

CONSTITUTIONALISM FUND

A joint fund of the
Atlantic Philanthropies, Open Society Foundations & the Ford Foundation

MEDIA STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, 22 August 2022 CONSTITUTIONALISM FUND GATHERING CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE END TO ASSASSINATIONS OF ABAHLALI BASEMJONDOLO MEMBERS.

A gathering of non-governmental organisations, hosted by the Constitutionalism Fund on 22 August 2022, has today expressed its solidarity and deepest sympathy with the Abahlali Basemjondolo movement and the family of Lindokuhle Mnguni. The activist and leader was killed quite brutally on Saturday, 20 August 2022. At the time of the shooting, Mnguni was with Sindiswa Ngcobo, who was injured in the attack. She's currently in hospital fighting for her life.

The Constitutionalism Fund and its grantees further called for an immediate end to these continuing and repeated attacks on Abahlali and its members. The Fund also demands immediate and effective action to bring those responsible for these heinous acts of violence and murders before the courts.

The gathering was privileged to be addressed by the President of Abahlali Basemjondolo, Sibusiso Zikode, and its General Secretary, Thapelo Mohapi, on the shocking assassinations of Lindokuhle and 23 other activists in the last few years.

The Constitutionalism Fund and its grantees have pledged their robust and continuing support to assist in addressing the inhumane conditions that Abahlali BaseMjondolo face. The Fund is also calling upon similar organisations to do the same.

Abahlali Basemjondolo is a shack dwellers' movement in South Africa that advocates for land occupations, builds collectives, campaigns against evictions and xenophobia as well as for public housing. It is recognised as the largest organisation of poor people in post-apartheid South Africa.