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ANC STATEMENT ON THE DEATHS OF TWO ANC MEMBERS IN A CAR

ACCIDENT

It is with great sadness and sorrow that the ANC announces the deaths of two of its members, Selby and Norman Shezi Msimang who died in a motor car accident on Sunday 5 September in Pretoria.

The two died when their car overturned on the Rosslyn highway near Pretoria, on their way back from an MK Conference held in Nelspruit over the weekend. The other three occupants, Doris Selebi, Nandi Tshalanga. and the ANC's Welfare Department's Jackie Selebi sustained injuries. Both Doris and Nandi were admitted to Garankuwa hospital in Pretoria in a serious condition.

At this stage investigations are underway to determine the cause of the accident.

Selby was employed by the ANC Department of Information and Publicity (DIP) as a senior correspondent of Mayibuye and is the former editor of Sechaba. Shezi was an officer in the Personnel and Training department of the ANC's Military Headquarters.

The ANC extends its deepest sympathies and condolences to bereaved families, friends and colleagues. Their deaths have created a void which will be hard to fill and they will be missed greatly by both ANC Head office staff, members and supporters of the ANC.

Funeral details will be announced as soon as consultations with the respective families have been completed.

In another incident, ANC Deputy President Walter Sisulu's three bodyguards, Bobby Tsotsobe, Khatide Mbundu and Andrew Nyalunga A were injured when their car overturned near Oshoek border post on Friday 3 September on their way to Swaziland. Both Tsotsobe and Nyalunga were admitted to two Northern Transvaal hospitals. Nyalunga is in a coma whilst Tsotsobe sustained back injuries.

STATEMENT FROM THE ANC'S AGRICULTURAL DESK ON RUMOURS THAT PARKS BOARD CHIEF DR ROBBIE ROBINSON IS TO BE AXED The ANC has been receiving a number of rumours (from reliable sources) that the National Parks Board of Trustees will attempt to axe National Parks Board chief executive Dr "Robbie" Robinson at its next meeting on Thursday. If these rumours are true we take the strongest possible exception to such a move.

Given the fact that the Board represents only a conservative white minority, some with strong links to the farAright, it is inappropriate for the Board to take such drastic actions in a time of transition. Such decisions should be taken by a new and representative board. Drr Robinson is well known in the conservation community for the new direction in which he has been leading the National Parks, and in particular his efforts to create better relationships between the National Parks and neighbouring communities.

The fact that the Board of Trustees ordered the withdrawal of the last issue of the NPB journal "CUSTOS", (which contained articles in which Dr Robinson outlined his policy proposals), clearly indicates that the Board has strong political objections to Dr Robinson's approach and his management style. Some members of the Board have allegedly expressed their dissatisfaction with the recent meeting between an ANCAled delegation and officials of the National Parks on 13314 August. In a joint statement the two delegations agreed, inter alia, on the need for institutional change. The ANC believes that steps should be taken to redress the current imbalances with regard to gender and race. The ANC also recognises the invaluable expertise of the people currently employed and that none of the present employees should feel that their livelihood is threatened in any way. However, unilateral decisions taken by the present Board to further their own political goals will be subject to review by a democratically elected government.