

6LDXWG waR ax
25 April 1990
Marjatta Lahti
Box 680
Morogoro
Tanzania

Dear Marjatta,

I've finally been able to copy and send to you a report I wrote for the Education Department. It is meant to generate discussion and ideas, with the aim of moving us closer towards post-apartheid librarianship sooner rather than later. It has many of the documents I've sent to you in the past, but they are given a new context (and hopefully more coherent organization). '

I ask that you read the "Progressive Librarians Guild" statement on the U.S. publishing lobby. PLG is a group we formed in response to the many issues that have confronted us in the past year. Its membership is growing considerably -by years end we will likely have several hundred professional librarians in our ranks. This is the key organization that I will use in my efforts to promote a new relationship between international librarianship and South African librarianship. I will use it to approach mother organizations, other library associations, etc. Thus far, we have made great progress in these battles. This summer promises many gains._

In June, we will conduct hearings at the American Library Association (ALA) national conference on the AAP mission and recommendations. We are also behind bringing Dennis Brutus as one of the main speakers at the conference. Dennis has offered to help us as much as possible. In July, it looks as if an MDM-affiliated library structure will finally arise in South Africa (I hope you got a copy of the letter to me by Christopher Merrett of Univ. of Natal's Pietermaritzburg library). In August, a contingent from that new structure, as well as Cde Woko and international allies will be attending IFLA's Stockholm conference.

Please tell me how things are going there. Do you have a FAX number at the school so that we could occasionally send you things quickly? I hope everyone gets a chance to read through this report and think about it. Will any decision be made as to whether or not you (SOMAFCO) will contact Chris Merrett and the new library structure inside the country? If you would like, I can give him your name and address -it is entirely up to you how to proceed on this particular matter.

Best wishes to all of my comrades there. Keith Pase, a teacher from there, has just moved to my area. Between he and Rajun Naidoo, we are moving forward at a solid pace here. Stay well, and do stay in touch. I need to know what people there are thinking so that I can keep our organizations here in touch with South African librarianship from the ANC's point of view.

In s mC'Zal

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