

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting held on 1st Sept 1978

PRESENT: Mohammed Tikly in the chair, Alf Bransky, Vic Finkelstein,
Gairu Hussey, Freda Katz, Jai Singh, Harold Wolpe
APOLOGIES: Liz Finkelstein, Laura Miller

1. MINUTES of July 7th Meeting accepted.

2. MATTERS ARISING/CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Books: Letter from Luanda requesting certain books. Jai to contact Penguins, Harold, Heinnemans. If necessary Collets should be approached. Also suggested that some authors might be contacted. Delivery of books from R&K Paul, as arranged by Harold, should be checked.
- (b) Appeal: Leaflet - we discussed the draft leaflet and decided that instead of using the term "refugees" it should be stressed that students had left S.A. as a political act, that the ANC was now faced with the task of implementing its educational policy and that the school was for the education of people who will fight for a non-racist S.A. Harold & Mohammed to restructure the leaflet and produce draft copies for the next meeting.
 - Poster - a basic draft had been prepared and we discussed this. Suggestions were made, such as replacing the word "refugees" with "SA children in exile". Also pinpointing Soweto, Lusaka, Dar & Luanda on the map of Southern Africa. Tessa Wolpe and Beryl Baker to be asked to alter and complete the poster.
- (c) Questionnaire: those handed out to Units had been recalled by the Office. We agreed that we do need to know information about potential helpers and that through individual contacts we should compile a list of names and the fields in which members could offer help. This suggestion would first be cleared with the Office.
- (d) Noted that all letters going out from our Committee should first be cleared with the Office.
- (e) Cuba: John Griffith to be asked to show the film on Cuban education on Oct 21st. This is for the general membership. Venue to be found.
- (f) Invitation from Nottingham University A-A for a speaker. The Office to be asked to supply one.
- (g) Letter from Lusaka:
 - i. This stated that the document "Curriculum Design" had been helpful to them and that they hoped to endorse it. We agreed to inform them that this document had not been produced by the London Education Committee and that we had not discussed it as at the time when it was produced we had been told that it was outside our province. We should also point out that most members of our Committee had not seen the document at all and it should be sent to us if Lusaka wanted our comments on it.
 - ii. History syllabus: the letter stated that Lusaka agreed that producing a history syllabus was the Education Committee's responsibility. A letter to this effect had been sent to the Research Committee. We agreed that Mohammed should contact Moletsi immediately and that the Research Committee should be asked to work with our Sub-Committee. They should be asked to make available material they have collected and information about contacts they have made.
 - iii. The letter asked for our ideas and issues to be discussed at the proposed Tripartite meeting in Morogoro. We agreed to ask that this meeting be held at a later date. We agreed provisionally that Harold should go but we would defer the final decision until we had a firm date. We decided that we would be in a better position to make recommendations after next week's special meeting on "The Burning Issue.." document.

(h) Maputo Seminar documents: the Seminar Report and the Lusaka Committee's "Education Policy of the ANC(SA)" accompanied the Lusaka letter. We agreed that Vic should circulate copies and summarise the Report for next week's special meeting, if it was relevant to "The Burning Issue.." document. If not, we would discuss it at our next ordinary meeting.

3. 8th JUNE MEMO FROM DAR COMMITTEE: this was tabled. After a lengthy discussion we agreed to write and state that we had read the Memo with alarm. We would endorse points 1, 2 and 3 on page 5 and agree with the Dar stand, but we would state that although we had experienced difficulty through the NEC's failure to officially endorse and give clear directives on its education policy, we were able to go on working within certain limits.
4. SUB*COMMITTEE REPORTS: for next ordinary meeting.
5. A.O.B.
 - i. Vic reported that Liz had asked if we could ^{at times} meet at their house so that she could attend. We would consider this, but were aware of the difficulty of members getting there, particularly from South London.
 - ii. Vic reported on his contacts with the Open University. The AUT was more amenable to giving general help than in pressuring the Open University to donate publications, but we would try again. Names of individuals he could approach were given to Vic.
6. NEXT ORDINARY MEETING to be held on Sept 29th at the Office.