

WSP/057/000/11 30.1.92

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING BETWEEN THE EVALUATION COMMISSION  
AND THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL EDUCATION 30/01/92**

**PRESENT:**

**DPE:** Raymond Suttner  
Mandla Nkomfa  
Dipuo Mvelase  
Stan Nkosi  
Carrol Patton

**EVALUATION COMMISSION:**

National Chairperson  
Jacob Zuma  
Alfred Nzo  
Edward Mabitsela  
Ngoako Ramatlhodi

**CHAIR:** We welcome you and invite you to make your input.

**RAY:** We are very happy for this opportunity. Our department has 6 people, one of whom is the administrator. We propose to begin by presenting our task as we understand it. Our work is political education. We are going about this by using all sorts of methods including comics, posters etc. We do this because we have realised that formal political instruction is not adequate by itself. We, therefore, have to develop new methods of reaching our people, particularly those who do not have any form of formal education whatsoever.

Our approach is to have regional political education officers, sub-regional officers and officers at branch level. Our view is that such regional officers will be responsible for the political life of the Movement in their own regions. In addition we have allocated HQ personnel to regions. All persons responsible for regions must visit such regions every three to 4 months. When we visit regions we try to meet even the branches so that we can assess progress ourselves.

It is essential that we produce audio visual material as part of our work. Already we have produced types and other types of materials. Whilst the foregoing constitute our broad objectives, we are flexible in implementing our programmes.

**PROBLEMS**

- (1) The finance department has in the past given us a very short notice to produce a budget. We have done this, but 6 months later, we are still awaiting their response.



- (2) We have asked for a fast dubbing machine. Our information is that the Danish Government was willing to finance this project. However, it appears like the ANC Projects department has vetoed this. The result is that we do not have the machine.
- (3) We have also asked for 2 Million Rand for purposes of training our comrades. Comrade Vusi (finance) promised to submit our proposal to the Danish Government. Recently when I was in Denmark our Chief Rep. told me that the proposal was never submitted to the Danish Government. I have since submitted the proposal personally, a thing which Vusi is not happy about.
- (4) We need a desk top publishing machine. This was approved by the TG months ago up to now we do not have this facility.
- (5) With the assistance of Learn and Teach, we have produced videos for the regions. However, Learn and Teach does not have facilities to help us produce other forms of publications.
- (6) We are planning, as part of the 80th Anniversary, to produce a 5 part film on the history of the ANC. A budget was made in this respect. Again there has been not response. I even met the President to raise this matter. Once again the treasury asked for a budget, which we have submitted more than five times. The film may now come out six months later than was planned for.
- (7) We work in an open plan situation. This is most unhelpful. However, we are told that steps are being taken to get us proper office space. One must say that we are not sure if this will happen.
- (8) We are under staffed. Months ago we made an application to the Staffing Committee asking for permission to employ three more people, one of whom, is Petros Chirwa, a member of our department from Lusaka. There is no answer up to now. Perhaps we are making a mistake by following proper procedures.
- (9) All along it has been our understanding that regions must have at least 1 person as a political education officer on their staff. This seems to have changed and in the Transkei and other regions political officers are being threatened with dismissal. Others are not receiving their salaries whilst others are underpaid.
- (10) We need at least three cars for HQ.



**STAN:** We are no longer sure as to the position of political education officers at regional level. We want a decision on this matter because the future of our department depends on this. We must have trained people in the regions. If we deploy these people then we must pay them, they need transport for their work because regions are vast.

Perhaps one should raise the issue of Maatla Trust. We were told that donors are now reluctant to fund the ANC directly, particularly our department. In order to find a way around this, Maatla Trust was established. Now Maatla Trust says that it cannot support ANC Projects financially. When we met the President he said the problem was that our project was not properly formulated to enable Maatla Trust to finance it. This issue needs to be ironed out.

After meeting the T.G. yesterday, a decision was taken that we would be given some money for our film project. Vusi later objected to this, on the ground that we should use ANC facilities. Vusi's objection was raised with the TG and not directly with us. We find this to be very odd.

**MANDLA:** We do not have the support both nationally and regionally. Our work is not appreciated.

**STAN:** We have in the past utilised one service organisation in Cape Town, for training our comrades. With their help, we have done 3 modules of a 6 module course. We are unable to complete the course because of lack of finance. The people we train show remarkable improvement after training. This is borne out by the fact that most of them are elected into the RECs. The negative aspect is that we lose them as part of our department.

**RAY:** We are also training branch officials in order to strengthen branches.

**STAN:** A meeting is scheduled for the 24th February 1992 for all organisers. This meeting will run over three days. We have also divided regions into 5, for purposes of facilitating training in the regions. This is a big task.

**DIPUO:** We get little support. This affects our planning. We are paralysed as a result. Salaries are a problem in the regions.



**NZO:** We have to prepare a report to the Working Committee. Comrades have been making representation with the relevant departments but to no avail. It does appear that we need to reinforce the DPE's approach to the Treasury. We may want to form a joint delegation so as to understand why things are not done.

**NGOAKO:** We have written a letter to Andile asking him to facilitate the delivery of the desk top. I later had a telephone conversation with him, asking that he respond to our letter in writing. During the conversation he said that he had explained to the DPE that he was expecting some things from the Americans. However, I am still awaiting his written response.

**STAN:** Yesterday I dragged the T.G. and together we saw Andile. The T.G. instructed Andile to give us the desk top. He promised to do so today but they have not yet done so.

Again we saw Makgothi and Kay with the T.G. The two agreed to give us money for the film today. We have not received the money yet.

**RAY:** We follow procedures but there are no results. We are also a section of the Department of Organising.

**ZUMA:** How has Organising considered this problem and what steps, if any, have they taken to address those issues?

**RAY:** We are, as Organising, still in the formative stage. This has affected their input.

**ZUMA:** Have Organising tried to help with regard to regions, particularly on the issue of political education?

**STAN:** We raised the issue. But Organising itself has a problem. They are supposed to have 4 organisers in each region. This has not happened. They are still trying to solve this matter. Besides their own problems, they are, however, reluctant to reduce organisers in favour of education officers.



**ZUMA:** Organising must streamline their thinking, Organising cannot compete against its own sections. Organising and political education cannot be separated as political education is the key to the life of any branch.

Your are a good department to keep to the rules. Also you should be happy about producing regional leaders. We should get a copy of your budget, and a report on your problems. I don't understand why instructions by senior officials cannot be obeyed. Some of the issues need to be taken up with the T.G. even before we make our report.

**NZO:** You have motivated for three additional staff members 5 months ago and there has been no response.

It was decided that Comrade Nzo will follow the issue of Isaac Maluleke up, with the Staffing Committee.

Agreed that DPE's report will be submitted to the Commission by Monday the 3rd February.

**CHAIR:** We need another meeting to report on what we would have done. We may have seen the authorities by then.

**AGREED.**

**END.**