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To/Aan The Chairman, Convention for a Democratic South Africa, PO Box 307,
Isanda, 1600

From/Van Joan de Beer, Deputy Cirector for Or P.J. Lor and Mr P.E. Westra
Pages / Bladsye 8 (incl. fax cover sheet / faks-dekblad Ing.)
MESSAGE / BOODSKAP

Sir

Submission to CODESA Working Groups by State Library and South African Library for
kind attention,

Yours faithfully

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Sir

SUBMISSION TO CODESA WORKING GROUPS

We the undersigned directors of the two national libraries
recognized in terms of the National Libraries Act, 1985, wish to
bring to your attention the important role played in the
development of South Africa by libraries in general and by the

national libraries in particular, and wish to place at the

disposal of CODESA the considerable resources and facilities of
our libraries.

We therefore respectfully submit for the attention of the
relevant Working Groups the attached memoranda in which these
matters are dealt with more fully.

(Dit:

P J Lor P E @estra
Director: State Library Director: South African Library

Yours faithfully

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MEMORANDUM TO CODESA WORKING GROUP NC. i

FIRST ASSIGNMENT: CREATION OF A CLIMATE FOR FREE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION =~

South Africa has more than 1000 public libraries, public library depots, community libraries and resource centres that are open to all citizens. Together they constitute a unique resource that can be mobilized in support of constitutional reform and long term national development.

Public libraries have an important role to play in promoting mutual understanding and tolerance between various groups in our

country. They are required to be politically neutral. They can provide a balanced range of informational materials that enable citizens to inform themselves and arrive at reasoned decisions. They contain educational materials that enable citizens to improve their standards of literacy and acquire knowledge and skills that can be applied in the development of their communities.

There are also other types of libraries, such as school, college, university and specialized research libraries, which are not open

to the general public, but which constitute an invaluable resource for national development.

Two libraries are recognized as national libraries in terms of the National Libraries Act, 1985, They are the south African Library, Cape Town, and the State Library, Pretoria. These two libraries hold comprehensive calliections of materials relating to South and southern Africa as well as materials in other fields of knowledge. They are open to all and are used by researchers, scholars and citizens throughout South Africa and abroad. The national libraries provide support services in respect of the national bookstock, bibliographic (book finding) tools, resource sharing and the preservation of our national literary and scholarly heritage to all libraries in South Africa. By means of these national support services the national libraries enable other libraries to fulfil the tasks outlined above.

We recommend that, in striving to create a climate for free political participation, CODESA; should harness the existing public library infrastructure. We can provide CODESA with statistical and directory information for this purpose and we are available for consultation on this matter.

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P J Lor, Director, The State Library, P O Box 397, Pretoria, 0002
P 7 Director, South African Library, P O Box 496, Cape
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MEMORANDUM TO CODESA WORKING GROUP NO. 2 -
FIRST ASSIGNMENT: GENERAL CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES

South africa has more than 1000 public libraries, public library depota, community libraries and resource centres, that are open

to all citizens. Together they constitute a unique resource that can be mobilized in support of constituticnal reform and long

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Public libraries have an important role to play in promoting

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There are also other types of libraries, such as school, college, university and spÃ©cialized research libraries, which are not open

to the general public, but which constitute an invaluable resource for national development.

Two libraries are recognized as national libraries in terms of

the National Libraries Act, 1985. They are the South African Library, Cape Town, and the State Library, Pretoria. These two libraries hold valuable collections of materials relating to South and southern Africa as well as materials in other fields

of knowledge. They are open to all and are used by researchers, scholars and citizens throughout South Africa and abroad. The national libraries provide support services in respect of the national bookstock, bibliographic (book finding) tools, resource sharing and the preservation of our national literary and scholarly heritage to all libraries in South Africa. By means of these national support services the national libraries enable other libraries to fulfil the tasks outlined above.

We recommend that, in formulating general constitutional principles, CCDESA takes into account the valuable role that libraries can play in the development of a democratic, multiracial and prosperous South Africa. The following general

principles should be embodied in the new Constitution or should not be contradicted by any of its provisions:

1. Every South African has a right of access to information needed for, participation in the political process, for purposes of formal, nonformal and informal education, and for social, cultural and economic development.

2. Every South African has a right of access to publications and other information materials produced by the State or by state-funded agencies for the purposes listed in recommendation

1 above.

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3. Every South African has a right of ratis access to information materials, products and services that are produced or made available by agencies iuiiy funded from tax revenues.

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4. Every South African has a right of access at reasonable cost to at least the basic contents of information materials, products

and services that are produced or made available by agencies partially funded from tax revenues.

5. All publicly funded agencies for the collection and dissemination of information (ineluding public libraries) should be open to all regardless of ethnic origins, language, beliefs, age or gender.

6. All publicly funded agenciea for the collection and dissemination of information (including public libraries) should pe politically neutral.

7, Democratically selected representatives of the relevant constituencies and communities should participate in formulating policies for all pore funded) agencies for the collection and dissemination of information (including public libraries). These representatives should participate in the management of such agencies, with due regard for the knowledge and skills of the professional persone! employed! to manage and operate then.

8. Provision should be made at al) levels of government (for example, central, regional and municipal levels) for the funding, maintenance and development of the types of libraries and information services that are appropriate to each level. The

funding of certain types of libraries requires a partnership relation between authorities at nore than one level of government. For example, public !or community libraries should be

funded by authorities at the jmunicipal and regional levels. Certain libraries that render services at tha national level should be funded and controlled by the central government.

This applies in particular to the national libraries recognized in terms of the National Libraries Act, 1985. Furthermore,

central government funding willbe required for the elimination of inequalities in the provision of library services at the

regional and municipal leval.s.â\200\224

9. The governance of libraries maintained by authorities at the various levels of government should provide for appropriate forms of expert and communit participation. In particular, the national libraries recognized in terms of the National Libraries Act, 1985, should continue to be governed by their autonomous boards under the general contral of the ministry of education.

P J Lor, Director, The State Library, P 0 Box 397; Pretoria, 0001

P E Westra, Director, South African Library, P 5 Box 496, Cape
Town, 8000.:

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MEMORANDUM TO CODESA WORKING GROUP NO. 2

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SECOND ASSIGNMENT: CONSTITUTION@MAKING PROCESS

The South African Library, Cape Town, and the State Library, Pretoria, hold valuable collections of materials relating to South and southern Africa. These libraries have comprehensive collections of official publications of South Africa and other countries in Southern Africa, the United States of America, and the United Nations and its agencies. There are also holdings of offieial publications of the United Kingdom, Commonwealth countries, and other countries. These are important sources of statistical, administrative and constitutional information.

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offer of assistance
the two national libraries wigh|to place their collections and services at/the disposal of CODESA. We would welcome an opportunity! for a discussion with CODESA staff and delegates on theit information needs and what we can do to satiefy then.

P J tor, Director, The state Libeary P Â© Box 397, Pretoria, 0001
P E Westra, Director, South African Library, P O Box 496, Cape Town, 8000.)

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MEMORANDUM TO CODESA WORKING GROUP NO. 4 :

ASSIGNMENT: FUTURE OF TBVC STATES

In South Africa two libraries are recognized as national libraries in terms of the National Libraries Act, 1985. They are the South African Library, Cape Town, and the State Library, Pretoria. These two libraries hold valuable collections of materials relating to South and southern Africa as well as materials in other fields of knowledge. They are open to all and are used by researchers, scholars and citizens throughout South Africa and abroad. The national libraries provide support services in respect of the national bookstock, bibliographic (book finding) tools, resource sharing and the preservation of our national literary and scholarly heritage to all libraries in South Africa. In this way the national libraries enable them to fulfil their educational and informational tasks.

In terms of the Legal Deposit of (Publications Act, 1982, the two national libraries, together _ three other libraries, the uibrary of Parliament, the Bloe ontein Public Library, and the Natal Society Library, each receive a copy of each book, periodical, newspaper or other lication published in the Republic of South Africa. The terials collected in terms of legal deposit are used to constitute a comprehensive collection reflecting the literary and scholarly heritage of South Africa, for the compilation of the Sou African national bibliography, an authoritative record of Sou Africaâ\200\231s book production, for purposes of resource sharing, and for the delivery of information services.

When the TBVC states became independent, the existing South African legal deposit legislation ceased to apply to these states. These states also established their own national libraries. The governments of phuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei entered into agreements with the RSA concerning the performance of certain national library functions and the delivery of legal deposit materials to the State Library. These agreements have proved difficult to implement. As a result, materials published in the TBVC states are not adequately represented in the collections of South Africa's national libraries. This leaves gaps in the national libraries' collections which impede current information and document delivery functions and will impede future research on South Africa.

We that if the TBVC istates are re-incorporated into South Africa

agreements lapse, to ensure that legal deposit and certain related functions of the national libraries of these states are .

transferred without disruption into South Africa's national
libraries. .

1. | Measures be taken, pursuant to existing intergovernmental

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Zie Measures be taken to ensure that gaos in the collections of

South Africa's national libraries in respect of legal deposit

materials emanating from these states during their period of independence, are filled.

3. "National library" functions presently carried out by the national libraries of the TBVC states, that can more efficiently be performed centrally, be transferred to South Africaâ\200\231s two national libraries.

4. The TBVC national libraries be incorporated into appropriate regional structures for the provision of public, community and school libraries. In certain cases where considerable library progress has been made, as in Bophuthatswana, the national library service could become the nucleus of a library service serving a region of South Africa.

P J Lor, Director, The State Library, P O Box 397, Pretoria, 0001
P BE Westra, Director, South African Library, P O Box 496 Cape Town, 8000.