

1. OVERVIEW

The Department of Political Education is planning an Institute for South African Studies (INSAS)

INSAS would be located in Dakawa in Tanzania; on land allocated to the African National Congress by the Tanzanian Government.

INSAS would be staffed by personnel of the Department of Political Education and will offer courses to South African exiles.

As INSAS develops it would also aim to facilitate the undertaking of research.

Subjects to be initially offered would include History, Economics, Political Science and Education Methodology. These subjects would all be examined from a South African perspective.

2. CURRENT PLANNING

This project is due to begin operation in April 1989. An ANC member, and experienced architect, Cde Rusty Bernstein will be visiting Dakawa shortly to assess the practical situation and to draw up plans for construction of the necessary buildings.

Certain necessary infra-structural equipment for the initial operation of the institute can be secured from Canadian sources. This will include video and monitor, computer, photostat machine and certain office equipment.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The fundamental concern of the proposed Institute for South African Studies, is the preparation of South Africans for the building of a non-racial, democratic society.

In the case of Namibia the United Nations Institute for Namibia was established to prepare Namibian refugees for the future social, economic and administrative tasks and roles that await them. No equivalent institution exists at this point in time in case of South Africa.

In fact, the main rationale of INSAS will be to offer courses of study orientated specifically to the South African situation. In other words when education is being studied the curriculum will involve the history of the South African education system, its present philosophy and components, and the various alternatives being put forward.

In the same way the study of political philosophy and political institution will examine the political ideas specifically current within South African political discourse, the policies of the various political groups in South Africa, and the contemporary political structures and institutions existing and proposed.

These studies will be primarily intended to prepare young people for a future useful and relevant role in South African society. In the first place they would prepare these young people for future education (either academic or vocational).

INSAS would also be preparing young South Africans for a future career in the public service of a future liberated South Africa.

INSAS would prepare young people for exposure to the international community and the concomitant international issues by equipping them with basic concepts and techniques of contemporary social science.

However INSAS will also pay attention to the leadership level of the National Liberation Movement by organising upgrading seminars in subjects such as economics and public administration. In this way INSAS will make a contribution on ensuring that the leadership of the democratic movement is prepared for its own future role and tasks within the unfolding South African scenario.

4. SPECIAL PROJECTS

INSAS will also undertake special projects whenever a particular need or urgency requires.

An example of such a special project would be the compilation and creation of a working glossary of socio-political and economic terms in the various indigenous languages spoken in South Africa.

The lack of any proper and accepted glossary of political and economic terminology of this kind is at present a great handicap in the proper communication of social scientific concepts to a much broader section of South Africans.

Other special projects may include working with a visiting lecturer or reseacher.

5. INITIAL ESTIMATES

The INSAS program would probably begin with an initial 25 or so students.

Staff would need to include at least an administrator, two teachers and one technical and support person.

6. PRIORITY NEEDS

Building constrauction is the first priority of this stage of the INSAS undertaking. A venue needs urgently to be established capable of accommodating an initial 25 or so students as well as staff. This would need to include:-

3 Classrooms

An Assembly Hall

Library

Store-room

Administrative Offices

Kitchen/Canteen

Sleeping Dormitories

Staff Housing

Following the completion of the building furniture would be immediately needed such as:-

Desks
Chairs
Tables
Beds
Bookshelves
Cup- and Cabinets boards
Stoves and Fridges

At the same time suitable transport of at least one vehicle, most appropriately a four-wheel drive landcruiser, would be essential.

7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION

In the case of running and recurrent expenditures, up-keep of staff and students, on-going administration expenses, repair and maintenance expenses, personal and allowances, travel, medical expenses, postage, phones and telex, etc; these costs will be covered by the ANC's central budget from general fundraising

Thus all monies requested for in case of INSAS are for the direct capital expenses needed to realise the project.

This means that all funds raised for INSAS will be utilised directly for the INSAS project as laid out in the relevant documentation and accounted for accordingly. No monies raised on this basis will be used for personal allowances, general maintenance, rents or administration fees of any kind.

In this way a donor may see maximum benefit in terms of the project for which the funds were allocated; in this case the actual physical structures and infra-structures for the badly-needed Institute for South African Studies to become a reality.

8. SUMMATION

INSAS is an essential project at this stage of the struggle for democracy and human rights in South Africa.

It is above all a practical programme aimed primarily at developing young people for useful and productive roles in the future non-racial South African community.

Although modest in its initial aims and objectives, INSAS has the potential to take on increasing importance along the lines of the United Nations Institute for Namibia; that is to say in building the embryo of a well-informed and educated civil service for a democratic South Africa.

Although at the moment land, students, staff and clear programme of action exist; the actual venue (building) needs urgently to be established. Funds are therefore needed for capital expenditures for construction, furniture and transport.

Any memorandum of agreement will clearly state the purpose to which funds raised are to be used and the funds will be accounted for accordingly.

Wed, Mar 22, 1989