



**CLIMATE
JUSTICE
CHARTER
MOVEMENT**



Press Release:

South Africa has sold out the African continent and the rest of the Developing World!

We Call on those in the Presidential Climate Commission Committed to Climate Justice to Resign!

We Call on all partners and supporters of the Climate Justice Charter Movement to Engage the Debate on Contesting the 2024 National Elections

15 November 2022

South Africa has in essence sold out the African continent and the developing world by buying into the geopolitical power games of the United States and European states for an opportunity to gain access to funding at the expense of other vulnerable states. This funding structure compromises other poorer countries that have played no role in contributing to the climate crisis. The South African government's acceptance of loan heavy financing has undermined the historical calls for climate debt, loss and damages and debt write-off by countries in Africa and the global south not responsible for the climate crisis. The ANC led Government has not worked with other African countries to advance a common Climate Justice Deal for Africa and instead opted for an individual country-centred approach. South Africa has effectively undermined historical climate justice demands and let the global north off the hook for adaptation finance by accepting this externalised primarily loan-centred financial model mainly for mitigation. Hailing the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) as a model for other countries, by the Presidential Climate Commission (PCC), is a dangerous precedent that undermines the collective struggle for global climate justice. It has, in a sense, legitimised the global north's geopolitical game to divert attention away from its historical role in global emissions and its reluctance to wean itself off of its dependency on oil and gas. **Those who consider themselves climate justice activists in the PCC should resign for this reason alone.**

The ANC government's hypocrisy is further revealed in its military intervention in Cabo Delgado to protect international gas extraction interests and its export of coal to Western European countries impacted by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The profits of coal companies have not even been considered for a 'windfall tax' to fund an accelerated deep just transition. The ANC government talks peace for Ukraine and non-alignment but yet has not called for a just peace at the recent COP including the dismantling of NATO, the withdrawal of Russia from Ukraine and for global demilitarisation and denuclearisation to divert resources into accelerating the deep just transition. The world does not need more war making and militarism but a collective approach to a just world peace as central to climate justice. We demand an end to hypocritical and opportunistic climate foreign policy by the ANC government. **We are calling and working for a Global Climate Justice Bloc of vulnerable governments, peoples, workers and movements for a just world peace, earth democracy and Climate Justice Deal for Africa (See [CJCM strategic perspective Doc 1](#)).**

It is difficult to trust the approach to the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), when the foundation on which it is built is flimsy, to say the least. The Presidential Climate Commission's Just Transition Framework which precedes this plan, reveals the flawed perspective on which this plan was built. It failed to recognise that we are a country wracked by deep inequality, including poverty wages and precarity in the labour market. Moreover, the Just Transition Framework does not speak to the continued commitment of the ANC government to more coal, oil, gas and nuclear investments. **Hence we are calling all concerned about the climate emergency to sign [our petition](#) to resist the commitment of the ANC state to more oil, coal, nuclear and gas investments (See [CJCM strategic perspective doc 2](#)).**

There is low confidence in this country, with regard to the ANC government's ability to handle money. We have seen recently how even a pandemic could be used as an excuse for corrupt politicians to feed themselves at the trough at the expense of the sick and vulnerable. Beyond these serious concerns about hypocrisy and climate injustice we believe, guided by the Climate Justice Charter, the following questions have to be asked in the public arena about the emphasis on electricity, green hydrogen and electric vehicles in JETP given South Africa's criminalised market democracy (See [CJCM strategic perspective doc 3](#)):

- **Are workers and mining affected communities defining the just transition plan of ESKOM and the decommissioning of coal fired power stations?**
- **Why is there no promotion of and link between eco-centric manufacturing of renewable energy technologies in the country to supply ESKOM and create climate jobs?**
- **Why an export led green hydrogen industry which will require more renewable energy than even what ESKOM produces on the national grid and immense water resources in a water scarce country?**
- **Why not an emphasis on eco-centric manufacturing of wind and solar technologies and a more limited role for green hydrogen?**
- **Why the emphasis on electric vehicles when there are limited raw materials for the deep just transition and when the country rather needs eco-mobility and clean energy public transport systems manufactured in the country?**
- **Which ANC aligned politicians and companies are going to benefit from this R1.5 trillion looting opportunity?**

The ANC state and alliance are the main obstacles to an accelerated and deep just transition in South Africa. Let us not be fooled by the 'climate talk', big investment numbers, mega development emphasis and international game playing. Few have benefitted from ANC rule and few will benefit from its hypocritical and unjust approach to the worsening climate crisis. Hence **we are also calling on all supporting the Climate Justice Charter to engage with our debate about contesting the national elections in 2024 to ensure the corrupt and carbon addicted ANC gets less than 50% of the vote (See [CJCM strategic perspective document 4](#)).**

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