

RECOGNISING that the culture is an integral part of the national democratic struggle; Pw\$\$\$u&4\_jis the "eye" - --nnu;;JkH3;95mu-mi%hbrefore asserts that the role of cultural workers is inseparable from the overall struggle against apartheid as well as the moulding of the future non-racial, non-sexist, unitary and democratic South Africa.

RECOGNISING

1. that apartheid culture is a tool of oppression intended to maintain the status quo and undermine the national democratic struggle;
  2. the emergence of a people's culture which expresses the social and political aspirations encompassing the artistic, intellectual and material aspects of culture in South African society;
- WE HEREBY PLEDGE to assert a humanist, internationalist but distinctly South African character of people's culture which draws upon the cultural heritage of all the people the country. t

i. NOTING: 1. the need for and desire of cultural workers to be organised into a national democratic organisation to represent the interests of all cultural workers;  
2. that the national democratic movement has a role to coordinate the formation and consolidation of cultural workers into local, regional and national structures in conformity with Resolution 1;

WE HEREBY RESOLVE: 1. that a national democratic cultural organisation be formed to cater for the cultural, social and political aspirations of cultural workers in the national democratic movement; kgxhtbknm-QILL&

WE HEREBY RECOMMEND: 1. that this organisation, when formed, link up and liaise with (existing) organisations consisting of South African cultural workers in exile which have similar aims and objectives.

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\_ NOTING: 1. that organisations and structures within the national  
Udemocratic movement require financial assistance in the pursuance of  
of their cultural objectives;  
2. that imperialist forces are continually attempting to  
undermine the national liberation struggle; by amongst other  
things using funding to co-opt cultural workers, organisations  
and projects. t

WE HEREBY RESOLVE that financial assistance for cultural projects  
be solicited and obtained in consultation with the national demo-  
cratic movement. t 5 /7.

RESOLUTION ON WOMEN AND CULTURE

CONFIRMING that women are integral to and have a vital role to play in our cultural struggle and

NOTING: 1. that women are sexually and economically exploited  
2. that women are the victims of archaic patriarchal traditions and practices  
3. that South African women have historically waged a struggle against their triple oppression

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RECOMMEND: 1. that progressive cultural workers have a duty to accord equal status to women cultural workers.

2. that women assert themselves in all areas of cultural activity.

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RESOLUTION ON LANGUAGE

NOTING: 1. That multi-lingualism is a characteristic feature of South African society.

2. That English and Afrikaans have taken on a disproportionate role in cultural production and communication because of their status as official languages.

3. That cultural workers have a special role to play in the preservation and development of all the languages of our

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WE HEREBY RESOLVE: t

1. that all the languages of our country be accorded equal status.

2. that cultural workers be encouraged to use all the languages of South Africa in their work.

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CONFIRMING that apartheid South Africa must be totally isolated  
AND NOTING:

1. that the objective of the cultural boycott to isolate the regime is inviolate and needs to be pursued with even greater vigour;
2. the need to recognise and strengthen the emerging progressive and democratic culture in South Africa;
3. that the cultural boycott as a tactic needs to be applied with a degree of flexibility which takes into consideration the developing situation within the country.

WE THEREFORE RESOLVE

that apartheid South Africa be totally isolated and that cultural workers and academics not be allowed to leave or enter the country, save and except in those instances where such movement, after consultation with the national liberation movement, is considered to be in furtherance of the national democratic struggle.

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RESOLUTION ON LITERATURE

CONFIRMING

1. that writers have a history of shaping the cultural values of people;

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2. that progressive writers are instrumental in the development of a democratic culture.

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NOTING

1. The need to strengthen links between progressive writers within the national democratic movement.

2. That the recently constituted Congress of South African Writers (COSAW) is playing a vital role in the furtherance of our cultural struggle;

3. That poor educational facilities for the training of writers is a direct consequence of apartheid oppression and exploitation;

4. that the means of gathering, documenting and disseminating information and publications is almost exclusively controlled by the ruling class.

WE HEREBY RESOLVE

1. That links between COSAW and the national democratic movement be consolidated;

2. That links be forged between the progressive writers and the literacy programmes and that workshops be organised for the enhancement of training in creative writing skills;

3. That COSAW, in conjunction with the national democratic movement establish libraries in both the rural and urban areas. The cooperation of progressive publishers should be sought in this process.

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#### RESOLUTION ON POETRY

##### CONFIRMING

1. that our people have a proud poetic tradition expressing their cultural values and norms, their history and aspirations.

##### WE RECOMMEND

1. the continuing development of poetry as a mobilising force in our people's struggle against apartheid exploitation, oppression and repression;

2. that competitions, workshops and symposia be organised to promote youth and childrens' poetry.

3. that our poets be encouraged to express themselves in their zeieEEEE?E#languages.



NOTING

1. that our cultural workers have been and are economically exploited.
2. that our cultural workers have been kept in ignorance of the laws pertaining to copyright.
3. that plagiarism of our cultural heritage is increasing.
4. that the national democratic movement has a duty to document and preserve our cultural heritage.

THEREFORE WE RECOMMEND

1. that our cultural workers organise themselves and act in concert whenever necessary to safeguard their interests.
2. that our cultural workers seek advice before committing themselves to contract.
3. that the national democratic movement gives serious consideration to the concept of establishing alternative structures to secure the rights of cultural workers.
4. that the national democratic movement in conjunction with - cultural workers commence with the documentation and preservation of our cultural heritage.

Resolution on Media CASA Cultural conference

14 -21 December 1987

NOTING:

1. the present assault on the democratic media by the apartheid regime;
2. the importance of informational media towards the development of a people's culture as well as the political mobilisation of our people;

WE HEREBY RESOLVE:

1. to internationalise the campaign to defend the progressive press in South Africa.
2. to build solidarity between South African Media Workers and those abroad.
3. to call upon Government and non-Governmental organisations abroad to devise means to pressure the South African regime such as,
  - a) Egziesig the position of South African Press attaches in the

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light of repression in the country.

/u: b) curbing the practice of allowing foreign journalists to be used by the regime for its propaganda.

4. to call on the international community to insist on its rights to be informed and to evolve methods which ensure that is a constant flow of information into and out of the country.
5. that solidarity movements internationally should increase financial assistance to media projects within the national democratic movement.
6. that media workers should organise themselves into national structures.
7. that alternative structures be set up in the country that will survive the state onslaught in the long term.
8. that media training be seen as a priority in all sectors and that women be incorporated fully into existing media projects.

NOTING

1. the culture of the oppressors has encouraged a high degree of individualism amongst artists

RECOGNISING

1. that culture must be viewed in the context of people's struggle.

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WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND

1. that cultural workers and artists be encouraged to work and develop collectively by sharing ideas, resources and skills with a view to enriching people's culture.

(incorporating theatre, music and dance)

CONFIRMING

1. that the performing arts have been distorted and inhibited by co-option, censorship and exploitation by the ruling class.

NOTING

1. Historically the performing arts have been divided into two traditions - one representing the interests of the apartheid - regime and the ruling class, and the other a true representation of people's culture and struggle.

2. that the performing arts have long been exploited by capital.

THEREFORE WE RESOLVE

1. Restore the performing art to their rightful role of both reflecting and being instruments of resistance to the apartheid regime

2. Organise and unite the performing artists into national democratic structures which will, inter alia,

2.1 protect performing artists against exploitation

2.2 conscientise and mobilise performing artists

2.3 produce progressive journals and literature

2.4 set up a progressive network for cultural products

3. Secure funding towards providing training inside and outside the country, providing alternative venues, festivals and sponsorships.

4. Establish and develop archives to record and preserve traditional music, song and dance.

5. Secure as much performing space as possible by bringing existing venues into the fold of the progressive cultural organisations.

6. That the recommended structures urgently take steps to ensure the provision of adequate academic education for child performers and their protection against all forms of abuse and exploitation.

CONFIRMING

1. The importance of the role of visual arts in the democratic struggle.

NOTING

1. that posters have made a significant contribution to advance the national democratic struggle.

2. that architects and craftspeople have inadvertently been excluded.

3. craft is an essential part of our culture and the erosion of our craft-traditions by, among other things, exploitation.

4. the power of film and television as a popular cultural medium and the need to develop an authentic democratic film culture in South Africa, taking into account the particular difficulties surrounding the financing production and distribution of film and television.

WE CALL UPON

1. Visual artists to apply their skills and resources to further the national democratic struggle.

WE RECOMMEND

1. That posters be further developed as a revolutionary art form.

2. that architects and craftspeople be organised alongside other cultural workers.

3. that our cultural workers undertake the documentation and analysis of our visual art in consultation with the mass democratic movement.

4. that an exchange between progressive giffvgggfgs inside and outside the country be considered in consultation with the national democratic movement. j

5. that cultural workers and the mass democratic movement urgently look into the question of drawing crafts people into the cultural structures of the mass democratic movement and into production and distribution collectives.