

Session 5: Summary and the Way Forward

Mr. Enoch Godongwana, Member of National Executive Committee, ANC - SOUTH AFRICA

I join my fellow comrades to thank SWAPO and FES in putting together this informative session. The focus of the contrast has been basically on inequality as a challenge and the key part of structural challenge of that is, what are the key challenges facing African continent?. This makes it necessary for inequality to continue to persist. It is a structural issues that needs to be closely looked at in details. The structural constrains has become a reoccurring theme. Whether you look at it based on gender questions, is where those structural constrain would impact on gender equality in our society and the key part of that is development. Without development we are not likely to even make inroads in changing the developing pacts and the quality between at different agendas.

On the youth component, Africa is blessed in the sense that we have a younger population. The key challenge for Africa is that, to what extend can we use this youth component and take it as a social dividends? How do you tell us that effectively that's going to be the biggest challenge on Africa moving forward. Given the advantage is that at the moment that Africa is one of the fast growing regions in the world. But having said that we still all have youth unemployment challenge which is a global phenomenon as impacting on the African continent and all of us have got to find a way of how to deal with it.

On security and migration, migration is also a manifestation of the structural challenge. What is it structural in this economies that makes people to leave their own countries?, The key challenge is unless we address the issues that give occasions to this migrations and people decide that no one will leave their own countries at their own will. There must be some challenges which makes these people to leave their own countries. It's an important point in my view which needs to be addressed in the structural features.

The last point which was raised is the trade issue. It is a major issue battled amongst ourselves. Yesterday one delegate raised an issue of colonialism impact on the structures of our economy and to what extend is this colonial foot print being addressed as we decide our trade relationships, so it's an important fact. One of the presenters has raised the features of our trade; that Africa trades in relations to commodities, we import finished goods, than value added goods, that in its self creates unfair trade. We are talking about fair trade but in an unfair trade environment. How are we going to deal with that moving forward? This is one of the issues that need to be addressed. For instance the key feature which becomes a continued disputes amongst ourselves is Agriculture, the comrade from Cape Verde raised our capability on Agricultural products, even when we discuss partnership trade agreements those sought of issues becomes critical issues. So what then arises is how do we then improve these structural features for us to be able to compete in an effective ways? He also raised issues on infrastructures. The World Bank did a study which states that "on an African continent for an infrastructure you need to spend about US\$93 billion per Annum". This figure with the economy's inflation might have grown by now. So the key issue is how are we going to fund this infrastructure to make sure that Africa is able to trade and be competitive. Those are some of the challenges. If we were to move as am about to conclude comrade chairperson is the key we need to be thinking about. We should not be saying we had a nice session hosted by SWAPO and FES, then have another meeting hosted by another, but what is the concrete action? Your proposal that the summaries we are making here should be handed to FES, is to look at these proceedings and find out what is arising out of these discussions, what is the concrete that we can start working together? and I think there are about 25

parties that are here, we have to look at it as part of solidarity work identified in the ILO or G20 or any institutions. We can start to think of how do we work together and push common positions. Given that Marx has been popular today maybe I should also quote Marx in my conclusion and say as we are trying to change this world Marx says “we are trying to change it under conditions not of our choosing, so the environment in which we are operating and try to make these changes may not necessary be supportive but we need to forge ahead”.