

GUIDELINES TOWARDS THE PROVINCIAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLIES AND FOR LAUNCHING OF BRANCHES OF THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS: JANUARY 2017.

A. INTRODUCTION

The Guidelines presented underneath are about consolidation of the EFF as a representative and organic political formation that will be able to reach out to all the people in South Africa. The Economic Freedom Fighters have entered a critical stage in its development, growth, and expansion as an economic emancipation movement. As a movement of the people, the EFF should necessarily be amongst the people and should exist in all corners of South Africa.

The first phase of the EFF's formation was establishment with the immediate task of contesting the 2014 General Elections, the 2016 Local Government Elections. The phase we are entering into now involves building the organization. To do so, guidelines should be provided to all members and structures of the EFF across South Africa so as to ensure that there is standard and consistent form of how the EFF is organised on the ground.

Below we present a step-by-step guideline on how EFF Branches should be constituted and launched in preparation of the Regional People's Assemblies and Provincial People's Assemblies. The guidelines contained here are a result of the Central Command Team (CCT) decisions based on lessons derived from the first phase of establishing the EFF. As the highest decision making body, the CCT resolved that that these guidelines are supreme and framework on how the organization should be built to respond to the challenges of society.

B. KEY TERMS AND CONCEPTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THESE GUIDELINES:

For purposes of these guidelines, it is important to clarify the meaning of each and every concept, so as to guide members and leaders of the EFF at all levels.

- 1) **BRANCH PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (BPA):** Branch People's Assembly refers to a properly constituted meeting of the EFF at Ward Level, whose tasks should necessarily include the election of the Branch Command Team (BCT). This meeting is only attended by paid up members of the EFF in a specific ward and deployees from upper structures of the EFF, having been audited before they sit.
- 2) **BRANCH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (BGA):** Branch General Assembly refers to a properly constituted meeting of the EFF, convened by the Branch Command Team (BCT), and whose task may include selection/election of delegates to Assemblies of upper structures or discussion of political and organisational matters confronting the area where the Branch is located. Voting in the Branch General Assembly is only limited to members of the EFF in that specific ward.



- 3) **BRANCH COMMAND TEAM (BCT):** Branch Command Team refers to a committee, which is elected in a Branch People's Assembly by members of the EFF in a specific ward. The BCT should have a 1) Chairperson, 2) Deputy Chairperson, 3) Secretary, 4) Deputy Secretary, 5) Treasurer, and 10 Additional Members.
- 4) **WARD COMMAND TEAM (WCT):** Ward Command Team refers to an interim committee of 10 members of the EFF whose responsibility is recruitment and mobilisation for the EFF before a Branch People's Assembly elects a Branch Command Team. Of the 10 Members, 1 must be a Convenor and the other must be a Coordinator. A Ward Command Team must be appointed by a designated RCT Member. A Ward shall be established in terms of page 4 paragraph 7 of these guidelines, with a minimum of 10 Voting Districts.
- 5) **BRANCH IN GOOD STANDING:** A "branch in good standing" is a ward based branch which has a minimum of 100 members and has gone to a Branch People's Assembly with a quorum of 50% + 1 of the membership to elect leadership, adopt a programme of action, and meeting regularly to implement the programme of action. A branch in good standing is a branch that, before it went to its BPA, held BGA's in at least 5 VD's.
- 6) **REGIONAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (RPA):** Regional People's Assembly refers to a properly constituted meeting of the EFF in a region, which is defined as per the South African government's demarcation of District and/or Metropolitan Municipality. A Regional People's Assembly is legitimate only when a minimum of 90% of Wards in a specific region have existing branches in good standing, and its tasks should necessarily include the election of a Regional Command Team (RCT). The RPA can also be a platform to make regional nominations for members of the EFF who should serve at a Provincial or Central Command Teams level.
- 7) **REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (RGA):** Regional General Assembly is a properly constituted meeting of the EFF convened to discuss political and policy issues confronting the organization. The RGA can, in certain circumstances specified by the Central Command Team, fill vacancies in the RCT caused as a result of, but not limited to: resignations, redeployment or election into an upper structure of the EFF of any of its members. The RGA can also be a platform to make regional nominations for members of the EFF who should serve at a Provincial or Central Command Teams level.
- 8) **REGIONAL COMMAND TEAM (RCT):** Regional Command Team refers to an interim or elected committee of 15 members of the EFF whose task is to coordinate work of the EFF in a region they exist in. In the case of an interim RCT, the committee should have a Convenor and Coordinator. In the case of an elected RCT, the committee should have 1) Chairperson, 2) Deputy Chairperson, 3) Secretary, 4) Deputy Secretary, 5) Treasurer and 10 Additional Members.
- 9) **PROVINCIAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (PPA):** Provincial People's Assembly refers to a properly constituted meeting of the EFF in a Province, which is defined as per the South African government's demarcation of Provinces. A Provincial People's Assembly is legitimate only when a minimum of 90% of Wards in a specific Province have existing branches in good standing, and its tasks



should necessarily include the election of a Provincial Command Team. The PPA is constituted by delegates from branches of the EFF in the specific province and representatives of RCTs.

- 10) **PROVINCIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (PGA):** Provincial General Assembly is a properly constituted meeting of the EFF convened to discuss political and policy issues confronting the organization. The PGA can, in certain circumstances specified by the Central Command Team, fill vacancies in the PCT caused as a result of, but not limited to: resignations, redeployment or election into an upper structure of the EFF of any of its members. The PGA can also be a platform to make provincial nominations for members of the EFF who should serve at Central Command Team Level.
- 11) **PROVINCIAL COMMAND TEAM (PCT):** Provincial Command Team refers to an interim or elected committee of 21 members of the EFF whose task is to coordinate work of the EFF in a Province they exist in. In the case of an interim PCT, the committee should have a Convenor and Coordinator. In the case of an elected PCT, the committee should have 1) Chairperson, 2) Deputy Chairperson, 3) Secretary, 4) Deputy Secretary, 5) Treasurer and 16 Additional Members.
- 12) **NATIONAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (NPA):** The National People's Assembly is the highest decision making body and is constituted of delegates from all EFF branches in good standing, delegates from the RCTs and PCTs in a formula decided and communicated by the Central Command Team. The NPA should necessarily elect a Central Command Team constituted by the following portfolios: 1) President, 2) Deputy President, 3) Secretary General, 4) Deputy Secretary General, 5) Central Chairperson, 6) Treasurer General, and 35 Additional Members. The National People's Assembly is the highest body in terms of policy, political, and ideological positions of the EFF.
- 13) **CENTRAL COMMAND TEAM (CCT):** Central Command Team is the highest decision making body in between National People's Assemblies and oversees the work of the organization as a whole. The CCT performs the tasks given to it by the National People's Assembly (NPA), and works towards attainment of the core objectives of the EFF in conjunction with all structures of the EFF. The CCT has the right to give guidance to all structures of the EFF and make interventions where there is distortion and destruction of the organization.
- 14) **PROVINCIAL INTERIM LEADERSHIP CORE (PILC):** The Interim Leadership Core is a leadership structure appointed by the Central Command Team to perform all functions and duties of the EFF at a Provincial Level where there is no elected Provincial Command Team.
- 15) **REGIONAL INTERIM LEADERSHIP CORE (RILC):** The Regional Interim Leadership Core is a leadership structure appointed by the Provincial Interim Leadership Core or Provincial Command Team to perform all functions and duties of the EFF at a Regional Level where there is no elected Regional Command Team.
- 16) **SUB-REGIONAL COMMAND TEAM (SRCT):** Sub-Regional Command Team refers to an interim or elected co-ordinating and functional structure in terms of approved guidelines of the establishment of Sub Regional Structures by



CCT. In the case of an interim SRCT, the committee should have a Convenor and Coordinator. In the case of an elected SRCT, the committee should have 1) Chairperson, 2) Deputy Chairperson, 3) Secretary, 4) Deputy Secretary, 5) Treasurer, and 10 Additional Members. In the context of a District Municipality, a Sub-region will be the Local Municipality and in the context of Metro Municipality, a sub-region will be the designated Zone approved by the War Council. Sub-regional structures only established with the initiation of CCT Members for functional purposes.

C. GUIDELINES ON BRANCH PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLIES:

- 1) The CCT has appointed Provincial Leadership Cores in the disbanded provinces and War Council is mandated to oversee the work of the PILC, with the permissible option of reviewing these appointments if there is no work done satisfactorily. This principle shall also apply to RILC.
- 2) The Provincial LEADERSHIP Cores are convened by members of the CCT, and shall include the Regional Coordinators who would have been appointed in the Regional Interim Leadership Cores.
- 3) The Provincial Interim Leadership Core shall establish Regional Interim Leadership Core(s) (RILC) of 10 Fighters, whose functions and responsibilities will be leadership and coordination of EFF work in the designated region(s).
- 4) The PILC shall meet at least once every two weeks to receive reports on the work of the organisation as outlined in these guidelines, and Convenor must prepare bi-weekly reports for the War Council.
- 5) Members of the RILC should be dedicated Fighters of the EFF in good standing and should preferably not be available for any Official leadership position in the organisation. The RILC shall meet bi-weekly.
- 6) The Regional Interim Leadership Core (RILC) should put in place Sub Regional Interim Leadership Cores of 10 members per sub region. The SRILCs must be approved by the PILC. The RILC itself must also be approved by the PILC
- 7) The SRILC shall appoint 1 Member of the EFF per Ward (Ward Convenor) who will be responsible for the coordination of EFF in the specified Ward, and such a person shall preferably not be from the Ward they are deployed in. The appointed Branch Convenors must be approved in a formal and official meeting of the RILC.
- 8) Each branch of the EFF should be constituted of a minimum of 100 members of a Ward (representative of all areas, sections, phases, voting districts, and villages in all wards) recruited by members of the EFF and all information submitted to the SRCT.
- 9) The Ward Convenor shall make sure that all recruited members of the EFF are registered voters and come from all Voting Stations.
- 10) There must be EFF Branch General Assemblies in all Voting Districts for recruitment, political education and mobilisation before the formal Branch People's Assembly is convened to elect branch leadership.
- 11) The original Membership forms of each branch should be submitted to the regional office with the proof of payment of each form for filing and printing



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- of membership cards, while the branch retains copies of all the membership forms of their members, and giving a copy of the membership form to each member who joined before they receive their membership card.
- 12) Branches must only submit membership forms to the Regional Office when they have recruited a minimum of 100 paid up members.
 - 13) Only membership forms with a bank stamp or an attached bank receipt of R10 per membership form will be regarded as a valid membership of the EFF.
 - 14) Only paid up members can be captured into an excel spreadsheet or EFF Membership system, and a branch membership file clearly designated as a file of a specific WARD.
 - 15) Once membership has been confirmed to be a minimum of 100 members in a ward, the Ward Convenor/BRANCH Secretary shall write a letter to the Regional Command Team or RILC asking for a deployee from the RILC/RCT or assigned by the Regional Coordinator/Secretary to preside over their Branch People's Assembly (BPA).
 - 16) A Ward must be audited by the RCT or RILC to ascertain if it qualifies to go for a BPA. After satisfying themselves that it qualifies for a BPA, they must send a RCT, PCT or CCT member to preside over the BPA.
 - 17) The Regional Coordinator/Secretary is the only person who can write letters stating that the RCT has approved the convening of the BPA, and stating the names of the deployees to the BPA and should communicate all RCT deployments to the BPAs.
 - 18) Sub-regional Command Teams, PCT and CCT Members who preside over the Branch People's Assemblies should have an approval letter from the Regional Coordinator/Secretary to preside over the BPA and must present an attendance register generated from the paid up members of the EFF.
 - 19) The BPA should be constituted by a quorum of 50% + 1 of the total membership of the Branch, meaning that the BPA will only be acknowledged and recognised as legitimate only when half of its members + 1 or more are in the meeting and rotational BGA has been held in all the VD's.
 - 20) All members attending the BPA should sign two attendance registers, and write their contact details on both the attendance registers. Members should be reminded that the signatures they used on the membership forms should be similar to the signatures they put on the attendance registers.
 - 21) Once a quorum of 50% + 1 has been reached, the deployee from the RCT should preside over the meeting, and present a political overview, which covers the Founding Manifesto of the EFF and local challenges, to all members.
 - 22) After the presentation of the political overview, the RCT deployee should ask for nomination of the Branch Command Team (BCT), whose positions should be Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Treasurer.
 - 23) After the election of the Top 5 positions, the deployee should preside over the nomination and election of 10 additional members.
 - 24) In instances where there is contestation for the Branch Command Team, voting shall be by show of hands.



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- 25) All BCTs of the EFF shall be constituted by a minimum of 50% females, meaning that in a BCT of 15 Members, a minimum of 7 shall be females.
- 26) After the election, the newly elected Chairperson shall address the BPA on what he/she believe are the immediate tasks to build and grow the EFF in their wards.
- 27) After the meeting, the RCT deployee shall take the attendance register, and leave the second copy with the newly elected BCT.
- 28) In the BPA, all members of the Branch shall elect two delegates who will represent the Branch in the upcoming Regional People's Assembly (RPA) and Provincial People's Assembly (PPA).
- 29) The two delegates should be gender balanced, meaning that one should be male and one should be female. Alternatively, election of two females is permissible. But under no circumstances should it be two males.
- 30) Depending on the decision of the Branch, the delegations to the Regional or Provincial can be the same people or different people, as long as they are members of the EFF in the ward that is electing delegates.
- 31) The delegates elected should be clearly designated that they are for which Assembly, and no replacement of delegates will be accepted once their names have been submitted for audit purposes under any circumstances.
- 32) The names of the delegates elected for each of the Assemblies should be clearly stated in the report presented by the deployees to the Regional Coordinator/Secretary and a copy retained with the Branch.
- 33) **The RCT, PCT, RILC, PILC should immediately audit all the Branch People's Assemblies and inform the branch on time that their BPA is approved or not approved based on membership, quorum and all the requirements stated in these guidelines.**

D. REGIONAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY:

- 1) **All Regions that are convening RPAs must necessarily follow the process outlined above prior to Branch People's Assemblies and Branch General Assemblies that will elect delegates to the RPA. This means that the branches must have BGAs in all VDs before the main BPA/BGP to elect branch leadership and delegates to the RPA.**
- 2) The Regional People's Assembly shall be constituted by delegates from all Branches of the EFF in good standing in a demarcation of a District or Metropolitan Municipality.
- 3) For RPA to happen, a minimum of 90% of WARDS in the Region should have gone to their Branch People's Assemblies, and elected Branch Command Teams, and also elected delegates to the RPA.
- 4) The Audit on the validity of the BPAs will be conducted by a Team from the Central Command Team, and will strictly monitor and assess whether the BPAs happened within the stipulated period and whether all people whose signatures are on the attendance register attended the BGAs or BPAs.
- 5) Only branches that have held meetings in all the Voting Districts will qualify to convene a BPA.



- 6) Once the CCT Audit Team is satisfied that all requirements have been met for the convening of a Regional People's Assembly, the Secretary General shall write a letter to the Province summoning the convening of the Regional People's Assembly, which should necessarily be presided by members of the Central Command Team in the presence of the Provincial Command Team.
- 7) The RPA shall elect its Regional Command Team, which shall include the following: Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Treasurer.
- 8) The RPA shall elect 10 additional members into the RPA, and a minimum of 7 females shall constitute the total 15 members of the Regional Command Team.
- 9) In instances where there is contestation, voting shall be by secret ballot in a transparent and open process which should be observed by a minimum of 5 and maximum of 7 delegates to the RPA.
- 10) The elected Regional Chairperson and Secretary will be members of the Provincial Command Team.

E. PROVINCIAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY:

- 1) The Provincial People's Assembly will only be convened when a minimum of 90% of the Wards in the Province have branches in good standing.
- 2) The Provincial People's Assembly will be constituted of delegates from branches, who should constitute a minimum of 80% of voting delegates to the Provincial People's Assembly; 5 VOTING delegates from each of the elected RCTs (inclusive of regional Chairperson and Secretary), and Members of the existing PCT.
- 3) The Provincial People's Assembly shall only happen when a minimum of 90% of the total number of wards in a province have launched their branches and they are in good standing.
- 4) The Chairperson/Convenor of the PCT shall present a comprehensive Political Report to the PPA and Secretary/Coordinator shall present a comprehensive Organisational Report to the PPA, which will be discussed and adopted by the PPA.
- 5) The Provincial People's Assembly shall elect a Provincial Command Team, which should have the following positions: Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Treasurer.
- 6) The Provincial People's Assembly shall elect 16 additional members of the Provincial Command Team (PCT).
- 7) Overall, a minimum of 50% of the Provincial Command Team shall be females.
- 8) In the instance where there is contestation of leadership positions in the PCT, a secret ballot will be presented by an Independent Electoral Body, which will ensure free and fair elections.

F. KEY DATES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE GUIDELINES: FOR EARLY RPAs and PPAs; UNLAUNCHED REGIONS AND ALL DISBANDED REGIONS.



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- 1) Recruitment and renewal of Membership: Ongoing.
- 2) Establishment of RILCs: before the 31st of January 2017.
- 3) Establishment of SRILCs and appointment of Branch Convenors: before the 29th of February 2017.
- 4) Branch People's Assemblies: 1st March to 30 June 2017.
- 5) Regional People's Assemblies: 1 July to 31 July 2017.
- 6) Provincial People's Assemblies: August 2017.
- 7) When the 90% threshold is reached, the RCT or RILC shall write to the provincial Secretary or provincial Coordinator to ask for a date of the RPA or PPA, which will be convened and presided by the CCT.
- 8) When the Province reaches 90% threshold of branches in good standing, the PCT/ PILC shall write to the Secretary General to ask for a date for the PGA or PPA, which will be convened and presided by the CCT
- 9) These guidelines shall also be applicable to regions and provinces that intend to hold PGA's to fill in vacancies, and to regions that were disbanded.
- 10) **ALL REGIONS THAT ARE NOT COVERED IN THE DATES ABOVE MUST HOLD THEIR RPAs before the 31st of OCTOBER 2017, and the dates of these RPAs must be approved by WAR COUNCIL prior to the commencement of the process outlined here.**

G. NOMINATIONS FOR THE COMMAND TEAMS

- 1) All branches have the right through their BPAs and BGAs to discuss the leadership question and nominate individuals they deem suitable for the leadership of the EFF at all levels.
- 2) Branches retain the right to canvass and be canvassed on their choice of leadership and can, together with other branches, determine a regional perspective on the leadership question.
- 3) Regional People's and General Assemblies will also develop regional perspectives on the leadership question in a free, fair and democratic environment and practice.
- 4) The regional perspective is not constitutionally binding on branches, but used as a mechanism to guide and mold regional perspectives and views towards the Provincial and Provincial People's Assemblies.
- 5) After developing their perspectives, branches and regions are not allowed to make any media comment or statement on their choice of leadership as this has potential to present a polarized organization towards Assemblies
- 6) Nominations and Elections Provincial and Regional People's Assemblies will, be facilitated and overseen by the Electoral Commission appointed by the War Council and decided through ballot in cases of contest, in a free, fair and democratic environment.
- 7) The Provincial People's Assembly's positions on leadership is however not constitutionally binding on branches, as they retain the right to canvass and be canvassed based on their branch positions. This reinforces the position that the Assembly of the EFF is a People's Assembly, for branches.

H. NOMINATION PROCEDURE:



- 1) Only voting delegates representing branches, regional or Provincial Command Teams have the right to nominate and vote in Provincial People's Assemblies.
- 2) Only voting delegates representing Branch, Regional, Provincial Teams have the right to nominate and vote in the National People's Assembly.
- 3) In nominating for any position, 30% of the voting delegates in a Regional, Provincial or National People's assembly should support the name/individual nominated for the name/individual to be included on ballot paper.
- 4) In instances where there is more than one name qualifying for ballot, the Electoral Commission shall prepare a ballot paper which includes the correct identification of names/individuals nominated for respective positions.
- 5) All voting for positions in Branch, Regional, or Provincial People's Assemblies will be by show of hands or secret ballot in the event whereby there is contestation, and counting of votes shall be manual.

I. THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION SHALL:

- 1) Prepare the ballot papers as directed by the Constitution;
- 2) Make adequate preparations for voting by secret ballot where applicable including the provision of ballot boxes and the setting up of a machinery for effective supervision and counting of votes;
- 3) Establish further procedures for voting and handle any dispute arising;
- 4) Announce the results of all ballots;
- 5) The Chairperson of the Electoral Commission shall verify that the names of all candidates are accurately captured on the ballot paper and sign it off before it can be printed.

J. CODE OF CONDUCT AND GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- 1) The EFF's an organization that is rooted in high discipline and good conduct. It is a movement that appreciates that discipline is a critical and the most important weapon in the struggle for radical economic revolution. Without discipline, the struggle and fight for economic freedom will not succeed.
- 2) All gatherings of the EFF shall discuss the Founding Manifesto and make reflections of political and ideological questions relevant for that moment.
- 3) No leader in the EFF shall occupy more than 1 position in various levels of the organization, meaning that no one can be a branch and regional leader at the same time, or regional and provincial leader at the same time or provincial and central command team leader at the same time. Upon resumption of a position on a different level, whoever is elected loses their previous position in the organization.
- 4) During this period, no member of the EFF should be suspended or expelled without the knowledge and approval of the CCT, and no structure of the EFF shall be disbanded or dissolved without the knowledge and approval of the CCT.



- 5) The following should constitute wrongful lobbying practices and unacceptable ways of influencing the leadership election processes:
- a. Raising and using funds and other resources to campaign for election for yourself and others;
 - b. Distributing money to EFF members and structures as part of campaign for leadership positions;
 - c. Production of t-shirts, posters and other paraphernalia to promote a particular list of candidates;
 - d. Promising positions or other incentives or threatening to withhold such, as a means of gaining support;
 - e. Using the media to promote a particular list of candidates and to spread malicious rumours, falsehoods or allegations against those with whom you disagree;
 - f. Leaking confidential information to the media; secret interaction with journalists with the intention to get them to write stories on internal organizational issues or communicating internal decisions or processes to the media without due authorization;
 - g. Negative campaigning, which relates, to attacks on the integrity of other comrades both within the structures of the movement and in other forums; Suppressing honest and legitimate debate about the caliber of candidates in formal meetings of the movement;
 - h. Manipulating membership figures or engaging in fraudulent membership recruitment practices;
 - i. Misleading the audit team that Assemblies achieved quorum even when they did not reach quorum.
 - j. Collecting signatures of members from their homes for the purposes of the Branch People's Assembly, and presenting a picture that they attended the meeting while they did not.
 - k. Allowing structures or individuals to condone violation of constitutional provisions and/or regulations, and/or failing to report such violations when they occur;
 - l. Using the offices, resources and staff of the EFF or any state institutions or company as a machinery to promote a particular list of candidates;
 - m. Using violence, intimidation and threats to coerce those who hold a different view;
 - n. Setting up structures outside the organisation to promote or lobby for a particular candidate(s);
 - o. Convening meetings to discuss leadership issues under the false pretext that they are organized constitutional structures;
 - p. Production and distribution of documents and pamphlets not approved by the structures of the organisation will not be allowed.
 - q. All disputes regarding the outcomes of the BPA, RPA, PPA should be lodged with the Regional Secretary or Coordinator, Provincial Secretary or Coordinator, or the Secretary General in writing within 48 hours.



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- r. The Code of Revolutionary Conduct shall be applicable to any of the offences mentioned in Paragraph J 5
- s. Using of social networks, such as Facebook, Whatsapp or Twitter will not be allowed.

K. CONCLUSION

The EFF has entered a critical stage of organisational building and all members should exercise maximum discipline and ensure that all that happens is aimed ultimately in attaining economic freedom in our lifetime. Maximum discipline and adherence to this process and guidelines will bear maximum fruits.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'R' followed by a smaller, less distinct signature.