

Capitalist vultures in DA oppose the NHI

THE South African Communist Party (SACP) believes it knows why the DA has the audacity to castigate the National Health Insurance (NHI) system as an unviable proposition. First of all it is, according to a statement released yesterday "a party of white supremacy and the rich" that "casts aspersions and doubt" on the green paper "and the proposals of the NHI". Spokesman Malesela Maleka said the party was "in the pockets of the capitalist vultures in the private capitalist health sector which doesn't care about the health of the majority of our people other than to profit from their illnesses". The SACP believed that the private capitalist health sector "was both inappropriate and unsustainable for our country" as has also recently been confirmed by the World Health Organisation. The DA did not care about improving the quality of life of ordinary South Africans "but is hell-bent on protecting the interests of those who want to make profits out of our people". DA leader Helen Zille wanted to turn voluntary HIV/AIDS counselling and testing "into a lottery" while the real challenges were accessibility and costs "and to move away from a system that is largely curative and not preventative". In the DA's "rush" for political point-scoring, it had ignored the fact that the basis of the NHI and the green paper was the government's 10-point plan on health that focused on quality and the appropriate human resources. "The DA ignores the investment already committed by government to radically improve the infrastructure inequalities that have a racial outlook." The DA's Mike Waters earlier this week argued that the poor were likely to suffer more under the NHI. Its research had shown that there were serious doubts about its feasibility. It would divert billions of rand from other challenges - basic services, education and housing. The SACP said that was "unfounded" research.

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