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T H E A F R I C A N - A M E R I C A N I N S T I T U T E

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SOUTHERN AFRICAN TRAINING PROGRAMME

GENERAL BULLETIN

NO. 1

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The Southern African Training Programme (SATP) was established to offer educational assistance to African refugees from countries still under minority rule (i.e. South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau). Formerly the primary administrative office for this programme was the A.A.I. office in Lusaka. However in May 1972, the administrative responsibility for this programme was transferred to the A.A.I. Addis Ababa office.

SATP has funding for 45 scholarships for refugees. These awards are available for (1) technical/vocational programs at the secondary or post-secondary level and (2) for academic programs at the university level. Special consideration for these awards will be given to individuals who are interested in fields of study related to Africa's priority manpower requirements. In addition, preference will be given to applicants interested in specific technical and diploma courses leading to job placement.

Applicants for these awards should be officially registered as refugees with the government of the country where they are residing, (i.e. country of asylum). Applicants should have the academic qualifications required to undertake the courses in which they are interested and should preferably have already gained admission to a school. The SATP Secretariat does not have the staff facilities to arrange school or university placements for program applicants. However, the SATP Secretariat is willing to grant interim consideration to refugee applicants who may not yet have secured admission to an academic or vocational institution. In the event that the school to which they have been admitted is in a country other than their country of asylum, the refugees should hold valid documents with a re-entry clause permitting their eventual return to their country of asylum.

Applicants for the SATP awards will be required to complete our formal application forms. In addition, each applicant will be required to submit two letters of reference of which one should be from his refugee movement, or the O.A.U. Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees, (BPEAR) or from one of the United Nations agencies dealing with refugees, or from other national or international bodies providing assistance to refugees. Finally, he will be required to submit photo copies of his previous academic record.

The SATP awards will cover the normal tuition and fees specified by the admitting institution. In addition, each participant will receive allowances for his room, board and personal necessities, as well as for his required books and supplies. Each participant will also be covered by a medical insurance policy. Finally, the cost of transportation from point of origin to the school and return travel upon the completion of his studies will be covered.

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The transfer of the SATP administration to Addis Ababa did cause some disruptions in this programme. However, these problems have now been surmounted and we are ready to receive and process new applications. There are 15 participants in the programme so that these would be 30 awards presently available. We would like to fill all of these awards before June 30th. We have already contacted the OAU/BPEAR for a list of potential candidates. In addition, we would welcome refugee student referrals from each of you. If you have any likely candidates, you may write to me directly for application forms or request the candidate to do so. My present quantity of forms is rather small so that I am unable to send you an advance supply.

For southern African refugees, who are interested in pursuing secondary school programs leading to the School Certificate, 25 places per year are available at the Nkumbi International College in Zambia. Students at this level, whom we may refer to Nkumbi, will be supported on a direct bursary basis by AID. Due in part to the program disruption, we were unable to secure admission for any secondary school students to Nkumbi in 1972. Mrs Hedda Fields in Lusaka is presently exploring with Zambian officials the appropriate procedures to follow in referring new applicants to Nkumbi. As soon as these procedures are clarified, I shall let you know.

We shall not be able to offer awards to every refugee who applies to us. However, we shall give sympathetic consideration to each case. We shall look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Wilbur Jones

Wilbur Jones
Regional Representative

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