AfriForum

Mediaverklaring

10 Oktober 2011

AfriForum doen beroep op publiek om Sensus 2011 te steun – Sal bydra tot bevordering van Afrikaans

Met verwysing na Sensus 2011 wat vandag ŉ aanvang neem, het die burgerregte-inisiatief AfriForum ŉ beroep op sy lede en die publiek gedoen om die sensus te ondersteun. Alle aksies wat met die verwesenliking van burgerregte verband hou, vereis statistiek oor die aard van die burgerlike samelewing en data wat deur die sensus ingesamel word, is die vernaamste, erkende bron van sodanige inligting. Dit is daarom belangrik dat die inligting wat deur die sensus ingesamel word, so volledig en akkuraat as moontlik is.

Volgens Alana Bailey, adjunk-uitvoerende hoof van AfriForum, bedank AfriForum Statistiek Suid-Afrika vir ŉ omvattende poging om te verseker dat Sensus 2011 meertalig plaasvind en vir deelnemers in alle landstale, insluitend Afrikaans, toeganklik is. “Tans moet die staat met regsaksies gedreig word om te keer dat dit ongrondwetlik, eentalig in Engels diens lewer. Selfs die nuwe konseptaalwet is ŉ swak poging om die situasie te besleg en sal in sy huidige vorm niks verbeter nie. Onder hierdie omstandighede is Sensus 2011 se pogings om meertalig diens te lewer, dus besonder welkom,” het Bailey gesê.

AfriForum het verder ŉ beroep op alle Afrikaanssprekendes gedoen om te vra dat Afrikaanse sensusvorms aan hulle gegee word. “Moeite is gedoen om te verseker dat die vorms in Afrikaans beskikbaar is en hoe meer Afrikaanse vorms gebruik word, hoe meer is dit bewys van die behoefte aan Afrikaanse dienslewering in die land,” het Bailey bygevoeg. Dit geld ook vir die nege ander inheemse Suid-Afrikaanse landstale. Sy het mense wat sterk oor die toekoms van hulle moedertaal voel, herinner om hulle taalvoorkeure baie duidelik op die sensusvorm aan te dui. “Sodoende kom jy nie alleen

jou wetlike verpligting om aan die nasionale sensus deel te neem, na nie, maar jy neem ook ŉ groot stap ter bevordering en beskerming van jou taal!"

Alana Bailey
Adjunk-Uitvoerende Hoof: AfriForum
072-7284541
alana@afriforum.co.za

AfriForum

Press release

10 October 2011

AfriForum makes an appeal to the public to support Census 2011 – it will encourage the promotion of Afrikaans

With reference to Census 2011, which commences today, civil rights initiative AfriForum made an appeal to its members, as well as members of the public to support Census 2011. All actions relating to the implementation of civil rights require statistics about the nature of civil society, and the data collected through a census is the most distinguished, recognised source of such information. That is why it is important that the information collected through the census, is as complete and accurate as possible.

According to AfriForum's deputy executive director, Alana Bailey, AfriForum is grateful for Statistics South Africa's comprehensive effort to ensure that Census 2011 is a multilingual census in which participants of all languages, including Afrikaans, can take part. "Currently the state has to be threatened with legal action to prevent it from unconstitutionally delivering services in English only. Even the new draft language act is a sorry attempt to settle the dispute and will improve nothing as it is now. Under these circumstances, Census 2011's attempts to provide a multilingual service are therefore very refreshing," Bailey said.

AfriForum also made an appeal to all Afrikaans speaking people to ask for Afrikaans census forms. "Trouble has been taken to ensure that the forms are available in Afrikaans. The more Afrikaans forms people use, the more it will be evident that there is a need in this country for service delivery in Afrikaans," Bailey added. The same goes for the other nine indigenous South African national languages. She reminded people who feel strongly about the future of their mother tongue to clearly indicate their language preference on the census form. "Thereby you do not only meet your statutory

obligation to participate in the national census, but you also take a bold step to promote and protect your language!"

Alana Bailey
Deputy Executive Director: AfriForum
072 728 4541
alana@afriforum.co.za