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How are we going to level the playing field? What are the handicaps?

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Women should be outline for equality Irrespective of the party, we must work methods to
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wvll ensure that the Natlonal Party does not - .5

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IS THE l OF PROPORH REPR NTATION UNFAIR?

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TO : Dr. Franc Ginwala :

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FROM wDr. Ellen Kornogly ' i

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SUBJECT : October 1-3, 1993 Workshop Presentations)

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DATE : November 17. 1993

The purpose of this memo is to ask for your assistance in editing? .; attached summary of your presentation. We would like to use Summary in dompiling a report on the October 1-3. 1993 Workshop. Please edit and fax #document back to WDF marking it to the attention of Frangelina Toma.

Thank you again for Your contributions at the workshop.

With best wishes.

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TO : Dr. Frene Ginwala
FROM wDr. Ellen Kornegay
SUBJECT : October 1-3, 1993 Workshop Presentations
DATE : November 17, 1993

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. summary of your presentation. We would like to use summary in compiling a
report on the October 1-3, 1993 Workshop. Please edit and fax the document
back to WDF marking it to the attention of Frangelina Tema.
Thank you again for your contributions at the workshop.
With best wishes.

LEVELLING THE PLAYFIELD FOR POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT j

It was said that we should move forward instead and not find excuses for delay by looking for

problems. The statement levelling the playing field will be heard a great deal in this workshop.

We still have a repressive government in power, they are in control of the security forces, police

and therefore also in control of the machinery of state. There are areas where government is in

total control and there is abuse of power in these areas eg. budget, foreign affairs etc.

Sub-

councils have been appointed to address these issues. A sub-council for women has also been

formed. We as women must now work at using this council to our advantage. We have to find the mechanisms to stop the present government from using these powers in their political state.

The Transitional Executive Council forces government to consult before actions are taken on

certain issues and at least we are in the process of negotiations. XThere are indeed areas which

are controlled by government which have been abused eg. budget, foreign affairs etc A Sub-

council has been appointed which is faced with the task of dealing with issues such as this. A-I

Sub-council for women has also been appointed.1 We must establish how we are going to use this

council, for this council can be important if we learn to use it to our benefit and move with it. This

council must take the initiatives for women, we can also use it for levelling the playing field for

women.

We must ensure that there is free political movement for women so that they are able to act

independently and this must be incorporated with the struggle. Women face intimidation in the

form of political intimidation, physical and psychological abuse by husbands, sexual harassment.

abuse by colleagues and not forgetting the restrictions which are placed on women for being

women.

It is up to the women of the country to decide whether they want to be part of the peace-keeping

force and whether they are going to be integrated into this force.

It is important to note the setting up of the election structures. The ANC estimates that we will

need over 2 million people in the setting out and implementation at election structures and that

women must see that they are in the forefront of these structures. Women must be included in

this for a broader representation of South Africans and to ensure that the commissions function.

We must involve women in these spheres as well as involve them for a broader representation.

How are we going to level the playing field? What are the handicaps?

We need confidence. We must rid ourselves of the notion that the expert is superior. Ordinary

women must step forward and we must overcome. The democratic process needs ordinary people

not experts.

Women should be calling for equality irrespective of the party, we must work out methods to

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provide mass training to women to increase their confidence.

We are going to get a government of national unity after the election. Women must decide on

structures which they want in this constitution to accommodate women. How do we want women's affairs to be addressed and organised in the government? Women have been excluded in all spheres and we must make sure that women enter into all spheres in numbers, collectively

and as strategically as possible.

Women must be trained now for Local Government. We must focus on massive training programmes at local level, and means of targeting Local Government at training level.

We must make strategic entry into all structures in so doing levelling the playing fields

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WHAT IS YOUR SENSE OF WOMEN MAKING HEADWAY INTO TOP POSITIONS? HOW MUCH OF A BATTLE WILL THIS BE FOR WOMEN TO MAKE HEADWAY?

This will be a great battle. Women can make progress. Women are men's worst enemies. It is up to women to get into positions and act and not handicap themselves. The fact that women are in the negotiation process is proof of progress. We need to bring women to unite and strategise.

use ways in your organisation to strategise.

ARE YOU OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROCESS TAKING PLACE?

Considerable progress has been made considering the fact that we are still in the negotiation process.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO BENEFIT FROM THE APRIL ELECTIONS?

If the National Party wins then not much will change. If the Democratic forces win (70-75%) we

will ensure that the National Party does not operate on consensus? '

IS THE ISSUE OF PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION UNFAIR?

I don't like this, the ANC and other organisations must identify women at local level and see that

they go up. Women must decide now that they will take up positions in Governance.