

BELL, DEWAR & HALL
ATTORNEYS, NOTARIES AND CONVEYANCERS

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13 February 1992

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Attention: Ashley Symes

Dear Ashley

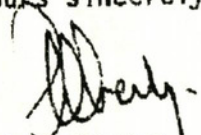
WORKING GROUP 4

Attached is a copy of a proposal received from the Labour Party of South Africa.

It appears that they would like this document sent to Working Group No 1 (sub-group No 3).

Could you please arrange to send this to each delegation in Working Group 1.

Yours sincerely



SUE ALBERTYN
BELL DEWAR & HALL

(011) 838-5088

13 February 1992

TO THE SECRETARY
WORKING GROUP 1 SUB-GROUP 3
CODESA

(F) THE LABOUR PARTY OF SOUTH AFRICA (LPSA) WISHES TO ALIGN ITSELF WITH, THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY, MOST OF THE CODESA PARTICIPANTS, THAT THE MEDIA AND ESPESTALLY THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA, COULD PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE CREATION OF A CLIMATE AND OPPERTUNITY FOR FREE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.

IN ORDER TO CREATE A JUST AND FAIR SOCIETY THE LPSA IS OF THE OPINION THAT TO CURB UNCONTROLLED POLITICAL POWER, IT WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY VITAL TO ADDRESS THE BIASED PROPAGANDA POWER OF THE ELECTRONIC AND PRINTED MEDIA. IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT CODESA SHOULD NEGOTIATE A DEAL WITH SABC/TV, WHEREBY EQUITABLE AND QUALITY TIME SHOULD BE GIVEN TO POLITICAL PARTIES OR INSTITUTIONS OF INFLUENCE TO PROMOTE THEIR POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES.

THE LPSA BELIEVES THAT THE SABC DOES HAVE THE ABILITY TECHNICALLY AND FINANCIALLY, TO CHANGE THEIR MANAGEMENT AND NEWS STRUCTURE IN ORDER TO PROMOTE RECONCILIATION, RATHER THAN POLARISATION DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. BECAUSE OF THE ENORMOUS LITERACY PROBLEM IN SOUTH AFRICA, COUPLED WITH THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE AND THE EFFECTS OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA ON PUBLIC OPINION, IT WOULD BE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF CODESA TO APPOINT EXPERTS TO MONITOR THE IMPACT OF NEWS AND ITEMS IN THE DIFFERENT LANGUAGE AND TIME SLOTS, DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD.

WHILE THE LPSA REALIZE THE URGENCY TO CHANGE THE CULTURE OF BROADCASTING OF SABC/TV AND TBVC-STATES THE LPSA IS OF THE OPINION THAT CHANGING THE CULTURE OF BROADCASTING IS A LONGTERM OBJECTIVE OF CODESA. THE LPSA IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE MAN IN THE STREET IS OUT OF TOUCH WITH THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS.

TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM THE LPSA THEREFORE RECOMMENDS THAT CODESA, NEGOTIATE WITH SABC/TV TO MAKE USE OF THE TSS-TV-CHANNEL AND RADIO STATION 2000, FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF CODESA PARTICIPANTS.

CODESA/...

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CODESA CAN APPOINT THEIR OWN EDITORIAL AND NEWS PERSONNEL. ALTHOUGH THE LPSA SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLE TO RESTRUCTURE THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA, THE LPSA IS MINDFUL OF THE FACT, THAT IT WILL TAKE TIME FOR AGREEMENT TO BE REACHED ON THE RESTRUCTURING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA.

THE LPSA ALSO BELIEVES THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE TV AND RADIO STATIONS OF THE TBVC-STATES, TO MAKE AVAILABLE A TV CHANNEL AND RADIO STATION, FOR THE SOLE USE OF CODESA PARTICIPANTS, IN THE INTERIM PERIOD.

- (J) THE LPSA BELIEVES THAT A TV AND RADIO SUBCOMMITTEE OF CODESA TOGETHER WITH THE "CODESA TV AND RADIO" PERSONNEL COULD DEVISE A POLICY, WHICH WILL ASSURE IMPARTIALITY, FAIRNESS AND POLITICAL NEUTRALITY OF "CODESA TV AND RADIO".

THE LPSA IS OF THE OPINION THAT A "ELECTION FUND" SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED. MONEY FOR SUCH A FUND COULD BE OBTAINED,

- (a). FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE TBVC-STATES.
- (b). BIG BUSINESS.
- (c). FUNDING FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

ALL POLITICAL PARTIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN A GENERAL ELECTION OR AN ELECTION FOR A INTERM GOVERNMENT, SHOULD BE FUNDED IN A EQUITABLE MANNER FROM THIS FUND.

- (K). LPSA SUPPORT THE IDEA OF FAIR ACCESS TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND MEETING VENUES. HOW TO ACHIEVE THIS IDEAL COULD BE A MAJOR PROBLEM.

LPSA SUGGEST THAT A COMMITTEE OF CODESA BE APPOINTED TO CANVASS THE SUPPORT OF THE VARIOUS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, CHURCHES, MINING HOUSES, AND FARMERS, TO ALLOW POLITICAL PARTIES TO USE THEIR FACILITIES.

- (L) THE LPSA SUPPORTS THE PROPOSAL THAT ALL PARTIES OR EVEN PRIVATE INSTITUTION, WHICH ALIGN THEMSELVES WITH THE IDEALS OF VARIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES, MUST BE ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN THEIR OWN MEANS OF MASS COMMUNICATION.

THE LPSA HOWEVER IS NOT IN FAVOUR OF STATE SUBSIDISED NEWSPAPERS OR MAGAZINES FOR PARTY POLITICAL PURPOSES.

I J KRUGER
LABOUR PARTY