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AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS  
NATIONAL WOMEN'S SECTION  
PROGRAMME OF ACTION — 1987

PREAMBLE:

The Second ANC Women's Conference, taking place in Luanda, People's Republic of Angola, on the 1 - 6 September, 1987 under the theme 'For Greater Unity and All-Round Mobilisation for the Seizure of Power' takes great courage from the achievements scored by the struggling women and people of our country since the historic ANC Women's Conference held in Luanda on September 10-14, 1981.

The 75th Anniversary of the ANC is characterised by the rapidly developing struggle by our people for the destruction of the racist power, and seizure of power by the people. The past six years were marked by heightened mass upsurges. In their various formations — workers, peasants, intellectuals and students, churches, trade unions — men, women and children have scored great victories. The women of South Africa, in the face of racist atrocities, have stood in the forefront of the struggle, in the rent and bus boycotts, in the massive and numerous strikes against low wages and for better working conditions, in the struggle for better education for our children, against forced removals and forced incorporation into bantustans and influx control. The emergence of the UDFWC, SADWU, SAYCO, SANSCO, COSATU have been a milestone in the struggle for unity and united action against the regime.

On the battlefield, our People's Army, Umkhonto we Sizwe, has struck serious blows at the Botha-Malan economic and military machine, thus raising the armed struggle to new and sharper heights. These actions are the base on which we will build up and intensify the armed struggle.

On the other hand, in an effort to suppress the rising tide of the revolution in our country, the apartheid regime has stepped up police brutality, detentions, deaths through torture in detention, abductions and assassination of our compatriots, and the ruthless torture and brain-washing of our children.

The regime has increased harassment of neighbouring countries killing, maiming, torturing innocent civilians and blackmailing of governments of the Front Line States in an attempt to enforce its political hegemony.

PROGRAMME OF ACTION

Internal: The Women's Section of the ANC must decide to do the following:

Inside the country our rallying call must be the consolidation of the united action of all democratic women's organisations at local and regional level. We must strive for higher levels of organisation, planning, mobilisation and discipline. But above all, **UNITY IS CRUCIAL:**

The Women's Section must, through the appropriate machinery, undertake the following tasks inside the country:

- § Popularise the ANC and work tirelessly towards the recognition and acceptance of the ANC as the only authentic representative of our people and the leader in the struggle against white domination, national oppression and exploitation.
- § Forge links with patriotic and democratic women's organisations in the common struggle against the racist regime.
- § Offer guidance and leadership to our women at all times in the day-to-day struggles of our people.
- § Intensify the recruitment of women into the ranks of MK.
- § Encourage women to co-ordinate their own activities as well as the activities of the communities around them and to take a more active part in the community struggles.

The most urgent campaigns to be undertaken are:

1. Forced removals to the bantustans, 'resettlement' camps and other human dumping grounds.
2. The urgent campaign to save the lives of the 30 South African combatants now awaiting execution.
3. The campaign for the unconditional release of all political prisoners.
4. The campaign against the use of Depo Provera as a contraceptive against our people must be intensified.
5. The campaign against the continuous increases in rent, services, transport fares and all food prices.
6. The intensification of the campaign to expose racist South Africa's aggression against the Front Line States and to call for national and international support for the people of these countries.
7. To campaign for the liberation of women from all forms of oppression.
8. To intensify the 'Save the Children' campaigns, both nationally and internationally.
9. To launch a campaign for the right to family life.
10. To launch a campaign against the continuous and increasing deaths in the mines.
11. To raise the political consciousness of women and draw more and more into the democratic women's organisations.
12. To ensure the regional unity of democratic women's organisations with the aim of uniting them at a national level.
13. To mobilise more women workers to join democratic trade unions, participate in their leadership and work to develop the progressive trade union movement.
14. To intensify the conscious mobilisation of rural women into the struggle. Priority to be given to the fight against all forms of mass forced removals to the bantustans, 'resettlement' camps and other human dumping grounds.
15. To intensify anti-fascist propaganda both inside and outside the country using all the languages of our people.
16. To actively contribute materially and otherwise to the development of educational development and self-help projects of women in both the urban and rural areas.
17. To organise women to support and contribute to the struggles of the unemployed youth and all those who, by virtue of the regime's educational policy, find themselves out of school.

In marking the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the ANC, we envisage embarking on the following activities:

1. To prepare and publicise a history of the struggle of women of our country.
  2. To highlight the militant struggles of women of our country against the racist and colonial regime with a view of educating our young women militants and to derive from these experiences various tactics of the struggle.
  3. To produce booklets, stickers, posters, cartoons, etc portraying the struggle of the women of South Africa.
  4. To launch a national anti-ID document campaign, with special emphasis on influx control laws and their implication on the lives of women. This will be used as a uniting campaign for all women's organisations inside the country.
  5. To continue publishing anthologies of poetry and short stories by ANC women.
  6. To prepare anthologies by women for children. Also to record narrations and publish them.
  7. To prepare an anthology of poems and short stories about the children and by the children.
- The anthology must be accompanied by paintings and drawings by children.

8. To educate women in South Africa and the world on the violation of children's rights which are enshrined in the UN Charter on the Rights of the Child.
9. To carry out research to expose to the world, through films, press and other media the system of child labour in South Africa and to expose the existence of the so-called nature training camps.
10. To organise a fund-raising concert by internationally renowned performing artists in solidarity with women under apartheid.

#### INTERNATIONAL:

On the international scene we must intensify our efforts for the total isolation of racist South Africa. We have to intensify in mobilising for the implementation of <sup>mandatory &</sup> comprehensive sanctions against the apartheid regime.

Conference commends the governments in the Scandinavian countries that have legislated for sanctions. Conference commends all African states which have adhered to the call for sanctions and urges those remaining to follow suit.

1. To campaign for the imposition of comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.
2. The Women's Section must intensify the campaign for the stay of execution of the 30 comrades, including a woman trade unionists, Theresa Ramashomola, and condemns in the strongest terms the executions on August 31 of Comrades Janties and Milies.
3. That feedback in the form of circulars should be sent to women's units as briefings on international women's conferences. Further, women from inside the country to be included as delegates to international conferences.
4. The Women's Section and the movement as a whole should support the proposed international conference on terrorism motivated by the Soviet Union. Women necessarily to be part of the delegation to this and similar conferences
5. Women's Section should ensure membership of the newly formed 'Women for a Meaningful Summit' constituted during the Reykjavik summit.
6. Movement to consciously ensure inclusion of women in diplomatic training courses and encourage their deployment as Chief Representatives, ~~be increased~~. Training of comrades should include interpreters in different languages.
7. Women's Section must and with urgency strengthen links with women in the Front Line States.

2. Smaller units - per. & recruits

- 1) All Commission reports x6.
- 2) Secretariat Reports.
- 3) ~~All Commission~~ NPC Composite Report.
- 4) Sowail workers report.
- 5)

# NWEC

## 5 reserves

- 1) Gertrude Shupe ✓
- 2) Ray Simons ✓
- 3) Marco Njibe ✓
- 4) Natl Njibe ✓
- 5) Baleka Laphisite ✓
- 6) Lindwe Matusa
- 7) Zevela Mlekai ✓
- 8) Tenzive Muteru
- 9) Mavri Mayini
- 10) Rebecca Matlou ✓
- 11) Metu Sepedra

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|---------------------|------------|
| 12) Frennie Gwuala  | 5 Reserves |
| 13) Thembi Twile    |            |
| 14) Eleanor Khayile |            |
| 15) Zithi Naleho    |            |
| 16) Susan Nwizana   |            |

- 12) Yolisa Modise
- 13) Regina Ngozi
- 14) Dorcas Hosake
- 15) Jessica Munare
- 16) Lulu Mbona