



LETTER FROM THE **NATIONAL COVERNOR**

Dear Volunteers of Mayibuye and the People of South Africa,

We greet you in the spirit of unity and resilience that has defined our shared journey toward liberation. As the leadership of the Mayibuye Consultation Process, we write this letter to share the progress made thus far in our nationwide consultations. These consultations, initiated to gather the voices of our people from every corner of this land, have been a profound exercise in collective reflection. They have allowed us to listen deeply to the aspirations, frustrations, and dreams of South Africans who yearn for a transformed society. From the bustling streets of Johannesburg to the rural heartlands of Limpopo, from the coastal communities of the Western Cape to the vibrant townships of the Eastern Cape, we have engaged in dialogues that transcend mere words. They are the building blocks of a renewed future.

Although the consultation process is still ongoing, with many voices yet to be heard and many perspectives yet to be integrated, we are beginning to see the light on what must be done. This light emerges not from abstract theories but from the lived experiences and collective wisdom of our people. It illuminates a path forward that calls for the founding of

the Afrika Mayibuye Movement. As part of this movement, there must be a registered political party to engage in the electoral arena, ensuring that our voices are not silenced in the halls of power. However, we emphasise that this movement will not be confined to ballots and campaigns. It must have multiple manifestations and a pervasive presence in the lives of our people. It cannot be a mere electoral platform but a movement of action, one that mobilises communities for land reform, economic justice, cultural revival, and social transformation. Imagine a movement that organises cooperatives in rural areas, establishes educational programs in townships, leads protests against inequality, and fosters artistic expressions of resistance. This is the vision taking shape, one where the movement touches every aspect of daily life, empowering ordinary South Africans to reclaim their agency.

If this is the direction we are taking, and the consultations increasingly point us toward it, then there are certain lessons we should learn from history and the revolutionary politics of movements that have come before us. History teaches us that successful liberation struggles are not born in isolation but are informed by the triumphs and pitfalls of those who fought similar battles. We must draw from the rich tapestry of global

revolutionary thought to ensure that our movement is disciplined, effective, and enduring. To ground our efforts in African revolutionary thought, we turn first to Amílcar Cabral, the visionary leader whose ideas continue to inspire liberation struggles across the continent. Born in 1924 in Guinea-Bissau, Cabral was an agronomist, poet, and revolutionary who led the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC) in the fight against Portuguese colonialism. Educated in Portugal, he returned to Africa with a deep understanding of imperialism's mechanisms, blending Marxist theory with African realities. Cabral's approach was holistic: he viewed liberation not just as political independence but as cultural and economic emancipation. Assassinated in 1973 by colonial agents, just months before Guinea-Bissau's independence, his legacy endures through his writings and speeches, such as "The Weapon of Theory," where he stressed the need for revolutionaries to understand their societies deeply. Contextualising Cabral in our South African struggle is vital; like him, we face the remnants of colonialism and apartheid, where economic exploitation persists under the guise of democracy. His principles remind us that true freedom requires dismantling both external domination and internal divisions.

From Cabral, we derive eight values, principles, and practices for running a revolutionary movement.

1. Unity of the people: Cabral insisted that divisions based on ethnicity, class, or region must be overcome through inclusive mobilisation, ensuring that our movement bridges urban-rural divides and unites all oppressed groups.

2. The primacy of theory informed by practice: Revolutionaries must study their context rigorously, as Cabral did through soil surveys that doubled as intelligence gathering, adapting strategies to South Africa's diverse terrains.

3. Cultural resistance as a weapon: Cabral taught that reclaiming African culture counters colonial brainwashing; thus, our movement must promote indigenous languages, arts, and histories to foster pride and identity.

4. People's participation at all levels: Unlike top-down models, Cabral emphasised grassroots involvement, where decisions emerge from the masses, guiding our consultations to evolve into permanent structures of popular democracy.

5. Honesty and integrity in leadership: Cabral warned against corruption, advocating for leaders who live modestly and transparently, a principle we must embed to avoid the pitfalls that have plagued post-apartheid governance.

6. Armed struggle when necessary, but always with political education: While our context may differ, Cabral's blend of guerrilla warfare and ideology reminds us to prepare for all forms of resistance, prioritising non-violent action but remaining vigilant.

7. Economic self-reliance: Cabral promoted productive forces in liberated zones, inspiring us to build cooperatives and community enterprises that reduce dependence on multinational corporations.

8. International solidarity without subservience: Cabral sought global support but maintained African agency, urging us to ally with anti-imperialist forces while centring our narratives.

Complementing these African-centred principles, the Afrika Mayibuye Movement must also take seven key lessons derived from Leninism, with a special emphasis on democratic centralism and collective leadership. Vladimir Lenin, born in

1870, was a Russian revolutionary and theorist who led the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917, establishing the Soviet Union and adapting Marxism to practical revolutionary strategy through his writings on imperialism, the state, and party organisation. These principles, forged in the fires of early 20th-century revolutions, offer timeless guidance for building a vanguard that can lead without alienating the masses.

1. Democratic centralism stands as the cornerstone; it demands open debate and discussion within the movement to foster diverse ideas, but once a decision is reached through democratic processes, all members must unite in action. This prevents fragmentation and ensures that our efforts are coordinated and powerful.

2. Collective leadership must prevail over individualism; no single person should dominate, but rather a team of committed cadres who share responsibilities and hold each other accountable, drawing from Lenin's insistence on a leadership that reflects the proletariat's will.

3. We learn the importance of a vanguard party, not an elite club, but a disciplined core that educates and mobilises the broader masses, adapting Lenin's model to our African context where the vanguard includes workers, peasants, youth, and women.

4. Revolutionary discipline is essential; Lenin taught that without strict adherence to principles and strategies, movements falter under pressure from reactionary forces.

5. The education of the masses must be ongoing; transforming passive observers into active participants through political schooling and agitation, much as Lenin emphasised in his writings on party organisation.

6. Internationalism reminds us that our struggle is part of a global fight against imperialism; we must forge alliances with progressive forces worldwide, echoing Lenin's call for proletarian solidarity.

7. Flexibility in tactics is crucial; Leninism urges us to adapt strategies to changing conditions without compromising core principles, ensuring that our movement remains dynamic in the face of South Africa's unique challenges like entrenched inequality and neocolonial influences.

These lessons from Cabral and Lenin are not dogmatic blueprints but living tools to be adapted through our consultations. As we reflect on the

progress, we note that the KwaZulu-Natal consultations have been particularly insightful, revealing strong support for a movement that addresses land dispossession, unemployment, and cultural erosion in that province. Following these, the process will extend to other areas in provinces that were not fully covered, such as the underserved regions of the North West, Mpumalanga, and the Free State. We will prioritise listening sessions in mining communities, informal settlements, and among migrant workers, ensuring no voice is left behind. Simultaneously, the process of writing and producing documents for the founding conference will begin. These documents, manifestos, constitutions, and policy frameworks, will be guided by the inputs of all the people gathered thus far. Drafting teams, composed of volunteers from diverse backgrounds, will synthesise the consultations' themes, circulating drafts for further feedback to embody true democratic participation. This preparatory work aims to culminate in a founding conference where the Afrika Mayibuye Movement is formally launched, marking a new chapter in our collective struggle.

In expanding on these steps, we recognise the immense challenges ahead.

The consultations have highlighted the depth of despair in our communities: youth unemployment soaring above 50%, gender-based violence rampant, and environmental degradation threatening our very survival. Yet, they also reveal reservoirs of hope: stories of community gardens thriving against odds, youth-led tech initiatives bridging digital divides, and elders sharing oral histories that fuel resistance. By integrating Cabral's cultural emphasis with Leninist discipline, our movement can address these issues holistically. For instance, people's participation will ensure that debates on land reform lead to unified actions, while economic self-reliance inspires models like communal farming cooperatives. We envision branches in every province, coordinating actions from anti-eviction campaigns to educational workshops on revolutionary history. This multi-faceted approach will make the movement a constant presence, not a seasonal electoral entity.

Moreover, the historical lessons underscore the need for vigilance against co-optation. Cabral warned of internal divisions, a risk we face from corporate interests masquerading as partners. Lenin's practice of constant self-criticism will help us maintain

purity, with regular assemblies where members evaluate progress and correct deviations. As we move to uncovered areas post-KwaZulu-Natal, mobile consultation teams will employ digital tools for wider reach, ensuring inclusivity for those in remote areas. The document production phase will involve thematic working groups on economy, education, health, and culture, each drawing from consultation data to propose actionable policies. For example, inputs on healthcare disparities could lead to a manifesto plank advocating for nationalised medicine inspired by Cabral's liberated zone clinics.

We must also consider the role of youth and women, often marginalised in historical movements. Cabral's participatory ethos demands their inclusion, while Leninism's collective leadership opens spaces for it. Consultations have shown young people eager for tech-driven activism, like apps for reporting corruption, and women calling for gender justice integrated into all programs. By heeding these, our movement becomes truly representative.

As we approach the founding conference, anticipated in the coming months, these documents will serve as the movement's foundational texts, debated and ratified by delegates from all consultations. This process honours the principle that revolution is made by the people, not for them.

In conclusion, we call upon all South Africans to join the Mayibuye Movement and contribute to its direction, content, and form. Whether you are a student in Cape Town, a farmer in the Karoo, a worker in Durban, or an artist in Soweto, your voice is essential. Join us in building a movement that restores dignity to the dispossessed, unites the divided, and ignites the flames of true liberation. Volunteer your time, share your ideas, and stand with us against the forces that seek to perpetuate inequality.

We urge every patriot to engage actively: attend consultations, submit inputs online, or form local discussion groups. Your contributions will shape not just policies but the very soul of the movement. Together, we can forge a South Africa where justice is not a dream but a reality, where the echoes of apartheid are silenced by the roar of collective action.

Finally, let this serve as a rallying cry: rise, compatriots, and claim your place in history. The Afrika Mayibuye Movement awaits your energy and vision. Contribute today, for tomorrow

belongs to those who fight for it.

Mayibuye iAfrika is restoration of our stolen land to the hands of the people.

Mayibuye iAfrika is restoration of economic sovereignty through collective ownership.

Mayibuye iAfrika is restoration of cultural pride and indigenous knowledge.

Mayibuye iAfrika is restoration of unity among all oppressed classes and communities.
Mayibuye iAfrika is restoration of hope for a just and equitable future.
In solidarity.

The National Convenor of the Mayibuye Consultation Process:
Nyiko Floyd Shivambu



From Beijing to Nkowankowa: The Gap Between the Promise & Reality For South African Women

Thirty years after the Beijing Declaration promised a bold new era for women's rights, South African women are still shackled by poverty, violence, and exclusion. Policy without practice is not liberation, it's mockery. In 1995, South Africa proudly signed the **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action** – a global commitment to advance women's rights. We ratified the **Maputo Protocol**, guaranteeing rights to health, political participation,

protection from violence, and equality. We adopted the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)** and enshrined gender equality in our Constitution.

On paper, these are powerful promises. In reality, for women in **Nkowankowa, Mdantsane, Galeshewe, and Khayelitsha**, these commitments are empty words. High unemployment, crushing unpaid care work, grinding poverty, and a relentless gender-based violence crisis continue to steal women's safety and dignity. Year after year, the government recycles speeches, but the gap between rhetoric and reality yawns wider.

In 2022, the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) conducted South Africa's first-ever national study on gender-based violence. The findings - released in 2024 - reveal a staggering crisis: over a third of women aged 18 and older have experienced physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. This landmark evidence exposes the true scale of the epidemic, yet government responses remain fragmented and ineffective. The disconnect is glaring - despite having concrete data on the depth of the crisis, the government still fails to lead a coordinated, strategic response. Instead, departments operate in silos, and shelters are treated as band-aid fixes rather than parts of a comprehensive plan. This failure to translate knowledge into decisive action condemns millions of women to continued danger and neglect.

On 9 August 2025, President Cyril Ramaphosa marked National Women's Day at Nkowankowa Stadium under the theme "*Building Resilient Economies for All*." He rattled off statistics and promises, but dodged the brutal truth: the government has no coherent, coordinated plan to end gender-based violence or dismantle the systemic barriers keeping women poor.

The government doesn't just lack coordination, it's lost. No clear leadership, no strategic plan to even start the work. Departments flail around in silos, clueless about how to pull together or where to begin. It's no surprise they keep failing women. This confusion at the top costs lives every day, while officials sit on their hands and deliver empty speeches.

The irony is thick: South Africa already has a blueprint - the **National Strategic Plan on GBVF (2020-2030)**. Pillar 1 screams that the Presidency

must lead bold, coordinated action across all government sectors. It demands urgency, integration, and accountability. Yet, five years in, coordination is a joke. Departments chase small projects while the crisis deepens.

This vacuum of leadership means that while shelters provide a vital lifeline for many women fleeing violence, and while there are other valuable interventions happening, these efforts remain scattered and uncoordinated. Shelters are one piece of the puzzle, often treated as a stand-alone “solution” in a fragmented, uncoordinated system. Without leadership that unites all government departments and civil society efforts, shelters become reactive patches rather than part of a comprehensive prevention strategy.

We deeply appreciate the tireless work of grassroots organisations and community activists who provide critical support, shelter, and advocacy for survivors of gender-based violence. These groups are the heartbeat of resistance and hope in the face of systemic failure. Yet, despite their heroic efforts, the government’s approach remains reactive - patching wounds with shelters and isolated projects instead of leading a coordinated, strategic campaign to tackle the root causes of violence. Without bold, integrated leadership, the crisis will continue to worsen, leaving millions of women at risk.

True liberation means no woman should have to run from her own home to survive. It means smashing patriarchy, educating from the ground up, enforcing laws properly, and transforming society’s twisted norms. Until then, equality is just ink on paper.

This Women’s Month, as the government celebrates women in Nkawkwa and beyond, we demand more than empty speeches and staged events. We refuse to settle for broken promises. Equality isn’t a slogan - it’s a daily fight until every woman can live free from fear, poverty, and exclusion.

By: Khanyisa Dunjwa
Wamanist, Strategy Consultant and Writer



Breaking the Chains: Women Leading Change: Mayibuye Women’s Commission Shapes a Bold Vision for 2026

On Saturday, 9 August 2025 — a day of profound historical and political significance, the Mayibuye Consultation Process’s National Women’s Commission hosted a landmark gathering in Midrand, Gauteng, under the banner “Breaking the Chains: Women Leading Change.” Timed to coincide with Women’s Day commemorations, the event was not merely symbolic but a decisive political intervention.

Led by the Convenor of Women, **Comrade Nonhlanhla Dlamini**, the meeting brought together women from across Gauteng’s townships, suburbs, and rural communities. These were activists, community leaders, entrepreneurs, and young women united by a shared purpose: to shape Mayibuye’s vision for gender equality, economic justice, and systemic reform as the movement prepares to contest the 2026 local government elections.

“This is not just a meeting; it’s a call to action for women to lead the change we need,” one participant declared - a sentiment echoed by many throughout the day.

A Platform for Urgent Struggles

The discussions were as robust as they were urgent, tackling the entrenched crises that confront South African women daily:

- **Gender-Based Violence** – Women demanded stronger legal protections, “no bail for serious crimes”, and community-driven campaigns to shift social norms.
- **Economic Empowerment** – Calls rang out to dismantle corrupt tender systems, invest in women-led SMMEs, and prioritise job creation that centres female labour.
- **Education and Youth** – The need for free, decolonised education was underscored, alongside urgent solutions for accommodation costs and preventing school dropouts.
- **Health and Representation** – Participants insisted on integrating traditional healers into the healthcare system, while ensuring women are at the decision-making table in policy spaces.
- **Cultural Restoration** – Women’s leadership in preserving heritage was celebrated, with proposals for cultural festivals and initiatives to address social ills like prostitution linked to poverty.
- **Capital Punishment for Rape** – The demand for the most severe penalties for rape offenders was voiced with uncompromising clarity.



Delegates also raised the urgent need to support mothers raising children with disabilities, who often face deep social isolation, economic hardship, and inadequate access to quality care and education. The call was for comprehensive municipal support systems — from accessible transport to specialised learning facilities, ensuring that these mothers are not left to struggle in silence.

An overarching cry of alarm also emerged over the escalating crisis of youth drug addiction, which participants described as tearing apart families, destroying futures, and eroding safety in schools and communities. The Women’s Commission called for a multi-pronged strategy that combines prevention, rehabilitation, law enforcement, and community mobilisation to break the cycle of

addiction and restore hope to a generation at risk.

Women at the Forefront of a Political Alternative

This event was not an isolated exercise. It forms part of the Mayibuye Consultation Process, a grassroots-driven effort to design a revolutionary alternative to South Africa's political landscape.

Just one day after the Women's Commission meeting, the Gauteng volunteers' assembly revealed that **95% of attendees support the formal establishment of a political party**. The Women's Commission has made it clear that women's leadership will be at the core of this new movement; not as token representation, but as a decisive political force in municipal governance.

A Defining Moment

In a political climate too often dictated by factional battles and elite interests, the Women's Commission gathering was a breath of fresh air — unapologetically people-centred, grounded in lived realities, and rooted in the belief that **South Africa's liberation is incomplete without women at the helm**.

The message from Midrand was clear: Women are not asking for a seat at the table; they are building the table.



A Moral Compass for Change: Faith Leaders Join the Mayibuye Consultation Process

On Thursday, 7 August 2025, the Mayibuye Consultation Process, under the leadership of National Convenor Comrade Nyiko Floyd Shivambu, convened a pivotal meeting with religious leaders in Midrand, Gauteng, as part of its nationwide effort to engage communities on South Africa's political future.

The gathering sought to harness the spiritual authority and ethical influence of faith communities to address the country's most pressing challenges — poverty, corruption, unemployment, moral decay, and deepening inequality.

"Faith leaders are the backbone of our moral fabric," declared the National Convenor, emphasising Mayibuye's commitment to building a people-driven political alternative — free from fiefdoms, cults of personality, and family-run parties.

Faith Perspectives, Political Commitments

In a wide-ranging and robust dialogue, religious leaders brought forward moral and practical priorities that resonated with Mayibuye's broader vision:

- **Moral Regeneration:** A call to lead a nationwide moral renewal movement, reviving values of integrity, compassion, and community solidarity to counter corruption and social fragmentation.
- **Principled Position on Abortion:** Appeals for a balanced, ethical policy that respects women's rights while engaging faith communities in framing the moral dimensions of the debate.
- **Restoring Discipline in Schools:** Urgent reforms to reinstate order, empower teachers, and embed values-based education to curb misconduct and reduce dropout rates.
- **Strengthening Families:** Expanded counselling, community support, and anti-GBV programmes, in partnership with churches, to rebuild family structures.
- **Economic Justice:** Targeted action to tackle youth unemployment, support SMMEs, and revitalise township and rural economies.

- **Ending Corruption:** Transparent leadership selection and the creation of a "People's Municipal Budget Watch" to monitor spending and root out abuse.
- **Social Rehabilitation:** Church-led campaigns against drug abuse, homelessness, and violence, supported by community rehabilitation initiatives.
- **Cultural Restoration:** Partnerships with traditional healers and cultural custodians to protect heritage and promote unity.
- **Inclusivity:** A firm rejection of tribalism, factionalism, and exclusion, ensuring space for marginalised groups, including persons with disabilities.

From Dialogue to Action

The consultation produced a concrete roadmap for action, including community-based moral education campaigns, economic empowerment programmes, and the creation of a faith-based task force to embed spiritual and ethical principles into Mayibuye's policies. This task force is set to be operational by September 2025.

Upcoming engagements will extend the faith-based consultations to KwaZulu-Natal from 13–18 August, alongside meetings with activists, students, and community leaders. According to Mayibuye spokesperson Hlumelo Biko, the movement has already received "tens of thousands of volunteer applications," reflecting a growing appetite for principled political change.

By late 2025, Mayibuye aims to finalise a **People's Manifesto**, culminating in a policy convention in 2026. Leaders such as Bishop Bafana Zondo and Fana Mokoena have underscored the urgency of building a movement that reflects the moral and social mandates emerging from these nationwide engagements.

The Midrand meeting stands as a landmark moment in aligning South Africa's moral and spiritual values with a transformative political agenda. As Comrade Shivambu affirmed:

"A political party must serve the people, not personal agendas. Our duty is to restore integrity and hope to our nation's politics."



UNEMPLOYMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA IS A NATIONAL CRISIS

The unemployment crisis in South Africa has reached catastrophic proportions, and it can no longer be met with political platitudes or half-measures. It demands an unequivocal declaration of a state of emergency. This crisis is not an accident of history but a direct outcome of over three decades of ANC-led governance marked by corruption, policy paralysis, and a growing disconnect from the needs of ordinary people.

For over a decade, South Africa's economy has stagnated, with GDP growth rates consistently failing to break the 2% threshold. Our education system continues to churn out graduates ill-equipped for the realities of the labour market, while entire communities remain locked out of meaningful economic participation.

The Numbers Behind the Crisis

- **Unemployment rate:** 33.2% in Q2 2025
- **Youth unemployment:** 62.4% among those aged 15–24
- **8.23 million** South Africans are jobless, with millions more excluded from the labour market entirely

These figures are more than statistics – they are the lived reality of a generation. For young people, particularly those from working-class and rural communities, the dream of stable, dignified employment feels increasingly out of reach.

A Multifaceted Approach to Solutions

Addressing the unemployment crisis requires urgent, comprehensive economic reforms that centre on the needs of the people. The solutions must be structural, sustainable, and

inclusive.

1. Radical Overhaul of Education

We must transform our education system into one that delivers relevant, adaptable skills. This means embedding vocational training, apprenticeships, and industry partnerships into the core of our learning institutions.

2. Job Creation Initiatives

Policy must prioritise youth employment and entrepreneurship, focusing on high-impact sectors that can drive growth and deliver real opportunities from green energy and agro-processing to manufacturing and creative industries.

3. Industrialisation and Diversification

Our economy cannot rely solely on raw mineral exports. We need to invest in value-added manufacturing, beneficiation, and local production capacity to create jobs and stimulate economic sovereignty.

4. Investing in Digital Infrastructure and Skills

In the 21st-century economy, access to digital tools is as essential as access to water and electricity. Expanding affordable internet coverage, especially in rural and township areas, coupled with robust digital skills training, will ensure young South Africans are not left behind in the digital global economy.

5. Strengthening Social Safety Nets

The path to economic justice must include guaranteed access to healthcare, housing, and social protection for those in vulnerable positions.

The Plight of the Unskilled Worker

In pursuing job creation, we must also

address the marginalisation of unskilled labourers. These workers form the backbone of key industries, yet they are too often exploited, underpaid, and forced to work in deplorable conditions. Recognising their contributions and safeguarding their rights is both a moral and economic imperative.

The Voices We Must Hear

The Mayibuye Consultation Process has revealed the complex realities facing citizens – stories of struggle, resilience, hope, and determination. These voices cut through statistics and remind us that unemployment is not an abstract policy challenge; it is a daily battle for dignity, survival, and opportunity.

Declaring unemployment a state of emergency serves as a rallying cry for collective action — it is a call to mobilise government, private sector, and civil society in collective action. With political will, structural reform, and a commitment to equity, South Africa can build an economy that truly works for all its people.

Mayibuye iAfrika!

By: Keamogetstwe Masike
Youth National Convener for the Mayibuye Consultation Process

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MAYIBUYE CONSULTATION CHARTS A PATH FOR CHANGE IN GAUTENG

On the 10th of August 2025, Mayibuye held a consultation meeting in Johannesburg, drawing volunteers, community members, professionals, and youth from Ekurhuleni, West Rand, Tshwane, Sedibeng, and Alexandra. Led by National Convener Comrade Nyiko Shivambu, the gathering galvanised support for Mayibuye's transformation towards finding lasting solutions to Gauteng's crises of unemployment, corruption, illegal immigration, and social challenges.

The meeting, attended by diverse voices including Nomasomi, Godfrey, Jo Mani, Mxolisi, Afrika, Cedric, and Dr. Mosley, saw an outpouring of frustration with South Africa's political landscape. Participants labelled the ANC, DA, EFF, and MK Party as "thugs" and "captured" entities, accusing them of neglecting communities outside election cycles. With youth unemployment exceeding 60% and issues like hunger, drug abuse, and gender-based violence plaguing areas like Alexandra and Tshwane, attendees rallied behind Mayibuye's vision for a people-driven alternative.

"We're tired of electricity switch-offs after elections," said Godfrey from Ekurhuleni, echoing widespread distrust in governance. Afrika from Alexandra shared a personal story of unemployment and hunger, underscoring the urgency for change. Meanwhile, Nomasomi, also from Ekurhuleni, demanded disability-led policies, insisting on "nothing about us without us."

The consultation tackled a spectrum of challenges:

Economic Woes: Attendees like Mxolisi called for job creation and an end to corrupt tender systems, proposing Public Works oversight.

James from Sedibeng highlighted a R3 million loss in social assistance from ArcelorMittal, advocating for Sedibeng's metro status and participatory democracy.

Social Crises: Eva from Tshwane raised alarms over drug abuse, homelessness, and school dropouts in Sunnyside, while Ngobeni demanded protection for men facing domestic abuse.

Education and Youth: Baloyi from Sedibeng criticised declining education standards, urging restored teacher authority and free uniforms. Nkanyiso from Johannesburg referenced the 1944 ANC Youth League as a model of leadership and highlighted student evictions and accommodation costs.

Health and Culture: Dr. Mosley emphasised reproductive health, while others called for integrating traditional healers into the health system.

Immigration and Corruption: Forster and Fani stressed prioritising locals in the economy and addressing illegal immigration, with Thomas flagging ID fraud and water shortages in Giyani.

A strong call emerged for **supporting mothers raising children with disabilities**, recognising that these women often face compounded struggles—balancing caregiving, economic survival, and navigating inaccessible public services. Participants urged the development of inclusive education, accessible health care, and financial assistance tailored to families living with disability.

Equally urgent was the **overarching cry against youth drug addiction**, with community members warning of

its destructive impact on schools, families, and the social fabric. Many spoke of the ease of access to drugs in townships, the recruitment of young people into criminal networks, and the erosion of future leadership. The meeting called for intensified rehabilitation programs, community-based prevention campaigns, and law enforcement accountability to break the cycle.

The meeting also proposed a Mayibuye-led civic organisation to counter "captured" unions, with Cedric praising Mawusa's retail focus. Lorraine urged municipalities to address housing, while Junior sought support for Young Parliament FC, a youth initiative.

A Vision for 2026

With attendees endorsing Mayibuye's bid to contest the 2026 elections, the movement committed to forming a disability task force and civic organisation by September 2025. Plans include anti-drug campaigns, education reforms, and policies to manage illegal immigration while prioritising local jobs. The movement also aims to promote cultural restoration through festivals and support for traditional healers. Phendulani from Johannesburg hailed Mayibuye's consultative approach as a "first in South Africa," while Ronny declared the movement's establishment complete, urging hard work for 2026. Sello from Tshwane rejected parachuted leaders, emphasising local representation.

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MAYIBUYE NOW: STANDING WITH THE VOICELESS IN A NATION BETRAYED

The inception of the Mayibuye Consultation Process comes at a critical time for our country. We are facing a host of challenges that negatively impact our daily lives, and our leadership is found wanting. The political and socio-economic ecosystem is collapsing before our eyes. Leadership is absent — ensnared in a web of corruption and indifference.

The scale of corruption in South Africa (Azania) is beyond comprehension, draining the lifeblood of our nation. State capture by local, regional, national, and international underworld syndicates is entrenched. Many of these actors are involved in heinous crimes, unleashing acts of barbarism rarely witnessed in modern times.

Mayibuye's role is clear. To give hope to our communities and provide the tools to stand firm, challenge those in power, and demand they relinquish their positions and face political consequences. The government has failed our people for over thirty years, yet it remains arrogant, corrupt, and inept.

The explosive revelation by Lieutenant General Mkhwanazi in July 2025 laid bare the depth of our leadership crisis. It exposed an intricate, highly organised web of criminality cutting across government departments — from the judiciary, prosecution services, and correctional services, to other state organs, including entities such as the Independent Development Trust. These institutions are deeply captured by the dark forces of the criminal underworld.

It is in this context that the Mayibuye Consultation Process must fill the political void — reconnecting with our communities, community-based organisations, and civil movements in

all their formations to reclaim lost ground.

We must stand with the voiceless, the poor, and the marginalised in our fractured communities. Our mission is to make a meaningful difference through exemplary leadership, enabling communities to become self-reliant and restoring order with courage, bravery, and conviction. People have lost trust in the state, its organs, and the President himself. The distance between the government and its citizens has grown dangerously wide, across all three spheres of government, which have consistently failed our people while treating them with arrogance and disdain.

In conclusion, the issues and opportunities outlined above lie squarely in the hands of the Mayibuye Consultation Process to seize this moment and drive meaningful, revolutionary change. Consultation Process to seize this moment and drive meaningful, revolutionary change.

By: Victor Nyembe
Musician, Broadcaster, Producer,
Political Activist and Member Of
National Consultation Team (NCT) of
Mayibuye Consultation Process

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South Africa's Youth-Centric Employment Policy: A Call For Inclusive, State-Led Industrialisation

An Emergency That Cannot Be Ignored

South Africa's unemployment crisis remains a national emergency, with youth unemployment (ages 15–34) at a staggering 45.5% in Q1 2024 - far exceeding the national average of 32.9%.

Government initiatives such as payroll subsidies and the National Development Plan target job creation for 18- to 35-year-olds, aiming to curb this crisis. Yet these policies are deeply flawed: they perpetuate exclusion, ignore structural inefficiencies, and fail to deliver sustainable employment. Mayibuye calls instead for a transformative, state-led industrialisation strategy, inspired by global models, to correct these shortcomings and foster inclusive growth.

Too Old to Work, Too Young for Pensions

The narrow policy focuses on 18–35-year-olds marginalising older workers, particularly those over 35, who face steep barriers to re-entering the workforce. Advocacy groups like The Forgotten Nation of SA highlight how these workers feel “blacklisted” and socially excluded as opportunities overwhelmingly favour younger candidates. This age-based

Discrimination disregards the expertise of seasoned professionals - an asset in a skills-scarce economy and deepens inequality.

The consequences reach beyond individuals. Many South African households are led by single parents over 35, often supporting both children and grandchildren. Excluding this generation from economic participation traps families in a cycle of poverty, caught between being “too old to work” and “too young for pensions.” The irony is stark: while ordinary citizens are excluded, many policymakers of pension age continue to draw lucrative salaries.

Policies That Miss the Mark

Current approaches also fail to address the structural drivers of unemployment. Despite 94% of youth having secondary or post-secondary education, skills mismatches leave graduates unprepared for the labour market. Short-term measures, such as non-standard contracts and learnerships, exacerbate job insecurity. Subsidies like SETA grants often enable corporations to replace experienced workers with low-paid, temporary youth labour, casualising work and postponing permanent job creation.

The NEET rate (youth not in employment, education, or training), which has remained above 30% for more than a decade, underscores the failure of these interventions.

Lessons from Singapore and China

South Africa can learn from global models of state-led industrialisation. In the 1960s and 1970s, Singapore transformed into a manufacturing hub through state investment in infrastructure, education, and export-oriented industries. China's special economic zones similarly drove mass job creation by leveraging manufacturing and technology.

South Africa could revitalise its industrial base by focusing on labour-intensive sectors such as agro-processing, green energy, and technology manufacturing. State-led investments in these areas could generate millions of jobs absorbing

both younger and older workers while reducing reliance on private-sector subsidies that undermine permanent employment.

The Municipal Advantage

Municipalities are critical to this vision. By establishing local industrial hubs, they can attract investment and foster small and medium enterprises tailored to regional strengths. In KwaZulu-Natal, eThekweni could develop agro-processing zones to harness agricultural wealth, while Cape Town could expand renewable energy projects in solar and wind. Municipal-led, insourced public works such as infrastructure development would provide immediate employment while building long-term capacity, ensuring communities benefit directly.

Education for a New Economy

Education must also align with market needs. Vocational training programs co-designed with industry can equip youth with practical skills, while retraining initiatives can reintegrate older workers. An inclusive framework, unlike the current youth-centric approach, would balance opportunities across age groups, ensuring no generation is left behind.

A Bold New Path

South Africa must abandon short-term, age-biased interventions and embrace a bold, state-led industrialisation strategy supported by proactive municipal action. By investing in sustainable industries, reforming education, and prioritising inclusive job creation, the country can build a resilient economy that uplifts all its citizens and breaks the cycle of poverty and unemployment.

By: Tumelo Mlangeni
Head of Political Education | Mayibuye Consultation Process

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Mayibuye at the Crossroads: A People's Mandate for Change

June 19, 2025, marked a watershed moment in South Africa's political landscape. On this day, Floyd Shivambu announced his intention to assemble a capable and diverse team to traverse the length and breadth of the country, asking a question first posed by Vladimir Lenin: What is to be done?

The Mayibuye Consultation Process, led by the National Consultation Team (NCT), was conceived to engage directly with ordinary South Africans, community organisations, faith leaders, business sectors, and other stakeholders. Its aim was to determine whether there is a need for a new political movement. This grassroots approach, rooted in dialogue and consultation, stands in contrast to the paths taken by COPE, EFF, and the MK Party, all of which were launched without broad-based engagement with the people.

Risk and Opportunity in the Consultation Path

This grassroots, bottom-up approach of the Mayibuye Consultation Process presented both an opportunity and a risk for the NCT. The risk was that several current mega political parties namely the ANC, EFF, MKP, and DA could have swayed communities to oppose the establishment of a new party, not due to a lack of necessity for one, but to safeguard their self-serving political interests. Conversely, it presented an opportunity: if communities predominantly expressed a desire for an alternative to these parties, as they did, then Mayibuye could emerge as a community-driven, mass-based political movement, established by the people themselves.

Consultations across nine provinces have shown the risk was worth taking.

People used these forums to express their frustrations with unemployment, corruption, high crime rates, and deteriorating living conditions. Many articulated a vision for a political home that is principled, accountable, and centred on the people's needs. While some sessions faced attempts at disruption, the majority of participants embraced the process and supported the idea of forming a new political

movement.

A Mandate from the People

These consultations have given the Mayibuye NCT their marching orders: to establish a new political vehicle that can serve as a beacon of hope for our people. South Africans are weary of empty promises and political theatre. They want tangible change: decent jobs, safe communities, quality education, reliable healthcare, and an end to the corruption that robs them of their future.

Across provinces, participants called for leadership that is youthful enough to understand the realities of the majority, yet seasoned enough to navigate the complexities of governance. They emphasised the need for leaders who can unite people across race, ethnicity, and class, while blending strategic economic thinking with an authentic grassroots presence.

Floyd Shivambu's name surfaced repeatedly as an example of such leadership. Participants cited his political experience, academic grounding, and ability to engage meaningfully with both township residents and professionals, viewing him as someone capable of guiding the nation out of its current socio-economic crisis.

Looking Beyond 2026 and Toward 2029

While the immediate task is to formalise Mayibuye's organisational structures and prepare for potential participation in the 2026 elections, the consultations also raised the bigger question: who should lead South Africa into the next decade? Among the qualities named by participants were economic competence, a commitment to anti-corruption measures, the ability to unite communities across divisions, and a vision for a self-reliant, prosperous South Africa.

Many saw Shivambu as fitting this profile, noting that in 2029 - at age 46 he would bring generational renewal to the presidency while balancing the wisdom of political experience. These views were expressed alongside a broader understanding that the movement must be bigger than any one individual, grounded in collective vision and accountability.

A 21st-Century Liberation Mandate

The message from these consultations is clear: South Africans want a political movement that restores hope, rebuilds trust in governance and

actively involves communities in shaping policies. Whether in rural villages or urban centres, participants have called for a movement capable of confronting unemployment, crime, corruption, and inequality with courage and conviction. The Mayibuye Consultation Process has done more than gauged the public's appetite for change. It has also charted a clear path forward and issued a mandate to build a people-driven political movement, grounded

in service, discipline, and the pursuit of economic freedom within our lifetime.

By: Sindiso Malaku
PhD Student and the fundraiser for the Africa Mayibuye Movement in Tshwane.

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"We Are Not Invisible": Inga Moko's Call For Justice at The Mayibuye Consultation

When Inga "Sir Vva" Moko rolled into the [Mayibuye Consultation in Cape Town](#), he was not content to sit quietly at the margins. He insisted on stepping forward to speak, to remind the room that disabled people are too often treated as the invisible, forgotten members of South African society. His words landed with weight. His lived experience is a mirror to the cracks in our democracy, where policy often promises dignity, but implementation leaves too many behind.

South Africa has no shortage of progressive policies on disability rights: from the [Constitution's Bill of Rights](#) that enshrines equality, to the [Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act](#), and the [White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(2015\)](#). Yet, as Moko reminded us, these commitments mean little if disabled people remain excluded from meaningful participation in public life. Access, inclusion, and visibility are not charity; they are rights.

Before tragedy altered the course of his life, Moko was a fruit vendor. At just 27 years old, he ran a stall outside the garage in Pimville known as Mayibuye Garage. The irony is not lost on us that, years later, he would find himself at a Mayibuye Consultation, his wheelchair being repaired with care by comrades who carried the very name once etched into his daily grind.

Moko's life changed irreversibly in July 2022, during the Mdlalose Tavern Massacre in Nomzamo Park, Soweto, where 16 lives were lost. He survived, but at a cost. He lost both his legs, four fingers on his left hand, and almost his life. His resilience, however, has made him a figure of national recognition, interviewed by media outlets about his transformative journey. Today, he embodies survival, not as mere endurance, but as a testament to the power of second chances.

At the Cape Town consultation, Moko challenged the National Convenor directly: "Do not forget us. Ensure our visibility. Our struggles are not an afterthought, they are central to the liberation still unfinished." His appeal underscored the heart of the Mayibuye Social Program - that liberation cannot be theorised in isolation from lived realities. It must be rooted in listening, consulting, and responding to the needs of ordinary South Africans, especially those pushed to the periphery.

It is in this spirit that Mayibuye Social Assistance Chairperson, comrade Hlumelo Biko, acted swiftly to provide support to Moko. Alongside Western Cape Provincial Convenor, comrade Patricia Noyoo-Blackenberg, they ensured that his immediate need of repairing his wheelchair was met with urgency and dignity. This was not charity. It was solidarity in action.

Moko's presence at the consultation was more than testimony; it was a reminder. The DNA of Mayibuye lies in centring the voices of people like him - the excluded, the unseen, the resilient. His story embodies why

consultations matter: because they force us to confront the distance between policy and practice, between promise and lived reality.

As we move forward, the challenge Mkoko laid down before the movement remains: to build a South Africa where no one - not the poor, not the disabled, not the forgotten - is invisible.

By: Olebogeng Pooe
Johannesburg-based multimedia strategist, producer and director with over twenty years in broadcasting. She is the founder of HUMYN:MUSE, a boutique agency creating long-form, talk-based media that interrogates culture, politics, and social inequalities.



JOIN THE MOVEMENT

South Africans are invited to participate in consultations, volunteer, and shape the future of the nation. For more information, follow updates on social media platforms or contact the Mayibuye National Consultation Team.

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