AZAPO
AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

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My Vote Counts Campaign

c/o Ntsiki Baqwa

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Dear Ms. Baqwa

Political Party Funding Transparency

Thank you for your letter dated 31 March 2014.

The Azanian People's Organisation firmly believes in the need for accountability and transparence in our political and electoral systems. This is why in our manifesto we have made proposals that clearly seek to introduce transparence and accountability.

Under the theme of **empowering citizens**, sub theme **Building and Strengthening Meaningful And Participatory Democracy**

AZAPO, in its manifesto, proposes to, when in government, introduce:

- A system whereby the President of the country and Mayors are elected directly by citizens so that the President and Mayors are directly accountable;
- A hybrid electoral system that incorporates proportional representation with constituency representation;
- Recall, which will allow citizens to remove non-performing elected officials; and
- The right of citizens to call for referendums on issues they want to be addressed.

To our knowledge AZAPO is the only party contesting the 2014 Election that makes direct and firm proposals on **Electoral Campaign and Party Funding** in its manifesto. In building a nation of equal stakeholders an AZAPO government will:

- Ban contributions or donations by foreign entities or individuals to political parties and electoral campaigns
- Restrict juristic persons to only make donations to the represented political parties' fund managed by the Independent Electoral Fund(IEC)
- Six months before the end of term of the National Government, ban any advertising (paid for media placement) either by a juristic or natural person that seek to influence or shape public opinion on a policy, political or public affairs issue.
- Change the formula used to allocate funds to political parties from the represented political parties' fund as follows: 50% of the fund to be distributed on an equal basis to all the represented parties, the other 50% to be distributed on the basis of proportional representation in the National Assembly.
- Require political parties to publicly declare, through the IEC, any donation or donations from an individual that amount to or exceed R50 000, adjusted for inflation each year.
- Limit an individual's contribution to a political party or an electoral campaign to R150 000 per calendar year, adjusted for inflation yearly.

The above represent firm proposals we are putting to the electorate and are committed to pursue as a ruling party or as an opposition party. However, while we hold firm to the values and principles that undergird our proposals, we have an ethical and a moral responsibility to our current donors whom we approached on the basis of current laws and regulations (or lack thereof) that regulate electoral campaign and party funding. Due to this ethical and moral obligation to our funders we are not in a position to reveal their identity.

However, the 'my vote counts campaign' and all its partner organisation can rest assured in the knowledge that AZAPO receives no funding from foreign governments, or individuals; that no big conglomerate has specifically funded AZAPO. The funding that we have received

has largely been from our members and compatriots who want to see the promise of the liberation struggle fulfilled. These are people who share our vision for a country based on liberty, equality, and solidarity.

Yours sincerely

(sent electronically unsigned)

Kganare Lefoka

Secretary General – Azanian People's Organisation

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Cc : National Treasurer , Director of Elections