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African National Congress

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RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

ANC INTERDEPARTMENTAL ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

The meeting will take place on Tuesday 9th November 1993 in the DIA boardroom on the 8th floor from 14.30 to 16.30

AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Minutes Held on 27 September 1991/ Matters arising

3. Introduction of Archivist, (Narissa Ramdani) Consideration of her programme.

4. Draft Policy Document

5. Draft Project Proposal

6. Interim Report on Swedish Archivists Mission

DISTRIBUTION

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ANC ARCHIVES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT ANC HEADQUARTERS IN THE DIA BOARDROOM, AT 2PM ON 27 SEPTEMBER 1993

1. Present

Mohammed Tikley ANC Department of Education

Frene Ginwala ANC Research Department

Prof. G. T. Sirayi Fort Hare University

Virginia Vundla ANC Research Department

Wally Serote ANC Department of Arts and Culture

Khosi Msimang ANC Women's League

Rapu Molekane ANC Youth League

Lindelwe Mabandla ANC Department of Education

Lindiwe Sisulu Govan Mbeki Fellowship

Zanele Riba ANC Research Department

Bodil Ulate-Segura Swedish National Archives

Themba Ndebele SA History of Archives

Verne Harris National Archives Service Pretoria

Steve Shibambo ANC Finance Department

2. Welcome

Cde Mohammed welcomed all present and gave a briefing on the previous archives committee meeting held on 24th February 1993. That meeting agreed to formulate an archives policy.

3. Draft Archives Policy Documents

Draft documents had been circulated, after a lengthy discussion, Cde Wally proposed that a draft policy document be prepared by Comrades Frene Ginwala, John Samuel and himself, the document will be circulated in advance of the next meeting.

4. Report by Prof Sirayi

- 1. Prof. Sirayi outlined developments at the University of Fort Hare and highlighted the importance of keeping collections together.
- 2. The appointment of a senior archivist will be made as from early next year at the University of Fort Hare.
- 3. Discussions were held with UNESCO and the ambassador for Israel.
- 4. Consultant from Cuba could not come due to lack of funds.
- 5. Staffing infrastructure needs to be through by the end of 1994, fund raising for the infrastructure includes accommodation.

In response to this Cde Frene reported that the archives committee has no mandate to discuss whether collections should be split or not and to make a decision on whether Fort Hare should

be the sole repository for ANC archives. She explained that this will have to develop from an ad hoc approach. Fort Hare has its own programme and other organizations use it for their archives. Ownership of original documents rests with the ANC.

Mayibuye Centre has collections which might be of value to the ANC archives. Documents elsewhere need to be established as to who owns them. ANC members must also assist if they know of documents which may have been left in exile. We need to know the location so as to fill gaps should they exist. We have to establish the ownership of documents that are in different places

We need to have a legal definition on which documents are ours and which ones are not On documents returned by police to the lawyers we need to agree on ownership.

5. General

- 1. Need to advertise the archivist position.
- 2. Research department to train two or three people to screen information for security.

Date for next meeting 9 November 1993