RESEARCH PROJECT

PRELIMINARY DRAFT PROPOSAL

Objective.

Conduct research relevant to the elaboration of a nonracial, democratic constitution for South Africa. Publish monographs setting out the results of such research.

Duration and auspices.

The project will run from 1 July 1989 to 30 June 1992 and be housed in the Institute of Commonwealth Studies of the University of London

Personnel.

The team will consist of Dr. Albie Sachs [Director], a research assistant and a secretary.

Background.

While working as Director of Research in the Ministry of Justice in Mozambique I used what spare time I had to prepare a booklet entitled Towards a Bill of Rights in a Democratic South Africa. It became clear to me that whereas a vast amount of research was being conducted in variuos parts of the world with a view to finding solutions that could possibly accommodate the wishes of the dominant minority in South Africa very little was being done with a view to answering the preoccupations of the rightless majority. In particular , virtually no research at all was being done on what appeared to be two fundamental themes how the mass of the population could be drawn now into the constitutional debate so that when new constitutional documents come to be drawn they have well-informed opinions to contribute; and how to devise schemes of affirmative action relevant to South African conditions to ensure that the huge inequalities created by apartheid will be speedily reduced and eliminated.

The object of this research is to attempt to close these gaps. It will deal with the process of constitution-making from a comparative perspective, with special emphasis on the post-colonial period in southern Africa and on how the Union of South Africa constitution was adopted. It will involve the preparation of monographs on basic themes such as the structure and typologies of modern constitutions, forms of government and electoral systems and the role and significance of Bills of Rights. Finally it will focus on anti-discrimination and affirmative action programmes in)

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various parts of the world with a view to seeing how they could be adapted to South African conditions and help shape the text of a Bill of Rights for a democratic South Africa.

The research will be conducted according to the generally accepted criteria of scientific debate and the results will be made freely available to all interested persons.

BUDGET

Salaries

Director Research	28,000	
assistant Secretary	13,000 10,000	
		51,000
Office equipment (first Office materials	year only)	10,000 8,000
Publications support		10,000
Travel		8,000
Accommodation fee		8,000

Albie Sachs

London.

6 December, 1988.

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Objectives:

Collect materials produce packs. Publish monographs

PROPOSED BUDGET

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Rowene Kochanouska

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