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Joint Communiqué of the ANC and PAC on the Joint Executives Meeting, Harare, 15 -16 April, 1991.

The historic two day meeting of the Joint National Executive Committees (NECs) of the African National Congress of South Africa and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania was held in Harare, Zimbabwe from April 15 to 16 1991.

The agenda included an Assessment of the Current Situation, the unprecedented escalation of violence in our country, the Constituent Assembly, Sanctions, the Interim government, the Patriotic Conference, the Multi-Party conference and the All-Party Congress. The main thrust of the meeting was to pave the way for an early establishment of a Patriotic Front, in pursuance of resolutions adopted by both organisations at their respective national conferences.

It was agreed that the main content of the present phase of the struggle is the immediate transfer of democratic power to the majority. It was further agreed that it is vital for all forces which support this objective to unite for this purpose.

The meeting discussed, in depth, the current violence and concluded that the principal source of the violence is the apartheid system and regime, by employing special counter-insurgency units such as the C.C.B., Koevoet, Buffalo Battalion 32; the Askaris, the Z. Squad and others to repress and terrorise the national liberation movements and other democratic activists.

Both sides called for the verifiable disbandment of the C.C.B. and other death squads.

It was also resolved that the organisations of the oppressed should identify and speedily isolate those among their membership who indulge in attacks on supporters of other political organisations. In this regard, all organisations should encourage and develop a culture of political tolerance and democratic practice and should desist from making hegemonistic claims.

The joint meeting resolved that a Constituent Assembly is the only mechanism through which our society can be genuinely democratised. The meeting consequently rejected the regime's Multi-party formula which it advances as a substitute for a Constituent Assembly.

It was further decided that there shall be no engagement on the modalities for a Constituent Assembly until the regime meets the



demands for the unconditional release of all political prisoners, the unhindered return of all exiles, and complies with all the other pre-conditions set out in the UN Consensus Resolution of 1989.

The meeting decided to convene a Conference of Patriotic Forces. aimed primarily to unite the oppressed. All representatives of organised groups and bodies who support a Constituent Assembly should be united to this conference. In the meantime the ANC and PAC resolved to approach all those still not committed to a Constituent Assembly, with a view to encouraging them to participate. The Patriotic Conference will take place in Cape Town during August 1991.

The meeting created joint structures to implement these and other decisions. A special joint sub-committee on Sanctions was appointed.

The meeting was an outstanding success and in the words of the closing addresses of the two leaders "exceeded our best expectations."

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