

FAX-MEMORANDUM

TO: CODESA
THE SECRETARIAT

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FROM: JAY DOUWES

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SUBJECT: THE FORMATION OF A NATIONAL HOUSING
FORUM

DATE: 16 MARCH 1992

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WORKING COMMITTEE
NATIONAL HOUSING FORUM
P.O. BOX 15714
VLAEBERG
8018

1992.03.13

THE SECRETARIAT
CODESA
P.O. BOX 307
ISANDO
1 600

ATTENTION : MR THEUNS ELLOF

Dear Sir

THE FORMATION OF A NATIONAL HOUSING FORUM

1. A widely representative National Discussion Forum held on 1 August 1991 to consider the Hostels issue concluded the following:
 - 1.1 The hostels issue is a National Priority that must be resolved with the participation of Hostel Dwellers and Adjoining Communities, Political Parties and Civics, The State and Local and Provincial Authorities.
 - 1.2 A National Housing Forum must be established to develop a framework within which hostel issues can be addressed.

The IDT and DBSA were requested to act as conveners of a Working Committee to address these issues.

2. The Working Committee consisted of representatives of the ANC, PAC, AZAPO, IFP, NATIONAL INTERIM CIVICS COMMITTEE, NACTU, COSATU, W.Cape Hostel Dwellers Association, the South African Government (Dept. of Planning, Provincial Affairs and Housing), as well as a support group consisting of representatives from the SAHT, SBDC, UF, IDT, DBSA and CBM.

The Working Committee evolved the following terms of reference:

- 2.1 After due consultation with all current policy initiatives/actors, to develop proposals for a broadly based, representative National Housing Forum to formulate National Housing Policy and Strategy within an overall development framework (including the integration/co-ordination with other housing policy initiatives).
- 2.2 To formulate short-term guidelines to address current and new hostel initiatives while recognising the need for such initiatives to be integrated into the local housing and urban development context.

3. A subsequent National Discussion Forum was held on 1 November 1991 and the Short Term Guidelines and the Proposals for a National Housing Forum (attached) were adopted by those mandated to do so and referred to a Working Committee for further action.

The Working Committee was composed of representatives from the ANC, PAC, AZAPO, IFP, NACTU, COSATU, NICC, EMPLOYERS, GOVERNMENT, SAHT, SBDC, UF, IDT, DBSA and CBM.

4. The Working Committee proceeded with the necessary actions to constitute a National Housing Forum:

4.1 On 25 January 1992 the Government representatives advised the meeting that the government had decided to withdraw from forum discussions in favour of potential alternative processes that could develop via CODESA.

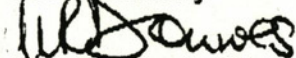
4.2 The remaining participants, being a broadly representative group, decided to proceed with the establishment of a National Housing Forum in view of the urgent need to discuss and resolve substantive problems in the housing field. This process will, of necessity, have to interact with the CODESA processes and a working relationship will have to be developed.

4.3 Minister Leon Wessels met with the Working Committee on 18 February 1992 and it was agreed that the Government would retain a working relationship with the National Housing Forum.

4.3 The Working Committee is establishing the National Housing Forum on a basis that will allow all parties who have an interest in the housing process to participate in the development of national housing policy and strategy through constructive interaction with the government of the day.

I would like to meet with you to discuss this process and its relationship with CODESA. Please either contact me directly at the Centre for Policy Studies (011) 402-4305 or Jay Douwes of the Secretariat (021) 24-5592.

Yours Sincerely



fp. Khehla Shubane
CHAIRMAN
WORKING COMMITTEE

cc WORKING GROUP 1
KADER ASMAL
c/o ANDREW FEINSTEIN

WORKING GROUP 2
COLIN EGLIN
c/o MARK PHILLIPS

WORKING GROUP 3
KEN ANDREWS
c/o COLIN COLEMAN