

PRESS BRIEFING (18/2/1992)

Working Groups met over the 17th and 18th February to continue with their discussions concerning their Terms of Reference.

Regarding Working Group 1 which had two assignments, over the last week and during the course of the coming week this Group will continue to address its first assignment in three sub-groups:

- WGSUB1(1) - Completing the Reconciliation Process
- WGSUB1(2) - Continuing the Security and Socio-Economic Process
- WGSUB1(3) - Creating the Climate & Opportunity for Free Political Participation

At Working Group 2, all participating organisations/parties have tabled their proposals in relation to constitutional principles. The Group has established areas of commonality and has been addressing remaining issues.

In Working Group 3, all organisations/parties have made their initial presentations on Interim Arrangements opening the way for further discussion to continue on the 24th February.

The Working Group 4 which is dealing with the future of the TBVC states, expressed concern at the statement which was released by the SABC TV1 news on the morning of 18 February 1992.

That which amounted to a mere correction of the part of the draft minutes of the previous meeting, was distorted and presented as a forced retraction of a firm decision.

Nothing of the sort took place. An amendment to a clause in the minutes of Group 4 on the reincorporation was made with the agreement of all the parties, to the effect that "various political formations stated their positions on this matter". Several of the grouping expressed themselves favourably disposed in principle to re-incorporation and were referred to the sub-committee to investigate.

In addition, both Working Groups 4 and 5 have established sub-groups. The Working Group 4 has established 4 Sub-Groups:

- WGSUB4(1) - Testing the Will of the People
- WGSUB4(2) - Citizenship
- WGSUB4(3) - Financial, Administrative and Practical Implications of Reincorporation
- WGSUB4(4) - Legal and Constitutional Implications of Reincorporation

Working Group 5 has agreed to form two Sub-Groups:

- WGSUB5(1) - Drafting
- WGSUB5(2) - Time frames

Working Groups meet again on 24th and 25th February and the Management Committee will be meeting on the 24th February at the World Trade Centre.