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## Power in KZN

**E**VER since the institution of democracy in this country, the balance of political power in KwaZulu-Natal has been delicately poised. This year's provision for floor-crossing has made the situation more fraught than ever, and raised the odds significantly. For each of the two major parties in the province, the outcome is of critical importance.

For the ANC, gaining KZN would bring the whole country under its control at both the national and the provincial levels. Since an effective opposition is a key factor in ensuring sound democratic government, this would be unfortunate for democracy in the country, but it would obviously be advantageous for the national ruling party to have the guaranteed compliance of all the provinces. For the IFP, the loss of the province would be disastrous. KwaZulu-Natal is its only significant power base, and its bridgehead into national politics. With KZN lost, the status of the IFP would be reduced to that of the many secondary parties in the national arena, increasingly obliged to make unlikely compacts (such as its present arrangement with the DA) in order to maintain a significant role.

It is the combination of proportional representation and the floor crossing legislation that has created this situation. With the constituency system, there is a strong force tying the individual representative to the party that enjoys most voter support in the constituency. With proportional representation legislators are chosen by rank order on party lists, and less direct accountability to the electorate apparently means less loyalty to the party. Floor crossing can be seen in two lights. The cynical view is that it provides the bigger, richer and more powerful parties with opportunities to offer inducements that lure self-interested and opportunistic individuals.

The more charitable view is that where parties have shifted away from their earlier principles, floor crossing enables principled individuals to move on. In the case of the IFP, there is a perception that, beleaguered as it has been, it has become increasingly introverted, concentrating more and more on its Zulu heartland, and has proved not to be the more broadly inclusive political home that some people had hoped for.

In any event, and in any democratic system, the bottom line remains the same: it is the quality of governance that counts. Ordinary people want good order, efficient services and as little government intrusion into their lives as possible. Most particularly, they do not want politics to get in the way of delivery and development. Wherever politicians may move between elections, that will be the message next time votes are counted.



# ANC, IVP kop aan kop in KZN ná oorloper

Christl van der Westhuizen

Kaapstad.- Die politieke spanning het teen gisteraand hooggeeloop in KwaZulu-Natal, waar die ANC en die IVP saam met hul onderskeie vennote kop aan kop staan.

Die uiteinde van die oorlooptyd, wat gisteraand om twaalfuur geëindig het, bepaal of die IVP in die provinsiale uitvoerende raad aanhly. Mnr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi, IVP-leier, het egter aan Willem Jordaan gesê dat hy dit nie oorweeg om die kabinet te verlaat nie.

Met die hulp van hul vennote het die twee partye teen gister, die laaste dag van die oorlooptyd, elk beheer oor 40 setels gehad. Die laaste dag van die stormagtige oorlooptyd was stil nadat lede van die parlement en wetgewers eergister nog verskeie spronge gemaak het.

Intussen het Idasa gesê dit is "alarmisties" om te dink dat die ANC se verkryging van meer as twee derdes van die setels in die nasionale vergadering beteken dat die party die Grondwet sal verander. Met die hulp van die MF kon die ANC al sedert 1999 die Grondwet verander.

Die tweederde-kerf is wel 'n "sielkundige grens" wat druk op die ANC plaas om as regerende party meer responsief te wees, het me. Judith February, regeerkunde-ontleder van Idasa, gesê. Die oë sal nasionaal en internasionaal op die ANC wees om toe te sien dat die party nie sy aansienlike mag misbruik nie.

Dit plaas ook meer druk op die media, grondwetlike instellings en die burgerlike samelewing om die ANC verantwoordbaar te hou.

Die ANC het teen gisteraand steeds "duim vasgehou" vir 'n enkele oorloper om die party se beheer in KwaZulu-Natal na 41

van die 80 setels op te stoot.

Mnr. Mtholephi Mthimkhulu, provinsiale ANC-woordvoerder, het gister gesê die party kan staat maak op die 2 NNP's, 2 MF's en mnr. Jan Slabbert se nuutgestigte Peace and Democracy Party om saam met die 35 ANC-setels beheer oor die helfte van die setels uit te oefen.

Die IVP maak weer staat op die 7 DA's en die een UDM-lid om saam met sy 32 setels be-

NASIONALE VERGADERING		
	VOORHEEN	NOU
ANC:	266	275
DA:	38	46
IVP:	33	30
NNP:	28	20
UDM:	14	4
ACDP:	6	7
PAC:	3	2
VF:	3	3
AEB:	1	0
MF:	1	1

Nuwe Partye:  
AFRICAN INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT (1)  
ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY & PROSPERITY (1)  
INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS (1)  
NASIONALE AKSIE (1)  
PEACE & JUSTICE CONGRESS (1)

heer oor die ander helfte van die setels uit te oefen.

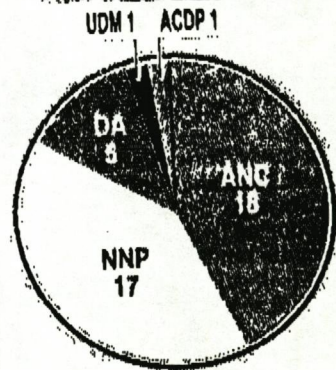
Die oorblywende ACDP-lid stem gewoonlik saam met die ANC, maar die ANC kan nie "staatmaak" op die stem nie, het Mthimkhulu gesê.

Die IVP het ontken dat 'n geheime vergadering eergister gehou is om kookuslede van die wetgewer vir outlaas te keer om oor te loop. Die party dreig ook met boetes van R155 000 aan oorlopers. Verlede jaar het die IVP 2 LPW's aan die ANC afgestaan en vanjaar een lid.

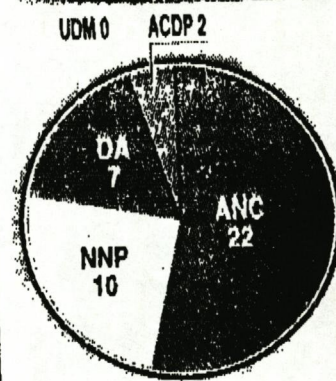
Dr. Penuell Maduna, minister van justisie en staatkundige ont-

## WES-KAAPSE PARLEMENT

### VOORHEEN



### NOU



Nuwe Party: NUWE ARBEIDERSPARTY (1)

Grafika: Orin Scott

wikkeling, het IVP-lede vroeër vandeeweek selfs probeer aandoedig om oor te loop deur te sê dat die boetes onwettig is.

Die IVP beoog om te onttrek uit die provinsiale uitvoerende raad indien die ANC die oorheersende party word.

Die ANC wil steeds sy vennootskap met die IVP "versterk", het die party se webblad ANC Today gister gesê. Op soortgelyke manier wil die ANC ook voortgaan met sy samewerking met die NNP hoewel die party die dominante party in die Wes-Kaapse wetgewer geword het tydens die oorlooptyd.



National Assembly and some provincial legislatures considerably changed

# Floor crossing leaves its mark

**T**HE National Assembly has been left considerably changed after the end at midnight last night of the 15-day window period for MPs and MPLs to cross the floor to the party of their choice without losing their seats.

Some provincial legislatures have also seen significant shifts in their composition, most notably KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape.

The National Assembly now has no fewer than five new political parties on its benches.

However, the ANC has consolidated its position as the majority party, gaining nine MPs from the

UDM, taking its numbers from 266 to 275 and giving it a comfortable two-thirds majority in the 400-member House.

The biggest loser was Bantu Holomisa's UDM, which now has only four MPs remaining, after it led the Constitutional Court challenge to prevent the floor-crossing legislation becoming law.

The UDM's defectors include Holomisa's deputy, Dr Gerhard Koornhof, and Mogoboya Ramodike, who formed his own party.

The NNP of Western Cape premier Marthinus van Schalkwyk also lost 10 MPs — nine to the DA and

one to the ACDP — but gained one from the DA and another from the IFP, for a tally of 20 MPs, a net loss of eight.

The IFP also lost two other MPs, one who also formed her own party, and the other, Deputy Chairman of Committees Farouk Cassim, who announced yesterday afternoon that he will be leading the newly established Peace and Justice Congress in Parliament.

Thus, the IFP now has 31 instead of 34 members in the House.

The official opposition DA, which started the window period with 38 MPs, now has 46, effectively 48 if its

two Federal Alliance partners are included.

The PAC's Patricia de Lille left to form the Independent Democrats, reducing the PAC representation to two MPs.

The ACDP increased its numbers from six to seven, while the Freedom Front and the United Christian Democratic Party retained their three seats each.

The Afrikaner Unity Movement lost its sole MP, Cassie Aucamp, to the National Action, but the Azanian People's Organisation and the Minority Front's lone representatives both remained loyal to their

parties.

The other two new parties in the House are the African Independent Movement and the Alliance for Democracy and Prosperity.

In the finely balanced KwaZulu-Natal legislature, the ANC has 35 seats, the IFP 32 and the DA six.

In the Western Cape legislature, four defections — three of them from its ally, the NNP — gave the ANC an outright majority.

The ANC now has 22 of the 42 seats in the legislature, with the NNP having 11, the DA seven and the ACDP two.

— Sapa.

## Buthlezi: IFP

### won't quit govt

INKATHA Freedom Party leader Mangosutho Buthelezi yesterday refuted speculation that his party is considering walking out of the government of national unity now that the ruling ANC has a two-thirds majority in Parliament.

"It is not on the cards," Buthelezi insisted following the launch of President Thabo Mbeki's Presidential Press Corps (PPC) at the Union Building in Pretoria.

Buthlezi attended the launch of the PPC accompanied by two IFP ministerial colleagues, Joe Marks and Ben Skosana.

Buthlezi's denial came the day after the IFP held a crisis meeting to decide the way forward.

The IFP leader said the fact that the ANC now has a two-thirds majority is something "which I don't regard as a crisis. I have enough between my ears to know that the legislation was crafted with that purpose in the first place."

— Political Correspondent.



## ANC, IFP likely to rule as before

DONWALD PRESSLY  
Provincial Politics

KWAZULU-NATAL may have to return to the previous position of being ruled by a roughly equally shared cabinet between the Inkatha Freedom Party and the African National Congress, after the 15-day period of political defections ended at midnight last night.

The ANC now has 35 — up from 32 — of the 80 members of the KwaZulu-Natal legislature and is the largest party represented, with Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi's IFP having slipped from 34 seats to 32.

The ANC's numbers were boosted in the defection period — during which politicians carry their seats to their new parties — by one KZN legislature member each from the New National Party (Sipho Mkhize), the Democratic Alliance (Omie Singh) and the IFP (Gabriel Ndabandaba).

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# IFP, ANC fight for KZN may have familiar outcome

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While IFP insiders were denying that a crisis national council meeting was held in Durban on Thursday night to discuss the way forward, party insiders acknowledged that "an informal gathering" of MPs and provincial MPs — mainly from KwaZulu-Natal — was held in what was described by one MP as "a feel-good exercise" at a Marine Parade hotel at Durban.

The MP said: "It was to show that we are holding on [to power] despite the attempt by the ANC to rob us of power." The fact there were only two defections at the KwaZulu-Natal legislature — Gabriel Ndabandaba, the former Education MEC, and Jan Slabbert to a new party, the Peace and Development Party — is seen as a triumph.

"We came under enormous pressure to cross," another MP said. "MECs [provincial cabinet positions] were offered to us if we crossed [to the ANC]."

While IFP spokesman Musa Zondi

was not available for comment, ANC provincial leader S'bu Ndebele said that an agreement to share the government — taken by resolution in the legislature in June 1999 — was broken by the IFP.

The IFP kicked out two ANC members — including Housing MEC Dumisani Makhaye — late last year during a bitter verbal exchange between the two parties mainly over the floor-crossing exercise, which the IFP bitterly opposed. Ndebele said last night: "We are on the defensive ... I backed [IFP Premier] Lionel Mtshali as premier ... I was maligned."

Asked what would happen if there is a hung legislature, he said he does not see it this way. "We have the support of 40 ... the IFP [and Democratic Alliance] have 38."

That leaves the African Christian Democratic Party and United Democratic Movement out of two competing line-ups.

"They have voted on conscience in the past ... such as on the capital

matter in Pietermaritzburg." This indicates that Ndebele expects these two parties not to back the IFP line-up. He also expects Slabbert to back his party.

Slabbert, however, declined to indicate how he would swing if there is a choice between the two party line-ups.

In an indication that he favours a compromise agreement for power-sharing in the province, Ndebele said that the present provincial government is "an anti-ANC government". He doesn't want any future government to turn into an "anti-IFP government".

The ANC can count on their own members, two Minority Front members and two from the New National Party — a total of 39.

If a vote takes place in the legislature, it could be a tight fight if Slabbert does indeed join the ANC line-up.

Negotiation between the two parties is a likely way of resolving the trouble of a hung parliament over

who should take power. It could swing three ways: A change in government with the ANC leading the government and including the NNP, the Minority Front and Slabbert's party; the IFP could retain its hold on power and leave the cabinet the same — with the IFP dominating and the ANC and DA holding two cabinet posts each; a compromise could be reached involving the IFP, DA and ANC all represented in a cabinet with greater ANC representation. This now appears to be an increasingly likely scenario.

The crossing period for defections ended at midnight last night.

The line-up in the KwaZulu-Natal legislature as at 5.30 pm yesterday was ANC 35 (up from 32), IFP 32 (down from 34), DA six (down from seven), NNP two (down from three), Minority Front two, African Christian Democratic Party one, United Democratic Movement one, and the Peace and Development Party one.

Together, that makes up the total of 80 seats.