



**MESSAGE
FROM**

**PRESIDENT VUYO
ZUNGULA**

PREPARING FOR
2019 South African National and
Provincial Elections



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

It is nearly 3 months since the African Transformation Movement was established as a South African political party, registered to contest the 2019 IEC General Elections. We have been receiving positive reports from majority of our regions across the country with regards to the growth and activities of the party. A lot of work lies before us before we can achieve our objectives.

We need to constantly meet in our branches and promote the values of the African Transformation Movement in our society. As we do so, let us also encourage all South Africans to join the Movement in Transforming our Society for a Better Tomorrow. It is our time to PUT SA first. Servants let us not grow weary of doing good for in due season, we will reap the fruits of our work if we do not give up. The 2019 South African General Elections is our season of reaping.

Our mandate is to bring ***Peace, Ubuntu, and Transformation*** in our land and in our lifetime through ***Servanthood leadership and Accountability***. We need to make sure as we prepare for next year's general elections that each member belongs to a ATM branch and is registered to vote with the Independent Electoral Commission.



WHY ATM?

- The ATM is a Political Party registered to contest elections in South Africa. It is a Democratic Movement driven by people's aspirations across any form of segregation or discrimination. Its struggles are based on the emancipation of the poorest of the poor, traditional leadership of the land, working class and religious communities.
- It is founded on the principles of Peace, Unity, Love, Respect and Rule of Law as its corner stone.
- It believes in Transforming and Developing the lives of the people of South Africa through God's peace and love and believes in:
 - Beneficiation of all in the country's wealth;
 - Free, Compulsory and Quality Education;
 - South African land for all South Africans; and
 - Moral regeneration and new definition of a South Africa (generally and African in particular).
- In order to ensure influence with its policy position on every matter in our country, the ATM has to win elections with overwhelming majority in all spheres of government, starting from the coming 2019 National and Provincial elections and subsequent Local Government elections . Therefore, this warrants ATM to develop vibrant Election Strategy and Implementation Plan manned by strong and capable Election Structures from Local to National Government level.



1. WHY SHOULD I VOTE?

Next year, 2019, South Africans older than 18 years have the opportunity to shape the direction of our nation in the voting booth. Good citizenship is a moral obligation for all South African Citizens, and voting is an important part of that obligation. In South Africa, the responsibility for our government's direction lies in our hands, as citizens, we cannot take that responsibility lightly. We cannot, because of unconcern, or discouragement, or perfectionism, abandon our responsibility to vote. When we vote, we do so in order to promote the common good, to express it, advance it, and protect it.

Voting and in a democratic state like ours is very important because it provides people an opportunity to voice their opinion and vote for what they believe in. It holds elected politicians accountable for their behaviour while in office, and it prevents a minority from dictating the policies for the majority. Some people consider that participation at elections is also a citizen's civic responsibility. People have fought long and hard for the opportunity to vote, to an extent of even losing their lives, and other countries do not enjoy the same freedom. In 13 percent of the world's countries, voting is deemed so important a civic responsibility that it has been made compulsory and has been regulated in the national constitutions and electoral laws. Every citizen should exercise their right to cast a vote in an election. So, whether voting is made compulsory or not, voting is a sign of responsibility and good citizenship. Voters play a central role in choosing and shaping the government and their very futures. So the African Transformation Movement is requesting you to register and ensure that you vote during these upcoming 2019 elections.



2. REGISTRATION AS A VOTER

Although the date of 2019 National elections has not been announced yet, in terms of the Constitution of RSA the election date should be held between February 2019 and August 2019. The IEC is now busy updating the voters' roll in preparation for the 2019 National and Provincial elections. The next voter registration weekend will also be announced either towards the end of 2018 or early 2019. In the meantime, you can visit your local IEC office to do the following:

- ✓ Register for the first time if you are 16 years or older. Note that even if you have registered to vote, you can only vote if you are 18 years or older on the election date. You need a valid ID (green bar-coded book, smart card or temporal ID) in order to register or make changes in your details. You do not need FICA documents for voter registration or for voting;
- ✓ Already registered voters, who have moved to other places since they registered, should update their address details so that they are registered in their correct voting district; and
- ✓ Those registered voters whose address details are not on the voters' roll should provide this information. If you live in an informal settlement or rural area with no street number, a description of where exactly you live is sufficient for meeting the legal requirements.

When visiting your local IEC office you need to have with you your valid, green, bar-coded ID book; temporary ID; or smart ID card, otherwise they will not be able to help you. Therefore, you do not have to wait for the registration weekend to register, check and update your voter information. You can do it now in your local IEC office to avoid long queues during the registration weekend. You may not be able to vote where you live if your address is missing or incorrect at the IEC or update by clicking on the following link [IEC website](#).



If it is missing or incorrect visit your local voting station over the next registration weekend (the dates of which are yet to be announced) with your valid, green, bar-coded ID book; temporary ID; or smart ID card. You can locate an IEC office near you by visiting <http://www.elections.org.za/content/About-Us/Contact/>.

For your registration status and voting station details you can visit the [IEC website](#) or alternatively SMS your ID Number to 32810 (R1.00 per SMS sent or received). This SMS facility is only available if you are in the Republic of South Africa. For the first time during the 2019 national elections, voters **must** be registered at the correct voting station within their voting district. This is not necessarily the physically closest voting station to their home. To change an existing registration, this can be done online at <https://www.elections.org.za/MyIEC/Account/Register>. For new registrations, each voter must register for the first time in person and cannot send a friend or relative. Remember that IEC only allows manual voting and does not allow voting on line. Also, you cannot use your driver's licence or passport to register or vote.

If you are a South African citizen living abroad, you can also apply for registration at your nearest South African embassy, high commission or consulate-general (see www.dfa.gov.za/foreign/sa_abroad/index.htm for locations and contact info). For those who are abroad temporary or permanently, they need to familiarise themselves with the conditions for their registration and voting which are different from the local voters. For instance, when voting abroad you need both your valid ID and passport.

For more information please talk to your nearest ATM Branch Committee member.