

LuH/o/a/MZS/L

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS & CULTURE

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14 May 1992

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE RE :

THE GRAHAMSTOWN FESTIVAL

THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS.

PAWE, ACAC, FAWO, SAMA, AND THE GCC,

WHICH ARE CONSTITUTIVE OF THE JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE TO

MEET WITH THE GRAHAMSTOWN FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING MISSION STATEMENT:

1.1. Arts and Culture in the broadest sense of the word have the potential to actively contribute to the unification of the South African nation, and must play an important part in

bringing about understanding and tolerance among the people of this land.

1.2. Arts and Culture manifests themselves in diverse forms in South Africa, both as a result of the cultural diversity of the South African people, and in terms of the various art

forms that are practised locally.

2.1. The National Arts Festival has to give expression to this diversity by ensuring the broadest possible participation in the festival.

2.2. Aspects of representativity and accountability of the festival can be addressed by organising regional arts festivals, at which cultural groups can be selected that should go on

to perform at the National Arts and Culture Festival.

3.1. The opening up of the festival to participants from the African continent and from abroad would create possibilities of exporting South African culture as well as stimulating

tourism to the area where the National Arts and Culture Festival is held. "We recommend strongly that within the joint commission there should be a component that deals with international aspects and that that commission will consult with relevant structures on these

issues.' The festival could thus contribute to various aspects of development in South

Africa, which this working group regards as important.

4. This working committee regards the above mentioned points as central to its task of ensuring that the National Arts and Culture Festival reflects the aspirations of the societal

constitution of our country.

It is therefore essential that all decisions made by the joint working committee in conjunction with the Grahamstown Festival Committee are legally binding.

The joint working committee should be able to assume particular projects on an ongoing basis and to fund such projects with the help of the Grahamstown Festival Committee.