

FAX MESSAGE

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SUBMISSION TO CODESA WORKING GROUP 3

I am worried by the lack of representativeness of Codesa and the virtual exclusion of certain major groupings and points of view, together with a lack of consultation with the general public.

The limitation of Codesa to political parties is, in my view, a major flaw and I hope steps will be taken to overcome it. Codesa as it stands is chiefly representative of male politicians. Steps must be taken to obtain a greater involvement by women, possibly by the inclusion of women's groups. No politicians have yet shown themselves to be sensitive to the Environment, yet it must be a major part of our planning for the future: Environmentally-concerned groups such as the Wildlife Society and Earthlife Africa need to be closely consulted.

Finally, there is a lack of input from ordinary citizens. No politician from Codesa has taken the trouble even to come and try to explain it to us back in the constituencies, yet we will shortly be asked to vote in a referendum on whether the process should continue. How can we make an informed decision? I would like to see mini-Codesas at Provincial and Municipal levels, both to relay proposals to National level, and to keep us informed of agreements reached at National level. Without this type of grass-roots democracy I believe we may find that our leaders have come to a meeting of the minds which is not shared by ordinary citizens! I stress that the consultation and information must be two-way: We must share in the trust which is built up between leaders of our diverse parties.

Yours faithfully



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