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AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS .

Summary of Minutes of Preparatory Meeting for the Dakawa 1985  
Donors' Conference, held at Mazimbu on 14th and 15th April 1985.

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PRESENT: 27 Members under the leadership of the Treasurer General, Comrade T.T.Nkobi who was accompanied by 3 members from the Treasury. Also present were 7 Chief Representatives and heads of several Departments. Comrade Denis Goldberg was given a warm welcome.

Comrade Mendi Msimang was in the Chair.

Com.Nkobi gave the key note address stressing the need to involve our cadres in the effort to become self sufficient. The plans for the ANC Development Centre at Dakawa must be discussed fully so that we can substantiate our need for funds. We must be clear politically and not jeopardise our independence.

FIRST PAPER: TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT.

Com.Spencer Hodgson presented the paper. He clarified certain points regarding the Health Centre, the water and electricity supply. Morogoro can only offer 500 kw at present. 2 000 kw per hour will be required when Dakawa is in full operation.

Structures can be either prefab concrete or we can use concrete blocks. The plan is based on villages approximately a km apart.

There is a need for skilled personnel, technicians who are politically motivated.

During discussion it was explained that the disaster houses are temporary, being used instead of tents.

The Vocational Training Centre (VTC) would train both joiners and furniture makers.

The Austrian Government is offering to fund the water project. Meanwhile the Norwegians are attending to the temporary water supply. Questions were asked about the fact that we had not gone ahead with installing the two cold storage units offered by the Austrians and had we investigated the use of solar energy for which funding was offered. There were offers to fund the Health Centre. The funds offered for Kurasini had still to be sorted out. The T.G.pointed out that we did not have personnel for the hospital at Mazimbu. We must be realistic.

The wells are saline and water is crucial to all our plans. Norplan has a fulltime water engineer studying our problem. They suggest piping water from the river which is 12 km away. Rainwater is being collected as a temporary measure.

A campaign was initiated in France to provide tents. It was agreed that this should continue.

Solar energy is still at the experimental stage. Norplan say

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say water could be pumped with solar energy, but it is not suitable for conventional use.

The Austrians have suggested frame houses and are prepared to train personal and set up an industry for us. They require a firm application in order to get funding from their Government.

It was reported that the technical department cannot cope with the workload and that the building department needs engineers and supervisors. The T.G. said these must be listed so that we can recruit people.

Some facilities should be provided for elderly members within the community. The members need to be assured that this matter is being considered.

It was suggested that a field hospital be obtained as a temporary measure. Com.Freddy Reddy said we have to deal with patients suffering from physical and mental disorders. Activity involving the comrades was of prime importance. Facilities are inadequate.

#### PAPER TWO - AGRICULTURE

The plan is based on large scale farming but small plots should also be made available so that the community can grow their own food and work in a collective manner. Zimbabwe has learnt to diversify their agricultural activities. Successful projects will build the image of the ANC as a future government.

Com.Mary Ngozi reported on the agricultural activities at Dakawa since 1982. Some sorghum and maize had been grown. She reported on serious problems regarding indiscipline. Out of six tractors only two are working. There are no qualified mechanics to do repairs. Tractors are used for transporting water, firewood and sports facilities. Attempts to raise rabbits and chickens have failed. As long as there is no water supply and no proper guidance or transport this situation will persist.

The plan was criticised on the basis that we cannot convert our urban comrades into peasant farmers; that we cannot undertake to raise cattle that need 15 acres per head in the tropics where for four months of the year nothing grows. Abundant water is of prime importance. We need a full time, experienced farm manager.

The T.G. said we have decided to develop Dakawa. We will do so, in stages if need be. Our projects should bring our people together, we must learn to work collectively. We want food for ourselves and if possible have an excess to sell.

paper

The/presented by the Agriculture Department was rejected and they were instructed to present a revised plan by the following day.

PAPER III presented by Regional Treasurer and Head of Education HQ.

OVERALL STRATEGY: How to overcome immediate difficulties. The importance of water and electricity were again emphasised.

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It was asked what our perspectives are with regard to Education and Health.

There was a query as to whether we were preparing for a donors' conference and if we were questioning Norplan's suggestions. The T.G. said this was a good exercise. It has shown us that we are not clear, but he hoped that by the end of the exercise we will reach clarity.

Com.Mary reported that when she was appointed co-ordinator for the administration they tried to organise a team consisting of the heads of various departments represented at Dakawa. They did not have a treasurer or a commissar. There is no guidance for the Rehabilitation Centre. The comrade in charge cannot organise the centre due to lack of facilities. Every department is short of qualified personnel. Those that we have are constantly being changed. Dakawa needs:

1. A creche and day care centre.
2. A primary school.
3. Cultural Centre.
4. Adult Education.

An appeal was made to the T.G. not to remove people from Dakawa as soon as they become useful.

It was stated that the Nordic countries cover funding for the cultural department and are offering scholarships to train personnel for the VTC and personnel for other departments can also be trained. We are lax. We are not responding to these offers. There is a sad lack of proper administration throughout the movement. We get no replies from H.Q. about offers made to us, e.g. about teachers and medical staff. Youth in France are prepared to assist us. They want to send some youth to work here so that they can gain first hand knowledge on which to base their appeal for support. Other chief representatives had similar complaints. We create the impression that we are just talking and are not serious.

Regarding strategy and tactics of development: We must start with the premise that we are not refugees. We have not come here to settle. We have come to develop our skills. It was suggested that Dakawa should have its own administration with heads of all departments, including the treasury.

#### PAPER FOUR - PROJECTS DEPARTMENT.

Some of the points had already been discussed. The Projects Department are not in a position to do costing.

Some members felt that we were not prepared for a donors' conference. The T.G. criticised the fact that the Norplan document had not been discussed with the Projects and Treasury Departments. The Projects Team and the technicians must work together. While working towards a Donors' Conference, we should proceed with projects for which there are plans. We must prepare drawings and cost estimates to be given to Chief Representatives to obtain funding.

The T. G. said it must be borne in mind with regard to donors, that funding is coated with political interests. We can therefore shelve the question of a Donors' Conference at this stage. There must be co-ordination between the Projects Department and the Technical/Construction Departments. They must tell us what

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expertise they need. There is a lack of co-ordination in our movement. The main Projects Department must set up a department in East Africa.

The T.G. said that the ANC is aware of the onslaught on its existence. We are aware that even people whom we think are our friends are not really our friends. There is a global suspicion instigated by the USA and SA that the ANC is dominated by the Communist Party. He said that for our security we should not have an "open house" at Mazimbu. Visitors should, as in the past, be cleared by HQ. It is important that we involve our own people in all our work. We can be called home at any time. We must utilise the manpower doing nothing at Dakawa. If the comrades don't want to work, they can go to the refugee camps.

Com. Ismail moved the following Resolutions;

1. Having discussed and considered various proposals for the convening of a Donors' Pledging Conference for the ANC Development Centre at Dakawa, this Conference of the Treasurer General's Office resolves that the idea of such a conference is, for the present, not desirable, but may be considered in the future, should such a need arise.

2. This conference reaffirms the development master plan for the ANC Development Centre at Dakawa, Tanzania, to be the official working document for all development activities to be undertaken at the Centre at Dakawa.

Furthermore, this conference takes advantage of the presence of the Chief Representatives from the various regions of the world and requests them to promote those projects which are now ready for funding.

SECONDED AND ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. That a workshop be convened under the direction of the Head of Education, Comrade Henry Makgothi, consisting of the Heads of the following Departments: Agriculture/Projects/Technical/Construction/Education/Health, together with the Director of Mazimbu, the Co-ordinator of Dakawa and the Regional Treasurer, to evaluate the proposed Project of the Master Plan as suggested by the Treasurer General in his key note address.

This team should report to the Treasurer General by the 30th June, 1985.

SECONDED AND ADOPTED.

It was recommended that the following departments be strengthened as soon as possible:

Projects, Agriculture, Technical, Construction, Education.

It was recommended that the office of the T.G. look into the

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following:

1. That a central Requisitioning and Purchasing Office be set up. Chief Representatives should not make requisitions direct to donors.
2. Chief Representatives in receiving countries should advise those in the donor countries as soon as consignments of goods are received. A copy of this letter should be sent to the T.G.'s office.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR VISITS TO MAZIMBU.

The following was recommended:

That we inform applicants that it takes 60 days to process applications, except for the following categories:

1. Solidarity Committees/AAM- contacts through the CR setting time of visit and confirmed by HQ. Visitor to report back. The numbers to be controlled.
2. Visitors who are already in Tanzania. These need to be cleared by the CR, EA, and HQ advised.
3. Our own administration and communications. These should be very security conscious.

In SUMMING UP the T.G. said it was clear that all is not well at Dakawa. We should make every effort to see that the tasks we have undertaken to establish this centre are carried out efficiently and with speed. We must try to use our own manpower. All that is needed is leadership, direction and a will to work.