

i The Senator for Economy and Foreign Trade

STATE OFFICE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION, BREMEN

THE STRENGTHENING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND TRAINING

- Project co-operation Bremen - ANC (African National Congress)/South Africa -

Bremen supports projects in the ANC refugee camps of

Morogoro and Dakawa: Tanzania

The socio-political development in southern Africa has turned into a depressing and dramatic situation recently. All blocs and political lines demand an acceptable solution and the application of the Convention of Human Rights. The endeavours of the white minority for the preservation of their supremacy have partly resulted in a civil warlike situation in South Africa.

A consequence of this development is that the number of refugees to the neighbouring countries increases. In Tanzania the Government has put land at the disposal of the ANC liberation movement which erected the refugee camps of Morogoro and Dakawa.

At present, more than 10,000 people live in these camps. In order not to be solely dependent on help from outside, the refugees try to secure their livelihood with agricultural products they produce themselves.

The camps do not only offer security and food; they are also intended to prepare the people to return to their home countries. Education and training play an important role besides the priority efforts to eke out an existence. The ANC needs help from outside to a large degree in order to realize these aims.

Bremen has been sponsoring these efforts in co-operation with the Churches and people's initiatives. This help also expresses Bremen's human solidarity with the black people of southern Africa. Bremen's party to the contract is the ANC - the African National Congress.

Two Pico Tracs (simple tractors), constructed and built in the Bremen school 'Holterfeld'

, have been employed in the ANC camps since 1982. The vehicles are chiefly used for the transportation of people and agricultural goods and as dust-carts.

Servicing and the supply of spare parts is organized by a mobile workshop provided by the Bremen branch of the Anti Apartheid Movement.

PROJECTS OF BREMEN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION "5""0'1'9".

by Bremen

Project 1982: Strengthening of the agricultural production - introduction of appropriate mechanization and improvement of the agricultural production for example by introducing biogas technology in the refugee camp of Dakawa

In March 1982, the ANC Representative in the Federal Republic turned to the President of the Senate and asked for support because Bremen had previously co-operated in projects for refugees in southern Africa and occasionally sponsored the information activities of various people's initiatives as regards problems in this area.

Bremen has been sponsoring measures to integrate appropriate technologies in rural areas of Tanzania since 1979. The widening of the knowledge about the feasibility of appropriate technologies in rural development schemes had contributed to the fact that the inhabitants of the refugee camps were confirmed to participate in the first practical measures of realization.

In co-operation with the Bremen branch of the Anti Apartheid Movement, two Pico-Tracs were delivered. These are simple multipurpose vehicles used for ground work, waste removal, and the transportation of persons and agricultural goods. Thus the food situation and hygiene in the camps have been improved.

Study on the feasibility of biogas technology

On behalf of the ANC, a biogas expert from BORDA (Bremen Overseas Research and Development Association) examined the possible use of biogas technology for energy supply in the refugee camp of Dakawa. As a dairy farming project is being realized in this camp, the construction of biogas plants is sensible and possible.

Bremen has sponsored these projects in 1982 with the sum of DM 50,000.--.

Project 1983: Support of the building of an agro-technical training and servicing centre
Apart from technical equipment, the intensifying of agriculture requires the improvement of training facilities in the fields of agricultural and rural technology. Therefore

the ANC supplied a solid building where the servicing of agricultural machines, production, and training take place under the same roof.

The costs total of this project amount to DM 142,850.--. Bremen contributed the sum of DM 50,000.-- to the erection costs. The rest of the money was contributed by the Churches and non-government organizations.

Project 1985: Improvement of the living conditions; supply of two goods vehicles and spare parts

The support, begun in 1982, was continued in 1985. The tasks concentrated on plans in the fields of agriculture, training facilities, and transportation.

Transport capacity was needed to realize this measure. So two goods vehicles were purchased on Bremen's second-hand cars market. A third vehicle was dismantled to be used as spare parts supply. The Bremer Jugendwerkstätten, where young jobless people are trained, are overhauling these trucks at the moment and the cars are being equipped with toolboxes. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is going to pay the costs for the transportation to the camps.

Bremen sponsored the purchase of two used goods vehicles and a third one for spare parts with the sum of DM 20,000.--.

Reception for the ANC

Representative in the
Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Tony Seedat, by
Mayor K. Wedemeier, on
February 11, 1986.

Bremen is the only Federal State that supports the ANC refugee camps in southern Africa. This is the background for the invitation of Mr. Tony Seedat, Representative of the ANC in the Federal Republic of Germany, by Mayor Klaus Wedemeier. On February 11, 1986, Mr. Seedat was welcomed by Mayor Wedemeier in the Town Hall. In his talk, Mayor Wedemeier emphasized the fact that the development policy of the Senate of Bremen is the expression of practical and political solidarity with the black population majority that have fought for their human rights in vain until today. As the previous project activities have proven sensible and effective, the possibility of further measures of support - if necessary together with other federal states - was discussed.

TELEGRAM TO THE ANC

The Chief Representative of the
African National Congress (ANC)

Mr. Tony Seedat
Plittersdorfer Str. 21
S300 Bonn

Dear M r. Seedat ,

Despite worldwide protests the South African government executed the poet Benjamin Moloise, member of the African National Congress, by hanging this morning. Because of that, we are full of sorrow and indignation.

On behalf of the Senate of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, I offer the widow and family of Benjamin Moloise as well as the ANC my condolences. In its struggle to overcome racism and to gain liberation, your people has made another great sacrifice. After decades of non-violent resistance of the ANC, the terror and oppression by the South African government has fanned the flames of a climate of civil war. The execution of Benjamin Moloise is going to increase the international pressure to overcome the criminal system of apartheid.

Together with the ANC, Bremen will continue its support for the victims of racism.

Yours sincerely,

Klaus Wedemeier

President of the Senate

October 18, 1985

Resolution of the Bremen Parliament (Diet) on South Africa, November 13, 1985

On November 13, 1985, the Parliament adopted the motion "Freedom, Equality, and Justice for the Black Population Majority in the Republic of South Africa" as well as the statement of the Senate "Keeping of National and International Determinations - the Policy of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen as regards South Africa".

This statement condemns the increasing number of acts of violence against the black population and the racial discrimination they must suffer; it declares its solidarity with all citizens and institutions who express their protest against the oppression in South Africa in a peaceful way.

Moreover, the Senate is requested to launch an initiative jointly with the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg to impose selected, reversible measures, if need be limited in time, and to fight for the worldwide support of these measures. The Senate is also requested to help improve the lot of the ANC refugee camps in Black Africa as part of the development co-operation of the Federal State of Bremen.

For further information please contact

The Senator for Economy and Foreign Trade

State Office for Development Co-operation

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