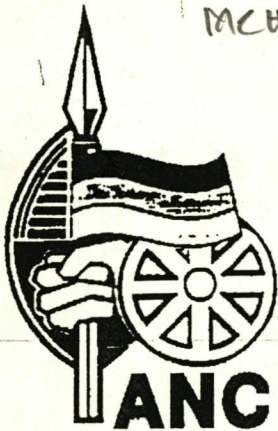


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ANC

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THE ALL-PARTY CONGRESS (APC)

The NEC discussed the details of the APC on 22nd October 1991 and adopted the following positions in this regard:

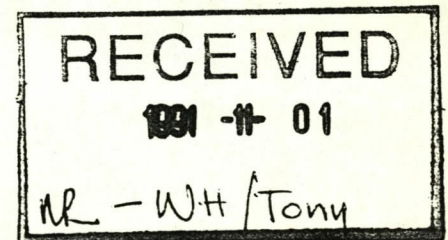
◆ COMPOSITION OF APC

The APC should be composed of all political parties and organisations. Among the invitees would be: ANC, NP, SACP, PAC, DP, IFP, CP, LP, Solidarity, NPP, AWB, various homeland parties, TIC, NIC, Azapo and the "TVBC States". Consultations are being held with COSATU to determine what its role at the APC would be. The ANC is of the view that the "TVBC States" should participate in the APC from the very outset.

◆ AGENDA OF APC

The APC should have the following agenda:

- (a) General Constitutional Principles
- (b) Constitution making process (i.e. Constituent Assembly)
- (c) Interim Government / Transitional Mechanisms
- (d) Re-incorporation of the Bantustans
- (e) Creation of a climate for free political activity
- (f) Role of the international community during the transition.
- (g) Time frames for the process



◆ WHO CONVENES THE APC ?

The APC should not be convened by one or more of the parties who would be participants at the APC. The ANC is of the view that the APC should be convened by a committee of independent convenors. We are still in the process of trying to identify such independent convenors. ANC structures are requested to submit suggestions in this regard to the Negotiations Commission.

◆ DATE FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE APC

The NEC is of the view that the first meeting of the APC should be held at the end of November 1991. (For more information on the APC, please read **MAYIBUYE**-VOL 2, No 10, November 1991)

THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND NEGOTIATIONS

The Patriotic Front launched on 25-27 October 1991 constitutes a major advance for the democratic forces. The organisations represented at the PF Conference have agreed on a

joint programme for the negotiated transfer of power. The decisions of the conference are contained in the *declaration* adopted by the conference.

◆ HOW WOULD THE FRONT FUNCTION AT THE APC ?

All organisations would attend the APC in their own right. So, for example, the ANC, the PAC and others would send their own delegations to the APC. At the APC, those organisations belonging to the Patriotic Front would act as follows: On issues where there is agreement, actions and positions will be underlined by the principle of unity in action and unity of purpose as a Front. On issues where consensus has not been reached endeavours to find common ground will continue. Should consensus not be reached, organisations can act independently.

◆ WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF CONSENSUS REACHED AT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT CONFERENCE?

Consensus has already been reached on the key issues relating to the transition:

(a) CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

It was agreed that only a Constituent Assembly elected on the basis of one-person one-vote in a united South Africa can draft and adopt a democratic constitution.

(b) INTERIM GOVERNMENT/TRANSITIONAL AUTHORITY

It was agreed that a sovereign Interim Government/Transitional Authority should oversee the transition. The Interim Government/Transitional Authority should at the very least control security forces and related matters, the electoral process, state media and defined areas of budget and finance, as well as secure international participation.

(c) ALL-PARTY CONGRESS

It was agreed that the APC should be held as 'soon as possible'. There was agreement on the agenda of the APC and also on the need for independent convenors. It was decided that the patriotic forces should seize the initiative on the APC. It was therefore agreed that a planning meeting should be held within the next few weeks with the regime and other interested parties to discuss the date, venue and an independent convenor for the APC.

EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH THE NP/GOVERNMENT

Three meetings have been held between the ANC and the NP/Government. The meetings were held on 17/10/91, 24/10/91 and 31/10/91. These meetings were of an exploratory nature. Views were exchanged on agenda of the APC, Venue, possible date, participants, representation and decision-making.

THE NEXT STEP

We are now in the process of setting-up a planning meeting at which the date, venue and independent convenor for the APC would be agreed upon. The planning meeting would include organisations like ANC, PAC, NP, SACP and possibly IFP, DP, Azapo. □