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A FEW REMARKS ON THE OCCASION OF A LUNCHEON AT THE ULUNDI
OFFICES OF THE KWAZULU FINANCE AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD.
~ DURING THE CEREMONIAL OPENING OF ITS NEW OFFICES IN ULUNDI
WITH MEMBERS OF THE KWAZULU CABINET

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by Mangosuthu G. Buthelezi
Chief Minister of KwaZulu and President of Inkatha

27TH SEPTEMBER 1989

The Hon. the Commissioner General Mr. C.A. Erskine, the former
Commissioner-General to KwaZulu Mr. P.N. Hansmeyer; the Chairman of
the KFC Mr. T.P. Dube; the former Chairman of the KFC Dr. A. Lloyd;
members of the KwaZulu Cabinet present; Dr. Marius Spies the
Executive Director of KFC, members of the Board, and senior
management of the KFC, ladies and gentlemen.

It often happens that somebody who has not been in a place for a :
long time exclaims about the changes that have taken place. Ulundi

has grown and it is altogether unrecognisable to those who have not

been here for some years. For me, however, it is not a matter of
perceiving change only when things take great leaps forward.â\200\231 Every

day that I come to Ulundi is a day that I am aware that Ulundi is
growing - vibrantly.

The coming of the KFC to Ulundi is an important event. It e from
Ulundi that so much flows. It is the nerve centre of development
for the whole of KwaZulu and it is only right that the KFC now
establishes its corporate head office here. I must congratulate
Dr. Spies through you, Mr. Dube as the Chairman of the KFC, on
finally erecting your offices and taking up your responsibilities
within them.

I welcome all the members of the KFC who will be working in Ulundi.
It really has given me great pleasure in ceremonially opening the
premises which we see so impressively around us here today.

When the decision was first made to establish Ulundi as the capital
of KwaZulu, there were a lot of murmurings and expressions of
discontent from a number of quarters. Ulundi they said was too far

from the beaten track. Ulundi they said would never attract the
right people. Ulundi they said was out of the mainstream of the
region's business life. How wrong we proved all these doomsday

detractors to be.

Ulundi has been a resounding success. It has made the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly a focal point in the heartland of what was the traditional Zulu Kingdom's domain at the time of King Cetshwayo's defeat at the hands of the British army. It is symbolically appropriate for us to have made a new start in what is an old and hallowed place.

The KwaZulu Finance and Investment Corporation is the development arm of KwaZulu and I am very, very pleased that the arm is now not so dislocated from the head. Efficiency, will I am sure, be increased by the presence of the corporate headquarters of the KFC in Ulundi.

It is only right for the KFC to have moved its corporate headquarters to Ulundi because I have always regarded economic development as a vital component of political development in accordance with the wishes of the Cabinet. There are scattered across the length and breadth of Africa example after example of what happens when political development takes place at the expense of economic development. In Ulundi, we are quite determined not to repeat those mistakes here.

it " is only . fitting that: the headquarters of KFC should be established here in our Capital even if other offices and other bases of its multifarious operations may be elsewhere. We are grateful that members of the Board and the Executive Director have implemented this decision of the KwaZulu Cabinet.

We are determined to make development a working partner of

political reform. When you look at the relationship between economic systems and political systems, one is justified in using the term exquisitely linked. They are linked to nuance; they are linked in function; they are linked in law and practice. But most exquisitely of all, they are linked by human calibre. A fine political system must have a fine economic system because

ultimately the responsibilities of government revolve around the fundamentals of improving living standards and enabling people to rise to their God-given limitations to the fullest possible degree.

You can therefore see that I really did appreciate being invited to ceremonially open the building and to have lunch with KEC's Board with my colleagues in the Cabinet and distinguished visitors, on this first day on which the Board met here in Ulundi. It is really an historic occasion and I thank you all so very much for being mindful of how important today is for me and the KwaZulu government.

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I am proud of being the first KwaZulu Minister of Economic Affairs under whose portfolio KFC falls. I think it has been an exciting experience because of the kind of dedication that is demonstrated so visibly by the Executive Director of KFC and his staff. We see the same commitment to the people of KwaZulu and their development in all those who have been members of the Board of KFC.

I am so pleased to have seen members of the Board and particularly former members such as Dr. Anson Lloyd and the former Commissioner-General Mr. P.N. Hansmeyer. Dr. Lloyd has been involved for his lifetime in the development of our people, first through the Sugar Industry for which he worked and later through KFC.

We are all very pleased that Mr. Hansmeyer was invited to be here with us today. It is very fitting that he should be with us here on this historic day. He has for his lifetime been a man who has dedicated his life to the development of Black people, particularly in this Region. For me it has been a long association and lifetime friendship from when Mr. Hansmeyer headed my Department of Chief Minister and Finance in Nongoma and later when he became Commissioner-General. It was always a joy to work with him because of his love for the Zulu people and his strong dedication to whatever he did with us, and for us.

In my capacity as Minister of Economic Affairs, I am grateful to my colleagues for making time to be here today. This applies to all other guests who have travelled long distances to be with us here today. The KwaZulu Finance and Investment Corporation functions as an autonomous body, unlike in other parts of the country. I wish to give the KFC the same assurance I have given before, that while it is the economic arm of my government and I am the Minister under whom they fall, I will - without relinquishing my portfolio responsibilities - not breath down the necks of those who are at the helm in KFC merely because they now operate from Ulundi where I am based.

Thank you for this gift that you made to me today. I have appreciated many momentos of special events in the development of KFC, that KFC through the Executive Director has given me on these

occasions. They are highly appreciated as gifts, as all gifts are appreciated as an expression of something from inside the giver. They stimulate something also in the breast of the receiver. In

Zulu society an exchange of gifts is a very important event. After all, when you give someone a gift a little of you goes away with the gift and yearns to return to you in a gift that they in turn will give to you. Gifts bond people and relate people. The giving and receiving of gifts is thus more than the passage of an object between one person and another person. Thank you very much.

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