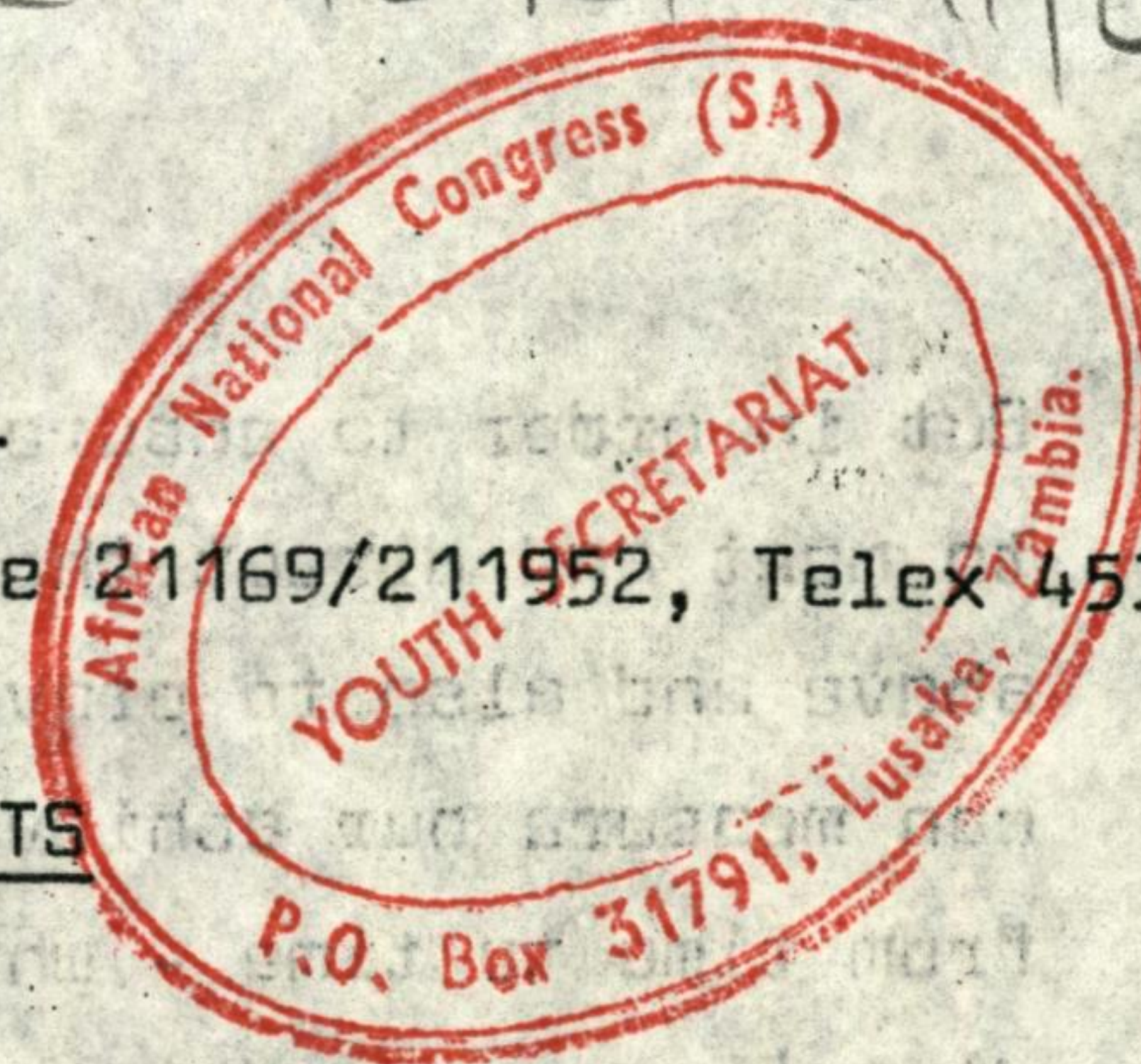


TREASURY DEPT. Lum/073/0011/04

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS
NATIONAL YOUTH SECRETARIAT

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DIRECTIVE TO ALL ANC YOUTH UNITS



Introduction.

The historic Youth Conference held in SOMAFCO, Tanzania, in August 1982, was a timely milestone in our people's struggle and the role our youth have to play in it for the complete and speedy overthrow of the racist and fascist South African regime. This Conference set to take stock of the work of our youth and the movement's revolutionary gains, and it identified drawbacks and provided the South African youth with a framework and the instrument with which to regálvanize itself in order to enhance the already heightened revolutionary situation inside the country. The Conference also set to look into Southern Africa and internationally where-ever our people are, and to formulate the pattern of activity which would ensure that these areas enhance or, at least, do not militate against the process of overthrowing the South African regime.

Our people inside the country are putting the struggle to greater heights thus making the regime to resort to acts of aggression and destabilisation even beyond its very borders. The recent Maseru massacre and the intensification of the regime's destabilisation drive in Southern Africa, convinces us more than at any other time in the past that it sees the Frontline States as a strategic post from which it hopes to stall the international support for our struggle. The international situation in itself, receives focal attention of our youth exactly because the racist regime utilises and exploits all possibilities in this arena in order to defeat our struggle. In this, it is supported by imperialism.

The historic Youth Conference drafted and adopted the 'Programme of Action' - a document setting out definite guidelines for definite practical activity in which our youth must be involved in order to meet the objectives for which the Conference was held, i.e to enhance the role of the youth in the liberation struggle.

ANSWERED 6 MAY 1983

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But in order to ensure the implementation of the Conference decisions, to meet and direct the fast-changing political situation mentioned above and also to provide ourselves with the yardstick by which we can measure our achievements, we need to give ourselves directives from time to time - which is the main aim of this circular. These directives were drawn after the first National Youth Committee meeting held in Lusaka in March, 1983. They enrich the Conference decisions and set the goals towards making the year 1983 this great - the Year of United Action.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

The youth of the ANC forms the reserve of political cadres organised into our political organisation. The building of these political cadres is a conscious process aimed at preparing a cadre who shall destroy the South African regime, rebuild and defend our new South African society. This process can be insured in well-guided political activity of all our comrades. Hence the following directive to all our units:

- a) All RYCs should draw up Political Programmes for their units. Points of reference in drawing up this programme is the:
1. Programme of Action,
 2. January 8th Statement,
 3. Endorsed Conference Recommendations,
 4. ANC statements and
 5. Political situation internally and externally.

The copies of these programmes should be sent to the NYS by the 15th of June, 1983.

- b) All *RYCs should draw up a register to reflect individual participation of all comrades in political discussions. This register should accompany quarterly reports reflecting the following:
1. Date,
 2. Name of comrade,
 3. Topic under discussion, etc.

- c) Every RYC structure should reflect the existence of a commissar, who should ensure holding of political discussions. He/she should see to the welfare of the comrades and in consultation with the

*Regional Youth Committees

RYC, he/she should try to resolve personal problems between comrades.

d) All cases of breach of discipline should first be handled by the RYCs. If unresolved, they should be reported to the NYS in accordance with Article 6 under duties of RYC.

e) Comrades should use political facilities available in each region - eg. Patrice Lumumba, there are Party and Komsomol branches who have offered their services.

EDUCATION

The acquisition of academic knowledge and technical skill is part of a conscious process aimed at building an ANC cadre who shall destroy the South African regime, rebuild our new society and defend it. So this process should be seen in the perspective of the general struggle by our people, hence:

a) Before students undertake studies abroad, they should make sure that they understand the subject matter of their studies when they are still in SOMAFCO. The changing of specialities is strongly discouraged.

b) All students should seek permission from the movement through the NYC before making arrangements for upgrading.

c) All students RYC should send a detailed academic report every semester to the NYS. This report should include names of completing students.

d) All our students are called upon to exert themselves in their studies. Poor academic performance by our students should be understood as a factor which procrastinates the day of victory.

e) The National Youth Secretariat reserves the right to recommend the withdrawal of students who absent themselves from lectures without valid reasons.

f) It is the task of every RYC to initiate literacy programmes where-ever they are necessary and to encourage comrades who need them to take advantage of them. Where Regional Education Committees exist, their assistance should be sought.

CULTURE.

Our culture forms a strong weapon in advancing our struggle in the process of liberation. The enemy has also realised the potential of Culture in misleading our people and the world from the real essence of our struggle. Hence the guidelines in our Programme of Action concerning culture give us the guide to action.

The ANC has started preparing for a Conference of ANC cultural workers aimed at setting up a Department of Arts and Culture. All units will be informed of the developments in due course. For the time being, the NYC issues the following directive:

- a) All RYCs should see to it that the Youth is organised culturally where they are. Where possible, T-shirts, badges, etc should be organized and utilised to publicise our struggle. Such things can also be acquired through fund raising. Samples should be sent to the NYS. Cultural material raised for other areas should be done only through the NYS.
- b) All RYCs should send a report on cultural activity and participation together with the report on political activity.

PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION.

In order to correctly publicise our struggle or inform the world about its proper nature and perspective, every ANC youth cadre should have a clear understanding of ANC politics, in particular the two basic documents, viz, The Freedom Charter and Strategy and Tactics, and other documents. It is with this pre-requisite that we can correctly carry out the following directives:

- a) All ANC national days and important occasions should be marked. The youth should write articles for the local media on those occasions or pick whatever articles from Forward or other ANC journals for translation and publication in the local youth press. Interviews can also be given. Centralisation of all this should be ensured through the RYC in accordance with Article 10 under duties of the RYC. Where constant contact can not be made with the RYC, such statements should be sent to the RYC even after the occasion.
- b) Bulletins/newsletters are a vital source of information and exchange of ideas for any community of persons with common aspirations. All units are expected to have a newsletter covering their activities and general political issues by the end of the Year of United Action.

INTERNATIONAL MOBILISATION.

The NYS continues to maintain dynamic contact with the leadership of fraternal youth organisations in almost all countries where we have our youth.

This is done through official visits, in conferences, etc. However, we are unable to keep contact with the general membership of these fraternal organisations. The presence of the ANC youth in these countries provides us with the possibility of fulfilling this necessity. We should then take the initiative of establishing this contact. The National Youth Committee therefore calls upon our youth:

- a) To establish contact with youth organs of the host country in institutions, universities, schools, factories, etc. The RYCs should show enthusiasm in this work and can also seek assistance from the NYS at HQ.
- b) To initiate bilateral discussions at local levels (RYCs and units) with youth of the host countries and other youth resident in the host countries.
- c) To initiate the formation of support groups. This can be done also through entering into agreements (signing protocols) with institutions, universities, SRCs, or faculties, e.g. protocol agreements were signed with the Law Faculty in Sofia.
- d) As stated in the January 8th statement: "This year we shall be observing the 20th Anniversary of the Rivonia Arrests. The International community will observe this anniversary by further intensifying the campaign for the immediate and unconditional release of all South African political prisoners" Therefore, we the youth of South Africa, must be in the forefront in these campaigns! We should encourage the naming of youth institutions, groups, halls, dormitories, brigades, etc after the convicted Rivonia trialists. This should be done in the context of the demand for the release of South African political prisoners. The 65th birthday of Comrade Mandela should also be taken up in this context.
- e) RYCs should organize, initiate and take advantage of political forums. This should not be limited to the commemoration of ANC days or those of other nations, as is mostly the case.
- f) The campaign to stop the execution of 6 MK combatants is an urgent one. Our RYCs and youth should continue to mobilise international public opinion to save the lives of these ANC youth militants.

FINANCE AND MATERIAL SUPPORT.

It is the duty of every ANC youth cadre to see to it that he/she works towards raising material assistance and support for the movement.

This can come either in the form of material assistance or services rendered in support of our struggle. The cadre of the movement should try where-ever possible, without compromising the policy of the ANC, to work towards putting something back into the movement - not only to take away from it. Therefore, every RYC must get engaged in the following tasks:

- a) To raise material support in the host country and to inform the NYS of the possibilities of raising this assistance. This information will help the NYS in assigning tasks to RYCs. This information should include organisations or agencies which can render services to the movement and assist with fund-raising and projects for material assistance.
- b) In accordance with the Conference decisions, all our units should use part of their stipend to assist the movement (where this is feasible). A record of individual subscriptions should be kept and copies be sent together with quarterly reports to the NYS. A minimum of 5% of the stipend is being suggested.

GENERAL.

The fulfillment of our revolutionary goals demands a political cadre who understands and takes heed of the priorities of our struggle as fought for and defended by our vanguard movement, the ANC. This means that our activities and behaviour should reflect the calibre of an ANC member. This is a cadre who should refrain from all forms of indiscipline. Indiscipline is an indication of a low level of political consciousness. Lack of discipline can either be an act of commission or omission. It can reflect itself in over drinking, absenteeism from classes, non-attendance of ANC activities, failure to pay subscription, not participating in brigades, etc. Indiscipline makes it easy for the enemy to work against our movement and our struggle.

REPORTING

Correct, timely and regular reporting will ensure the all-round assesment of our progress and bring to the attention of the movement irregularities before they become problems in themselves. All RYCs are expected to report to the NYS regularly as stated below:

- a) A register on individual and unit participation in political and cultural work to be submitted quarterly, i.e March, June, September, and December. This report should include a report on individual subscription.
- b) A detailed report on individual academic progress to be submitted every semester. This report should indicate completing students.
- c) All problems (individual, social, etc) of indiscipline that cannot be handled and resolved should be reported to the NYS. This includes even those problems which will have been solved.
- d) Annually a complete report must be submitted to the NYS. This should be around the 20th February of each year.

APPLICATIONS.

All applications, e.g for marriages, travelling, change of speciality, upgrading etc should be sought through the NYS.

AMANDLA!!! MAATLA!!!

LET US REMAIN FOREVER READY TO FIGHT, PRODUCE AND LEARN!