

The two organisations also discussed issues around economic policy. They expressed themselves in favour of a package of economic policies which will address the current imbalances in economic power, income and wealth distribution. In this regard, they agreed that co-operation between the two organisations should be strengthened in order that policies which eventually emerge for a post-apartheid South Africa are broadly representative.

The two organisations agreed that regular meetings and consultations will become a feature of the coming period and thus instructed their relevant structures to carry this out.

PRESS STATEMENT ON THE MEETING BETWEEN THE ANC AND FABCOS HELD AT THE ANC HEADQUARTERS, JOHANNESBURG, 7 MARCH 1991.

A historic meeting was held today, 7 March 1991, between the African National Congress (ANC) and the Foundation of African Business and Consumer Services (FABCOS) at the offices of the ANC in Johannesburg. The ANC delegation was led by the Internal Leader of the ANC, comrade Walter Sisulu and included members of the National Executive Committee. The FABCOS delegation was led by the President of FABCOS, comrade T.J. Ngcoya and included the FABCOS vice-president Dr Ellen Khuzwayo and members of the Executive Committee of FABCOS.

FABCOS briefed the ANC on its history, structures, aims and objectives. The briefing highlighted the difficulties faced by black businesses in the South African environment. Fabcos explained that despite all these difficulties, a role was increasingly being worked out for black businesses in the South African economy. It became clear in the discussions that a future democratic economic system must endeavour to encourage and support black business ownership of productive assets in manufacturing, construction and finance.

The ANC briefed FABCOS on the process leading up to negotiations and the current state of affairs in that regard. The approach of the ANC to negotiations was explained in particular the question of an Interim Government and a Constituent Assembly which will draft the new constitution for a democratic South Africa. The ANC further expressed its concern that violence against black people in South Africa was still the order of the day despite the many attempts which have been made to bring this violence to an end. However the ANC expressed its optimism that all South Africans will make a contribution towards this issue.

The ANC also explained the work it is doing in the building of ANC branches and regions throughout South Africa. The ANC further explained that as the process of the return of exile gains momentum, the demand placed on ANC resources to settle these returning heroes and heroines of our people will greatly increase. The ANC therefore appealed to FABCOS to do whatever they can in support of these returnees.