

INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CODESA DECLARATION OF INTENT

JOHANNESBURG, 14 MAY 1992

INTRODUCTION

In December last year the IFP did not find it possible to sign the Declaration of Intent because it was felt that some of its wording was ambiguous and could be construed to commit those who signed it to establish a unitary state in the new South Africa.

The IFP is committed to the politics of negotiation and to CODESA. It sought therefore to remedy what it regarded as deficiencies in the Declaration of Intent. It submitted draft amendments to CODESA's Management Committee. I am pleased to announce that the amendments were have been given due consideration.

The IFP sought these amendments to ensure that none of its provisions standing alone or read in conjunction with other provision or provisions, could be construed to commit signatories to it to a unitary state solution for South Africa's problems.

THE IFP IS READY TO SIGN THE DECLARATION OF INTENT

The IFP now states that it is satisfied with the wording of the Addendum to the Declaration and is pleased to announce that it intends today to become a signatory to it.

COMMITMENT TO NATIONAL RECONCILIATION

In making this decision the IFP was guided by its deep conviction that the process of nation-building is a process of entrenching democracy in society by addressing the interests of individuals and groups in South Africa's heterogenous society. We are committed to national reconciliation, bringing people of different racial, cultural, ethnic and political groups together in peace and unity.

CONCLUSION

For community needs to be met and the process of regional empowerment to begin, the heart of the government must be brought to the people. All South Africans must be allowed to participate in the future government of this country. We seek a transition through democratic means and commit ourselves to a negotiated political settlement to establish a new consensus government in an open democratic society.

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