



ANC ETHEKWINI REGION News letter

14 AUGUST 2025

Women's Month edition 1/2



By Cde Sne Sishange (ANCWL ETHEKWINI REGIONAL CHAIR)

Happy Women's Month to All Women in eThekweni!

As the Chairperson of the ANC Women's League in the eThekweni Region, I wish all women in eThekweni a Happy Women's Month. We honour you, celebrate you, and appreciate the vital role you play in building our communities every day.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to: Our ANCWL Deputy Secretary, Cde Ntombi Ndlela, for being elected as a SALGA Women Commissioner. ANC KZN PTT Deputy Coordinator, Dr Nomusa Dube-Ncube, on her appointed as Deputy Minister of Education and our

progressive young women Dr Sunshine Myende, for being appointed as NYDA Chairperson.

We further encourage and congratulate all women who are successful in their careers, keep on shining.

We are proud of these remarkable leaders whose achievements prove that women have the strength, vision, and determination to lead and shape a brighter future. Together let us keep on fighting GBV, substance abuse and unemployment.

Forward with strengthening the role of women today and always.



Picture: ANCWL eThekweni Regional Chair Cde Sne Sishange



**Contributions From:
Cde Mpume Mabaso**

(ANCWL ETHEKWINI REGIONAL SECRETARY)

As Women's Month is celebrated across the country, the ANC Women's League (ANCWL) in eThekweni is using the moment not only to reflect, but to reaffirm the urgency of placing women at the centre of political, economic, and social transformation. In a written contribution, eThekweni Regional Secretary of the ANCWL, Comrade Mpume Mabaso, stresses that the commemoration must go beyond slogans and symbolism.

"We cannot romanticise the month of August while millions of women remain trapped in cycles of poverty, unemployment and violence," Mabaso says. "This month must sharpen our resolve to demand structural change — not token gestures."

In eThekweni, the retrenchment of thousands of Expanded Public Works Programme workers — most of them women — has deepened the crisis. Women remain excluded from land, formal employment, and economic opportunities, while carrying the daily burden of sustaining households amid collapsing clinics, rising youth drug abuse, and the absence of affordable childcare.

This year's commemorations also honour the late Comrade Lungile Gcabashe, former Deputy President of the ANCWL, remembered as a revolutionary who embodied the spirit of Charlotte Maxeke, Lillian Ngoyi, and Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. "Comrade Lungile taught us that women don't need permission to lead — they must lead because history demands it," Mabaso recalls.

From fighting gender-based violence to leading grassroots campaigns, the ANCWL in eThekweni stands firm: there can be no national democratic revolution without women's full emancipation. In honour of Comrade Lungile and countless unsung heroines, the message is clear — the future must be built by women, not around them.



- On 09 August 1956, brave women marched at the height of apartheid, risking their lives to stand up for justice.
- The march was against pass laws that targeted and restricted women.
- Twenty thousand women gathered at the Union Buildings in Pretoria to deliver a memorandum protesting the tyranny of the apartheid government.



Cde Cheryl Sisoka

(ANC ETHEKWINI DEPUTY COORDINATOR)

The Unbroken Fight for Women's Emancipation

Women's struggles are not new. In 1918, the Bantu Women's League rose as a defiant voice against oppression. By 1948, it transformed into the ANC Women's League, and even now—decades into South Africa's democracy—the fight for true equality endures.

Reflect on this: The ANC, founded in 1912, denied women full membership until 1944. In 2025, it still awaits its first female president.

Our mothers and grandmothers forced open the doors of opportunity.

Yet too often, when women step through, they are sidelined, serving under men who may be less experienced and less qualified but deemed more "acceptable" by a persistent patriarchy.

We confront gender bias.

We endure harmful stereotypes.

We face harassment—sometimes loud and violent, sometimes subtle and insidious.

When we speak out, we are dismissed as emotional. This is not a label—it is gaslighting, oppression, a deliberate attempt to silence us.

We stand on the shoulders of giants: Mama Lillian Ngoyi, Florence Grace Mkhize, Helen Joseph, Victoria Mxenge, and countless others who battled apartheid, sexism, and racism. Their courage fuels our fight today against new forms of injustice: gender discrimination, femicide, human trafficking, sexual harassment, and bullying.

This is a sobering truth. But it is also a clarion call to action. The appointment of the Provincial Task Team and Regional Task Teams in KwaZulu-Natal, includes committed and capable women, and reflects the ANC's resolve to rebuild from the ground up. Women are not bystanders in this mission - we are central to restoring discipline, unity, and political clarity in all of our structures starting at community and branch level. Dedicated women in the movement are holding their hands together to regain the trust of our people. We are grandmothers, mothers and sisters. The spirit of family and nurturing runs through our veins. It is this strength and resolve that will provide the impetus for our glorious movement to look forward, not back.

As we commemorate Women's Month, let us do more than reflect, let us act. We must organise community campaigns, political education sessions, and branch renewal programs with the same passion and focus that our foremothers showed in the brutal combat against apartheid. Let us remind our people why the ANC remains the only movement capable of transforming South Africa - because it belongs to the people, not individuals. As women of this revolution, we are not asking to lead. We are already leading - renewing the soul of the ANC from the ground up, with discipline, honesty, and love for our country. Amandla!

We denounce every assault on women's bodies, minds, and voices.

We owe an eternal debt to the women who came before us. They passed us the baton. Our task is to run, to run with unwavering vigor until women's emancipation is no longer a dream but a reality.

Wathinta Abafazi, Wathinta Imbokodo—Uzokufa!



Message from:
Cde Nokulunga Khuzwayo, ANCYL eThekweni Regional Secretary

Happy Women's Month to all the phenomenal women out there!

As the first female Secretary of the ANC Youth League in the eThekweni Region, I stand proudly on the shoulders of giants like Mama Lillian Ngoyi, who paved the way with unmatched courage and determination. Today, we honor the sacrifices, struggles, and unwavering spirit of the women who came before us—those who laid the foundation for our freedom and success.

As young women, we inherit not only their victories but also their unfinished battles. Our journey is not without challenges—we must work twice as hard, push boundaries, and shatter every glass ceiling that stands in our way.

But we must always remember: the sky is not the limit—it is only the beginning. We are the leaders, innovators, and change-makers of today and tomorrow. Together, we must inspire, uplift, and empower each other to rise even higher.

To every woman who has touched my life and the lives of others—thank you! Your strength and resilience continue to light the path. Let us keep fighting for the true emancipation of women, walking in the spirit of Mama Lillian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Albertina Sisulu, Sophia Williams-De Bruyn, and countless others who came before us.

Here's to strong women—may we know them, may we be them, may we raise them.



Cde Belinda Scott

(ANC ETHEKWINI FUNDRAISER)

This Women's Month, as the ANC recommit itself to rebuilding and renewal, we draw strength from the historic legacy of women who stood firm and courageous in the face of oppression and injustice. From the fearless and gallant Ruth First, who sacrificed her life in the struggle for liberation, to Charlotte Maxeke, Albertina Sisulu, and Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. These heroines did not wait for permission to lead. They organised, mobilised, and inspired, proving that the work of liberation and reconstruction cannot succeed without the full and active participation of women. Ruth First once said, "You cannot fight for freedom and not be free." As women, we must claim our space - not only in memory, but in action.

In the eThekweni region - a bulwark of the ANC - we suffered one of the greatest losses of support in the 2024 national and provincial elections. Many of our comrades, long loyal to the movement, voted elsewhere out of deep frustration, not only with internal divisions, but also with the impact of poor service delivery and unresponsive leadership.

IN THE LOOP

Selected Takeaway's From The NEC Statement

- The ANC reaffirms its commitment to addressing the triple oppression of women in terms of race, class, and gender.
- The ANC issues a clarion call to confront persisting gender inequalities, including **GBV and femicide**.
- At the Liberation Movements Summit, the ANC reaffirmed its commitment to building a better Africa and a better world.
- The ANC rejects attempts by domestic and foreign forces to destabilise the nation through misinformation and economic coercion.

Government

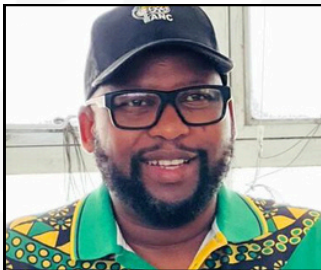
- The ANC condemns the DA's calls to abandon BBBEE as an affront to the Freedom Charter principles.
- Stabilising Eskom with a 70% EAF shows determination to end load shedding and ensure energy security.
- Preparations for the National Dialogue are proceeding as planned.
- The NEC reminds structures that the GNU is temporary and necessary to safeguard the progressive agenda amidst a fractured mandate.
- The NEC resolved to reset the GNU and broaden participation through engagement with current partners.

Organizational

- All branches must comply with functionality criteria and **complete the Foundation Course by November 2025**.
- Branch General Meetings must be quality-assured and attendance strictly verified.
- Regional Executive Committees must adopt performance-based KPIs.
- Conferences must be concluded by December 2025 ahead of Local Government Elections.
- **The membership cut-off date for the NGC will be 30 September 2025.**
- **The National General Council will be held from 8–12 December 2025 at NASREC.**
- **The 2026 January 8th Rally will be hosted in the North West Province.**



Link for the full statement [STATEMENT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE NEC MEETING: 1 – 4 AUGUST 2025 – ANC](#)



Renewal, Reconnection and Readiness: RTT Message To Branches and Zones

By: **Cde Smiso Mkhize, ANC eThekwini RTT Coordinator**

REBUILDING OUR ORGANIZATIONAL MACHINERY

The PTT has made it clear: rebuilding branches is the foremost priority. Weak branches mean a weak movement. Task Teams will be appointed urgently at branch and zonal levels to:

- Verify and clean outdated membership data
- Recruit new members and renew existing ones
- Appoint Branch Portal Administrators for effective admin access
- Reactivate ANC's presence and activism at local levels.

DEMARCATON & BY-ELECTION READINESS

The region has finalized its submission to the Municipal Demarcation Board, which led to the creation of Ward 112 and the retention of Cato Ridge under eThekwini. A regional workshop will soon be held to ensure branches fully understand the demarcation implications.

We are also fully behind the **Ward 64 by-election. Registration took place on 2–3 August, and the election will be held on 17 September.** RTT members have been deployed full-time to support the campaign.

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & GOVERNANCE

The rollout of the OR Tambo School's foundation courses will resume once the branch and zonal task teams are in place. Additionally, a new councillor reporting template has been introduced, ensuring monthly accountability on service delivery, branch work, and community engagement.

CALL TO ACTION

From this point forward, we call on all comrades to:

- Fix and rebuild our branches
- Support deployed RTT members and BTTs
- Mobilize communities for upcoming elections
- Strengthen unity and reconnect with our people

As we approach 2026, our unity, discipline, and political will shall be tested — but together, we will rebuild, renew and deliver victory for the ANC!