

**Young Communist League of South Africa
National Council 2008
11—14 December 2008**



“True to our History: Consolidating our vision 2010”

BOOK 4

SECRETARIAT REPORT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION	4
2. PILLARS OF OUR PROGRAMME (2007-2008)	5
3. OVERVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS.	7
4. BUILDING THE ORGANISATION	9
4.1. STRUCTURES	9
4.1.1. National Committee	9
4.1.2. National Working Committee	10
4.1.6. National Committee Deployment	15
5. STATE OF PROVINCES	16
5.1. Eastern Cape.....	16
5.2. Free State	17
5.3. Gauteng	18
5.4. Kw aZulu Natal	22
5.5. Limpopo	23
5.6. Mpumalanga.....	24
5.7. North West.....	25
5.8. Northern Cape	26
5.9. Western Cape.....	27
7. STATE OF DISTRICTS	29
8. STATE OF BRANCHES	30
9. MEMBERSHIP	30
a. Operation Khula.....	30
b. Membership Statistics.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
c. Membership Systems	32
10. POLITICAL EDUCATION	33
11. CAMPAIGNS	35
a. Kabelo Thibedi Campaign.....	35
b. Chris Hani Inquest Campaign.....	36
c. Free Education Campaign	36
d. Elections 2009 Campaign	39
12. PROGRESSIVE YOUTH ALLIANCE	39
13. MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS	41
14. INTERNATIONAL	42
15. RELATIONS WITH THE SACP	44
16. WORK WITH TRADE UNIONS	45
17. GENDER, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION	45
Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign.....	45

Campaign on the Transformation of Gender Relations	46
HSRC Youth Policy Roundtable Series	46
Parliamentary and Other Submissions	46
18. CONCLUSION	46
19. ANNEXURES	47
A. LIST OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS	47
B. NATIONAL COMMITTEE PROVINCIAL DEPLOYMENTS	47
C. NATIONAL COMMITTEE COMMISSIONS	48
D. LIST OF PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS.....	48
F. CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT AND BRANCH MEMBERSHIP (DOES NOT INCLUDE THE MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS RECEIVED FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER)ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.	

ORGANISATIONAL REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

This Organizational Report will cover the activities of the organization since the Second National Congress. The aim of the Organizational Report will be to engage the National Council on how we can best take forward the function of organizing, setting up effective structure, taking up relevant campaigns and ensuring that we build a vibrant, militant, focused working class youth organization. The challenge posed by the capitalist system of production continues to demand that we build a reliable organ for the working class to drive the project of socialism.

Importantly, the purpose of this report will be to drive our structures into action as we organize, agitate, educate, learn and mobilize. We have the daunting task of ensuring that we defend the future of communism in South Africa by strengthening structures of the YCL as a preparatory ground for future communist leaders. Thus, our strategy have been at all times to combine building a strong Young Communist League which is rooted within the masses of our youth with an advanced cadreship that is ever ready to take forward the struggle for socialism.

We are approaching this report with a premise that intends to refocus the organization towards attracting young people from all walks of life. The campaigns that the last National Congress adopted; the organizing strategy that has been agreed to; the focus of our cadre development strategy and the issues that we decided over time to be the centerpiece of the profile of the YCL has build the foundation for us to realize a bigger and ideologically clear organization.

From the discussions we will have, it will be opportune for us to begin engaging with various forms of organizations at grassroots level dealing with issues of job creation, rural development, youth development, cultural and creative activists, access to education, HIV/AIDS, women and children abuse and the trade union movement. These organizations are in the form of loose NGO entities which cannot be succumbed to organizational practices, social movements, youth clubs and small working class youth formation dealing with day to day issues. Our intention should not be to have the individuals or members in these organizations being part of the YCL, but to organize them in such a way that they advance the struggle for socialism as they attain their minimum objectives.

We are also having this National Council placing firmly in our mind that the YCL has grown both qualitatively and quantitatively. We have become a force to be reckoned with as it relates to issues that affects the youth of our country. We need to build on this foundation and ensure that we do not get demoralized by not having attained some of

the objectives we set ourselves. With all of these objectives, we have at least done some work in ensuring that we move closer towards changing the lives the youth of our country.

Far from what liberals, reactionary forces and the bourgeois media portray us, as have abdicated the responsibility of mobilizing young people on development issues at the altar of defending ANC president, we are practically accounting about programs that we are preoccupied with as they relate to young people and they are occupying the larger space in our agenda more than political engagements.

Our approach should remain that of mobilization and agitation. This means that YCL structures from all over the country should ensure that we mobilize young people behind the program of the SACP of "*Building Socialism Now*" with the understanding that this is what will bring fruition to the 1994 breakthrough.

This National Council must spend time and engage frankly with the weaknesses that have confronted the organization over this time. Let us remain self-critical and ensure that we learn from these. Let us gather our strength and courage to point out where we differ in terms of organizational strategy, where we failed, where we should continue, where we should invest our human resource and importantly where we can make immediate gains. As we do so, it should be with the understanding that we are not going to exaggerate our weaknesses and begin to throw in the towel, but that we are doing this in order to ensure that ultimately, the struggle of young people are organized under this formation and find resonance in the entire society.

In final analysis, YCL must succeed in rallying young people firmly within its fold, programmatically and, politically in the interest of the class. This also means a dynamic balance of dual role that the League must play in leading the SACP programs whilst pursuing youth mobilization against capital. So it stand to reason that our organizing strategy must be fortified in such a manner that it find expression horizontally to the branch level of the organization so that we build an effective, vibrant and exciting YCL with a capacity to run programs.

2. PILLARS OF OUR PROGRAMME (2007-2008)

Immediately after the Second National Congress held in Durban we held a National Committee Lekgotla in order to process the Resolutions of the Congress into a Program of Action. The Pillars of our Program of Action for 2007 are as follows:

- ★ **Building a vibrant and exciting youth organization**, with a focus on the following areas:
 - Strengthening existing branches, districts and provinces and building or launching new branches and districts;

- Developing YCL Cadres for taking up leadership in the SACP and sustaining the organization;
- Intensifying the Battle of Ideas through Mass Campaigns and Projects that affects youth.
- Strengthening the capacity of the Organizing, Media, Administration and International sections of the organization at National Office; and

- ★ **Intensifying International Solidarity** and work through strengthening alliances and building new ones.
- ★ **Contributing into the Policy Development** discourse in the areas of social and economic development, and linking this with our campaigns.
- ★ **Mobilizing young women behind the work of the organization** through cadre development, campaigns and policy work.

The POA was further developed into tasks and functions for National, Provincial, District and Branch structures in order to guide our structures on how to implement the programme. We will later on discuss and present our perspective on the implementation of the POA and the role that structures have played. We believe that this is an important discussion in order to assist us on holding structures accountable, taking forward our work and ensuring that we remain committed to the socialist discourse.

The same Legkotla was convened in 2008 January to assess the work of the organization and developed a programme for this year. The National Committee decided that the following should be the pillars of our POA for this year:

The Pillars of our Programme of Action (Strategic Tasks of the YCL) Vision 2010	
6.1 Building the Organisation	
Vision	To build a strong, vibrant, radical and inclusive youth organisation which will utilize the energy of youth into a anti-capitalist revolutionary movement
Mini-Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To recruit 300 000 members by 2010. ● To launch 30 branches per district by 2010. ● To launch all district structures by 2010. ● To launch District Youth Clubs by 2010. ● To have one, well functioning, political education school in each District by 2010. ● To build a strong youth movement with the YCL at the helm by 2010. ● To concentrate our efforts in targeted campaigns that

	<p>speaks to the aspirations of youth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have a strong PYA and its components, and to strengthen the Education Alliance, by 2010. • To build strong relations with all SACP structures by 2010.
6.2 International Relations and Solidarity	
Vision	To strengthen our relations with youth organisations regionally and internationally with the interest of exchange and solidarity.
Mini-Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have delegations visiting three regional countries and one international as part of a cultural, political and social exchange. • Take up international solidarity issues and campaigns. • Have YCL Travel Cooperatives for YCL members to see the country, region and continent (The Che Detachment).
6.3 Social and Economic Transformation	
Vision	To struggle for change in the social-economic conditions of working class youth
Mini-Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To take forward the resolution on Free Education Campaign and ensure that it is fully realised and implemented by 2010. • To intensify the ID Campaign under the banner of the Friends of Kabelo • To form 30 YCL youth co-operatives by 2010 throughout the country. • To intensify the struggle for Jobs, against Poverty and HIV/AIDS. • To ensure that there is an Inquest on the assassination of Chris Hani by 2010

3. OVERVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS.

We have been able to plan, implement, monitor and assess our execution of the resolutions of the last National Congress. The life of any organization depends on how it is able to live up to the expectation of its core constituency and ensure that it gets involved in activities that communicate with these constituencies. Our programme was mainly dominated by campaigns, administrative capacity, building the organization, and

developing our cadres. This required the commitment of all of our cadres in the implementation of these tasks.

We have at all times ensured that our targets and plans for each year are executed without fail. Our strength has been in taking up and rallying the youth through campaigns such as the ID Campaign, the Free Education Campaign, and the HIV/Aids Campaign. We have also managed to renew the mandate of new structures and intervene where there are weaknesses. Our major weakness has been in relation to the achievement of the targets of Operation Khula.

Over the last two years since the last National Congress, the National Committee has preoccupied itself with ensuring that our programmes and plans are implemented. There has obviously been, an issue clear in most of the structures, an unequal commitment towards this task. Not all members of the YCL have been involved in the implementation of our programmes. There are comrades who had dedicated themselves to ensuring that they participate in organizational activities and perform tasks. These comrades ensured that decisions taken in meetings are taken forward and implemented. They reported to lower structures on what decisions have been made and ensured that they assist with the allocation of tasks. On the other hand, there were those comrades whose role was merely to attend to officials meetings of the YCL and regarded this as their role.

This is very important because we need to understand that the role of a YCL member does not end with them joining or being elected into positions, but includes them taking up various functions in order to ensure that the life of the organization remains.

We must indicate that it is important for us to rally all members of the YCL to take forward the programmes of the YCL. Our organizational approach should at all times be to ensure that members of the YCL understand the decisions they take and how these decisions are taken forward.

The communication strategy with our lower structures had a major influence with regards to information flow and execution of our tasks. The National Committee had adopted a system where all the Provincial Committees/Councils meets immediately after the National Committee so that the decisions are communicated early for their implementation. We need to ensure that we bring this into practice as many members always yearn to understand what decisions are made and what role they should play in their execution. The primary organizational strategy of a youth wing of a Communist Party is to ensure that decisions are not relegated to some few members who are elected or who serve in the Head Office, but that these decisions are embraced and executed by all the other structures and members.

4. BUILDING THE ORGANISATION

4.1. STRUCTURES

4.1.1. National Committee

We sadly lost two members of the National Committee, Kgosimang Dimphe and Seshupo Segole. We have also co-opted Mawethu Rhune and Bheki Movo. The National Committee is still preoccupied with finalizing the other members for co-option.

National Committee members are actively participating in the life of the organization. There are obviously disparities in this regard. There are those members who attend to deployments into fraternal organization's activities, trade-union work, SACP activities and provincial deployments despite the fact that we do not provide these comrades with resources to execute this work. There remains a weakness of members of the organization attending to some of the activities as happening in the province where they are based. Some examples include the youth month activities and the women's month activities. A list of all National Committee Members is attached at the end of this report.

Meetings of the National Committee

Since the National Congress, there were seven (7) National Committee meetings of the Young Communist League. This is in line with the planned Quarterly Meetings of our organization. All the meetings of the National Committee formed a quorum, whilst on average, the attendance of National Committee members have been good. These meetings are utilized to receive reports from the Secretariat and the Treasurer for the Quarter, and plan for the next quarter. The Meetings of the National Committee should be able to synchronize with those of the lower structures, wherein after each National Committee meeting, we have a Provincial Executive Committee, followed by a Provincial Council and then District meetings follow in order for a proper and fresh report to be given in those structures. In most cases, the provinces have been failing to follow this up.

Induction of the National Committee

All National Committee members, except those who missed the first meeting, underwent an induction process basically introducing them to what it means to be a member of the National Committee and what are the tasks and responsibilities of such a responsibility. The National Secretariat has been providing constant support where needed. This has helped National Committee members to understand and fully take the responsibility of their roles.

Role, Cohesion and Leadership of the National Committee

The role of the National Committee is to oversee the implementation of the programmes as adopted at the National Congress, and is the highest decision making structure of the organization in-between Congresses. The National Committee is a prestigious, highest organ of the YCLSA and has therefore the task of providing leadership; maintaining unity and promoting cohesion of the organization. Members of the YCLSA should at all times and everywhere expect the best of performance, understanding of the organization, political direction and leadership, and insight from members of the National Committee. There is no senior or junior member of the National Committee, and none should receive greater preference than the other whether due to being an National Office Bearer or National Working Committee members, and that all other structures created by the constitution (other than the Congresses) are for the convenience of the National Committee to be able to better implement the policies of the organization.

We therefore, in that regard as members of the organization, expect the best of action from this team that was elected by the last National Congress. Our role, albeit not alone, is for the safeguarding of the vision of the working class youth entrusted into the YCLSA, and the advancement of their needs and interests. As part of executing this role, we have a duty to understand our constitution, our Strategic and Tactical Considerations and the broad Programme of Action of the YCLSA. All members of the National Committee should leave up to this task, without any desire to prioritize squabbles; and any interest in divisive tendencies that are combative of our ultimate objective.

4.1.2. National Working Committee

The NWC meets regularly in between NC meetings to look into the implementation of the decisions that the NC has taken. There were seven NWC meetings since the last Congress. The attendance registers for the NWC meetings are attached as part of the addendum. Although the NWC is supposed to be meeting once a month, most of the meetings had to be postponed or cancelled due to either other organizational activities or poor attendance or confirmation. Some of the NWC meetings have been turned into extended Secretariat meetings. It is important that we continue to have this structure having regular meetings so that we are able to uphold accountability of the Secretariat and improve on the implementation of YCL programmes.

4.1.3. Weekly Secretariat Meetings

The NWC is supported by the National Secretariat meetings which are held weekly at the National Office. These meetings comprise of members of the Secretariat and Heads of Departments. Its main responsibility is to ensure that there is weekly planning and

receive of reports from staff on the implementation of decisions. This has proven to be effective in monitoring the work of staff members, and makes the work of the organization more efficient. The main responsibilities of the National Secretariat are to look into the following categories of issues:

- Administration and Financial Matters
- Organizing
- Weekly National and Provincial Activities
- International Issues
- National Committee Deployments
- Media Issues for the Week
- Policy and Gender
- SACP Work
- Progressive Youth Alliance Matters

All these are in line with the organizational priorities that we set for ourselves in each National Committee and NWC meetings. The National Secretariat has also been an effective structure to monitor the extent in which all structures of the YCL are involved in the execution of NC decisions through reports required on weekly activities.

4.1.4. National Secretaries Meeting

From time to time the National Secretary convened a teleconference meeting with all the Provincial Secretaries to discuss pertinent and programmatic issues that required execution. The role that this teleconferences played towards major events such as the June 16 Commemoration, Provincial Conferences, major YCL Campaigns have been helpful. It is advisable that the Provincial Secretaries begin to replicate this system with their District Secretaries. It is however important that we do not see this as an excuse for not visiting structures, but more as a necessary platform to engage with extraordinary organizational briefings and engagement.

4.1.5. National Committee Commissions

The National Committee took a resolution that all National Committee Commissions shall meet as part of its ordinary meetings. The role of National Committee Commissions were defined as a means to ensure that all members of the National Committee participate in the daily life of the organization, and that work is therefore fairly distributed amongst NC members. The following were the roles of the National Committee Commissions and the tasks that they performed.

4.1.5.1. League Building Commission

The League Building Commission comprised of the National Secretary and all the Provincial Secretaries. The role of the LBC was to look into the following tasks:

- Recruitment and Operation Khula, together with the YCL Membership System;
- Campaign Strategy, Plans and Monitoring of implementation;
- State of Structures and interventions;
- Cadre Development and Political Education;
- Progressive Youth Alliance and the task of Mobilizing youth behind Socialism;
- YCL and the SACP Campaigns; and
- Work with the Trade union Movement

The LBC managed to assist the National Committee to engage with the issues above and ensure that we have a lively and vibrant YCL. There has been a weakness, obviously, and these included signs of lack of commitment on the part of some of the Provincial Secretaries and leading their provinces on the decisions as agreed by either the NC of the Commission. It is the view of the Secretariat that we need to continue with the work of this Commission as the nerve centre of our work. This Commission will also be central in the work of the organization as we approach the next General Elections in 2009. This Commission is also important as all other campaigns and work initiated by other Commissions or the NC will have to be driven by the LBC.

It is also our view that we should replicate the LBC into provinces and ensure that Provincial Secretaries lead District Secretaries through these meetings. In this way, we will manage the necessary information flow required for such vibrant and dynamic organization. There is no need why the issues identified above as key tasks of the LBC cannot be replicated in Districts. Over time, we need to have vibrant District LBC which comprises all the Branch secretaries in the District meeting at least once a month, or zoning branches and having their Secretaries meeting as a LBC to plan on executing those tasks. Our strategy and organizational approach requires consistent structural forms shaped along the lines of the LBC to ensure a consistent information flow. It is very embarrassing when a District Secretary does not know all their Branch Secretaries, and for us, this should be the beginning of organizational synergy.

4.1.5.2. *International Commission*

The International Commission is one of the most vibrant, and yet, one that needs constant attention from the National Committee. The fact that there have been

several misunderstandings amongst Commissioners is mainly a sign of the many activities that the Commission has undertaken. These have at all times being comradely misunderstanding which were out of a positive desire to see the organization active in international work. The National Committee has at all times managed these misunderstandings. The tasks of the International Commission were brief but yet broad. They were:

- To become the driver of solidarity work of the YCL with specific countries which were under crises;
- To develop networks internationally with friendly forces;
- To assist the organization with succinct analysis of the consistently changing balance of forces;
- To represent the organization in International Forums such as the World Democratic Youth Federation; and
- To build a Southern African network of left or communist organizations.

Again, provinces which border other countries were asked to form an International Commission. These meant that, for instance, Mpumalanga and KwaZulu Natal would work with Swaziland and Mozambique; Eastern Cape, Free State and KwaZulu Natal with Lesotho; Northern Cape with Namibia; North West and Limpopo with Botswana; Limpopo with Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Some provinces succeeded in forming allies with the different countries, whilst others even went to the extent of an effective political education and solidarity work with their countries. We will report more on this work later on. But the effectiveness of the International Commission should be applauded, and possibly with asking some of the comrades serving in this Commission to be active in other work in order to spread their energy.

4.1.5.3. Social and Economic Transformation Commission

This is the policy think-tank of the organization. The politics of our campaign, the rationale of our pronouncements and the relevance of our ideas emerged from this Commission. This was however a Commission whose work began and ended with National Committee meetings, and the majority of its decisions were not implemented whilst most of the work it had to do was relegated to the Secretariat. We were facing a huge challenge; for instance, post Polokwane with the many policy changes that were to be made. This included the Scorpions and the National Youth Development Agency. The contribution of the Commission is undesirable. It was unfortunately the problem of leadership of the Commission. The responsibility of the Commission was to:

- Develop internal policy and perspective on issues of social change and economic transformation;
- Engage with the policy discourse nationally and internationally based on the perspective of the YCL and our respective resolutions;
- Provide analysis and engagement on the kind of campaigns that the YCL was running and why these were about changing the lives of the organization; and
- Make submissions on various policy processes by parliament or policy bodies with the intention of driving our policy perspective.

In the absence of a policy think tank institution that is youth based and youth dominated and whose agenda is to drive the left ideology, the Social and Economic Transformation Commission remains our best machinery. We therefore should not be idle when approaching the work of this commission. In the same vein, we need the Commission to drive policy work and campaign though in our respective provinces. Therefore, this Commission should also be replicated in the provinces.

4.1.5.4. Gender Commission

The work of the Gender Commission cuts across all other Commissions, and is therefore the most important work. The Commission has at all times been helpful in driving the work of the organization relating to the transformation or revolutionizing gender relations. This has been in the form of creative ideological reminders, perspectives and analysis followed by action. It was the conception of the Gender Commission on the Campaign about free sanitary pads or the engagement of teenage pregnancy and the social relations in society. The responsibility of the Commission was to:

- Guide the YCL Gender relations and transformation continuing debate and action;
- Engage with women organization as a platform for spreading our perspective;
- Ensure that the conduct of YCL and its members are not in perpetuation of the patriarchal relations that are embedded with our capitalist or sprinkles of feudal relations that are still dominant;
- Drive YCL gender campaigns; and
- Ensure that the YCL remains a comfortable home for young women.

All provinces should appoint amongst their Provincial Committees Gender Convenors as a way of ensuring that gender work is undertaken at this level. This does not have to be young women in the structure.

4.1.5.5. Finance and Fundraising (See Financial Report)

4.1.6. National Committee Deployment

A team of National Committee members were deployed in different provinces to ensure that they create the synergy between the lower structures and the national structure. Many of the NC members saw this as an important function whose main role is to intervene in the building of structures, maintain information flow, and assist in building capacity and ensuring that the decisions of the National Committee are consistently undertaken by lower structures. The NC deployees are therefore emissaries of the centre who were also effectively members of the Provincial Committees. It has also become a norm that members of the NC should actively participate in the activities of the provinces where they reside as part of increasing capacity.

However, not all deployees attended to their responsibilities at all times. The reasons for this ranged from resources for travelling to the deployment (especially for unemployed NC members), lack of commitment on the part of some NC members, co-ordination in terms of deployments, communication problems and the need for emphasis on the importance of deployment. There were also tensions in some instances on the role of the NC deployees and the Provincial Committee as this sometimes led to (an unfortunate view) of some NC members believing that they are supreme. This however has since been clarified.

What we also need to ensure that we resolve is the need for members NC deployees systematically providing reports to the Secretariat on their deployments, and the role that the National Committee needs to play in that regard. We also need to establish a system of monitoring whether NC members attend to their deployment.

It is the view of the National Secretariat that the role of National Committee deployees should be to:

- Provide leadership to Provincial Committees and all the other lower structures of the YCL;
- Attend activities of the YCL in the province where they are deployed;
- Report to the National Secretariat on their deployment and their perspective of the state of the structures;
- Communicate, through *Hola Batsha* and National Committee Statements, the decisions of the National Committee;

The National Committee must lead, and therefore its members have a special role to play in ensuring that this leadership is visible in all our structures.

5. STATE OF PROVINCES

5.1. Eastern Cape

The Eastern Cape has gone through a weak spell in terms of executing the programme of the organization. One very strong, vibrant and active province with high membership statistics, consistent campaigns and focused political education; a problem of weak leadership emerged with the disintegration of the Provincial Committee. The Provincial Committee stopped holding its scheduled meetings mainly because the Provincial Secretary was faced with challenges in terms of coordinating this work. This led to the collapse of districts and branches as they were not kept active in organizational work.

The National Committee decided to constitute a Provincial Interim Leadership Core which is headed by the Deputy National Chairperson and comprised of the National Committee deployees with some of the remaining members of the PC and other members of the YCL who were active in the PYA structures. The PILC has since started rebuilding structures of the YCL in the province and have already launched the OR Tambo District. There are plans underway to ensure that all other districts are launched. There are District Interim Leadership Cores that have been put in place.

The membership of the province has obviously suffered a blow mainly because of the administration of this work in the province. There is a need for the province to administer their progress in terms of Operation Khula.

The province has been active in campaigns on HIV/AIDS, Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign and is hard at work to ensure that we rebuild structures of the ANC with the impending split which is concentrated in the province. The strength of the YCL as brought by the revival of the PILC will obviously be tested as cadres of the YCL contribute to the rebuilding of the movement in the Eastern Cape. It is going to be critical that the National Committee continues with the support that it is providing in to the province until such time that we complete the tasks ahead.

The relationship between the SACP and the YCL in the province is good with the Party providing the necessary support to ensure that we successfully build a strong YCL. The PILC have also been enjoying a good relationship with the structures of the Progressive Youth Alliance and have led the Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign together with the PYA. There is also a good relationship with the trade union movement Cosatu and some of its affiliates, which has been strengthened by Campaign work.

There is still a lot that needs to be done in terms of the Chris Hani Inquest; a Campaign which should find popularity in this province more than anywhere else as it is where

Comrade Chris hails from. There was however a march to the provincial office of the Public Prosecutor to raise the matter with that office on the inquest, and also a submission of petitions that were mobilised from communities. Not a lot has been done with regard to the Kabelo Thibedi ID Campaign especially given the fact that there is a serious need for this campaign to intervene in the rural parts of Eastern Cape. We are also yet to see activism on local issues that affects young people being driven by the YCL in the province. This will constitute the cornerstone of activism and rebuilding the YCL.

The YCL in the Eastern Cape has been active on the issue of the cross-border dispute in Matatiele. It is however urgent that young communists from the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu Natal provide leadership to the youth on where Matatiele should be located as there are conflicting interests in this community. These are some of the issues that need to be taken forward as part of rebuilding the YCL.

The major tasks facing the PILC and the district structures, therefore, are as follows:

- Taking forward the goals of Operation Khula by meeting the target of 11 000 by the end of 2009. This means that the province should now set itself the target of 22 000 for the year of 2009.
- The province should strengthen their capacity to drive campaigns, linked to the General Elections Campaign of 2009.
- The province should constantly monitor the work of districts and branches to ensure that they are launched and we return to stability.

5.2. Free State

The National Committee took the unprecedented decision of dissolving the Provincial Committee and constituting a Provincial Interim Leadership Core in the Free State. The decision was based on the following facts:

- The inability of the PC to convene constitutional meetings such as the Provincial Council, the Provincial Committee and the Provincial Working Committee;
- The inability of the PC to implement campaigns work of the organization following decisions of the National Committee;
- Factional conduct in the manner in which the Provincial Committee was conducting itself in executing organizational work;
- Weak leadership at the level of the District Executive Committee, with weak structures whose activities could not be accounted for;

- Poor relationship between the SACP and the YCL which was more about the factional stance that the YCL leadership had taken in the lead up to the SACP Provincial Committee; and
- More members of the Committee being inactive.

This resulted in the PILC having to dissolve all the District Executive Committees and starting afresh in building branches, districts and leading up to the Provincial Congress. There were problems within the PILC, with confused roles between the Convener and the Coordinator, which led to serious political divisions at the Provincial Congress. Despite many attempts to clarify the roles, there continued to reign a spirit of not pulling together between these two comrades. However, the Provincial Congress was ultimately convened and a new leadership was put in place. The new Committee has a responsibility of uniting all members of the YCL in the province, including those who may not have been elected into the PEC.

The province enjoys a good relationship with the SACP and the broader Alliance structures. There is also a good working relationship with the Progressive Youth Alliance. This will be helpful as part of the road to elections, and in ensuring that the YCL leads with respect to the Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign. The PILC lost an opportunity to engage with vigor the racial implosion that symbolized the University of Free State. However, our branch in the affected institution played a meaningful campaigning role to expose those who conducted themselves in a racist manner.

The province is yet to launch the Kabelo Thibedi ID Campaign and involve the many structures that have now been launched in this campaign. The province had a march to the provincial offices of the Public Prosecutor to submit the signatures that were collected from communities to demand the opening of an inquest on Chris Hani. There are relations which were built between the YCL and Cosatu and its affiliates which focused on specific issues and campaigns. These relations should be harnessed and nurtured in order to ensure that we have a flow of young workers into the YCL.

The challenges for the new leadership are therefore much bigger; however, we trust that with their energy they will be able to succumb these. We also believe that the leadership has unending and dedicated support from the National Committee which will help them to maneuver whatever the obstacles.

5.3. Gauteng

The Second National Congress took a decision to endorse the dissolution of the Provincial Committee of the YCL in Gauteng. This led to a Provincial Interim Leadership Core that was led by the National Committee and attracted the efforts of dedicated YCL from the province. The task of rebuilding the YCL was much bigger in the province as

the National Committee had underestimated the gravity of the weaknesses in the structures of the province. Some of these included unaccounted membership and membership fees, poor financial administration processes, weak branches and districts and an SACP that had found itself engraved in the factional politics of the YCL.

The challenge of the PILC was therefore to ensure that they lead four districts to their Congresses and attain the highest number of branches and members ever in Gauteng. The PILC then, in the middle of this year, ultimately convened a Provincial Congress which was dominated by a succinct political programme. This was however nearly spoilt by a contest which, although in the face of it looked legitimate and democratic, had underlying factional tendencies. Some of the leadership of the SACP in the province and district had in the process, according to the provincial report, sponsored one list to contest for leadership whilst there was also another which was emerging at the conference.

The National Committee discussed this tendency as it also relates to all other provinces. Below is the extract from the Political Overview to the 7th Plenary Session of the National Committee on the matter of leadership contests and the recommendations to that

“In the last few weeks there has been several Provincial and District Congresses which were part of the constitutional requirements. Amidst all of these, the Free State, North West, Gauteng, Northern Cape and the Limpopo Congresses did not go without contestation. With regards to the Northern Cape, North West, Free State and Gauteng, the contestation was undoubtedly unprincipled and based on factional preferences. Some of these are obviously fuelled by the role of the SACP in the leadership elections of the YCL. Although there maybe no reason to panic as yet, it is very important that we begin to openly discuss the issues of leadership, criterion, skills and other attributes that will guide members of the YCL in electing leaders.

“In the midst of such highly divided and dividing tendencies within the Liberation Movement, it is critical that we at all costs seek to be inclusive on issues of leadership, without necessarily compromising the quality of such leaders.

“There are many factors that lead to leadership contests in the organization, informed by various prejudices, social relations, misconceptions, and desire to stay in office, political differences and many others which may not necessarily have to do with our organizational objectives.

“We therefore propose that we look into the following as immediate guidelines:

- Leadership questions should be discussed openly, without any fear and should include all members and leaders of the YCL within the proximity of where the Congress is taking place;
- The role of the leadership should be relegated to advise on the question of leadership, instead of being part of the contending groups;
- Issues of contestation, although part of the democratic process and should be encouraged, must be avoided at all costs and should only happen when all other channels have been exhausted;
- Contestation should be done in a comradely fashion and must not be intended at destroying comrades, but meant to build the organization. Weaknesses of comrades should be raised with them forthrightly and be asked to account, and that comrades who lost in elections should at all times be given roles to play within structures;
- We must at all times avoid a situation of triumphalism, where those who win in the instance of election seeks to wipe out others; whilst on the other hand a threatening culture of delegates walking out because their candidates lost. This happened in both North West and Northern Cape.
- The culture of geographic leadership determination is one of the major threats as people are offered positions with the purpose of garnering support from their respective regions. In some instances, districts get locked into positions because their candidate is not being supported. It also defeats the notion of leadership by capabilities, and introduces leadership by regionalism. The danger with this is that it may push us to the dangers of tribalism, sexism and race.

“We need to expand on these issues and ask a team of comrades to develop a brief document, flowing from the document which was adopted at the Re-establishment Congress in 2003. If we fail in the task of uniting the organization regardless of leadership difference, then the danger lies in our objective for socialism.”

The National Committee remains convinced that this National Council should be ceased with this discussion and emerge with a guideline on the approach to the question of leadership.

The Provincial Congress brought with it a breath of fresh air in terms of the politics of youth in the province. The YCL has been at the forefront of ensuring that they hold the Youth Commission accountable on deliverables towards the youth; championed the Free Education Campaign; where at the forefront of the Khutsong Campaign and many other activities which were not at the centre of the previous PEC.

We surely need to amend the poor relationship between the SACP and the YCL in the province as this may in time become counter-productive. The major problem is also the transporting of conflicts and factional battles within the SACP, inevitably, into the YCL.

The YCL enjoys a good relationship with Cosatu and its affiliates. There should be ways in which the programmatic nature of this relationship should lead to more young workers joining the YCL. The YCL also enjoys a sound working relationship with the Progressive Youth Alliance. There was a PYA Summit which was convened and agreed on major political and programmatic resolutions which could serve as a guide for the provincial and national structures.

The role of the YCL in the Kabelo Thibedi ID Campaign, the Juvenile Delinquency programme of visiting prisons and the successful Shebeen Campaign should be applauded. However, there is a need for more work in the campaigns department. The vicinity of the province to head office has obviously been an advantage for the province. There is a need for improvement and effectively heightening the role that the National Committee members and the National Office can play. The province has also been central on the International Solidarity Campaigns, especially the Tshwane District, given that most embassies are based there. We need to strengthen the capacity of the province to raise issues relating to the Chris Hani inquest especially because the parole hearing processes of Clive Derby-Lewis will be here in Gauteng.

The province continues to hold Provincial Committee meetings, Provincial Councils and other lower constitutional programmes since its last Congress. There are signs of cohesiveness and commitment towards the organizational work, and for this, the newly elected leadership should be commended. There is still a lot that needs to be done, but the signs that we will attain most of the organizational goals set for ourselves are there.

Gauteng province have a potential of growing bigger than it is in membership terms, with regard to structures, the impact of its campaigns and the strength of its cadres given the nature of the economy and other social factors that characterizes the province. Major and priority tasks for the province include the following:

- Taking forward the targets of Operation Khula by ensuring that they double their efforts resuscitating the Yusuf Dadoo District (which was once the jewel of the organization).
- Uniting all members of the YCL behind a clear programme whose mandate will be to build a strong, effective organization;
- Taking forward the campaigns of the YCL as a means to build more and new structures; and
- Recruiting new members in the Colored, Indian and White communities.

5.4. KwaZulu Natal

The province held its Provincial Congress immediately after the National Congress in 2007 where a new leadership was elected. This was the most successful Congress in the form of programme that emerged, the zealotness of the comrades in terms of approach to organizational work and the dedication towards taking forward our organizational programme.

There are however signs of organizational weaknesses in the form of declining membership, poor focus on campaigns of the organization and general service to lower structures by the PEC. There are concerns over the cohesiveness of the leadership of the YCL in the province, albeit problems that can be resolved and the leadership of the province asserting their vision and mobilizing commitment.

The province continues to hold constitutional meetings such as Provincial Councils and Committees, and also oversees the work of districts. All the districts in the province are in good standing and requires consistent monitoring and leadership.

The province has been consistent in their implementation of the Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign, the Kabelo Thibedi Campaign and the Jobs for Youth Campaign. The PC also held a march targeting the National Prosecutions Authority to raise our demand for the institution of an inquest on the assassination of Chris Hani. The province needs to tighten its administration of membership and implement targets as per the Operation Khula Campaign.

There are good relations between the SACP and the YCL in the province, with consistent focus on political education and participation in SACP activities and Red October Campaigns. This is one of the few provinces that is driving and being part of the ANC Elections Campaign and the PYA Elections Campaign. The province also hosted this a successful June 16 Commemoration 2008 at Claremont, which saw more than 10 000 people in attendance, through Defiance campaign led a march to SABC demanding fair reporting. There is a good relationship between the YCL and other PYA structures, although there were concerns earlier on about the YCL and ANC Youth League relations, these were resolved. This was also visible in terms of a successful SRC Elections Campaign, although the PYA did not win all the campuses as intended.

The province has also been doing well in commemorating heroes of the struggle such as Harry Gwala, Moses Mabhida, Smiso Nkwanyana and Mzala Nxumalo in the form of Memorial Lectures. These are good activities that many other structures need to replicate.

There is also good relationship between Cosatu, its affiliates and the YCL. We need to ensure that we take advantage of the relationship, and grow the membership of the YCL

in the workplace. The provincial leadership also needs to ensure that they prioritize recruitment into areas which were dominated by the IFP. This has been the case for some time; however, dealing a blow with the IFP Youth Brigade will mean more action from the ground and a strong grassroots communist movement. This must also include a strategy for recruiting the Indian community which is rife in KwaZulu Natal.

We need to ensure that the National Committee continues to provide support for the province so that it returns to its former glory in terms of organizational campaigns and programmes.

5.5. Limpopo

Limpopo is one of the most consistent provinces of the YCL, and has consistently dominated the membership statistics as being the highest in membership. This has also been reflected in the level of campaigns, organizational work and political education that has been undertaken. The dissolution of the SACP in the province led to the YCL having to provide leadership to structures of the SACP. This meant that some of our leading cadres had to become interim leaders of the SACP, and were ultimately elected into the Executive Committees. This is a true example of what the role of the YCL should be.

The province continues to convene provincial constitutional meetings and oversee the work of the districts. Since the last National Congress, there were two Provincial Congresses in Limpopo given the fact that many of our leaders were elected into the SACP whilst others became inactive. The Provincial Committee is now a constitutional structure.

There is a good relationship between the SACP and the YCL after the old was dissolved. This has led to joint campaigns on the food and petrol crises, Chris Hani Commemoration and many other such activities. The province also has a good relationship with Cosatu and its affiliates, and has been active in the Cosatu activities and actions. In Limpopo, there resides one of the best example of how a PYA structure should be functioning. It is one based on programmatic action and consistent political education and campaigns. The problems and struggles for the soul of the ANC had initially become the uniting force for a strong PYA, which has now become a sustainable foundation for a formidable alliance. There is however a need to mend relations between all other PYA structures and SASCO.

The province has also been active in the Kabelo Thibedi Campaign, having convened district meetings together with Thibedi and the Department of Home Affairs to ensure that young people have ID's. The province has also been consistent with their implementation of the Joe Slovo Right to Learn campaign, which saw a huge mobilization of cadres visiting schools and ensuring that the basic needs in public

schools are addressed. There was also a very active SRC Elections Campaign, which resulted in the PYA winning elections in some of the major campuses in the province. Through the “We want to be like Chris” and jointly with the Jacob Zuma Education Trust, we managed to build a school in the Mopane Region. This school is yet to be opened, and the role of the YCL should be to raise the red flag high when we ultimately do so.

The districts in the province are consistent with their meetings and engagements. The province will be meeting its target of Operation Khula for this year, as they only have a membership of 6000 to do so. The challenge is therefore to ensure that these members are turned into activists, then into advanced and dedicated cadres of the revolution for communism.

One of the most saddening moments was with the serial killer who was mutilating young children in the town of Modimolle. The YCL has consistently flagged the issue and mobilized young people to demonstrate and ensure that the killer is brought to book. As we celebrate the 16 Days of Activism against Women and Children Abuse, we call on all members of that community to up the ante in ensuring the protection of children.

5.6. Mpumalanga

This is also one of the most consistent provinces in terms of meeting its constitutional mandate, implementing YCL campaigns and programmes and consistently ensuring that there is political education and cadre development. Mpumalanga also hosted our national June 16 Commemoration in 2007 at Bushbuckridge, where more than 20 000 people attended. The province has since gone to its provincial congress and elected a new leadership.

There were resignations of two members of the YCL in the Botlhabela District, the chairperson and the secretary, who indicated that they are going to join the Shikota outfit. The National Committee members, together with the Provincial Committee, have consistently provided support for the district in order to minimize the impact of these resignations. However, all other districts remain consistent and have gone to their congresses in line with the constitutional amendments of the Durban Congress.

The relationship between the SACP and the YCL in the province is at its strongest, with the YCL taking centre-stage in SACP Red October Campaigns and ensuring that these becomes a success. The party in Mpumalanga remains the corner stone for the consistency of the YCL. There are also good relations between the YCL and Cosatu, and were visible during the recent Jobs and Poverty Campaign of Cosatu. The YCL in Mpumalanga has also been consistent, together with FAWU, in raising the issue of land and land ownership and the rights of farm-workers. Huge media coverage was given to the YCL when they intervened in one farm where the farm owner refused to grant a family a burial for their loved one.

The PYA in Mpumalanga is also one of the strongest. The struggle for the soul of the ANC, again, resulted in an active and joint campaign by the ANC Youth League and the YCL and has yielded positive results.

This is one of the most active provinces in terms of International Solidarity work. The province continues to hold joint political education programmes with Frelimo and Swayoco, as our neighboring countries. There is also consistency in terms of the blockade on Swaziland, which is held jointly with Cosatu and its structures. This should serve as a template for all other provinces that should be doing this work.

The province needs to improve on the attainment of their Operation Khula targets as they are miles away, although better than others, from attaining this objective. We need to ensure that we tap into the success of the campaign of the YCL and ensure that they result in higher membership. One of the key strategies of success in Mpumalanga is their ability to fuse constitutional meetings with organizational campaigns. After each PEC meeting, members of the PEC hold a door-to-door activity, and then proceed to hold a general meeting of young people in the locality where they are having their meetings. This has resulted into recruitment of new members, setting up new structures, implementing our campaigns and keeping members of the PEC.

The province has implemented the Kabelo Thibedi Campaign as part of their broader election strategy to ensure that people enjoy the right to vote. They have also run for the last two years active campaigns on the Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign. The Voter Registration Drive 2009 that the province ran together with the ANC Youth League, which targeted the Shikota outfit, was a success. There is a need to ensure that there is uniformity in terms of the campaigns that the province run as some districts are lax and dependent on the presence of provincial or national leaders.

5.7. North West

The North West province still remains one of the consistent provinces of the YCL. The province still continues to hold constitutional meetings such as Provincial Committees and Provincial Councils. The province has since convened their Provincial Congress and elected a new leadership. The Congress was marred by divisions on issues of leadership, which resulted in a walk out by some of the branches who purported to be supporting the candidates who lost. This, as we said with regards to Gauteng, is a cancer that we need to deal with.

The provincial leadership continues to enjoy a good relationship with the SACP, although there are issues that needs to be resolved relating to tactical relations and work on the challenges facing the ANC. The weaknesses in the ANC have in way found their way into the cracks that are there between the SACP and the YCL. Over time, the

challenges that the Party and the League will be resolved only as a result of frank engagement and common programmes.

The YCL also enjoys a good relationship with Cosatu and have engaged into very successful joint campaigns. Cosatu was very supportive in the campaigns of the YCL. The campaign that the YCL had jointly initiated with Cosatu focused on racism and the shootings by the 18 year old white boy of black people in Skieurluk. This campaign brought the incident into the public and ultimately led to the conviction of Nel. The programme of visiting prisons was also a success in this province and has resulted in many problems in the prison's system being exposed and resolved.

The YCL in this province will have a special role to play in rebuilding the ANC Youth League and uniting the PYA. This is mainly because the ANC Youth League has become the breeding ground for the Shikota outfit. This will mean that the YCL should place itself in such a way that they are able to mobilize our branches to ensure that they are ready to take the baton were youth leaguers leave for Shikota.

The province hosted the National Commemoration Lecture for Chris Hani this year and also led demonstrations for the demand for an inquest on the assassination of our former General Secretary. The province also held active campaigns on the Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign, and led a march to the Department of Education to demand free education and transformation of the schooling systems through service delivery and visiting young prisoners. The province was at the forefront of the crises that was at the University of North West where student leaders were expelled. They were also active in the Kabelo Thibedi Campaign where many young people attended their activities and registered to get their Identity Documents.

The province hosted the 2008 Anniversary Gala Dinner and Rally, which were very successful activities of the YCL and helped with the revival of structures in the district. The districts in the province are still intact, and the province has continued to show signs of growth in terms of membership. We are yet to make an impact on our Operation Khula Campaign, as the province is also miles away from the target.

5.8. Northern Cape

The Northern Cape is one of the most active, and yet smallest of our provinces. Through the weekly working committee meetings, the YCL has been able to show signs of consistency in terms of implementing national and provincial programmes. The province has since went to their Provincial Congress and have elected a new leadership. In the same vein, it was sad that some of the delegates wanted to walk out as a sign of protest against the outcomes of the discussions on the leadership issue by delegates.

The province enjoys a good relationship with the SACP, and continues to receive support for their programmes from the mother-body. This was also displayed by the level of cooperation during SACP Red October Campaigns and YCL Defiance Campaign. The relationship between the YCL and the leadership of Cosatu is deteriorating as a result of the relations within the alliance. However, the YCL continues to enjoy a good relationship with the Cosatu affiliates through joint programmes. The PYA still remains strong and is also properly coordinated in the province.

The PC have been consistent with the national commemoration, including the Chris Hani and Ruth First Commemorations. There are consistent YCL fun runs in the Kimberley Districts which were as a result of the nationally drawn programme. We must continue to support these initiatives.

The province is also behind in terms of attaining the targets as set for Operation Khula. We need to ensure that we resolve the administration of membership in the province as this has led to so many problems. The vastness of the province is a contributing factor in terms of ensuring that there are more members of the YCL from the province.

There was also the implementation of the Kabelo Thibedi ID Campaign, which drew scores of young people and resulted in many being assisted with getting Identity Documents. There was also a very successful school visit campaign, which led to many problems being exposed and dealt with by the Department of Education. The province was also active in the Cosatu Jobs and Poverty Campaign, with the YCL drawing more young people in one of demonstrations. There is a need to prioritize the drugs and alcohol abuse amongst young people in this province.

5.9. Western Cape

The Western Cape is our weakest provincial structure. The National Committee has from time to time engaged with the state of the province with the intention of rebuilding what was once the most active province in terms of campaign, administration and organizing. The election of some comrades into the SACP, especially the Provincial Secretary, led to organizational weaknesses which needs constant attention and intervention. There is currently a Provincial Interim Leadership Core which has failed to constantly meet and provide leadership to structures.

Most of the branches in the Western Cape are based in institutions of learning, and have mainly been active in SRC Elections Campaigns. The National Committee have since asked the National Treasurer to assist with the coordination of the organizational work, together with the PILC. We have also engaged the SACP PEC to intervene as and when it is possible.

The challenge of the Western Cape is the ability of comrades to ensure that where there is an SACP branch, the province assist with the establishment of a YCL branch. We also need to dedicate resources to get a team of comrades stationed in the Western Cape from other provinces so that their focus should be to coordinate organizational work and rebuild our structures.

Despite all of these weaknesses, the PILC has managed to rally our structures behind a successful SRC Elections Campaign. We only lost at the University of Cape Town to the DA. The YCL is also actively participating in the current local government elections in the province. The weaknesses of the province means that we should pay urgent attention on ensuring that we reach the colour divide and ensure that we make class as the basis of our organizational work. The political tradition of the Western Cape of building organization along colour line can only be bridged by the working class youth organization such as the YCL.

The provincial priorities in terms of organizing should be refocused into dealing with basic campaigns that affects the conditions of the working class youth in the province. This will attract thousands of members into our fold and build a sustainable organizational capacity and base. Therefore, heading to the Western Cape means intensifying the Jobs for Youth Campaign, Drugs and Alcohol Abuse, Free Education and the message of national unity should be made paramount.

6. STATE OF PROVINCES

Provinces are a pillar that coordinate and harness the lower structures in the province. Without a proper direction at that level there is little hope for strength in districts and branches. We have experienced both strength and weaknesses in terms of our provinces. At most, weaknesses have tended to outweigh strengths-hence dissolution need to by the National Committee of some provinces to be coordinated for the re-launching of structures in those provinces. We need to analyze this organizational paralysis in this Council so that the League can be empowered to undo these occurrences. Our observations in terms of some of the causes of such trends that result to collapse of provinces are:

- Power struggle amongst comrades in the PEC.
- General laziness in doing work.
- Loss of interest from comrades in the leadership to the organization.
- Resignations of key leading comrades in office-bearers.
- Related to the above, lack of meeting quorums because non-attendance.

- Sudden interest in other PYA structures like ANCYL at the neglect of the YCL. We need to discuss these factors which are not exhaustive above so that we build an organization of strength solidified with committed leadership at provinces and therefore in Districts.

7. STATE OF DISTRICTS

Districts remain the closest point of contact with our branches. Our ability to have properly functioning districts means that we will have better and quality service to our local structures. There are 52 demarcated districts of the YCL nationally. Not all of these districts have been launched.

As indicated above relating to the Western Cape, there are no launched districts even though there is capacity and the structures meet the necessary requirements for ensuring that we launch a district. The PILC should be instructed to move with speed to set-up a District Interim Leadership Core throughout the province with the intention of launching these districts.

In the Eastern Cape, only one district has been launched. There are four other DILC's which has been set up with the intention of launching new branches and then having constitutional district structures. The current political situation in the province needs that we urgently and concurrently launch our structures as we move forward with the function of mobilizing for the ANC election victory. It can only be through stronger structures that we can overcome the organizational and political weaknesses in this province.

In terms of the other provinces, we have fully functioning District Executive Committees except Yusuf Daboo in Gauteng and Xariep in the Free State. We need to continue to emphasize the role that District should be playing in organizational building and cohesion. The other major challenge is of ensuring that we resource our district offices. We held discussions and agreements with various unions who have agreed that they will house YCL districts as a means to give them access to resources such as phone, fax and copiers. The provincial leadership should be able to take this forward and ensure that DEC's or DILC are given access by these unions. These unions include SADTU, NEHAWU and the National Union of Mineworkers.

The challenge at this level which informs weaknesses even to those that are launched is the lack of leadership provision by the provinces. As a result most of them hardly run their full circle up to the next term, often they go to early congresses. Other factors that contribute to challenges at this level are:

- Leadership turn over as comrades get jobs elsewhere or pursuing studies away from their places.

- Geographical spread of districts pose a challenge of meeting as many comrades are unemployed.
- And some infightings amongst comrades.

8. STATE OF BRANCHES

Branches are the basic unit of the YCL without which there is no organization. The biggest omission that higher structures do is not to induct branches and continues political education. Many branch meetings hardly sit; they are convened towards District Councils for collection of branch issues to the council. There is hardly an appreciation in some areas, at a branch level, YCL program. We need to pay a particular attention at this level and further emphasize the role of the district in giving service to branches.

If we emphasize an organizing strategy, for to be effective, it has to intervene right up to the branch level if we are to build a campaigning and vibrant Young Communist League. A strategy must clarify the role of a branch secretary in managing the branch and monitoring membership statistics, its update and expiry for renewals. And general keeping of the membership mobilized around the program of the organization.

9. MEMBERSHIP

a. Operation Khula

This campaign was launched in 2006 targeting to recruit 100 000 members into the YCL by the end of 2007. To date, we have not been able to attain this number of members. The National Committee Lekhotla in 2007 adopted the tasks and targets below for each and every province, region and branch which we are yet to ensure that we formalize in each and every structure. This is in effect the cornerstone for the success of the Operation Khula Campaign. The introduction of Interns, which only Limpopo have effectively used to the benefit of membership recruitment, was meant to serve as a means to ensure that all provinces meet this targets. As part of this National Council, in the Commission on Recruitment strategy, we need to ensure that we workshop these targets for the success of the programme.

The other area where as the YCL are failing to make some inroads relates to the minority group youth. Our operation, our recruitment tends to be on our comfort zones – townships and rural areas. Part of this effective and decisive organizing strategy we are emphasizing has to tell us exactly as to where are young people, the whites, the Coloureds, Indians, Chinese etc. But more importantly from where

they are what keeps them busy, and what are their interests? what fascinate them? These questions will assist in developing a multi-prong, all-out organizing strategy that appreciates sector –specific issues and trends to assist our structures across the country to make in roads everywhere.

But also this is about the absence of effectively implementing YCL programs on the ground. Our programs, if well implemented, like a magnet they are a recruiting agent to the young.

NATIONAL	PROVINCE	DISTRICT	BRANCH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up a National Recruitment Task Team from NWC which will meet once a month. • Develop YCL Recruiter Pack for each province based on target areas and sectors. • Facilitate Provincial Recruitment Workshops. • Monitor provincial targets and ensure that they are met. • Develop a Generic induction Manual through the Cadre Development Committee. • Develop a Recruitment Strategy and Manual for use by YCL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up a Provincial Recruitment Task Team (PRTT) which must meet twice a month. • Convene a Provincial Recruitment workshop. • Set-up a Provincial Membership Administration System. • Demarcate Districts and sub-districts (where necessary) and guide districts in the branch demarcation process. • Serve as the Provincial recruitment centre; deploy YCL and SACP leadership in recruitment drives. • Allocate Monthly District Recruitment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form part of the PRTT and set up a District Recruitment Task Team. • Convene a district recruitment workshop. • Meet District targets and monitor branch implementation. • Conduct branch induction workshop to ensure sustainability of new members. • Ensure overall implementation of YCL POA for 2007. • Appoint Interim Leadership Cores in wards as part of process of launching new ward based branches. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up a Branch Recruitment Task Team. • Develop a recruitment plan which includes targets, timelines, resources and responsible people. • Report bi-weekly to the District Office on the progress made. • Induct new members into the organization. • Recruit new members in terms of their targets.

Branches. • Convene National Recruitment Workshop.	a Targets and monitor their implementation. • Lead process for the launch of new districts.		
---	---	--	--

b. Membership Systems

We are introducing the new membership cards in the form of smart cards, but the challenge we are facing is with the service providers in the provision of those cards such as running out of stock to cope with the volume we need. The national office is however dealing with that problem. As part of the new membership system, we need to have more action in terms of strengthening the administrative capacity of branches, districts and provinces so that we are able to better administer the membership. With the new Interns, all provinces should be instructed to use one of the five for purposes of Organizing/Membership or Administrator/Membership.

From the National Committee discussions, we decided that the following steps should be followed in order to have a smooth and clear membership system:

- **STEP 1:** A member is recruited by a Branch, or joins the YCL at a Branch, or a member who has joined through the Internet should have their form and membership submitted to a Branch.
- **STEP 2:** The Deputy Branch Secretary deposits the membership form with the District and keep the original copy.
- **STEP 3:** The Deputy District Secretary deposits the form(s) of a Branch with the Province and keep a copy of this membership form in a specified file of the same branch.
- **STEP 4:** The Deputy Provincial Secretary issues a membership form, deposits the copy of membership form with the National Membership Officer and keeps a copy in the sub-file of the District and sub-file of the Branch.
- **STEP 5:** The National Membership Officer records the member in the system and sends them a standard letter/email welcoming them as members of the YCL (alternatively, the form should have a welcoming note so that the member is properly welcomed)

In terms of the Five Years Membership Card, the National Lekgotla decided as follows in terms of the various categories of membership and how to take it forward:

- That we have a two tier membership card, one for 1 Year and another one for 5 Years;

- That we maintain the membership fee for one year at R5.00 for the unemployed and R10.00 for the working youth. We also introduce a R10.00 membership fee for University (Tertiary, to include FET institutions) Students;
- That the membership fee for five years be set at R70.00 for any member, whether working or not working;
- That all membership cards be that of a credit card type and have a magnetic strip;
- That membership cards be printed from the National Office and be issued by the Deputy Provincial Secretary with the name, province, district and branch name; membership number; full names of the person joining and the expiry date thereof.

We hope that our discussions at this National Council should be able to assist in ensuring that we have a smooth membership process and attain our objectives as set for Operation Khula.

10. POLITICAL EDUCATION

Political Education should be the primary of our function if we are to become a true preparatory school of the SACP. The role of the YCL should at all times be to recruit young members in order to introduce them to the strategic and tactical objectives of the SACP. Once recruited, members of the YCL are to become trained activists who will participate in propagating this strategic and tactical objective and recruit new members. The ideal of socialism and communism, and the task of building them now, lies in the ability of its agents to understand our ideology further commit themselves to change the capitalist system of exploitation. Further than that, members of the YCL who will reach the advanced stage of becoming activists and agents for socialism are also in the process turned into cadres who will lead the SACP.

Our political education strategy therefore lies in the training of members for them to understand what our ideology is; impart in them the skills of executing this ideology and further ensure that they understand the current political and social situation. We have always insisted that we should adopt a new and exciting form of making members of the YCL to engage into political education, and that the traditional form of encouraging them to grow into Marxist Classics needs to be modified in order to suit the level at which we need our members to understand this ideology.

It is within this context that we have divided our political education strategy into “three sources and three components”, being the philosophical, the political and the economic form of education. Although we have not been able to convene a National Political

School since the last Congress, the importance of our structures understanding this kind of orientation is important as it means that this will filter down to lower structures.

As the Secretariat, we propose that we target 100 young people from 14-25 years and subject them to rigorous block release political education programme. This should be dedicated 20 days throughout next year and covering the “*three sources and components of Marxism*”. From this pool, we should be able to emerge with cadres who will in turn become the driving force for our political education. This will obviously require more resources, but we think that if we cannot do anything at all, at least we should do this. The programme should also target members of Cosas who are in its leadership, not only with the intention of recruiting them, but with the intention of introducing them to our programme and ideology.

In relation to provinces, there are varying degrees at which political education is implemented. Gauteng, under the tutelage of the PILC and now under the new PEC, is one of the most active provinces in conducting political education programmes. Mpumalanga has also been one of the provinces that combined their constitutional meetings with political education classes, although their intention to have a provincial political school could not succeed. On a periodic basis, Limpopo also convenes political education classes, which are combined with some of the provincial campaigns and activities.

We need to ensure that all districts become the centre for political education, and thus, their interaction with branches through districts councils should be dedicated to a political education session. Our major crises includes basic and organic skills such as writing a report, convening a meeting, planning a campaign, managing a recruitment campaign, doing basic research on the profile of our communities and public speaking skills. We believe that many of cadres should have these skills as there is no use of understanding Marxism only for the sake of not being able to run a Marxist organization such as the YCL.

The other form of political education and skills development for our cadres has been through the Cosatu-affiliates initiated political education. We have deployed many cadres into this education classes, and they have proven to work. Now that many of our staff and National Committee members have gone through this programme, we need to ensure that we now spread them across provinces in order to maximize impact.

11. CAMPAIGNS

a. Kabelo Thibedi Campaign

The launch of the Kabelo Thibedi ID Campaign and the Justice for Kabelo Trust remain central in this campaign. As initially conceptualized, the role of the ID Campaigns was to:

- Work with the Department of Home Affairs to provide ID's for those who do not have, and ensure that DHA fast tracks applications that are already made;
- Campaign for improved and quality service delivery at the DHA aimed at reducing the time between applying and receiving your ID, queues at DHA, fight corruption and ensure that Identity Fraud is dealt with;
- Use this as part of the Election Campaign in ensuring that new voters have the relevant documents in order to exercise their right;
- Focus on juvenile delinquency by ensuring that we visit prisons and motivate child and youth offenders and create conditions for their socialization;
- Support Kabelo Thibedi with his legal battles and ensure that the charges against him are withdrawn and that he continues working for the community;

Since the last Congress, Thibedi was found guilty and sentenced to five years with three years suspended. He has since appealed against both the guilt verdict and the sentencing. At all times when he goes to court, through our Linda Jabane district, we have always supported him and demanded that justice be done by demonstrating outside court. It was unfortunate when money that was meant to host the Kabelo Thibedi Trust Concert was misappropriated by the Events Management Company that we asked to organize.

Over time, in Gauteng, Limpopo, KwaZulu Natal, Northern Cape and North West, we managed to reach out to more than 20 000 people who had problems with their Identity Documents. This was done with different district department of Home Affairs. This has showed that if we mobilize more people to volunteer, together with state officials such as Community Development Workers, Home Affairs can manage to wipe out the problems of ID's in a short space of time. Our efforts to engage with the Minister and senior management at DHA fell on deaf ears.

We also had a series of visits to juvenile prisons and at established prisons to engage with young offenders and motivate them. We also formed part of the annual Modderbee Soccer Tournament as a way to reach out to juvenile offenders. This project must continue. It will be important that we roll out this project nationally so that we deal with

the problem of ID documents and all other issues raised above. Kabelo Thibedi now works for the YCL as an intern, focusing mainly on our campaign.

b. Chris Hani Inquest Campaign

Since 2005 we have been at the forefront of the campaign to ensure that we demand for the reopening of the Chris Hani inquest. This campaign has been rooted in our structures and ultimately became a resolution of the South African Communist Party at its 12th National Congress. The activities of the campaign included:

- Mobilizing communities to sign a petition to demand the reopening of an Inquest on the assassination of Chris Hani;
- Engaging with the Directorate of Public Prosecutions to reopen the matter through demonstration and meetings, including handing them over the petitions;
- Collecting more information on the circumstances that led to the assassination of Hani and presenting these to authorities for their investigations;
- Campaigning for 'no parole' for both Clive Derby-Lewis and Waluz Jaluz until such time that they confess the truth on who were they acting for when they executed the assassination;
- Have a "***We want to be Like Chris***" Drive as part of the commemoration of the life of Chris Hani and mobilize young people behind this icon of socialism; and
- Do joint programmes and campaigns with the Chris Hani Institute on the life and times of Comrade Chris.

Many of these tasks and objectives of the campaigns were attained at all levels of the organization, although not to the level that it has forced the authorities at the NPA to budge. Almost all our provincial structures demonstrated to their local prosecutions offices to submit the signatures and demand for the Inquest to be reopened. This campaign is more significant now given the fact that there are processes in place which may grant Clive Derby-Lewis parole. YCL structures on the ground need to be visible and mobilize society behind this campaign.

c. Free Education Campaign

Our Free Education Campaign gained impetus immediately after the last National Congress when we committed ourselves to focus directly on social, economic and political issues that serves as a hindrance towards access to education. The National Committee identified the issue of school fees, food schemes, alcohol and drug abuse, dilapidated school facilities, shebeens next to schools, teenage pregnancy, learner

support material, quality teaching and a learning environment, and community involvement into the administration of the school.

We dubbed it the Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign as a way of both commemorating the memory of one of the former members of the YCL who died on the 06th of January. This coincided squarely with the school reopening calendar. As part of the campaign in the last two years, we continuously met with the Minister of Education and the MEC for Education in order to raise our concerns with regards to the problems that we were confronted with. We further developed a questionnaire which members of the National Committee, PEC's, DEC's and Branches were to use as a means to find facts about the problems confronting schools. We took a further decision that we need to revisit schools after the June closing term in order to assess the progress made thus far.

As part of this campaign, we raised a huge profile on the problems and lack of progress that faced many rural and township schools, and drew the attention of the authorities to ensure that they attend to all of these. This became a huge success as many of the problems that we were raising resulted in real people's education for people's power, and led to communities taking charge of the education development of their children.

The activities that we were engaged with as part of the campaign were:

- School visit which was accompanied by fact-finding where schools were required to fill in questionnaire to identify the problems and challenges. What was also more helpful was that as part of these visits, National Committee members were encouraged to speak to learners directly and ask them pertinent questions about the conditions of learning in their school and motivate them in the new year;
- We also engaged with the different MEC and the Minister of Education on the status of and conditions of learning in our schools. Some of the issues that were raised with these authorities were followed up and resolved;
- We mobilized for the increase of the No-Fee Schools whose main purpose was to increase the number of schools where there will be no fees paid. This is coupled with the fact that many of the schools which are currently labeled no-fee schools do not receive their grants from the Department of Education;
- We convened the National Higher Education Branch Summit which engaged with the role of institution-based branches in attaining free education in universities. The outcomes of this Summit will be used as part of our contribution towards taking the struggle for free education forward;

The Free Education Campaign is clearly one of our most successful, and would have to be prioritized into the following year as a means to ensure that we attain this objective.

We need to unashamedly take credit for the resolution on Free Education at Polokwane and ensure, but begin to develop a perspective on how this should be overcome.

Our approach in terms of the campaign should focus on the following key demands in terms of the schooling system:

- No learner should be required to pay school fees. Government priority should mean that top on its budget should be education and training. There are financial resources that are being wasted in mega-infrastructure that has no impact on the lives of the poor and the destitute such as Gautrain, Coega &c. this money should be diverted into the provision of education for free.
- Following from the above, this should mean that infrastructure investment should also go into building of classrooms, school libraries, sporting facilities; boarding facilities where necessary, recreational facilities for the promotion of culture and tradition from the school level and proper sanitation for all schools.
- It should further mean deployment of resources into proper and advanced learning facilities such as computers and audio and visual learner support materials.
- Further, these resources should be redirected into teacher training and retraining to ensure quality provision of education.
- The resources should be allocated to locally owned cooperatives which will be responsible for the provision and management of school feeding schemes, whilst improving the local economy; the same cooperatives can be given capacity to produce school uniforms either for free or subsidized by government;
- Government allocating resources into formal education institutions with given targets to meet the illiteracy.
- Ensuring that combating illiteracy does not only remain the task of government, but becomes a massive campaign led by the Mass Democratic Movement mobilizing human, financial, learner and infrastructure resources and the learners themselves into a campaign seeking to wipe out illiteracy within a particular period.

We should further insist that the following demands should apply in terms of the Higher and Further Education programmes:

- Regulation of tuition fee and increase in university subsidies, including compensation for admission of historically disadvantaged individuals.
- State Intervention in instances where discriminatory admission policies are practiced by institutions.
- Proper monitoring and tracking of graduates
- Increased financial assistance through NSFAS
- Improved academic support to ensure that there are more graduates at NQF Levels 10 – 12.

There will always be a case for the struggle towards a quality, public, free education in our country.

d. Elections 2009 Campaign

Next year will be the National General Elections. The National Committee has decided that we should back the ANC in these elections as part of our resolution of seeing the ANC (together with the Alliance) continuing with the project of the national question. This means that we should have our structures consistently mobilized in order to realize this goal. As part of this National Council, we will present in the Commission discussions the proposals of the National Committee related to the question of the elections.

We however had a successful campaign of ensuring that we draw new voters to the registration centers through our Voter Registration Campaign. As a result, and with our own contribution, there was more than 1.7 million people who were new voters, a record that can only be compared to that of the 1994 elections registration week.

It is therefore inescapable to note that the biggest turnout was the youth. We need to harness that turnout correctly. Young Communist League must declare to deliver a decisive vote of young people to the ANC. This means we must mobilize, through campaigning, the youth vote throughout the country as the true representative of the youth.

12. PROGRESSIVE YOUTH ALLIANCE

The YCL enjoys a good relationship with our alliance partners—the ANC Youth League, COSAS, SASCO, YCS, SUCA and SASPU. This relation has obviously evolved over time and has surpassed many obstacles on our way. We take this opportunity to congratulate the newly elected leadership of the ANC Youth League, SASCO and COSAS (who were at their Congress at the time of print).

The PYA has continued to hold meetings of the Secretariat as a way of ensuring that we plan on a variety of issues and collectively act in a programmatic manner. However, the ANC Youth League, which was given the responsibility of convening meetings of the Secretariat have sometimes been found wanting in implementing this decision. This has led to inconsistency on the part of PYA with all member components deciding to concentrate more on their programmes. We have on several occasions raised the matter with the ANC Youth League, or decided to convene the PYA as member structures. We hope that this will change with time.

We have held several bilateral meetings with the national leadership of all the PYA structures. All of these meetings were mainly about the role of the YCL in strengthening all the member structures and the dedication of their members to move forward with these organizations. We have a clear programme with SUCA which is meant to resuscitate their structures. It will be important for structures of the YCL to ensure that we, as part of building hegemony, contribute to the rebuilding of these structures.

It is the National Committee's consistent view that the only way that we can build a strong, vibrant and active PYA should be through an agreed political programme. The tenets of this political programme should be based on or centered on a progressive youth development strategy and keeping young people at the centre of our programmes and initiatives. A PYA National Summit which is long overdue has failed precisely because of the inconsistency of our meetings and other pressing programs. The sooner we engage at this level the better, more so that we have elections coming through.

The unity of the PYA was also visible when we were dealing with the National Youth Development Agency process. It is important to note that the process was rushed through as a means to ensure that the ANC Polokwane resolution is fast-tracked. We however should indicate that the debate about the kind of youth development strategy we need, and how it should fall within the agreed structure, should still continue within PYA structures so that if there is a need for or when the time comes to amend the law, we should take advantage of ensuring that the strategy is more clearer than now.

The other major contending issue within the PYA was the South African Youth Council. When SAYC went to its Biennial Congress after a very long time, the PYA met and agreed on the type of leadership we need for SAYC. This became a crisis when the ANC Youth League, YCL and SASCO stuck to the decisions as agreed, whilst COSAS, SUCA and YCS went on to develop a new list. This led to contending PYA factions leading the entire SAYC Council. The ANC Youth League, SASCO and the YCL resolved that we will not recognize the current leadership of SAYC and we will withdraw our participation from SAYC activities until a proper political process is done.

We believe in the necessity of SAYC as a means to advance youth interests, but unfortunately it has become a haven for cadres whose intention are to harvest the resources that it can accumulate. There were damning reports and counter reports from all side about corruption and misappropriation of funds, a cancer we need to deal with and if need be those who misappropriated SAYC funds should be arrested.

The PYA had a joint campaign for SRC Elections throughout the country, with SASCO as the lead organization in terms of the Manifesto and the Electoral drive. This was one of the most vibrant and successful election campaign ran by the PYA, especially given the unity that was displayed throughout the country. Although we lost some of the major campuses (Universities of Cape Town, Wits, Venda, Unisa and Zululand) the PYA performed well this year in the elections. We need to ensure that we continue with the zeal that was displayed in the forthcoming SRC Elections.

Related to the above is the situation were members of the YCL in Tshwane University of Technology (Soshanguve Campus) chose to contest for the elections outside the PYA. This is despite the fact that the decision of the YCL has always been that we contest

SRC elections within the PYA. Even after interventions by the provincial leadership of Gauteng, the said branch continued to contest for elections on their own. This is a matter that we present to the National Council for discussion and decision on how we deal with branches or members who decide to contest for SRC Elections on their own. There was a rationale behind the decision and as the National Committee we are of the view that the conditions are still the same for us to continue with this approach.

13. MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Young Communist League continues to receive coverage in the mainstream media, although not to the extent that we would appreciate. It is quite sad that since the last Congress, where we reported that the media only choose to report our activities only when it relates to the President of the ANC, that this situation has not changed. This is also mainly to feed into the mind of the youth that we have no other programme for our existence other than the ANC President.

This has forced us to re-strategize our approach in terms of communications and media to include other forms of medium. This included a conscious target to community radios and newspapers, which have given us as much coverage than the mainstream media. This has also forced us to introduce the YCL Discussion Forum, which is a Google based interactive discussion where more than 1300 young people interact and share ideas. The other strategy was for us to rebrand our website and ensure that it is constantly updated with the more than 180 statements that we have issued.

The Bottom-line is other medium which we used to communicate and engage with the broader public and the youth on current affairs issues. It is important that members of the YCL contribute to this platform as it is not only meant for the National Secretariat. The other medium that we use to communicate is Y-REDS, which is supposed to be released monthly but mainly depends on the issuing of *Umsebenzi* by the SACP. We should encourage YCL members to reproduce and distribute these publications everywhere, and where possible; cadres who have capacity should translate them into other official languages so that they reach far and wide.

The Information and Media Department has also been working hard in maintaining our archive and ensuring that we preserve history. This is going to be very critical when the YCL story is told to future generations.

One of the challenges that we need to overcome is the use of electronic medium as a tool for political education. YCL and SACP leaders make a lot of political speeches and deliver a lot of lectures which can be captured on DVD or video and be distributed to our structures.

We continue to produce paraphernalia which is mainly linked to events that we celebrate, and sell some of this paraphernalia to young people across the length and breadth of our country. This is also a significant form of publicity for the YCL and needs to be preserved. The other form of publicity is the development of posters of former YCL and SACP leaders with the main or brief profile of their struggles. A socialist agenda and programme needs to be propagated far and wide, and the time is now.

14.INTERNATIONAL

The National Committee decided that we should divide our International programme into International Solidarity work and Networking. The main objective was to ensure that as we do work on the atrocities and dictatorships that are committed daily to the working class and the poor; we should also be able to win new friends and compatriots. Both these functions are therefore mutually supportive and remain a necessity for the life of the organization.

We have consistently raised the issues regarding the struggles of the people of Zimbabwe and the despotic nature of the ruling ZANU-PF. We believe that the system that has been sustained in Zimbabwe, even through it is administered by a former liberation movement, should be dealt with at all costs. Our continued engagement with the Zimbabwean situation has been to insist on the need for democracy for the working class of that country. In the same vein, we continued to engage with the situation of Swaziland, Burma, Western Sahara, Cuba and Palestine. The National Committee has in this regard sanctioned the following activities for the purpose of advancing the struggle of the peoples of these countries.

Country	Actions
Zimbabwe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held demonstrations at various embassies of Zimbabwe in South Africa and also at the Limpopo Border gates; • Sent a team of comrades to monitor the 2008 Presidential Elections; • Continued with our efforts to engage with both the ZANU-PF and MDC Youth (both M and T) with the intention of uniting the youth voice and getting a deeper understanding of the situation; • Form part of the Zimbabwe Solidarity Forum which promotes dialogue and action on the Zimbabwean situation.
Palestine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are part of the Palestinian Solidarity Forum which seeks to unite all the sects which were scattered all over the country under one banner; • We visited the Palestinian People's Party during their Congress and engaged with various organs from civil society to government and political formations on the Palestinian question;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formed part of the many pickets, demonstrations and marches that were meant to highlight the struggle of the people of Palestine and pressurize Israel to respect Palestinian sovereignty.
Swaziland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are members of the Swaziland Solidarity Network and holds the position of Secretary General; • We have formed part of the two successive blockades against Swaziland; • We continue to enjoy a good relationship with the Swaziland Youth Congress (Swayoco) • We have engaged with the Swaziland monarchs embassies in various parts of the country.
Western Sahara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We contribute to the various discussions that are meant to end the occupation of Western Sahara by Morocco, which is dubbed the last colonizers of Africa; • We formed part of the Summit that was held recently to discuss the Western Sahara situation; • We attended the International Solidarity meeting on Western Sahara which was held in Italy; • We continue to enjoy a good relationship with the Polisario and their youth wing.
Burma (Myanmar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are a member of the Free Burma Campaign and held endless pickets and demonstrations during the protests and killing of innocent people during the recent revolts; • We still interact with Burmese people who are based in South Africa in order to get development in that country.
Cuba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are still part of the Focus, and have been involved in the Free the Five Campaign; which is about the five Cubans who are held in US jails on accusations of espionage; • We released a delegation together with the Cuban Brigade to go and visit Cuba; • We are yet to send an YCL delegation to strengthen ties with the Communist Youth League of Cuba.
Basque Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We remain in constant interaction with our comrades from Batasuna receiving constant reports on development in that country.

In the overall, we are having an effective International Solidarity work whose main focus is to ensure that we fight injustices wherever it raises its ugly head. However, we have also maintained contact and interaction with the following countries:

Country	Organization
Bots wana	Bots wana National Front (Youth League
Mozambique	Frelimo Youth

Zambia	<i>The Post</i> newspaper coordinates engagements with various youth formations in that country.
Tanzania	Chama Chama Mapinduzi Youth League
Sweden	Swedish Left Party (Youth)
Portugal	Young Communist League of Portugal (JCP)
China	Communist Youth League of China
France	Movement of Young Communist (MJC)
Italy	Italian Communist Party (Youth League)
Britain (UK)	Young Communist League (Britain)
Greece	KNE
Western Sahara	
Palestine	Palestinian People's Congress
Cuba	Union of Young Communists
Swaziland	Swaziland Youth Congress

We are still to be confirmed as members of the World Democratic Federation of Youth (WFDY) but participate in their activities as an observer. We are hoping that by the next General Meeting our membership will be discussed and accepted. We hosted the President of WFDY when he was visiting Southern Africa and had a fruitful discussion on the role of the YCL in coordinating the work of WFDY in the region.

15. RELATIONS WITH THE SACP

We still enjoy a good relationship between the YCL and the SACP. The National Secretary and the Chairperson continue to participate in the Central Committee of the SACP as ex-officio members. The SACP also continues to provide support for the YCL in terms of infrastructure and operational issues. We remain the youth-wing of the SACP in constitutional terms and will continue to breathe new life into the Party.

The YCL continues to participate in the activities and campaigns of the SACP, and provides a youth perspective especially relating to the Red October Campaigns. Many members of the YCL serve as organizers and mobilize for the SACP activities. Over and above that, the growth of the membership of the SACP over the last few years can also partly be attributed to the growth of or the relaunch of the YCL.

We continue to draw our political program from the broader program of the SACP. As an integral part of the Party, but also as its Youth League, we exist to ensure that we bring to the youth of our country the objectives and vision of the SACP. We are also proud of the fact that it is a vision and objective that we contribute into, are able to criticize and ultimately ensure that as it is produced in the finality, we are part of it and can take ownership of it.

We need to work in replicating this relationship in other provinces where we still get reports of bad relations with the SACP.

16. WORK WITH TRADE UNIONS

We continue to work actively with the trade unions; some of our comrades are even part of the cadres doing work in trade unions. Some of the unions are contributing resources to the YCL as and when that is requested. But also on joint programs some unions have invited us on various occasions to party with them. We have been part of their marches COSATU in particular and afforded opportunities to speak on behalf of the YCL.

We are looking forward in strengthening that utilizing the resource base such as their research capacities and education officers for our own as the YCL. This is something that must be encouraged even in provinces.

As a League of class, we need to ponder out as to how can we engage with some liberal unions outside COSATU scope, some at times, reactionary (under FEDUSA) for targeting youth to be found in those unions. We must engage them consciously of gradually bring them to the progressive fold thereby uniting the working class and contributing to COSATU objective of "one country one federation"

17. GENDER, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

Joe Slovo Right to Learn Campaign

A National Higher Education Summit was convened with most YCL branches in Universities and Universities of Technology attending. The Summit was held under the theme "People's Education for People's Power: Education for Socialism". The Summit resolved on issues relating to the transformation of higher education, our campaign on free education as well as the state of the working class in the aftermath of privatization and outsourcing in universities and universities of technology. Branches of the YCL in Eastern Cape and Western Cape could not attend the Summit.

A meeting was convened with the Ministry of Education wherein issues of high matric failure rates, low exemption rates particularly in working class and poor areas and school safety were discussed. Issues pertaining to the free education campaign were also highlighted and these included the elimination of user fees in schools designated as No-fee such as high price of school uniforms, transport fees. The phasing out of upfront fee payments/registration fees and halting and reversal of outsourcing were discussed. The perspective guiding document has since been uploaded on the internet.

The YCL also attended a South African Democratic Teachers' Union (SADTU) organized colloquium on learner pregnancy. The perspective of the YCL on learner pregnancy was developed.

Campaign on the Transformation of Gender Relations

We participated in the Women, Environment and Climate Change annual conference hosted by the deputy minister of Environmental Affairs. A perspective paper was developed in this regard.

A paper was delivered at the Left Conference organized by the SACP. The paper is entitled: Gender Quotas in South Africa: A Numbers Game? This paper has since been uploaded on the website and is due to be published in a booklet format.

Joint work and focus areas with the Swedish Young Left has been explored and is currently under process. We also developed a guide document for the discussion around compulsory circumcision in schools.

HSRC Youth Policy Roundtable Series

We have formed an active part in the Human Sciences Research Council/HSRC organized Youth Policy Roundtables. These have included the Teenage Pregnancy Roundtable as well as a roundtable on Youth Unemployment.

Parliamentary and Other Submissions

- We developed and delivered a submission at the Competition Tribunal concerning the price-fixing scandal by Tiger Brands and Adcock Ingram's.
- We also developed a submission to the National Assembly on the National Youth Development Agency Draft Bill.
- A submission was made to the National Assembly relating to the dissolution of the Scorpions.
- We participated in a Sports Indaba organized by the Minister of Sports (September 2008) wherein we raised sharply the issue of sports transformation.

18. CONCLUSION

Young Communist League has been very busy since the last second congress in implementing programs and resolutions of the Congress. All of the above constitute a detailed account of what the organization thus far has been doing.

The task of building an organization, no less of a class, requires collective effort at all levels. As the YCL we have a dual responsibility of mobilizing, conscientizing, radicalizing and propelling young people to the politics of the YCL through taking up youth social challenges as presented by the conjuncture in the interest of the class whilst submitting them to the South African Communist Party for the swelling of its ranks for the struggle

for socialism in this country and the world. At all times, we will have to find balance in this dual role.

As did the Young Communist League of the 1922, and of the mid-40's which build the Communist Party of South Africa and led it, we want to be "true to our history" and live up to those ideals that our forebears left us to carry forth. We dare not to become a generation that will leave the marked footprints of history as the generation that lowered the bar in the Young Communist League.

19. ANNEXURES

A. LIST OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

National Secretary	Buti Manamela
Deputy National Secretary	Khaye Nkwanyana
National Chairperson	David Masondo
Deputy National Chairperson	Kholiswa Fihlane
National Treasurer	Yershen Pillay
NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE	
Lucy Jiyane	Joyce Tsipa
Lesego Letjaka	Sikhumbuzo Thomo
Tengo Tengela	Alfred Dikole
NATIONAL COMMITTEE	
Tshepo Malema	Floyd Shivhambo
Malesela Maleka	Lolo Senne
Vusi Nkambule	Mandla Mapiyeye
Sesi Maseko	James Mankge
Mawethu Rhune	Lefika Chetty
Bheki Mvovo	Malefu Maimpane

B. NATIONAL COMMITTEE PROVINCIAL DEPLOYMENTS

Floyd Shivhambu	Gauteng and Limpopo
Malesela Maleka	Free State and KwaZulu Natal
Lucy Jiyane	Mpumalanga
James Mankge	Northern Cape
Skhumbuzo Thomo	KwaZulu Natal
Tengo Tengela	Eastern Cape and Gauteng.
Lefika Chetty	KwaZulu Natal and Gauteng
Alfred Dikole	Gauteng and North West
Joyce Tsipa	Gauteng
Lolo Senne	Free State and Mpumalanga
Mandla Mapiyeye	Limpopo and Mpumalanga
Vusi Nkambule	Mpumalanga
Lesego Letjaka	Eastern Cape Limpopo
Tshepo Malema	Free State and Mpumalanga
Sesi Maseko	Gauteng and North West

Malefo Moimanyane
Sfiso Gwala

Northern Cape and North West
Eastern Cape

C. NATIONAL COMMITTEE COMMISSIONS

GENDER COMMISSION

Joyce Tsipa
Lesego Lejaka
Mandla Mapiyeye

Kholiswa Fihlani
Vusi Nkambule

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

Sifiso Gwala
Lefika Chetty
Masello Senne
Alfred Dikole

Queen Mokgatle
Sikhumbuzo Thomo
James Mankge
Malefo Mosimanyana

SOCIO – ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION COMMISSION

Tengo Tengela
Sesi Maseko
Tshepo Malema

David Masondo
Floyd Shivambu
Vuyo Mhlakaza

LEAGUE BUILDING COMMISSIONS

Buti Manamela
Khaye Nkwanyana

Malesela Maleka
All Provincial Secretaries

NATIONAL FINANCE COMMISSIONS

Yershen Pillay
Mandla Tibane
Thami Pretorius

Lucy Jiyane
Bongani Mwale

D. LIST OF PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

EASTERN CAPE PILC

Thandolwethu Manda
Tebuho Qolosha
Zakhile Somlata
Gxalaba
Khotso Moleli

Nduluka Gceba
Zola Mevana
Butsha Laï
Zodwa Ceba
Khatsho Moleli

FREE STATE PEC

Provincial Secretary –

Life Mokone

**Deputy Provincial Secretary -
Provincial Chairperson -
Deputy Provincial Chairperson –
Provincial Treasurer –**

Mojalefa Simango
Eddie Lesenyeho
Mandla Nkosi Dlamini
Kelebogile Wesi

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

Bongani Mabus a
Molelekoa Marumo
Tshediso Ramabodu
Tumelo Molahlehi
Lerato Mohapi
Thami Nogabe
Tumelo Makae
Daphney Mahoa

Thabo Mokwena
Radintlets i Mahloko
Nomoya Mathe
Danny Jantjie
Dibdele Mance
Mosala Lekaota
Lindiwe Manyashe

GAUTENGPEC

Alex Mashilo
Vuyo Mhlakaza
Maria Mochaka
Phindile Kunene
Takalani Mbongeni

**Provincial Secretary
Provincial Chairperson
Provincial Treasurer
Deputy Provincial Secretary
Deputy Provincial Chairperson**

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

Nomzamo Mkhize
Themba Moledi
George Raphela
Mpumelelo Mokoena
Nkosinathi Ndwardwe
Tau Hlongwane
Mzwakhe Mbatha
Vincent Masoga

Wonder Nkosi
Moses Miteleni
Phumlani Dlamini
Lerato Mabas o
Mokgadi Lesoka
Khumonyane Ndlovu
Lazarus Masilo

KWAZULU NATAL

**Prov Secretary
Prov Chairperson
Prov Treasure
Prov Dep. Secretary
Prov Dep. Chair**

Mlungisi Hlongwane
Bheka Mbuthuma
Thulani Gabela
Mbuso Ngubane
Nombali Mchunu

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

Xolly Shabalala
Busi Mts hazo
Mafika Mndebele
Vusi Buthelezi
Thabani Majosi
Mzikayise Mlambo

Dintle Nkwanyana
Phumzile Gumede
Skhumbuzo Mdlalose
Joshua Lushaba
Hlanganani Msomi

LIMPOPO PEC

Provincial Secretary –
Deputy Provincial Secretary –
Provincial Chairperson –
Deputy Provincial Chairperson –
Provincial Treasurer –

Pat Makape
Mokgadi Mothema
Jimmy Fuela
Jan Radebe
Hlulani Mati

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

Angy Sebola
Ndivhuho Phungu
Messy Ndlovu
Josy Buthane
Sipho Chauke
Erens Motalane
Rendani Thanyani
Blantina Rakganya

Danger Matemane
Fikile Selebalo
Ignatius Sekgobela
Keketso Matimatsatsi
Makanti Mabala
Thabo Lerumu
Nthekgeng Mookamedi

MPUMALANGA PEC

Provincial Secretary -
Deputy Provincial Secretary -
Provincial Chairperson -
Deputy Provincial Secretary -
Provincial Treasurer -

Mandla Tibane
William Mokoena
Cesco Mathabe
Sibongile Nkosi
Nhlakanipho Zuma

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

Oupa Msiza
Delisiwe Nkmbule
Khulani Nhlabathi
Erick Matsane
Kgomotso Mashele
James Mhlanga
Kenneth Mazibuko

Shirley Nxumalo
Maviyo Ndinisa
Sphiwe Sepenyane
Kanego Thethe
Mduduzi Vlakazi
Moratua Mhisi
Amos Mahlangu

NORTHERN CAPE PEC

List not available at the time of going for Print

Provincial Secretary –
Deputy Provincial Secretary –
Provincial Chairperson –

Kabelo Mohibidu
Nobantu Mpondo
Sivuyile Ntamehlo

**Deputy Provincial Chairperson -
Provincial Treasurer –**

Tumi Thupane
Tshepiso Maphela
Noah Mapachane
Nolitha Mfamana

Tumelo Mokae
Kagiso Alamu
Nokuthula Tyutyu
Zwai Dlabazane
Lizo Mboniswa

NORTH WEST PEC

Mike Mokhutshane
Thami Pretorious
Tshepo Nkwe
Zakhele Mompoti
Zodwa Du Toit

**Provincial Secretary
Provincial Chairperson
Provincial Treasurer
Deputy Provincial Secretary
Deputy Provincial Chairperson**

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

Joyleaf Boase
Primrose Maifala
Xolani Nkonyana
Gomolem o Tshekoesele
Bhekumkhulu Jeffrey Miya
Tshepiso Phillips
Lopang Tokwe

Precious Maubane
Keabaka Mkhonoane
Masego Tong
Itumeleng Modissenyane
Mokete Kolojane
Nthabiseng Motha
Lesley Mogorosi

WESTERN CAPE PILC

**Provincial Organizing Secretary -
Provincial Convener -**

Thobane Matheza
Lunga Mthambo
Mcibisi Ndiki

Motlatsi Tsubane
Nokuthula Nqaba
Thembela Gazi
Andrew Dotwana

E. LIST OF NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF MEMBERS

ADMINISTRATION

Lesley Kwena
Naledi Maseti
Motshedisi Letuka

National Administrator
NWC/NC Coordinator
Assistant to the National Secretary

ORGANISING

Donald Mothoa
Thandiswa Mpondo
Tshepiso Lethuloe
Mosala

National Organiser
Cadre Development
Membership Secretary
Membership

INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

Castro Ngobese

National Spokesperson

Khaya Xaba

Medial Liason, Merchandise and Publications

INTERNATIONAL

George Raphela

International Officer: Solidarity Work

Malefo Mosimanyane

International Officer: Networking

GENDER, POLICY & RESEARCH

Phindile Kunene

Gender, Policy and Research