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OFISI YA MUDZULAPHANDA: KHOROMBUSI YA LUSHAKA.  
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN: COUNCIL OF NATIONAL UNITY.

RIPHABULIK! YA VENDA/REPUBLIC OF VENDA

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VENDA GOVERNMENT  
INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Venda is in full agreement that there should be an independent  
Electoral Commission to be responsible for fair and free  
elections in South Africa. The Commission will be indepe-  
ndent of the Transitional Executive Councils.

It should consist of suitably qualified persons with re-  
known credibility. The members of the Commission should be  
drawn from a broader Spectrum of the population and will  
include women representatives. A balance within the popula-  
tion group should be regarded as essential.

â\200\230VENDA GOVERNMENT POSITION PAPER ON VIOLENCE.

INTRODUCTION .

Violence has been the enemy to humanity and will always be apponent to peace and stability unless prevented. The escalating violence in our country is counter- productive and threat to a climate conducive to free political participation., Free political participation which refers to the right- of every individual to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and freedom of association is a basis for free and peaceful political climate conducive for negotiations to take place. Thus a proper climate will provide every individual or organistion with an opportunity to put forward their ideas and view points on the direction to be followed without any hinderance.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO VIOLENCE.

Socle~ economic conditicns which have a bearing on violence especially within the black community should be addressed. Lack of social resources such as accommodation, high level

of unemployment and poverty which came as a result ofâ\200\231 inequality in the distribution of wealth, play a role in the increase of violence,.

Lack of political tolerance by political parties and organisations participating in negotiations is another area of concern. All political parties and organisations should submit themselves to the principle of democracy emphasising the freedom of the individual, Political intimidation has assumed different levels in Southern African which lis evident of lack of a culture of political tolerance. All leaders of political parties and organisations should give a lead to their supporters and educate them towards acceptance of oithers and plant seeds of fricndcship. They should inspice and urge their supporters to desire and work for peace., Co operation rather than confrontation amongst leaders should be the order of the day. To elimanate some of these problems, a code of conduct for political parties as spelt

.out in the National Peace Accord should be enforced.

Certain predisposing factors such as retrechments hasa bearing on violence. This factor cannot be looked into in isolation but forms a chain reaction of factors. Once there is violence and instability within the country, there will be a sharp increase in disinvestment which ultimately leads to retrenchments.

It is also essential to consider other factors which look to be minor and having no bearing on violence but having such a tremendous effect. Trigger effects such as individual assaults, rumours, insults, tc mention a few also play a prominent role. To this end we cell upon all leaders of pelitical parties and organisation to educate their support- ers to practice the principle of acceptance, in other words lo accept other people as part of the commurnity and not wish them away.

Violence free community is the ideal situation for negotiation to take Place but, it is difficult to attain such a situation. It is therefore Æssential to identify and analyse various causes of violence so that meaningful solutions can be establish for the betterment of the country. As some problems cannot be sclved there and then, they need to be classified in terms of long and short term grojects SO as to pave the way for free political activity, inally it is essential that all political parties and erganisations should have common purpose to bring an end to violence which will culminate an a democratic society,