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02 July 1993

Melody Emmett

Coordinator of technical committees

Multi-Party Forum

World Trade Centre

Ms Emmett

I am writing on behalf of MWASA with regard to the draft bill on the proposed Independent Broadcasting Authority.

As you are aware, the draft bill was tabled and made available for public comment on June 22. The deadline set by the MPF for such comment was July 5, next Monday.

As the bill envisages substantial and highly contentious changes to South Africa's broadcasting dispensation we believe it is essential that those drafting it do only so after taking account of as wide a range of opinion as possible.

This has not been the case: MPF has given the public just two weeks to get a copy of the draft bill, study it, and formulate a meaningful and considered response.

We believe this is impractical. The draft bill is 84 pages long and is incomplete.

We therefore request that the MPF extend the period allowed for public comment by at least three weeks- that is, to July 26.

We also request that, once written submissions have been received, the MPF hold public hearings on the draft bill, or instruct the technical committee responsible to do so.

We are concerned that the inadequate time set aside and mechanisms established for public submissions will result in only a token and wholly inadequate contribution by the public on the issue of the IBA.

We believe this is not in keeping with the commitment by the MPF to an open process on all issues, and to a substantial public role on the issue of broadcasting in particular.

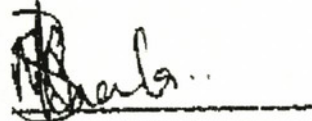
All correspondence to the General Secretary:

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would appreciate your making known our concerns and our request
the appropriate MPF structures as soon as possible, and to all
participating parties.

Yours sincerely



ITHEMBELE KHALA
GENERAL SECRETARY