

Solidarity Statements – LVC SEAF

LVC stands in solidarity to the Kayelitsha Land Occupiers in South Africa

Urban informal settlements have historically been a tool of the apartheid system to erase the dignity, identity and social fabric of South Africa's marginalized majority populations, who are largely unemployed and landless. These settlements are expanding rapidly, hosting an ever increasing number of migrants, coming from rural areas in South Africa, as well as various countries in the region and continent. People are tired of waiting for the access to land they have been promised since the beginning of South Africa as a democratic nation. Activists and communities have taken to the streets to occupy urban open spaces, with several activists having been assassinated throughout their actions.

As LVC we want to show our solidarity the comrades from Kayelitsha and other informal settlements throughout South Africa. We would like to honour the lives of Philela Gilwa, and Mthando Ras Zuma, local youth activists murdered in the last months, in their struggle for dignity and basic living conditions for them and their struggle. AMANDLA!

La Via Campesina SEAF stands in Solidarity with the west and wild coastal communities in South Africa

For too many years, we have witnessed with deep pain the systematic plunder and destruction of our precious natural resources and the oppression of our people. We know that our African elites in the public and private sectors have been for many years colluding in corruption with the evil transnational corporations which today represent the new face of imperialist neo-colonialism. We are appalled by this and demand an immediate end to immoral and irresponsible behaviour of many of our leaders.

We would like to express our support to courageous efforts of our comrades in the West Coast and Wild Coast of South Africa, who are fighting against the Mineral Sands Resources, Mining Company, headquartered in Australia, who are destroying the South African coastlines, undermining the rights of the local indigenous peoples to use their own lands to sustain their livelihoods and identity.