

Orl/009/0024/2 04/01/91

REPORT OF CO-ORDINATOR OF REGIONS AND NATIONAL FORCES

DATE: 04/01/91

Moss Chikane

1. GENERAL FORMATION

- 1.1 Venita Meyer and Nomsa Mufamadi were on leave during the Christmas season, leaving the handling and management of the office to Moss Chikane, Brother Anthon and a temporary Administrative Secretary, Miss Rosanna Naidoo.
- 1.2 During the period a group of 34 arrived (on 2 different occasions). from Nairobi - group who have fallen out of favour and with a Liberation Movement whose return was facilitated by the Rev CHikane and the SACC.
- 1.3 Their return was preceded by a visit to Nairobi by Mr Tom Manthata of the SACC. The matter was then handed to the Repatriation Programme from the time of their arrival in South Africa. Mr Robert Duma of the SACC was also made available to assist the Repatriation staff.
- 1.4 The experience of handling this group proved to be a valuable one:
 - 1.4.1 It provided an opportunity to meet with a group of returnees and to interact with them.
 - 1.4.2 Tasks were shared in the office.
 - 1.4.3 We experienced contact with "Recoc" who tried to meet with the exiles to recruit more people to their group.
- 1.5 We experienced problems with regions who were on vacation at the time, as that at times it was not always possible for people who travelled from Johannesburg to be welcomed in their regions.
- 1.6 Regions were also very angry and dispirited because by the first week of January they had not as yet received emergency grants, which head office staff had to tell them to expect.
- 1.7 The National office has been inundated with an influx of returnees who have come on their own initiative and used their own finances. They have a variety of needs, which we do not have policy to deal with.

- 1.8 We have been assisted by the appointment of a PWV Regional Co-ordinator, who has been operating from the National Office, for lack of another office. This has been of great assistance, but has also complicated matters, as the office is always full of returnees. As is normal also, people identify the regional, as the National and vice versa and there is a great deal of confusion.

2.

PROCESSING OF APPLICATION FOR GRANTS

- 2.1 The amount that have to be given for a person with dependent e.g children.
- 2.2 Grant for those people who are going to the Regions especially in the light that Regions did not receive their allocation as planned by the Finance committee.
- 2.3 Those students who still have to go back and complete their studies
- 2.4 Personal Effects - some of the people are bringing such effects that have to be paid for as they are more than the required weight at the Airport.
- 2.5 Travelling allowances for those who are on transit. To my experience these have to be given pocket money to enable them to buy food and pay for Transport fares in case of emergencies.

3.

MODIFICATION OF APPLICATION FORMS

- 3.1 Grants - though we have the name of the interviewer we do not have space for a person who authorise the application other relevant details that may be necessary have to be provided for.
- 3.2 I therefore recommend that legal people draw-up a new form suitable for this type of work.

4.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE

- 4.1 All other government derpartment have to be informed of what kind of assistance is needed from them.
- 4.2 Recommend that a document be compiled to that

effect.

5. **EDUCATION**

- 5.1 We need to make arrangements for children and Returnees who need these service urgently. This must be placed to Education Task Force.
- 5.2 Whether we assist those who are furthuring their studies outside the country with transport money with subsistance whilst thie parents are here in the country.
- 5.3 Those who have returned with their children, do we assist them with the education needs e.g. books, transport to and from school, uniforms etc.

6. **PROJECT**

- 6.1 Project like welding and Building have to be investigated.
- 6.2 Employment Task Force would be established as a matter of priority.

7. **STAFFING**

- 7.1 That a national Co-ordinator and other related portfolio be appointed.

8. **PEOPLE WHO NEED ASSISTANCE**

- 8.1 These are people who have been inquiring about their relatives, on the basis set by Nairobi Group where Bishop Tutu and DR Frank Chikane made arrangements with the All African council of Churches to pay for fares of Nairobi Group. They {exiles} have approached AACC a UNHCR offices for help but their pleas were not successful. What kind of help can we as NCCR or advice can be given the these people.

9. **ADVERTS**

- 9.1 We should place an advert which direct people who need help to NCCR offices. Number of people, relatives have been hassling Rev F. Chikane's family with enquiries after the arrival of these Nairobi group. This matter will be referred to Communications Task Force.

10 REGIONS

Since these has been problems with regional allocations I would like to visit regions and check on their moral preparedness and brief them on our experiences with this first group.

Some regions have been inundated with work more than others. Transkei have received some of the people who did indemnity or had trouble in the area of origin. ^{not}

Unfortunately statistics are unavailable as Transkei has not come back to us.

10.1 N. Tvl

Northern Transvaal has not received any people as yet. There seems to be problems between the Far North and Pietersburg region. I will have to go there as a matter of urgency to assess the problem.

10.2 Western Cape

Western Cape has sent us the information about people who have come through their structures. They have given us 22 names.

10.3 Bloemfontein

This structure has not sent us information, but complained bitterly about the amount that has been allocated to them.

10.4 Eastern Cape

Contact with this structure has not been easy. Many of them have gone on holiday.

10.5 OFS Region

At present it is rather difficult to say how many they have received through their structures. They have not really estimated how many in the surrounding areas have arrived. They were unable to confirm this, because of finance to do regional field work.

This region has submitted a brief report on the happenings in their region.

11. Reception Centres

<u>REGION</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>CAPACITY AT A TIME</u>
W. Cape	<i>New</i> Cowley House	150
Transkei	Various lands in different parts of Transkei	
<i>DURBAN</i> Natal	Central Methodist Church	3000 reception
Border		68 people or more
PWV	Catholic Renewal Centre <i>Not workable.</i>	200
N. Cape		
OFS	Municipalities	unassessed

REPORT ON NATIONAL TASK FORCE

Since the December meeting very little work has been done on National Task Forces and they are still an area of weakness.

None of the constituted National Task Forces have met for more than 2 months.

The reasons for this are:

- (a) The staff overwhelming workload;
- (b) The shortage of funds for the purpose, during the whole of November 1990;
- (c) The difficulty of convening meetings during December.

(i) THE HEALTH AND WELFARE TASK FORCE

Dr Mvuyo Thom of NAMDA has agreed to be our contact person on the National Health Task Force of Health and I conveyed to him that welfare should be a joint group of the National Executives of Schcoco and NAMDA.

Guidelines for policy on Health has already been worked out.

The National Welfare and Counselling Group will function as part of this Task Force and Dr Thom has been told of the decision to get a sup-group to look at, national rates for grants. These will hopefully be available for the February meeting for a policy decision. In the meantime interim notes need to be decided on by the NCCR for regions.

Dependents Conference has also agreed to send a representative to sit on this sub-group.

(ii)

The National Education Task Force has not presented any issues to the NCCR for policy, and there is a lot of anger from clients and regions who are forced with educational problems.

Initial discussions have been held with individuals and the Task Forces will hopefully consist of:

1 representative	-	ANC
1 representative	-	BCMA (AZAPO)
1 representative	-	PAC
1 representative	-	COSATU
1 representative	-	NACTU
1 representative	-	Consultative Business Movement
1 representative	-	BMC Businessman)
1 representative	-	The Development of Human Resources
1 representative	-	Department of Manpower

MR PROSHAW CAMAY LABOUR SPECIALIST

There is room for up to 3 additional members, who may be identified as good resource person - hopefully from regions.

The Employment Task Force will be requested to:

- Obtain CV's of as many exiles as possible
- Investigate viable project development
- Investigate facilities in all regions, which may function as personnel agencies to advise returnees of available jobs.

(These employment facilities could be self supporting, in that they could operate by charging a fee to sympathetic employers. This fee could be used for running expenses or would be a form of fundraising whereby other less fortunate and unskilled workers should benefit) We are aware that employers are more than prepared to offer highly trained returnees jobs.

- Investigate training opportunities for employment.

CONCLUSION

All the National Task Forces will need to be reconvened before the February meeting of the NCCR.

PWV REGION'S INPUT TO THE NCCR

1. Compilation information leaflet for returnees on the NCCR and it's services (to incorporate regional specifics).
2. Attendance of NCC meetings by PWV regional Co-ordinator in observer capacity .

Motivation -/percentage of all returnees coming to PWV. Warrants maximum exploitation of proximity of NCC to region for better co-ordination.

3. Fundraising for region (Locally) in consultation with NCC for co-ordination.
4. Press liasion by region in liasion and consultation with press liasson of NCCR for co-ordination.
5. Comprehensive criteria and policy on grants i.e. guidelines with specific references to:

- Families - size and ages of children
- Adult returnee children in returnee families
- 2nd and 3rd grants requests
- Uniform channels of authorisation of recommendations for grants
- Airfare/transport into cuntry refunds?
- Medical expenses incurred through General Practitioner referrals for diagnostic services and specialist services
- Accommodation expenses
- Returnees with other sources of income (must they disclose?) criteria!
- Possibility of cash grants on arrival to returnees who may be truly deserving?
- Uniform directive with regards to tracing of family - expenses incurred in tracing.(personnel for tracing).

6. ROLE OF NATIONAL TASK FORCES AND THEIR COMMUNICATION WITH REGIONAL TASK FORCES

- Regions position is that Naitonal Task Forces should disband in favour of policy making body to refine and advice NCC Executive - emphasis on regional Task Forces.
- National workshops (Housing policy/Education policy) or for policy making on some issues.
- Specific mechanism on consultation with regions towards policy making.
- Requests for National Education Task Forces members to

join regional Education Task Force.

- PLANACT's proposal on housing and settlement request for feedback on proposal from NCC on the concept of secondary centres (transit centres for 3-6 months) for returnees viable.
- Input by Liberation Movements at regional level. NCC to impress upon them the importance.

7. LOCATIONS OF REGIONAL OFFICE AT KHOTSO HOUSE - PROPOSAL

- Regions requests +- 4-5 offices on the floor (one stop shop concept)
- Reception point to be screening point to avoid returnees visiting National Office unnecessarily - region can manage reception point.
- Complexity of region necessitates proximity and close consultation with NCCR.
- Sharing faxing, photocopying and probably typing pool.
- Security! - avoid shunting returnees accross town hence one stop shop concept.



BORDER COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Our Ref.

Your Ref.

14 Lower Mount St.
P.O. Box 966
King William's Town 5600
Telephone: (0433) 33997

Border Region Repatriation Committee

1. That the BOrder Region Task Force/Forum as it is called has appointed Revd Cyril Zolile Hartland as the Co-ordinator of the BOrde Region Repatriation programme for the repatriation of returnees/South African exiles in the BOrder Region.
2. That in our next meeting we shall appoint an interviewing committee for the Administrative Secretary and Secretary/Typist.
3. That the BOrder Region has gladly received a letter confirming the offer to use all the facilities at the Branswing Farm from the Brownlee Congregational Church.
4. The farm is in Ciskei and situated 8km from King William's Town. Sixty to Eighty people can be accommodated at once if an influx of people can arrive. The place will be used as a reception centre as well as a secondary centre.
5. That the Ciskei GOvernment has agreed to help with renovations needed, connection of water and electricity. That the cost be covered by the Border Region repatriation programme. The committee inspected the building and was very happy.
6. The Ciskei Military Government is looking for a farm that can be used as a secondary centre and also project for farming. The Councillor/Minister of Agriculture will meet soon with the Co-Ordinator Revd C Hartland and discuss the project.
7. The Co-ordinator of Regions in the Head Office (N C C) will be briefed of all the details. The government of Ciskei has pledged help in term of land and availed all its facilities that could be needed for the purposes

of the repatriation of our returnees. This includes help with transport but petrol costs would be our responsibility.

8. This does not include the Kombi and Car needed for the reception centre and therefore the NCC should help and provide this great need.
9. That Border Repatriation Committee is very angry at the way it has been badly treated by the Consultant in-charge of finance Mr Peter Jones for being very inconsiderate and insensitive to the problems which confronted us. He kept on asking for clarity on information given and when that is done, he never fulfilled not a single promise. This has harmed our organisational work. Our people who have arrived have never been helped and now the co-ordinator and the people at the Border Council of Churches offices have got to bear the brunt and face the anger of the people.
10. The organisations are also unpleased at the way things are going. We are also very angry that we have to use our monies without re-imbursement and everybody is now asking what is going on with the Our Head Office.
11. The fact that I have gone to the Head Office twice and saw myself that many people who have arrived in P W V area - have been given the pink forms to fill and have received their grants. Even such forms were never made available to us and now our people must bear the brunt and suffer more whilst the forms are still going to be sent to Johannesburg and am pretty sure that the processing and signing of cheques is not going to take a day or two - and what about postage?

The Region has incurred costs that it needs to settle immediately.

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| 1. <u>Catering</u> - Meeting of Church leaders in the Border Region | R350,00 |
| Religious Leaders, Clergy and Organisations | 500,00 |
| | |
| 2. <u>Petrol</u> - Travelling of the Co-ordinator and task force members only has since the start of the programme never been paid - resulted in big dissatisfaction | <u>2 750,00</u> |

Sub-Total : 3 600,00

- | | |
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| | R3 600,00 |
| 3. <u>Workshop</u> on counselling | R2 400,00 |
| 4. <u>Schooling</u> - Received four children were sent to a
school in King William's Town (Tuition) | 2 000,00 (for 1991) |
| 5. <u>Grants</u> - The figure will be faxed to the head office
just received forms there will be sent
immediately - after the completion of our
processing. | |
| Total Amount to be sent | R8 000,00. |

Lastly we prayerfully hope that we shall get a speedy and positive response to our problems.

With Compliments

Revd C Hartland
Co-ordinator

p/s : The four months budget prepared by the N C C Finance committee was approved by our Region and the signatories' names for our region had been forwarded to you already - if you do not have them please advise us.

Thank you