

Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!



5. SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND BASIC SERVICES

Section 26 of the Constitution of Republic of South Africa states that Everyone has the right to have access to adequate housing. The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of this right. The demand for housing in South Africa requires a high level of government intervention and investment. South Africa faces a challenge regarding the acceleration of housing delivery. Many plans and programmes regarding this issue are currently in place; however, the pitfall exists in the implementation. The South African Government faces many challenges, such as the housing backlogs and social and economic segregation. The need for additional funding and land availability adds to this challenge.

Mechanisms for housing are pointers for sustainable communities. The nine (9) mechanisms of the Comprehensive Plan for Sustainable Development are: supporting the entire residential market, from housing to human settlements; instruments; institutional arrangements; institutions and capacity; financial arrangements; creating jobs in provision of housing; awareness; communication; and monitoring and evaluation (Centre for Development Support, 2010).

The Department of Housing states that the most critical threats to the sustainability of settlements in South Africa are water scarcity, crime and the fear of crime, HIV/AIDS, growing poverty, institutional complexity and the underperformance and inefficiency of parts of the public sector.

ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Advancing the point that delivering public and basic services is not a favour, it is a democratic right and a legitimate expectation, which our leadership should respect and endeavour to fulfil.
- Dealing with housing and basic services backlog so that the demand does not exceed the supply. Backlogs are increased by national population growth, trends of urbanisation and inadequate delivery to address the historical backlog.
- Promoting flexibility in design so that house designs may be altered according to land availability, preferences and affordability.
- Setting realistic targets of eradicating informal settlement and ensuring that every South African has a decent housing. Where they still exist provide clean water, sanitation and affordable electricity.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

- Creating Integrated Sustainable Human Settlements through, mixed land uses, mixed-use of housing options, sufficient services and infrastructure, open areas and recreational facilities, proper access to social and economic amenities.
- Housing that is inclusive and integrated with simultaneous provision of social and economic amenities like schools, community halls, health care facilities, parks, recreation facilities, transport facilities, places of worship, community halls, job opportunities, etc.
- Introduce larger stand areas, which promotes future additions to existing structures, and rental rooms that may provide a source of income to beneficiaries.
- Use provision of housing and basic service to create jobs for local communities and promote local procurement without compromising quality.
- Review housing requests list annually as means of verifying if the need for a house still exists and prioritise those who are in desperate need for a house.
- Drive economic development in rural areas so that people are not compelled to move to cities in search for the better opportunities.
- Social Housing programme to be properly funded and made more accessible to all those who qualify.

- Provision of safe, clean water for all citizens.
- Expropriation of hijacked, dilapidated inner-city buildings to be transformed into student accommodation and world class, affordable, quality living facilities situated close to areas of economic activity. ***Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!***



6. EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



The state of education in South Africa is not just a concern but a crisis, with deep-rooted issues that demand urgent attention and comprehensive reform. Despite being fundamental to economic growth, the current education system falls short, especially in preparing students for the complexities of life after school. The impact of this crisis is felt most acutely by black children, underscoring the urgent need for transformation to address the historical imbalances that persist.

Global assessments paint a bleak picture of South Africa's education standing. The World Economic Forum's Global Competitive Index report ranked the country 114th out of 137 for the quality of its education system. A more nuanced analysis by the Southern and Eastern Africa Consortium for Monitoring Educational Quality (SACMEQ) revealed that South Africa's average student mathematics and reading scores are respectively 8th and 10th out of 15 countries, highlighting a pervasive struggle with core educational competencies.

Internally, a Department of Basic Education analysis found that a staggering 32.4% of learners born between 1990 and 1992 dropped out of the secondary education system, signalling a systemic failure that must be urgently addressed. Furthermore, South Africa's education system has been globally recognized for its shortcomings, ranking 75th out of 76 countries in a 2015 OECD table. The revelation that 27% of pupils attending school in South Africa for six years cannot read is shocking, especially considering that in a sample of 100 learners who start grade 1, 50% drop out even before the end of the matric year in the very same sample.

The misalignment between the education system and the economic pillars of the country, such as minerals resources, exacerbates the challenges. The outdated curriculum fails to equip students with the skills demanded by the job market, hindering economic progress. Early childhood development is the bedrock of educational reform, yet it is often overlooked. The high dropout rate from secondary education further compounds the problem, limiting opportunities and perpetuating cycles of poverty.

While South Africa invests substantially in education, the outcomes fall short, resulting in learners ill-equipped for the demands of the modern world. The ATM recognizes the urgency of educational reform, pledging to address systemic issues, align education with economic needs, and prioritize early childhood development. A vote for ATM is a vote for a transformative educational future that empowers all South African children, breaking the cycle of inequality and unlocking the nation's true potential.

In our unwavering commitment to youth development and the advancement of education, the ATM envisions a future where learning and teaching are enriched through strategic initiatives, particularly in higher learning institutions.

ATM recognizes the critical role that safe and conducive accommodation plays in fostering a positive learning environment. To address the current challenges faced by students, we propose a significant increase in centrally based student accommodation. This expansion will focus on the expropriation and conversion of inner-city hijacked buildings into world-class student residences.

Our plan involves strategically locating these accommodations within the immediate proximity of universities. This ensures not only convenience for students but also enhances their safety. Proximity to academic institutions encourages a conducive study environment, reduces commuting time, and promotes a sense of community among students.

ATM is committed to transforming these expropriated buildings into world-class accommodations, equipped with modern facilities and amenities. This includes state-of-the-art study spaces, recreational areas, and essential services to create an optimal living and learning experience for our students.

To ensure the success of this initiative, ATM advocates for collaborative partnerships with academic institutions, local authorities, and private stakeholders. We can effectively address the challenges associated with student accommodation and contribute to the overall improvement of the higher education landscape.

In addition to addressing the housing crisis, our plan for expropriation and conversion contributes to urban renewal. It promotes economic empowerment through job creation during the renovation process and fosters a positive impact on the communities surrounding these institutions.

ATM's approach to enhancing the learning and teaching process in higher learning institutions is a holistic strategy that recognizes the interconnectedness of student accommodation, safety, and the overall educational experience. Through the expropriation and conversion of inner-city hijacked buildings, we aim to create an educational environment that empowers our youth, fosters academic excellence, and contributes to the broader development of our nation.

ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Ensuring quality education system, which is free, compulsory and transformative (applied knowledge), and able to respond to our economy, our needs and mineral wealth.
- Decisively deal with crime in schools and ensure that they are safe and secured.
- Prioritising education for self-reliance and livelihoods for the youths.
- Dealing with high rate of teacher absenteeism and reward the best performing teachers.
- Accelerating free, skills-based, and decolonised education system that promotes entrepreneurship development
- Expropriating inner city hijacked buildings and converting them into world class student accommodation
- Increase in infrastructure investment for libraries, skills development centres and other educational facilities in the townships and villages.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

Investment in Human Capital:

- Establish comprehensive scholarship programs to ensure access to quality education for all citizens, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Implement continuous professional development for teachers to keep them abreast of the latest teaching methodologies and technologies.

Collaboration with Independent Schools:

- Foster partnerships with independent schools to exchange best practices, share resources, and enhance the overall quality of education.
- Create a collaborative platform where public and independent schools can jointly address challenges and implement innovative teaching approaches.

Learning from Successful African Models:

- Conduct in-depth studies of education systems in successful African countries to identify best practices and strategies for improvement.
- Establish a task force to analyse successful educational models and adapt relevant aspects to the South African context.

Teacher Training Institutes:

- Reopen teacher training institutes and invest in rigorous training programs to ensure that educators are well-equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge.
- Prioritize ongoing professional development for teachers to enhance the quality of teaching across all levels.

Support for Struggling Learners:

- Implement early intervention programs to identify and support learners who are at risk of dropping out or struggling academically.
- Provide targeted resources and mentorship programs to help learners overcome challenges and succeed academically.

Enhanced School-Parent Relationship:

- Establish platforms for regular communication and collaboration between schools and parents to create a supportive learning environment.
- Promote initiatives such as parent-teacher associations and workshops that encourage parental involvement in their children's education.

Improved School Infrastructure:

- Launch a comprehensive infrastructure development plan aimed at transforming schools into conducive learning environments, particularly in rural and township areas.
- Ensure that schools have proper water and sanitation facilities to create a conducive and healthy learning environment.

Depoliticization and De-commercialization of Education:

- Develop policies to insulate the education sector from political influence, ensuring that educational decisions are based on merit and the best interests of students.
- Implement measures to reduce commercialization in education, such as limiting the influence of private entities and focusing on the public good.

Reintroduction and Professionalization of Sports, Arts, and Culture:

- Reinstate and prioritize sports, arts, and cultural programs in schools to foster holistic development.
- Provide training and support for educators involved in sports, arts, and cultural activities to ensure a high standard of professionalism.

Promotion of African Languages:

- Incorporate African languages, including Khoi and San, into the curriculum of higher education institutions.
- Support research and initiatives aimed at preserving and promoting indigenous languages, fostering a sense of cultural identity. ***Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!***



7. HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

South Africa faces a critical healthcare crisis, with a system that ranks last among 19 countries in global efficiency, highlighting the urgent need for comprehensive reforms. The majority of the population, approximately 80%, relies on the underfunded and poorly managed public healthcare system, comprising over 400 hospitals. However, especially in rural areas, these hospitals often lack essential facilities, face a dire shortage of ambulances, and compromise access to medication.

The recently promulgated National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill and Medical Schemes Amendment Bill signal a significant shift in addressing the widespread inefficiencies and inequities in the healthcare system. South Africa's public healthcare services have been a cause for national concern, with many citizens facing the grim reality of inadequate services. The NHI aims to rectify this by ensuring that quality health services are accessible to all citizens, regardless of their economic status.

The disparity in healthcare access is stark, with over 42 million citizens relying on public health facilities due to the unaffordability of private healthcare. The prevalence of HIV, tuberculosis, and the rise of lifestyle diseases further exacerbate the challenges faced by the public health system. This situation demands urgent attention and transformative measures to ensure that healthcare becomes a fundamental right for all South Africans.

The ATM recognizes the urgency of healthcare reform and commits to addressing the systemic issues plaguing the public healthcare system. A vote for ATM is a vote for accessible, quality healthcare that prioritizes the well-being of all citizens, irrespective of their economic status. ATM pledges to invest in healthcare infrastructure, improve ambulance services, and ensure the availability of essential medications, particularly in underserved rural areas. Through these measures, ATM aims to revolutionize South Africa's healthcare landscape, providing a healthier and more equitable future for all.

In our commitment to building an inclusive and healthier South Africa, the African Transformation Movement acknowledges the significant role that traditional healers play in the well-being of our citizens. We recognize that approximately 60% of South Africans rely on or are dependent on traditional healers. ATM acknowledges the vital contribution of abo-gobela and herbalists in healing our communities. We appreciate their deep knowledge of herbs and their commitment to the well-being of our people. In our manifesto, we pledge to recognize, support, and empower these gifted individuals who provide essential health services grounded in centuries-old wisdom.

As part of our vision for a holistic and inclusive healthcare system, ATM is committed to integrating traditional healing practices into the broader healthcare framework. This includes creating avenues for collaboration between traditional healers and Western healthcare professionals to ensure comprehensive and culturally sensitive healthcare solutions.

While ATM emphasizes the reopening of post-1994 closed colleges for Western healthcare professionals, we equally recognize the immense value of African gifted herbalists. We pledge to invest in education and training programs for herbalists, equipping them with modern knowledge while preserving and enhancing their traditional healing expertise.

ATM advocates for a healthcare system that values and includes the rich tapestry of healing practices in our diverse society. We will actively engage with traditional healers, herbalists, and communities to ensure that their perspectives and knowledge are integral to our healthcare policies.

Our commitment to universal healthcare extends beyond conventional medical practices. We envision a healthcare system that embraces the diversity of healing traditions, ensuring that all South Africans have access to the healthcare that resonates with their beliefs and cultural heritage.

ATM's manifesto is a testament to our dedication to building a healthier, more inclusive nation that values and integrates the wealth of knowledge held by our traditional healers. Together, let us shape a healthcare system that celebrates the mosaic of healing practices present in our beautiful country.

In our unwavering dedication to comprehensive youth development and the well-being of our communities, the ATM proudly introduces a visionary initiative within our manifesto: the strategic and widespread employment of Environmental Health Practitioners (EHPs) across the nation. Recognizing the critical role these professionals play in safeguarding public health and safety, ATM is committed to deploying qualified EHPs to address environmental challenges at both community and institutional levels. This initiative aligns with our broader goal of creating sustainable employment opportunities and contributing to economic growth. By focusing on areas such as monitoring water quality, ensuring food safety standards, and strengthening environmental policies, ATM aims not only to address crucial public health issues but also to empower our youth with meaningful employment in a field vital to the well-being of our society. Through collaborative partnerships, continuous training, and capacity building, we envision a South Africa where EHPs play a central role in creating healthier and more sustainable communities, fostering a brighter and more prosperous future for all.

ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Ensuring universal access to healthcare and social services.
- Delivering quality and affordable healthcare and quality social services to all citizens.
- Dealing with the lack of governance and accountability, and corruption that has led to several provinces going into chronic budget deficit.
- Empowering indigenous healers
- Investing in herbalist and clinical education.
- Ensuring there is inclusivity and community engagement.
- Accelerate and promote the hiring of qualified Environmental Health Practitioners to combat the widespread of fatal counterfeit goods.
- Making it worthwhile for health practitioners to practice in health facilities location in the rural areas.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

- Reopening of nursing colleges that were closed down, structuring PPPs to allow more nurse training, opening additional medical schools (with private sector participation, funding, etc.) and increased funding for academic medicine in order to train more nurses, GPs and specialists. The existing medical schools should increase its intake of students.
- Disease prevention strategies such as education on disease screening and lifestyle changes, which can significantly reduce these growing epidemics. South Africa's disease burden is weighted heavily towards conditions requiring long-term treatment, such as TB, HIV, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, etc.
- Decentralisation of authority for staffing, financial management, procurement and disciplinary decisions to hospital level, accompanied by clear accountability at the same level, so that hospital managers are motivated to make choices that improve the operation of their facilities. Ensuring universal access to quality health care and improve the services offered by current health institutions.

- Creation of a new regulatory category of medical scheme aimed at lower income individuals that would increase access to private care and reduce the burden on the public health system.
- Supporting the social wage, which includes the provision of sufficient social welfare grants and pensions, linked to cost-of-living increases.
- Full employment of EHPs throughout the Republic, to ensure food safety and removal of fake, expired and rejected foods in all establishments.
- Making mental healthcare facilities easily accessible, especially for the disadvantaged.
- A widescale crackdown on all unregistered doctors masquerading as registered medical practitioners.
- Ensuring that sanitary towels are free and funded completely by the state, with special focus in rural areas as well as townships.

Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!

8. ROYAL AND FAITH AFFAIRS

Section 212 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and legislation is not explicitly clear on the role of Royal Leaders in this country and that needs urgent attention as it is an anomaly in an African country.

In South Africa, official state law consists of a Western and an African component. The Western component entails common law, which is Roman-Dutch law, as influenced by English law and adapted and further developed by court decisions. The African component consists of that customary law which has been incorporated into legislation and the decisions of courts. This constitutes the official legal pluralism in South Africa.

In South Africa there is no equal recognition of Royal and Faith institutions and they are not given equal space in the public domain for nation building.

In our holistic vision for the transformation of South Africa, the ATM acknowledges the pivotal role that faith institutions play in moral regeneration and the critical fight against lawlessness, particularly within our educational institutions. The ATM manifesto recognizes the profound impact that faith and royal institutions have on instilling values, ethics, and a strong moral compass in the hearts of our youth. We advocate for the active recognition and inclusion of the faith fraternity in our country, as their involvement contributes significantly to fostering a sense of community, discipline, and respect for authority. By recognizing the crucial role of the faith sector, we aim to create a collaborative environment where spiritual leaders actively engage in moral and ethical guidance within schools. This integration not only addresses the growing issue of lawlessness but also promotes a harmonious society where shared values contribute to the holistic development of our youth. Through partnerships with the faith fraternity, ATM is dedicated to creating a South Africa that values moral regeneration, discipline, and respect as foundational pillars for a brighter, law-abiding future for all.

ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Ensuring full recognition, respect, dignity and support to all our Kingdoms, Kings, Chiefs & Royal leadership.
- Promoting equitable recognition, respect and support to all religious formations.
- Capacitating and providing the necessary support for Royal Leaders to handle conflict and dispute in their localities.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

- Protecting freedom of religion and family integrity.
- Put systems in place that will ensure all Royal kingdoms that were destroyed by the colonial regime are put in place and formally recognised.
- Promote and create conditions for the development and use of African languages.
- African traditional law to be respected and constitutionalised.
- Establishment, recognition and support of African Royalty by the government to ensure that they participate meaningfully in the governance of the country.

Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!



9. YOUTH AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

No country can pride itself to have a brighter future unless it invests on its youth educationally, economically, socially and otherwise. Majority of the youth of this country is unemployed.

The education of this country produces a vulnerable youth that is unemployable even after acquiring tertiary education qualifications. All other pillars of our manifesto prioritise Youth, Children and Women. With respect to youth and children, the reason for that is because they are the future of our country.

ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Protecting and advancing the interests of vulnerable people like youth and children, the elderly, disabled people and women.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

- Prioritise access to early childhood development facilities from 0-7 years;
- Train and fund our youth to be entrepreneurs instead of becoming job seekers.
- Standardisation of post matric military training for the youth and redeploy them into the labour market.
- Prioritize the holistic development of youth, addressing not only academic qualifications but also practical skills, resilience, mental health awareness, and emotional intelligence, problem solving.
- Engage with educational institutions, private sectors, and community organizations to create a collaborative ecosystem that supports youth development.
- Ensure inclusivity in all programs, considering the diverse needs and backgrounds of the youth population, including those with disabilities.
- Implement a robust system for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of youth development initiatives, allowing for adjustments and improvements over time.
- Promote gender equality in all aspects of youth development, recognizing the unique challenges faced by young women and creating opportunities for their advancement.

Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!



10. EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The empowerment of women and vulnerable groups is a crucial aspect of addressing societal inequality in South Africa. Despite having an inclusive Constitution and a comprehensive statutory and policy framework for gender empowerment and equality, there exists a substantial gap in translating these policies into effective implementation, enforcement, monitoring, and evaluation. This disjunction has led to a persistent challenge in ensuring that the rights of vulnerable groups, particularly women and people with disabilities, are safeguarded in a meaningful way.

South Africa grapples with the paradox of being a purportedly caring country while simultaneously witnessing various forms of injustices against people with disabilities. These injustices underscore the need for a more robust and proactive approach to address the systemic barriers faced by vulnerable groups. Women, in particular, have historically faced marginalization, both during the apartheid era and within societal norms. Despite constituting the majority of the population, women have encountered economic and social challenges that hinder their meaningful participation in the economy and governance.

The empowerment of women goes beyond rectifying historical injustices; it is an investment in the future of the nation. When women are empowered economically and socially, the entire society benefits from their contributions. However, the current landscape indicates that there are still pressing issues affecting South African women that need critical attention.

Current statistics reveal persistent challenges such as high rates of gender-based violence, unequal representation in leadership roles, and wage gaps. Addressing these issues requires a comprehensive approach, including strengthening legal frameworks, enhancing law enforcement, and implementing targeted initiatives for women's economic empowerment. Furthermore, there is a need to challenge and reshape societal norms and attitudes that perpetuate gender inequality.

The ATM acknowledges the urgency of empowering women and vulnerable groups. ATM commits to not only upholding existing legal frameworks but also actively working towards their effective implementation. This includes advocating for policies that address gender-based violence, promote equal opportunities in leadership, and close wage gaps. ATM recognizes that true empowerment requires a societal shift, and pledges to contribute to fostering an environment where all individuals, regardless of gender or ability, can participate meaningfully in shaping the nation's future. A vote for ATM is a vote for a South Africa where the empowerment of women and vulnerable groups is not just a promise but a tangible reality.

ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Implementing and strengthening legislation to combat GBVF, ensuring stricter penalties for perpetrators.
- Establishing specialized units within law enforcement to handle GBVF cases, providing training for sensitivity and effective investigation. Increase support for victims through accessible shelters, counselling, and legal aid.
- Implementing affirmative action policies to promote gender diversity in leadership roles.
- Ensure that resocialisation programs for boys are accelerated in efforts to create for a root-cause based solution to GVBF.
- Encouraging and incentivizing businesses and political parties to adopt gender quotas. Provide training and mentorship programs to enhance the skills and readiness of women for leadership positions.
- Enforcing equal pay for equal work through legislative measures and regular audits.

- Collaborating with businesses to ensure transparent salary structures and promote fair remuneration. Encourage companies to conduct regular pay equity assessments and address any disparities.
- Investing in educational programs that empower women economically and socially.
- Establishing scholarship programs, vocational training, and mentorship initiatives specifically targeted at women. Create awareness campaigns to challenge societal norms and promote gender equality in educational and professional settings.
- Implementing campaigns to change societal attitudes that perpetuate gender inequality.
- Developing and executing public awareness campaigns highlighting the importance of gender equality. Collaborate with media outlets to portray positive and empowering images of women. Introduce educational modules in schools to teach gender equality and respect from an early age.
- Improving healthcare services for women, particularly in rural areas.
- Increasing funding for public healthcare facilities, ensuring adequate staffing, resources, and infrastructure. Implement mobile health clinics to reach remote areas.
- Addressing specific women's health issues, including maternal care and reproductive health.
- Strengthening policies and programs for the inclusion of people with disabilities.
- Advocating for accessibility standards in public spaces and transportation. Implement workplace accommodations and incentives for businesses that prioritize disability inclusion. Ensure that educational institutions are equipped to support students with disabilities effectively.
- Advocating for legal reforms to address gaps in existing legislation related to women's rights and vulnerable groups.
- Working towards amendments that strengthen the legal framework for gender equality, protection against discrimination, and support for vulnerable groups.
- Collaborating with legal experts and civil society organizations to identify and address legislative shortcomings.
- Encouraging community-driven initiatives to address gender-based issues.
- Establishing community forums and support networks that empower women and advocate for their rights.

- Promoting open dialogues about gender issues and encourage community leaders to actively participate in creating inclusive environments.
- Investing in research and data collection to inform evidence-based policies.
- Supporting studies that analyse the root causes of gender inequality, violence, and discrimination. Utilize data to identify areas that need targeted interventions and to measure the effectiveness of implemented policies.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

Reducing the Incidence of Crimes Against Women and Children:

- Implement and strengthen legislation aimed at preventing, addressing, and punishing crimes against women and children.
- Establish specialized units within law enforcement agencies to handle cases of gender-based violence and child abuse promptly and sensitively.
- Develop and implement comprehensive awareness campaigns to educate the public on the importance of reporting and preventing such crimes.

Empowering Women-Owned SMMEs:

- Identify and dismantle barriers hindering women-owned small, micro, and medium enterprises (SMMEs) from accessing financial resources and services.
- Establish financial literacy programs and mentorship initiatives to equip women entrepreneurs with the skills and knowledge necessary for business success.
- Collaborate with financial institutions to develop tailored financial products that cater to the unique needs of women-owned businesses.

Prioritizing Education for Girls:

- Launch targeted campaigns to encourage and empower young girls to prioritize education as a pathway out of poverty and hopelessness.
- Implement scholarship programs and mentorship initiatives that specifically target girls, providing them with the necessary resources and guidance to pursue and complete their education.
- Collaborate with schools and communities to create safe and supportive environments that facilitate the academic success of girls.

Challenging Gender Stereotypes and Stigmas:

- Develop and implement public awareness campaigns to challenge traditional gender stereotypes, including the harmful notion that women belong solely in the kitchen.

- Implement educational programs in schools and communities to foster a culture of respect and equality.
- Advocate for policies that promote gender inclusivity in various sectors, recognizing the diverse talents and capabilities of both men and women.

Progressive Women Policies:

- Benchmark and learn from progressive women policies implemented in other countries, adopting international best practices to enhance the legal and social frameworks supporting women's rights and empowerment.
- Establish a Women's Empowerment Task Force to continuously review and enhance policies, ensuring they are aligned with global standards and address evolving challenges.

Inclusivity for People with Disabilities:

- Extend the awareness campaigns to combat stereotypes and stigmas associated with people with disabilities, emphasizing their rights and contributions to society.
- Advocate for accessibility standards in public spaces and workplaces to ensure inclusivity for people with disabilities.
- Develop and enforce policies that encourage the employment and empowerment of individuals with disabilities in various sectors.

Intersectional Approaches:

- Adopt intersectional approaches that consider the unique challenges faced by women of different backgrounds, including race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and sexual orientation.
- Implement policies that address the specific needs of marginalized groups within the broader framework of gender equality.

International Collaboration:

- Extend the awareness campaigns to combat stereotypes and stigmas associated with people with disabilities, emphasizing their rights and contributions to society.
- Advocate for accessibility standards in public spaces and workplaces to ensure inclusivity for people with disabilities.
- Develop and enforce policies that encourage the employment and empowerment of individuals with disabilities in various sectors.

Intersectional Approaches:

- Adopt intersectional approaches that consider the unique challenges faced by women of different backgrounds, including race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and sexual orientation.
- Implement policies that address the specific needs of marginalized groups within the broader framework of gender equality.

International Collaboration:

- Strengthen international collaborations and partnerships to learn from and share experiences with countries that have successfully implemented progressive policies for women and vulnerable groups.
- Actively participate in global initiatives aimed at advancing gender equality and protecting the rights of vulnerable populations.

Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!

- Strengthen international collaborations and partnerships to learn from and share experiences with countries that have successfully implemented progressive policies for women and vulnerable groups.
- Actively participate in global initiatives aimed at advancing gender equality and protecting the rights of vulnerable populations.

Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!



11. BUILDING A CORRUPT-FREE AND A CAPABLE DEVELOPMENTAL STATE

South Africa is fast veering towards a failed state, marked by the breakdown of key institutions, rampant corruption and an alarming delegation of state functions to the private sector. This shift confirms that the current government lacks the capacity to provide basic public services for our people.

Capable developmental state can be defined as a state that act with authority, credibility and legitimacy to meet the needs of their people in social justice, accountability, job creation, and promote human capacities, private investment and industrialization. A capable state includes functional political arrangements, sound policies, the requisite technical and scientific skills, well-structured institutional access to finance and competent local government. However, our national estate does not depict a capable state because there is insufficient human capacity, skills, interest and knowledge with a committed civil service serving the public in a public-spirited manner.

Poverty and inequality we have in South Africa compromise the character of our institutions of governance, thereby aggravating social tension, as well as threatening the sustainability of our democratic process. Poverty is a social injustice and it is what leads to all other injustices.

Growing inequality is both practically and morally dangerous, and can foster bitterness and animosity between classes of society, threatening democracy and destabilising economy and peace. Democratic governance are two sides of the same coin. Above all, growing inequality violates the cherished moral principle of equality. In addition to these, our capable state is threatened by corruption. Corruption is a manifestation of poor governance. Corruption erodes stability and trust, and it damages the ethos of democratic governments. Its macro-economic and social costs are immense. Worst of all it is felt more by the poorest of the poor.

In the face of a failing state, our manifesto stands firm in its commitment to robust governance, demanding accountability and transparency from every echelon of power. Recent revelations of key state institutions faltering in their duty to address the alleged rand manipulation underscore the urgent need for reform. We pledge to vigorously advocate for strengthened regulatory oversight, ensuring that institutions entrusted with safeguarding our economic integrity fulfil their mandate without compromise. Moreover, we staunchly condemn any attempts by Chapter 9 institutions to cover up corruption, as revealed by recent incidents. Our manifesto calls for an unwavering commitment to the rule of law, holding all individuals and institutions accountable for their actions. The citizens of South Africa deserve a government that upholds the principles of good governance and works tirelessly to restore public trust in the institutions meant to protect their interests.

ATM will show that it is Ready To Serve, Ready To Govern by:

- Position the State as a key driver of development, provision of services, and provision for a good quality of life for all citizens.
- Transforming South Africa into a peaceful, ethically governed and economically viable State that upholds values entrenched in the supreme law of our country, the Constitution, supported by Ubuntu and Divinity, while embracing our hard-earned Human Rights, respecting one another and embracing diversity through non-racialism, for the benefit of all citizens.
- Ensuring South Africa is a tolerant, competent and consulting state in which power is accountable to its citizens.
- Structuring our economic growth agenda such that it is equitable, inclusive, people-centred and sustainable.
- Leading a corruption-free government with uninterrupted service delivery.
- Facilitating convenient collection, timeous, and uninterrupted grant system for all deserving citizens.
- Placing poverty reduction, access to well-being and health, education and training, research and development, innovation, human security and socio-economic transformation at the forefront of government policy priorities and capable of designing instruments to implement effective public policies to achieve these objectives.
- Strengthening of internal resource mobilization – including through managing natural resources endowment; development of youth employment and taking advantage of the demographic dividend; launching of sound policies and development of infrastructures that can boost investment, entrepreneurship and SMME's; strengthening of local governance; strengthening of strategic planning and robust statistics; launching of an industrialization strategy taking advantage of South African core products.

In this next term of Parliament ATM Commits to:

Building a Capable State and Professional Public Service:

- Invest in ongoing training and professional development programs for public servants, ensuring they possess the skills and knowledge required for efficient service delivery.
- Establish mechanisms for performance evaluation and accountability within the public service, promoting a culture of excellence and merit-based promotions.
- Institute measures to insulate the public service from political patronage, fostering a commitment to serving the government and the public diligently.

Clarifying the Political-Administrative Interface:

- Clearly define and communicate the roles and responsibilities of political principals and administrative heads to avoid confusion and ensure accountability.
- Implement transparency measures to disclose the decision-making processes and interactions between political and administrative entities.
- Establish oversight mechanisms to review and address instances of undue influence or interference in administrative matters by political figures.

Stabilizing State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs):

- Define and reinforce the public interest mandates of SOEs to align them with the broader goals of economic development and social welfare.
- Streamline governance structures of SOEs to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency.
- Institute regular performance assessments and audits for SOEs, making the results publicly available to ensure transparency and foster confidence.
- End loadshedding by consistent maintenance and servicing of coal power stations and investment in clean coal technologies.
- Ensure all SOE's review all evergreen contracts and pay market related prices for goods and services.
- Reposition South Africa as a gateway to Africa by investment and maintenance of road, rail and port infrastructure

Balancing Outsourcing and Insourcing:

- Conduct a comprehensive review of outsourcing practices, ensuring that it aligns with the goal of job creation without compromising state efficiency.
- Establish clear guidelines for determining when outsourcing is appropriate and when insourcing is more beneficial, considering both economic and social impacts.
- Monitor outsourced contracts to prevent abuse, corruption, and exploitation while promoting fair and competitive procurement processes.

Executive Accountability Measures:

- Introduce legislation or strengthen existing frameworks to hold the executive accountable at all levels.
- Institute regular and transparent reporting mechanisms, ensuring that executive decisions, actions, and outcomes are communicated to the public.
- Empower parliamentary committees and oversight bodies to conduct thorough investigations and inquiries into executive decisions, with the authority to recommend corrective actions or sanctions if necessary.

Enhanced Transparency and Citizen Engagement:

- Implement measures to enhance transparency in government operations, including open data initiatives and the proactive release of information to the public.
- Facilitate citizen engagement through public consultations, town hall meetings, and other forums to ensure that the government remains responsive to the needs and concerns of the public.

Strengthening Anti-Corruption Measures:

- Enhance anti-corruption frameworks, ensuring robust systems for detecting, investigating, and prosecuting corruption within the government.
- Establish independent anti-corruption commissions or agencies to conduct impartial investigations into allegations of corruption involving public officials, including those at the executive level.

Regular Performance Reviews and Audits:

- Institute regular performance reviews and audits for government departments and agencies, assessing their effectiveness, efficiency, and adherence to established mandates.
- Make the results of performance reviews and audits accessible to the public, promoting transparency and allowing citizens to hold the government accountable.

Vote ATM for a Better Tomorrow!



ATM MANIFESTO:

2024 NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

www.atmovement.org

AFRICAN TRANSFORMATION MOVEMENT