

DEMOCRATIC PARTYSecond submission to Working Group 4 Sub-committee 3 - the administrative, financial and practical effects of reincorporation of the TBVC states

1. Working Group 2 has agreed that there shall be three tiers of government - national, regional and local - with democratic representation at each level. The duties and functions of each level will be entrenched in the constitution, with the proviso that each level of government may delegate powers, duties and functions to lower levels. No decisions have yet been taken on the allocation of powers, duties and functions or on the number and boundaries of regions.

2. It therefore seems sensible to regard public administration and finance in the TBVC states as having to go through two stages of transformation. The first stage involves reincorporation into South Africa as distinct entities. The second stage (which will also involve national states and provincial administrations) will consist of reorganisation of the public sector to accommodate new regions.

3. The second stage has two characteristics. Firstly, the progress which WG 4 can make on it depends on decisions made in WG 2. There is little detail at this stage for us to work with. How far WG 2 will go at the level of detail is itself uncertain. Secondly, the working out of the second stage will take considerable time, certainly stretching beyond CODESA itself. The first stage has neither of these characteristics.

4. With regard to the second stage, it is proposed that:

\* WG 4 SubC 3 goes as far as it can in agreeing on proposals, given progress in other WGs.

\* WG 4 gives consideration to the form to be taken of an ~~accountable mechanism to be set up by the interim government to deal~~

with the legal, administrative and financial implications of political decisions about the reorganisation of government functions. This mechanism would develop proposals and submit them to the interim government;

\* all aspects of WG 4's terms of reference which it cannot deal with fully be referred to that mechanism for attention. These will probably include:

- optimal use of existing infrastructure
- review of development priorities
- future of the civil service
- rationalisation of parastatals.

5. With regard to the first stage, it is proposed that:

\* efforts be made by WG4 SubC3 to identify more precisely the implications of the loss of statehood implied by reincorporation. This has implications for:

- defence and other security matters, including the police. The DP would like to see unification of all police forces into the South African Police as soon as possible.
- foreign affairs
- taxation
- state assets and debt
- land transfers/adjustment of borders.

\* these implications should be reported on in some detail and should be accompanied by appropriate recommendations.

\* should non-reincorporation be decided upon in for any of the TBVC states, the status quo would be maintained in respect of it/them.

6. The Democratic Party reserves the right to make further submissions to WG4 SubC3.