

MULTIPARTY NEGOTIATION PROCESS
TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON TRANSITIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCILS
POSITION OF THE INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY

WORLD TRADE CENTRE : 18 MAY 1993

The Inkatha Freedom Party participated in discussions in negotiations in CODESA I and II and argued from the outset that a single phase transitional process was needed in South Africa. The IFP rejected the notion of an elected constituent assembly becoming the constitution making body. (See the IFP's position as set out in Appendix A).

In the give and take of negotiations, the IFP was prepared to make concessions in return for concessions made in its favour. In this give and take, the IFP supported the notion of a two-phase transitional process on a clear proviso that nothing would be done to establish transitional mechanisms until an interim constitution had been finalised by CODESA and until a set of constitutional principles had been agreed to which would become binding on the constitution making body.

This concession was further motivated for the IFP by Working Group II agreements that boundaries, powers and structures of regions would be finalised and entrenched in the process before an election would be held.

The IFP remains convinced that a single phase transitional process is required and is adamantly opposed to what it perceives to be the threats to constitutionality by the establishment of Transitional

Executive Councils which could erode the due process of government under a constitution.

The IFP warns against attempts to move towards transitional structures by stealth in the form of establishing all the necessary mechanisms for a transitional government prior to settling the form of State and prior to full agreements about the nature of the political dispensation to be introduced through the transitional mechanisms.

The IFP therefore insists that the work of the Technical Committee on Transitional Executive Councils should be suspended until clarity in the form of state has been established. In fact only once the form of State has been clarified will it be possible to determine the stages and phases of the process of transformation. The determination of the process is a necessary pre-condition for any further discussion on the purposes, role and powers of the Transitional Executive Councils.

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