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EATLAQAE_COMMITTEE_MEEJIQQ

18 September 1991

Present:

Ms V. Meyer V/ , /

Mr J. Samuel v/' M caduz/Vbdqa

Dr F. Auerbach Vat4%;

Ms P. Orpen

Mr M. Mphahlele/vaaga

Ms 3. Watson N.

M. 77k! / Mcawk .

APOLOGI 8: None

CHAIRPERSON: Barbara Watson

Each member of the committee was given two documents: Rbgortfbrthe gt/agae owghtMm/gtee and Backgroundwoocummt on gheBat/agae Tru_.g_t. At the start of the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting had not yet arrived. Consequently there were no matters arising from the previous meeting that we were aware of. There were only three items on the agenda:

1. The report of the Executive director
2. NCCR update
- 3 Any other business

Appreciation was expressed for the report which the Executive Director had prepared - it was generally felt that it consolidated and articulated clearly the concerns of the Trust.

Mohammad Tlkly apologized that the report that he had written had not been circulated prior to the meeting, and assured members of the Trust that they would be in future. Grave concern was expressed at perceptions that there is a separation of the NCCR and the Batlagae Trust.

prepared. (Entitled "Report for the Batlagae Oversight committee" and dated 17 September 1991)

Franz Auerbach pointed out that it was imperative that we identify who it is that is responsible for the setting up of schools for returnees. He argued that it had been thought that neither the ANC nor the NCCR were in any position to be able to do so. The question then arises of whether the state should be responsible. However in terms of our own report drawn up by the team who went to Tanzania, state schools would be inappropriate because of a variety of reasons.

John Samuel said that he felt that it was the thinking of the ANC that the NCCR is responsible for the bringing back of the returnees

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and that once they were here, that the state is repsonsible. While they are conscious that we are not necessariy going to get this, a compromise was reached.

NCCR stated that the NCCR is able to assist with once off and limited educational grants but that more than this was impossible,

since the organisation does not even have an educational convener. but the trust was reminded that the UNHCR is constantly suggesting that the government should be approached.

The question of our identifying temporary and appropriate pieces for these children was raised, since it is clear that all of the places that the government has selected have been in particularly conservative - one of the schools which does seem appropriate is Bialrigowrie. Michael Corke has raised Bialrigowrie with some of the relevant local authorities, but seems to have got no further than this.

It was felt that there are two issues which the grouping had to deal with:

1. Where does the Batiagae Trust belong? What are its links with the NCCR? What lines of accountability are there?

2. It was pointed out that time is running out, that some of the teachers have left already and that the children are extremely restless.

It is clear that discussions with the state have clearly broken down, and we need to assess whether to ask President Mandeia to take this issue up with the State President?

It was proposed that the NCCR accepts the work of the Batiagae Trust as one of its projects since its role would include taking responsibility for the return and reception of the children and facilitating the placing of them.

It was decided that Venita would set up a meeting between Frank Chikane. Brother Jude, Mohammad, Michael Corke and Venita. It was proposed that Mohammed go through the report that he presented in this meeting of the Batiagae Trust. It was felt that this meeting should take place prior to the meeting of the NEC next Thursday. This would inform both Frank and Brother Jude of precisely where we stand.

Furthermore it was proposed that Mohammad present this (sport to the NEC next Thursday so that the concerns could be clarified. Venita agreed to fax copies of the reports to Brother Jude and to Frank Chikane.

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in accordance with NCCR policy and

The purpose of this proposed meeting
responsibility for this project and to clarify what our mandate is
and to determine whom it is that we are accountable to (It was
suggested that according to the history of this committee. we
should be accountable to the National Education Task Force since
it was out of a meeting of this structure that the sub-committee
was formed.)

It was suggested that Mohammed meet with the ANC Repatriation
committee to fill them in on the recent developments, and to ask
them to send a representative to the Batiagae Trust meetings.

(Caleb Bush used to be the representative and has not been
replaced.)

Finally it was suggested that it was important that Mohammad find
out what the PAC was planning to do about the repatriation of its
members.

Batlagae Oversight Committee

Minutes of a meeting concerning the repatriation of students attending Somafo in Tanzania, held on Friday, 6 September at St Barnabas College

Present: M A S Corke (Chairman), S thenyana, L Mabandla, V Meyer, A Papenfus, M Tikly

Update on Developments

The Chairman informed the committee that the Batlagae Trust has met and formalized its existence.

He brought the committee up to date on his communications with Ministers Venter and van der Merwe's offices. While all are in agreement about the dispersal of the younger students, the state and the oversight committee have reached an impasse over the establishment of a reception centre/school; the government refuses to assist with the search for premises unless its officials are allowed to be part of the task team going to Tanzania. To surmount this hurdle, the ANC encouraged the Chairman to address the press, through the Anglican Church. The Chairman has also informed J Hattingh that if the government were more co-operative about locating premises, the oversight committee (through the ANC) might try to re-open negotiations with the Tanzanians concerning the visit of government officials to Somafo.

M Tikly has been appointed director of the Somafo repatriation effort.

The Chairman reminded the committee that it must raise funds to pay the salary of the director. The Chairman has submitted a proposal to the German Embassy. M Tikly will submit subsequent proposals. A small amount of the Rhodes Trust seed money for Batlagae in the St Barnabas Outreach Fund has been used to hire M Tikly a car for the month of September.

Potential Sites

The Chairman reported that Stilfontein mine has been investigated and rejected; the same is true for Langlaate technical school. The Natal press has resurrected St Elmo's, and Nigel and Blairegowrie are possible. A Papenfus suggested investigating an old mining compound and school, Qatema, as well as seven floors available of an office block in Braamfontein. She also said that the old B G Alexander Nurses Home in Dornfontein is worth investigating.

A Papenfus said that the oversight committee should target those sites that it knows the government would be prepared to give.

M Tikly reiterated the urgency with which a site must be found (because the Somafo students' classes have ended and they are waiting to return), and stressed the fact that the government must find and donate the property; going about the matter in the private sector will take too long. S thenyana added that a task force would be unwise to visit Somafo until it could assure the students of the date of their return and of there being a reception centre in South Africa to accommodate them.

V Meyer encouraged the committee to consider that its mission might not be feasible; perhaps all of the returnees should be scattered around the country. She doubted that the government would be forthcoming with premises.

The Chairman suggested that the oversight committee might contact Mr Mandela, asking him to encourage Mr de Klerk to reaffirm his promise that the government assist in this repatriation effort.

L Mabandla explained that the ANC considers this effort to be a priority and that he and M Tikly have sought guidance from Mr Sisulu about the impasse. L Mabandla suggested that the oversight committee members from the ANC draft a memo to be sent to Mr Mandela outlining the impasse, and asking him to contact Mr de Klerk about it. Mr Mandela should ask Mr de Klerk to provide premissis and funding as was originally promised. S thenyana suggested that the memo contain the names of available government properties and the Chairman added that the memo should reiterate Batlagae's concern for exiles at large, and of the potential for this effort to give birth to an adult education centre that would benefit young, educationally deprived South Africans who had never raft the country.

NCCR

V Meyer reported that at a meeting of the NEC of the NCCR, Rev F Chikane expressed his embarassment about Dr Venter's August announcement that the NCCR had agreed to join a task force going to Tanzania, joined by government officials. Rev Chikane also queried the Batlagae Oversight Committee's present status and the NCCR's role in its work. The committee noted Rev Chikane's observations and questions.

V Meyer reported that the UNHCR has established itself in South Africa; its Pretoria office will be up and running in three to four months. She suggested that the committee ask the UNHCR to contact Mr de Klerk as well about the impasse, and that it encourage the UNHCR to regard the Somafo children as a test project. She said that they might have government pull that Batlagae has been unable to cultivate, and that this might be the fastest way to bring the children home. (Once it is running, exiles will be required by the government to return through the UNHCR).

M Tikly and S thenyana said that the UNHCR may be of assistance to Batlagae--both in an advisory capacity and financially--in the long term, but that they will not be up and running soon enough to assist at present.

Nevertheless, UNHCR representatives will be in Johannesburg this weekend, and V Meyer agreed to arrange for the Chairman and L Mabandla to meet with them, if possible. S thenyana said that by Monday, the ANC's own arrangements with the UNHCR will have been solidified.

Involvement of Other Political Organizations

The Chairman said that he would arranue for M Tikly to meet with Batlagae trustee W Seriti of the PAC.

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Michael Corke - CPSA

Neil McGurc - IE

Lindelwe Mabandla - ANC Education Department

Sindiso . - ANC; (NBC)

Caleb Bush - ANC (OCRPE)

Franz Auerbach - NCCR

Hadia Ismail - SAAIA

Barbara Watson - SACRED HEART COLLEGE

Venita Meyer - NCCR

Minutg gng Mangers Am' ing

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- Brother Neil McGurc and Marjan Cumminst names had been misspelt.

- Mr Michael Corke's name was inadvertently omitted from the names of person on the oversight committee and was included.

The Minutes were then accepted as a correct reflection of the proceedings.

Matteg Arising

Venita Meyer reported that both the PAC and AZAPO had been contacted.

They were to let her know of the names of their representatives on the trust.

She reported that she had also invited them to this meeting. Michael Corke said that the issue was urgent and he required the names as the Trust Fund needed to be registered as soon as possible.

Venita Meyer said that she could take responsibility for getting the details from the organization. Other details which were required was: -

- Date of Birth

- Occupation

- Whether the trustee had any experience in the working of trust companies

Cont. . ./2

(b)

Similar details were required about John Samuel and Lindelwe Mabandla took responsibility for letting Michael Corke know of this.

Other Matters arising were separate items on the Agenda.

Egpgn Bagk 9n Mating with me mvgrnmngnt

Neil McGurc reported that 2 meetings had been held with Stoffel van der Merwe. There were problems in all the Education Departments, as there was tremendous mistrust and the right wing was in turmoil and wanted the joint working group stopped immediately.

There had however been alot of sympathy and it was felt by the Government to be a welfare, as well as an Educational problem and it was thought to be important to draw in Rina Venters Ministry.

Neil McGurc felt the placement of these children (-i-- 100 orphans) should be handled by the ANC Welfare Desk and other Organizations.

Neil McGurc handed out copies of a letter from the Department of Education (Adriaan Nortje) in which we are referred to Mike Bester of Home Affairs and Dr Joos Hattingh of Department of National Health. The meeting felt that we nwded as little bureaucracy as possible - Pastoral Care was an integral part of education. What was required was a Venue and the most helpful Department would be the Department of Planning and Provincial Affairs.

School Venug

Stilfontein - Mr Corke said that he had not visited it. It had apparently been an old mine compound and did not sound suitable.

St Elmo; - was available. It was situated 70km out of Durban. The question of security was however a factor to be taken into consideration. It was felt that in order to establish whether Government was prepared to make a venue available, we should meet with the respective government departments. In particular Department of Planning and Provincial Affairs.

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It was felt that the fund should be set up and a place kept for Azapo or PAC. The Trust would be raise and disburse funds to the Steering Committee.

NM: It was decided that the Trust be called the BATLAGAE Trust Fund.

The appointment of g Dimtgrzggtgrdinatglf

Neil McGurc said that an application had been received from Marius Schoon; who had knowledge of the situation at Somafo as he had taught there for a few years and then worked as an Administrator.

The ANC representatives present, knew him and felt he was very suitable.

He needed to travel overseas to finalise some arrangements and would be gone for 2 weeks, but it was decided that he be requested to delay his trip, to work on immediate details.

It was suggested he be paid -!-- R5000.00 per month.

An interview with him was arranged for Wednesday 12/6/91. He would be interviewed by Lindelwe Mabandla, Michael Corke, Neil McGurc and Franz Auerbach at St Barnabas. It was stressed that his major initial function would be on the ground work and not fundraising.

6. Reception Plans

It was felt that we should work with the 1/7/91 in mind;

The children would stay at the school for 6-18 months, depending on their re-integration.

Although 2 schools were agreed on initially, it was not financially viable, as overheads would be doubled. '

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The figure of -t-- 653 could rise to 1,000 if people were coming from Zimbabwe, Lusaka, Dukwe etc.

Children to be placed in one institution

St Enders had 130 places available. They should be requested to keep places until next year.

The main plan is to find a school where -t-- 500 children can be accommodated and educated - There was agreement on this.

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- Mr Corke was working on the Budget.

- The Trust would have to find R2.18 million for 18 months.

The Government should be approached for funding. It was suggested that Mr Jackie Selebi, the head of OCRPE be asked to speak to Government as he already had contact. If he is to do this alone he needs to sit on the Steering Committee. He should preferably be included in the group who had discussions with Government Ministries.

- Michael Corke and Venita Meyer to look at possible buildings.

Adriaan Nortje to be contacted.

It was also mentioned that Anglo America had a building available in Carltonville.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING WAS SET TENTATIVELY AT 9:00, AT ST BARNABAS COLLEGE.

BATLAGAE STEERING COMNIITTEE

PROPOSED AGENDA

WES AND MATTERS ARISING / ,5 ,C

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MELOPMENTS

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Minutes of a meeting concerning the repatriation of the children at Somafo in Tanzania held at St Barnabas College on Wednesday, 4 September, 1991.

Present: M A S Corke, L Habandla, M Tikly

In Attendance: H Jones, C Young

ANC Task Group

L Mabandla reported on the ANC's 2 September task group meeting. where the Somafo repatriation effort was reviewed. The group is frustrated that the government has failed to find a Site and provide funds (based on House of Assembly rates), despite the fact that former Minister of National Education, Stoefel van der Merwe, _ promised as much. While it will not be completely up and running for three months, the United Nations High Commission on Refugees has _ established itself in South Africa; its new offices are in Pretoria. . L Mabandla said that the Oversight Committee (through V Meyer), needs to clarify the UNHCR's involvement; he suspects that they will want to be involved only temporarily, offering some funding for a _ . six-month period. The ANC Department of Welfare is eager to minimize the involvement at the TPA #Tnaasgaatzasev\$55;34 Aanaeagepctina.e:1::&ee) whose involvement would be curbed by the Child Welfare Act's under 18 age limit anyway. Most of the Somafo students returning are over 18 years at age.

The task group will re-evaluate the project in one-week. A sight must be found immediately for the establishment of a reception centre because the ANC hopes that the children will return in early October. Some Somafo students will probably return as early as the end of this week.

Communication with Government Officials

M A S Corke brought the group up to date on his dealings with the government. He has been urged by Mr Bernard Lowe (Minister van der Merwe's assistant), to work with Minister Rina Venter of the Department at Health and Population Development; she is now responsible for the government's role in the project. In her 2 September letter to M A S Corke, she avoids taking responsibility for finding a site. and confirms that Batlagae-government negotiations will not proceed until government officials are allowed to visit Somafo.

L Mabandla responded that the decision for government officials to visit Somafo rests not with the ANC but with the Tanzanian government. As a matter of principle, the Tanzanians are inflexible on this point. They were also offended by the South African government's maneuvering with the British to gain entry.

Strategies for Overcoming the Impasse

The Press--The group agreed that reports of the government-Batlagae impasse in the press might help to overcome it. The source of the reports will be the Anglican Church. M A S Corke will consult Archbishop Tutu about how to proceed.

Democratic Party--M A S Corke will reiterate Batlagae's interest in acquiring Blairgowrie High School.

While this will be the first step, the group might have to pursue the following options:

UNHCR--L Mabandla suggested that the government might accept a report on Somafo from UN officials who might accompany Batlagae members on a visit to the school.

Memo to Mandela--L Mabandla might write a memo to Messrs Mandela or Mbeki asking that they reopen the question of South African government officials visiting Somafo with the Tanzanian government. L Mabandla said that this might be a dead-end.

.Contacting the State President - Mr. A. B. Cork. might write! Prehid'nt d.
Klerk reminding him of his a
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Somafo stud . and the statement with " "ahde a
site and funding.
h Promises to Batlagae regarding a
procedures through
He might ask p 1' e the
Perhaps pressure from the
. community overcome the impasse and
EXPEDITE the students'
Fundraising
M Tikly will begin
. . 13 million funding proposal to be submitted to
Botenthal U B and
European funders, as well as the Independent
Development Trust.

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Batlagae Oversight Committee

Minutes of a meeting concerning the repatriation of children from SOMAFCO in Tanzania held at St Barnabas College on Saturday, 20 July, 1991.

Present: Archie Abrahams, Caleb Bush, Marjan Cummins, Michael Corke, Lindelwe Mabandla, Klaas Mashishi, V Meyer, Barbara Watson

Apologies: Franz Auerbach, Maria Corke Neil McGurk, Pat Orpen, Rams Ramokgopa

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the 16, 18, and 19 July meetings were taken as read and approved.

NCCR Report

A Abraham: said that the committee needs to clarify its relationship and improve its communications with the National Coordinating Committee for Repatriation. Despite the fact that F Auerbach has tabled documentation at NCCR National Executive Committee (NBC), meetings and V Meyer has kept the National Director updated on the Batlagae committee's work, the Executive knows very little about the committee's progress and problems. Its ignorance has inspired misdirected concern about V Meyer's signing the Hillview Centre agreement with the government in her capacity as a representative of the NCCR on the Batlagae Committee. A Abraham: suggested that the committee report directly to the NEC. All agreed that V Meyer will keep the NBC and Executive Director informed of the everyday workings of the committee. She and M Corke will report to the dual Chairmen of the NCCR concerning larger issues and decisions facing the trust committee. V Meyer said that the NCCR does: acknowledge the good work that the committee is doing; it is concerned, however, about the committee's bumpy dealings with the government.

The Committee's Communications with the Government

V Meyer said that it is inappropriate for only certain individuals to meet with government officials and to make decisions without the committee's knowledge and consent. M Corke added that several times the committee has had to repudiate decisions made at such meetings; a fact that makes the committee look incompetent. The committee also relinquishes more control to the government in such moments. Both C Bush and A Abraham: explained that in meetings with government officials about other ANC-government matters, Batlagae inevitably comes up. However, they agreed that all decisions should be made in consultation with the committee.

The committee asked M Corke to approach Ministers Venter and van der Merwe to oppose the school's being registered with the state.

School Location

V Meyer listed a number of government-recommended sites. The committee added three sites to that list: Eskom property at Henley-on-Klip, a school and dormitory in Langlaate, and space available at a school in Kangwane. All were to be discussed in the 22 July meeting in Pretoria. M Corke said that the school's location is a committee decision, not a government one.

Security

M Corke said that the committee must demand from the police a plan for how to secure the school and the official report on the investigation of the Hillview bombing. A Abrahams said that the ANC

will suggest a person to work with the police on the investigation; it is crucial that an ANC member participate to encourage the pursuit of the truth. M Corke will seek an interview with Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok.

Funding

M Corke reported that the Whas donated o the St Barnabas Outreach fund for the oversight committee as ' .

8 Watson suggested that the trust have its own W.

; A Abrahams stated that this repatriation effort should be government '2 funded, and that the committee should focus on this. He also mentioned that several European countries are interested in making donations to the trust. C Bush reiterated the importance on 'adopting Mohammad Tickly to the trust committee to-assiet With afldraising.

M Corke will oversee the drafting of

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Search for the Program Director

M Corke said that the selection committee, F Auerbach, M Corke, L Mabandla, and N McGurk, would try to convene and interview potential candidates early during the week of 22 July.

Trust Memebtrs on MMC Sub-committees

M A Abrahams, and Beeftie

w P Auerbach, C Bush, M Cummins, L Mabandla, P Orpen

W Maria Corke, V Meyer, A Papenfus

R- w a "-31-: gezwr A Abraham: and Maria Corke

% Ihelperson selected to be the project director will serve on 'i.is commfttee. .

. W: B Watson. The committee asked 8 Watson to

.contact t e apartment of Social Welfare Services. Perhaps

together they can redirect the sub-committee's attention away from the proposed trip to Tanzania and onto more relevant and pressing issues. V Meyer added that this sub-committee should consider the hiring of a psychologist, physician and attorney.

M A Abrahams said that the trust committee and

e governmmen need to form a sub-committee that will oversee all of the legal paperwork--consent forms, adoption papers, etc.

Strategy for Meeting in Pretoria on Monday 22 July

M Corke said that he would report selectively on his meeting with a diplomat at the British Embassy. He will chide the Department of Home Affairs for giving the committee only 24 hours notice about the fund appeal it intended to make to the British on the SOMAFCO children's behalf. And he said that he would report that the money the British have agreed to donate will be taken from funds already glloiated by the British for South African repatriation efforts.

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Abrahams added.

amnesty.

The committee agreed that it would keep a record of its own minutes of the government meetings.

C Bush said that the committee needs to suggest the development of a support committee in Natal to oversee the development of the school at St Elmo's -- a plan to which the government is completely opposed, at present.

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Minutes of a meeting concerning the repatriation and education of children from SOMAFCO in Tanzania, held at St Barnabas College on Monday, 17 June, 1991.

In Attendance: Archie Abrahams (ANC), Franz Auerbach (NCCR), Caleb Bush (ANC), Michael Corke (Anglican Church), Joos Hattingh (National Health), Louis Kok (Home Affairs), Jeanette Myburgh (SANCCW), Michael Stroebel (Home Affairs), Henna van Vuuren (SANCCW), Tok van Vuuren (DET), G P van der Hesthuizen (Home Affairs)

The participants agreed on an agenda and on Mr Corke as Chairman.

Citizenship

C Bush reported that he has

t- J Hattingh's report

children have Hiiigdiillband will need, as L Kok explained, their original names and new identity documents issued to that effect. Other children have one South African parent and one Tanzanian parent. Some parents were never married, and some have died. Such facts raise legal questions about the coming of the children unaccompanied or accompanied by a foreign born parent, to South Africa.

Most of the children, because they are below 18 years of age, will not require indemnity. However, some young adults will.

The ANC will make sure that M and

Nate filled out and submitted to the government for each child.

The children will all have received W.

In response to J Hattingh and M Corke's questions about orphans, J Myburgh and H van Vuuren agreed to devise ' -ur-wam' m-for unaccompanied children to be signed by their 1. In Tanzania, permitting them to come to South Africa alone. A Abraham: added that most orphaned children will have a contact relative or family friend in South Africa.

The legal custody of a number of children will have to be settled in It was agreed that the ANC would collect and provide more detailed background information on each child to the Department of Home Affairs and to SANCCFW. Later, J Hattingh added that included in each child's report should be his/her education history.

Destination of Children/Phasing of Their Return

While some of the expected 400-600 returning children will immediately disperse to friends and relatives all over South Africa, the majority of the children will have no specific place to go.

There were several discussions on this point. While the participants representing the government suggested placing the children in schools all over the country, the representatives from the ANC and the Church argued that it is in the best interest of the children for them to remain together. Keeping the community intact will provide the children with the emotional support that they will need from each other to adjust, and all of the children will need six months of preparatory schooling to enable them to survive in South African schools. They agreed that the PWV area would be the most suitable location for the school. Mr Corke added that the recurring problems in DET schools make them an unacceptable alternative for the SOMAFCO

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children.

While the ANC had hoped to transport the children by air to South Africa over a three week period in groups of 150 at the end of June, all agreed that such a scheme is unfeasible. First, the information on the children must be collected, expenditures and funding sources must be identified, and accomodation must be arranged. ,

Education Needs

Again the group discussed the --A

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While the children are proficient in English, they will need to learn Afrikaans. Determining their level of education has already been done by the team of educators who visited SOMOFKO in April; they used Joint Matriculation Board level materials to evaluate the children.

F Auerbach pointed out that many of the children speak fluent Swahili and asked about the potential for allowing them to count proficiency in Swahili toward their high school requirements. M Corke responded that in his future discussions with the Minister of Education and Training and with the Chairmen of the 'J-Wand

.the W. he will raise again the

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Accomodation

M Corke reported on two potential sites. One was at St Elmo's School in Natal. Because of the political and cultural violence there at present, the group agreed that St Elmo's is an unacceptable site.

Also rejected was the Minister's offer of a site at the iiiiI-lilinb II... Not only are the buildings on site unconducive to establishing a school, but also the area is a dying one; recruiting teachers could be difficult.

All agreed that the school should be located near Johannesburg. F Auerbach asked if J Hattingh could enquire with the TED about such accomodation. J Myburgh, in response to a question by M Corke, reported that the buildings of the old Johannesburg Children's Home will be vacant (they are presently occupied by Sagewood School), soon, but that they can only accomodate 120 children and are not suitable to the needs of the Somofco children.

A Abrahamson said that at present, accomodation is the most pressing issue, and he asked for a committment from the government to find a suitable venue as soon as possible. M Corke suggested that the group hire a professional to do a property search, and he agreed to artange for this.

D Hattingh made the point that it will be much easier and quicker for the government to find accomodation for the children in different regions of the country, than it will to find a single venue that 1 large enough. Despite this reality, the group agreed that it must

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M Corke commented that the group must make explicit plans for the children after the initial phase of their coming to South Africa. Transport to South Africa

og.i3s vehioigs in Tanzania baok to South Africa and asked if the c 1 ren cou be transported in them. All agreed that the moving of 500-600 children in such a way would be very dangerous. Flight would be the preferable mode of transportation. A Abrahamson said that South African Airlines has given a 40% concession to the repatriation effort, and that this discount might apply in the case of these

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children. Arranging for SAA'a landing in Tanzania might be a problem. A Abrahams said that the children could be transported by train to Lusaka and board planes from there.

Budget

To what extent will the government be involved? M Stroebe said that he had received no information on this matter. J Harttingh said that he would need to prepare a memo to be sent to the cabinet. He told the group that he feels responsible for the children and is eager for their return and reintegration to progress smoothly. He appealed to the group for more time to enable him to do his job properly.

C Bush responded that the teachers and students at SOMAFCO intend to shut down a large segment of the school (that accomodates preschool, primary, and junior secondary students) at the end of the term in June (forms 4 and 5 will complete their secondary education at the school). And that they made this decision based on the expectation that the children would be traveling to South Africa by then. He said that unfulfilled expectations are damaging to the group's efforts to assist the people at SOMAFCO, and urged the group to be as vigilant as possible in completing its tasks speedily.

.Date of the Next Meeting

The next heeting will be held on Monday, 24 June at 10 am at St Barnabas College. If the meeting is unnecessary, J Hattingh will inform the participants by telefax.

HJ/MASC

JOHANNESBURG 3/