**COSATU Mourns the Death of Samir Amin**

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) has learned with deep sadness about the death of the renowned Marxist thinker and economist, Samir Amin who passed away on Sunday, 12th August 2018 on the eve of his 87th birthday.

Samir Amin stands within the intellectual canon of African revolutionary thinkers who used his insights, teachings and writings to propagate the message of socialism and thus influencing generations of workers.

In fact, he was not a mere arm-chair theorist who used Marxist tools to analyse contemporary realities as a form of detached intellectual activity. Rather, he was a passionately committed activist who used his intellectual activity practically. Thus, he was forever organising fellow activists and associating himself closely with progressive forces.

Samir Amin leaves behind a wealth of economic thought particularly on developing economies including the African continent which he has inspired and produced since the early sixties by his many publications and thought-provoking public engagements.

He played an outstanding role in coordinating the work of the African Social Forum, the continental version of the World Social Forum. In it, he championed a profound movement for Africa we want and advanced alternatives.

COSATU has learned tremendously from his fountain of knowledge and subsequently shared his socialist convictions. His prolific Marxist work will continue to be a reference point for a long time to come.

COSATU salutes him for his contribution in championing the cause of the workers and the poor. We lower our banners in honour of this courageous and forward-thinking patriot, who never abandoned the cause for social justice. We remain inspired by his dedication and bravery to the cause of the poor and the working class.

May his soul rest in peace!

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