

# Advocacy Project

## March report

During the period covered by this report the Free Market Foundation has concentrated on the following 22 issues: African Renaissance, Civil Liberties, Competition Policy, Constitution, Crime, Education, Energy (Fuel & Electricity), Financial Markets and Services, Health, Intellectual Property Rights, Labour, Land Reform, Major Economic Issues, Marketing and Retailing (Consumer), Minerals, Privatisation, Rule of Law / Discretionary Powers, Small Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), Tariffs, Transport and Water. E-commerce is a recent addition to this list.

Actions taken in respect of each issue fall into the following categories: Evidence / comments, Workshops / seminars etc, Meetings / networking, Publications, Research / monitoring legislation and Articles / media.

The table on page 16 details the number of actions taken for each issue and category.

In brief, the Foundation has:

- **led evidence / commented on 3 occasions including to:**
  - traditional leaders, Contralesa, Bafokeng Royalty and the National House of Traditional Leaders on *Creating an enabling environment for the peaceful and rapid development of the rural areas of South Africa* (see Attachment 1), and
  - the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Finance on *Capital Gains Tax* (see Attachment 2);
- **convened / attended / spoke at / participated in 34 workshops / seminars, most of these at the request of businesses etc, including:**
  - an Economic Society of South Africa seminar on South African Trade and Export Initiatives at which Minister Alec Irwin (Department of Trade and Industry) spoke, and
  - the launch of the Employment Equity Registry at which Minister Membathisi Mdlalana (Department of Labour) spoke;
- **held 189 meetings with parliamentarians from all political parties and government officials from numerous departments and networked with, for example:**
  - the Western Cape Amalgamated Liquor Traders Association,
  - the South African Property Owners Association, and
  - the Malamulela Social Movement for the Unemployed;
- **produced and disseminated 16 publications including:**
  - *South Africa's battle with AIDS and drug prices* by WD Reekie (Briefing Paper),
  - *Nationalising the taxi industry: What not to do* by JM Harris (Briefing Paper), and
  - *Black markets and smuggling: An unintended consequence of government intervention* by R Bate (Occasional Paper);
- **conducted research and monitored legislation on 34 occasions; and**
- **published articles or been quoted in the media or networked with reporters 16 times, for example:**
  - the *Cape Times* published '*Human capital*' crucial to SA's economic growth which quoted from both Prof Richard Epstein and Justice Pius Langa, speakers at the Foundation's July 27 Good Law conference'
  - the *Sowetan* carried *Brilliant idea – but will it work?* and quoted Leon Louw in respect of taxi regulation, and

- the *Sowetan* carried ‘Raise tax exemption to R1-m’ which quoted from Prof Brian Kantor’s submission, on behalf of the Foundation, on capital gains tax.

The Free Market Foundation’s Cape Town office continues to be primarily responsible for the *Advocacy Project* which aims to:

- improve existing legislation and encourage new legislative initiatives which will provide a better legal and administrative environment for free enterprise;
- develop a consensus among a broad spectrum of representatives from government, business, academia and the NGO sector regarding the development of the private sector;
- strengthen the ability of the Cape Town facility to influence policies which are important to the private enterprise environment; and
- increase government and public awareness and understanding of the issues relevant to the private sector which are, or should be, part of the legislative debate.

Issues	Evidence / Comments	Workshops / Seminars	Meetings / Networking	Publications *	Research / Monitoring	Articles / Media
African Renaissance	1	0	13	0	0	2
Civil Liberties	0	1	1	2	1	0
Competition Policy	0	1	33	0	1	0
Constitution	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0
E-commerce	0	0	2	0	0	0
Education	0	0	0	0	0	0
Energy (Fuel & Electricity)	0	0	2	0	0	0
Financial Markets and Services	1	0	11	2	12	3
Health	0	2	21	3	5	0
Intellectual Property Rights	0	2	1	0	0	0
Labour	1	3	43	1	0	0
Land Reform	0	0	9	1	0	0
Major Economic Issues	0	6	20	4	1	8
Marketing and Retailing	0	1	3	1	0	0
Minerals	0	4	4	0	3	0
Privatisation	0	0	1	0	4	0
Rule of Law / Discretionary Powers	0	1	0	0	0	0
Small Medium Micro Enterprises	0	2	7	0	0	0
Tariffs	0	0	2	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	9	2	2	1
Water	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	11	7	0	5	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>16</b>

### August report

During the period covered by this report the Free Market Foundation has concentrated on the following issues: African Renaissance, Civil Liberties, Competition Policy, Constitution, Crime, Education, Energy (Fuel & Electricity), Financial Markets and Services, Health, Intellectual Property Rights, Labour, Land Reform, Major Economic Issues, Marketing and Retailing (Consumer), Minerals, Privatisation, Rule of Law / Discretionary Powers, Small Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), Tariffs, Transport and Water. Both E-commerce and the Liberal Social Project are recent additions to this list.

Actions taken in respect of each issue fall into the following categories: Evidence / comments, Workshops / seminars etc, Meetings / networking, Publications, Research / monitoring legislation and Articles / media.

The table on p.12 details the number of actions taken for each issue and category. (\* **Note:** Does not include articles written for / published on the FMF website.)

In brief, the Foundation has:

led **evidence** / commented on **7** occasions including to:

- the Department of Communication on the Green Paper on E-Commerce,
- the Department of Minerals and Energy on the Mineral Development Bill, and
- the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Justice on the Interception and Monitoring Bill;

convened / attended / spoke at / participated in **13 workshops / seminars**, most of these at the request of businesses etc, including:

- a social welfare / poverty relief workshop with Minister David Malatsi (Poverty Relief and Social Welfare), and
- the launch of the Learnership Programme. Guest speakers included the Minister of Labour (M Mdladlana) and the Minister of Education (Prof Kader Asmal);

held **133 meetings** with parliamentarians from all political parties and government officials from numerous departments and networked with, for example:

- Egoli Water,
- the South African Long Distance Taxi Association, and
- the Young President's Organisation;

produced and disseminated **6 publications** including:

- *Economic freedom of the world: 2001 annual report* by J Gwartney & R Lawson (book),
- *Capital Gains Tax: The pros and cons* by O Staszczuk (Monograph), and
- *The Asset Forfeiture Unit – a warning from history* by RW Vivian (Briefing Paper);

conducted **research** and **monitored legislation** on **46** occasions; and

published articles or been quoted in the **media** or networked with reporters **26** times, for example:

- Temba Nolutshungu's article *End the fuel price tyranny* was published in the *Cape Argus*;
- Leon Louw's article *It's time to delegislate and simplify life* appeared in the *Natal Mercury*;
- Eustace Davie's article *Keeping SA in the global hunt* dealt with the mineral rights issue and was published in the *Cape Times*;
- an edited excerpt from Richard Grant's *Monograph* was published in *The Star* and headed *Link rand to dollar, euro and gold*.

The Free Market Foundation's Cape Town office in Spin Street just five minutes from Parliament continues to be primarily responsible for the *Advocacy Project* which aims to:

- improve existing legislation and encourage new legislative initiatives which will provide a better legal and administrative environment for free enterprise;
- develop a consensus among a broad spectrum of representatives from government, business, academia and the NGO sector regarding the development of the private sector;
- strengthen the ability of the Cape Town facility to influence policies which are important to the private enterprise environment; and
- increase government and public awareness and understanding of the issues relevant to the private sector which are, or should be, part of the legislative debate.