

THE TO MAHLAKOANA

COSATU has hit back at former ANC deputy president Kgalema Motlanthe, accusing him of political posturing, for saying the tripartite alliance was “dead”.

The federation’s spokesman, Sizwe Pamla, said in a statement that Motlanthe magnified issues and differences which have always existed in the alliance, even during his tenure at the helm of Cosatu and the ANC.

Pamla said the questions being raised by Motlanthe had been asked before.

“It is disquieting, therefore, that he has experienced this Damascus moment after vacating his leadership position in

the ANC. He was the secretary-general of the ANC when the alliance experienced its most difficult period.

“At that time there were ANC leaders, like the late comrade Dumisani Makhaye and former president Thabo Mbeki, who were openly telling both Cosatu and the SACP to leave the alliance if they were unhappy with the actions of the ANC. He never said that difficult moment as a signal that the alliance was dead,” explained Pamla.

Motlanthe said in a media interview that “Cosatu and the SA Communist Party, formerly

independent ideological partners of the ANC, have lost their way and the alliance exists only in name.”

Cosatu said differences in the alliance could be expected because it comprised inter-class organisations which were driven by different philosophies and ideologies.

The federation’s reaction to the former president’s comments differed substantially from that of the ANC.

The party welcomed his comments, describing him as a “leader and voice of reason”.

While the ANC usually scolds leaders or party mem-

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He never saw death of tripartite alliance as a signal
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bers who express discontent in the media, in a statement released yesterday, ANC spokesman Zizi Kodwa said: “The ANC embraces his forthrightness and willingness to provide leadership beyond formal structures of the organisation.”

Cosatu was not as forgiving, accusing Motlanthe of dishonesty over his utterances that the decision to expel the metalworkers union Numsa was “unheard of”.

“It’s got nothing to do with honesty. He could have raised issues, he could have intervened, he could have engaged. He is a former Cosatu leader himself and he had the opportunity to speak to Cosatu about the challenges. But he never did,” Pamla said.

He explained that other former leaders had made the effort to engage with Cosatu during the tumultuous period

in the federation and alliance.

Meanwhile, political analyst Professor Steven Friedman disagreed with Cosatu’s argument, saying people needed to consider that he could have been the deputy president of the ANC and the country, yet he chose to take a stand.

“He chose to take a stand on principle,” Friedman said, adding that Motlanthe had been hinting at these views for some time in his speeches. “It was interesting how blunt and direct he was willing to be.

“The remark he made about not wanting to serve in that leadership group, he said it

before, but not in this way,” Friedman added.

Motlanthe told Business Day he had turned down nomination for top posts in the ANC in 2012 because he didn’t want to serve with the current ANC leadership.

Friedman said Motlanthe’s views were important for public debate and understanding.

“It’s important when someone who was a former president of the country and deputy president of the ANC is willing to be so frank about this. He is thoughtful.

“It is a considered analysis of the current state of the



TOOK A STAND: Kgalema Motlanthe said he couldn’t serve under current ANC leadership.

Sport in the global spotlight



Former Bafana Bafana captain Lucas Radebe speaks during the opening ceremony yesterday of the World Sports Values Summit for Peace and Development at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, attended by about 15 000 international delegates. PICTURE: IAN LANDSBERG

‘Budget will cover 0% varsity fee hike’

No need to raise taxes or have a wealth tax, says DA

MARIANNE MERTEN

THE DA says it is opposed to tax increases or a wealth tax to fund the zero percent fee hike for next year because there was enough money in the Budget to make up the universities’ shortfall of around R2.6 billion.

This comes as the Presidency says it is engaging universities on various options to meet the 0% fee increase announcement made by President Jacob Zuma 10 days ago as #FeesMustFall student protests gathered at the Union Buildings.

Last month, Higher Education Minister Blade Nzimande said there was enough money for free university education, albeit in the private sector.

“The government must have the political will to tax the rich and wealthy to fund higher education,” Nzimande said during the parliamentary debate on higher education transformation. None of us must develop cold feet about the necessity of taxing the rich.”

On Friday, during a hearing on October’s medium-term budget policy statement (MTBPS) by the appropriations committee, the Human Sciences Research Council told MPs that without a wealth tax, free education was impossible.

But yesterday, DA MP and finance spokesman David Maynier said the party would oppose any additional taxes.

“The shortfall (for the zero percent fee increase) can be funded from within the existing Budget without any further tax increases or squeezing the private sector.”

Instead, the immediate im-

pact of the no-fee increase next year would be mitigated by moving R720 million from the Department of International Relations’ allocation for its foreign missions. That could be absorbed by the department by cutting back on above normal salaries and closing offices that serve no strategic purpose.

While the academic year corresponds to the calendar year, the financial year runs from April 1 to March 31. For the 2016/17 financial year, a further R183.9m could be reallocated from various depart-

ment. The money was raised from the government’s sale of its Vodacom shares, with the other R23bn allocated to the troubled power utility Eskom.

Under the Money Bills Amendment Procedure and Related Matters Act, Parliament has the power to amend budgetary allocations, including those announced in the MTBPS.

An agreement by both the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces is needed following deliberations and recommendations from the respective Houses’ appropriations committees.

The process is under way and due to be completed this month, when the MTBPS and its related Adjustments Appropriations Bill are voted on.

Tomorrow, higher education funding, including free undergraduate studies, comes under the spotlight when the parliamentary appropriations committees meet the higher education committee, departmental officials and representatives of Business Unity South Africa.

The Presidency said there would be an announcement on a commission of inquiry on long-term funding solutions and broader transformation issues and access.

Such a commission comes in the wake of previous funding investigations, including a higher education 2012 report indicating free university education for poor students was possible, and another report on possible changes to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme, which is available to students from households with a joint R120 000 annual income.

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The shortfall can be funded without further increases
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ments, which listed expenditure such as:

- Purchase of bulls for reproductive purposes (R540 000).
- Establishment of a South African Network for Women in Transport (R7.5m).
- Office furniture and critical security equipment for members of VIP protection (R26.5m).
- Guarding services rendered to the defence headquarters (R11.4m).

However, Maynier admitted that the DA’s proposal of shifting the R2bn earmarked as South Africa’s contribution to the National Development Bank, or Brics Bank, might not be an easy sell. “We might have an opportunity to reach an agreement on that,” he said.

The special appropriations bill for the bank is before Par-

KATE MORRISSEY

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THE ALMOST glowing orange uniforms of police officers working in the streets of Hillbrow have multiplied since mid-September.

This is as the Joburg metro police department (JMPD) tries to curb crime in one of the city’s most densely populated suburbs.

JMPD Chief Superintendent Wayne Minnaar said Operation Buyisa Ulozi (Bring Back Jozi) had been working through the inner city block by block since September 24.

As the festive season nears, police are especially concerned about crime. However, Minnaar said the operation would last long after the holiday spirit has

Holistic plan to curb CBD crime

died down.

The police have partnered with other departments, including Environmental Health and Social Development, as well as municipal entities such as City Parks, to identify issues that contribute to crime in a community and fix those issues.

“It’s a holistic approach to dealing with crime and urban disorder,” said Earl Stoles, an analyst for the JMPD.

After identifying which blocks have problems that need attention, the operation’s teams occupy the area for 21 days. Stoles quoted the old adage that it takes

21 days to change a bad habit.

The teams pick up trash and items for recycling, identify illegal connections to City Power, fill in potholes and direct traffic to improve congestion, among other things. When their by-law teams identify buildings or businesses that aren’t complying with by-laws, they first issue warnings.

If the owners don’t fix the issue, they are fined.

Stoles said the focus wasn’t on issuing fines but rather on changing behaviour.

Rajash Seejarim, the acting deputy director for area-based management, said the clean-up

operation would require follow-up inspections before the businesses were allowed to reopen.

Groups of officers regulate street vendors to make sure that streets and pavements are clear for traffic. They confiscate counterfeit items and trolleys that are not stored properly.

They stop people from jaywalking and drivers of bakkies from parking illegally.

The vendors whose items get confiscated often try to argue with the officers, but in the end, they put their hands in their pockets and walk away.

“There is room for improvement, but the public appreciates our work,” said an officer who often works on the street teams.

“The main purpose is to restore rule of law in the inner city.” He said four establishments were closed because they were in violation of by-laws. Seejarim added that the

OBITUARY

ADRIAN HORWITZ

PHILIP Joseph, who died on October 25 aged 93, ranks as one of the leading booksellers of his time.

Born in London in 1922 into a family engaged in motor tyre manufacturing, he would go on to found not one but two chains of leading book stores – Exclusive Books in South Africa and Books Etc in the UK.

At the age of 18 and shortly after the outbreak of World War II, he enlisted in the Royal Air Force as air crew.

Later, he would remember proudly that his point of mobilisation was in fact the famous Long Room at Lord’s Cricket

Founder of Exclusive Books leaves a rich legacy

Ground, which had been commandeered by the military.

He was sent to South Africa for training before being deployed in North Africa, and in 1943 he met his wife-to-be, Pamela Horwitz, in Kimberley.

He and Pam were married in 1947, and after a brief sojourn in London, returned to South Africa, where in 1951 the Joseph family bought a small secondhand bookshop in King George Street in central Joburg called Exclusive Books.

Initially it was run by his wife and her mother-in-law, Pauline Joseph.

Soon Joseph opened a second store in Hillbrow, and on

New Year’s Day 1955, a spectacular explosion in a nearby shop saw the fledgling bookstore take off as the national publicity generated put pictures of the store onto the front pages of many of the country’s leading newspapers.

Riding on the wave of the paperback revolution, Joseph’s Exclusive Books became the first mass bookstore in Joburg, and he soon had to double the floor space by acquiring the neighbouring shop’s premises.

It was a store for everyone, but sold books exclusively. It became a destination store for the reading public, and in 1957 became one of the first shops in

the country to open for trading at night, over weekends and on public holidays.

Exclusive expanded through a subsidiary into the library supply and wholesale book dis-

tribution business, becoming the largest library supplier in Africa and the distributor of choice for, among others, Prentice Hall, the Open University and Addison Wesley.

Joseph himself grew in

stature to become president of the South African Booksellers Association and in the 1970s opened new flagship stores in Pretoria Street, Hillbrow, and in Cape Town in association with Maureen Hargraves, another well-known bookseller.

In 1978, Joseph sold out to Premier Milling and moved to England, where in 1981 he would establish a new chain of bookstores with his son Richard under the name Books Etc in the greater London area.

Books Etc grew from a couple of stores to a lively and respected chain of 17 London bookstores with outposts at

Gatwick, Edinburgh and Stansted airports.

It was sold off to the American chain Borders in 1997, after which Joseph “actively” retired while remaining on the publishing board of the British Library and the board of Shepherds, the fine binder company.

But it is the South African chain Exclusive which is his greatest legacy.

Under the Premier Group there was a major expansion to the extent that there are now close to 50 stores throughout the country.

Enter each store and you breathe in a bit of Joseph.

The layout, the selection, the



ROOTED IN A FAMILY BUSINESS: Exclusive Books is Philip Joseph’s greatest legacy, with nearly 50 stores throughout the country.

fact that each store carries its own range of titles and is staffed by people who are passionate about books is a great tribute to the man.

And, 37 years after he sold the business, its chief executive officer is one of his protégés, Benjamin Trisk.

Joseph is survived by his

wife Pam, sons Jonathan (a property developer), Richard (a publisher) and Jeremy (an ophthalmic surgeon), their wives, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was buried in London on Sunday.

● Adrian Horwitz is a nephew of the late Philip Joseph

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