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INKATHA FREEDOM PAâ\200\230RTY..â\200\230 ; 0.

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'AIDS drugs,

* - US GUINELINES for treatin

... ot support President Tha

â\200\234Z+; Simon Barber

HIV/AIDS do

Mbeki's de-

= clslon ta deny ;mtlrelnfwltafA drugs to SA

% patients in the publlic health

system, the

cochalrman of the commitiee which

* drew up the guldelines for the US health

...Â« thony Fauel of

* % Health heads

- anslble for

z mentâ\200\231s stance on

v wrole:

â\200\234llects

- department fias said.

Dr John Bartlett â\200\224 who with Dr An-

the Natlional Institutes of
the panel of experts re-

the recommendations

In defence of govern-

antiretroviral drugs â\200\224

â\200\234l expect that this declsion re.

elther misinformation or a Dias

Â© that has no scientifie foundationâ\204ç,

Bartlett, head of the Infeclions dis-
easc divislon of John IHopking university
medical school In Baltimore, was re.
sponding by e-mail Lo a renuest for com-
ment on Mbok('s tlefence of his AIDS pol-
ley InParliament last month,

A spokesman for Faue! referred Bust-
ness Day to Bartlett (or reaction to Mbe-
ki's use of the guidelines. Mbekl said gov-
ernmentâ\200\231s denial of antiretrovirals to pa-
tients who cannot obtain them privately
was supported by (he guldelines, specll-
lally â\200\234where they have sald these drugs

heki has cited

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eki m_isii~\201for

med on

says expert

are as dmngÃ©rous 10 health s the things Â°

they are supposed to treatâ\200\235,

The US health department â\200\234strongly.â\200\235
advocates antiretroviral drugs for pa- i

tlents who qualif

stated in the guldelines,â\200\235 Bartlett wrote,

by the criteria that are Â°

Quallllyng candidates are Jdentified Â\$I.

In the

ncute HIV g

fuidollnes as â\200\234all pallents with *
IV syndrome, those within six oy

monthsg of HIV seroconverslon, and all

aticnts with

" infection.â\200\235
should also
their immune cell counts fall below a cer-
tain level, the guidelines state.
â\200\234This has been a miracle form of ther-
apy that has resulted in a 60% to 80%

Asymptomatic

symptoms ascribed to HIV .-
patients
receive antiretrovirals if

reduction in AIDS-related deaths, hospital +

talisations, and other
lated to HIV, Bartlett wrote. â\200\234These
drugs, like all drugs, have side effects
that need to be dealt with, The good out-
weighs the bad and 'It's not close. I don't
know of any respected physician who
would deter the use of these dru-
g treatments with AIDS because of side effects.â\200\235
Bartlett said that while Jie would not
feel comfortable speaking for the entire
panel without its
strongly believes in the benefits of anti-
retroviral therapyâ\200\235,

complications re- :*

Specifically-

specific approval, â\200\234it
would be very safe to sayâ\200\234that the panel .

iNo. P.01/14
5.Nov. 2001 13:26 INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY No.b482 P

SOWETAN Moriday Nexenber 5.2001

* ANC pushes for
speedy merger

i By Khangale Makhade
" Political Correspondent

. WORKING groups alming to foster a
- working relationship between the

~. African National Congress (ANC) amt

_ the New National Party (NNP) should
meel urgently o expedite the envisaged
. cooperntion between (he two partles,

"~ The decision was faken m the

wi weekend by an ANC speelal national

executive committee meeting called lo

" interrognte the enivisaged â\200\234murtiageâ\200\235

- between the two paties. The meeting
â\200\234lso looked at the niling ANC-Cosaty-
SACP tripartite alliance,

The new political developments come
o atathme when the NNP and its main nllly
Â© the Democeatic Pty - which fotmed the
Demacratc Alliance - have split.

ANC spokesman Smuts Ngonyama
soid the relattonship, which is to exist on
Â© the hasls of cooperation at all levels of
poverpinent. woukl however not lmpact
on the organisationsâ\200\235 identity, autoiomy
and the atticulntion of policies and pro-
grammes, fle said thot they needed to
understand that the lwo organisations
cntme from different hackgronnds.

Ngonyynma sakd that the NNP g
* tindergone a long evolutionary process but

â\200\234temaing an important politien] force intent

on transcending Hs past and contributing
positltvely to the country's future.

â\200\234The relntionship should include
among s strategie objectives (he
building of a true South African patrio-
tism as part of the cffort (o â\200\230deracialiseâ\200\231
our socicly and develop n unity of pur-
Pose lo confront (he great challenges of
our country,â\200\235 Ngonyamn said.

The NNP yesterdny welcomed the
ANCâ\200\231s announcement, saying it had al)

the potential to start 0 new cra in South African polities. However, i (he weekend's events are anything to go hy, the ANC mny have to wait longer while the NNP tries to sort Itself out following widespread defiance by members who want lo remin part of the DA.

In Mpuralinga at the weekend more than 70 of the provinee's councillors are

reported (o have unanitmously put their .

welght behind the DA, This follows sim-

e support for NNP Westorn Cape

leader Gerald Morkel against joining forces with the rling porty. -

The NNP yesterday said that g Worcester meeting where support for the DF wns expressed was â\200\234nlimed at under- mining the NNP federal council's deci- slon and destablising the partyâ\204ç,

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LNKATHA FREEDOM PARTYI

Q1 Monday No m

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â\200\230Hï-\201IV-Aids

fundlng
to rise

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By Charlty Bhengu

FUNDING for tIV-Aids pro-
grimmes will increase in the nex
three yen:s amd most will go
directly 1 provinees (o strengthen
arcas most affected by he discase,
Healih Mivister Manto â\200\230Tshabalah-
Msimung s:id yesterday,

The minister was addressing

Â» health workers o pepresentitives
- of various religious coninunitivs af
. Standard Bk Aremy in Johannes-
: burg yesterdoy during a cereiony

o celebuate e diy {or heultheare

praviders,

â\200\234The hospital and clinic man-
agers at service Jevl know where
the pressire is geestest nnd they will
decide whether 10 spend this on
drug supplies, Liburatory services
or reeruitment of pursing staflâ\200\231 or

doctors,â\200\235â\204¢ she snil, 1 st reassure _

you that the ailocation of (hix
money will in soe way ease the

birrden that IIEV-Aids iy udding on

yuur duily work activities,

The minister added that the
Government Iy taking weasires (o -

ensure improved quality of care,
especially for, those infected with
andâ\200\231 nlfw.lc by HIV- Aids.
The Gimeng department of
health had set aside R 20 million for -
HIV-AID from i 2001-2001
budget, but is looking at increasing !
this figure. Most of the money was

used on HIV-Aids awareness e
paigns,
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