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## **HUMAN RIGHTS CAN'T HAVE MEANING WHEN GOVERNMENT POLICIES LOCK MILLIONS OF YOUNG CITIZENS IN UNENDING CYCLE OF POVERTY**

### **PFA MEDIA STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*On the eve of commemorations of the most horrendous massacres of African people at Sharpsville on March 21, 1960, PFA notes that even though the day has been renamed Human Rights Day, by the ANC government, ordinary citizens can neither benefit or get inspired from or by government's annual commemorations of the day.*

*There are twenty seven rights in the country's Bill of Rights which are contained in the country's 1996 Constitution. Most of those rights are hollow and empty promises which are synonymous with the ANC's track records of deceit and dishonesty which can only be matched by a cheating lover.*

*The real victims of these unfortunate and unforgivable mess, political blunderings and policy delirium are children who are born into poverty from whose clutches their parents have been unable to escape from for the past 28 years. Children become bonded, blended in low esteem and poverty hangs like an albatross around their necks.*

*With unemployment rate being forever on the incline, currently at 46%, poor children have performed badly at school and ANC government's response was to lower requirements for the pass marks at Basic Education level which is not United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in sync with requirements for pass marks at institutions of higher learning thus locking children out of future enrolment at universities and colleges.*

*It is not as if government is completely unable to change the course of events in this messed up situation that also affects the nation and the country's economic fortunes. World Food Program (WFP), United Nations*

*Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) provide clear guidelines on the impacts of poverty hygiene on learners.*

*These organisations further provide guidelines on how to mitigate these unfortunate variables but ANC government has done nothing to align their policy positions with these guidelines. ANC has instead implemented a school nutrition scheme that barely fits the requirements as set out in these reputable international organisations.*

*ANC only pays lip service to the National Policy Act Number 27 of 1996 whose objectives are “equitable education opportunities to redress past inequalities in education programs” and only spent 6.8% of the Gross Domestic Product on Education whose imperatives are so huge and include infrastructure back-locks on village and township schools where poorest Africans are stuck.*

*This scenario denies many Africans the right to education and the right to earn an honest income using education thus leaving them within two unfortunate pathways, a straight-jacket to jail via crime and a lockup in a cycle of poverty and hopelessness.*

**ISSUED BY PATRIOTIC FRONT OF AZANIA**

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