



Disabled People South Africa

Fund-raising Ref. No. 01 100461 000 7

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Dear Sir

For your information.

Regards

L. H. H. H.
MIKE DU TOIT
SEC. GENERAL

Disabled People South Africa

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6 July 1992

The Honourable Dr Rina Venter
Minister of National Health and Population Development

BY FAX: (021) 45 1575

Dear Dr Venter,

WITHDRAWAL OF DPSA FROM THE INTERIM FORUM ON DISABILITY ISSUES
YOUR LETTER DATED 22 MAY 1992 (3/A13/20/3) REFERS

Your response to our appeal for your intervention in the above matter has been carefully considered.

I must remind you that we have been participating with great patience in structures created by your department since 1986. During that year, a great deal of time was spent on the investigation into the situation of disabled people which resulted in the establishment of the ICCD. The ICCD itself became an endless array of meetings until it's disbandment as a total failure last year, having failed to implement any of the 1986 recommendations.

The new forum was carefully negotiated and agreement was reached. The final meeting of the ICCD resolved to recommend that you disband the ICCD and implement the agreed forum in its place.

We are appalled that the ICCD secretariate misrepresented the minutes of that meeting by appending the words 'soos besluit is deur die Nasionale Welsynsbeleidraad' to the resolution. This was never discussed in the meeting and was certainly not agreed. We agreed only to the new forum which we had negotiated. We utterly reject your department's transparent attempt to subvert our original intentions and to co-opt us into the implementation of the government's welfare policy without our consent.

We do not have any problem about complying with government regulations pertaining to budgets. Item 3.6 of the Secosaf report clearly states that Dr JH Schoeman and the Department were responsible for 'budget preparations for (the) forum and directorate ...'. This item was expressly ratified by the ICCD meeting on 23 October. The private sector parties made Dr Rowland (DPSA) and Mrs Opperman (Federal Council) available for consultation.

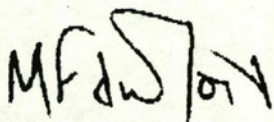
Your department had no business to convene a full meeting of the Forum until these arrangements were in place.

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We regret that you have chosen to protect your officials rather than to address the issues which we have raised. Your failure to intervene in the matter has forced us to conclude that your department was not negotiating in good faith and we have now decided to withdraw permanently from the forum.

Needless to say, this also means that we withdraw our earlier recommendations to the ANC and CODESA concerning the forum concept.

Yours sincerely,



MIKE DU TOIT
SECRETARY GENERAL

cc Dr William Rowland, Chairperson, Interim Forum on Disability
Issues
The DPSA Delegation
The Federal Council for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled
CODESA
African National Congress