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AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS
NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE
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B. NEC & PMC
DOCUMENTS

B1 (A)-' National Structure

National Structure - March 1983

The Working Committee of the African National Congress has been almost continuously preoccupied with the task of perfecting the organisational structure of our movement in line with our developing situation. It is logical and correct to continuously evolve new or improved structural forms best suited to the unfolding situation in the country, area and the world.

The task of continuously perfecting our organisation's structure and therefore our ability to mobilise more and more of our people into the revolutionary struggle headed by the ANC is an on-going process. The aim is to increase our ability to strike at the enemy and effect its revolutionary overthrow. It is one of the central aims of this structure to clearly pinpoint responsibility and accountability through unambiguous distribution of tasks.

We should bear in mind that it is the task of all members of the movement to implement this structure guided by the central strategic objective - to see our national movement pursue everything for the seizure of power by the people. This circular therefore constitutes a directive of the National Executive Committee (NEC) to the whole movement for immediate implementation by all organs and comrades.

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I c The highest organ of the ANC is

Cors â- renee.

2. The highest executive body of the ANC is the National Executive Committee (NEC).

3. The executive body of the ANC in between the sessions of the NEC is the National Working Committee (NWC).

4. The coordinating bodies with executive powers in between meetings of the NWC are:

(a) The PMC which is charged with the task of handling and directing all internal work of the movement.

(b) The External Co-ordinating Council (ECC) which is charged with the task of handling and directing the work of the movement externally.

5. There are three main Offices under which all departments immediately fall. These are:

(a) The Office of the President

(b) The Office of the Secretary General

(c) The Office of the Treasurer General

5.1. The three basic Offices are headed by the three main Officials of the ANC. These are:

(a) The President General of the movement

(b) The Secretary General of the movement

(c) The Treasurer General of the movement.

5.2. Main Functions of

the three main officials

(?) President General:

The President General is head and chief directing officer of the congress and leader of the house, in a nation'

conference. Fie shalf:

i) Present to the conference and' NEC a

comprehensive statement of the state of
the nation/organisation and the
politic.'. I situation generally;

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II) Preside over meetings;

Hi) Make pronouncements for and on behalf of the NEC outlining and explaining policy or attitude of the congress on any question;

Iv) Be Commander-in-Chief of the People's Army, Umkhonto we Sizwe.

(b) Secretary General:

The Secretary General is the chief administrative officer of the congress.

He shall:

i) Be the custodian of the minutes of

the NEC/NWC as well as other records of the movement.

ii) Conduct the correspondence of the NEC and NWC and send out notices of all Conferences, NEC and NWC meetings;

Hi) Convey the decisions and instructions of the National Conference, NEC and NWC to the lower organs of the movement;

iv) Prepare yearly reports on the work of the NEC and NWC and such other documents which may from time to time be required by the NEC and NWC.

(c) Treasurer General:

The Treasurer General is the chief custodian of the funds and property of the ANC. He shall:

i) Keep such books of account as may be necessary to record clearly the financial position of congress;

ii) Submit annually to the NEC a report on the financial situation of the movement;

iii) Together with the President General and the Secretary General constitute the Chief Finance Committee of the ANC.

6. National Working Committee (NWC)

6.1. Composition:

Shall be composed of members of the N E C present at Headquarters at any time plus those especially invited to attend the particular meeting of the N V/C.

6.2. Quorum:

A minimum of eleven (11) members of the NLC satisfying the following requirements constitute a quorum of an NLI. meeting:

(a) At least three must represent the External Co-ordinating Council.

(b) At least three must represent the PMC.

(c) Either the President, Secretary General or Treasurer General must be

present.

(d) There should be four other members

of the NLC.

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(?) Shall co-ordinate, supervise and direct the work of the ANC in between sessions of the NLC;

(b) Shall receive and consider reports from the LCC and PMC;

(c) Shall direct and supervise the political life of the organisation;

(d) Shall report to the NEC through the Secretary General on the state of the organisation and progress of the struggle.

7. Tasks of the Co-ordinating Councils (ECC and PMC)

(a) Shall coordinate, supervise and direct the work of the departments and organs under them.

(b) Shall consider, approve or amend and ensure the implementation of plans submitted to them by these departments and formulated within the broad framework which shall have been given by the NEC or its NWC.

(c) Shall recommend to the NEC/NWC new political and other initiatives.

(d) Shall, through the relevant organs, ensure the all-round development of our cadres.

(e) Shall report regularly to, and ensure the implementation of directives

from, the NWC.

(f) The President, SG, TG and two

others shall constitute the chairmanship and vice-chairmanship of the Politico-Military Council (PMC) and External Co-ordinating Committee (ECC) and as such, shall convene and preside over meetings of the PMC and ECC. In

case all members of the chairmanship are absent, they shall appoint at least one member of the PMC/ECC to act in their place.

7.1. Tasks of the PMC Secretariat

(a) Shall receive reports and plans from the Political HQ and the Military HQ and submit these to the PMC.

(b) Shall convey decisions of the PMC to the relevant subordinate organs.

(c) Shall, whenever necessary, seek the assistance of the relevant organs to ensure the proper co-ordination of plans prior to their submission to the PMC.

(d) The Convenor of the Secretariat who shall be a member of the NEC shall convey the decisions, progress and other reports of the PMC to the Secretary-General for submission to the NWC, who through the convenor shall

similarly communicate with the lower organs.

7.2. Tasks of the ECC Secretariat

(a) Shall receive reports and plans from the three offices and submit them to the ECC.

(b) Shall convey the decisions of the ECC to the respective offices.

(c) Shall, whenever necessary, seek the assistance of the relevant offices to ensure the proper coordination of plans prior to their submission to the ECC.

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(d) The' convenor of the Secretariat who shall be a member of the NEC shall convey the decisions, progress and other reports of the ECC to the Secretary-General for submission to the NWC, who through the convenor shall similarly communicate with the lower organs.

8. Tasks of the

Political Headquarters Jommittec

(a) Shall mobilise the masses of our people inside the country into struggle subject to plans approved by the

P M C / N W C / in E C .

(b) Shall p'itabish underground political units of the ANC through-out ,outh Africa.

(c) Shall, in conjunction with the Military Headquarters, establish underground units of MK throughout South Africa.

(d) Shall maintain contact with legal organisations within South Africa with the aim of influencing them towards acceptance of the programme, the strategy and tactics of the ANC.

(e) Shall, where necessary, set up legal organisations within South africa a for the purpose of mass mobilisation and mass action.

(0 Shall report regularly to the PMC on the state of our internal organisation and the ccnduct of the political struggle .

9. Tasks of the Military Headquarters

(a) Shall be the military headquarters of our people's army.

(b) Shall direct the military stru, le, subject to plans approved by the

P M C/N WC/NhC .

(c) Shall, in conjunction with the relevant political organs, control all our military formations inside and outside the country.

(d) Shall, in conjunction with the Political headquarters establish under (round units of MK throughout b o u t li Africa.

(e) Shall ensure that M K is a disciplined and politically conscious ir 1.1y of the people.

(f) hall, t h r o u g li the PMC, r e, i t regularly to the NEC on the state of tin army and the conduct of the military struggle.

10* - Tasks of the

Off s of the President

(a) hall co-ordinate arid supervise work ot all departments listec under

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1, . ir work in-between meetings of the i. -. i,

(c) Shall prepare and submit reports to the ECC.

10.1. Seeretary for Presidential Affairs

The Secretary for Presidential Affairs shall be a member of the National Executive Committee and shall assist the President. He shall, among other tasks, handle the correspondence of the Office and shall be the main Administrative Officer in the Office of the President.

10.2. Tasks of the Political Sub-committee

There shall be in the President's Office a political sub-corn mittee which

shall study the overall situation internally and internationally with the aim of preparing commentaries on current political, social, economic, diplomatic and military strategic questions and shall be responsible for preparing statements and other major pronouncements of the ANC. This sub-committee shall be headed by the Secretary for Political Affairs in the Office of the President.

10.3. Tasks of the Department of Information and Publicity

The department prepares and disseminates information and other propaganda material for the organisation. It deals with such aspects of ANC work as radio propaganda, leaflets, periodicals, research, legal publications, Sechaba and other publications of the ANC, films, posters, press, news briefings and training of publicity personnel.

10.4. Tasks of the Department of Intelligence and Security

Shall be responsible for the work of Intelligence and Security of the organisation.

11. Tasks of the Office of the Secretary General

(a) Shall co-ordinate and supervise the work of all departments listed under it and shall be the chief administrative centre of the organisation as a whole.

(b) Shall ensure the timely and current implementation of NEC/NWC decisions.

(c) Shall prepare for and convene meetings of the Executive Committee.

(d) Shall attend to the correspondence and appointments of the Secretary-General.

(e) Shall receive reports from all departments listed under it.

(f) Shall prepare and submit reports to the PMC/ECC through the Administrative

Secretaries (internal and external).

11.1. General Administrative Secretariat

The Secretary-General is the chief administrative officer of the movement.

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SG as chief administrative officer shall be assisted by the Administrative Secretary of the PMC and the Administrative Secretary of the ECC. The SG together with these two administrative secretaries as his assistants will constitute the National Administrative Secretariat.

11.2. Tasks of the Department for International Affairs

- (a) Shall mobilise political and material support for the ANC internationally.
- (b) Shall supervise and direct the work of all ANC Representatives.
- (c) Shall study the international situation and take all necessary action including selection and preparation of delegations to conferences. The finalisation of delegations and delegates shall be by consultation with members of the NWC available at headquarters.
- () Shall establish ANC support groups.
- (e) Shall see to the creation of ANC units.
- (f) Shall report regularly to the Secretary-General.

11.3. Tasks of the Women's Section

- (a) Shall organise women in South Africa into the African National Congress.
- (b) Shall mobilise the masses of women in South African into the struggle.
- (c) Shall organise South African women abroad into active units of the Women's Section.
- (d) Shall mobilise women internationally to support the ANC politically and materially.

(e) Shall issue propaganda material for both internal and external use.

(f) Approval of delegates shall be achieved through consultation by members of the NEC at Headquarters.

(g) Shall report regularly to the Secretary-General.

11.4. Tasks of the Youth Section

(a) Shall organise the Youth and Students in South Africa into the ANC.

(b) Shall mobilise the masses of youth and students in South Africa into the struggle.

(c) Shall organise ANC Youth and Students abroad into active units of the Youth Section.

(d) Shall mobilise the youth internationally to support the ANC politically and materially.

Shall issue propaganda material for both internal and external use.

(f) Approval of delegates shall be achieved through consultation with members of the NEC. This will be with the help of the Office of the Secretary-General.

11.5. Tasks of Department of Manpower Development and Training

(a) Shall keep records of all our personnel.

(b) Shall train and develop ANC personnel.

(c) Shall in conjunction with the relevant organs recommend the proper deployment of personnel according to speciality and ability.

(d) Shall report regularly to the Secretary General.

11.6. Tasks of the

National Political Commissar

The chief political commissar shall be the chief organiser in the External Mission of the ANC, and shall head the Department of Manpower Development and Training.

12. Tasks of the Office of the Treasurer-General

- (a) Shall raise funds and other materials for the needs of the movement as a whole, excluding war materials.
- (b) Shall be the custodian of the property of the ANC and shall keep a full and proper record of the above and ensure their proper utilisation.
- (c) Shall ensure that the financial, logistic and welfare needs of all the individuals and organs requiring maintenance by the movement are met, both at home and abroad.
- (d) Shall otherwise disburse funds and other materials as directed by the ANC .
- (e) Shall prepare and submit reports to the NWC at least twice a year, and to the NEC once a year.
- (f) Shall prepare and submit financial reports to the NEC at least once a year.

12.1. The Office of the Treasurer General shall constitute the Treasury and shall comprise the following:

- (a) Treasurer-General
- (b) Deputy Treasurer-General
- (c) Administrative Secretary
- (d) Head of finance department, Treasurer-General's representative for regional treasury offices (N/D).
- (e) head of projects department

- (f) Head of logistics department
- (g) Head of transport department
- (h) Head of building construction and maintenance department
- (i) Head of mechanics department
- (j) Welfare
- (k) Recording Secretary

13. Supreme Finance Committee

13.1. Composition:

- (a) President-General
- (b) Secretary-General
- (c) Treasurer-General

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13.2, Tasks:

- (a) Prepare annual budget
- fb) Approve budget
- (c) Oversee the finances of the movement as a whole

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14. Tasks of the Representatives

- (a) Shall represent the NEC in the country or region under their jurisdiction.
- (b) Shall maintain contact with the Government (s) in the area of operation:
 - i) Shall seek to keep the host(s) fully informed on the current situation in South Africa and the policy developments emanating from or relating to the ANC;
 - ii) Shall seek to influence the hosts to support the ANC both politically and materially;
 - iii) Shall be the channel through which the NEC and its department normally communicates with the host government;
 - iv) Shall report to the NEC on the relation between ANC and host country and work for support for the ANC politically;
- (c) Shall maintain contact with the Fulling party(s) other mass organisations and public - institutions to influence them to support the ANC politically and materially.

15. Tasks of the RPC's

- (a) In any region the Regional Political Committee is the highest political organ of the movement. The

Youth Section and the Women's Section shall each designate one person to be a member of the RPC.

(b) It shall ensure that all members of the organisation are integrated in functioning branches, and that members are actively involved in the work of the movement.

(c) It shall ensure that all members are thoroughly grounded in the policies of the movement and that members discuss and understand the current political strategy and tactics of the movement as well as the current situation internally and internationally.

(d) It shall ensure that members participate in the formulation and evolution of policy.

(e) It shall ensure that the NEC is acquainted with such political, social and other problems as the members may face: It shall however, try to solve these problems before passing them over to the NEC, in cooperation with the Chief Representative.

(f) It shall help in ensuring the solidarity of the movement in the area of its jurisdiction.

(g) It shall report regularly to the Secretary-General and receive instructions from him through the Chief Representative.

16. Distribution of Personnel

16.1. Politico-Military Council (PMC)

(a) Composition:

i) The Chairmanship - President, Secretary General, Treasurer General, plus two others.

ii) Military Headquarters
representatives

iii) Political Headquarters
representatives

iv) Director of Information and

P u b l i c i t y
v) (lead of N A I

vi) Sactu President and Secretary

L i e n e r a l

vii) Permanent Secretary

(b) Political Headquarters

i) Chairman

ii) Deputy Chairman

iii) Secretary

<v) Women's Mobilisation

v) Workers Mobilisation

vi) Youth Mobilisation

vii) Church Front

viii) Community Organisations

ix) Underground Work

x) Propaganda and Information

xi) Peasant Mobilisation
x i i) NAT

xiii) D irect or of DIP

(c) Military Headquarters

i) Commander

ii) Deputy Commander and Army
Commissar

iii) Chief of Staff

iv) Chief of Operations

v) Chief of Communications

vi) Chief of Logistics

16.2. External Co-ordinating Council (ECC)

(a) Composition: Chairmanship plus assistants

i) President

ii) Secretary General

iii) Treasurer General

iv) plus two others

(b) Members

i) Head of International

ii) head of Education

iii) Head of Women's Section

iv) Head of the Department of Manpower Development and Training

v) Head of Youth Section

vi) Director, Information and Publicity

vii) Administrative Secretary of Treasury

viii) Representative of Treasury

ix) Head of Political Sub-Committee

x) Head of Intelligence and Security

(c) ECC Secretariat

i) Three member secretariat one of whom is a convenor.

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16.3. Office of the President

(a) Personnel:

- i) Comrade President
- ii) Political Secretary
- iii) Administrative Secretary and Treasurer.

(b) Departments Falling Under Office of the President

- i) Department of Security and Intelligence
- ii) Department of Information and Publicity
- iii) Political Sub-Committee - Head, Assistant Secretary

16.4. Office of the Secretary General

(a) Personnel:

- i) Comrade Secretary General
- ii) Deputy Secretary General
- iii) Administrative Secretary

(b) Departments Falling Under Office of the Secretary General

- i) Department of External Relations
- ii) Women's Section
- ii) Youth Section
- iv) Department of Education
- v) Department of Health
- vi) Department of Arts and Culture
- vii) Department of Manpower Development

16.5. Department of External Relations

(a) Head

(b) Deputy Head

(c) Administrative Secretary

16.6. Youth Section

(a) Head

(b) Assistant Secretary for Internal and Deputy Head

(c) Secretary

(d) Assistant Secretary for Personnel and ANC units

(e) Assistant Secretary for International Relations

(f) Assistant Secretary for Publicity

(g) Assistant Secretary for Education and Culture

^ .i) Assistant Secretary for Finance and Material Assistance

(i) Assistant Secretary for Administration

(j) Additional members of National Youth Committee with special duties

16.7. Women's Section

(a) Head - Responsible for Political Education

(b) Deputy - Responsible for Education, Culture and Children

(c) Assistant Secretary for International Relations

(d) Assistant Secretary for Internal Mobilisation

(e) Assistant Secretary responsible for Research

(f) Assistant Secretary responsible for Finance and Material Assistance

(g) Assistant Secretary responsible for

Publicity and Information

(h) Assistant Secretary responsible for Administration

(i) Assistant Secretary responsible for Logistics

(j) There shall be seven other members of the National Executive Committee of the Women's Section with special duties internally and internationally.

16.8. Department of Education

(a) Head

(b) Deputy Head

(c) Administrative Secretary

(d) Members of the Secretariat

16.9. Department of Health

(a) Secretary

(b) Deputy Secretary

(c) Administrative Secretary

(d) Members of the Secretariat

16.10. Department of Arts and Culture

(a) Head

(b) Administrative Secretary

16.11. Department of Manpower Development

(a) Deputy Head

(c) Administrative Secretary

16.12. Office of the Treasurer General

(a) Personnel:

i) Comrade Treasurer General

ii) Deputy Treasurer General

iii) Administrative Secretary

(b) Departments Falling Under
Office of Treasurer General

i) Finance

ii) Logistics

iii) Transport

iv) Welfare

v) Projects

vi) Building Construction and
Maintenance

vii) Recording Secretary

viii) Mechanics

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