



Women on Farms Project (WFP)

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PRESS RELEASE: ACCESS TO JUSTICE IS NOT A PRIVILEGE – IT IS A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT

In the spirit of International Worker's Day, Women on Farms Project (WFP) invites you to a full day of protest action on **Tues 5 May 2026**. The events for Worker's Day follow.

Stop the export of cyanamide for agricultural purposes to South Africa!

DATE: 5 May 2026
TIME: 09:00 – 10:30
VENUE: Corner of R44 Broadway and De Beers Avenue, Somerset West.

For a second consecutive year, WFP, together with their German partners – Pesticide Action Network Germany, INKOTA Network and the Association of Ethical Shareholders Germany – have participated, through protest, at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of AlzChem.

AlzChem is the German pesticide producer responsible for exporting cyanamide to South Africa; the active ingredient of Dormex – a growth regulator used extensively on table and wine grape in the Western Cape. Due to severe health and environmental damage, cyanamide first lost its market approval in Europe in 2008; yet it continues to be used by South African farm workers without proper training, protective clothing or compensation when exposed. **In protest, WFP will picket outside the offices of Philagro, the registration holder of Dormex in South Africa, in Somerset West.**

Parallel to WFP's protest action, the **Just World Trade Network will also be picketing outside of the offices of AlzChem in Trostberg, Germany**. As ethical shareholders, the above-mentioned German partners will present their arguments supporting the export ban of cyanamide inside of **AlzChem's online AGM**.

Stop systematically underfunding of the CCMA!

DATE: 5 May 2026
TIME: 10:00 -12:30
VENUE: Ashley Kriel Hall, Community House, 41 Salt River Rd
Followed by a **protest march to the Department of Employment and Labour**, beginning at **13:00 at Hanover Street Parking Lot**.

The Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) was created to "advance economic development, social justice, labour peace, and the democratisation of the workplace." Yet systematic underfunding and budget cuts, have severely weakened the institution causing a growing caseload and backlog that result in delays in the scheduling of hearings. The increased reliance of online meetings has further jeopardised farm workers meaningful access to the CCMA. Joining 100 farmwomen to discuss the impact of these CCMA budget cuts will be Colleen West, Operational Manager of the CCMA and Aliya Chikte, Researcher at the Alternative Information and Development Centre (AIDC).



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A memorandum of demands directed to the (1) Minister of Employment and Labour, Minister Nomakhosazana Meth, (2) Executive Director of the CCMA, Mpumelelo Nconco and (3) Minister of Finance, Enoch Godongwana will be delivered after the protest action. **WFP requests a written response from all three parties by 26 May 2026 and a meeting with Minister Meth, and Mr. Nconco by the 30 June 2028.**

For further details, contact:

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END