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7 February 1992

The Management Council, CODESA

Dear Sirs

You have asked for submissions by South African citizens. I am extremely concerned about the following matters, and would like to know what action is being taken regarding them.

- 1. First and foremost, the paucity of women representatives at CODESA. Less than seven per cent is not good enough when women form the majority of the voters. What is being done to increase the representation of women at CODESA?
- 2. I do not believe that our future should be decided upon solely by politicians, who have their own (often selfserving) agendas. It is patently wrong and unjust that obscure political parties should be allocated voting rights when major interest groups such as trade unions, church, business, educational, health and charity organisations are denied the right - with all their expertise! - to make decisions about our future. WE MUST GATHER OUR BEST PEOPLE TOGETHER IN A COALITION INTERIM GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THE BEST POSSIBLE NEW SOUTH AFRICA.
- 3. I would like to see on the CODESA agenda:
 - * a fully enforceable Bill of Rights for women
 - * provision for a detailed investigation of the violence that is racking our country, by impartial international experts provided by the United Nations
 - * indications of strong and immediate action being taken over the provision of housing, education, social services and decent medical care for everyone
 - * the lifting of VAT on more basic foods, books, health care and medicines; the shortfall could be made up by double-taxing luxury goods, cigarettes and alcohol.

Yours sincerely Juny Hobbs
The Women's Initiative