

NATIONAL PARTY SUBMISSION TO CODESA: WORKING GROUP 1
PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE-RELATED CRIME.

Violence related crime in South-Africa is unacceptably high and everything should be done to assist the SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE in combatting crime.

The following factors may stand in connection with violence related crime and merit the serious attention of Working Group 1:

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS:

Socio-economic conditions play a major role in the escalation of crime.

Special attention should be paid to UNEMPLOYMENT in this regard.

The government is committed to solving this problem.

The ultimate answer however, is a positive economic growthrate to ensure sufficient employment. In order to achieve this goal, foreign investments should be encouraged and financial and other sanctions should be lifted. Rumours to the effect that foreign loan obligations may not be honoured; talks about nationalisations and ongoing requests that sanctions should remain in place bury the possibility of a positive economic growth rate.

A UNANIMOUS Codesa-call for the upliftment of all remaining sanctions will pave the way for a positive economic climate which in turn, will lead to a diminishing of the crime rate.

A LENIENT APPROACH TOWARDS THE DEATH PENALTY:

A more lenient approach towards the death penalty may have caused the more violent nature of crime in recent times. If this presumption could be confirmed by scientific evidence, the de facto moratorium on the death penalty should be reviewed.

ARMED-ROBBERY AS FUND RAISING METHOD FOR POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS.

The most spectacular bank heist in the history of the Irish Republic in which 2,5 million Irish pounds were stolen turned out to be part of a "fund raising campaign" launched by the Irish Republican Army.

The possibility of political organisations using the same methods in South Africa could not be ruled out entirely and needs further investigation.

AUTHORITY CRISIS.

The over emphasis on the illegitimacy of the state fosters a climate of general lawlessness which culminates into violence related crime.

What requires emphasis at this point in time is the fact that the whole reform process revolves around the broadening of the legitimacy of the state.

The authority structure of the state however should not be tampered with in the interim period. If so, it could be a recipe for chaos.

MASS ACTIONS:

Mass Actions could lead to violence related crime. Mass actions should therefore at all times be conducted within the parameters set out by the PEACE ACCORD.

The expertise informations on Mass Action obtained by the COMMISSION ON THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION should be passed on to CODESA for cognisance.

AK 47'S

The increase in the use of AK 47'S in armed robberies is an alarming factor which cannot be ignored any longer. The illegal trafficking in these rifles should be stopped. A possible reward for every uncovered AK 47 will not be inappropriate.