

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY

memo

TO: Hassan Ebrahim
FROM: Edward Shalala
DATE: 5.9.94
RE: **Engaging the public in the design of a process for drafting the new Constitutional Text.**

* Consultation for the purpose of designing the process for drafting the Constitutional Text shall be called Phase 1 and commence on the 17 October 1994 and end on 30 November 1994.

* Wide public participation will be secured during this phase by the following:

- 1) Covering letter (see attached draft) from the Chairperson and attached questionnaire - to be posted to national structures of major sectors and be available to public at large at all post offices.
- 2) Launch of Phase by press conference addressed by Chairperson and Executive Director.
- 3) Develop relationship with the media - ask press to publish supplements dealing with history and structure and function of Constitutional Assembly. Include Chairperson's letter and questionnaire in these supplements.
- 4) Begin development of media strategy to facilitate constitution awareness-raising.

- * Advantages:
- Widely inclusive public participation.
 - Sector penetration in depth.
 - Start to raise constitution-awareness and prepare public for their actual participation in the constitution-making process (Phase 2).

* Disadvantages: This proposal would facilitate wide public participation in designing the process for Phase 2. If it is felt that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages, this proposal could be downscaled to a combination of:

See Memo (*)

- 1) Limited sector solicitation
(Chairperson's letter without questionnaire)
- 2) Verbal requests to public at large for suggestions (→ via press conference(s)).

Conclusion.