

1. Composition of Delegations:

- a) The ANC delegation was led by the Secretary General, Cde A. Nzo, Others present were cdes TM, ST, SMab, BM, EPahd, P Fitzgerald and R Mpongo.
- b) South African Rugby Board(SARB) :
Danie Craywen(President) Dr Louise Luyt, Tommy Bedford.
- c) South African Rugby Union(SARU):
E.Patel(President), J.J. Bailey(Gen. Secretary)
Dr I Jakoet(Treasurer) L Mpati (Ass. Secretary)

2. Objective of the Meeting

Exploring the possibilities of setting up a single non racial rugby body within the country. Both SARB and SARU had earlier had consultations with the ANC to discuss sports in general and rugby in particular. A common position was reached on the need to integrate sports within the broad democratic movement and identify its role in the evolving situation.

3. Opening Remarks

- a) Cde SG welcomed both delegations, underlining the significance of the meeting in the light of current developments inside the country. The ANC, at the request of both parties, has agreed to play a mediating role not as an outsider but as a Movement at the vanguard of the national liberation process for a future ^{unitary} democratic and non racial South Africa.
- b) In response, SARB indicated that its presence is a reflection of a commitment towards the unity of rugby in the interest of the youth of our country and the future of rugby in South Africa. The leadership of SARB has been castigated for having initiated contacts with the ANC in the wake of the press "leakage" about our first contacts. Explanations made to their colleagues was: the ANC sports administrators happened to have been invited - as South Africans took part in discussions. The SARB Executive mandated the delegation to discuss the prospects of unity.
- c) SARU expressed gratitude for the invitation extended, observing that the differences between SARU/SARB are not insurmountable the basis on such unity will have to be genuine non racialism

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with the involvement of the membership at grassroot level. A final agreement on the possible new organ cannot be reached outside the borders of our country.

- d) For the purpose of the press, which laid siege of the meeting venue, an ANC spokesperson was charged with issuing a brief statement that SARU/SARB are meeting the ANC to discuss issues of mutual interests in the sporting world. The future of rugby is of interest to all of us.

3. An Outline on Attempts at developing Intergrated Rugby

- a) The meeting was informed on how SARU emerged on the scene: Up to 1955 existed four(4) major rugby boards on racial lines. Against the backdrop of the political ferment of the fifties, the Coloured Board changed its name on adopting anti-apartheid positions and began functioning on non racial basis. The state of black sports in general was addressed and post the Soweto Uprisings, with the sports boycott beginning to bite, the various boards signed what is referred to as Newlands Declaration aimed at integrating rugby at national level.
- b) The Declaration was fiercely opposed by some members of the SARB executive, the Broderbond and the then, minister of sports. The regime threatened to take drastic measures against those who wish to undermine the laws of the country, given the Afrikaner cohesion then, those in favour of integration lost the day. A compromise emerged through the introduction of so called multinational sports.
- c) The initial phase of the meeting was tense and emotional. It became clear to us that SARB does not at all understand the concept of non racialism and its implication in the broader sense. They seemed to be a bit desperate to achieve unity, even if superficially, before the centenary celebrations next year.

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The meeting observed that rugby is at the very "heart of the Afrikaner" and that any developments in this sphere would have far reaching effects on sports in general including the general thinking of an ordinary Afrikaner. Further noted that apartheid policies are at root of the organisation of sports on racial line. SARB informed the meeting that attempts are already underway to integrating rugby in line with Dr Crywen's press statement on the need for "apartheid to go" and mixed sport at schools!. The SARB executive is due to meet on November 11th to discuss plan towards the process. They regarded the session as crucial for the success or failure of the initiative - if they win majority support, about three regional unions will definitely breakaway.

4. The ANC explained its sports and cultural policy, its approach to boycott question. The aim is the isolation of apartheid South Africa and generating support for democratic alternative. Developments towards non racial sport in south Africa will determine the attitude of the African community and longterm the international anti apartheid forces.

5. General Consensus reached at the Meeting:

- a) All parties accepted that the continued existence of apartheid bedevils efforts towards one S A nationhood - sport has to play a role for the better understanding and human relations.
- b) A step towards non racial rugby at grassrootlevel is a challenge to the regime and its policies - various laws will have to be undermined e.g. Group Areas.
- c) Rugby unions will have to consult and educate their membership and constituency on the merits of the initiative. This also demand developing contact and relation with the anti-apartheid movement in general. It was specifically noted that SARB will for some time face 'credibility crisis' and a lot of consistency will be necessary..
- d) The role of the ANC is laying the basis for the two parties to begin bilateral negotiations at home. In the light of the SARB briefing on the alignment of forces, the negotiating process will have to begin after the crucial November 11th meeting.

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e) The ANC undertook to brief the African continent and the international community in general on the purpose and content of the discussions to avoid speculations. The basis for such is the joint statement released.

6. Clarification of Questions on Armed Struggle, Negotiations....

The SARB delegation raised a number of questions related to armed struggle, negotiations and possibility of a truce on our part. The questions seemed to have been raised for arming themselves in case of backlash against their visit. In response, we indicated that the delegation does not have the mandate to discuss the issues raised. We restricted ourselves to the NEC statement on negotiations issued October 1988.

7. Conclusion:

The meeting allowed open discussions - both SARB/SARU for the first time tried to learn about each others politics and realities of their constituencies. All parties agreed to adhere to the general principles jointly adopted and to work towards implementation.