

A. GROUP 3

UPF - PROPOSALS: INTERIM ARRANGEMENT

PREAMBLE

We, in the UNITED PEOPLE'S FRONT recognizing the background and divided nature of our society hereby wish to present constitutional guidelines aimed at promoting a spirit of reconciliation and unity amongst all the people of South Africa. While we feel it a duty on our part to articulate the aspirations of the disadvantaged section of our people, we appreciate and recognize as well the need to take cognizance of the fears of some of our country-men who feel threatened by the unfolding political development.

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B. THE PRINCIPLE

The UPF accepts the need for a total replacement of the present white minority government by a democratically elected majority government in accordance with an accepted constitution of a free South Africa. The fundamentals of such a constitution are embodied in the preamble given above.

C. GENERAL REMARKS

We in UPF submit that the present white dominated oligarchical race-federation constitution with certain quasi - consociational characteristics is responsible for the following:

- corrupt administration and gross mismanagements of public funds, sponsoring programmes and projects that have brought misery, poverty, racial conflict and polarization;
- pursued policies that alienated South Africa from the rest of the civilized world pertaining investments, diplomatic and cultural contacts;
- the government does not command loyalty of a large majority of its citizens, hence a near total collapse in administration.
- established homelands and Tricameral systems based on racially modelled constitution which is to majority of citizens morally and politically unacceptable and reprehensible.

D. INTERIM ARRANGEMENT: UPF'S PROPOSAL

We in UPF would like to table the following proposal:

- a) That the present sovereignty of the state and its international status, albeit representing less than 10% of the population of South Africa should remain in place for a period of less than two years to continue the day to day business of governing the country with the following proviso:

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That CODESA, although not all the political parties are represented, is much more credible than the present government and in that case, it should be involved in the administration of the country during the period of transition. This would mean that all the recommendations arrived at Codesa through sufficient consensus, should immediately be referred to the South African Parliament for legislation and immediate implementation.

Codesa would constitute Multiparty Cabinet Committees to administer the country in association with the present cabinet, to exercise collective management and joint accountability.

Further, Codesa should see to the election of Constituent Assembly, whose major assignment would be to draw the legitimate constitution, For constitution to be legitimate, it must reflect an appreciation of the constitutional and political endeavours of the whole population and therefore it must be negotiated by credible leaders of all of the acknowledged political parties and organizations, hence, the insistence by UPF for the election of a Constituent Assembly in which all credible parties will be represented. Codesa , must never attempt to substitute a constituent Assembly, and must never attempt to draw a Constitution for South Africa.

E. THE TBVC/SG STATES DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD VIS-A-VIS CODESA

Judging from the various pieces of legislation to establish Bantustans, starting with the Bantu Authorities Act No 68 of 1951, and continuing with such legislation as the promotion of Bantu Self government Act, No 46 of 1959, the Promotion of the Economic Development of Bantu Homelands Act, etc for Central Government tried to promote the illusion of African self - government.

The fact of the matter is that TBVC/and Self Governing States are economically unviable and most are not even geographically whole. None of the four nominally independant Bantustans has been recognised by any country other than South Africa.

Available evidence shows that all Bantustans are policed by the South African military and Security apparatus.

The Bantu Homelands Constitution Act, No 21 of 1971, prohibits Homelands legislatures from dealing with matters of defense, foreign affairs, immigration, banking, customs and excise, telegraph, telephone and customs and excise radis services.

That being the case, UPF submits that the various Codesa Multiparty Cabinet Committees as proposed above, to govern the country in association with the present Government will equally embrace the administration of the TBVC/SG states. After all the South African government determines all the budgets policies & programmes TBVC/SG states.

UPF feels very strongly that there should be no special dispensation for certain states or region - this is in line with our manifesto that advocates for a Unitary State of South Africa.