CHAIRPERSONS DISTINGUISHED GUESTS LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Venda appreciates the progress made in the working groups 1,3,4 and 5 but we are perturbed by the impasse of resolving the constitutional principles by Working Group 2.

Venda supports the processes of making South Africa a democratic state. Basically Venda supported two-thirds majority in any constitutional principles affecting the amendments of the constitution and in the amendment of the Bill of Rights. But from a democratic compromise point of view we accept 75% to the amendment to the Bill of Rights and 70% across the board on any relevant issues. If the Government is committed to democracy, it will take these compromises into account (seriously?).

Lets us be committed to establishing a new South Africa by being honest to the truth of removing all racial relics and special protection of the minorities which was done in the past.

We respect the establishment of an undefined House of Senate which proposes to be entrenched with veto powers,

We call upon the S.A. Government to be sensitive to the yearning for Democracy and freedom by the majority of the people of South Africa.

Since 1948, the apartheid S.A. has been the major obstacle to the administration of justice. It is regrettable that at CODESA 2 The S.A, Government has failed to demonstrate the willingness to move from being guided by the past policies.

The people of South Africa as well as the International Community are holding their breath in anticipation of the kind of outcome of CODESA 2, which purports to clearly indicate a path to a genuinely democratic South Africa.

I wish to conclude by saying that whatever is contributing to the deadlock in Working Group 2 should be aware of the fact they shall go down in the history of our country as having sabotaged the creation of an orthodox democracy in our country.

Let us move towards true democracy which deprives power to those who are ruling and transfer it to the majority of the citizens of this country. I am, however, aware of the fact that power is palatable, but democracy does not allow the perpetuation of clinging to power.

Thank You.