

5/1/92

RESEARCH SUPPORT FOR NEGOTIATIONS / CODESA

The Research Department has been asked to provide support for the Working Group Task Forces.

We are establishing a general resource base, but require guidance from the Working Groups on their specific requirements. Our objective is to be in a position not only to respond quickly to needs identified by Working Groups but also to try to anticipate them and to make sure that Working Groups are kept aware of documentation and research which may be relevant to their tasks.

1. NETWORK OF RESOURCE PERSONS

With the co-operation of ANC departments and regions we are trying to identify resource persons and their areas of specialisation. We hope to be able to refer specific questions to them, or request research assistance as issues arise.

We are also establishing links with other democratic research groups and centres, and acquainting ourselves with what resources they have and their areas of work

2. LIBRARY & DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

This is being set up on the 8th. floor of Shell House, as soon as we are allowed to move in. The library will give access to the most essential reference and research material and to current periodicals. A special section for CODESA documents and background material is being arranged.

Tables and research facilities will be available. Arrangements can be made for storage of material.

3 DEPARTMENTAL AND SPECIAL GROUP INPUT

ANC departments and groups are considering the Working Group guidelines, and will be making inputs on the issues relating to their work. The deadline for preliminary reports is this week and these will be discussed at inter-departmental meetings.

Departments have been asked to report on the present government structures and administration, and to consider, comment on and recommend interim arrangements. They will also be trying to anticipate issues on which further information will be needed.

4. SPECIAL DOCUMENTS

We will try and assist in obtaining books, documents and papers as required by the Working Groups particularly on relevant experiences elsewhere .

Examples of material which is being obtained include:

Statutory duties of political neutrality in State
Controlled media - Material from UK New Zealand,
Australia & Canada

The Report of the New Zealand Royal Commission on
Electoral Systems and material from the Electoral
Reform Society in UK

Commonwealth Group Reports on Elections in Zimbabwe &
Namibia, and political Codes of Conduct

Interim Government arrangements in a number of
countries, including most recently Occupied Palestine
and Cambodia

Incorporation arrangements for Hong Kong etc.

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Working Groups are requested to discuss their
requirements. The department is advertising for staff,
and we hope shortly to be able to provide a comprehensive
service. In the interim we will do the best we can.

It would assist us if Working Group members would provide
documents in their possession, so they can be made
available to others.

As we are required to maintain copies of all CODESA
documents, we request all Working Groups to provide us
with a copy of each document that is distributed whether
originating from CODESA or distributed by one of the
participants. Your co-operation would be appreciated.