

**FEDUSA**

**PRESIDENT SPEECH ON POLITICAL SCHOOL**

**August 2023**

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, ESTEEMED DELEGATES, FEDUSA MEMBERS, AND FELLOW COMRADES,**

**GOOD MORNING,**

**AND WELCOME TO THIS HISTORIC OCCASION – THE INAUGURAL FEDERATION OF UNIONS OF SOUTH AFRICA (FEDUSA) POLITICAL SCHOOL. IT IS WITH IMMENSE PRIDE AND ENTHUSIASM THAT I STAND BEFORE YOU AS THE PRESIDENT OF FEDUSA TO OPEN THIS CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO EXPLORING THE INTRICATE WEB OF OUR NATION'S POLITICAL ECONOMY AND ITS PROFOUND IMPACT ON THE LABOR MARKET, BUSINESS, AND SOCIETY AT LARGE.**

**IN THE RAPIDLY EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF TODAY'S WORLD, THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMICS OF POLITICAL ECONOMY CANNOT BE OVERSTATED. WE GATHER HERE WITH A SHARED PURPOSE – TO EMPOWER OURSELVES, OUR AFFILIATES, AND OUR LEADERS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND INSIGHTS NECESSARY TO NAVIGATE THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL ECONOMY. BUT WHAT, YOU MIGHT ASK, IS A POLITICAL SCHOOL, AND WHY IS FEDUSA TAKING THE LEAD IN HOSTING THIS CRUCIAL EVENT?**

**A POLITICAL SCHOOL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DELEGATES, COLLEAGUES, AND FEDUSA MEMBERS, IS NOT JUST A MERE GATHERING OF MINDS; IT IS A PLATFORM FOR ENLIGHTENMENT, EDUCATION, AND EMPOWERMENT. IT IS A SPACE WHERE WE, AS FEDUSA AFFILIATES, COME TOGETHER TO LEARN ABOUT THE INTRICACIES OF POLITICAL ECONOMY WITHIN OUR ORGANIZATION AND OUR NATION. IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DELVE INTO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PUBLIC SERVANTS – THOSE UNSUNG HEROES WHO TIRELESSLY WORK FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR SOCIETY. IT IS A FORUM TO DISSECT THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN BUSINESS, LABOR, AND GOVERNMENT IN SHAPING SOUTH AFRICA'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE. MOREOVER, IT IS A FORUM FOR DIALOGUE ON VITAL TOPICS LIKE SAVING THE IMAGE OF THE PUBLIC SERVANT, EXPLORING THE INTERSECTIONS BETWEEN PUBLIC SERVANTS AND SOCIETY, AND EXAMINING THE STATE OF TRADE UNIONISM IN THE GLOBAL POLITICAL ECONOMY.**

**WHY, YOU MIGHT WONDER, HAS FEDUSA TAKEN UP THE MANTLE TO INITIATE AND HOST THIS SIGNIFICANT ENDEAVOR? THE ANSWER IS ROOTED IN OUR COMMITMENT TO PROGRESS, IN OUR UNWAVERING DEDICATION TO THE CAUSE OF OUR AFFILIATES AND THE WORKERS WE REPRESENT. AS A UNITED FRONT, WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE CRITICAL NEED FOR ENGAGEMENT AND PATH-SEEKING IN ORDER TO REFINE OUR ROLE IN SOUTH AFRICA'S LABOR MARKET AND POLITICAL ECONOMY. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE CHALLENGES WE FACE ARE MULTIFACETED AND ADDRESSING THEM REQUIRES A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THE FORCES THAT SHAPE OUR NATION'S ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL LANDSCAPE.**

**AS THE STEWARDS OF LABOR, IT IS INCUMBENT UPON US TO BE WELL-VERSED IN THESE MATTERS, TO BE INFORMED AND EQUIPPED TO ADVOCATE EFFECTIVELY FOR THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF OUR MEMBERS. BY INVESTING IN OUR KNOWLEDGE AND FOSTERING A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLITICAL ECONOMY, WE STRENGTHEN THE FOUNDATION UPON WHICH OUR MOVEMENT STANDS.**

**FURTHERMORE, OUR COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING AND EMPOWERING FEDUSA'S AFFILIATES AND LEADERS IS AT THE HEART OF THIS ENDEAVOR. WE BELIEVE THAT AN INFORMED LEADERSHIP IS A POWERFUL ONE, CAPABLE OF DRIVING POSITIVE CHANGE FOR OUR MEMBERS AND THE BROADER SOCIETY. THIS POLITICAL SCHOOL SERVES AS A TESTAMENT TO OUR DEDICATION TO EXCELLENCE, GROWTH, AND EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP.**

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DELEGATES AND COLLEAGUES, I STAND HERE TODAY, HUMBLED AND HONORED TO DECLARE THIS INAUGURAL FEDUSA POLITICAL SCHOOL OPEN. LET THE DISCUSSIONS BE FRUITFUL, THE DEBATES ENLIGHTENING, AND THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS INVIGORATING. MAY THIS CONFERENCE MARK THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CHAPTER IN OUR JOURNEY TOWARDS A MORE JUST, EQUITABLE, AND PROSPEROUS SOUTH AFRICA. THANK YOU AND LET US EMBARK ON THIS ENLIGHTENING JOURNEY TOGETHER.**