

THE FILM AND BROADCASTING FORUM (FBF)

P.O Box 801, Melville, 2109, Johannesburg.
Tel: (011) 476 7069 / 673 0372. Fax: (011) 476 7068.

6th May 1992

The Chairperson
CODESA Management Committee
World Trade Centre
Kempton Park

Dear Sir

Re: Proposal for the establishment of an independant statutory body to take over responsibility for the administration of the film industry from from the Department of Home Affairs.

The Film and Broadcasting Forum (FBF) is a discussion forum set up by membership-based organisations representing a wide range of professionals in all spheres of the film-, video- and television industry.

The FBF identified the need to redefine the role of the public sector in the film industry in a new South Africa and established an inter-organisational working group to address the issue.

The constituencies and histories of the organisations participating in the FBF differ widely, but through a process of intensive deliberations and the consolidation of the different areas of expertise offered by the organisations, a set of common proposals for the restructuring of the mechanisms of state regulation and support relating to the the film industry has been formulated.

These proposals are contained in the accompanying Interim Consensus Report and are supported by all organisations participating in the FBF, with the exception of the Film Makers Organisation (FMA), which felt that more discussions were necessary before a final proposal could be made.

In view of the process of negotiation currently taking place in South Africa, the FBF believes it would be to the detriment of the film industry if a single party to negotiations attempts to unilaterally restructure the system of state support and regulation which applies to that industry. It therefore submits the consensus proposals with regard to the restructuring of the film industry to Codesa and urge the relevant working groups to give immediate attention to the establishment of the structures necessary to address the issue.

The FBF believes communication is one of the cornerstones of democracy. South Africa's mass communication infrastructure is underdeveloped and unable to meet the demands placed upon it by changing conditions. Film and video can make an important contribution to the process of democratisation and development that needs to take place, but it can only do so if the current structures of state regulation and support are changed to reflect new priorities.

Yours sincerely



pp MICHELE WIGGET
FBF Secretary