



9TH PROVINCIAL CONGRESS DECLARATION

NORTHERN CAPE

2- 4 March 2022

Kimberley

Declaration:

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

We as the Police and Prisons Civil Right Union (POPCRU) convened our 9th Provincial Congress from 2-4 March 2022 at Flamingo Conference Centre (Kimberley) under the theme “30 years of working-class consciousness defending worker’s rights and building a self-sustainable Union”. The congress had representativity from all ten locals in the Province representing over 7000 members in all the sectors POPCRU organise in.

The 9th Provincial Congress received messages of support from the South Africa National Civics Association (SANCO) and the South African Communist Party, the Department of Transport Safety and Liaison including our social partners, the emphasis of messages of Support reaffirmed the role POPCRU should play as a strategic detachment in the Mass Democratic Movement in the fight against crime and to collectively address, mitigate and eradicate all issues relating to labour relations, and social ills plaguing our members and society.

The congress reaffirmed our support for the continued existence of the congress alliance and the full implementation of the National Democratic Revolution (NDR) as our minimum programme action and a direct route to socialism. The congress called on the South African Communist Party to deepen its ideological work amongst the working class before implementing our resolution on contesting state power, we must continue to strive for the reconfigure of the alliance as a matter of principle and not only when our interests are not addressed in the congress alliance. We must continue building the party in the Province and become active party members.

The congress noted the continued shifting of power in the international balance of forces in particular the current war between Russia and Ukraine, the congress noted with disgust the double standards employed by the United Nations in response to international conflicts between countries. The United States of America have committed atrocities and changed governments in many countries around the world, in particular in Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and many more countries, the United National is failing to intervene in the current onslaught by Israel against Palestinians and the ongoing sanctions imposed by America against other Countries, which remains economic warfare. The 9th Provincial congress notes the ongoing expansion of NATO in the Eastern Europe zone, undermining the security concerns raised by Russia over a period of time, we fully understand the preemptive stance of Russia in defending and addressing its security concerns. We pledge our solidarity with the people of Cuba, Venezuela, Swaziland and Palestine.

A POPCRU MEMBER IS OUR PRIORITY

9TH PROVINCIAL CONGRESS DECLARATION

The 9th Provincial congress is concerned with the high number of conflicts in the continent and the rising levels of coup d'état replacing democratically elected governments with soldiers, stability of the continent remains an important driving force for development and prosperity in the continent.

Congress noted the ongoing undermining and attacks on collective bargaining and vow to defend the interests our members and the working class in the sectors we organise in and society, we will spare no effort in taking the fight back to all reactionary forces that are hell-bent in reversing our gains and creating a precarious workforce in our country, subject the working class to artificial austerity measures we remain disappointed in the current administration, which is using all resources at its disposal particularly the judiciary and monopoly capital to casualise the South Africa workforce, and to break the back of unions.

The congress noted with concern the spike in serious and violent crimes in our country, committed by foreign nationals and the Privatization of the management of our borders which will continue to create challenges in the protection of our borders and Country, congress submit that the protection of our borders cannot be left to Private agencies and should be the responsibility of the state.

We note the rising levels of alcohol and drug abuse amongst our people in particular young people in our Province and call on all social partners to develop strategies in eradicating the abuse of alcohol and drugs in our societies, furthermore, we must develop joint programmes in response to all social-ills confronting our communities and members.

Congress notes the high levels of unemployment as a result of lack of initiatives to create jobs and massive retrenchments in the Province, we remain resolute that the creation of jobs in a developmental state largely rests with state and not the private sector, we must build capacity amongst our people and capacitate them to create jobs through the resuscitation and stimulation of our local economy.

The 9th Provincial congress appreciated the keynote address from the President of POPCRU the president dealt with our immediate task in responding to attacks on collective bargaining, the transformation of the sectors we organise in, being exemplary in the fight against gender-based violence, self-cultivation through education, building a strong and resilient trade union, always striving for the unity of our organisation and to serve our members. The president highlighted the need for the federation to play an active role in supporting affiliates and in building a strong federation and alliance.

We must intensify our struggle on the shop floor to improve the conditions of service of our members including occupational health and safety of our members and to eradicate all forms of discrimination, victimization and racism in the sectors we organise in, to build capacity amongst our members, structures and stewards.

As the 9th Provincial congress of POPCRU in the Northern Cape, we commit ourselves to live up to our mantra that a "POPCRU member is our priority", through quality membership service, going back to basics by actively campaigning against issues affecting members in all the sectors we organise in.

A POPCRU MEMBER IS OUR PRIORITY

9TH PROVINCIAL CONGRESS DECLARATION

The Provincial Congress further dealt with issues of leadership consolidation and accordingly and constitutionally elected the following comrades;

Chairperson: **Zolani Mathiso**

Deputy Chairperson: **Themba Smit**

Secretary: **Boitumelo Pheleo**

Deputy Secretary: **Motlalepula Molefi**

Treasurer: **Kelemogile Moeng**



A POPCRU MEMBER IS OUR PRIORITY