

LANGUAGES

3 (1) Afrikaans, English, siNdebele, sePedi, seSothu, siSwati, xiTsonga, seTswana, tshiVenda, siXhosa and siZulu shall be the official South African languages at national level and conditions shall be created for their development and for the promotion of their equal use and enjoyment.

(2) Rights relating to language and the status of languages existing at the commencement of this Act shall not be diminished, and Parliament shall make provision for language rights existing only at regional level, to be extended nationally in accordance with the principles set out in subsection (8).

(3) Regional differentiation in relation to language policy and practice shall be permissible.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (2), a provincial legislature may, by a two thirds majority, determine any language contemplated in subsection (1) to be an official language for the whole or any part of the province and for all or any function within the legislative and administrative competence of that legislature.

(5) Wherever practicable, a person shall be entitled to use and to be addressed in his or her dealings with national and provincial administrations, in any one of the national or provincial official languages of his or her choice.

(6) A member of Parliament may address Parliament in the official South African language of his or her choice.

(7) Parliament and any provincial legislature may, subject to the provisions of this section, make provision by legislation for the use of official languages in relation to the functioning of government, taking into account questions of usage, practicality and expense.

(8) Legislation, as well as official policy and practice in relation to the use of languages at all levels of government shall be subject to and based on the provisions of this section and the following principles:

- (a) the creation of conditions for the development and for the promotion of the equal use and enjoyment of all official South African languages;

- (b) the extension of those rights relating to language and the status of languages which at the date of commencement of this Constitution are restricted to certain regions;
- (c) the prevention of the use of any language for the purposes of exploitation, domination or division;
- (d) the promotion of multilingualism and the provision of translation facilities;
and
- (e) respect for languages spoken in South Africa other than the official languages and the encouragement of their use in appropriate circumstances.

(9) Legislation shall provide for the establishment by the Senate of an independent Pan South African Language Board to promote respect for the above principles and to further the development of South African languages. The Board shall be consulted and invited to make recommendations in relation to any proposed legislation contemplated in this section.

NOTE: The relevant item of Schedule 9 should be amended to read as follows:

Language policy and the regulation of the use of official languages within a province, subject to section 3.

Mr Koo Pauw

012 326 7277

FAX change to : 397 2211

LANGUAGES

From: Kun Marjan

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(2) Rights relating to language and the status of languages existing at the commencement of this Act shall not be diminished, and Parliament shall make provision for language rights ^{and status} existing only at regional level, to be extended nationally in accordance with the principles set out in subsection (8).

(3) Regional differentiation in relation to language policy and practice shall be permissible.

(4) ~~Notwithstanding subsection (2),~~ A provincial legislature may, by a two thirds majority, determine any language contemplated in subsection (1) to be an official language for the whole or any part of the province and for all or any function within the legislative and administrative competence of that legislature.

save that it may not diminish language rights which exist in any area or in relation to any function at the commencement of this Act.

(5) Wherever practicable, a person shall be entitled to use and to be addressed in his or her dealings with national and provincial administrations, in any one of the national or provincial official languages of his or her choice.

in respect of the areas or functions as determined in section 5

(6) A member of Parliament may address Parliament in the official South African language of his or her choice.

(7) Parliament and any provincial legislature may, subject to the provisions of this section, make provision by legislation for the use of official languages in relation to the functioning of government, taking into account questions of usage, practicality and expense.

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4. Report # 3 from Commission 3 whose brief was to draft a letter of response to the Suid Afrikaanse Akademie.
- * 5. A questionnaire on linguistic trends in your region. This questionnaire should be administered to members of ANC structures in your region.

The purpose of the questionnaire is to assess feelings and opinions on language use in your region. For instance, some regions may be "more" multilingual than others. For example, is Natal a bilingual area with only English and Zulu as the dominant languages or is it actually multilingual (with Zulu, Xhosa, English, and Afrikaans as the dominant languages)? Is it also possible that some languages e.g. Zulu and Afrikaans are a feature only in Northern Natal? What is the situation in the Northern Cape? What seems to be the preferred medium/media of instruction in your region? These are some of the questions we would like to see being addressed.

Please feel free to add or delete questions in keeping with the needs of your region. Whatever you do, please communicate with us by means of faxing, phoning or writing so that we can know what strategies are being adopted by your region.

We would appreciate your response by Monday, 19 April 1993 so that we can begin to anticipate your likely response during the CDC (Conference on Culture and Democracy) on 27 April 1993, tentatively set aside as "Language Day". Please communicate directly with Cde Themba Wakashe, Commissions Co-ordinator through fax number (011) 333 9090 or telephone him at (011) 330 7325 between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm during weekdays.

Looking forward to your response and your conference attendance,

Yours comradely

PP *Themba*
Qedusizi Buthelezi
Co-ordinator
ANC Language Commission
African National Congress
JOHANNESBURG

* To be faxed to you shortly.