

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE SET UP TO LOOK INTO THE MODALITIES OF

ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND PLANNING,

A. Composition of the sub-committee;

- 1* Koos Segola
2. Jacob Chiloane
3. Max Sisulu
4. Pitso B. Mackay

B. Terms of Reference;

Meet with the T.G. and various Departments of the movement to get ideas, proposals and suggestions on the setting up of the Department of Economics and Planning, its tasks, possible terms of reference and its working relationship with other Departments of the movement*

C. Background:

It shall be recalled that the National Consultative Conference decided that there should be established a Department Of Economics and Planning which will run the economic life of our movement and start preparations for the efficient running of the economy of a liberated South Africa* Conference also emphasised that the formation of the Economics and Planning Department is long overdue,

The National Fundraising Workshop which met in SOMAPCO March 1986, echoed

T*

and fully supported the decision of the NCC on the setting up of the said department, the Fundraising Workshop went further and recommended that in the interim period i.e. before the formal setting up of the EPD- the Economics Unit must be involved in the planning and running of our projects under the (OTG) Office of the Treasurer General*

In line with the recommendation, the Treasurer General on his return to Lusaka invited members of the Economics Unit (particularly those who were not attached to any department) to join the Projects Department pursuant

to the decision of the National Consultative Conference on the establishment of the Department of Economics and Planning and in line with the

recommendations of the National Fundraising Workshop, the Economics Unit held a joint meeting with the Projects Department to:

- 1) Exchange views and ideas on how best to go about the task of establishing the said Department.
- 2) Discuss possible terms of reference for the Department.
- 3) Work out the relationship between the Economics Department and other Departments of the movement as well as with the Office of the T.O.

The meeting afforded detailed discussions emphasised the imperative need to set up the Department as soon as possible. Accordingly, the decided to set up a sub-committee to look into the aforementioned question (spelt out in terms of reference) and on the completion of its task, to report to the Economics Unit.

D. METHODS OF WORK OF TUB SUB-COMMITTEE:

1. The sub-committee looked through the minutes, records and documents of the Economics Unit to extract information and data relevant to the setting up of the Department.

2. Met and had discussions with various members of the NEC»

3a Met with T.G. in an attempt to get from him the task/

objectives of the DEP and its relationship with the Departments that fall under the OTG.

4. In line with recommendations of the Economics Unit the committee had discussions with the following Departments:

- International Department
- DIP
- Uffl
- Legal Department
- Education Department
- PMC (Cdes Mac Maharaj and Aziz Pahad)

5o SEMINAR-- The seminar on skills p'rofile in South Africa, organised by the Economics Unit and in which other Departments of the movement (DMD, Education, Culture etc) participated, enabled the sub-committee to discuss with the participants and solicit from them their ideas about a Department of Economics and Planning.

6. Some members of the sub-committee had the opportunity to meet people from inside the country who warmly welcomed the decision to set up the

....3/

DEP and expressed their readiness to coordinate their research efforts with ours,

7, The sub-committee also met with the representatives of the United Nations Institute for Namibia and those of ILO/SATEP,

8, The sub-committee also contacted some research institutions of the host country,

E. FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE;

While there is a general unanimity about the urgent need for the setting up of the DEP, there is however, no unanimity about the best method of going about the task of setting up the department, its terms of reference,

its objectives both short term and long term and its structural and organisational form i.e, should it fall under the OTG because of the need to be involved in the economic life of the movement or should the Department fall under the Office of the President because of the aspects of research and planning for a liberated South Africa,

There are according to the findings of the committee two approaches to the setting up of the Department. These are:

- The from-top-to-bottom Approach i.e. NBC should formally set up the Department, give it its terms of reference, appoint personnel to run it, provide

J,

political and logistical support like transport, office space, budget etc,

- The Bottom-to-top approach which means that the Economic Unit does the Groundwork; prepares a position paper with all the details worked out then presented to the NEC for a decision and action. This second approach is suggested by the majority of the departments and people met by the committee.

As a starting point a two day workshop or seminar to be attended by all ANC economists could be held to work out tasks and objectives of the Department, its terms of reference, the structure etc. etc.

F. MEETING WITH THE T.G.

The sub-committee reported to the T.G. the results of the joint meeting of the Projects Department and the Economic Unit, The T.G. saw the taskse of the Department of Economics and Planning as being primarily in the management of finances and the running of the projects of the movement .

,,,4/

- 4 -

- i.e. do feasibility studies for projects
- Draw up budgets e.g. for Mazimbu
- Audit financial records of the movement
- Draw up plans for Fund raising and monitor the spending of the movements
resources

G. MEETING WITH COMRADE DAN TLOOME.

In his submission to the sub-committee Cde D.Tloome expressed the fear that since ANC economists do not have practical experience on their respective fields, running the economy of a liberated South Africa will prove far beyond us, Cde D.Tloome agreed with the position of the Unit (in its recommendation to the NEC) that "provision has to be made to involve Comrades in their fields of specialisation within a short time;;v, after completion otherwise their qualifications may be invalidated and rti&t
-." He also suggested that to gain experience qualified economists should be found employment in business concerns, parastatals and governments of the sub-region of Southern Africa. He further suggested that a budget should be drawn for the Department to enable it to function efficiently.

H . MEETING 1 ITH VARIOUS ANC DEPARTMENTS.

All departments that were met expressed their willingness and readiness to fully cooperate with the Economics and Planning Department if and when is formed. The said departments also briefed the committee on their activities and possible areas of cooperation. These broadly coincided with those that the Economic Unit itself identified (in paper to NEC).

I. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNIT.

A. Convene a workshop or seminar of all ANC Economists to map out the strategy and terms of reference.

B. That within the DEP there should be two sub-committee one dealing with the economic life of the movement and the other with economic research.

C. That within the Department there should be a clear division of tasks and responsibilities.

D. That the Department be provided with DMD's memorandum on ANC's manpower.

POSSIBLE SOURCES OF FUNDS AND IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES.

SIDA

NORAD

FINIDA

These are international development authorities that have under Bilateral Assistance Research programmes with developing countries. Research projects if well identified could receive direct support maximum support \$200,000 US dollars.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS.

SCC - SWEDISH CO-OPERATIVE CENTRE main interest in research on Agrarian reforms and development of Co-operatives movement, see cooperative activities-within ANC, m

ZLWF ZAMBIAN LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

in kind donation
sponsor
experience is needed or

MOLISV 6 /~/JT

Organisation for
develo

:'gle.

4rectly

liberation

UN AGENCIES

ILO/SATEP', UNDP, FAO etc are supportive organisations which could be used under project component training and research on directly supported projects outside DEP.

EMD