

POLBOX 588 CHUDNESPOORT 0745

19-September-1993

The Chairman
Negotiating Council
World Trade Centre
Kempton Park
JOHANNESBURG

ATT: Dr. ELOFF Negotiation Council

Dear Sir

Re: Education crisis in Lebowa:

At a mass meeting held in Lebowakgomo on Friday, 17-September-1993, the community of Lebowakgomo resolved that we should communicate the following to you. That:

- 1. Education in Lebowa ground to a halt since 02-August-1993, owing to the Government's refusal to meet the teachers demands i.e. repayment of monies deducted during the 1991 and 1992 South African Democratic Teachers Union (SADTU) strikes.
- 2. The 1991 and 1992 strikes were sparked off by arbitrary transfer and dismissals of teachers and recognition of SADTU.
- 3. Realising that the deductions effected on their salaries were illegal, SADTU took the matter to the supreme court and the court decided in favour of SADTU.
- 4. To date, the Lebowa government Education Department has failed to comply with the court ruling.
- 5. The prolonged strike impacts negatively on the education of the black children. Moreover, exams are just around the corner and we fear for the worst matric results in Lebowa.
- 6. The people of Lebowa do not think that their future can be shaped by the Lebowa Government because its representatives do not have their interests at heart. This can be attributed to the failure of the Lebowa Government to resolve the education crisis in a peaceful manner. Instead, the said government has responded to peaceful protests against its reluctance to comply with the court order through teargas, brutal assaults and indiscrimi-

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nate arrests.

- 7. It is against this backdrop that we request the Negotiating Council to withdraw representative of the Lebowa Government, Mr.M.J.Mahlangu (who is one of the rotating chairperson) in particular, until they resolve the education crisis in Lebowa.
- 8. This matter is of national importance and we hope you will treat this matter with the urgency it deserves and we look forward to hearing from you

Yours in the struggle

Head of Education Department

Chairperson

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