

Draft Terms of Reference of the Working Group on the Role of the International Community

1. The Context: International

For over forty years, the international community has played a vital and direct role in the evolution of events and policies in South Africa. As a result, both the Harare and the United Nations Declarations on South Africa of 1989 anticipate a continuing role for the international community in the transition process towards a non-racial and democratic society in South Africa. The UN Declaration, for example, requests the parties concerned to conclude an "agreement on the role to be played by the international community in ensuring a successful transition to a democratic order".

2. The Context: National

The validity and acceptability of the process of transition and its recognition nationally and internationally will depend on the extent to which it is open and fair and provides for the full and effective participation of all sections of our society.

The Working Group will therefore need to analyse the extent to which it is possible to create confidence building measures and decision-making by consensus by relying solely on structures established by the parties in the present negotiations.

3. The Role of the Working Group

The Working Group will therefore be expected, in the light of the above, to identify the most likely body or body of persons which is best qualified or most appropriate to assist in the period of transition. The Working Group will also have to determine whether separate ad hoc arrangements should be made for different purposes, depending on the specific objective or task to be dealt with.

In particular, the Working Group is expected to investigate and report on the necessity and feasibility of the following options for international assistance:

- an international guarantee concerning the process of transition;
- a peace-keeping force to ensure the maintenance of order and compliance with agreements;
- good-offices to overcome deadlocks;
- monitoring activities of the interim government or participation in its activities;
- supervision of transitional security mechanisms;
- mission of experts to investigate complaints against security forces or national administration;
- role in monitoring of and assisting in electoral process