

July 11th, 1992

ALL PARTICIPANTS OF ALL ORGANISATIONS
CODESA
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Dear participants,

Please hear my plea, for it is one which bears heavily not only in my heart but also in those of many South Africans at this most important time of our history. I am deeply concerned over the turn-of-events in Codesa during the past months. South Africa is so special. Must we let it be destroyed by temper tantrums and lack of wisdom?

The Referendum, earlier on this year, was a vote for NEGOTIATIONS. IT WAS NOT A VOTE TO PUT THE ANC INTO POWER. Yes there have been many inequalities during the days of Apartheid. But who is without sin, I ask you? Now is the time to stand side by side and armed with greater wisdom and with love in our heart, SELFLESSLY work to redress these inequalities.

I fail to understand the stance of the ANC in the past weeks: to me it belies all their statements about being interested in resolving differences and building a strong and prosperous South Africa. Mass stay aways, strikes, promotions of violence and power struggle only drive the country further into the ground, not to mention scare would-be-investors away.

The Affirmative Action Programs requested by the ANC/Cosatu Alliance - where people who do not have the qualifications will be given positions on the boards of companies or taken on in senior positions - are no answer to a country that is grinding to a halt on account of poor performance and extremely low productivity. We need creativity, quality of input, now more than ever.

As so eloquently described by the California State University Professor Shelby Steele in his recent book, Affirmative Action programs simply do not work. In fact, they spell out disaster. Aside from crippling businesses, they maintain the very people they aim at helping into a victim mentality which people find very difficult to get out of and become successful from.

The ANC's demands - to date - are totally unrealistic for our constitution and the country! Yet they keep blaming Mr De Klerk for the fact that the negotiations are not moving. I expect wisdom from the leading party. Let us also realise that there are 19 different parties negotiating at Codesa.

The ANC are speaking of establishing a socialist democracy. Should there be such a two-headed animal, socialism has been shown not to work in practice, however nice it may appear on paper for the masses. Socialism by its very nature kills incentives to prosperity, sound work ethics and progress. It spells equality yes, but equality of mediocrity. One need only look at Russia

or China to see the monstrosities that have resulted from it.

If socialism has been proven - without a shadow of a doubt - not to work, why in God's name would we implement it here in South Africa? Surely there is an answer other than suicide for this beautiful country of ours?

Many of the problems, which the government is currently battling with, are a direct result of governments that were too socialist minded. Look at the farmers for example. The incentive to provide good & healthy produce and be profitable was taken away from them with the advent of the "zillions" of boards that we now have. Where are our farmers now, many years into socialist practises? Surely we have learned something from all those years of Apartheid (which is only another form of socialism): it doesn't work for us!

Can we allow the ANC to implement more socialist practises? Are we going to allow another Somalia or Zaire right here in South Africa? Is this wise?

Let us also realise that it is not only South Africa's future which is at stake. The rest of Africa is dependent on us right here in South Africa to help them out of their economic morass. Nobody else is in the position to do so. Will your conscience allow you to let them down too? Will you be able to live knowing that you have allowed the perpetuation of monstrosities?

I ask you to come to your senses. This past referendum was not a Yes for the ANC. It was a Yes for South Africa to create a non-racist country where all are given the opportunity to live happily together and prosper together. We will only create this opportunity if we make it OUR VISION, OUR GOAL.

I believe that South Africa is at a crossroad. Correct handling of this situation can propel South Africa into stardom! That it may become the "Mecca of this world". Is that not worth standing for?

Let us stop pointing fingers, playing "dirty" politics, and looking to other countries for solutions. We need HUMANITARIAN THINKING and a UNIQUE SOLUTION for our country. Let us find it together.

The choice is ours! I know what I want. What about you?

Yours sincerely,


D. MOREA

Johannesburg