

**PRESS STATEMENT :**

**SACTWU CALLS FOR MEETING WITH SARU AND CSA TO EXPLORE LOCAL PROCURMENT FOR 2011 RUGBY AND CRICKET WORLD CUPS**

The Southern African Clothing & Textile Workers' Union (SACTWU) has today written to the President and CEO of the South African Rugby Union, as well as to the CEO of the Cricket South Africa, calling for meetings with each respectively, to discuss what steps these two sports organisations have taken to promote local procurement of South African clothing, textile and leather industry goods in light of 2011 cricket and rugby World Cups.

Next year, the Cricket World Cup will be held in India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh and the rugby world cup in New Zealand. SACTWU has brought the following to the attention of SARU and CSA, in our letters to them:

Like the recent Fifa Soccer World Cup, the 2011 Cricket and Rugby World Cups are important moments for our country. As sports lovers, we will again stand behind and cheer for our national teams. Hopefully the enthusiasm which was displayed by all South Africans this year will be repeated, and our boys will do us proud next year.

These two World Cups are important for another reason too. It offers the opportunity to harness the power of sport for economic development and job creation. It offers the chance to address some of the critical structural fault lines in our country and fight unemployment, poverty and inequality. This is true in all contexts, but especially at the present moment, given the problems of the global economic crisis and the concomitant job losses.

Local procurement practices are central in this regard. In fact, in February 2009, this was acknowledged in the Framework for South Africa's Response to the Global Economic Crisis, and agreed by government, business and labour at NEDLAC, the Framework Response unambiguously identifies the imperative to use sporting events as a means to create local jobs.

The union has requested to meet with CSA and SARU as soon as possible after 25 September 2010.

Issued by

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General Secretary

If further comments are required, kindly call SACTWU's Fachmy Abrahams on phone number 021 4474570 or cell number 0733067605