

Draft in Ass with Murphy

WOMENRES.SC (1)

## **PROPOSED GENERAL RESPONSE TO LETTERS REGARDING QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN CODESA**

As you may know, the issue of women representation in CODESA was raised very sharply by some of the women delegates from different political parties and organisations to CODESA.

However, the question of representation of women at CODESA is not directly CODESA's responsibility, but is really the responsibility of each and every party/organisation/administration that constitutes the CODESA process.

At its meeting of 13 January 1992, CODESA's Management Committee "agreed that each Working Group shall determine ways and means by which women's and other interest groups which are not participants in CODESA, may make submissions to that Working Group on matters relevant to its Terms of Reference".

The meeting further agreed that Management Committee members "should draw to the attention of their respective organisations the importance of involving women representatives in the CODESA process" by, among other things:

- + debating this matter at constituency level
- + applying for permission to appoint additional advisers to the Management Committee to address plenary sessions, on the understanding that these should be women
- + debating this matter with women's organisations at constituency level; and
- + appealing for more women delegates to the plenary sessions.