Mediaverklaring: Vrystaat Landbou

Vrystaat Landbou
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17 November 2018

Vrystaat Landbou sal saamwerk om eiendomsreg te beskerm

Vrystaat Landbou (VL) is uiters teleurgesteld, maar tog nie verras, oor die aanbeveling van die Grondwetlike Hersieningskomitee ná ’n maandelange proses van publieke deelname om Artikel 25 van die Grondwet te wysig. Hy sal met alle organisasies, wat dieselfde doel nastreef, saamwerk om te verhoed dat hierdie gebroke en polities gemanipuleerde proses sy pad loop.

Só het Francois Wilken, President van VL, gesê nadat dié komitee op 15 November 2018 aanbeveel het dat Artikel 25 van die Grondwet gewysig moet word om onteiening sonder vergoeding moontlik te maak.

“Hoewel dit nie as ’n referendum gesien word nie, is dit duidelik dat dit ’n polities gemanipuleerde proses is. Die redes is omdat die skriftelike voorleggings, wat feitelik gebasseer was, en die Motlanthe-verslag geignoreer word,” het Wilken gesê.

“Dit gee egter nou die geleentheid aan die burgerlike samelewing en belangegroepe om die geldigheid van die proses in die howe te toets.”

Volgens Gerhard Kriel, Hoof Uitvoerende Beampte van VL, sal sy organisasie, wat by Agri SA geaffilieerd is, tesame met die ander agt provinsiale organisasies en bedryfsorganisasies saamwerk om die wysiging teen te staan én die eiendomsreg van sy lede te beskerm. “Die organisasies saam met wie ons sal werk sluit ook in burgerregte groepe, politieke partye en beïnvloeders wat ook op die wêreldverhoog die nodige kan doen om die eiendomsreg van ons lede te beskerm,” het hy gesê.

Wilken meen die aanbeveling van die Grondwetlike Hersieningskomitee is nie ’n verrassing is nie, aangesien sekere partye, waaruit die komitee bestaan het, in die eerste plek die voorstel vir die wysiging gemaak het.

Kriel het die publieke deelname aan die proses bevraagteken. “Vrystaat Landbou en sy lede het aan die publieke proses deelgeneem en waargeneem hoe lede van die komitee toegelaat het dat dikwels opruiende en feitlik nie-korrekte stellings gemaak is. Hierdie sprekers het dan die indruk geskep dat meerderheid deelnemers aan die proses in die sessies verkies dat Artikel 25 verander word.”

Kriel het gesê VL en baie van sy lede het verder ook voorgeskrewe skriftelike vertoë ingedien met die vertroue dat die proses bo verdenking sal wees. “Vrystaat Landbou het met

skok verneem die prosesse soos onderneem deur die hersieningskomitee blyk nie korrek en regverdig afgehandel te wees nie."

"Vrystaat Landbou sal die toekomstige proses baie nou volg en beïnvloed tot voordeel van sy lede én hard optree waar nodig," het Wilken gesê.

Indien die parlement die voorstel van die komitee aanvaar, sal 'n nuwe komitee aangestel word vir die volgende publieke deelname-proses om die wysiging op te stel. Volgens Kriel kan hierdie proses na aanduidings ook tot 'n jaar lank neem.

Vir medianavrae, kontak Francois Wilken, President van VL, by 083 390 1831 of Gerhard Kriel, Hoof Uitvoerende Beampte van VL, by 082 050 1444

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Free State Agriculture will work together to protect property rights

Free State Agriculture (FSA) is extremely disappointed, but not surprised, about the recommendation of the Constitutional Review Committee after a monthly process of public participation to amend Section 25 of the Constitution. It will work with all organizations, who is pursuing the same goal, to prevent this broken and politically-manipulated process run its course.

This is according to Francois Wilken, President of FSA, after the committee on 15 November 2018 recommended that Section 25 of the Constitution should be amended to allow expropriation without compensation.

“Although it is not seen as a referendum, it is clear that it is a politically manipulated process. The reasons are because the written submissions, which were factually based, and the Motlanthe report, are ignored,” Wilken said.

“However, it now gives civil society and interest groups the opportunity to test the validity of the process in courts.”

According to Gerhard Kriel, Chief Executive Officer of FSA, his organization, which is affiliated with Agri SA, will work together with the other eight provincial organizations and industry organizations to resist the amendment and protect the property rights of its members. “The organizations we will work with also include civil rights groups, political parties and influencers on a world stage who can help take the necessary action to protect the property rights of our members,” he said.

Wilken said the recommendation of the Constitutional Review Committee is not a surprise, as certain parties, which the committee was made up of, in the first place made the proposal for the amendment.

Kriel questioned public participation in the process. “Free State Agriculture and its members participated in the public process and observed how members of the committee allowed that often instigating and factual incorrect statements were made. These speakers created the impression that majority of participants in the process in the sessions preferred Section 25 to be changed.”

Kriel said FSA and many of its members also submitted required written submissions with the confidence that the process would be beyond doubt. “Free State Agriculture was shocked to hear that the processes undertaken by the review committee appear not to have been be correct and fair.”

“Free State Agriculture will follow the upcoming process very closely, influence it to the benefit of its members and act harshly if necessary,” Wilken said.

If parliament accepts the proposal of the committee, a new committee will be appointed for the next public participation process to compile the amendment. According to Kriel there are indications that this process may take up to a year to complete.

For media inquiries, contact Francois Wilken, President of FSA, at 083 390 1831 or Gerhard Kriel, Chief Executive Officer of FSA, at 082 050 1444