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To: The Editorial Board Hlanganani

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WORKERS IN ACTION - NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The National Scholarship Office is a very busy department falling under the Administration. There are two full-time workers whose tasks include interviewing, advising, guiding and processing all prospective students going on scholarship. This requires close liaison with the National Scholarship Committee, SOMAFCO and heads of all departments.

Under the supervision of the National Scholarship Committee, placements are arranged by correspondence with numerous universities, colleges, embassies, support groups, ANC missions and headquarters departments

They record the qualifications of returned students who have completed their scholarships and those of returned but still unqualified students. This record is passed on to the Department of Manpower Development and Education departments for deployment.

They do the secretarial work for the National Scholarship and Education Committees i.e. taking of minutes, convening of meetings, transcribing and dissemination of minutes to members and dealing with the matters arising and the correspondence with HQ, ANC Missions, and Education Committees abroad.

During 1984 162/<sup>applications for</sup>placements ~~xxxxxx~~ were made. These included university, technical and vocational colleges and schools. The applications were made to some 24 different countries. 56 students have already left on scholarships to study in a variety of different fields ranging from medicine, engineering branches, agricultural subjects, teaching, economics, law, public Administration, <sup>social work,</sup> printing, catering, building trades and other vocational courses. It is hoped that many more will be placed within the next few months. Some are also studying in "A" levels

skills and



One of the toughest part of their work is explaining to workers of Mazimbu that it is not preferential treatment that gets students from S6MAFCO scholarships, but because they have the required academic qualifications. Even for technical and vocational courses, it is necessary to have certain standards of education and without these candidates will not be accepted. In fact most places of learning are demanding much higher educational levels than in the past and workers should be aware of this and try to achieve it through adult education.

~~xxxxxx~~ Over the past months 28 qualified students have returned to East Africa and have already been employed or are awaiting deployment. Some must be placed for internship or practicals, such as three qualified doctors. Amongst other skills and professions are dentistry, mining engineering, road construction, international law, forestry, fine arts, librarian, merchant management, veterinary science, physics and mathematics. These are all important for the present phase of our struggle and in an independent and free South Africa.

Finally, another feature of the work of this department, is monitoring the progress of the students abroad through the Student councils in the many different countries.