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Two chambers mooted in draft constitution

THE first draft constitution for a post-apartheid SA proposes a two-chamber parliamentary system based on proportional representation, with separate legislatures for regions.

Regions will be allowed to adopt their own constitutions, but these will be subject to the national constitution.

The interim constitution — unveiled yesterday — is accompanied by a supplementary report on constitutional principles, which are binding.

The document, which is not complete, deals with three areas in detail: regions, constitution-making and the legislature.

According to the draft, elections for regional legislatures will take place at the same time as the poll for the national legislature.

The draft provides for a National Assembly, or lower House, which will consist of 400 members elected according to the system of proportional representation on national and regional party lists.

The Senate, or upper House, will have 10 members from each region, elected by each regional legislature at the first session after its election, also according to proportional representation.

The draft provides for joint committees to reconcile differences between the Houses over legislation. The National Assembly will have overriding powers except in the case of legislation affecting regions.

The National Assembly and the Senate, sitting in joint session, will form a constitution-making body to draw up the final constitution.

A total revision of the draft interim constitution will be undertaken by the constitution-making body, "and a new constitutional text shall be adopted within two years from the commencement of the first session of Parliament", the draft states.

A new constitution will be approved by a two-thirds majority of the constitution-making body, and will then require a 60% majority of the electorate in a referendum.

If the constitution fails to win approval, the president will dissolve Parliament and call new general elections.

The newly elected constitution-making body can then adopt a new constitution by a simple majority. — Sapa, Reuters.

Defining the legislature's form and functions

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While critical areas remain unaddressed, future power structures begin to take shape

PARLIAMENT shall consist of a National Assembly and a Senate. The National Assembly shall consist of 400 members elected according to the system of proportional representation on both national and regional party lists. The assembly shall be presided over by a Speaker elected by its members.

The Senate shall be composed of 10 members from each region (referred to in the report as SPR — state, province or region). Those members will be elected by each regional legislature from among its members by proportional representation, at its first session after its election. These members will vacate the regional legislatures and be replaced by candidates from their party lists. The President of the Senate will be elected by the senators.

All laws except those relating to finance, specified regional matters and amendments to the constitution will be defined as ordinary legislation. Ordinary legislation may be introduced by either the National Assembly or the Senate. It may be passed, in the first instance, by a majority of each House.

Should a Bill be passed by one House but rejected by the other, it

shall be referred to a joint committee of members of all parties represented in Parliament. It would then be referred to a joint sitting of both Houses and passed by a majority of the total number of MPs.

Finance Bills — those appropriating revenue or imposing taxation — would be treated differently. They shall be introduced only in the National Assembly after being considered by a joint committee of both Houses and, if required, by the Financial and Fiscal Commission.

The Senate may not amend any such Bills. If it rejects a financial Bill or fails to pass it within 30 days of it being passed by the National Assembly, it shall be reconsidered by the assembly and passed by a simple majority.

Bills concerning the exercise of regional powers and functions shall be approved by both Houses. A Bill affecting a particular region shall also be passed by a majority of senators representing that region.

Constitutional amendments (aside from the work of the constitution-making body) must be passed by a two-thirds majority of a joint sitting of the two Houses. The constitutional principles annexed to the constitution may not be amended at all.

The National Assembly and the Senate, sitting in joint session, will form the constitution-making body which will draw up a final SA constitution. It will undertake a total revision of the interim constitution. It will be presided over by the President of the Senate, deputised by the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The body will have to give effect to the unalterable constitutional principles annexed to the constitution. No new constitution will come into effect until the Constitutional Court (whose establishment is provided for) has certified that it conforms to those principles.

The new constitutional text shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the constitution-making body.

Should it fail to adopt a new text within two years of its election, but a new text is supported by a simple majority, the draft shall be referred to a panel of experts. The panel shall attempt to propose amendments acceptable to a two-thirds majority.

If this fails, a text may be approved by a simple majority. Once it has been certified by the Constitutional Court (and this requirement is inalienable) it shall be put to a referendum for approval by a 60% majority. If it is not approved, the President shall dissolve Parliament and a general election shall be held.

The newly elected constitution-making body shall, within a year, approve the new text by a simple majority.

The executive (Cabinet) shall be representative of parties occupying a specified, minimum percentage of seats in the National Assembly. No other aspects of the Cabinet composition are dealt with, nor are questions relating to the nature of the presidency.

The following are among the numerous issues not dealt with in the draft constitution, and awaiting clarity from negotiators or other technical committees:

□ Financial matters including existing state debt and liabilities, including the TBVC states, revenue funds, financial procedures, the auditor-general, the Reserve Bank (whose independence, the principles state, shall be guaranteed) and the establishment of the proposed Financial and Fiscal Commission;

□ The legal system, including the continuation of statutory and common law, TBVC laws and laws of self-governing territories, indigenous law, unification of provincial ordinances, the status of international law, independence and impartiality of the Commission for Administration and the judiciary;

□ Regional matters, including the location of regional legislatures, regional decision-making processes, vacation and removal from office of national and regional legislators;

□ National symbols and languages;

□ Citizenship;

□ The franchise;

□ Seated Parliament;

□ The nature of the presidency and the executive;

□ The courts;

□ Appointment of an ombudsman, and

□ Local government.

THE US Institute of Peace held a two-day workshop last week on SA's national peace accord and how the outside world might contribute to making it stick.

A number of wealthy South Africans were shipped over at American taxpayers' expense for an earnest exchange of views. The results will be published soon in a slender booklet, to join the ranks of other such slender booklets gathering dust on bookshelves of the professionally concerned.

Still, the affair had its worthwhile moments. The second day's session, open to the public, was educational. It was especially interesting to observe the response of an SA-averse audience to the contention that to achieve some semblance of democracy, SA would have to revive one of the most egregious practices of the pre-FW de Klerk NP. There was not the faintest murmur of protest.

The subject was raised by national peace secretariat chairman Antonie Gildenhuys. The accord was not working as well as it might, he argued, because the code of conduct solemnly agreed to by its signatories, and binding them to a degree of mutual political politeness, lacked an enforcement mechanism.

It was not enough for parties to distance themselves from their members who said and did inflammatory things. There had to be legal

sanctions — fines, perhaps, or even imprisonment. But the judiciary lacked the legitimacy to impose such sanctions without potentially turning the sanctioned into martyrs.

The solution, also under discussion at the World Trade Centre, was to empower the transitional executive council to issue banning orders. The media would be instructed that persons found guilty (by some yet to be defined extrajudicial proceeding) of having violated the code of conduct were thenceforth to be regarded as unquotable non-persons.

When Gildenhuys said this, one expected there at least to be some coughing or nervous stirring in seats. He was, after all, speaking in the National Press Club. But there was silence. Tackled afterwards, neither he nor his colleague, DP national peace committee member Peter Gastrow, who also said he no problem with the idea, could spot the irony, let alone appreciate the inherent dangers.

Their argument was that SA was in transition and that certain expedients which might be intolerable under other circumstances had to be accepted during this period or the

Naive game of let's pretend

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SIMON BARBER
in Washington

transition might not succeed. This, with respect, is madness.

Turn first to the practical objections. If people are angry enough to host poisonous invective, suppressing reports of their speech and conduct is by no stretch of the imagination going to suppress the offenders. On the contrary, it is going to encourage an escalation in their inebriety as they try to get their points across by other, more desperate, means.

The media are not the only medium for conveying ideas. The notion that Party A will feel less inclined to exact revenge on Party B because he has been spared reading of Party B's ebulliences in the newspaper is fallacious in the age of mass communications. It is like saying people of Iowa could save themselves from flooding by pulling their fingers in the Mississippi levees.

What Gildenhuys and others are

proposing is a giant game of let's pretend — as in let's pretend the peace accord is really working and that the people who signed it are deeply sincere, responsible and thoroughly in control of their followers. And while we're about it, let's pretend that SA, but for a tiny minority of troublemakers, is really an extremely pacific society where never a word is uttered in anger, let alone in the pursuit of destructive agendas.

It is not so, and trying to make it so by gag rules will produce the same order of success the NP obtained by trying to shove their opponents down the memory hole by precisely the means whose revival is now being mooted.

The only sure and democratic way to coerce those who use dangerous talk that does not otherwise fall foul of the law is to bring to bear the full apparatus of public opinion. The free media are an essential tool in that regard. And where talk is genuinely tantamount to incitement as defined by law, try the speaker.

Gildenhuys's theory that SA's courts do not have the legitimacy to hear such cases is as terrifying as his remedy. He is saying the rule of law

is dead and will be brought back to life only when a certain political organisation decides on resurrection. A society that cannot enforce even the common law is a lawless one, and no high-sounding bit of paper will change that.

Gildenhuys's reasons for the need to resort to banning also make a mockery of the whole transitional executive concept. Surely, the idea behind a transitional executive is to give the existing constitutional order a medium of popular consent by putting the state's basic duties under effective multiracial control. But evidently this legitimating function may not extend to the judiciary.

This unhappy arrangement is excused on the basis that it will be temporary, an extraordinary response to extraordinary times, the naivety of this is stunning. Whatever government emerges in next year's elections will also be tempted to feel that it lives in extraordinary times, times in which full freedom of the Press may still be seen as a luxury.

The very fact that people like Gildenhuys and Gastrow can talk sanguinely about reserved banning — and seem to have such tin ears for democracy — offers few grounds for optimism. It would have been like if someone at the Institute for Peace had voiced a docket or two. Even a disturbed grunt would have been better than nothing.

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EACH region shall have a legislature consisting of members on regional party lists elected by proportional representation. There shall be one seat for each 50 000 votes cast in the region.

Each regional executive shall have 10 members elected by legislators by a system of proportional representation. The executive shall elect a regional premier who will determine the allocation of departments among executive members.

Once the extent of a region's powers and functions have been determined, and subject to as yet unspecified constitutional provisions regarding the transition, a region shall assume responsibility for all the administrative and executive institutions existing within it. The regional government shall, on the advice of the Commission on Regional Government, establish a single administration as soon as possible.

Commission on Regional Government

A Commission on Regional Government shall be appointed by the President within 30 days of the interim constitution coming into operation. Its objectives will be to advise the national government and regional governments on the establishment and consolidation of regional administrative institutions and structures; and make recommendations to the national government regarding the extent of the legislative and executive competence of regions during the period of operation of the interim constitution.

The commission will consist of not fewer than 10 full-time members. Members shall perform their duties fairly and impartially. They may not hold any party political office.

The commission will also be charged with making recommendations on finalising regional boundaries; regional constitutions and their phasing in; the final delimitation of powers and functions between national and regional governments; fiscal arrangements between national and regional governments; and the powers and functions of local governments.

Powers and functions of regional governments

A region shall be entitled to powers in the areas of regional taxation, regional spending, local government, town planning, markets and pounds, traffic control, protection services, local policing and law enforcement, housing, education, cultural affairs, traditional authorities and indigenous law, health services, welfare, agriculture, fish and game preservation, environmental affairs, tourism and recreation, public media, public works, roads, transport, racing and gambling and regional language policy.

The Cabinet shall, after consultation with the Commission on Regional Government, determine the extent of the legislative and executive competence of each region. This shall be determined after due consid-

The place of regions in the government of a new SA

The draft interim constitution contains a complicated mechanism for dividing powers between central and regional government.

eration of the region's financial, administrative and infrastructural capability with due regard to the constitutional principles.

A region shall be entitled to an equitable share of national revenue. The proposed Financial and Fiscal Commission shall make recommendations to the National Assembly on what represents equitable allocations taking into account the national interest, regional economic disparities and developmental needs.

A regional government shall be entitled to raise loans for capital expenditure with the consent of the Cabinet, but not for current expenditure. It shall be competent to levy taxes and surcharges recommended by the commission and approved by the National Assembly. Approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. A regional government shall not be entitled to raise taxes detrimentally affecting intraregional commerce or the national mobility of goods, services, labour and capital.

Regional legislative powers

A law made by a regional government shall have effect only insofar as it is not repugnant to any Act of Parliament. However, the provisions of any regional law shall not be deemed repugnant unless its provisions are expressly or necessarily inconsistent with an Act. A regional legislature may recommend to Parliament the passing of any law it (the

former) is not competent to make.

Regional constitutions

A regional legislature may, subject to the provisions of the interim national constitution, adopt a constitution for the region by a two-thirds majority. A regional constitution may not be inconsistent with the constitutional principles or with the terms of a new constitution. A regional constitution adopted before the adoption of a new constitution will require the approval of a two-thirds majority of the constitution-making body.

The body's chairman may refer the regional constitution to the Constitutional Court for an opinion on its conformity with the constitutional principles, after being petitioned by a third of the body's members.

Constitutional principles pertaining to regionalism

- Government shall be structured at national, regional and local levels.
- At each level there shall be democratic representation.
- Each level of government shall have appropriate and adequate legislative and executive powers and functions that will enable each level to function effectively. The allocation of powers between different levels of government shall be made on a basis which is conducive to financial viability at each level of government and to effective public administration, and which promotes national

unity, legitimate regional autonomy and cultural diversity.

□ The powers and functions of national and regional governments shall be defined in the constitution. Amendments to the constitution which alter regional powers, boundaries, functions or institutions shall, in addition to any other specified procedures, require the approval of a specified majority of the regional legislatures, alternatively, if there is such a chamber, a specified majority of a chamber of Parliament composed of regional representatives. If the amendment concerns specific regions only, the approval of the legislature of such regions will also be needed.

□ The powers and functions of the national and regional levels of government shall include exclusive and concurrent powers as well as the power to perform functions for other levels of government on an agency or delegation basis.

□ National and regional governments shall have fiscal powers and functions which will be defined in the constitution.

□ Each level of government shall have a constitutional right to an equitable share of revenue collected nationally so as to ensure that regions and local governments are able to provide basic services and execute the functions allocated to them in the constitution.

□ A Financial and Fiscal Commission representing, among other things, each of the regions, shall recommend equitable fiscal and financial allocations to the regional governments from revenue collected nationally, after taking into account the national interest, economic disparities between the regions as well as the population and developmental needs, administrative responsibilities and other legitimate interests of each of the regions.

□ The following criteria shall be applied in the allocation of powers to the national government and the regional governments:
The level at which most control

can be exercised effectively over the quality and delivery of services, should be the level responsible and accountable for the quality and the delivery of the services.

The national government shall not exercise its powers (exclusive or concurrent) so as to encroach upon the geographical, functional or institutional integrity of the region.

Where it is necessary for the maintenance of essential national standards, of economic unity or of national security or for the prevention of unreasonable action by one region which is prejudicial to another or the country as a whole, the constitution shall empower the national government to intervene through legislation or other steps as may be defined in the constitution.

The essential principles of the constitution, including the fundamental rights contained therein, shall apply to all organs of the state at all levels of government.

Where it is necessary for SA to speak with one voice or act as an entity — in particular in relation to other states — powers should be allocated to the national government.

Where uniformity across the nation is required for a particular function, the legislative power over that function should be allocated predominantly, if not wholly, to the national government.

Where minimum standards across the nation are required for the delivery of public services, the power to set such standards should be allocated to the national government.

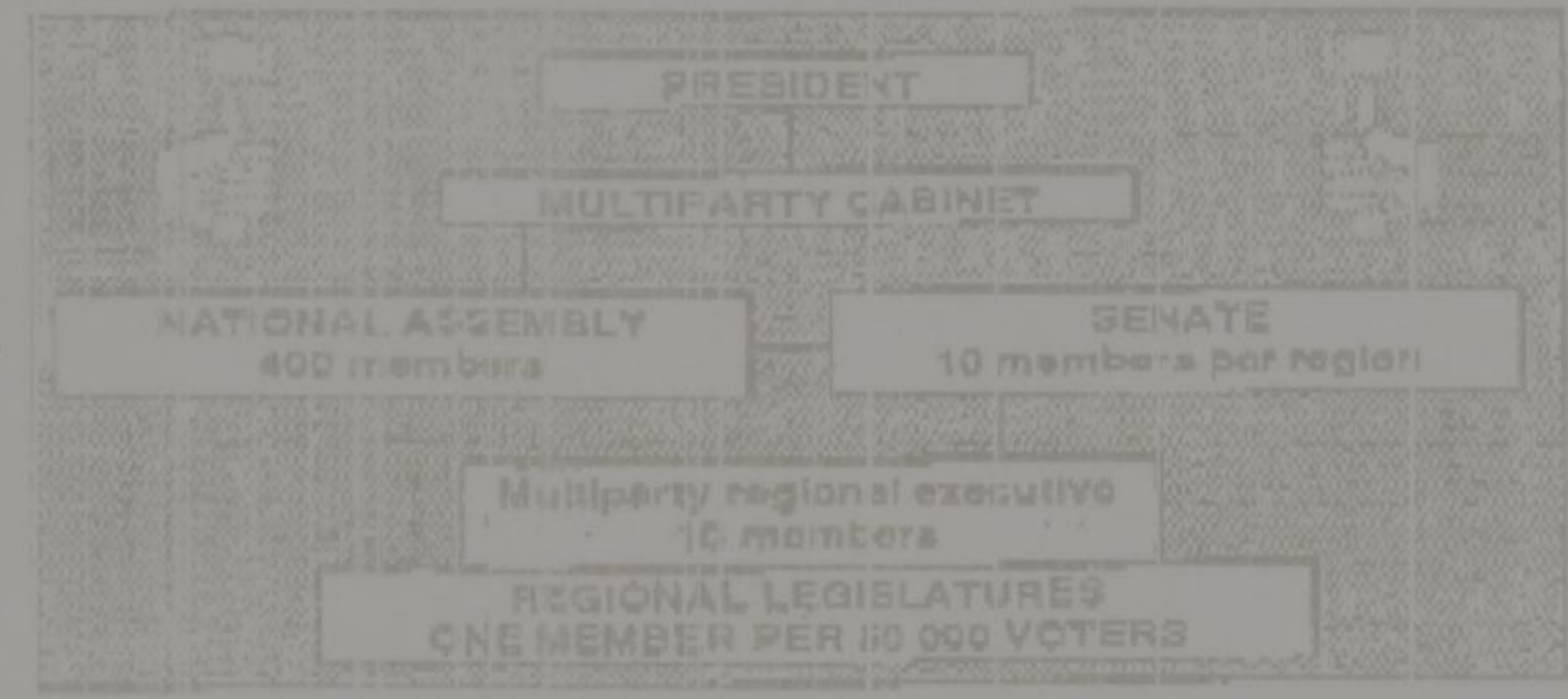
Determining national economic policies, and the power to promote interregional commerce and protect the common market in respect of the mobility of goods, services, capital and labour, should be allocated to the national government.

Regional governments shall have powers, either exclusively or concurrently with the national government, among other things for the purposes of regional planning and development; and in respect of aspects of government dealing with the specific socio-economic and cultural needs and the general well-being of the inhabitants of the region.

Where mutual co-operation is essential or desirable or where it is required to guarantee equality of opportunity or access to a government service, the powers should be allocated concurrently to the national and regional governments.

In the event of a dispute concerning the legislative powers allocated by the constitution concurrently to the national and regional governments which cannot be resolved by a court on a constitutional basis, the constitution, provisions shall be given to legislative powers of the national government.

The constitution shall specify powers which are not specifically allocated in the constitution to the national or a regional government shall be dealt with as necessary ancillary powers pertaining to the powers and functions allocated either to the national or regional governments.



focus on constitution

SOWETAN 27/7

THE NEWLY ELECTED STATE PRESIDENT will establish a commission on regional government within 30 days of the life of the interim constitution tabled in negotiations yesterday.

The objects and functions regarding the establishment of state, provincial and regional government will in terms of the draft constitution:

- Advise the national government and SPR governments on the establishment and consolidation of administrative institutions and structures in the SPRs; and
 - Make recommendations to the government regarding the extent of the legislative and executive competence of SPRs during the period of operation of the (interim) constitution. The Commission on SPR Government will consist of not less than 10 members.
- At least one member of the Commission will be appointed from each SPR. None of these members should hold office in any political party or organisation. "Members shall not perform or commit themselves to perform representative work outside their duties," the draft constitution explains. The Commission will be allowed to establish committees from among its members, which may co-opt anyone to serve on the committees. The COT's role in the

The Negotiating Forum yesterday focused on the objectives and functions of the planned constitution for South Africa.

Ismail Lagardien explains the duties of provincial and regional governments within the context of the changes:

- The final delimitation of powers and functions between national and SPR institutions;
 - Fiscal arrangements between the institutions of government and those of SPR government;
 - The powers and functions of local governments; and any matter which the Commission considers relevant.
- The Commission will be expected to work within the constitutional principles agreed upon; historical boundaries; former provincial boundaries; magisterial, district boundaries and infrastructure; the need to rationalise existing structures; demographic considerations; economic viability; developmental potential; and cultural and language



Obstacles to a free election

THE Human Sciences Research Council has identified violence, intimidation, intolerance and fear as the biggest obstacles among black adults to a democratic and free election in South Africa.

Acting on behalf of Constitutional Development Services, the HSRC surveyed black adults in SA, Venda and Ciskei under the rubric: The prospects for a free, democratic election.

The objective was "to identify the inhibiting and facilitating factors in respect of the intention to vote or not to vote" explained the HSRC report.

"The single most difficult object for prospective voters to surmount is the current level of political violence.

"This includes the grey area between political violence and ordinary crime, intolerance and political instability. These phenomena give rise to feelings of insecurity, fear and uncertainty."

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Apla 'officials' make contradictory claims over Cape Town killings

THIS question of who was responsible for Sunday's slaying of 12 Cape Town churchgoers and the wounding of 56 others was unclear last night as the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA) distanced Apla from the killings, then accepted responsibility.

In addition, the Minister of Defence, Magnus Kriel, while visiting the wounded in Cape Town hospitals, said a group calling itself "The People's Cause" had claimed responsibility. But the police had not heard of such a group.

After visiting Groote Schuur Hospital, President F. W. de Klerk called for a special

meeting of the national peace accord.

"If any parties at (constitutional) talks are directly linked to acts like this, the moment of truth has arrived. They cannot be part of the search for a negotiated solution while involved in killing."

A man claiming to be Apla's Western Cape regional commander telephoned Sapa last night and claimed responsibility for the attack. Another man, who named himself "Ropa Honda, a western Cape commander", also called Sapa. He said the killings were in revenge for violence on the east coast and Natal, and were part of the

ongoing struggle against the settler regime and its security forces."

Earlier, Apla information officer John Mazon said from Dar es Salaam that reports from Apla field commanders in SA indicated the PAC's armed wing had not planned to participate in the attack.

SAP Western Cape violent crimes unit head Col Leonard Knipe said similarities were being investigated between the church attack and previous attacks in East London and King William's Town.

He said five black men in para-military olive green uniforms had attacked the

church and escaped in a 70s model light green Mercedes-Benz.

Yesterday Kriel laid a bouquet of red roses in the devastated St James Church, and said a team of 50 policemen had been assigned to the case, including top-ranking anti-terrorist and intelligence-related officers. The R250 000 reward was the biggest that police could offer.

Kriel said measures would be stepped up to prevent similar attacks and police would be gearing up their intelligence gathering to be in a position to find out when such attacks were being planned.

Multiparty negotiators at the World Trade Centre condemned the "senseless and barbaric" attack and said they were concerned that such acts of violence seemed to be repeatedly occurring on the eve of vital new developments in the negotiating process. In a unanimous resolution they rededicated themselves "to resist and all other attempts to disrupt negotiations and to bring about a peaceful and democratic South Africa and to sink our country into chaos and inner violence".

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Sanctions end next month, says Mbeki

By Jon Qwelane

SUN CITY — Economic sanctions will be lifted next month, ANC director for International Affairs Thabo Mbeki said last night.

Addressing the 29th Annual Conference of the National Federated African Chambers of Commerce and

Industries (NACCI), Mbeki also disclosed that recently

he was summoned to a meeting by Finance Minister Derek Keys where he was told that foreign banks were

now discussing rescinding

South Africa's debt, and Keys told him that the ANC had to play its part.

Mbeki said next month would see the introduction of

a transitional executive

council. For the first time, members of disenfranchised communities would become part of government and that placed a heavy responsibility

on them.

The impact of Mbeki's talk was that businessmen, especially those with capital and expertise should remain in South Africa after next

April's elections and help to

make the new order work. Mbeki said the lifting of sanctions was a challenge for local investors in particular. "Because, when all is

said and done, no foreign investor will come back to a country where local investors stay out," he said. The ANC had looked around when Keys asked it to help with the rescheduling of debt and it had to admit that there were no people to serve to foreign banks to help the negotiations, Mbeki said.

Sowetan Comment

WHILE it is best to call for calm we fear things will get worse before they finally stabilise. We said this before, but it is clear that those against change will cause greater pain to South Africans before we get the new dispensation.

We were afraid to touch on the type of attack that will take place. When gunned burst into a church in Cape Town and opened fire on the congregation, killing at least 11 people on Sunday night, the impediment or caution to speculate on future attacks was removed.

We should now be on our guard from the crazy people who are desperately trying to start a civil war.

The moral is, nothing will halt the process no matter the outrage perpetrated in the next few months or so. As South Africa is the last act in the history of the continent's move from colonialism and oppression to freedom, the ride will be rough.

There is some good news. The first is that violence that has become almost a daily feature in some black areas has not served its dastardly cause.

Those who had hoped to turn blacks against one another have most certainly failed. Even the political organisations that were previously quick to spring to accusation and counter-accusation have seen through this terrible ruse.

The people of South Africa will eventually be united instead of being forced apart by the senseless killings. When people are attacked in a church, religious people who are in the majority in South Africa, will pray and fight together for peace. The killers will never succeed in bowing the determination of those marching to freedom.

THE ATTEMPT to derail a train carrying followers of the IFP from their historic meeting at the FNB Stadium is part of a pattern to create chaos.

Before we go further we feel it necessary to congratulate the IFP for holding such a massive and peaceful rally. Whether we agree with the sentiments expressed by the speakers or not is immaterial. There had been fears of a bloodbath.

To everybody's relief and to the chagrin of the messengers of death, the rally was dignified and peaceful. Still an attempt was made to end the occasion in blood and hate.

We appeal to South Africans to stand together at this dark moment. We have to outface the dreaded elements that will show very little mercy in creating chaos and destruction.

We appeal to political organisations not to hold rallies and if they must, hold joint ones.

The Star

Established 1887

Political crossroads

THE official unveiling of the first draft of the Interim Constitution marks an important step in South Africa's search for a peaceful settlement. For that reason it will be scrutinised closely and debated vigorously.

At the outset one point must be emphasised: even in its draft form the constitution is incomplete and is not set in stone. Clauses which arouse anxieties or fall short of expectations can be debated and — if persuasive arguments are advanced — revised or even re-written completely. There is no reason for withdrawal by potentially dissatisfied parties.

Another point is worth stressing: constitution-making, even for transitional constitutions, involves compromise. No party can expect to obtain exactly what it wants. Aggrieved negotiating parties should remember that they are not the only ones to have made concessions.

The draft constitution seeks to fulfil two functions: first, to provide for the governance of South Africa during a transitional phase by a government of national unity; second, to establish a Constitutional Body (CMB) to draw up a "final" constitution.

To that end it provides for a popularly elected National Assembly and a Senate drawn from regional legislatures (which will themselves be composed of representatives elected from a regional list of candidates during the April 27 elections). The National Assembly and the Senate will sit separately when fulfilling their parliamentary role in the transitional phase and jointly when drafting the final Constitution.

Balance of power

The critical issue will be the balance of power between the national government and the regional governments. One prediction can be made with certainty: those favouring strong central government (primarily, the ANC and PAC) will suspect that too much has been conceded to the regions; those who want strong regional government (chiefly the IFP, Bophuthatswana, the AVU and, significantly, the NP) will be apprehensive that regional autonomy has not been sufficiently buttressed.

The Interim Constitution appears to set great store on a proposed commission on regional government. To consist of at least 10 politically independent experts, the commission will have to make recommendations to the CMB on the boundaries and powers of regions. The commissioners will need to deliberate and act as political sages.

Their task will be made easier by a list of already adopted constitutional principles. These binding principles seek to guarantee a balance between the demands for strong central government and regional autonomy within the broad framework of the rule of law.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Zambia Congress censured

THE Zambia Congress of Trade Unions has been censured for opposing the invitation extended to President F.W. de Klerk to open this year's Lusaka show. Zambia Agricultural and Commercial Show Society chairman George Bender yesterday criticised congress chairman Packson Shamenza for interfering in matters outside his jurisdiction.

Protest at US consulate

ANC national executive committee members gave Tshwete yesterday handed a letter to US acting Consul General. The letter demanded President Bill Clinton lift the US blockade of Cuba. Forty people picketed the office of the US consulate in Johannesburg and more than 100 people protested outside the Cape Town consulate to protest the US embargo of the Caribbean island.