

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE A.N.C.(S.A.)  
LUSAKA EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

17th February, 1980.

Present:

Comrade B. Modise (Chairman)	Comrade S. Mfenyana (Coord. Sec.)
" V. Nokwe	" S. DeBruyn
" H. Langa	" A. Brooks
" S. Sangweni (Secretary)	

Agenda:

The Meeting commenced at 10.00 hrs and adopted the following agenda:-

1. Report from the Principal of SOMAFCO - October.1979.
  2. Report on the Principal's Solidarity Trip to Europe  
- 5 - 29 December, 1979.
  3. Report on Preparations for the Luanda Seminar on Education.
  4. Reactions to the letter from the London Education Committee.
  5. The Scholarships Committee.
  6. Typing Instruction Syllabus.
  7. Any Other Business.
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1. Second Report from the Principal of SOMAFCO - as of October, 1979.
- 1.1 The Chairman presented the Report in which the Principal reported on enrolment, teaching staff, curriculum, teaching, accommodation, equipment; the relation of the College to society, production and politics; life at the College; existing problems and the future programme.
  - 1.2. The Committee placed on record its utmost appreciation of the efforts deployed by the College Principal and his Staff as reflected in the report which was in itself thorough, concise and of high quality.
  - 1.3. Additional Comments by the Coordinating Secretary for Professional Bodies.
    - a) Enrolment: That the student population had grown beyond the 200 mark since the Principal's Report was written in October, 1979.
    - b) Cde Turok's Programme had been left under the charge of a Comrade who had unfortunately fallen ill. However, negotiations were at hand for acquiring the recommended teaching aids & material.
    - c) External Examinations: Arrangements were being made to ensure that our Form V students are able to write external examinations.
    - d) Classes: A section of the dormitory buildings had been converted



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into classrooms sufficient to hold classes from Form 1-V.

- e) Health There had been improvement in the provision of Health and Clinical Services. Besides the College Nurse, Dr Shangase pays weekly visits to the College. A Psychiatrist, Cde Reddy, had also paid a visit to the College early January, 1980.
- f) Primary School: Pupils are enrolled at local schools in Tanzania pending arrangements for setting up Primary School facilities at SOMAFCO.
- g) A Duplicating Machine & 2 Typewriters had since been acquired for the College.

1.4. Ensuing discussion on the Report focussed on the following points and corresponding recommendations were made:

1.4.1. Staff Orientation

It was observed that an earlier report had indicated that some orientation course for the Staff had been carried out; Cde Turok had also assisted in this during his December visit.

1.4.2. Curriculum: Aims and Objectives.

The Principal had raised a point of anxiety about non-implementation of an agreement that the panels on the various subjects would clearly define the aims and objectives on the initial outlines of the syllabi for each of the Primary Subjects.

Agreed:

- a) That panels responsible for the respective subject groupings during the 2nd Council Meeting should be reminded to spell out the Aims and Objectives on each subject and send these to the Coordinating Secretary.

b) History Books and other Social Science Books.

Recognising the need for properly oriented text-books, particularly in the Social Sciences, it was agreed that further efforts be made to get Education Committees at all Centres to produce text-books or portions thereof as well as providing any other suitable material.

c) Workshops:

Workshops on individual subjects should be organised to enable the curriculum panels to discuss with the Teaching Staff at SOMAFCO and give guidelines to teachers in their respective fields of competence.

1.4.3. Radios. It was observed that the Committee could not respond to the Principal's request for funds or equipment as this was not within the terms of reference of the Committee; relevant departments of the A.N.C. would deal with the matter. It was however



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agreed that the Education Committee should use its influence on the departments concerned to ensure that these requirements were met.

1.4.4. Recreation:

It was agreed that every effort should be made to assist the Principal find adequate resources for supporting recreation facilities at the College seeing that the College is rather isolated and lack of proper recreation facilities could create very serious problems for the College.

1.4.5. Deaths It was noted that a death had occurred at the College. It was further noted with concern that a phenomenal record of suicides had taken place both inside and outside the country and the A.N.C. as a whole is very much concerned with this. The matter was receiving active attention of the leading organs of the movement; the death at SOMAFCO falls under this category.

2. Principal's Report of 5th - 29th December, 1979 Trip to Europe.

2.1. The Committee received with keen interest and deep appreciation the Principal's Report on his visit to Europe.

2.2. Discussion focussed on the following issues arising from the report and recommended accordingly:

a) Volunteers:

(i) The Committee advised caution in accepting offers from volunteers to give brief periodical assistance to the College, particularly before a permanent staff had been established at SOMAFCO.

In those technical areas where the A.N.C. could not provide the necessary expertise e.g. certain Vocational Training fields, volunteers could be recruited provided they were politically suitable. It would be desirable that such volunteers worked under the guidance or supervision of the permanent staff.

It was also noted that the "volunteer programme", if handled correctly, could assist in making friends for the College.

(ii) On the question of "South African War Resisters", it was agreed that recommendations should be made from the high political echelons of the A.N.C.

b) Twinning:

It was agreed that while in the long run this would be a good idea to pursue, at this stage of development of the College, we may not be able to cope up with the reciprocal protocol involved in twinning i.e. exchange of reports, visits etc. Contacts with friendly schools should therefore be maintained on the present



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solidarity basis.

- (c) London Committee: The Committee took note of some of the problems facing our London Committee as reflected in the Principal's report. Efforts would be made to assist our colleagues in the United Kingdom.

3. Report on Preparations for the Luanda Education Seminar.

- 3.1. The Coordinating Secretary presented a report on the meeting attended by representatives from sister Liberation Movements in Luanda to prepare the programme for the Seminar.
- 3.2. The Director responsible for liason with Liberation Movements at M.P.L.A. Headquarters had explained the procedure to be followed in preparing for the Seminar; M.P.L.A. would form a National Committee which would be responsible for the preparations in conjunction with the Directorate (made up of Co-Directors from each of the 4 Liberation Movements plus a representative of the Dag Hammarskjold Foundation).
- 3.3. In view of the impending elections in Zimbabwe, it had been suggested that the Seminar be held in late April or early May, 1980.
- 3.4. It was pointed out that the matter of preparation of Seminar papers and participants to represent the A.N.C. should be resolved soon.

Agreed: That the question be discussed at the next meeting.

4. Reaction to the Letter from the London Education Committee.

- 4.1. After brief comments on the letter entitled "An Assessment of the Organisation, Work and Political Direction of the A.N.C. Education Department" and dated October, 1979 it was agreed that further discussion on the letter be deferred to the next meeting. The attention of the Committee was drawn to the comments in reply from the Maputo Education Committee dated January 3rd, 1980 as well as correspondence received from the Dar Education Committee on the same issue.

5. The Scholarship Committee.

- 5.1. Concern was expressed that it did not seem serious follow-up action had been taken since the joint meeting of the Lusaka Ed. Committee, the Office of the S.G. and the Youth Secretariat had been held in October 1979, at which a document outlining the structure and functions of the Committee was adopted.
- 5.2. The Coordinating Secretary informed the Committee that the document had been submitted to the S.G.'s Office and that the



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Administrative Secretary would produce the final version of the document. A meeting of the three parties concerned would be convened as soon as this was ready for the purposes of installing the Scholarship Committee Secretariat.

- 5.3. It was agreed that the Chairman and Secretary would represent the Education Committee at the joint meeting.

6. Typing Instruction Syllabus:

- 6.1. The Committee received with appreciation the report that Cde Sophie had been instrumental in securing a suitable syllabus for training in Typing.
- 5.2. The Coordinating Secretary informed the Committee that I.L.O. Had funds that could be used for funding the training programme.

Agreed:

That the syllabus be sent to the Principal of SOMAFCO for review and, if found suitable, be presented to the I.L.O. and a request be made for funding.

7. Any Other Business:

7.1. Council Meeting

It was suggested that this meeting be planned to coincide either with the official opening of the College or the Solomon Mahlangu Anniversary or the Anniversary of the first day of School at SOMAFCO or June 26th to coincide with the Anniversary of the adoption of the Freedom Charter.

Concesus was reached that June 26th would be recommended as a suitable date for the official opening of SOMAFCO and could be preceded by the Council Meeting.

Agreed: That the dates be discussed and finalised in consultation with the other centres, the Principal and the N.E.C. through the S.G.

- 7.2. Workshops: It was recommended that the workshops mentioned earlier should be organised during or shortly before the Council Meeting.

- 7.3. The Chair called upon members to keep proper files of documents circulated for timely reference whenever the need arises.

Next Meeting : March 2nd and last Sunday of March 1980.

Signed S.Sangweni

Secretary