



## 9TH PROVINCIAL CONGRESS DECLARATION

# KWA ZULU-NATAL

16- 18 February 2022  
Champagne Sports Resort

### Declaration:

***“32 years of working class consciousness, defending workers’ rights and building a self-sustainable union”***

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (POPCRU) in the Kwa Zulu-Natal province held a successful 9th Provincial Congress from 16 -18 February 2022 at Champagne Sports Resort, attended by more than 249 delegates representing the more than 22000 members from branches and locals across the province of KZN including POPCRU NOBs, COSATU and leadership of other affiliates, SACP, and the ANC held under the theme **“32 years of working class consciousness, defending workers’ rights and building a self-sustainable union”**

The Congress theme necessitated the basic idea of Marxism which emphasizes that all societies must be understood from a class perspective. The National Democratic Revolution (NDR) is the theory of the South African revolution towards the resolution of the national question, whilst Socialism is the working-class theory which remains the only viable scientific approach in the resolution of the class question. POPCRU therefore has accepted the fact that the NDR is the only viable path towards socialism. At the heart of our work, struggles and in pursuing socialism, the need for POPCRU and SACP together to develop working class consciousness and ideological perspective.

This Congress comes just after two weeks COSATU held its Provincial Congress, a month after the African National Congress celebrated its founding anniversary and it also come two months, after the month in which our union POPCRU was established in 1989. The Congress found it so much imperative that POPCRU members must always be sharpened politically in order to ensure that the political outlook of the organisation is maintained and reflects at all levels in as far as our structures are concerned.

The Congress recognises and notes with satisfaction the extent to which the union in the province participated in the public sector negotiations. However it will be a serious mistake if we do not highlight the worrying tendencies that manifested at the level of the COSATU Joint Mandating Committee (JMC), which resulted in POPCRU not signing the PSCBC 1 of 2021.

The wider participation of Police both SAPS and Traffic Officers and Correctional Officers defined as “essential service” more especially during Covid-19 most challenging times (lockdown level 5 and level 4) is a historic record. If there is anything that is achieved, it was to bring a sense of collectivism amongst the workers beyond white- and blue-collar definitions.

**A POPCRU MEMBER IS OUR PRIORITY**

# 9TH PROVINCIAL CONGRESS DECLARATION

We also note the challenges that we have in various sections of our workplaces in the province particularly in relation to core function of Sectors that we organize in. It is against this background that we have decided to prioritize crime prevention, road safety and the rehabilitation of offenders.

We collectively regret and denounce the looting of funds which were fundraised to fight Covid-19 which took place through personal protective equipment (PPEs) procurement which shocked the entire nation. In the same vain we are not at ease with multibillion Rands (500 Billion plus 70 Billion) that has been borrowed from International Monetary Fund (IMF) which has no practical meaning to people on the ground.

We reaffirm our commitment in the fight against Covid-19 epidemic and further encourage our members and community at large to participate in vaccination campaigns, however we remain firm that vaccination should not be made mandatory.

The Congress further notes the serious contestation and differing class interests and ideologies within the ANC and the Alliance in general. The discontinuation and dismantling of 1996 class project which for a long time has been a dominant force in the leadership of the ANC that resulted into a state of paralysis. The deliberations in this Congress have made us to realize that we are beginning to suffer the consequences of the NDP, this is based on the fact that the pronouncement by the President during SONA that the states does not create jobs is absolutely in line with the NDP which was criticized by COSATU without enough effort to reject it.

We further reaffirm POPCRU's commitment to the Tripartite Alliance the ANC, SACP and COSATU. And that POPCRU should constantly struggle to strengthen the working-class component and ethos within the Alliance, and we further reaffirm the previous resolution of POPCRU for our Shop stewards first and members to swell the ranks of the ANC and SACP. This will assist us to actively participate in ANC structures and strategically influence the forces within the ANC and redirect the ANC to its basics and ensure that we have an ANC government which is biased to the working class and the poor which is the majority of our society as we approach the conference by the end of this year in December.

Lastly, the Provincial Congress dealt with issues of leadership consolidation and accordingly and constitutionally elected the following comrades:

Chairperson: **Mabona Nyawo**  
Deputy Chairperson: **Busi Nkosi**  
Secretary: **Nthabeleng Molefe**  
Deputy Secretary: **Nhlanhla Biyela**  
Treasurer: **Mncedisi Dlamini**

**Long Live POPCRU Long live!**

**Forward to workers Unity!**

**A POPCRU MEMBER IS OUR PRIORITY**