

MCR/015/2004/8 28.11.78

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

(SOUTH AFRICA)

Telephone :
Office : 28031

P. O. Box 2239
DAR ES SALAAM
Tanzania

28th November, 1978

Dear Comrade Sindiso,

re : ANC STUDENTS IN MAPUTO

You will recall that just before our Summit in Morogoro, I handed you a copy of my report submitted to UNESCO regarding the visit I had undertaken to Maputo last September.

Subsequently, Mr. Idris went on a mission to Swaziland. He made a stop over in Maputo on his return journey presumably to verify that report. A copy of his findings are attached hereto for your information and records.

A cable received today by Mr. Idris' office from UNESCO headquarters has provoked my comments on Mr. Idris' findings and I am also enclosing a copy of same.

Should you have any observations to make, please feel free to do so.

In the meanwhile, I have to report that one of the female students, GLADYS SESI MSIMANG has had to terminate her studies at the Eduardo Mondlane University because of pregnancy. She returned to Dar es Salaam last Saturday.

Included in the documentation in this letter, is a copy of the report of an inquiry conducted by our Counselling Unit in Maputo. It is a very good report and deserves to be closely studied. Your comments will be most appreciated. Perhaps you may decide to consult the Working Committee. That would be useful.

I am therefore withholding comment from my end pending word from your side.

AMANTLA - MAATLA !!!

M. Msimang
M. MSIMANG
Education Officer

Comrade Sindiso Mfenyana,
Coordinating Secretary,
Department of Education and Culture,
African National Congress (S.A.),
P. O. Box 1791,
LUSAKA. Zambia

c.c. ANC Education Committee, Maputo

c.c. ANC Youth Secretariat, Lusaka.

REPORT OF MISSION TO MOZAMBIQUE 30 SEPTEMBER - 11 OCTOBER
1978 SUBMITTED BY MR. AWAD IDRIS TO UNESCO

I.NIM/76/002 (ANC students) - Mr. Msimang's mission report to Maputo and Lusaka 9 - 20 September (attached) has been thoroughly discussed with Mr. Zetterberg and his deputy Mrs. Ditmar. The Resident Representative reported that the situation is fully under control and that there is no need for me to meet the University authorities over this.

Going over the report of Mr. Msimang with Mrs. Ditmar we are now in full agreement as to the following:

- (i) we are opposed in principle, to the transfer of Thomas Swabith Ndlehela from UNEPTSA to UNESCO:
- (ii) discipline - we absolutely insist that ANC students should be disciplined and that there is no excuse whatsoever for not respecting or abiding by the University regulations and the general code of behaviour instituted by the Mozambican authorities. As you notice Thabo Mofokeng is the second case of a student who dropped out due to misbehaviour.
- (iii) There is an apparent confusion between Mr. Msimang's list of candidates and the list of candidates available at UNDP's office. I will discuss this matter with Mr. Msimang.
- (iv) it was agreed that there were certain academic difficulties encountered by the students and that there is a need for adequate counselling for the students. The University has appointed Mrs. Celia Diniz as the official Social Counsellor. The panel of counsellors referred in Mr. Msimang's report do not represent in, our view, the official persons designated by the University. UNDP Maputo will follow up this with the University.
- (v) it is clear that there was a mistake in Mr. Msimang's report that 55,000 Escudos is needed every month instead of every year.
- (vi) commenting on page item (iv) UNDP stressed that the students were given adequate advice, through the ANC

representative, as to their obligations towards the Eduardo Mondlane University.

(vii) Mr. Msimang's letters addressed to the University:
A copy will be obtained by the UNDP and submitted to UNESCO in due course.

(viii) to avoid any future confusion the ANC Secretary General will be asked to definite the role of the ANC representative in Maputo in connection with the ANC students under this project.

Mr. Msimang's attention will be drawn to channel all his correspondence through the Co-ordinator's office and not to write directly to UNDP offices relevant educational matters.

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28th November, 1978

Dear Mr. Idris,

re : NLM/76/002 - ANC STUDENTS IN MAPUTO

With further reference to the above matter and to Mr. Semety's cable No.41621, we feel that it would not be advisable for us to respond only to the query raised by him. It is necessary for us to comment on some aspects of the report on your mission to Mozambique last month.

- (1) We wish we could be informed of the exact reasons why the transfer of Thomas Swabith Ndhlela's fellowship from UNEPTSA to UNESCO is being opposed.
- (ii) and (IV) The African National Congress is at all times concerned with the question of discipline not only among its students but also amongst the general membership. We have, time and time again, endeavoured to point out to you that our Movement is of late dealing with a special type of student. It is a body of students that belong to a generation undergoing, in real terms, a severe and traumatic life experience in South Africa. The effects of that brutally harsh experience - that is of racism and Apartheid - naturally have an adverse psychological effect on them.

Emerging as they do from a sadly inadequate and inferior system of education, they find themselves ill-equipped to cope with the high and demanding standards in the outside world.

When the panel of our academicians was proposed to the Rector of the Eduardo Mondlane University as our counselling body to our students in Maputo, it was because of those considerations. An appropriate and effective machinery had to be devised in order to assist our students. The ANC was the only authority that could provide that much needed assistance because of its special knowledge of its membership and conditions from which these students come.

We are therefore happy to note, from the attached copy of the report from our counselling unit, that the Rector of the Eduardo Mondlane University has already had extensive discussions with members of our panel of counsellors. The important thing though is that out of those discussions came out broad agreements on lines of actions to be adopted towards rendering the necessary assistance to our students.

2/these.....

It should also be appreciated that those arrangements are the positive manifestations of the timely visit I undertook to Maputo. Thanks to your help and the ready approval by Mrs. Fontaine-Eboue to make that visit possible.

It would therefore be inappropriate for either UNESCO or the UNDP office in Maputo to try to upset those arrangements.

We wish to state quite categorically that THABO MOFOKENG has not dropped out of the Eduardo Mondlane University.

- (viii) There is certainly no need for the ANC Secretary-General to define the role of the ANC Representative in Maputo. Our representative is a political appointee whose task, amongst other things, is to promote and defend both the political and social life of all our people in Mozambique.

As discipline is an essential ingredient of that life, it is therefore the duty of our Representative to inculcate and enforce it.

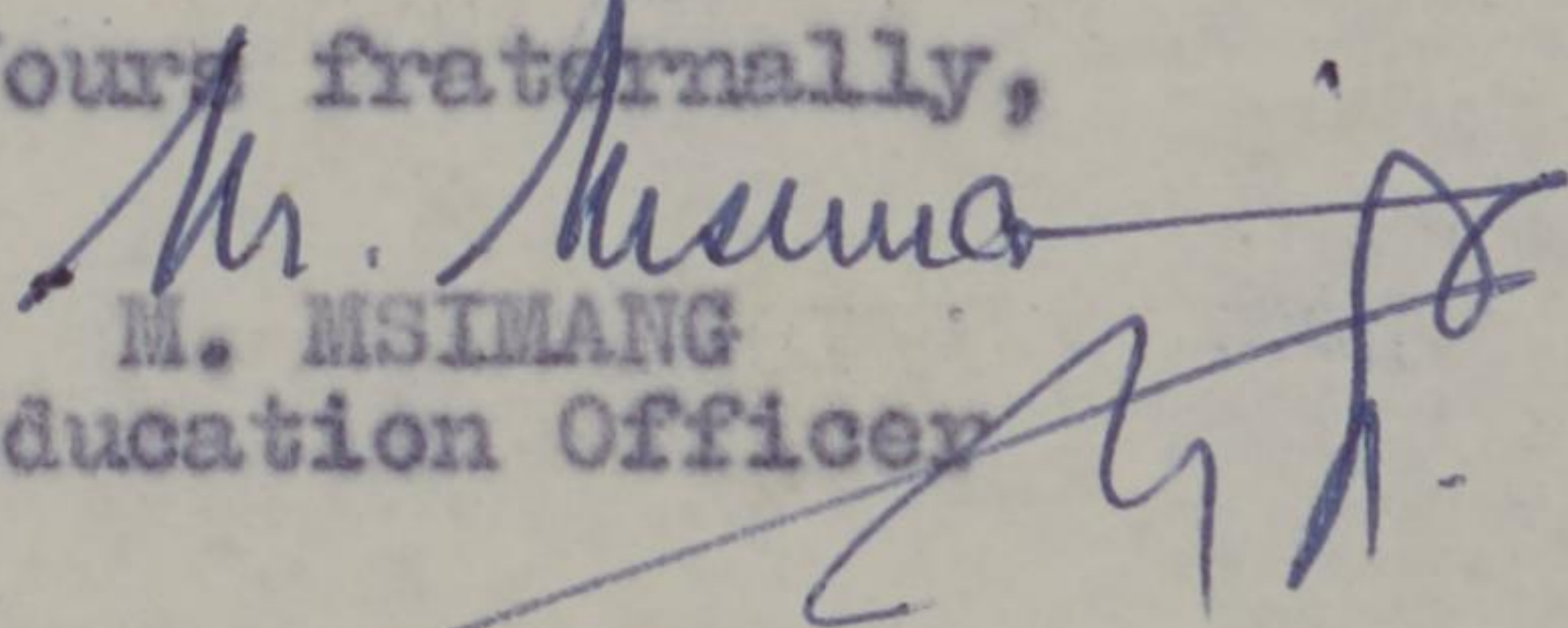
The agreements arrived at during the tripartite meeting referred to in my report to you of September 26, were aimed at minimizing the recurrence of the confusion that afflicted our work in Maputo in the past.

We therefore have cause to be pleased when we note, for instance, that as follow-up action UNESCO has already approved payment of the board and lodging component of the students' fellowships directly to the Eduardo Mondlane University.

- (iii) I still cannot find any discrepancy between my list of candidates and the list of candidates available at the UNDP office in Maputo. Even the record of the extended fellowships dated 16th October, 1978 corresponds in every detail with my list.

We now wish to look forward to the end of December when we shall all know as to whether or not the students did in fact respond commensurately to all our efforts at ensuring their full and effective participation in the ordering of their lives as well as their studies. If they do, they shall have vindicated that endeavour.

Yours fraternally,


M. MSIMANG
Education Officer

Mr. Awad Idris,
UNDP/UNESCO Project Coordinator,
Assistance to National Liberation Movements,
DAR ES SALAAM.