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THEME COMMITTEE 6.3

07 FEBRUARY 1995

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THEME COMMITTEE 6.3 - 7 FEBRUARY 1995 - TAPE 1

CHAIRPERSON

Having dispensed with the opening and welcome, I think although the item is not on the agenda, I'd like just to insert the issue of minutes. Not for adoption, but just to sensitise you and then alert you to the fact that the minutes of the meeting we had last week which we have not yet had a look at, are on pages 53 and 67 and just to say for today let us just note them and for people to look at overnight and then tomorrow when we finish with Mr. Careen, we can then, you know, take another look at those minutes and, and adopt them.

Can we then go to item 2.1 and that is about the ladies who have already extended a work of welcome too and to say perhaps let us, now just give ourselves an opportunity informally without eh tying ourselves to anything ... you know just to apply our minds on how we think they can start you know, looking even broadly at whatever we say they should look at in terms of assisting us with moving forward from the basis that was led by their addresses last week Monday at the information seminar.

How we would like them to start helping us with regard to the commission on gender equality. As we've already reported and also as reflected on page 37, if you just turn to page 37 where we've tried to ... I mean ... work out where Robin has nicely laid out our programme. It's clear that eh ... this particular structure is in Block 7, however, it is something that is a totally new idea in South Africa, having a structure looking specifically and especially at the issue of gender and gender relations - and therefore that's why we thought it does need a bit more time.

We had already advertised that people must, you know, give submission and the deadline of the 12th of January had already been given. We had some initial feedback from some ... in particular women's organisation projects, people looking specifically at gender who indicated that the time had not been enough but they were going to try their best so hence the sub-theme group had decided that perhaps it's one of the things that we needed to give more time and that's what informed our decision to put it in block 7.

However, we do need to say to the people who already now been attached to us as technical experts eh ... there are some initial ideas we have as to how they can assist. Eh Cathy!?

CATHY

Em.. Man ... Chairperson, I think I'd just eh.... that I wouldn't , my expertise as limited to the commission for general equality and I've done work on human rights institutions. Generally and specifically, which means that I can talk to the public protector and the human rights commission as well. Eh I wouldn't try to be more expert on clauses on land restitution, but certainly on the first three eh ... will all fall in that particular area of expertise.

CHAIRPERSON

Thank you Cathy. Mrs. Harris.

MRS HARRIS

Eh.... I was wondering whether we couldn't ask our experts to give a thought to the very topic and title of this particular sub-theme exercise of gender equality commission on gender equality. I feel we need to extend it a bit because we're talking about a South Africa which is not a normal South Africa. A south Africa which have two halves - one which is highly developed and the other not developed. and probably if we ... as our title we adopt gender equality eh ... in commission on gender equality as well and perhaps add something like women and development in their machinery's ... eh ... women's machinery eh ... development were very, eh ... quite in the forefront.

The fact is that if we take it for granted, that the type of things that we are talking about in this country means taking care of a ... saying that if we are equal with man or vice versa, in situations of work and profession and so on and so on, we might again find that we are looking into the top structures of societies. So we are not really percolating down into the poorer layers of our society. We leave out our women in our townships who are illiterate and our women in the rural areas. So, I think it should be contained already in the title, this is what I am trying to say.

CHAIRPERSON

Khosi, did I see your hand? OK. Jenny!

JENNY

Eh ... madam Chair, eh this should start off with our gender commission. I wonder if whether it would not be appropriate to us to ask our experts to give the committee a very brief historical overview of the women's movements throughout the world. And not a lengthy document, just the highlights to say where it started where it is now, what is their means throughout the world. And perhaps it might be a little more than eh ... I'm not talking about essays of information, eh ... perhaps give us an idea of Scandinavian countries and an idea of what happened in France and for instance in Germany so that we have an idea, of a world wide approach to women's affairs, and especially if we look at a decade of women starting way back. I know it was mentioned by other day ... I can't remember by which of our two experts. There was a brief [...], if we could have in a very wide detailed, very undetailed [...] just for the sake of everybody in the community. Thank you.

Madamchairperson, I just want to follow up on what Professor Ngubane has said, because I think that we should look a the gender equality or the gender question. If you ... [mumble] that full program of subject whatever you want to call it, but that under that, we need to look at - for instance what she said, women in development. We need to look at women in health, we need to look at women in education, we need to look at women in business, eh ... in the economics field. I think that we need to look ... eh ... in the past we concentrated more on the subject women and their oppression.

But I think that now when we look at the gender question, we need to look or even in our planning when we layout our programs we need to look at all these issues, so that we're able to monitor even what every minister is going in this gender question. I think that for me it's not just women development. But it's women in all fields of our society, or in all fields, of even our governments. We need to look at that. Thank you

CHAIRPERSON

I think here what we are trying to do is to just begin to say or did you have your hand up? OK. I think this is one of the issues that Cathy also referred to last time when we made the submission that whether one sees commission as a polity-making body or an enforcement body. I think the issues that we raised now were about women development and woman in health, education and business, were important issues, that would fall into, if we see the commission as a policy making body. Where as if you go onto the enforcement mechanism then it turns to get very specific, deals with employment issues. But I think if one keeps it broader and says it's a policy making body, then obviously, when you eventually legislate, the scope could be much broader. Cathy, I don't know if you would like to add?

CATHY

Can I just take it a step back. We were looking at something like the Human Rights Commission, a Commission for Gender Equality or all institutions that are being looked at by this working committee. I think you have to start first with the broad expensive view of what these commissions re there for and in general they exist to deal with broad human rights issues. I mean the full government of human rights, political service, social and economic. So part of what one needs to do can, almost as an introduction, is to think about the notion of huffman rights that we are dealing with, and what kind of institutions we need to put in place during it's implementation and enforcement, and education people along those human rights. That's a very kind of broad theoretical principle question. But I think it's an important one before one gets down to the details

I think secondly while focusing on commission for gender equality, it's important and it's a task on this working group. I think it has to be looked at in its broader context. Both in terms of the institution that is part of the national machinery for women. Which is the part of point I was making last week. So it's important to understand a whole concept on national machinery in terms of a broad range of structures and maybe a commission like this could fit in because it's not going to do anything. But it is even important and significant component of that. And assessing that obviously we have to look at the needs of South African women and one has to look at the development issues and that kind of thing.

So that would be the second general point I would make. During that obviously, concurrent experiences that are really important. But we can't only focus on first world countries. I mean South Africa is a very different country to Scandinavia. France and Germany according to its economic set up. So only if we can draw less in those countries, we can't replicate the structures that we have and they have there. We have to be very careful in doing that. So I suppose I really want to make a general point that, I think all comments that are made are important.

But the way I would like to approach it as an expert that is assisting this committee, is to try and locate the commission for gender equality, locate the Human Rights Commission, locate the Public Protector in terms of that broad institutions that is actually dealing with the human rights. The general implications to the Public Protector. We do want to make implications with the Public Protector. The Public Protector looks at mal-administration of government. It looks at how people receive their pensions. Women are often the major consumers of government services. So the Public Protector is crucial in terms of gender implications - so with the Human Rights Commission.

HARRIET

I think the last speaker has sort of pin-pointed the type of things we perhaps are trying to say. Are we saying that we need in fact both our experts have contributed points which force us to think seriously, whether we are saying that the women affairs the women's issues will be scattered all over the ministries, and all that we need the commission to do is to monitor what is happening to women in all these various departments. Or are we saying we see if we are talking of the commission. We see the commission as a enabling transformation block which will lead us to a much more meaningful women's machinery.

Because once we have a much more meaningful women's machinery we might then even insist on having a minister. And if we have reached that point, it would mean that it's a ministry with all or well equipped with at the other things, that the departments required for the ministry. I don't quite agree with the idea that the public protector will also take care of the women's issues fully. Because women's issues when you begin to look at them are so immense that you don't know where to begin.

There is for instance- where do I begin? There's women's pension, women's legal right, women's this and that. Women don't have money to help themselves. They need an office that will be there for them to go too to be directed how to go about putting right their situations. We have a series of things which have happened during the period of colonisation where women's rights even in the customary situation were taken away. Therefore they are just hanging in the air, they are not attached to anything they cannot turn to any structure. We have a series of things which have happened to Western women as well.

They are infertilization and various other things which we need to look into. So I would think that we need indeed to drive to be very ambitious and drive towards a situation where we could actually make policy. A situation where we could actually be part of the national policy, national plans of the country as an entity where we are looking very highly focused into all the various issues that affect women, in this country. Especially, in this country, because this country sort of emasculated lots of men and we are dealing with men that have been emasculated by an apartheid society.

And women have been supporting and carrying that society. And therefore, they need to be assisted to get over that along with their men to get out of this emasculation that the men have suffered and the women to offload the load of carrying the society on their shoulders. I don't think the Public Protector can do that. We need somebody who have the type of understanding. It's something you can read about in books because there are no books in which they are written. But it's things that we understand as members of the society.

CATHY

Sorry, can I just clarify. I wasn't saying that the Public Protector should do that. I was saying that we can't ignore the gender implication of all structures. So yes, we must have our national machinery for our women and decide what that is. But we can't ignore the fact that if we also put in to place the Public Protector, Human Rights Commission, not the role of this committee but of the constitutional court or the appeal court. How are we going to get into the main stream structures, also to deal with the problems of women, because we have to make them do that. Because women will always remain forever, on the sideline. I think that was the point. I'm sorry I was not clear about it.

FEMALE

I want to clarify committee that when I speak of ministers, really it doesn't matter which ministry. You could find that all these years we've been fighting all this women's struggle. But it has been around us women. We've been, our programmes have not been able to achieve much because women have been fighting, we women have been setting up structures, we have been setting up programmes which are going to be carried by us women. I think that it's time that we get those programmes carried out in all these other institutions, because if education is planning and it has got a special interest or a special program which are bias in favour of women, then the problems of women's equality, gender equality will not be addressed in that. It doesn't matter which one it is, you can go around and look at them all in labour. We need to have our programmes looked at by those people. They formulate their programmes for gender equality. This is what I meant.

CHAIRPERSON

I think what we are trying to say is that we take the queue from the conclusions of those who negotiated on our behalf. Who said at the end what we need to fight for and in fact, the interim constitution says this is a South Africa that is non-racial, that is non sexist, that is united and democratic. And part of implementing that especially with specific references to non sexism, is to pay special attention to the issues of women and how women are situated in society in all areas of life, hence the issue of different ministries. We cannot run away from looking at all the structures and at government that our own president when we open this parliament last year said that women or this country must look at how we can integrate those concerns. So that it's not think that are attended by small little projects over the place by women on themselves, talking about their problems and the rest of the country or the government not really been involved.

So I think that's part of what needs to be done and to be effected by national machinery for women. But that there is a specific structure that is inserted in the constitution and we are aware that there is an adhoc committee of the National Assembly that's working towards the legislation for it has been formed for the interim period. So that is not what we are looking at, but we are looking items of the new constitution.

Would we want the new constitution to have the same structure, would we want a different approach, would we want broader approach? perhaps the new constitution. I think just like we said, for instance, when we discussed the question of land. We said that when we now realise that restitution really is a very limited mechanism, we said OK let the constitution still attend to the issues of land but broaden it's view rather than just look at the Land Restitution Commission. Look at a land commission or a commission that we can call whatever. But what looks broadly at the issue is that, the approach that we can take perhaps here. Therefore a lot of things have been said, for instance about we need to start off at the very concept of a national machinery for women. What is that? I so we can locate our thinking and our conclusions. Within that broader understanding also taking on board the activities of the international community.

I think it was a correct point that was raised by Mrs. Malan that we need also to draw from the decade for the united nationals decade for women. So I think we have really given out experts a lot to start working on. But I think also that other things that we need to mention that perhaps the experts need to have access to all submissions that have come in so for that we pay particular attention to them. But I think that we do need to have a very broad view of what it is we are trying to tackle. I think the UN declared a whole decade for women precisely because there was an acknowledgement at that point by the international committee that there was a problem and the nature of the problem in fact many countries began only to discover during that decade, I know for what I mean when we were in Zambia. The Zambians acknowledged that they only started research and in fact admitting to themselves that from the point of independence to that time when the decade started. The situation of women have been actually been deteriorating but nobody had ever cared.

People had gone on. Now we have a black government and in fact, in the meantime, people were sliding backwards with regards to them being women. So it's only a conscious effort to say what's going on, what is the nature of the problem, and how best do you deal with he problem, and I think we would really like our experts to assist us to have a way in a new constitution of this country being able to do that. Mary? And I hope we would be able to warp up this discussion. [The tape goes blank for a few minutes while Mary is out to speak].

MARY

Our commission were the answer. For example, this particular gender equality commission, who is it attached to, who is it going to get funds for it? How is it going to keep going? And what if the government gets the budget squeezed? Who gets cut first? Are the commissions just because they're in the constitution, do they have some special claim for funds? Certainly from the interim constitution that's not my impression.

CHAIRPERSON

Next?

HARRIET

I just want to add to what Mary has pointed out that ... [interrupted]

MALE

Chairperson, when women speak, we should try to listen, but who knows? the emphasis on gender equality. Are they, my thinking goes to women's emancipation. It seems as if the emphasis does not rely on women emancipation, but it's on gender equality, that it should be legislated. But if it's legislated and it's only on paper. There is no effort from the side of the women. You know a campaign to emancipate women thinking still have problems. So when the emphasis lies on gender equality as if equality will be there unless if it's material. But I think people will always differ. But I think it should go hand in hand with women's emancipation that they take initiative to break through and to break the chains and to become themselves and that's how they would prove themselves to equality. But if equality is enshrined on the legislator and it's only there- it will never help women. Unless they pull themselves out to break the invisible chains that are chaining the women, to be competent in life, and to accept themselves as human being. Who can really do it. Even much more than men. They are quite capable, they can do it much more than men. But that really complex it's still clinging to women.

But they feel inferior and the moment you feel inferior then something is wrong. One should not feel inferior. One should be liberated to become yourself, not superior not inferior, but a liberated human being. Then I think that will stipulate the trend of equality.

FEMALE

Sis Harriet, but what I wanted to comment on Mary's observation that in many countries with the women's decades, in fact the second decade now has its mark in Beijing. In certain countries it has deteriorated the position of women in other countries it has not. I happen to have worked in this area with the UN and obviously the man accepted the idea of having a women machinery, because UN wanted it to be like that. In other words what I am saying is the governments of various countries. I'm talking now of developed countries had to have this women machinery and there was money going along with it. and supported by United nations. Anything which comes into a country like that outside, sometimes it's taken in a very lukewarm way. So this has happened elsewhere. Ironically, in South Africa here - what we should also realise is that we are not all exactly identical in Africa, particularly in Southern Africa here.

The women who had the pinch of the pressures are women of Lesotho more than anyone, because their men have to work in South Africa - working in the mines, getting paid more than a woman who is a graduate working in a country as a civil servant. Therefore that machinery became quite established for sometime in the 80's because there was a need, even men of the country realised and accepted. What is important for us in this country is that it not an imposed situation. It is the men of our country, our leader, the state president, the society accept that the women need recognition of some sort. So I do have hope that I would not be like elsewhere where it was imposed on the society. We are feeling the need ourselves together with our men. So from that point of view, I am very hopeful. But going to what happened in various ministries. As you know, the story happened in education for instance to get educated for certain types of professions, even in the ministries. The people who gets higher positions, most of them are men and so on and so forth.

By saying that there should be women's machinery - one is not saying that the various ministries should not also take care of how women are.

The various ministries need to have a backing from the centre that is women machinery that would be sort of a watchdog over that and seeing to it that the women situation is taken care of, in all walks of life. After all, there would be women in all walks of life as well as men in all walks of life. But we know from experience for instance the attitude of the whole society. It's not as if we have the inferiority complex, but we are ignored. For instance, if a camera person was to come in here and take us talking, you are more likely to be appearing on TV than perhaps my friend here would.

This happened to us at the World Trade Centre. Women started saying we are at the World Trade Centre and we are saying nothing. (When in fact we were doing our best to contribute, but cameras never landed on us - they don't ask) So it's that type of trend, that I am talking about. We need a sharpened focus while we're realising that. All the other sectors have a duty to women and to people who have disabilities and various other things. But we need a machinery which will focus. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON

I think we've given quite a lot to our experts to start from. And we would hope that the two of you would interact with us quite regularly and as we said earlier on. If Bronwin could just let you have access to all the submissions that have come on the issues of the commission. But take on board the discussion in regard to broadening it to machinery and letting us see what are the issues that have come up and perhaps mapping out a proposed way forward as to how we deal with the issues. I think this should help us also to begin to work out even a public participation programme. Where we don't go to people and say, do you want a commission, do you want machinery.

I think we should take, we should realise that people don't know about these things. So we might have to start with information seminars for that matter, for South Africans. How we do that I don't know, it just sounds like an enormous task. But it is part of sensitising our society because unless we sensitise our society, people will just say what is this, why is it necessary. People are hungry. People don't realise that these issues are interlined, they really cannot be really clinically separated from one another and I think with regards to the question of what happens in ministries and I think in industry as well.

I mean we should also take from other examples where for instance in Australia what they do every year. The check, there is a way in which they check companies that employ more than a hundred people. In the process, that year of employing people how many women were employed and for what positions. That information is made public. Although they won't be punished, but it just makes them feel a bit embarrassed and it makes everybody to sit up and take special attention and make an effort to see the women because the problem is that women become invisible even if they are there and they are capable. We could look at some of those mechanisms. I think we can round off that particular item on that note and just keep in touch with our experts.

And perhaps if there is anything of specific that we still want to bring back to our parties because we had not really had the opportunity to really consult. We'll still put it on the agenda of the first of our meeting next week, just so that we can be able to report back to the group here whether we have had any interaction with the experts and if there is anything more that needs to come in.

With that ladies and gentlemen, can we move on to Item 3, and with regards to item 3, can I then ask us to turn to page 37. I think it has been laid out in a very useful way. In that we see the activities we involved last week as forming part of block 1 and that is all the information seminars. Block two being the exercise that we are still involved in and that is trying to phase out, to make report of the information seminars and maybe Bronwin would tell us how far she is with that and in the process identify and isolate issues. because it is only around specific issues that arise out of report and the seminars that we can actually be able to plan a public participation programme around the specific structures.

But as well as begin to work out reports for the Constitutional Commission. I think we need to realise that. We also have to work after discussion here in particular taking on board the position of political parties on the various matters. We then work out report and forward them to the Constitution Commission. the Constitutional Commission at that certain point with regard to the public protector which is the first issue would need us to forward a report so that then it can know whether there are problems and what issues it can attend to. So the sooner we get on with those sort of processes, the better. That is why we then as 3.1 have put the public protector.

With regard to the public protector being the first issue, we need to write a report on in Block three. At our next meeting I would ask Bronwin to let us know whether all political parties have made submission on public protector. We as members of political parties here must also check on that, and whether there are contentious issues arising out of the submission and discussions here. So that when we do our reports the Constitutional Commission is interested in issues that are contentious. Is there anything that is sticking or is our report straight forward, there is consensus on the matter. Therefore the really there is no problem because the sooner the theme committees come up with the report that indicate that there is no problem. Then the people who are drafting the Constitution, the actual provisions of the constitution can get on with that work.

So we must realise that our work can hold up that process of the actual drafting of the Constitution. So the sooner we know what is the stand point of the political parties, the better because if there are no problems with the public protector. Then we write a report that there is no difference on anything. The Constitutional Commission can pass that matter on to the drafter and they can start drafting the relevant structures. So I'm saying therefore with regards to the public protector we need to start seeing that issue of submission and positions. Secondly being able to work on the public participation program. With regards with the information seminars. Bronwin can you let us know how soon we can get that report.

BRONWIN

We, I can get it ready by the meeting on Tuesday, next week. I'm sorry that it's taking so long. But it quite difficult to ask like the issue and debates. Plus we need meeting every day and so this needs to be done and other task need to be done. But I certainly will try my hardest to get it by the meeting on Tuesday so that people got a draft to comment on and then I can always make changes to that.

CHAIRPERSON

So can you prioritise the public protector because that is the first issue.

BRONWIN

Yes I will prioritise it.

CHAIRPERSON

I think then we can agree that after we have received that report, we can be in a position to move forward. But can we also ask those members that had volunteered to work on the issues of the public protector to also submit their reports as to how they see issues coming out of the submissions and the report from Mr. Selfe as well as speeches we heard last week. I think we can pass from that item. It's just that one has to try and push us on that particular issue. We can now go on to item no. 4 which is really about reminder.

MALE

Excuse me, sorry, just on the question of the public protector for the committee. The political parties submission do we have any cut of date down for our submissions to be in or a.s.a.p.

CHAIRPERSON

Well, I think the question of the date should be guided by the fact that the issue itself is on block three. So if we look at the deadline for Block three in terms of submission. But I would say for our purposes, we would like to have it sooner. I was on item no. four, where I was reminding members that we do need to bring the names. Bronwin have you had any names from the members of the sub-theme group of proposed expert on the different. The only expert we have now are the one who are attending today. But we have not had proposed a name on the expert on the different on the other structures. I think we know what Dr Albertine said about her own ability to deal with the other structures. But we do need more names.

BRONWIN

Just to report, Mrs. Malan said that the N.P. would submit their nominations for expert. But it has not happened yet. But none of the other parties have.

CHAIRPERSON

That's really a reminder. No 5. is also just, we had agreed last week to keep that item on until we have people back in Cape Town, all the other MP's and we did discuss it this morning on the core group meeting, and approach we should also remember that the people who are actually involved in the process of making the new constitution are the 490 elected representatives. There is a way in which people who are not the members of the theme committee tend to feel that they are not really, not worried they ought not to be part of any theme committee activities. I think that we need to correct that and one of the ways in which we can correct that is by saying that even if people are not one of or part of the hunting 80 people who are members of the theme committee.

There is a way in which they can be attached to one theme committee or the other. So that in a broad sense when there are meetings of those theme committees they can go there and they are aware and they are informed they are send documentation. So that the 490 representatives are actually taking the responsibility for the constitution, not only the 180 who are involved in the theme committees. So when everybody is back in town next week, we should finalise that issue, and also alternate members. But in the sense of other people so that the administration can be able to know which documentation they had to regularly direct to which pigeon hole.

HARRIET

I have a feeling that people who are alternates don't take their role seriously. I wonder what the management think of that. They can be there or they can stay away, they don't really read the material. Is that a perception, perhaps if you are revising this, perhaps people could be given a different status. I don't know.

BRONWIN

I just wanted to report that the only party that has submitted a name has been Inkatha. So the administration has received the Inkatha's names.

CHAIRPERSON

I think that Prof. Ngugane is raising it as a problem which we have to tackle. And I think the different parties participating in the management committee and we should raise that and stress the importance of all elected members knowing that they too have a responsibility to make this new constitution. As some one way or another, they have to be involved and take a much more serious and responsible approach to documents. I think that goes for all of us actually because there is a tendency of not reading the documents.

In fact, talking about that, I want to point out that the document that have been circulated last week is part of our package, the one dealing with the issue of community liaison and the public participation programme. Perhaps we should check page 56 just to check whether members would like the executive director for any questions or are we happy with our understanding of the document and just also to say that, it has been agreed that sub-theme groups and theme committees can take an initiative in terms of the public participation programmes. So wouldn't sit around and wait for administration to work out a programme for us. But to the best of our abilities to fit into the broad frame work that has been worked out in this document.

But the question I am raising is whether it is necessary to have the executive director come back for us to raise questions based on this document, which we had not read the last time he was here. I think we should read this document and maybe tomorrow we can indicate that we need to invite him, maybe on Thursday. We are now on Item 6 and I am looking for members to raise any other business.

KHOSI

Chairperson, I'm having a slight problem. I don't know who is responsible in informing the media on the work of this sub-theme committee.

If maybe we need to contribute some money to inform, then some of us are willing to contribute, because we had seminars and workshops last week. There were papers tabled, very important documents, but nothing was said in the media, or whatever.

TAPE TWO

As I'm saying, if we can contribute some money to make the public aware that we had experts who delivered such documents and the meeting was successful. Some of us can part with some of our money to inform the media about that. That's my problem, it's a serious concern because people are saying we are not doing what is expected of us. Maybe if there is no person who is responsible in informing the media, some of us can volunteer chairperson, to inform them. Just one of the problems.

CHAIRPERSON

It's good to hear that someone can volunteer to part with some money. Bronwin, you wanted to say something about that?

BRONWIN

Just to say, to respond to that. I mean had to agree that there is actually a media department that does exist in the Constitutional Assembly administration and I think what can be done is the point being made at the meeting can be lodged with them, because there are people for that. You don't have to part with your money, they are actually being paid to contact the media when we have the information seminars. So I'll be sure to speak to them about that.

CHAIRPERSON

Well, at a certain point last week, they did at least indicate that theme committee 6 seems to be the most hard working of all theme committees. But some of the Sunday reports were a bit, you know, not quite accurate to say, you know, people were hardly doing anything, they travel so far just to sit around. I mean that was really not true. Definitely not of our theme committee.

And I think that even the other theme committees have been doing some work, maybe not as much but there was some work. We did briefly talk about this issue of the media of how it's reflection or how it's reporting to the constitution making progress in the core group meeting this morning. It was felt that perhaps this is another area where we can take an initiative as a sub-theme group, and that perhaps we can have two or three people - just assist the administration also, because I think both the administration and the media re find that there is much happening, that it difficult to keep up with the situation all over. And a fair reflection of what's going on. Instead of admitting, that people just say there is nothing happening. Maybe we need 1 or 2 people who are just lounging around and you create that as a general picture. So I don't know whether we need to appoint someone here. Maybe we should just see how it really goes. At 4 o'clock I am actually meeting people from that department of the Administration, just to talk more about what's been going on. At least from our point of view. Can we now talk as part of Item no. 7, about our next meeting, this week and that, is tomorrow at 2:30 not 8:30? It's 2 o'clock, Hm? What is it? What time is it?

FEMALE

Actually Brian Careen is coming at 2:30 tomorrow. Unfortunately the work programme was actually devised after the speaker have already been invited. So the work program keeps changing. But as it was pointed out, this work program is not cast and stone. So we are about to change it to our own needs. So if for tomorrow we could make the meeting at 2:30, for Mr. Careen to come and give us an input on the Human Rights Commission, and then maybe after that or before that we have our sub-theme committee meet, depending on what people's time constraints are.

CHAIRPERON (Response at 2:30)

So Brian Careen is coming at 2:30 and I did talk to him briefly this morning and he said he does not have a paper. He is bring two flip charts. So we must be ready for that sort of session, because we want to deal with the structure of the commission itself, and what it, how it could possibly function in that sort of thing and we can invite our friends so that will be tomorrow 2:30 and maybe we could stay behind for a few minutes after he has finished.

We normally take two hours for that kind of session and then we can take on another 30 minutes to look at whatever house keeping items and then Thursday? Can we just agree on Thursday, do we stick to that 2 o'clock. We have in the programme 2 o'clock. Can we agree that on Thursday we meet at 2 o'clock and perhaps by that time we will, but we said the public protector program can be dealt with next week Tuesday. We will revisit this item of Thursday, the agenda, because I think we need to agree on the agenda for that day, I think only tomorrow it's part of what we do after that information seminar.

MALE

In the same venue?

CHAIRPERSON

It does seem now, this is now our home for the purpose of constitution making . I think unless there is anything else, we can part in peace.

TAPE 3

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