



Disabled People South Africa

Fund-raising Ref. No. 01 100461 000 7

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BY FAX: 011-3972211

Dear Sir

For your information.

Regards

M. Du Toit
MIKE DU TOIT
SEC. GENERAL

Disabled People South Africa

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6 July 1992

The Honourable Dr Rina Venter
Minister of National Health and Population Development

BY FAX: (021) 45 1575

Dear Dr Venter,

WITHDRAWAL OF DPSA FROM THE INTERIM FORUM ON DISABILITY ISSUES
YOUR LETTER DATED 22 MAY 1992 (3/A13/20/3) REFERS

Your response to our appeal for your intervention in the above matter
has been carefully considered.

I must remind you that we have been participating with great patience
in structures created by your department since 1986. During that year,
a great deal of time was spent on the investigation into the situation
of disabled people which resulted in the establishment of the ICCD.
The ICCD itself became an endless array of meetings until it's
disbandment as a total failure last year, having failed to implement
any of the 1986 recommendations.

The new forum was carefully negotiated and agreement was reached. The
final meeting of the ICCD resolved to recommend that you disband the
ICCD and implement the agreed forum in its place.

We are appalled that the ICCD secretariate misrepresented the minutes
of that meeting by appending the words "soos besluit is deur die
Nasionale Welsynsbeleidsraad" to the resolution. This was never
discussed in the meeting and was certainly not agreed. We agreed only
to the new forum which we had negotiated. We utterly reject your
department's transparent attempt to subvert our original intentions and
to co-opt us into the implementation of the government's welfare policy
without our consent.

We do not have any problem about complying with government regulations
pertaining to budgets. Item 3.6 of the Secosaf report clearly states
that Dr JH Schoeman and the Department were responsible for "budget
preparations for (the) forum and directorate ...". This item was
expressly ratified by the ICCD meeting on 23 October. The private
sector parties made Dr Rowland (DPSA) and Mrs Opperman (Federal
Council) available for consultation.

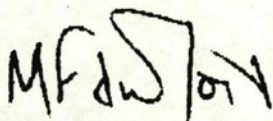
Your department had no business to convene a full meeting of the Forum
until these arrangements were in place.

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We regret that you have chosen to protect your officials rather than to address the issues which we have raised. Your failure to intervene in the matter has forced us to conclude that your department was not negotiating in good faith and we have now decided to withdraw permanently from the forum.

Needless to say, this also means that we withdraw our earlier recommendations to the ANC and CODESA concerning the forum concept.

Yours sincerely,



MIKE DU TOIT
SECRETARY GENERAL

cc Dr William Rowland, Chairperson, Interim Forum on Disability
Issues
The DPSA Delegation
The Federal Council for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled
CODESA
African National Congress