

CROSSING THE FLOOR

Multi Stakeholder Conference
October 2007
M Hendrickse

Reasons for unsuccessful crossing



- Any one of the requirements not met e.g.
 - 10% requirement is not met;
 - Notification submitted before or after the window period;
 - Not a councillor;
 - Non-Acceptance by receiving party;
 - PR to Independent
 - Change membership more than once

Floor crossing since 2002



	2002	2004	2007
Number of Municipal Councils	178	164	128
Number of Councillors	559	493	250

Councillor Movement per Province



PROVINCE	2002	2004	2007
Eastern Cape	34	54	26
Free State	47	34	16
Gauteng	75	60	18
KwaZulu Natal	62	55	45
Limpopo	42	62	18
Mpumalanga	42	42	15
North West	44	30	34
Northern Cape	66	49	14
Western Cape	147	107	64

Gain / Loss since 2002



Party	Total Gained	Total Loss	Nett Effect
ACDP	9	22	-13
ANC	538	44	494
DA	104	485	-381
ID	52	40	12
IFP	31	42	-11
NNP	355	289	
PAC	2	74	-72
UCDP	3	45	-42
UDM	13	82	-69

Parties & Independents



- **Total of 78 parties have been impacted by floor crossing over the 3 floor events at local level.**
- **Of these, 61 are not parties represented in Parliament.**

- **37 councillors became Independent while 34 Independent councillors joined parties.**

EXPERIENCES



- **Plethora of Court cases prior and during window period re expulsions.**
- **Persons not councillors.**
- **Attempts of withdrawal of notices.**
- **Internal disputes within parties**



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- **Double crossing -Two notices from councillor moving from the original party but to different destinations.**
 - **Multiple Crossing (From Party A to Party B, and then from Party B on to Party C (etc) within same window period.**



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- **Allegations of fraud**
 - **Allegations of bribery attempts**
 - **Allegations of “no knowledge”**
 - **Allegations of duping**
 - **Allegations of Theft and coercion**

Impact



- **Multi party democracy (Positive and Negative)**
- **Governance (Positive and Negative)**
- **Participation in Regular elections and Results**
- **Public Funding of Political Parties**

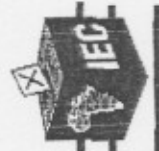
Changes and or Amendments



- **No floor crossing**
- **Floor crossing only in regard to wards**
- **Floor crossing only to parties already represented**
- **Registration of parties – different requirements for parties formed for floor crossing e.g. 1000 signatures for national and provincial**



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- **Right of recall – to balance floor crossing**
 - **Split terms of Office ($\frac{1}{2}$ elected every 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years ?)**
 - **Legislative Empowerment to Commission to make Regulations**
 - **Electoral Court jurisdiction - sanctions**



Thank you for your kind attention

Michael Hendrickse