

Resolution Passed**Title**

Resolution 12: National Year of Service: Youth Climate Action Learnership.

Proposer

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Seconder

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Resolution

Resolves that:

- Legislation is introduced to establish the most ambitious government-led youth empowerment program in South African history, seeking to create paid learning opportunities annually for young people through a National Year of Service Program in the form of a Youth Climate Action Learnership. The precise number of paid learning opportunities to be re-determined each year.
- The Democratic Alliance equip the most marginalised and vulnerable in our society with critical NQF-aligned skills, which will teach them to become entrepreneurs, to become self-reliant, to be able to sustainably farm land, to become subsistence farmers that can feed their families and generate an income, to be able to restore degraded ecosystems, to plant and maintain green infrastructure, to become rangers and develop expertise in biodiversity management and conservation, to become practitioners in eco-tourism and to prepare to be integrated into the manufacturing sector and the green economy in various areas of specialisation and need.
- The Democratic Alliance engages with international state and non-state actors, academia, industry and experts to fully leverage and utilise this program to achieve the best possible outcomes for South Africa.
- Leverage all possible means of international diplomacy to obtain a major annual endowment based on Article 9 and 11 of the Paris Agreement. This would allow for the full-funding of this program as a National Climate Response to lift our young people out of poverty and address the socio-economic impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable in our society.

Motivation

Noting that:

- According to the Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) for the first quarter of 2022, the unemployment rate was 63,9 percent for those aged 15-24 and 42,1 percent for those aged 25-34 years, which is the highest in the world.
- The South African population of young people is estimated to be approximately 20.6 million, which is 35.7 percent of the country's total population of about 60 million people. Most of the South African youth are not gainfully employed and despite their vulnerability, are not included in any social welfare system.
- 75 percent of all Youth in South Africa are unemployed.
- The IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C has identified South Africa as a "climate change hotspot" which is warming at twice the global average.
- Projections indicate that economically disadvantaged South Africans, and especially young people will be forced to bear the brunt of the worst impacts of climate change.
- In respect of the Paris Agreement of 2015, developed countries that are most responsible for the emissions that have caused the Climate Crisis have committed to jointly mobilise \$100 billion annually in climate finance, grants and other financial instruments to support developing countries. The DA is best placed in the South African context to leverage these facilities to ensure these resources are utilised to save South Africa not only from the impacts of Climate Change, but the socio-economic disaster it will cause, should we fail to build resilience where we govern.
- In terms of Article 9 and Article 11 of the Paris Agreement of 2015 respectively, "Developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing countries" and "Capacity-building under the Paris Agreement should enhance the capacity and ability of developing countries."