

On Tuesday, 11 September 1990. a meeting was held between the ANC and government officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs, -' (Immigration). This was a follow up to correspondence initiated by CW: PlM. Maduna regarding procedures for the repatriation of iSouth African exiles.

Attending the meeting from the government side were:4

Mr. Lombard;

Mr. Stroebe;

Mr. "Neelen;

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Mr. P_M, Maduna; AJC Working Group.

Ms, Z. Mbeki; Member of Repatriation Committee, LUSAKA.

Mr Lombard who led the government delegation prefaced his remarks by stressing that the positions he was about to put forward were lstill only suggestions which his Department was making to the Minister. They were still subject to approval and standing rules of the Ministry of Home Affairs, They Would be confirmed on Monday 17th, September, 1990.

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Secondly, all proposals put forward applied only to mass repatriation as opposed to individual returnees who would be dealt with normally,i.e. like any person who requires 6 visa enter South Africa.

Thirdly, the proposed procedures,when approved, would affect ANC and all other organisations. '

Proposal 1

Mass returnees who are South African citizens, will not be obliged to apply for a Passport or Travel Document before entry into the country. Thus, completion of the Passport Application form is being waived.

An Extra-ordinary Emergency Travel Document has been devised for return only anc wxll oe iSSUEd free of c. voge.

There is no indemnity implied in the completion of the Emergency Travel Document forms. Returnees must first be covered for " indemnity before travel on the Emergency. Travel Document.vn.va.u- The ANC will be notified if an applicant for an ETD requires: " indemnity. This will avoid a situation where returnees are detained upon arrival in South Africa.

All exiles wishing to return home should apply for the Emergency Travel Document including those who may wish to stay on for reasons of study, employment etc. Those who do not return to South Africa during the stipulated mass repatriation period will be required to present their Emergency Travel Document when applying for a South African Passport under normally applicable regulations; The ETD will assist only to establish bona fide of S.E.citizenship.

Individual returnees may travel home as and when they wish at their own expense, after the formal process of repatriation has ended. Within the period of assisted repatriation individual cases living in isolated locations will benefit from assisted return. 1 '

Proposal 3

Foreign spouses (it was not clear whether this applied to wives and husbands) will be exempted under Section 7(bis), read with Section 2(a) of the Aliens Act, of 1937. A stamp of Such exemption will be put on the ETD. (in simple terms this means that they may apply for permanent residence within South Africa).

Proposal 4

Based on the Pretoria Minute schedule for broad indemnity of all Category 1a offences it was proposed that the period of mass repatriation should begin on 1st October 1990 and end on 31st May 1991, subject to review.

Other points raised:

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ETD will reflect returnee's full name, Date of Birth, Place of birth, Reference BOOK number will be helpful, but not essential, for later issuance of ETD. For six months entry, the ETD can be held as an ID: was recommended all returnees apply for the appropriate Identity Card within

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Exemptions upon return to South Africa Further

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_V Photbfraph'of'returnee to be attabhed t6 ETD: lf photograph.1
udoes not appear on ETD,fofficials at Port of Entry will be
'obliged to photograph the returnee. A

_jA_Thumb Print will be taken at part of enkry for Valioatlou J 52
70f ETD. .The ETD will serve as the holder' 5 Identity until w ":%:2"
he/She applz' as for the normal Identity Card and or Passport. 1' '
All International airports, i.e. Johannesburg, Durban, Cape
,Town, Port Elizabeth and East London, will be fully briefed on
the return of exiles, the status of the ETD and procedures to
be followed; However, the ANC should advice Ports of Entry in
advance especially when grouud transportation is used.
Particular reference was made to the Boputhatswana/Botswana
border which could present some immigration Problems.

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6. The ANC noted that Secure Reception f cili ties at Ports of
Entry should be organised. This issue was said to be beyond
. , , V the brief of the government delegation; (However, outside of
j,_rl .A the official discussions it was suggested that facilities of
.f J;v_i .the former talian Prisoner of war camp as well as other
I-leelr 7 government centres could be considered for this purpose).
It was stated that governient does not anticipate UNECR nor
any other third party involvement in the repatriation
exercise; and that repatriation can be resolved among South
Africans alone- '

8. The proposals presented today will be confirmed by the
Einist er by Monday 17th September 1990.

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Two meetings were held on this day. One involved the Ministry of Finance (Customs and Excise) and the other was with a special committee on three (Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice) and by the cabinet office to look into the numbers of South African exiles with a view to making recommendations on assistance needs...1"-T'f3

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' The Government team comprised the following five persons:-

Commissioner, Mr. ., Gilesky

Deputy Commissioner .Mr.I.S.CoAtzee

State Law Adviser: , Mr H. Pieterse

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Administrative? Mr. J. A. Brinkf; i7-"jj71.hz..

The ANC team consisted of the following:- "

AW MII'JS'Waselebi'Membe'of the NEC and Convenor of Repatriation

1- ,7 - .v _ Committee: "V .;-;f r .n

-Al7 '.1' Mr; P.H; MadunaAwANC Legal expert and Working Group Member'

1.; Ms Z. Mbeki. - Member of Repatriation Committee '

This meeting was also a follow-up on correspondence regarding '

. customs exemption for the ANC and the returnees as initiated by

:HAA4._f .. Cde Maduna. The ANC has applied for customs exemption for

-ANC movable property such as office equipment; agricultural

equipment; used vehicles and household goods held for personal

use by the membership.

" -personal property of all returnees including household goods

.1 (furniture, television, radio, personal computers, etc) and used vehicles

.1 -Preferential exchange rate for transfer of foreign bank accounts

1 , to South Africa I '

-Entry of ground transport from borders outside of the Customs

Union AREA.

-Info

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mat ion and publicity internationally about customs

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for mass and individual returnees

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were opting to return to South Africa, would be allowed to bring back their personal household goods without paying the customs duty and sales tax. This includes items like, 1. 'furniture, books, television, radios, personal computers - video recorders etc. In addition one vehicle per family is allowed duty free, provided that it has been owned by the returnee for at least one year.

Additional cars are subject to duty calculated on a sliding scale based on usage and cost.

2. The Commissioner of Customs and Excise has the authority to waive duty i.v.o. on vehicles owned by individuals for less than one year and apply this on more than one vehicle per family. It was emphasized that this concession would benefit mainly returnees from Africa.

3. Vehicles and all other items which were originally manufactured in South Africa can be returned free of duty.

4. Returnees from Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Namibia are not affected by these restrictions since they can bring back all their belongings and vehicles duty free.

The Minister may amend these concessions (and tariffs) based on appeals from the ANC.

ANC/Commugel Property

-All ANC property returned to South Africa is subject to payment of duty;

-There are no concessions possible except if goods are for distribution by a registered charitable organisation.

-Cars owned by the ANC which were originally bought in South Africa can be returned duty free. Duty, however, applies to all foreign cars. Sales Tax is payable on all returned cars.

-Ground transport (trucks etc) carrying the property of returnees can come into the country now at the borders for immediate clearance or for entry under bond and later clearance. It is preferred that border authorities be given advance notice of

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The abovementioned concessions and tariffs apply according to;

-the Mplsher'throggh phe Board of mtrade;-

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'Telephone:fPreto;la'310;&791

wIntheiabsence'of'thi'rd party lhfervention; (Such ee the role bf

UNTAG and UNECR in Namibia, both of whom were granted duty free _

diplomatic priviledge to administer the return of Namibian 31' :7

exiles) in the return of South African exiles,The African

National Congress,the government and the community assume the

administrative and financial burden for repatriating and

receiving returnees back to South Africa.

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It would therefore be unrair for the government to impose duty

. and sales tax on the ANC when it performs a task similar to that

performed by UNTAG and UNHCR. In fact, it can be assumed without

7,do&bt that the South African government will again give these

'Jpriviledges to UN? CR or whomSoever would take away this task from-

tne Government and tb e ANC Therefore, the ANC should be granted

Vduty free stat us for all equipment and vehicles which are brought

into the country for the sole purpose of retur ning and res etting

exiles.

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The ANC was advised to apply to the Ministry of Finance, Inland

Revenue, c/o Mr ? Van Niekerk, Telephone : ?retaria 315 5111 for

procedures relating to preferential exchange rates for foreign

funds which returnees bring into South Africa.

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As a rule of thumb the ANC was asked to advise returnees to

refrain from importing medicines (excepting bandages and

vaseline) and pets

All adminietraeive enquiries regarding Customs and excise should

be referred to Mr. J. A.B.ink at Customs and Excise Headquarters

in Pretoria, Telephone Nr. 284308 (Pretoria)

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?The iovernment elegatlon lncuded
Li.....;1,...Q.....; Mln Of Justice
.'Mr . LombardovAImmigration,v Mln 'of Home Affalrs
The ANC team remained the same; (i. e. Cdes Maduna; Selebi and f-EFHU
Mbeki) _V 1 . _ :ww
lMr Bester outlined theiob:ectives of the Special committee of
l three senior officials from the Ministries of Home Affa l rs,
Foreign Affairs and Justice; namely:_ h "
fto establish accurately the actual numbers of returnees;.hf
L_eto verlf y the existence of exiles through rahdom vlsits to, at-
least two areas of large concentrations in Afrlce;JWIJ
-to ascertain bona fide of thelr South Africa citizenship;
-to check their ability to return at their own cost;
S-to determine numbers requirlng asslstance8'
-to make recommendations for government action/aSSlstance by the
' end of Oct ober 1990.
The of fficials explained that the stati stics required for this
'_ , J purpose did not need attachment of names. Numbers alone would
. ' fice. A visit to, for instance Zambia, would ascertain
numbers given by the Government, the UNHCR, ANC and other-
organisations.. .. _ . ____V -_.,,::
The ARC was requested to use its good offices to tersuade AfriCan
governments to receive a South African Official delegation for
this purpose.
Further, the official from the ministry of Foreign Affairs stated
that the issue of third party participation (e. g. UNHCR) in the
repatriation exercise was still open!!!
Government had realised that U.N. or I .R. . involvement would
bring in expertise as well as ensure transfer of financial costs
the international community. Armed with statistical
information and returnee needs the government would be able to

The ANC was reminded that no international agency can come into
acknowledged this point but added that ANC as an involved party
This relationship was acknowledged

The ANC emphasised that the government had an inherent
responsibility to assist its nationals wherever they should be
found, whether there was third party involvement or not, the
Government has a duty to assist in the repatriation of its
nationals.

The ANC shopping list for government intervention included some
short-term needs such as:

- documentation;

- transportation (air charters and ground transport);

- Reception/transit facilities (board, lodge, security and other

- administrative facilities;

- warehousing;

and long-term needs such as:-

- primary and secondary school education;

- housing;

- skills training;

- employment projects.

In addition, the government was asked to motivate more clearly
for their request to visit exile locations in Africa

The ANC drew attention to the contradictory statements made by
officials regarding UNHCR or other third party participation; as

well as the differing target dates for beginning mass

repatriation. i.e. Mr Lombard had ruled out UNHCR or other third
party participation and had projected operations beginning 1st

October and ending 31st May 1991. Whereas Mr Stein reported that
government position on third party participation was still open

and he foresaw operations based on the special committee's

recommendations. These will be submitted at the end of October.

It can therefore be concluded that he would expect repatriation to
begin after the report had been considered by the cabinet.

The contradictions frustrated planning, fundraising and accurate
briefing of our regions.

The officials recognised the different signals made from their

side and suggested strongly that Mr Maduna raise these and all

our anticipated needs with the Mr Fanie van der Serve at the next
Steering Committee Meeting.

the country without a specific request by the government. The ANC

would need to be consulted and appropriate agreement concluded.

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"Contact. Mr. .Van Neikerk, Director of Sales tax, Inland Revenue,
regard preferential exchange facilities for returnee foreign
_funds ; (Mr Maduna). A
3. Raise With Steering Committee,8reas of govefnment
responsibility for returnees. (Mr Maduna).
4. as soon as government confirms prbposals (Monday 17th) made
.. regardingche Emergenfv Travel document, a briefing memo- v - n-wA-
_)%&-originating'from the Office of the Secretary- General -should be 212'_
V A prepared for circulation to all ANC. regions and for the
infprmation of the NCC structures (Mr J. Selebi):
5.'A comprenenslveApronosol and budget on repatriation process
should be prepared without further delay for submission to Mr..
du Plessis as agreed at Groote Schuur (Mr Selebi)