

TRANSKEI'S PERSPECTIVES ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCES - W.G.1.

INTRODUCTION

The apartheid ideology is by its very nature violent and is not and was never meant to be conducive to the creation of a climate for free political participation. For as long as such a system obtains, no such climate will ever exist.

Although the apartheid state has the capacity and resources to stem the tide of violence that has characterised our country, it has failed to do so. The impression created is that it collaborates in the perpetuation of violence or it has lost control over its security forces.

Therefore we are convinced that the immediate installation of an Interim Government during the transition period is the only viable option and the most decisive step towards the speed creation of the desired climate for free political participation. However as a means to achieve the above objective, we lay emphasis on the following issues raised in the terms of reference.

COMPOSITION AND ROLE OF SECURITY FORCES.

The legacy of apartheid ideology has permeated throughout state structures especially the security forces. The majority of South Africans never regarded and still do not regard the security forces as serving the National interests. Because of the status of the present Government, the perceptions of the majority is that the security forces serve *sectional* and minority interests. They are an instrument for maintaining the status quo.

Therefore joint control of the security forces from the top echelons to the bottom during this period of transition, would in our view greatly enhance the prospects for the creation of a climate for free political participation.

DEMOCRATISATION OF STATE - CONTROLLED MEDIA(SATBVC).

We believe that the state - controlled media in the SATBVC, like other state institutions, served the narrow interests of the ruling minority. It has contributed in promoting violence by

reporting selectively and favourably on some political parties, While distorting the view points of those forces it does not favour. Its monopoly of the air-waves contributes negatively to the creation of a climate for free political activity. We will therefore argue strongly not only for the restructuring of the state - controlled media, but also for independent or joint control of the SATBVC - state controlled media, during this transition period.

NATIONAL PEACE ACCORD AND OTHER ACCORDS.

While we recognise the NPA. as an important historic attempts by traditional antagonists towards the politics of peace and reconciliation, the elaborate structures, and the ultimate authority of the process remains in the hands of one party i.e. the State President and Senior Police Officers, are in our view its major weaknesses. The aims and objectives as enshrined in the NPA. remain useful as a public relations exercise. It has so far failed to put an end to violence or bringing the perpetrators of violence to Courts. Infact in our view the NPA has an element of shifting the responsibility of policing violence from the state to the political parties, while ensuring that elements of the security forces involved in promoting violence remain protected.

Accords such as the NPA, Groote Skuur and Pretoria minutes, inevitably remind us of the famous and so-called historic NKOMATI ACCORD which favoured one party and led to the increased violence and killings in Mozambique culminating in the death of Comrade SAMORA MACHEL, himself. We will argue that if NPA. is to be taken seriously it must be a CODESA project or subjected to close monitoring to ensure proper and effective implementation of NPA. without much bureaucratic procedures. But if this Accord is to regain credibility it must be seen to be effective not only by its architects but by the victims of violence.

FUNDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES

The secret use of public funds to further party political objectives is highly immoral, irregular and unacceptable. It is even worse when such funds are used to promote violence in order to gain political ascendancy over other parties.

We will demand that those who happen to be in power, though illegitimately, and therefore control state resources must level the playing field by allocating resources equitably to all parties.

ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

The system of apartheid was declared as a crime against humanity by the international community. The South African political conflict affected communities even beyond the borders of this country. It created deep divisions among South Africans, resulting in deep distrust. The culture of failure to honour bilateral and multi-lateral agreements in the past by the government suggests the need for the international community to play a role in the resolution of the South African conflict.

We therefore believe that the international community can contribute in the management of the transition to democracy in South Africa by playing a number of roles which we will suggest later.

We would wish to state that whatever role is played by the international community, should be determined by what happens in the negotiation process.