



ANC

Negotiations Bulletin

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Focus on Proposed Regions

The **Commission on the Delimitation/ Demarcation of Region's** was established by the Negotiating Council of the Multi-Party Negotiating Process on 28 May 1993. The **Commission** was made up of 15 members.

The **Commission** was instructed to make recommendations on the boundaries of Regions which would be relevant to both the electoral process and the structures of the Constitution.

In performing its tasks, the **Commission** was asked to consider the following:-

1. The Constitutional Principles and criteria as recommended by the Negotiating Council;
2. Oral and written representations made by members of the public and interested groups; and
3. Written materials on the subject.

The **Commission** in preparing its report received and considered 304 written submissions and heard a total of 80 oral presentations at various centres around the country. The commission did however note its concern about the inadequacy of local community involvement in the process. This was due to a number of factors such as:

- * the limited time that was allowed;

- * the lack of capacity of many communities to respond, either orally or in written form; and
- * the limited number of people and organisations that the notification of the Commission's brief was able to reach.

The report was tabled for discussion in the Negotiating Council on 2 August 1993. A summary of the Report follows here below:-

Criteria for Boundaries

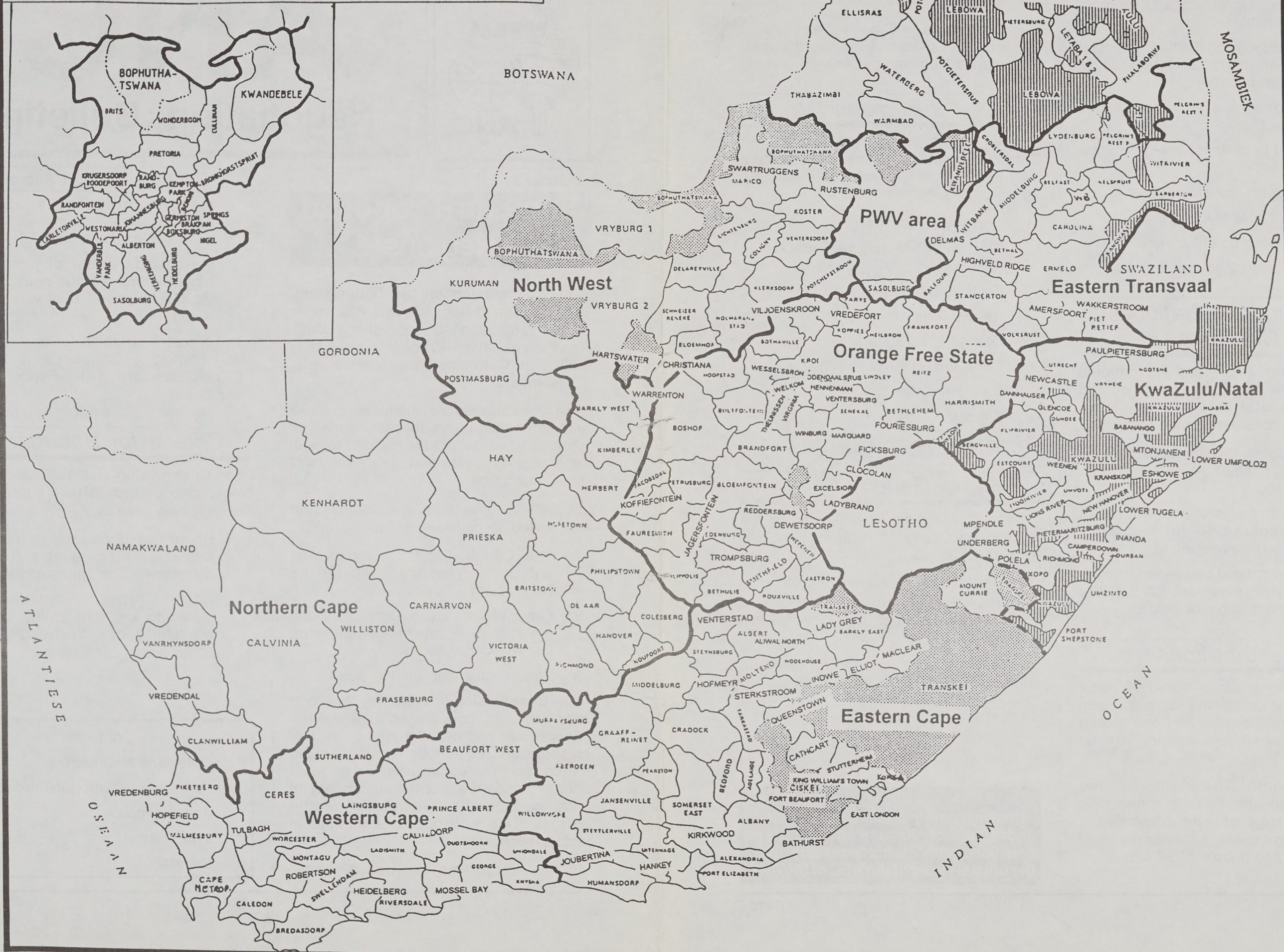
The **Commission** was instructed by the Negotiating Council to take into account the following criteria:-

- * Historical boundaries, including provincial, magisterial and district boundaries and infrastructure;
- * Administrative considerations including the availability or non-availability of infrastructures and nodal points for services;

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Regions as proposed by the CDDR



- * The need or otherwise to rationalise existing structures (including TBVC States, self-governing and regional governments);
- * The necessity of limiting financial and other costs as much as is reasonably possible;
- * The need to minimise inconvenience to the people;
- * The need to minimise the dislocation of services;
- * Demographic considerations;
- * Economic viability;
- * Development potential; and
- * Cultural and language realities.

Overarching National Concerns

There are three overarching national concerns, pertaining to the formation and demarcation of Region's, which the **Commission** considered important:-

- * The need to fashion a democratic culture by bringing government closer to the people;
- * The need to create an environment that is conducive for economic growth and development;
- * The need to build one nation through the acknowledgement of diversity and the reduction of conflict.

Assumptions

Based on all the above, there are some assumptions underpinning the discussion and recommendations that the **Commission** arrived at. These assumptions are as follows:-

- * That South Africa will be one sovereign state with a democratic system of government committed to achieving equality between men and women and people of all races;

- * That there will be strong Regional government with legislative and executive powers;
- * That there will be a free flow of goods, services, labour and capital across Regional boundaries.

9 Regions

Having considered the above, the **Commission** has recommended that there be 9 Regions (*Please refer to the map.*). These are as follows:-

1. Northern Transvaal
2. Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging (PWV)
3. Eastern Transvaal
4. KwaZulu/Natal
5. Orange Free State
6. NorthWest Transvaal
7. Northern Cape
8. Western Cape
9. Eastern Cape/Kei

General

The matter will now be debated in the Negotiating Council until agreement has been reached.

The ANC is also presently considering its response to the Report and would accordingly make the necessary submissions to the Council.

The matter will be reported on further in future Bulletins.

Notice

This Bulletin is intended merely to inform and stimulate discussion. The views contained herein do not necessary reflect the official views of the NEC of the ANC.