



**PRESS RELEASE  
NO EMBARGO**

**08 February 2023**

**AL JAMA-AH expects the SONA will give priority to the 1000 youth-owned businesses as promised in 2021**

AL JAMA-AH is expecting His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa to give top priority to the *Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan's* localization programme of 1000 products to be identified for manufacturing in townships, villages, and on the Cape Flats.

The Al Jama-ah Constituency is anxious to know which products have been identified to localize. The peanut butter project in Groutville in the Eastern Cape is one of the projects which has been localized. One of the key elements of the *Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan* is localization and it is expected from SMMEs and co-operatives to play a central role in driving localization.

The President should ban imported peanut butter and further encourage the call for “Buy Local – Local is Lekker” and for the ‘Proudly South African’ label; so, for this localized product it should be given an opportunity to be sold on local-, provincial-, national and international markets.

Land ownership remains a contentious issue for the dispossessed and previously oppressed communities. The President should give an undertaking that there will be universal free land ownership and that every South African from the age of 25 must be allocated a piece of land with a title deed.

Al Jama-ah is looking forward to the announcement that every matriculant, who are not pursuing further studies, should access job opportunities; and that they be trained to fill vacant positions throughout South Africa. Youth unemployment is a crisis; of our country's 40 million working-age people, 51,6% are youths. The statistics revealed that 46% of them are unemployed and without education and training.

Our youth should be geared towards obtaining moral and ethical training to prepare themselves to play a greater role in the country. In tandem with the private sector, we should do our utmost - as government – to alleviate the situation of our youth; nay, we should strive to secure jobs for our youth who is in the position to change the country's flagging economic position around.

For further media enquiries contact national spokesperson:

**Adv. Shameemah Salie**  
**Cell: 084 423 0476 /**

For further information contact:

**Ms Nisa Siers**  
**National Marketing and Communications Manager**  
**Cell: 082 613 1917**



