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NNF 22 of 2026

26 June 2026

NATIONAL PROTEST – 30 June 2026

‘Order, Lawfulness, and the Defence of Our Economy’

As South Africans prepare to march on June 30 2026, NAPTOSA reaffirms its position expressed on Africa Day in NNF 18 of 2026. We stand for unity, lawfulness, and dignity. The right to protest is guaranteed by ‘*The Constitution*’, which is the cornerstone of our democracy. We respect and defend that right. However, the right to protest does not equate to anarchy, nor does it grant the authority to obstruct fellow citizens from going to work, to close schools, or to further destabilise an already fragile economy.

NAPTOSA calls on all marchers, organisers, and bystanders to uphold the rule of law. South Africa’s Constitution is among the finest in the world, protecting every person on our soil, regardless of nationality. It also obliges everyone in the country to respect its legal framework. These two principles are inseparable. Those who invoke constitutional rights while simultaneously violating the rights of others, such as the right to work, trade, or education, undermine the very document they claim to support. NAPTOSA draws an important legal distinction that must not be blurred in the heated atmosphere: every nation upholds its own laws, and every person, regardless of nationality, respects the sovereign legal framework of the country in which they reside.

NAPTOSA condemns unreservedly the vandalism and destruction of public infrastructure that have accompanied periods of unrest in South Africa, particularly the burning and ransacking of schools. Every school destroyed represents a setback for the community, costing years of progress. Every classroom torched denies a generation of learners. South African schools are already chronically under-resourced, suffering from overcrowded classrooms, crumbling infrastructure, inadequate libraries, and mobile units passed off as permanent structures. When protesters destroy a school, they do not strike at the government; they strike at the children of the very communities they claim to represent.

NAPTOSA calls on the South African Police Service and all relevant authorities to deploy protective resources to schools and other public infrastructure during and around the June 30 march. We further urge community leaders, parents, and educators to act as guardians of their schools. We demand that the full force of the law be applied to any individual found to have damaged, looted, or destroyed school property. These acts are not protests; they are crimes against children and must be prosecuted as such.

We acknowledge and express the legitimate frustration of millions of South Africans who are observing the deterioration of public services under immense and largely unaddressed pressure. While this frustration does not excuse xenophobic violence, it does demand a serious response from the government.

NAPTOSA demands that the Department of Home Affairs and the Border Management Authority immediately:

-  Treat border management as a national security priority and allocate resources accordingly, as comparable countries do.
-  Ensure that every person entering South Africa does so through a legal port of entry and is properly documented, without exception.

-  Accelerate the implementation of the Immigration Amendment Bill with consistent, humane, and lawful enforcement.
-  Fast-track bilateral agreements with neighbouring states on deportation, labour mobility, and cross-border education recognition.
-  Urgently resolve the Home Affairs backlog so that documented South Africans and asylum-seekers are not trapped in legal limbo.
-  Act without delay against foreign crime networks operating with apparent impunity in South African communities.

Yes, to the right to protest. No to anarchy. No to violence. Yes, to the rule of law.

NAPTOSA wishes to place on record that no recognised labour union, including NAPTOSA, has issued a call for a stay-away on 30 June 2026 or on any surrounding date. There is no protected industrial action. Educators who choose not to report for duty on 30 June without an approved leave of absence do so at their own risk. Unauthorised absence from work is a misconduct under employment legislation. Depending on the circumstances and the employer's response, such absence could result in the deduction of pay for the day of absence (no work, no pay); or disciplinary proceedings.

South Africa's future, and the future of every learner in every classroom, depends on a society governed by law, not by mob rule. NAPTOSA stands for order, justice, and honest governance. We call on all South Africans to march peacefully if they choose to do so, to respect the rights of others, and to demand the same accountability from their leaders that they expect from their neighbours.

UNITY BEGINS WITH EACH NATION AND EACH PERSON UPHOLDING THE RULE OF LAW.

Mr BL Manuel
Executive Director