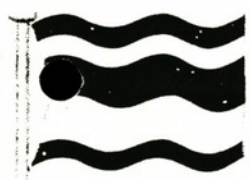


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"Democracy means freedom to choose"



# INKATHA

Addendum G

Inkatha Freedom Party

IQembu leNkatha Yenkululeko

Internal Submission

## PRESS STATEMENT

INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY

MARCH 25, 1993

WITH REF : REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN - MULTI-PARTY NEGOTIATING FORUM

At a special Caucus meeting of the Inkatha Freedom Party held in Ulundi last night, the issue of the representation of women within the Multi-Party Negotiating Forum was discussed.

The IFP will continue to promote women having full participation in all the structures of South Africa's constitutional process, without exception.

In this regard we point out that at CODESA I and II more women were represented in IFP delegations than in any other party's delegations.

It is the view of the IFP that a separate so-called "Gender Advisory Committee" [with no real powers and reporting its proposals to other committees for their final decision-making] would be an insult to women.

The IFP totally rejects the resuscitation of the old CODESA Gender Advisory Committee, which did not offer the women of South Africa any substantive role whatsoever.

Women delegates must have full negotiating rights in the constitutional process.

The issue of women, and not merely "women's issues", can only be articulated by women. It is vital that they be involved in all decision-making.

The IFP will therefore propose that party / organisation / administration representation in all existing committees as presently constituted be expanded to add one woman delegate per party / organisation / administration who should not participate merely in an advisory capacity but have full negotiating rights.

Women delegates per party / organisation / administration must be represented in their own capacity at the Plenary Session, the Multi-Party Negotiating Forum and in the Negotiating Council. We will recommend that Technical Committees also include women.

The IFP flatly rejects a proposal that women be drawn together merely as "advisers" with no real powers in a sexist "Gender Advisory Committee."

The IFP will not be a party to the role of women being reduced in this critical process of authoring the future South Africa. We view it as a disgrace that the outdated suggestion of the old CODESA Gender Advisory Committee was even raised.

The IFP will not have the vital role women have to play overlooked and it will not deprive South Africa of the valuable contribution which women can make at this time.

It is a constitutional proposal of the IFP that the law must extend special protection to women. Furthermore, the IFP intends to negotiate that until such time when the social status of women in South Africa has significantly improved, future law should recognise special privileges for women in all programmes and measures aimed at ensuring their equal access to political, social and economic opportunities.

In addition, the IFP will recommend a Ministry for Women's Affairs and that a portion of all future available public offices be reserved for women.

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