

Minutes of the Preparatory Committee
of the National Conference
in Support of the African National Congress
and Other Democratic Forces for a New South Africa

Meeting Date: August 15, 1992

Meeting called to order at 12:30 PM

1. Opening of the Meeting. An introduction of participants by Lennox Hinds.

2. Opening Remarks by Max Sisulu. Mr. Sisulu, who is currently studying at the J.F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University was able to attend our meeting and reported on the current state of affairs in South Africa. He spoke of the dire need for education and training, as well as the role of the state in fueling violence in South Africa. Unequivocally he stated the DeKlerk must go. As he reported, things are much worse in South Africa. People are experiencing a high degree of unemployment - currently there is a 50% unemployment rate in Cape Town. Also, across South Africa, a low level civil war is being waged. The AWP has become stronger and more brazen. There is strong pressure on Mr. Mandela to sit down and talk now, before events overtake the ANC.

3. Adoption of Minutes of July 11, 1992. The minutes were adopted without amendment.

4. Report of Co-Coordinator. Jane Draper, Co-Coordinator of the Conference shared the present version of the Call that is to be mailed out, including the present list of sponsors. Odela Woodson, who will be working with the Co-Coordinators at UAW, District 65 from 1 to 5 PM, Monday through Friday, was introduced.

5. Report of Committee Chairs.

(a) Finance/Fundraising Report. A report was made by the Fundraising Committee Chair, Michael Fahey and Marilyn Clement, of Empower, Inc., with regard to the current status of fundraising efforts and the present financial status of the Conference. Attached hereto is a report on cash receipts and cash disbursements which was shared with the Committee. Marilyn Clement reported on the preparations for the Sarafina benefit; the possibility of a fundraiser in connection with the premiere of the Spike Lee movie, "Malcolm X"; and other projects still being considered. Will Chambers reported on a joint fundraising activity to be undertaken with the Port Authority Management Futures, Incorporated Training Program. A business breakfast, featuring a senior representative of the ANC, will be held at the World Trade Center and funds generated by this breakfast will be split 50/50 between the Conference and the Training Program. Andrew Young, Mayor David Dinkins, Gov-

ernor Mario Cuomo and Governor Florio have been approached to sponsor this event.

In consideration of the increased amount of time that they will be working on fundraising for the Conference, a request was made by Empower, Inc. for additional compensation of 10% of any funds generated from special projects they are currently working on. This proposal was accepted by the Preparatory Committee.

(b) Media Report - Jane Draper, Co-Coordinator, reported on behalf of Carol Hamilton regarding the Media Committee. Terry Williams and Carol Hamilton have agreed to work together on the Conference and have submitted a proposal to the Conference. The proposal outlines \$15,000 of identified expenses, plus additional out-of-pocket expenses. Carol Hamilton has agreed to take on the responsibility to try to raise the funds needed for these public relations efforts. Carol Hamilton and Terry Williams will be meeting with other committee members to coordinate their activities. Their public relations efforts for the conference are contingent on whether or not such funds can be raised.

(c) Outreach Committee - Sybil Wong, Chair of the Outreach Committee, outlined a process for approval of workshop participants as well as those to whom invitations will be sent. The Outreach Committee is compiling a

list of resource people for each workshop which will then be sent to the ANC for consideration and approval.

(d) Rally Committee. Jane Draper gave a report on behalf of Richard Harvey, Chair of the Rally Committee. The pay-per-view event previously discussed would not be possible because of time constraints and the Rally Committee is investigating other alternatives.

6. Discussion of the Program. Melba Johnson-Kgositsile reported for Deborah Jackson, Chair Program of the Committee. Ms. Johnson-Kgositsile introduced newly installed workshop coordinators and a healthcare initiative was introduced. There was extended discussion of the primary objectives of the Conference. The discussion centered on the role of the activist in the workshops and possible confrontations arising between identified facilitators (and others invited to participate in the workshops) and activists in attendance. There was also a strong request to ensure that those people who had been working for change in South Africa for many years not be left out in the organization of the Conference. Themba Vilakazi of FRESA felt that although through the Conference we are trying to make inroads to other constituencies, that we not alienate traditional supporters and that, perhaps, social activists were not the best persons to reach out to those new constituencies. The objectives of the Conference were reiterated.

The conference is an attempt to create new partnerships and new constituencies for the ANC and to create new institutions. As Lennox Hinds then pointed out, through this Conference we are attempting to do something that has not been done before. While it was acknowledged that certain enmity might exist between some of the activists invited to participate and the institutions who were being invited to participate in the creation of these new constituencies; each workshop should be structured in a way that would creatively make use of the talents and resources of both constituencies in the formation of these new partnerships.

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By motion duly made and seconded, the date for the next meeting of the Preparatory Committee was set for September 18, 1992 at 12 PM, and the meeting was adjourned.