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Chamber ofwBusiness

P O Box 255 StMichaelis-on-Sea 4265 T (03931) 51102 Fax: (03831) 51118

Dr Renosi Mokate 7 September 1993
Technical Secretary

Commission on Demarcation/Delimitation of Regions

P O Box 307
ISANDO 1600

COMMISSION ON REGIONS

Dear Dr Mokate REF: 1/11 /20. /5.6

EXISTING REGION E

Having received a copy of Durban Regional Chamber'sg
motivation (copy attached) that Region E remain as is, our
Chamber would like to endorse these sentiments as we feel
that any alterations would be detrimental to the economic
growth and development in Region E.

We also attach a copy of our motivation as to why Southern
Natal and East Grigqualand remain part of Region B as it
exists.

Yoursg rfalthrully

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PRESIDENT

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@ BOUNDARY DELIMITATIONS

in their report, the Commission on Demarkation/Delimitation of Regions, was of the opinion that East Griqualand should be excluded from Natal/KwaZulu.

â\200\230The Chamber sl stands by Its submission tu the Commission, as the ecanomy of the East Griqualand region is so interwoven with that of the rest of the present Region E, that any attempt to Jink its future with any other region will heavily penalise the economic development of the area and the future wellbeing of its people. We also reaffirm our belief that the "Mount Currieâ\200\235 portion of development Region B should remain finked to Natal, â\200\230 '

Once again, we reiterate that the major concern of this Chamber is with the health of business, and that given political freedom, economic development is the primary determinant of individual wellbeing and fulfilment. We also reiterate that all the above arguments are based on the fact that Durban and Pietermaritzburg are the dominant economic nodes with all established infrastructure gravitating towards these iwo centres. It therefore is only logical that the areas in Guestion remain part of the Natal regiop,

Extended Page

Chamber of Business

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The Cummission 28 June 1993
Regional Boundaries â\200\230 ,

P O Bax 307

ISANDO 1600

Dear Sir

MOTIVATION WHY SUUTHEKN NATAL SHOULD REMAIN PART OF REGICN
{ NATAL)

We would like to express our oppogition to the proposal that
the area South of the Umzimkulu River be incorporated into a
Border Kei region for the following reasons:

1. The area sonth Af the Umaimluly Rive: luncorporates Lhe
coastal strip of tourism-dependent towns Port Shepstone,
Shelly Beach, Uvongo, Margate, Ramsgate, Marina Beach,
Southbroom, Munster, Port Edward and inland to Harding.

600,000 visitors per Year are received by this area,
contributing R200-million to the local economy .

The South Coast is the most popular destination in Natal
and the second most popular in South Africa.

There are 50,000 holiday beds available and the coast
hag the largest presentation of tourist facilities in
the country catering for a largely selective and wealthy
tourist from the Transvaal and Orange Free State.

There is enormous national investment in the South Coast
where Reef ownerg of second homes, time share, flale ete
feature largely in the region. : :

THERE WILL BE NATION-WIDE REPERCUSSIONS
WITH ENORMOUS NATIONA

DWELLINGS BECOMES PAR

THE TRANSKET,

Total rateable land value of these towns: R313,555,525
Total rateable building values where

applicable{ R532,343,760

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It concerns us that the proposed region will not conform to the Magisterial District of Port Shepstone, which will be split resulting in legal chaos requiring costly restructuring and unavoidable delays in legal processing.

A major concern is the proposed division of the existing Southern Natal Joint Services Board which operates from south of the Umkomaas River to Port Edward and inland including Radding. '

The current budgetted income of the Southern Natal JSB is R8-million, for the provision of services to a population of 1,260,000. The incorporation of a totally undeveloped Transkei region will have a detrimental effect on an already critically short-funded region where unemployment is already at an unacceptable high.

The current GDP of the existing Region 36 is

R200 million (R200 million of which will be lost through the drought). Tourism and agriculture form the economic base of Southern Natal/KwaZulu. The region's annual economic growth rate from 1985 to 1990 was 0,6%, the lowest in Region E. The gross Geographic Product of the region is 52% of the figure for Region E and 30% of that for the rest of the RSA. A salient feature of the region, now proposed for division, is the high level of poverty. OILUTING THE SOUTHERN NATAL ECONOMY FURTHER BY LINKING IT TO AN IMPOVERISHED TRANSKEI SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED.

A further concern is the acceptability by KwaZulu of incorporation into a Transkeian area. If unacceptable, this could lead to civil strife and unrest between these two groups which will spell economic disaster for an economy based mainly on tourism.

It is our recommendation that Southern Natal/KwaZulu, south of the Umzimkulu River, remain part of the existing Region E where Durban and Pietermaritzburg are our dominant economic nodes. Southern Natal/KwaZulu and East Griqualand, through close economic activity and dependency on Durban and Pietermaritzburg, and each other, must through economic necessity remain in Region E,]

We urge the Commission to take cognizance of our present economic need to remain in Region E and not to consider coupling Southern Natal/KwaZulu and East Griqualand with

an impoverished economy where it will be well-nigh impossible to obtain economic growth in the foreseeable future or address job creation and the provision of infrastructures.,

Yours faithfully
A. HOFMANN
for A. HOFMANN

PRESIDENT

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24 June 1993

The Chairman

Commission on Demarcation/Delimitation of
Regions

P O Box 307

ISANDO

1600

FAX NQ: 011 3972105

Dear Sir

RE: SUBMISSIONS TO COMMISSION ON DEMARCATION/
DELIMITATION OF REGIONS

The Submissions put forward by this Chamber are based purely on business and economic reasons, and have no political connotations of any kind whatsoever. It is our belief that economic freedom will be the cornerstone of the success of any future political dispensation that will result from the multi-party negotiation process.*If .

economic freedom is not attained, then the other basic fundamental human rights, as ~Â° important as they may be, will become absolutely meaningless and the present instability and uncertainty will prevail. It is on this basis that our thoughts on boundary delimitations are presented. '

It is not our intention to repeat what other Chambers of Business in Natal have presented, nther than to lend our total support to their Submissions, Here, reference is made to the document submitted by the Matatiele Chamber of Business and the Kokstad Chamber of Business, prepared by the Bast Grigualand Regional Development Association, snd entitled "Motivation - Why East Grigualand Should Remain Part of Region E (Natal)". The arguments presented in this document are fully supported by this Chamber. Essentially, this entails that the "Mount Currie" portion of development Region 38 must remain in Natal, Once again, support for this is based on economic and business considerations only. We are supportive of Region 38 remaining in Natal as the business prospects in that region are at present extremely positive. Casting our eyes towards the Transkei, a state of poverty and decay has attacked the little towns along the road through that region and from a business perspective this is unacceptable, g5 we would not want a similar fate to follow in the Kokstad/Matatiele area. Also in this regard, is that the â\200\234island"â\200\235 of Umzimkulu should also be included in Natal as economic

~ and business reasons, necessitate this. SG ,S

All the above arguments are based on the fact that Durban and Pietermaritzburg are the dominant economic nodes with a gravitational force of attraction so strong, that economically it is only logical that they remain in the Natal region.

We further support the maintaining of the Port Shepstone to Port Edward portion of the Southern Development region 36 in Natal. Here, even stronger arguments exist for inclusion, these being; historically, economically and administratively this portion is inextricably linked to Natal. A major plus factor for this region to remain in Natal is the fact that the tourist trade is a major component of economic activity in the area. In fact, the Port Shepstone to Port Edward area relies almost exclusively on tourism as a generator of economic activity. Removing this region from Natal will result in the same pattern that has unfortunately enveloped Transkei, where the tourist industry has faded to something worthless and avoided by tourists. This is a sad state of affairs for a region which once boasted a phenomenal tourist trade with an envied potential. One has only to look at the current state of Port St John to emphasise this point,

A cause for concern is the present state of Transkei. The present government in that region is technically a foreign player which, at this point in time, has not committed itself to being a part of the intimate State of South Africa and by so doing, leaves the door open to remain an independent country should the political outcome not be favoured by that government. This, once again, reiterates the requirement that the necessary steps be initiated for the reincorporation of Transkei, Bopututswana, Venda and Ciskei into the Republic of South Africa. As things exist at the moment, one must question the participation of the Transkei government as even being party to the discussions,

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"This Chamber is also of the opinion that if a dispute arises about border delimitations, that the region in question should, as a last resort, seek a democratic poll to resolve the issue. This written submission's approach has been very brief and deliberately devoid of specific detail. It is essentially based on a "heads of argument" approach, with the intention of expanding upon the arguments when oral evidence is submitted. Once again, this Chamber reiterates that its viewpoints are directed by economic and business considerations alone. Business has a vested interest in the outcome of the delimitations as it is essential for the survival of business that the resultant regions are as business friendly as possible, and in order to achieve this, and so benefit the entire country, the proposed regions must facilitate an environment that is conducive to the success of business.

Yours faithfully

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