

MIDLAND CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES

Reg. No.: 06/31127/08

(Incorporated Association Not For Gain)

MCI BUILDING
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Reg. No.: 06/31127/08

(Ingeelyfde Vereniging Sonder Winaasmerk)

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02 November 1993

The Chairman
Multi-Party Negotiating Forum
P O Box 307
ISANDO
16000**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS - BUSINESS REPRESENTATION IN TRANSITIONAL LOCAL COUNCIL**

We are concerned that negotiations re a future local government dispensation are taking place without proper regard for the role and status of business in local government.

It has come to our attention that deliberations at the Local Government Negotiating Forum indicate that business will only be afforded observer status on newly formed transitional local councils.

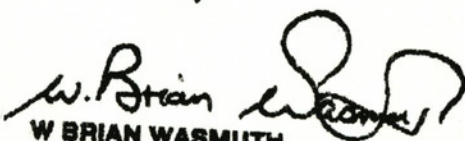
The business community in Port Elizabeth regard this as unacceptable and for the following reasons, i.e.:

1. Business has always played a major role in the functioning of our city, in fact the city's existence and continued growth has been dependant on the industrial and commercial infrastructure of the city and surrounding region.
2. Business has to date played an integral role in the one-city forum negotiations, in fact, its role has been a facilitating and enabling one during the negotiations. It should therefore continue to play a direct role in the functioning of the city in terms of direct intervention and not observer status.
3. Business contributes a significant, if not major share of the fiscus of the city and the region. Business is therefore entitled to a direct say in the functioning of the city and the local transitional council. Such direct input will only be possible through direct representation on the transitional local council.
4. The argument that business, as a constituency had formal representation on any city council, is no longer relevant. The local and regional government dispensation is changing radically in any case and provision for representation by the business constituency can be made.

It is likely that business throughout South Africa entertains a similar perspective and the Midland Chamber of Industries would appreciate it if you would solicit and take cognisance of the input of the business through South Africa with regard to this matter.

I have directed a similar letter to SACOB, the Local Government Negotiating Forum and the Minister of Local Government.

Yours faithfully



W BRIAN WASMUTH
Executive Director : Industrial Affairs