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2 pages

30 September 1994

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ASSESSMENT OF FLASH POINTS AND PROBLEM AREAS

With reference to the fax received from the Minister of Education concerning the above matter, I wish to comment as follows.

It is unfortunate that such an important document should be given such a limited time for response. It touches upon not only the short term crisis experienced by all tertiary institutions but also highlights the continuation of the crisis for years ahead. Each institution should seriously re-evaluate all its current mechanisms as well as its value system. This somehow requires guidelines set by the central authority. Without such guidelines the individual processes may go in the wrong direction with the resultant waste of energy and time, not to mention the traumatic effects on the institution if it finds itself misplaced because of this.

Herewith some comments on various aspects of the memorandum.

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No reference is made of the fact that the Advisory Committee noted rationalisation between institutions as a logical focal point.

F The reference in the fourth paragraph under Noted refers to universities under severe financial pressure etc. No mention is made of technikons who, as fairly young institutions, do not necessarily have the problem of replacing obsolete equipment but rather are faced with an inability to get equipment at all.

