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EDUCATION POLICY OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (S A)

A PREAMBLE

South Africa, being a capitalist society, has pursued and practised educational systems in conformity with its capitalist objectives. As early as 1869, a special report by the then Superintendent-General of Education stated that the "Natives" were to be trained to provide "a fair supply of ordinary artisans and domestic servants". "Coloureds must fulfil the humble tasks of agricultural labourers and sheperds". Whites on the other hand must be given the best and most advanced education, so that they can have "directive intelligence" which will enable the white race "to hold its supremacy as future employers of labour ... as masters in trade, agriculture and industry".

This long-standing policy is manifest in such Acts as the Bantu Education Act of 1953 (amended in 1954, 1956, 1959, 1961) the Extension of University Education Act of 1959, the Coloured Persons Education Act of 1963, the Indian Education Act of 1964. These provide for separate, inferior education for Black South Africans. While White Education is privileged, it also suffers from the distortions and racism of Christian National Education policy.

The African National Congress of South Africa has formulated a clear policy for a free, democratic and non-racial South Africa enshrined in the Freedom Charter. This policy will continuously be enriched through practical experience as our struggle develops.

The development of our struggle demands that the ANC assumes responsibility for manpower planning and development to serve the requirements of a complex, agro-industrial South Africa. Hence, even the fields of study as well as the content of education for our cadres have to be under the direction of the African National Congress.

B GENERAL AIMS OF THE ANC EDUCATION POLICY

The entire educational programme, under direction, guidance and control of the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress of South Africa, will be geared towards the following objectives:-

- 1 To prepare cadres to serve the national liberation struggle of the people of South Africa in the phase of struggle for seizure of political power and the post-liberation phase.
- 2 To produce such cadres as will be able to seve the society in all spheres i e political, economic, socio-cultural, educational and scientific. Priorities will be dictated by the needs of the liberatory struggle in the pre and post liberation period.

C PRINCIPLES OF THE ANC EDUCATION POLICY

1 Revolutionary:

The Education Policy of the ANC shall be geared towards producing a new type of South African dedicated to serve the interests and needs of the South African people as a whole.

2 Mass Accessibility:

The ANC educational programme, as an on-going process, shall cater for both young and old irrespective of race, colour, sex or creed.

3 Science and Culture:

The ANC educational programme shall draw on the most advanced scientific knowledge and progressive cultural activities of the people of South Africa and the world.

4 Integrated Education:

The educational programme shall combat within education and the division between mental and manual training as well as the artificial separation of arts and sciences.

5 Democratic:

While observing the priority to impart basic knowledge at each given level in each field, the ANC educational programme shall promote the full creative and democratic participation of students, teachers and the community in all educational activities.

6 Dynamism:

The ANC educational programme shall develop in keeping with the demands of the situation in a changing world.

Adopted by the Council Meeting of the ANC Educational Department, 1 to 3 October, 1978, in Morogoro, Tanzania.

PRINCIPLES OF THE ANC EDUCATIONAL POLICY

Revolutionary

The Educational Policy of the ANC shall be based on the following principles: The new type of South African education is needed to serve the interests and needs of the South African people as a whole.