

SUBMISSION OF XIMOKO PROGRESSIVE PARTY TO SUB-COMMITTEE 3 OF WORKING GROUP 4 ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCIAL AND PRACTICAL EFFECTS OF REINCORPORATION OF THE TBVC STATES

1. The Ximoko Progressive Party regards the reincorporation of the TBVC states as an issue of importance and great concern
2. The independence of the TBVC countries was gained by virtue of a bilateral agreement by each of them with the S.A. government  
 Reciprocally, reincorporation must necessarily be renegotiated between the same parties. The initial step would seem to be the bilateral repeal of the laws which established the TBVC countries
3. The ultimate goal will be to restore the TBVC countries to their pre-independence status while negotiations continue. This will have the advantage that the citizens of these areas will negotiate for the new South Africa from the same platform as the rest of South Africans
4. Reincorporation will necessarily have implications for the existing administrative structures, civil services, taxation, developmental projects etc. It is therefore necessary to note that although the independence of these States was gained by virtue of some legislative decrees which did not have any regard to recognised democratic processes, it will be necessary to employ a form of mechanism which will take cognisance of the aspirations of the affected people. This means therefore either that referendums will have to be conducted by each of the TBVC countries, or reincorporation forums as advocated by Brigadier Ramoshwana of Venda, employed
5. Assuming that the reincorporation is acceptable by those affected, and that South African citizenship is restored to the present citizens of the TBVC countries, negotiating forums such as CODESA can boast of participants who operate from the same platform. Only then can real negotiations begin. The aim of CODESA is to redress the imbalances of the past. It is endorsed in the declaration of intent that the aim of CODESA is to bring about an undivided democratic S.A. with one nation sharing a common citizenship patriotism and loyalty
6. It is true that the geographic realities of population distribution and concentration will remain even in the postapartheid S.A. Only the forms of government will change. On the other hand it would be naive if we fail to acknowledge the diversity or plurality of cultures in S.A. and to protect that diversity by means of appropriate mechanisms. It would further be remiss if we did not acknowledge, as Brigadier Ramoshwana has noted, that apartheid in spite of its evils, has afforded public officials opportunity of acquiring considerable experience and knowledge of running state affairs and the administration of public policy  
 Legislation will have to be enacted to safeguard the interests of civil servants and others to ensure stability and maintenance of this store of expertise

7. Despite the deffernce in their degree of affinity for the status quo, the TBVC countries are strongly united in their quest for international recognition which has thus far eluded them. The citizens of the TBVC states must be made clearly to understand what the consequences are of international non-recognition since South Africa cannot unilaterally engineer such recognition for these states if the nature and history of their independence is not acceptable to the international community

8. That the TBVC states are regarded world-wide as products of Apartheid and will continue to be so unless their position is legitimized. This could presumably only be achieved if both the citizens of these states and those of South Africa supported their independence and such independence represented the democratic will of all concerned. A unilateral decision of the TBVC states to retain their independence would therefore have potentially crucial consequences for their citizens of which they should be made thoroughly aware before being required to make a decision; That, until such time as the question of reincorporation of the TBVC states into South Africa is resolved, they remain de facto independent states with <sup>right to</sup> no participation on the same basis as South Africa's internal parties in the process of determining the constitutional future of South Africa

This argument is based on the principle that those participating in the debate should be those who will have to bear the consequences of any decisions flowing there from