

OCRPE M MD hm Chem R 6%

48 National Conference

OCRPE 'broadens transport from point of entry to

Report respective destination of each returnee.

IEIRQDUCILQN In conjunction to the Legal Department we _assist with_ghe

obtaining ot-npassgorts,_birth certificates and drafting

of affidavits for re-registration of essential documents.

1. ERQGRESS_REEQBI

(a) We have thus far been able to return into the 3. CHARACTERISIIQ_ERQBLEMS

country 750 exiles, however, groups of ten-trickle

into the country weekly on their own accord. This is (3) Although only 750 egiles have re

turned as Part Of

due to the structural fragmentation taking place our organised repatriation PPOCBBB.

externally. It must be noted that :thie factor is: notable features characterising return

ees

having serious consequences on organised are:-

repatriation. Many exiles have returned via the

Transkei where there is not much insistence of 1. they are both urban (90%) and rural (10

%) and

indemnity. Presently there would be approximately represent a cross section of our commun

ity.

1,800 returnees inside the country. This would be to

the exclusion of the Dukwe Group, whose political ii. skilled (40%) and unskilled (50%)

affiliation has in most cases not yet been properly

clarified. _ iii. a significant section will be totally deetitut

' (10%)

(b) 8,200 indemnitiee have been granted, and

approximately 56 being reconsidered after initial iv. i.e. homeless with-only the ANC as

a source of

rejection. It must be noted that many exiles have as support.

yet not filled in indemnity forms, whilst othersis

forms have been returned because they have been

incorrectly processed. (b) NQIABLE_EQSI_ENIBX_RBQBLENS

(c) OCRPE has in addition assumed the function of Returnees have often been arrested at t

he Airport

responsibility for the lot of ex-political (Jan Smuts) by security branch members. Althou

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prisoners, the majority of whom are former exiles. this has subsided. ,

Due to the limitations of resources we have thus far '

been unable to provide them with any monetary Returnees are harassed by both Security Pol

ice and

assistance.' Inkatha. 2 have been killed since retuning .

Returneeee have to undergo long process of

2. EBQMISIQNAL_ASSISIANQE interrogation and interviews in order to obtain

documents with which they cannot undertake any

Each returning exile adult as upon arrival receives a employment or enter any contract ne

cessary for

settling allowance of R2,225 fro OCRPE. Provision is also ordinary citizens.

made for the following by OCRPEz-

Besides R2,225 that they receive as a settlement

an allowance for medical aid for the chronically ill. allowance and R300 for NCCR (Nation

al Coordinating

Of the 750 who have been repatriated, there are 30 Committee for the Returnees) there is

nothing else

returnees who need'regular medical attention. This number that we can provide. Those espe

cially affected are

will rise up to 1000 by the time the programme is the unskilled.

completed. .

South African Companies have demonstrated a clear

We have not been able to secure fund: for the pre-echool. prejudice towards returnees wit

h East European

primary and secondary level schooling. qualifications. even though these have received re

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orientation in Western European Countries.

Rental provision is already being provided since there

are already 50 persons among returnees with no Children of the returnees have been the mo

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prospect for immediate or possible alternative seriously affected. We are unable. to prov

ide

accommodation. guaranteed schooling for a significant period.

Debarring the problems of adjustment being that most

1 (especially primary school children) need to be
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tutored in Afrikaans.

The 'State' of Public Education offers very little prospect for the children who otherwise have limitless potential.

Many of the older generation return to dispersed family unit with no prospect (economically) of accepting additional burdens. They thus, in the absence of a viable alternative, have to be passed from one temporary accommodation to another.

Whilst there is a limited financial provision for health care for some of our chronic cases this is presently very insufficient.

We have overall more than 600 psychiatric cases. Institutionalising them in Government Hospitals will only aggravate the situation. There are also characteristic exiles cases of hypertension, ulcers and sugar diabetics commonly found amongst the old and dependent returnees.

When, in particular, the rural returnees reintegrate into the local environment, he/she loses contact with the main centers of activity (urban areas) and thus lacks resources for contact/communication maintenance.

Housing, the main springboard for all activity essential to effective reintegration is singularly the most plague ridden necessity unavailable to up to 90% of returnees. We in the OCRPE place accommodation as a priority in ensuring stability for returning exiles. The most affected individuals are amongst the elderly.

UNHCR/S_LNMQLYEMENI

The South African Government is in the throes of making a decision on the future involvement of the UNHCR in the repatriation process, whichever way the decision goes, it has obvious implications of the continuation of the programme. UNHCR stated clearly that it would require a three months preparatory period before it is ready to commence repatriation. Having begun repatriating, we obviously cannot halt the process in-between since this could have consequences for our institutions outside the country. Demand by UNHCR for General Amnesty would have to be contextualised within the present movements agreement with the Government, since some of the demands are not in keeping with UNHCR policy positions. UNHCR's participations will generate funds from sympathetic countries which will provide impetus to our present sluggish exercise. This is the additional reason for the limited ability of the NCCR to provide material assistance. NCCR is the adopted internal implementing

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organ of the UNHCR.

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We placed a lot of emphasis on the role the NCCR would play in development and reintegration. However, already with the trickle (750) that has arrived it is certain that to a large degree NCCR is unable to fulfil that function. Some of the reasons for its failure are the following:-

1. Lack of clarity on the future role of the UNHCR, and the resultant financial constraints.
2. NCCR structural domination by volunteers which leads to ineffectiveness and lack of accountability.
3. The nature of the NCCR'S composition is such that special attention cannot be focused on ANC returnees and this results in our cadres looking upon an all and above ANC solution for their problems.
4. Beyond the R300 provided to each returnee NCCR has effectively not been able to provide any other service.
5. Its (NCCR) short life expectancy 12 months as the UNHCR internal implementing body does not make

provision for it to be able to oversee the long term development assistance so crucial for potential solutions to returnees' problems. Hence our (ANC'S) insistence that there be a transparency clause in donor policy. We will be thus able to canvas for funds directly geared towards long-term-proaectat-NCCR will act as conduit to channel funds for this purpose.

6. At the Chief Admmministrative Level of the NCCR there have emerged chronic problems which may grind the entire repatriation program to a halt. We have addressed a memorandum to the NCCR executive to arrest these problems since they presently militate against the very sound principles on which it was established; see Annexure 1. Then at the level of the NCCR transparency clause we have been unable to envoke it due to the latter related problems.

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In as much as the movement has been to a large able to provide for the material and social well being of its cadres in exiles, the have been negative results which are today militating against our endeavour to reintegrate our people into the community. The dependancy tendency has embedded itself and created formidable opsticles in our path. Coupled with the low skill level and

uncertainty. additional pressure is being placed on the movement and the department (OCRPE) to provide tangible solution for the transition from exile. -

When in addition consideration is given to the extent of economic and political polarisation in the country the frightening prospect for a returned exile, unemployed, without housing, with dependents unassisted, yet killed only in weapons this, ie in the additional ingredient to an already highly charged situation- Most cadres (60%) have no previous history of employment. Development programmes must not ensue after the exiles have returned but must take place simultaneous or in conjunction with his homecoming. This would involve career guidance and skill census preparation at the pre-repatriation points (i.e. Zambia and Tanzania). If development programmes are to succeed then, they must provide the following:-

(5) Whilst providing employment they should ensure developmental training especially in intermediary skills.

(b) Be community based.

(c) Guarantee high standard of management;

(d) Utilize as much local resources as possible (experience already pooled by community and civic projects undertaken in both urban and rural areas).

Various appeals have been made either through the NCCR or independently for the material and technical assistance. These have received varying support. In the whole it can be said that big business response is favourable. However, and because of different interests by several sections for one or other reasons a uniform approach to business houses is still an illusion. It would be important that in the first instance various departments of the ANC strategise overall singular approach to development assistance for returnees. We have not been able to as yet sufficiently involve the community in repatriation. '

EMRLDXMEND

The employment office have 400 people who have registered for jobs. About 340 are in administrative personal profile forms while the other 60 has already been compiled into CV's. The employment consultant has already visited Cape Town with the aim of assessing employment opportunities in the region and consultation on co-ordination of efforts. Meetings were conducted with community organisations on potential job opportunities as well as with WUS on its returnees programme.

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Similar visits will have to be conducted to other regions. The office has been conducting a series of meetings with companies to concretise agreements already made at leadership levels. The prospects so far are good. A lot of ground end preparation has still to be made in enhancing the administrative capacity of the office, especially as more people come when repatriation is resumed. The report will give a picture of the work done.

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A number of offers have come as a result of negotiations between the ANC and business companies. We have received offers from the following companies:-

TRANSNET: We have received a very positive response from this company. Out of 40 CV's handed to the company; about 12 people have been placed. Consultations and deliberations are on-going. Both skilled and non skilled people are being considered.

PERM: Perm has offered to take University dropouts, Commercial and Accounting graduates, or people with financial and banking experience. Three people have been placed on this programme. A recent offer made is for 13 people from around the country to be trained as branch managers. We have responded with 15 CV's. ,

.1820 SETTLERS: This is a new ibffer end no follow up has
'been made yet. . '-

SbUTHERN LIFE: The company need marketing agents with own
transport.

MERCEDES BENZ: this offer is for qualified -people in
mechanics, mechanical and electrical engineering.-NTC or
:NT'diploma certificates. Awaiting response. Training will
also be given. '

CBM: CBM preffers to deal with non political groups like
the NCCR. We have decided to target individual companies
subscribing to CBH, with promising response. '

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Agreements for training haVe been concluded with CECS,
Zakheni and Wits Business School. The project aim to
trein_ peoyle 'in eperketeble skills to increase their
employment -opportudities and placement with companies. In
other;ceses there are upgrading courses. Sixty percent of
returnees would need to be provided with basic- skilled
training since the level of formal education is very low.
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Their educational needs couldnbe categorised as follows:-
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- Yi) PrefSchooling
(11) Primary and Secondary Schooling
(iii) Tertiary
(iv) Vocational Training
(v) Adult Education

It has become abundantly clear to all and sundry that the process of returnees reintegration has not received the serious attention that it deserves. One of the main factors influencing the whole process of reintegration is finance which we are still seriously lacking.

SIBUQIURE

To address the issue of education for returnees. The following structures have been set up.

National Education Task force. It comprises members of the regional NCCR structures. OCRPE. and Education in the PWV region. This above structure is however stillborn hence the repatriation education desk is faced with this gigantic task of educational reintegration..

We have successfully negotiated school premises for the transfer of SOMAFCO STUDENTS since our institution there has been forced to close down due to financial constraints. The school will be ready by the 15 July 1991; see Annexure-: meeting with Government on School.

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An-acumnr-couree has been negotiated for with Peninsula Tech and is due to start in July. It can accommodate 400 students in the following faculties i.e: Commerce, Computing Science and Art and Design.

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The industrial board through South African Development Bank provides training at a regional level. Short courses are available in the various fields ranging from 1 day to 6 months.

To meet our informational requirements as well as to facilitate through planning and correct orientation of returnees a career tour will be planned. Funding will be provided through Inter Fund. see proposal Annexure Career Guidance Tour.

The career guidance tour will take place in Tanzania and 'Lueaka. The methodology of accomplishing this task will be through workshops presentation and counselling; see Annexure 9n Career Guidance Tour.

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The movement is today in the grips of evolving a housing policy. Exiles are of course immediately implicated by this debate. Until such time that this immediate primary need is satisfied, returnees face overwhelming

constraints characterising this problem:-

(a), availability of serviced land and access to financial assistance -

(b) the housing backlog of 850,000 units in the urban areas. When considering the above-mentioned operational basis of the UNHCR as a repatriation agency it is clear that we face tremendous obstacles in terms of developing effective long-term projects to house all returnees.

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Various project options in relation to community based organisations are being examined. Some are already taking off. donor financial and practical assistance will be vital for their progression.

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We appeal to the conference to ensure support for this very difficult undertaking and wish to emphasise the need for common approach at all levels of the movement. -.

JS/em

27 JUNE 1991