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FAO: News Editors/PR Wire Services

FROM: OFFICE OF THE CHAIRPERSON: REV DR WESLEY MABUZA

DATE: 15 SEPTEMBER 2011

SUBJECT: CRL RIGHTS COMMISSION CALLS FOR MULTIRACIAL TOLERANCE

The Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (CRL Rights Commission), is constitutionally and legislatively mandated to forge national unity, peace and social cohesion as an essential part of its mandate. In essence it is entrusted by legislation to ensure that communities and members of communities enjoy their cultural, religious and linguistic rights as enshrined in the Constitution.

The CRL Rights Commission is gravely concerned about the recent tug of war between the African National Congress Youth League Leader and Afriforum. The Commission would like to urge every citizen of this country to contribute in peace making, human rights respect and a national cohesion.

The primary object of the Commission is to promote respect and tolerance for different cultural, religious and linguistic communities. This country for the past decades was ethnically, racially, culturally and religiously divided. South Africa has lost many people on the battlefield against discrimination and as a result the forgiven past cannot be allowed to be resuscitated to cause chaos.

The Commission appeals to the nation at large, to engage in a national dialogue to define hate speech. The Commission anticipates that among other outcomes of the dialogue the following will be addressed:

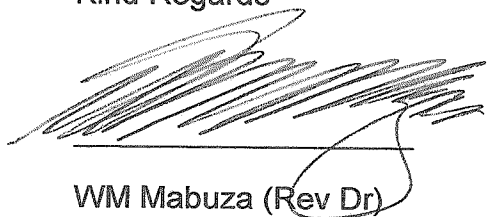
- continuous and tireless work in fostering mutual respect among the citizens of South African cultural and religious communities,

- promotion and preservation of *ubuntu*, tolerance, peace, and respect of human rights,
- encouraging a constructive dialogue among cultural, religious and linguistic communities to define the oral history of liberation songs, diversity, social cohesion ,
- clarification on the role of courts in an endeavour to unify South Africans.

Public education and awareness on the cultural backgrounds of communities is necessary in a time where South Africa as a nation comes to terms with the “hate speech judgment” against the ANC Youth League leader.

For more information contact: Adv. PS Moreroa at Tel (011) 537 7625 or 079 2381485

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'WM Mabuza', written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and scribbled.

WM Mabuza (Rev Dr)

Chairperson

CRL Rights Commission

Issued by the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities

Private Bag X90 000

Houghton

15 September 2011