Freedom Front Plus

Statement to the 10th session of the Forum on Minority Issues

30 November – 1st December 2017

Chairperson/Moderator, thanks for this opportunity. All protocols observed. I represent the Afrikaner youth as the youth leader of the Freedom Front Plus – South Africa. I will add and reiterate much of what my colleagues from Afriforum have said, as I wish to bring a different perspective to what the representative from South Africa has said.

I would like to thank each and every person who made statements, remarks and the panellists for their words. As a minority youth in South Africa, it is welcoming to be reminded once again that we are not alone with the issues we face.

South African youth in general face immense challenges with regards to unemployment, collapsing/poor basic education system, expensive higher education, etc. Minority youth are further challenged by marginalization based on skin colour/ethnicity/language further limiting economic participation and opportunities.

The youth of minority groups in SA are discriminated against by the marginalisation of mother tongue education where schools whose medium of instruction is for example Afrikaans are forced to introduce English as a medium of education. At tertiary level instruction in Afrikaans are being phased out at the few universities that taught in Afrikaans.

Furthermore, Affirmative Action is not addressing injustices of the past, but rather repeating the emphasis on race. A person is reduced to nothing but race and a quota – affecting the dignity of such a person.

AA and other racially based qouta systems which are applied to the allocation of bursaries are racializing South Africa. It discriminates against the minority based on the premise of an advantage enjoyed by the minority because of the political past. It is continuing 23 years after the regime change. Minority youth - a generation later - are being discriminated against because of a political system they were not part of.

The future looks bleak for our wonderful and diverse country if this system of discrimination continues.

Appointments are not made on the basis of merit but rather skin colour. The youth from minority groups, in particular Afrikaner youth are being punished for something they had no part in. Affirmative policies that are being enforced and strengthened in SA are not conducive towards a free society where group rights are respected.

**Tammy Wessels**

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