



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**O.R. TAMBO 1917 - 2017**

IN HIS FOOTSTEPS ...  
PASSION. PATRIOTISM. INTEGRITY. HUMILITY



## **O.R TAMBO CHILDREN'S DECLARATION**

We, the children of Southern Africa hope to embody the diplomatic and life values of OR Tambo when taking action as well as commit ourselves to creating positive change as he did. We commit to carrying out the aims of the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development in our daily lives. We believe in our power as children to affect change and better our communities.

### **Preamble**

*Celebrating* the life of OR Tambo and the revolution he brought about in South Africa,

*Committing* ourselves to living and creating change according to the morals and diplomatic values that OR Tambo upheld and enshrined,

*Affirming* the power and potential of children and youth and their role in bettering society,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development and their implementation in all tiers of society,

*Promising* to live in a way that promotes and aids in the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Acknowledging* the significance of the 24th of October being the day that the United Nations was established seventy two years ago.

### **SECTION 1: ECONOMIC GROWTH**

*Reaffirming the need* for inclusive and sustainable economic growth as per SDG 8,

*Noting with deep concern* the lack of job opportunities available to the youth,

*Recognising* the potential role the youth have in revolutionizing and revitalizing the Southern African economies.



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1. *Draws the attention* to the need for quality education, that caters to socio-economic factors, to produce well-educated, capable individuals for the job market,
2. *Condemns* the use of child labor,
3. *Demands* that government implements was ensuring that individuals performing equal work receive equal pay,
4. *Endorses* the furthering of programs that aim to train and provide skills to the homeless.

### Article 2: Development

1. *Encourages* Southern African nations to increase their production capabilities and efficacy, throughout all sectors of society, to sustain ourselves and to increase profit received from trade,
2. *Requests* that government provides tools and funding to budding entrepreneurs,
3. *Emphasises* the need for mutually beneficial cooperation with the developed world to further enhance our developmental capabilities.

## **SECTION 2: THE ENVIRONMENT**

*Disturbed* by food insecurity in African countries along with the serious environmental degradation resulting from unsustainable agricultural practices,

*Deeply concerned* about the detrimental change in weather patterns, induced by climate change, affecting all aspects of life.

### Article 1: Agricultural Projects

1. *Calls for* the introduction of tree-planting projects in communities as well as the establishment of accessible community farms,
2. *Urges* government to capacitate the creation of vegetable gardens in homes and schools,
3. *Recommends* the establishment of stricter standards of sustainable agricultural practices, guiding countries in sustainably revolutionising their food production systems.



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contamination,

3. *Strongly encourages* stricter laws regarding overfishing, while calling for more beach clean-up programs,
4. *Strongly condemns* the proposed fracking in Karoo.

### Article 3: Sustainable Cities

1. *Solemnly affirms* the desperate need to transition to renewable energy resources,
2. *Endorses* the use of biodegradable materials,
3. *Expresses hope* for the transition to sustainable, green cities with rooftop gardens, noting that RDP housing should be environmentally friendly,
4. *Supports* drives to collect plastic materials in order to increase recycling operations,
5. *Calls for* all sectors of society to address food wastage and introduce more compost bins.

## SECTION 3: EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

*Emphasising* that education is a basic human right that should be accessible and affordable in order to have active youth participation in both economic and human development,

*Highlighting* the importance of awareness campaigns to tackle prominent social issues.

### Article 1: The Environment

1. *Calls upon* government to raise awareness about deforestation, water conservation and the need for renewable energy through pamphlets and programs,
2. *Encourages* the promotion of careers in environmental studies through career days and talks by professionals at schools,
3. *Recommends* the introduction of community programs that educate citizens about food security and provide ways to adapt to the harmful effects of climate change,



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### Article 2: Health

1. *Insists* on increased education about substance abuse and its dangers,
2. *Further recommends* that children are taught that health and well-being extend to mental illness as well as eating disorders, such as anorexia and bulimia.

### Article 3: Empowerment

1. *Calls for* increased awareness about gender equality, the LGBT+ community and domestic abuse,
2. *Draws attention* to the need to educate children about global participation and partnerships as well as the importance of diplomatic and peaceful negotiations,
3. *Declares* that basic education be free and accessible,
4. *Supports* the strengthening of student-led school governing bodies thereby empowering and training students.

## SECTION 4: HEALTH

*Noting with deep concern* the lack of medical personnel and facilities in isolated rural areas,

*Draws the attention* to the dire situation of water and sanitation facilities in rural communities,

*Alarmed by* the high prevalence of HIV and Aids.

### Article 1: School

1. *Demands* that all school sanitation facilities are clean and have running water and soap,
2. *Strongly condemns* the expulsion of pregnant students as well as emphasises the need to reintegrate these students back into schools post giving birth,
3. *Calls for* the implementation of feeding schemes in schools through the aid of government, Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and the private sector,



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1. *Declares* the need to provide every community with access to clean water as well as adequate sanitation facilities,
2. *Requests* the funding of mobile clinics and the implementation of accessible birth and healthcare centers in rural areas,
3. *Recommends* the implementation of initiatives such as the National Health Insurance,
4. *Draws attention* to the value of providing level one first aid training to schools and the general public.

### Article 3: Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities

1. *Confirms* the need to ensure hospital staff are well-trained and educated,
2. *Deeply concerned* about the understaffing of doctors and nurses in hospitals, therefore calling for the increase thereof, whilst promoting the increase in representation of male nurses,
3. *Insists* that there should be random, regular inspections in clinics and hospitals to maintain efficiency and the well-being of the community.

## **SECTION 5: SOCIAL**

*Recognising* the intrinsic link between human dignity and the provision and access to basic infrastructure,

*Drawing attention* to the importance of CSOs, such as NGOs, Community Based Organisations and Faith Based Organisations,

*Deeply concerned* by the prevalence of societal rifts along the lines of gender, race, sexual orientation, nationality, religion and disability,

*Alarmed* by the lack of infrastructure and service provision in rural communities.

### Article 1: Infrastructure and Resources



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4. *Promotes* high quality education that utilises technological resources,
5. *Calls for* the monitoring of food distribution schemes and sanitary related resources,
6. *Demands* the creation of better infrastructure in rural communities, especially concerning waste removal and provision of electricity and water,
7. *Supports* the creation of gender neutral bathrooms for LGBT+ community,
8. *Requests* the installation of street lights to enhance safety as well as the creation of street watches to provide a quicker response to crime.

### Article 2: Community Involvement

1. *Urges* the promotion of community participation in government elections to create strong institutions and stability,
2. *Supports* the introduction of community programs that allow diverse people to cooperate in order to remove fear and discrimination and cultivate acceptance,
3. *Encourages* regular meetings between government, CSOs and youth representatives to ensure effective development and cooperation.

### Article 3: Service Providers and Social Cohesion

1. *Demands* that access to education is equal for boys and girls and that there are equal job opportunities for men and women,
2. *Insists* that schooling staff are well-trained and passionate and that there is access to tutors for struggling students,
3. *Emphasises* the need for better police response to rape, abuse and crime,
4. *Recommends* the establishment of effective reporting mechanisms and the appointment good student role models to prevent bullying.



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## **OUR CHILDREN'S PLEDGE**

1. Enshrine the life values of OR Tambo and adopt his diplomatic ways in all our activities
2. Be at the forefront of implementing the SDGs
3. Empower our local communities by being informed and educated active citizens and by participating in public forums and ensure that the community is aware of the Global Goals for Sustainable Development
4. Enforce sustainable and renewable sources of energy production along with the efficient management of waste in our communities
5. Use water wisely and sparingly, in light of recent drought across Southern Africa
6. Reduce our Carbon Footprint
7. Educate and train our communities in methods of sustainable agricultural practice
8. Spread acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community within our own communities along with preventing the exclusion of and discrimination against women

**The 2017 OR Tambo Centenary Celebration Children’s Declaration was submitted to Mzwandile Masina, the mayor of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality on the United Nations Day 24 October 2017 at the official handover ceremony at Alberton Civic Centre, Alberton, South Africa.**



**City of  
Ekurhuleni**

