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CDS/SASPRO MEETING

LUSAKA, 10-11 MARCH 1990

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

PRESENT: AFRICAN NATIONAL CDNGREES (DEPARTMENTS AND NAWONAL EXECUTIVE), CENTRE FOR DEWELDPMENT SMITHS (TRUSTEES AN D CO-313ng EC); COMMITTEE), SASPRO (ORGANISERS AN D FACILITATING

NOTE: In the minutes which follow, at certain points recommendations emanating from h an- mntinz, and which have a bearing on the point being made, have been highlighted.

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and nuth'nndr (i) that them was a general nud ta speed upytibx'e pmgxcaa "Edipti dull: 31 :5

CDS/SASPRO; (ii) that then: was a need to review the role that CDS/SASPRO will play;

and (iii) that there was a need to distkue's how SASPRO win W m

country in the next few months. b o c integrated into the \_

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' the work being done by CDS- In briei, he referred to the regiogzlpgtmt 132:2: 33:13:33 Of

CDS. Regional reports were provided for Nata! (Appcndlx 1), Eastern Cape (Appendix?)

and Border (Appendix 3% Hi8 re rt al50 summa I .

other regions (Appendm 4). 90 l' sed some of the issues raised in the

It was generany rechgnised that there was a great sense Dfur en n a , ' . .

. Part of the delay was negeesitated by a review. commissionedgby ?he ontarlgog the gzcgj fcgjf

the lcga! instruments thrdznz the Project. A new set of documents (Appendix 5) had bgcn drawn up to W and ensure the project was accenntable in both a legal and political sense.

A number of National Study Commission workshops had been held recentiy and netionai programmes of action defined at these meetin s and in subse uent '

particular, activities within the regions had culfm'nated in: q consuhatmns. In-

(i) a national programme of action being drawn up for the Local Goheihm-ent

and Planning Study Commission. This -

sources. was to be funded Erom a vanety of

(ii) a national regramme of action being detined by the. rt. 30th Lahd I'vld

Environment gnarl; Commissions. Sue Land is presently eagerdinaang :hne

development of thzs report. \_

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(iii) a national workshop being held for the Economics and Labour Study Commissions on the weekend of 11 March 1990.

(iv) a national workshop being proposed for the Education Study Commission on the 27 March 1990 at UWC. This workshop will also include representatives from the national political and education structures.

(v) a national workshop being proposed for soon after 7 April 1990 at which the legal and Constitutional Study Commissions will be able to draw up a national programme of action.

(vi) a national programme of action being developed by the Health and Welfare Study Commissions; and

. (vii) a national programme of action being developed for the Media and . Culture Study Commissions.

REPORT FROM SASPRO: The Director provided an overview of the work of SASPRO.

the project had been registered as a company on the 10 October 1988. Its policy objectives

were similar to those of CD8, and like CDS had taken a long time to get established. The history of the project was reviewed: an Interim Committee had been replaced by a Management Council. In turn, a subcommittee of the Management Council (Facilitating Committee) had been created to manage the decision-making.

A distinction was drawn between the work done by the ANC Departments and that of SASPRO. SASPRO was not concerned with the immediate ANC priorities. but we dealing with the question of transition.

The work undertaken to date was primarily in facilitating workshops on Women (two have been held). Land (two have been held), Local Government and Planning, Constitutional Guidelines, Culture, Health and Social Welfare. In addition, seminars organised by the various ANC Departments have been funded by SASPRO. ' .

Recommendation: That documentation prepared for, or arising out of, the workshops be published as soon as possible. In addition, it was noted that wherever possible the work must be translated into the vernacular (Zulu, Xhosa, Venda, Sotho, Afrikaans, etc.)

REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: It was noted the BOT had examined the legal instruments defining the project and it was felt that there were certain inadequacies in

respect of the question of accountability and clarity. A new Deed of Trust had been drafted which provides for a General Council of the Community (elected representatives from community organizations). In addition, administrative tasks are removed from the Trustees.



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The BOT felt that a great deal of progress had been made in the project even though the project was developing relatively slowly in view of the changing situation in South Africa.

Recommendation: All interested parties are to examine the new draft copies of the legal instruments and are to provide suggestions and comment.

DISCUSSION: A number of points were raised in discussion and these related to the general objectives of CDS/SASPRO. Firstly, discussion ensued around what was seen as a tension between rigorous research and democratising research. It was noted that one needed to find ways of harnessing the skills of those who have them. It was also necessary to recognise that while not all of our people have access to research skills, there was a need

to ensure an equal distribution of the products of these skills.

Secondly, it was noted that CDS/SASPRO are not in the business of formulating policy, as that will be done 'by the relevant institutions of the liberation movement. Rather, CDS/SASPRO were to actively develop networks of researchers who would undertake policy research.

STATE OF OUR NATION AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR CDS/SASPRO

An input was provided by members of the NBC on the recent developments and their implications for CDS/SASPRO. It was noted that the ANC NBC had decided to establish a visible ANC inside our country striving to establish dual power. There was a need to become a broad, mass-based, vanguard organization.

Clearly, this decision had a number of important political spinoffs: what would happen to existing political structures, what form would the ANC structure take, how would the repatriation of ANC cadres occur. Without detailing these political decisions it is important to recognise the following:

(i) That in the next few months all the major Departments of the ANC would be returning to the country.

(ii) That at least 14 regional branches would be established inside the country.

(iii) That the UDF, MC, TIC, white political structures, etc. would either disband or drastically change their form.

After discussion, it was noted that there were a variety of areas where CDS/SASPRO could play an important role in this period of transition:

(a) Addressing the momentous immediate needs

Here, a number of important areas in which CDS/SASPRO could play a role were noted. In particular, the whole question of repatriation requires research in order to make it a



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orderly process and in addition the repatriation of researchers opens up new possibilities.

There was a substantial amount of research which was needed in setting up new structures. undertaking demographic analyses. identifying refugee needs and becoming involved in addressing the strategic needs of the movement. With regard to the latter. it was noted that

work needed to be undertaken on the middle ground and the whole question of 'ethnic' attitudes.

Recommendation: That the work presently underway at the National Office, and which aims to establish a data base containing information on the CDS/SASPRO network and all commissioned work, be actively supported and encouraged to disseminate the results of the work as soon as possible.

(ii) Undertaking policy research

It was noted that the ANC. Departments themselves would be. requiring a substantial amount of research work to be undertaken in order to prepare for the negotiations process and constitution-building. '

In addition, there were a variety of needs on the ground itself which would need to be addressed by the Study Commissions of CDS/SASPRO.

(iii) Development of a mechanism for ensuring research questions are addressed

It was noted that CDS/SASPRO needed to become much more efficient in both the commissioning of research and development of research programmes. In addition. there was a need to ensure research found its way to CDS and that when commissioned, the research got done. ,

Recommendation: In this regard it was accepted that CDS urgently establish a research centre (under the overall supervision of the National Office) consisting of at least a . Research Director who would be empowered to ensure research was commissioned . adequately, that the research networks of the Study Commissions continued to function properly, and that the research actually got underway within CDS.

It was noted that there was a tension between the need for centralisation and the need for

regionalisation of CDS. It was hoped, however, that with the appointment of a Research Director

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(1) to utilise the project on Study Commission lines and ensure the Study Commissions developed their own working dynamic; and

(ii) ensured that we developed a scientific research collective which could ensure prompt turn-around times for project creation and implementation.



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(tv) Development of Study commissions and the Implementation of National Programmes of Action.

It was recognised that there was some very important work presently underway. This work was actively trying to ensure that organizations became empowered and that the important educational task of CDS/SASPRO continued.

(v) Integration of SASPRO into CDS

It was agreed that as a matter of urgency, SASPRO officials would return home. and the project would be integrated into CDS. Given the increased resource needs of CD3 some of the funds allocated to SASPRO could be made available to CD5.

(vi) Ensuring the process of repatriation is orderly

Concern was expressed that the process of repatriation needed to be orderly otherwise institutions would create divisions within the organization. Problems with the way UCI' has exploited the return of cdes. Jack and Ray were noted.

Recommendation: CDS needed to become actively involved in developing a plan for the repatriation of our odes. (from abroad, from the region and from the prisons).

FUNDING

It was noted that the funds were now available and would be provided once the necessary documents were signed, Additional sources of funds would need to be secured. '

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at home.