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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON INDEPENDENT **ELECTORAL COMMISSION**

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FIRST INTERIM REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON THE INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION DATED 13 MAY 1993

- 1. Following the Briefing Meeting held with the Planning Committee on Monday 10 May 1993, the Committee held initial discussions regarding the ambit of its brief and the manner in which it would proceed with its task.
- 2. In order to facilitate its further consultation, it has prepared a first rough draft of a statute providing for the establishment of an Independent Electoral Commission and the various other matters which require enactment.
- 3. Lengthy discussion has taken place concerning the provisions of the proposed statute, resulting in the necessity to incorporate extensive amendments in order that the second draft should reflect the preliminary proposals of the Committee. In the circumstances, it is not proposed to distribute the first rough draft prior to its amendment, in view of the fact that the next draft will be available shortly and will be a more appropriate document.
- 4. The Committee is now engaged in the process of drafting the required amendments and will meet again on Sunday in order to review the document in the light of various submissions received.
- 5. Written submissions have been received from the following parties:
 - * African National Congress
 - * South African Government
 - * Lawyers for Human Rights
 - * Government of the Republic of Bophuthatswana
 - Democratic Party
 - * PAC
 - Venda Government
- 6. The Committee has also obtained copies of certain comparative legislation including laws enacted in:
 - * United Kingdom
 - United States
 - * Namibia
 - * KwaZulu
 - Zimbabwe (Rhodesia Act)
- 7. The task of the next few days will be to review the submissions and comparative legislation with a view to enhancing the present draft and submitting a first proposal to the Planning Committee as requested by 12h00 on Wednesday 19 May 1993.