



NEDERDUITSE GEREFORMEERDE KERK DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH

Posbus/PO Box 13528

HATFIELD 0028 SA

Tel +27 (0)12 342 0092 Fax +27 (0)12 342 0380

algemenesinode@ngkerk.org.za www.ngkerk.org.za

7 Februarie 2011

PERSVRYSTELLING

UITLATINGS VAN PRESIDENT JACOB ZUMA OOR DIE ANC EN DIE HEMEL/ HEL

Die Moderatuur van die NG Kerk wil sy sterkste misnoeë te kenne gee oor die uitlatings van President Zuma in Mthatha die afgelope naweek. Die NG Kerk het reeds in die aanloop tot die verkiesing van 2009 sy kommer uitgespreek oor hierdie tipe retoriek van die President en die ANC. Wat ons nog meer bekommer, is dat die uitsprake nou geregverdig word as metafores en beeldspraak.

Die Moderatuur vereenselwig hom ten volle met die onderstaande persvrystelling van die SARK en doen ook 'n beroep op alle ekumeniese groeperinge en godsdiensgroepe om hulle uit te spreek teen hierdie tipe van vergrype.

Die Moderatuur wil aandrang op 'n onvoorwaardelike verskoning van die ANC aan die Christene en kerkgroepe in Suid-Afrika.

SACC Response to Statement by President Jacob Zuma

The President of the SACC, Bp Jo Seoka, labelled the statement made by Pres Zuma as "blasphemous". "Equating a vote for the ANC with going to heaven is problematic. Adding that in heaven people are wearing the colours of the ANC only adds to the problem", warned Bp Jo.

Seoka further reiterates that "in previous election campaigns we have called on all our political leaders to mind their tongues. What the South African electorate requires is assurances that their lives will be improved through service delivery, provision of jobs and security. Our government and political leaders must address the genuine and legitimate needs of poor people".

"We work on a daily basis with scores of people who are hungry, unemployed and homeless. These are our brothers and sisters in Christ who look at political leaders with great expectations" said Bp Jo. "Offering heaven to these people while their suffering continues here on earth is escapist. We (as Church and government) are expected to transform the livelihoods of all (and especially the poor) for the better", he concludes

The SACC is mindful of the subsequent statement from Mr Jackson Mthembu as spokesperson of the ANC. Calling the statement a metaphor does not take away from its essence. Calling it a way of speaking

does not help either. Instead it demonstrates the concern of the SACC that “political leaders and parties use unacceptable language” during election campaigns.

Mr Eddie Makue, the SACC General Secretary, indicates that approaches have been made to secure a meeting with Pres Zuma where this and other important concerns of the SACC will be discussed.

Enige navrae is meer as welkom.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Korus Gerber". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Dr JJ Gerber
Algemene Sekretaris van die NG Kerk