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B1

PAGE ONE

ISSUES CAUSING VIOLENCE/THREATENING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND
UNDERMINING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PEACE ACCORD

The wanton killing of Mr Chris Hani and the finding of a hit list in the flat of the gunman arrested introduces a new dimension into the question of violence in South Africa. The appeal to all South Africans by top Political Leaders for calm and for a commitment to the negotiating process, we sincerely trust will contribute to the easing of tensions which have been exacerbated by the murder of Mr Chris Hani.

As it has been so often alluded to, it is abundantly clear that a concerted effort is being made in certain circles to derail the negotiation process and to allow the country to drift into chaos and anarchy so as to delay the transition to a democratic society.

It is also true that violence in some parts of the country is due to rivalry and disputes between factions which is of a localised nature. In addition business competition as evidenced by the ever present threat of violence between competing taxi operators is also a matter for great concern as conflicts emanating from these disputes have not only cost the lives of innocent people but has also served as a catalyst for further violence.

For so long as violence emanates from sources which are not directly linked to politics or political groupings as indicated above, the National Peace Accord will continue to be undermined by the parochial interests of certain persons/groups which unfortunately would appear to transcend the larger National interest.

Unemployment in our opinion is a further cause for violence as is evidenced by the increasing level of criminal activity presently being experienced throughout the country. The need to address this challenge on an urgent basis cannot be overemphasised. Progress in providing work opportunities will require the fullest possible co-operation and consensus between commerce/industry, the trade union movement and the Government. New Investments will only be made in a climate of peace and stability.

In the meantime/...(2)

3

3

PAGE TWO

In the meantime the negotiation process must proceed without any further delay so that the Transitional Executive Committee and its various Sub-Councils can be brought into being at the earliest opportunity. The functioning of the Transitional Authority we believe will amongst other things make a positive contribution towards defusing violence and giving an impetus to economic growth.

We would be deluding ourselves if we are to believe that violence can be completely eradicated in our country before there is demonstrable evidence of a breakthrough in the negotiation process. Therefore a serious responsibility rests on all participants to expedite the negotiation process so as to facilitate the enactment of legislation flowing therefrom and designed to bring into being the Transitional Executive Committee.

SOLIDARITY PARTY

