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BELL, DEWAR & HALL

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13 February 1992

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Codesa

Attention: Ashley Symes

Dear Ashley

WORKING GROUP 4
Attached is a copy of a proposal received from the Labour Party of South
Africa.

It appears that they would like this document sent to Working Group No 1
{sub-group No 3}.

Could you please arrange to send this to each delegation in Working Group ly
sincerely

SUE ALBERTYN
BELL DEWAR & HALL

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TO THE SECRETARY

WORKING GROUP 1 SUB~GROUP 3

CODESA

THE 1.ABOUR PARTY OF SOUTH AFRICA (LPSA) WISHES TO ALIGN ITSELF WITH, THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY. MOST OF THE CODESA PARTICIPANTS, THAT THE MEDIA AND ESPESTALLY THE ELECTRONIC. MEDIA, COULD PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE CREATLON OF A CLIMATE AND OPPERTUNITY

FOR FREE POLITICAL PARLICLPATION.

IN ORDER TO CREATE A JUST AND FAIR SOGLETY THE LPSA IS OF THE OPINION THAT TO CURB UNCONTROLLED POLITICAL POWER, IT WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY VITAL TO ADDRESS THE ALASED PROPAGANDA POWER OF THE ELECTRONIC AND PRINTED MEDIA. IT IS OF THE UIMOST IMPORTANCE THAT CODESA SHOULD NEGOTIATE A DEAL WITH SABC/TV, WHEREBY EQUITABLE AND QUALITY TIME SHOULD BE GIVEN TO POLITICAL PARTIES OR INSTITUTIONS OF INFLUENCE TO PROMOTE THEIR POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES.

THE LPSA BELIEVES THAT THE SABG DOES HAVE THE ABILITY TECHNICALLY AND FLNANCIALLY, TO CHANGE IMEIR MANAGEMENT AND NEWS STRUCTURE IN ORDER TO PROMOTE RECONCILIATION, RATHER THAN POLARISATION DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, BECAUSE OF THE ENORMOUS LITERACY PROBLEM IN SOUTH AFRICA, COUPLED WITH THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE AND THE EFFECTS OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA ON PUBLIC OPINION, IT WOULD BE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF CODESA TO APPOINT EXPERTS TO MONITOR THE IMPACT OF NEWS AND ITEMS IN THE DIFFERENT LANGUAGE AND TIME SLOTS, DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD.

WRITE THE LPSA REALIZE THE URGENCY TO CHANGE THE CULTURE OF BROADCASTING OF SABC/TV

AND TBVC-STATES THE LPSA IS OF THE OPINION THAT CHANGING THE CULTURE OF BROADCASTING IS A LONGTERM OBJECTIVE OF CODESA. THE LPSA IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE MAN IN THE

STREET IS OUT OF TOUCH WITH THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS.

TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM THE LPSA THEREFORE RECOMMENDS THAT CODESA, NEGOTIATE WITH

SABC/TV TO MAKE USE OF THE TSS-TV-CHANNEL AND RADIO STATION 2000, FOR THE EXCLUSIVE

USE OF CODESA PARTICIPANTS.

CONFSA/...

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CODESA CAN APPOINT THEIR OWN EDITORIAL AND NEWS PERSONNEL. A},THOUGH THE LPSA SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLE TO RESTRUCTURE THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA, THE LPSA IS MINDFUL OF THE FACT, THAT IT WILL TAKE TIME FOR AGREEMENT TO BE REACHED ON THE RESTRUCTURING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA.

THE LPSA ALSO BELIEVES THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE TV AND RADIO STATIONS OF TSE TBVC~STATES, 10 MAKE AVAILABLE A TY CHANNEL AND RADIO STATION, FOR THE SOLE USE OF CODESA PARTICIPANTS, TN THE INTERIM PERIOD.

(3) THE LPSA BELLEVES THAT A TV AND RADIO SUBCOMMITTEE OF CODESA TOGETHER WITH THE 200\234QCODESA TV AND RADLO" PERSONNEL COULDEVISE A POLICY, WHICH WILL ASSURE IMPARTIALITY, FAIRNESS AND POLITICAL NEUTRALITY OF "CODESA TY AND RADIO".

THE LESA 1\$ OF 200\230THE OPLNION THAT A 200\234ELECTION FUND 200\234 SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED. MONEY FOR SUCH A FUND COULD BE OBTAINED,

- (a). FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE TBCY~STATES.
- (b). BIG BUSINESS.

(ec). FUNDING FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

ALL POLITICAL PARTIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN A GENERAL ELECTION OR AN ELECTION FOR A INTERM GOVERNMENT, SHOULD BE FUNDED IN A EQUITABLE MANNER FROM THIS FUND.

(KX). LESA SUPPORT THE IDEA OF FAIR ACCESS TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND MEETING VENUES. HOW TO ACHIEVE THIS IDEAL COULD BE A MAJOR PROBLEM.

LPSA SUGGEST THAT A COMMITTEE OF CODESA BE APPOINTED TO CANVASS THE SUPPORT OF THE VARIOUS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, CHURCHES, MINING HOUSES, AND FARMERS, TO ALLOW POLITICAL PARTIES TO USE THEIR FACILITIES. ^°

(L.) THE LPSA SUPPORTS THE PROPOSAL THAT ALL PARTIES OR EVEN PRIVATE INSTITUTION, WHICH ALIGN THEMSELVES WITH THE IDEALS OF VARIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES, MUST BE ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN THEIR OWN MEANS OF MASS COMMUNICATION.

THE LPSA HOWEVER IS NOT IN FAVOUR OF STATE SUBSIDISED NEWSPAPERS OR MAGAZINES FOR PARTY POLITICAL PURPOSES.

- I J RRUGER
LABOUR PARTY

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