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To The Management Council (bodesa)

14/2/92

I wish to protest that out of the 53 per cent population of women in South Africa they will only have a contemptibly small part in the decision-making process in March when the decisive round of talks between delegates of political parties to the convention for a Democratic South Africa (bodesa) will begin in Johannesburg. I hope to hear before March that a bigger increase of South African women will have a say in the decision taken at the convention.

Yours Sincerely

blh G.T. Barker

Brittians Labour and T.V.C. Womens Committees
European Newspaper Reader

MR COUNCILLOR G. T. BARKER
67 JUBILEE AVENUE
BRIDLINGTON
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MR COUNCILLOR G. T. BARKER
67 JUBILEE AVENUE
BRIDLINGTON
NORTH HUMBERSIDE
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Councillor GT Barker
67 Jubilee Avenue
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North Humberside
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4/3/92

Dear Councillor Barker

Thank you for your letter dated 14/2/92.

We have received quite a steady stream of letters on the question of the representation of women at CODESA . This we obviously appreciate because there can be no running away from the fact that present society is totally male dominated and any attempt to jog society's conscience on this issue is very welcome.

From our point of view the representation of women at CODESA is not directly CODESA's responsibility but is really the responsibility of each and every Party that constitutes the CODESA process.

However in recognition of the seriousness of this matter, CODESA has gone some way within the ambit of its function to deal with the issue of women's participation in the CODESA process.

At its meeting of 13 January 1992, CODESA's Management Committee "agreed that each Working Group shall determine ways and means by which women's and other interest groups which are not participants in CODESA, may make submissions to that Working Group on matters relevant to its Terms of Reference.

The meeting further agreed that Management Committee members "should draw to the attention of their respective organisations the importance of involving women representatives in the CODESA process" by among other things:

- debating this matter at constituency level
- applying for permission to appoint additional advisers to the Management Committee to address plenary sessions on the understanding that these should be women
- debating this matter with women's organisations at constituency level; and
- appealing for more women delegates to the plenary sessions.

CONVENTION FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA

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Over and above this, even CODESA's Declaration of Intent (5a) goes a long way towards addressing this issue by declaring to set in motion a process ensuring that the new constitution will ensure that "South Africa will be a United, democratic, non racial and non-sexist state."

Yours Sincerely

Murphy Morobe
(CODESA Administration)