

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**RE: YOUNG NURSES INDABA Mass Action to office of Gauteng Department of Health MEC Qedani Mahlangu**

**25 June 2016**

YOUNG NURSES INDABA, unapologetically leads a mass action to Gauteng Department of Health MEC Dorothy Mahlangu on Monday, 27th March 2016, proceeding from Mary Fitzgerald Square, Newtown at 9am.

Mobilized by their own sufferings, Nurses from both private and public sector, political associations, religious groupings and races joined by civil society vow to shut down the provincial health departments offices in a bid to realize economic liberation, academic recognition, safer and sound working environment that will ensure Gauteng residents receive free yet quality healthcare services that they have been deprived of for the past 22-years of democracy

The unwarranted, unprecedented precautionary suspension of the founding member and President of YOUNG NURSES INDABA Cde Lerato Madumo Gova is viewed as yet another apartheid regime tactic to silence those who echo revolutionary sentiments of the likes of the late former state president Nelson Mandela calling for unconditional liberation of nurses and fearlessly advocate for improved healthcare systems for all people.

YOUNG NURSES INDABA demand a fast tracked transformation, implementation of sound administrative processes and systems that will curb exodus of Nursing Practitioners and address the undoubtedly increasing population size owed to the porous borders of our country.

Nurses will be speaking directly for themselves and directly to their own struggle. Nurses can no longer afford to be used as scapegoats by the department of health for its ailing healthcare system and be turned enemies of the communities they serve. This demands are long overdue particularly in a country with a history of apartheid and colonization. The triumph over apartheid and colonization is futile without the guaranteed access to quality healthcare and economic freedom of its healthcare professionals.

The ANC led government is the number one stumbling block in the attainment of radical transformation in the healthcare sector. Under the ANC and it's alliances, 22-years post apartheid Nurses which are mostly women are still exploited in a modern day slavery fashion and the white monopoly capital continue to benefit.

We strongly believe that it is time Nurses reminded elected public representatives of their plight and suffering outside the confines of inflexible and unreasonable bargaining structures, without restrictions of high walls and security gates which prevent access to corridors of decision making. Quality healthcare is not a privilege, it is a right. This right should be tirelessly fought for by healthcare providers, healthcare users and the community at large.

ISSUED BY YOUNG NURSES INDABA:

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