

Treasury M.K. ✓
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Conference of African Governmental Experts on Technical
Cooperation Among African Countries on Human Resources,
Development and Utilisation.

Libreville (Gabon) 2 - 11 August, 1982

Points Arising from Bilateral Discussions

This Conference was devoted to the specific area of Human Resources (Manpower) within a broader on-going programme of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC). This one was for the Africa Region.

1. A N C Participation

It is vital that we follow up all areas of activity within this TCDC programme. We should unfailingly respond to any similar invitations and make maximum use of the existing goodwill among African countries to assist us in practical areas of national development which is the central theme of TCDC.

The Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Regional Director for Africa - Mr Michel Doo KINGUE - made a special point of reference in this regard and emphasised that their efforts in facilitating our participation in such gatherings can only be made effectively beneficial by our own initiative and direct contacts with relevant governmental bodies in each country, particularly members of SADCC.

2. ECA/MULPOC

Mr P TEMU, Senior Economic Affairs Officer in the Economic Cooperation Office of the E C A in Addis Ababa, confirmed that they had received the document outlining our ideas on the "Socio-Economic Study of South Africa project. The E C A would use the forthcoming meeting of the Southern Africa Labour Commission to be held in Gaborone to make further consultations. They would thereafter work on a definitive draft project which would be sent to Lusaka for our consideration.

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BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS

Our delegation held bilateral discussions with quite a number of participant delegations, including those of Malagasy, Nigeria, Tanzania, Angola, Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana. All these expressed encouragement of our new efforts in the economic arena and declared their readiness to assist whenever called upon to do so. As government experts, they can only assist in acquainting us with their specific problems, so that we may gain from their experiences. In this respect I would like to single out the delegation from Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. ZAMBIA

Since we travelled together from Lusaka, the Zambian delegation virtually treated our delegate as part of their team to the extent of including me in their diplomatic reception at the points of transit i.e. Nairobi and Lagos. We were also fellow-sufferers at the hands of Zaire army bandits who confiscated passports at the Kinshasa Airport, to be released at a price although we were on transit.

Mr James MTONGA - Director of Economic and Technical Cooperation in the National Commission for Development Planning (who also enjoys the ear of His Excellency) bluntly said that they have been awaiting our approach to them and straightaway stressed that we should maintain dynamic contact with his office. They have a lot of issues they would like us to consult upon and are ready to make available to us some relevant and useful material.

We could also discuss with them the best approaches for deployment of some of our qualified specialists in order for them to gain practical field experience within Zambia.

Action (i) To ensure that the formal approaches to UNIP related to this question as set out in a letter drafted last May reach fruition. This will facilitate specific requests on certain areas of interest.

(ii) The members of the Economic Unit should avail themselves of the offer to visit the Zambian National Commission for Development Planning as well as the office of Mr Donald Chanda at the Zambia National Council for Scientific Research (close to airport).

4. ZIMBABWE

Mr M Senderayi, Under Secretary at the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, spoke in the same vein as the Zambian delegation. The 3 delegates asked that the ANC should make efforts and give advance warning to visit Harare in their respective areas of operation i.e. Finance Economic Planning and Educational Planning.

Action To work out a delegation to visit Zimbabwe for establishing working relations between the ANC Economic Unit and the Economic Planning organ in the Zimbabwe Government.

5. I L O

Amos attending { Mr F Lisk, Senior Research Economist in the Employment and Development Department of I L O based in Geneva, informed the delegation that the I L O had already approved a programme of induction for cadres of the African Liberation Movements in the field of Manpower Planning and Utilisation within the context of the SATEP (Southern African Team for Employment Promotion) programme based in Lusaka.

He referred me to Mr Hamid in Lusaka to work the details for ANC participation in this programme.

Action (a) Mr Hamid has confirmed that I L O is ready to receive 2 ANC cadres (economists) for such an induction programme lasting 6 - 9 months in Lusaka. The programme would involve theoretical lectures, writing of papers (essays) on specific economic questions related to Human Resources, Development and Utilisation as well as arranging for first-hand involvement within a mutually agreed department of the Zambia Economic Ministries.

(b) The Economic Unit should earmark candidates for this course (Likely to start any time between September and December) and follow up the issue with Mr Hamid when he returns from the Labour Commission meeting in Gaborone.

6. Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (I C M)

This organisation was founded in 1951 in Brussels and operates from Geneva. Its main activities have centred around problems of migrants within Western Europe and recently in the U S A and Canada.

I has an interesting discussion on the work and capabilities of this organisation with Mr J PIRES, who is assistant to the Chief of the Department of Planning, Liaison and Research within the I C M. (He is personally a comrade who was involved in the Portuguese Armed Forces Movement for ending the colonial wars and later took up Dutch Citizenship).

Mr Pires offered the services of I C M to assist the ANC in getting information about Black qualified South African professionals working in Western Europe, Canada and the U S A. In order to include such an exercise in their programme, they would need a letter of formal request from the ANC Headquarters. They would subsequently maintain dynamic contact with the relevant body on the progress of work.

Action Obtain an approval of such an undertaking from the Office of the Secretary General of the ANC; See to the drafting of such a request to the I C M;

Mandate Comrade Mfenyana to follow up and report to the Unit on progress under the general activities linked with Manpower organisation.

N B It is hoped that in the immediate future it will be possible to report on the exact form of organisation of the Manpower Commission or Unit

S MFENYANA

Secretary for Professional Bodies

Lusaka

31.8.82