

WORKING GROUP NO 1

CISKEI GOVERNMENT'S SUBMISSION ON:

1. ASSIGNMENT NO 1: CREATION OF A CLIMATE FOR FREE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

The Ciskei Government is convinced that crucial to the free political participation of all South Africans in the new dispensation is a climate of peace, stability and tolerance.

As a first step to the creation of such a climate the dissatisfied masses should be exposed to the knowledge that real and sincere negotiations are taking place.

Education of supporters at grass roots level is often very difficult and Ciskei Government proposes that each organisation should arrange for its leaders, on a national and regional basis, to address joint rallies simultaneously.

Responsible and co-operative statements will demonstrate that whatever political differences may exist, the community at large should come to accept these differences, peacefully.

This way political understanding and education will grow and peace stability and of course prosperity will follow.

In the same manner spokespersons should be called upon to desist from the urge to vilify leaders of other organisations. An orchestrated campaign and itinerary should be settled so that affirmative action can be taken to achieve the above proposals as soon as possible.

A. COMPLETING THE RECONCILIATION PROCESS

Noting that the process of reconciliation is still to be completed Ciskei Government urges that the question of the return of exiles and the release of political prisoners resolved in the shortest possible time. The following observations appear to be pertinent.

- 1 A clear definition of the term political prisoners should be agreed and in the same way political offences should be defined.

2. Common criminals should not be permitted to go free under the ruse of being political prisoners.
3. It should be noted that TBVC laws should be observed notwithstanding indemnities by RSA.
4. Returning exiles should not be disadvantaged because of their exile but likewise should not receive preferential treatment upon their return.

B. CONTINUING THE SECURITY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROCESS

Noting the need for stability and improved socio-economic standards the Ciskei Government submits:

1. That a single defence force be established, trained to cope with national and regional security matters.
2. The Defence Force should consist of a Rapid Deployment Force to defend the country against external military threat. In the wider sense this force could act as a stabilising influence in the greater African Region if called upon by UN etc.
3. A second arm of the Defence Force would be its territorial force based on existing territorial commands with responsibility for rural and urban counter insurgency operations and operations in support of the police.
4. The successful implementation of the National Peace Accord will facilitate a stable and secure community. This particular issue is the key to many of the major problems and should enjoy priority over all matters. Full briefings to delegations to Peace meetings should be carried out so that Regional and Local Dispute Committees will be used in the spirit of the Accord and not as forums for political positioning.

The above proposals would contain the ability of separate organisations to threaten or intimidate the public. Combined with the proposals of joint public campaigns to educate support groups the tolerance factor should increase and internal stability should improve. Any destabilising influence severely affects the following.

5. The socio-economic upliftment of the people which is fundamental and should be accelerated with the utmost determination. In this regard:
6. Fair community participation is needed. It is important that all communities should be educated to appreciate fully their own responsibilities and contributions to social upliftment.
7. Education must be de-politicised and available to the whole population.

8. Urbanisation and housing must be improved with the assistance and consent of the people who should be under no misapprehension as to economic constraints.
9. Sanctions should be uplifted forthwith.
10. Investment and industry should be encouraged with real safeguards and incentives.
11. Stable labour relations should be nurtured. Training and education to improve employment levels should be promoted.
12. National and regional commitment to sound stable and acceptable economic policies is required.

These proposals will inevitably lead to greater prosperity, satisfaction of the people, stability of the work force and the continuation of the security and socio-economic process.

3. **CREATING THE CLIMATE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR FREE
POLITICAL PARTICIPATION**

It is essential that the climate should urgently be normalised to retain credibility in CODESA. If CODESA does not deliver a rapid solution it will be seen to be yet another "talkshop" and the grass roots will lose confidence yet again.

1. Negative perceptions about the media will have to be addressed.
2. Regional leadership should be encouraged to plan common strategies towards the process of broadening the concept of democracy and the free political participation of all organisations.