REPORT OF THE MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE TO THE SECRETARIAT

The Media and Communications Committee had its first meeting attended by a spread of eight Political Parties. It has identified press accreditation, climate creating, media venues, press kits and other logistics and liaison functions as the areas requiring focus. On the recommendation of the Managing Secretariat, Colin Coleman has been appointed Manager of this Committee working in liaison with its convenors, Saki Macazuma and Piet Coetzer. A team of five core staff is assisting him in implementation of decisions and in liaison with members of the Committee who have volunteered to oversee specific focus areas.

The Committee had some discussion on the scope of its work and decided that in the course of performing its tasks should any policy decisions be required these would be referred to the appropriate bodies by the convenors assisted by the manager.

Effort is being made to broaden the involvement by political parties in performing the tasks of this Committee both in the lead-up to and including CODESA 1 itself.

It is proposed that daily press briefings be held from Tuesday onwards. The issue of spokesperson(s) needs to be resolved.

Note should be taken that subject to a press pool for photographers, no media representatives will be present on the convention floor. Instead a gallery at the upper level to observe the proceedings is being arranged. Television coverage of the proceedings will also transmitted to the press room via SABC live coverage of CODESA.