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THE NATAL WITNESS, TUESDAY AUGUST 6, 2002

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Maduna: TRC
report won't
be delayed

CAPE TOWN â\200\224 Justice
Minister . Penuell
Maduna yesterday

- denied he agreed to

delay the publication of
the Truth and Reconcil-
iation Commissionâ\200\231s
final report pending
further litigation by the
Inkatha Freedom Party.
Maduna's spokesman,
Paul Setsetse, told Sapa

that â\200\234as far as we are
.concerned, -there is no

such agreementâ\200\235.

- The report is sched- -

uled to be handed 'to
President Thabo Mbeki
in about three weeks.

A dateâ\200\231 will then be
announced for making it
public, he said. L

On Friday, Buthelezi

" said he could not allow

the final report to be
published without the
TFC paxicl)viding evidence
of its allegations against
him and his party. - -

He claimed the TRC

" has thus far failed to do . .

s0.â\200\224 Sapa.

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THE
NATAL WITNESS, TUESDAY AUGUST 6, 2002

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pardons

CAPE TOWN â\200\224 National Assem-
ply Speaker Dr Frene Ginwala
has agreed to an yrgent debate
about the pâ\200\231residenï¬\201al pardons
given to 33 prisoners.

The datÃ© for the debate in the
National Assembly will be: sub-
ject to Justice Minister Penuell
Maduna's availability, she said.

DA leader Tony Leon asked for â\200\230

the urgent debate.

Before a criminal is considered.

for a presidential pardon, govern-
ment should" first consult the
Â¢amilies of victims, he said. -
J.â\202¬on was speaking after meet-
Whitaker in East London. e
Also present Was Neville
elling, who lost 2 leg in the
Highgate Hotel grenade attack.

Dumisani Ncamazana â\200\224 the

man alleged 0 have murdered
Whitaker two weeks after being
pardoned in May â\200\224 Was origi-
nally jailed for his role in the
Highgate attack. :
Repeating his call for greater
transparency, Leon suggested
four steps. R e o
These should include publicly
disclosing the- criteria for: the

. pardoning of criminals jmpris-

| oned for murder, rapp and geri- .

| ous assault.

| Leon also called for a reconsid-
â\200\230l' eration of the current D f
|

pardons in view of the extremely .
| serious consequences W hen

| wholesale pardons are granted.

| - He'again called for the erjmi-

! nal records of those Who received

: pardons pot to be expunged.

| " Leon also called for 2 finalisa-
tion of the much-delayed repara-
tions to victims identified by the

Truth and Reconciliation Com-

mission.â\200\224 Sapa.

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ing the family of the late Martin * *

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THE NATAL WITNESS, TUESDAY AUGUST 6, 2002

Nevirapine

OR any child born HIV-positive â\200\224 and there are 200 per day in South Afxica â\200\224 life will have ended by the age of 10 years. The use of a drug that will give even 100 of those 200 a chance of a normal existence must surely be a. vastly - better option than no treatment at all. Any fuss â\200\224 such as that now being made by the Medicines Controlâ\200\231 Council' (MCC) â\200\224 about possible adverse side-effects of Nevirapine is surely inconsequential. The fact that concerns about Nevirapine are being raised at this stage is suspicious in the light of the-government's shameful history of foot-dragging on the provision of antiretrovirals. The MCC is' sup-. posed to be an independent body but according to PAC MP Patricia de Lille, its registrar, Precious, Matsoso, is & political appointment and takes political instructions.

~If that is the case, what are the- MCC/govern: menvs intentions? Is it trying to Ã@scape by a back door from its ubligations to provide antiretrovirals - to HIV-positive pregnant mothers as ordered by the -~ ruling of the Constitutional Court? Is it the case that the government has decided that it cannot afford Nevirapine and is therefore attempting to discredit the drug? Worst of all, has the government decided - that it would prefer that children born to HIV-posi- - tive mothers should die rather than grow up as Aids orphans? Its dogged resistance to and discrediting of treatment gives some credence o 50 cynical an interpretation. : -

Whatever the answers to these questions, the fact remains that the government capnot escape its obligations. The Constitutional Court ruling was so. worded that if Nevirapine is not used to combat Tother-to-child infection, some ather drug will be required. There has been far too much pressure on

. the medical fraternity by politicians in the campaign

against Aids. According to Professor Jerry Coova-

dia, head of the HIV-Aids research unit of the University of Natal, a ban on Nevirapine would be-

quite disastrous, The authorities should follow the experts in this matter. Death-by-Nevirapine is a lot less likely than death-by-Aids. '

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THE NATAL WITNESS, TUESDAY AUGUST 6, 2002

"TAC to challenge any HIV drug ban

JOHANNESBURG -- The Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) yesterday threatened to challenge the Medicines Control Council (MCC) in court if it decides to ban the anti-Aids drug Nevirapine.

â\200\234We haven't decided on an exact legal route yet but we will make

sure that any reverse decision is.

heard. We're not going to quietly sit by if this is a serious threat,â\200\235 the TAC's Mark Heywood said in a statement in Johannesburg. '

He was reacting to newâ\200\231spaperâ\200\230

reports at the weekend that the MCC is reviewing its approval of Nevirapine because it has concerns about its effectiveness and toxicity. MCC registrar Precious Matsoso told Sapa yesterday the organisation

t will first consider upcoming devel-

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opments regarding a Ugandan study

on Nevirapine before deciding about

its future registration.

Â« don't know where this thing of . banning comes from. I don't know.

why there is this big fuss about one

:drug,',â\200\231 she said.

Heywood, however, said the MCCâ\200\231s behaviour is suspect. Shortly before the start of two key

court cases about the governmentâ\200\231sâ\200\231

Aids policy, the MCC issued statements expressing concern about the safety of Nevirapine, : ,

â\200\234We find that unbecoming behaviour and it certainly raises questions about them. We have cause for concern. We hope the MCC will not risk

its sterling reputation of being inde-

pendent of the government.â\200\235

In his reaction yesterday, Western

. Cape Premier Marthinys van

Schalkwyk said the de-registration

TAC plans.-Aids awareness day

JOHANNESBURG â\200\224 The Treat-
ment Action Campaign (TAC) will
co-ordinate a countrywide Aids
awareness project at workplaces
this week, the lobby group said yes-
terday. i i

TAC spokesman Pholokgolo
Ramothwala said several pickets

and workshops will be held at hospi-

tals, clinics, factories and schools as
part of the Community Day of
Action on Thursday.

The aim of the campaign is to

. reduce stigmatisation of people liv- -

ing with Aids, and to improve
knowledge and create openness
about the disease.

Events will take place in Gauteng,

Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, East-
ern. Cape, Mpumalanga and

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" In another development, the TAC
has found a new way of reÃ©uchxg the

cost of HIV/Aids care â\200\224 through
-cheaper pathology tests. -

TAC attorney Fatima Hassan told

reporters yesterday that a labora- .

tory, which can't yet be named,

offered to perform tests at a more -

than 50% discount,
â\200\234That does not mean that it is

â\200\230below cost price for them. They will

still be making a profit,â\200\235 she said in
Johannesburg. C

Hassan said the company pro-
posed a package thdt would test an
HIV-positive personâ\200\231sâ\200\231 CD4 count,
full blood count and viral load for
R500. It usually costs about R1 500.
g -~ Sapa.

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-ine, he said, â\200\224 Sapa.:

of Nevirapine would be a massive human disaster for the Western

.Cape and South Africa as a whole,

â\200\234Our task, as government, both national and provincial, is primarily to protect and save the lives of our people,â\200\235 Van Schalkwyk said, â\200\234It is our view that the benefits of Nevirapine far outweigh the possible negative effects.â\200\235

The treatment of cancer for instance involves the use of radiation to kill cancerous cells and often causes nausea and hair loss.

He said Nevirapine, especially

used in the single dose administered

to prevent mother-to-child-transmissionâ\200\231 of HIV/Aids, has had no

~ known toxicity problems in the .

Western Cape.

â\200\234The overwhelming preponderance of scientific and medical opinion, advice, and evidence is that Nevirapine is safe and the provinceâ\200\231s decision to use the drug

â\200\230was based on this advice.â\200\235

1f the MCC has any new evidence.

. they have a moral and ethical duty

to make such evidence public and : until such time as persuasive evidence demonstrates that Nevirapine is safe, the province will continue making use of the life-saving drug, Van Schalkwyk said. -

â\200\234We will not stand idly by-and watch 70 000 babies across the country-being born with an almost certain death sentence because we do nothing to stop the transmission of the virus from mother to child.â\200\235

â\200\230Van â\200\230Schalkwyk said the ongoing debate about Nevirapine contributes nothing to the battle against HIV/Aids. The province is going ahead with the roll-out of Nevirap-

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SOWETAN Tuesday August 6 2002]...

â\200\230Make
HIV-Aids

notifiableâ\200\231

DESPITE the Constitutional Couxt victory on
HIV-Aids a lot still peeds to he done to save
lives,
. The debates often focus on pofitical and
moral aspeets, to the exclusion of all clse.
[am proposing peactical sieps. There are
many options at our disposal, but Â¥ will cexpand

SAs capacity to munuï¬\201wuuedrngx.
Making a disease notifiable estab-

allows the Govmmntmï¬\202smywdwdt;p
appropriate strategies to fightit.

But can the Governmment and society
develop proper sud adequate strategics lo
combat it, without reliable information about
its incidence and prevalence? I

The answer is, n0. .

Some say we already have statistics and
models tq address this need, an assertion that
has two major flaws.

@ The statistics arc cducated gnesses, and

ty. ;

@ Though I have great respect for the insti-

always bc others â\200\224 some unfortmmately in the
Government and â\200\230the ruling party â\200\224 who wilt
deny the accuracy of the statistics and accose
the rescarchers of incompetence. g

with HIV-Aids.

Imspcctmcmxsplacedfemofdwcwhp
argue that making HIV-Aids notifiable will
expose those with the dlsease o sngmahszmun
and v:cmmsauon

conseduently communities and gronps heavily
affected were provided with targeted faciities
and services, those with the disease would not
need to make public declarations of their status.

Likewise many would not need to suffer in
silcnce. As it is, many South Africans ~ albeit
the fortunate oncs.â\200\224 are expected to vadergo

insurance companies.

Many already lrost the private secfor tokeep

their HIV-Aids status confidential.

Similarly people with HIV-Aids who enter private or public health institutions have to trust the institutions to protect their confidentiality.

Our Constitution and Bill of Rights explic-

and promote those rights.

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only on two: making it notifiable and enhancing

lishing the actual occurrence of the disease and

no matter how accurate they do not represent the

tutions that compile these statistics there will

that can be raised, and the millions who suffer

cannot be ignored, which does not imply sacrific-

ing the privacy and dignity of people living with

If HIV-Aids was a notifiable disease, and

HIV-Aids tests by medical schemes and life

itly provide protection and equality for all South, Africans. As a society we must uphold.

To argue that notifiability is unattainable

because of stigmatisation and victimisation

apart from confusing notifiability with public exposure is to condone discrimination.

Not making HIV-Aids notifiable is wrong, and

and it is equally wrong that infected people are

victimised. But two wrongs do not make a right.

right.

Our Constitution provides mechanisms and

. institutions to prevent discrimination.

It is our duty to access these institutions, Failure to do so turns the Constitution into a

meaningless document.

The second practical step to combating

HIV-Aids is enhancing SA's capacity to manufacture

medicine. -

We have the resources, the infrastructure, expertise and technological know-how.

We can produce not only for ourselves, but also for the whole continent, drugs of high quality at a reasonable price.

-A public-private partnership to develop - treatment and build factories will be an investment in the health of our nation.

It will be a long-term investment in our economy that will establish us as a player in the multi-billion rand pharmaceutical industry, which is dominated by the West,

It would certainly be a much wiser investment than the billions wasted on weapons.

Never before has an opportunity to save lives as well as develop our economy and create jobs presented itself.

Uganda has had a measure of success, which is proof that this is the only way to

approach HIV-Aids. 1049 s Ao ching

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IFP effort to delay

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WETAN 'Tuesday August 6 2002

report thwarted

By Waghfed Misbach and Sapa

TEMPTS . by the Inkatha
Freedom Party to stall the
release of the Truth and Rec-
conciliation Commission's

" final report were dealt a blow yesterday

when the Justice Ministry announced
that the report would be released in
three weeks' time. :
Justice Minister Penuell Maduna
denied yesterday that he had agreed to
delay the publication of the report,
pending further litigation by the IFP. .
In its interim report the TRC found
that the TFP, under leader Dr Mango-
suthu Buthelezi, was the 'primary non-
state perpetrator ... responsible for

approximately 33 percent of all the vio-

lations reported to the commission.
Buthelezi has spent three years

challenging this finding in court,

saying it is not supported by the evi-

dence. The justice department has

inherited responsibility for all pending

litigation as the TRC no longer exists.

Last Friday Buthelezi's adviser, Dr .

Mario Ambrosini, said Buthelezi and the
IFP would again challenge the Justice
Department in the Cape High Court in
November to produce the records con-
taining evidence supporting its findings.
The court had given the commission
until July 31 to produce the records, but
the TRC had failed to do so.
Ambrosini indicated that Maduna

had given an undertaking not to go
ahead with the final report until after
the case had been decided. i

Buthelezi said he could not allow.

the final report to be published without the TRC providing evidence of its allegations against him and his party. The TRC had failed to produce this body of

evidence against me as ordered by the -

court, and was therefore in default. Yesterday IFP spokesman MrMusa

Zondi said the matter of the TRC report

was in the hands of the IFP and state

. attorneys, Maduna's spokesman, Mr

Paul Setsetse, confirmed this saying the two sides' lawyers would continue discussions with a view to resolving the matter out of court.

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'SOWETAN Tuesday August 6 2002

Protest turns violent

Tension boils over as protesters go on the rampage during anti-defection bill demonstration

By Shadi Rapitso and Ido " -
Lekota

Tension mounted ahead of

today's Constitutional Court hearing on the controversial floor-crossing bill, a protest against the proposed law, organised by opposition parties, turned violent. Passengers on 2 (train transpotting protesters from the Nancefield hostel in Soweto were attacked and robbed. Some passengers were also prevented from boarding the train, which was bound for the Johannesburg city centre.

The hostel is known as an Inkatha

Freedom Party stronghold.

The protest, however, was jointly organised by the IFP, the United Democratic Movement and the Pan Africanist Congress. The UDM and PAC have in recent months been involved in

high-level talks to forge a united opposition to the ruling ANC,

Police spokesperson Mbhazima Shiburi said the motive for the violence was still unknown and they would investigate the possibility of a political link.

Seventeen people were arrested.

Yesterday UDM spokesperson Malizole Dike confirmed that the party's youth wings had organised the protest march.

"We are having joint campaigns to stop this highway robbery in the form of the floor crossing legislation," he said.

Diko, however dissociated his party from the violence. He also condemned the incident saying "no form of violence should be condoned".

However, Ganteng's - South African [National Civic Organisation provincial = J

secretary Siphiso Thusi believes the

attacks are politically motivated.. "This - [

is barbaric and we shall not let our people be sacrificed for political gain. and have a situation similar to that prior to the 1994 elections," Thuthi said.

In the memorandum presented to the Gauteng legislature the protesters called on all MPs who wanted to defect to resign their positions first.

The memorandum was strident in its criticism of the floor-crossing bill saying it was an indication of political thuggery and the abuse of power aimed at disrespecting and frustrating the will of the electorate.

IFP spokesman Musa Zondi condemned the violence and called on the Gauteng provincial youth leadership to investigate the matter. "If our members were involved in the violence, the municipal structures must take appropriate action," said Zondi.

ANC spokesman Smuts Ngonyama said his party condemned all unwarranted attacks on innocent South

Africans. He said the ANC would await the police investigations on whether the attack was politically motivated. He called for strong action if it is found that this was the case.

The Pan Africanist Movement of Azania was not available for comment.

Today's hearing is a sequel to an application by UDM leader Bantu Holomisa to have the floor-crossing bill declared unconstitutional.

- A Joint Youth Forum comprising of UDM, PAC, IFP, South African Student Movement, and other youth

organisations

marched through the streets of the Johannesburg centre in protest against

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Studentl. .

Airosslng legisiatlou. - _ i - PHOTO: PAT SEBOKO

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BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, August 6 2002

ANC Youth League Ã©alls on party
leadership to discipline dissenters

AFRICAN National Congress (ANC) Youth League president
Malusi Gigaba called on ANC leaders yesterday to discipline

{ members who undermined the party in public under the pretext

of freedom of speech and debate. One of the victims may be SA
Communist Party deputy general secretary Jeremy Cronin. The
league has been pushing the ANC to discipline Cronin, an ANC
national executive committee member, for claiming the pres-

ident's leadership was marginalising him. Pule Molebeledl

Ginwala agrees to debate on prisoner pardons

NATIONAL Assembly speaker i
Frene Ginwala has agreed o an ur-, Fi

gent parliamentary debate on the
_controversial presidential pardons

_given to 33 Eastern Cape prisoners.
â\200\230The date for the debate would be

subject to Justice Minister Penuell

Madunaâ\200\231s availability, she said yes-

terday. Democratic Alliance leader

Tony Leon, who opposed the par- .

dons from' the start, requested the

urgent debate. Before a criminal is

considers for a, greskijdemial pte;r-

don, government should consult the - f
families of the victims, he said yes- STORE AR,
terday. Leon was speaking after meeting the family of the late
Martin Whitaker in East London. Also present was Neville
Baliing, who lost 2 leg in the Highgate Hotel grenade attack.
Dumisani Ncamazana, the man alleged to have murdered

don in May this year, was originally jailed for his role in the

I Highgate attack. Sapa

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Whitaker two weeks after being released on a presidential par-

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BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, August 6, 2002

HERE are ominous signs that

government has shelved its

commitment, stated in bold and uncertain terms on April 17, to following international practice in implementing a fully fledged treatment regime to soften the frightening toll AIDS is taking on our communities, especially the poorest of them. This retreat is bad news, not only for AIDS sufferers, but for the country as a whole, which has an unenviable reputation as the world capital of the AIDS epidemic.

Court has ruled that government has a duty to make the antiretroviral drug nevirapine available to HIV-positive pregnant women. And the AIDS treatment lobby has lost no time extending the logic of treating poor, HIV-positive pregnant women, to all those who require treatment, but who cannot afford it. Enter once again the towering moral figure of Nelson Mandela, the former president, and a canny

Mandela warned the African National Congress (ANC) against being seen not to care about the victims of AIDS. Now Mandela is again in talks with President Thabo Mbeki. about treatment being made available in the public health system to all those who need it. A

Few figures have as nuanced a

Since April 17, the Constitutional politician to boot. Earlier this year .

â\200\230Toxic turnabout

grasp of symbolism in politics as Mandela - has, something which Mbeki appears to ignore routinely.

The irony is that although Mbeki may have discovered some worthwhile things to say about the link between AIDS and poverty, he loses the symbolic battle hands down be-

are dying, be they poor, wealthy or

. cause the obvious fact is that people

otherwise. Some of those who die .

are quite close to his own social and |

professional circle.

. This denial, as it has come to be called, has dovetailed neatly with the ANC's own inbred antipathy to western capitalism, and the ti'ug companies in particular. However, by hook or by crook Mbeki and the cabinet came around to agreeing,

.what choice did: they have really? â\200\224 that drugs were at least part of the.

answer. But whatever ' goodwill :

.came of that decision has been lost

in needless controversy, much of it

due to the bungling of Health Min- -

ister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang.

. Now there are allegations she is leaning on the Medicines Control Council to have nevirapine banned, on the flimsy pretext that it is â\200\234poisonousâ\200\235, a claim she repeats often.

Government owes it to the public to follow policies it has undertaken to uphold, instead of hiding behind technicalities and pursuing business as usual while thousands die.

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BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, August 6 2002

Premier sounds a warning on nevirapine

Lindn Enu.:r, Tamar Kahn and Sapa

WESTERN Cape premier Marthinus van Schalkwyk warned yesterday that the provincial government would consider legal action if the Medicines Controt Council deregistered nevitapine, the antiretroviral drug used to prevent mother-to-child transmission of BIV.

In apparent defiance, the provincial government said it would continue with its expanded roll-out of the treatment to cover all of the province by the end of this financial year..

The council has launched an investigation into the safety and efficacy of the drug, raising suspicions among AIDS activists that it has succumbed to political pressure following the Constitutional Court ruling that obliges central government to roll out the provision.

Any steps aimed at preventing the Western Cape from dispensing nevirapine and thereby stopping this life-saving intervention will be viewed very seriously by our provincial government, and I am therefore immediately instructing our legal

services to begin investigating any and all legal remedies available to us ! should the deregistration proceed, Van

{ Schalkwyk said.

This ongoing, energy-sapping debate about nevirapine contributes nothing to the battle against HIV/AIDS, and every time the people of SA believe that we are finally beyond the controversy, it seems that the debate is reopened. - - " The Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) has also threatened action against the council over the deregistration of the drug.) :

Precious Matsosa, the registrar of

medicines, said yesterday that reports that the council was considering banning the drug were irresponsible.

She said the council was reviewing

the results of a clinical trial conducted in Uganda, and published in the Lancet in 1999, because there were problems with the documentation of the trial. - - Although she declined to give details,

earlier this year by the drug's manufacturers, Boehringer Ingelheim, who informed the council that they had withdrawn their application to have nevirapine registered by the US Food and Drug Administration. - ot

. She said Boehringer Ingelheim had acted in accordance with the registration

conditions stipulated by the council, ,

which require the company to inform it if

there are any problems with the drug. Matsoso said the council had approved nevirapine, on condition that if

there were problems, Boehringer Ingel-

heim would bring them to its attention. She said the US National Institutes of

Health, which had conducted the Ugandan

trial, was assessing data collected at the Nevirapine trial site and would report on the matter in September. i

The council would then consider what steps to take, she said.

TAGC said yesterday that it had re-

quested a meeting with the National

Pathology Group and an association of pri-

vately owned pathology laboratories - to discuss lowering the price of HIV di-

agnostic tests. i .

Matsoso said there were data integrity problems with the trial. She said the issue was brought to the council's attention

TAGC's attorney, Fatima Hassan, said that a laboratory, which she declined to name, had offered to perform tests at a discount of more than 50%.

That does not mean that it is below cost price for them. They would still be making a profit, she said. The company had proposed a package that included testing an HIV patient's CD4 count, full blood count and viral load for R500. Current market prices average R1200.

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- Making benefits of democracy accessible

John F. Ohiorhenuan

Very year since 1990, the

United Nations Development

Programme has commissioned

the writing of the Human Development Report by an independent team of experts to explore major issues of global concern,

The theme of this year's report is recently

released report is Deepening Democracy in a Fragmented World. It argues that governance for human development must be democratic in substance and in form.

The report distinguishes between

democratic institutions and democratic

politics which back civic involvement and popular participation.

- It means not only ridding societies of

corruption but also giving people the rights, the means, and the capacity to participate in the decisions that affect their lives and to hold their governments accountable:

The report argues democracy is neither a hoary nor a panacea for poor countries. Granting all people formal political equality does not create

an equal desire or capacity to participate

in political processes or an

equal capacity to influence outcomes.

Imbalances in economic and political power often subvert the principle

of one person, one voice. Therefore, the links between democracy

and human development are not automatic. Good governance also requires

fostering fair, accountable institutions

that protect human rights and basic freedoms.

For the first time, the report pro-

vides several subjective and objective indicators of governance, designed to

* broaden the criteria used in public de-

bate to compare countries' achievements in the area of governance. Overall, SA scores well in both sub-

jective and objective criteria. How-

ever, in Africa, Mauritius is the best performer, surpassing SA in areas of press freedom, voice and accountability, law and order, rule of law, govern-

ment effectiveness, and trade union

membership. However, the percentage

of seats in parliament held by

women is higher in SA than Mauritius.

In a chapter on deepening democracy at global level, the report argues

the international community should see the recent global civil society campaigns as an opportunity to inject new energy and popular global decision making.

It calls for concrete reforms to beef up developing nations' role in international institutions, and make them more open and accountable to the people and countries affected.

The annually updated Human Development Index this year ranks 173 countries by a composite measure of life expectancy, education and income per person.

The report calls attention to the fragile situation in eastern and central Europe, the former Soviet Union and

sub-Saharan Africa, where many na-

tions have a lower index now than at

the start of the 1990s. More than 60

countries in different parts of the world have lower income head today than before 1990, and in 26 countries incomes are lower than in 1980.

SA is among nations whose index has declined in recent years, resulting in its ranking among 173 nations slipping to 107 from 104. In recent years, a

decline in SA's index can be ascribed mainly to declining life expectancy at

birth, because of HIV/AIDS.

The decline in SA's index since
1995 highlights the report's argument
. that the link between democracy and
human development is not inevitable,
Ohiorhenuan is Resident Represen-
tative of the United Nations Develop- -
ment Programme.

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BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, August 6 2002

Ngonyama denies any political aspirations

Xolani Xandu
FPalitical Correspondent

HEAD of the African National Congress (ANC) presidency Smuts Ngonyama has denied aflegations that he asked Port Elizabeth businessroan and ANC membes, Mkhuseleli Jack, and four others to write letters to President Thabo Mbeki calling for the dis-

missal of Eastern Cape premier

Makhenkesi Stofile.

Two highly placed sources in the ANC alleged yesterday that Ngonyama asked for such letters to be written in order to mastermind his comeback to the provinceas premier.

However, Ngonyama has dismissed this as â\200\234completely untrueâ\200\235. He said ANC members all over the country ofien wrote letters to the national leadership onanumber ofissues.

â\200\234I' only saw the letter in the newspapers,â\200\235 he said. He has since, however, seen the letter.

Ngonyama also described allegations that he wanted the

premiership of the province as .

"wishful thinkingâ\200\235, saying it was coly the people of the Eastern Cape and the ANC who could make such a choice.

â\200\234I am not interested in any government position. To me it s about the revolution and building the ANC. That is why I am sitting where I am {as head of the presidency] and if people want to accuse me of betmyxng that, then thatis something else,â\200\235 he said.

Jack has dismissed as â\200\234undiluted rubbishâ the allegations that he was asked by Ngonyama

to write the letter.

â\200\234Those are my views and have

. nothing to do with anybody and I

stand by what I said,â\200\235 he said.

Jack, in a letter leaked to a
Johannesburg daily last week

Smuts Ngonyama

called for Stofileâ\200\231s dismissal,
claiming he was failing to govern

â\200\230the province.

Jack also cited inefficiency in
the provincial government,
including the nonpayment of

7 000 teachers, the collapse of the
feeding scheme and chaos in the
healthcare system:.

â\200\234The premier's political
authority is totally diminished.

" The sad consequence of this is

that he has harmed himself
politically and it will be impos-
sible to recapture that authority

as it is now;â\200\235 he said.â\200\235

Jack said the ANC needed to
move swiftly to silence its detrac-
tors, pointing out that many pos-
itive developments in the
province were being overshadowed
by the problems.

cussed by the provincial execu.,...

tive committee as Jack had the,,

right to say whatever he wanted.

â\200\234It is up to the intended {re-
cipient of the letter) to act and

- give us light on this issue.

â\200\234We are not going to discipline

. Jack and we have not asked him

about it,â\200\235 he said.
However, the ANC in the
province is understood to be

" investigating the matter.

This is not the first time that
Stofileâ\200\231s leadership has been
challenged from within the
organisation in the Eastern Cape,

The recent developments
come in the wake of reports that
provincial secretary Humphrey
Maxegwana wants to challenge
Stofile for the ANC chairmanship
at the provincial congress sched-
uled for end of this month or early
next month.

Eadlier, there were reports that
MP Miuleki George would stand
for the provincial leadership.

anyg

7â\202¬1 Â¢00Â¢

â\200\234ALÂ¥Yd NOQ3FYÂ¥4 YHLYINI

_Beeld, Dinsdag 6 Augustus 2002

2x-.

uï¬\202imsÃ@'flvr-mnfacsitz waar
wverskeiÂ¢ partye vertcenwoordig
is
]

ynlik die betoging saam met die
er geredl. - =

- IKuapstad. - â\200\234Moedswil
_:agter die bewerings:da
: weel'pany:bemgin(glâ\200\230f
- iloopwetgewingtedo
4gewel by dis Naneefiel

- iSoweto... . i

1L)it was-gister die Xi

Â¢ loerw, Musa-Zondt,. Â¢

Hegaam en nie verantwoordhaar
aiy die: TVP nie, het Zondi gese.
â\200\230Volgens: Holomisa is die beto-

b Ã@gedulen met die medewete
:die HDM, maar die UDM isf"

raadplesg daaroor nie. |/
T L R A

â\200\230e 1VP-Jeughrigade het waar-

ie jeugbrigade is 'n outoneme Â©
!

â\200\234jen mnř, Bantu Holontig:
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v+1 200Â¢
ALYYd NOQ33Â¢d YHLYINI
80L9Â°ON
9Â¢/9Â¢ *d

THE NATAL WITNESS, TUESDAY AUGUST 6, 2002â\200\231

o N gy T

A . .
demonstra

. waves a

placard

during

-+ yesterday's
IFP march |

centralâ\200\231
Johannes-

burg to

protest

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P. 8/17

No.6713

[NKATHA FREEDOM PARTY

2002 10:17

7.Aug.

MANNY de Freitas's delusional assertion
(â\200\234Watching a chamelecn oh-a box of
Smartiesâ\200\235, The Citizen, July 23) thatIhave

* conceded that the DA should be respected

for the vital rale it plays in.our democracy
is ludicrous, to put it mildly. True, the
DP/DA does play a role â\200\224 with emphasis on
play â\200\224 but it is not vital. .

Despite the plainest language it seems |
cannot get through to him: the NNP has
been deliberate and consistent in its policy
of creating multi-party government. In 1991
the NNP introduced its policy for partici-

â\200\230patory democracy. In the run-up to 1994 it

argued for power sharing. In 1994 it joined
the Government of National Unity. In the
1999 elections it asked for a mandate to
work for inclusive government. Mote con-
sistent one cannot get. :

Now it is true that the NNP left the
Government of National Unity, and it is

true that we at that point said that the ANC -

would have to assume full and sole respon-
sibility for its policies and actions. The

problem with De Freitasâ\200\231s convenient

The Citizen Tuesday- 6~Aï~\201gust 2002

THE NNP has-' .been.consistenti in its policy of creating n'iuliï~\201;

misinterpretation of events is that he
twists it to â\200\234beautifully illusirateâ\200\235 that the
NNP is inconsistent in that we stand for
multi-party government, yet we left the
Government of National Unity. What he
fails to add, and the NNP has stated this
over and over again, is that we left the
Government of Nationat Unity because the
fundamentals to ensure co-opÃ©ration as
opposed to co-option were not in place.
Those structural arrangements are now
in place. The NNP and ANC retain their
own identities, are free to promote their
own policies, strategies and tactics.
Whereas the commitment is to reach con-

sensus on issues where the NNP and ANC

differ, where consensus cannot be reached

the parties are able to publicly differ and .
express their views. These arrangements

party government, writes DARYL SWANEPOEL

were not previously in place; they are now.
Co-option, or the danger of it, has been
replaced with co-operation. The commitment
now is to achieve win-win solutions

that benefit all the people, not just some of

the people.

But the debate is becoming a bit staid. It
is not about what was said in the past, and
what was done when. Life is dynamic,
things change. What is of interest to the
electorate is through whom their interests
will be best represented in the future. For,
the opposition voter, the choice is between

-the DP/DA and the NNP. .

The choice is between the problem iden-

tifiers and the problem solvers. The DP/DA
are sterling problem identifiers. They can

point out all the problems, show up all the

mistakes, and often even exaggerate them

almost beyond recognition. Yes, problem
identification is necessary and important.

But we all know what the problems are -
we need jobs, crime is too high, we need to
fight Aids, we must build houses, manage-
ment needs to be improved, and so on. The
electorate doesn't need the DP/DA to tell
them that, they know it. They are the
affected ones.

The electorate needs problem solvers.

They need a party that chooses to be part of
the solution. They need a party that can sit

at the main - table of decision-making as
advocates for them. Through rational
debate and accessibility far more will be
achieved than an approach which serves
only to antagonise and isolate.

The choice is simple and clear: do you
choose as your advocate those that fixate
on problem identification, or the NNP,
problem solvers with a constructive atti-
tude to get South Africa working. Together
South Africa wins. .

@ Daryl Swanepoel is NNP Deputy
Executive Director. . e

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> Â£

The Citizen TueSday 6~August 2002

ANC
â\200\230suspends
four from
council

By CATHY THOMPSON .
THE ANC in North West has suspended four of 11 councillors in a local municipality who allegedly - defied instructions on how to deal . with the ceding of mining rights to a diamond prospector.
The four, Moeti Mosiane, Andi Laastele, Isaac Rambau and Johnny Pitso, have all been suspended, both in their capacities as . councillors in the Lekwa-Teemarne (Bloemhof and Christiarma) Local "Municipality and as members of the party
"This was confirmed yesterday . by provincial spokesman Mandlankosi Mayisela, who said they were facing internal charges of - "â\200\234{11- discipline" over an illegal ~meeting they had-allegedly held, . against the-express instructions : from the provincial executive committee of the ANC.
" The other seven councillors in | the municipality had been excluded- . ed, he added,
â\200\230After the meeting it was decided " that the councillors would â\200\234pro- Ny i ceed to give the mineral rightsâ\200\235 to | a certain Chris Potgieter, a local | businessman. :
Mayisela confirmed reports that the irregular sale of land and | river sand was also alleged.

_Beeld, Dinsdag 6 At

i

Skote klap toe!
jeuglede opruk
oor oorloopwet -

Lizel Steenkamp en Aii~\201sley Moos -

penbare gemeld, roo'ftog'be en die
@ verkragting van o jong vrou w;
e gist~roggend in SoWeto die panio

IVP~«gl}detstPui~\202erS kort n~© die voorvall
. by i hostel lnn.g di~© Nancefisld-stas)

S hogtenis geneem. Dle* host i

& I\I'P-vastmg :

Minsters vyt sKote het sewe UL
-.dig hostel geklap. voordat â\204ç groep TVP-on
â\200\230 dfrszeunm bymiekaar gekom Ixet oy

;dig Nmeei~\201eld stasie vir.die 6ptog na:
- Ranheshiig, te vertreK. Sowet 150'ma
L.lee emde on: n'{:lt tradisiofie

9~ç/90 *d 80L9"ON ALYYd H003343 YHLYINI 8~ç 11 ~ç00~ç

9Â¢/Â¢ *d

80L9"ON

THE MERCURY |

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' scheme

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|

* PIETERMARITZBURG

out of the scheme and establish

Programme

R10m farm

launched

BOB FREAN
BUREAU

A Riomillion &
scheme to benefit @
previously disad-
vantaged, small
and emergent
farmers through SINGH
mechanisation
and other resources was,
launched by KwaZulu-Natal
Agriculture Minister Narend
Singh at Cedara, near
Pietermaritzburg, yesterday.
Small and historically under-
capitalised farmers would now
be able to mechanise and pro-

duce as never before, and entre- | -

preneurs would be able 0 grow

ploughing and cartage services,
Smghsaid. T

An envisaged 150 tractors and equipment are to be bought and deployed to benefit farmers settled under the land reform pro-

Singh said: "This mechanisation programme is new in Africa. It is an interaction of developed agriculture and the underdeveloped, cheek by jowl. Some large agriculture schemes initiated by the government have had questionable success. Private sector schemes such as in timber and sugar have been successful. But here, for the first time, we have a combination of government services, the pri-

vate sector represented by trac-

tor companies and finance houses, and the small-scale farmers in the common aim of producing surpluses and being commercially successful."

Bulk discounts of up to 31% have been negotiated to buy new tractors. The programme will subsidise new tractors by 16%, up to R82 000, and machinery by 16%, up to R16000. The Land Bank will provide finance at prime interest less 1,25%.

Prospective owners will have to pass a training course before they can have access to a loan.

ALYYd NOQ334d VHLIVANI

Le+1L 200 "ny"g

IFP asks for
11th hour
talks over
TRC findings

CHRISTELLE TERREBLANCHE

CAPE TOWN: An 11th hour
request by the Inkatha Freedom
| Party to meet members of the
Truth and Reconciliation
Commission to resolve their dif-
ferences is under consideration
- by commissioners. - '

This emerged yesterday after .
weekend reports suggested the
TFPâ\200\231s ongoing feud with the TRC
| could result in the publication of
the final report being delayed.

The Justice Department and
commissioners gave assurances
that the IFPâ\200\231s struggle to get the -
â\200\230text of the final report changed
would not affect the handing
over of the final codicil this
month, o

Sources close to the now dis-
| banded commission, however,
told The Mereury that some for-
mer members had recently
received a request for a â\200\234round-
table discussionâ\200\235 about the IFPâ\200\231s .
| problems with the findings the :
TRC made, including that.its-
members were responsible for a -
third of all violations reported.
to the commission. .

Former conunissioner Yas-
min Sooka ~ confirmed the:
request, but added it was mostâ\200\231
unlikely the commission would
â\200\230agree to change any of its find-:
ings. â\200\234We canâ\200\231t be part of a:
process that negotiates its. find- |
ings,â\204 Sooka sald.. :

â\200\234There would be a very seri-
ous revolt by most commission-
ers If there was any possibility
of amending (the IFP findings).â\200\235

She would not -confirm
rumours some commissioners.
were in favour of the meeting.

NLESS rich donor
countries changed

their attitude, HIV/

Aids would make a
mockery of all the economic
developments that African and
other developing countries had
achieved -in the last seven
years, says Mr Stephen Lewis,
who is Special Envoy of the
United Nations Secretary-
General for HIV/Aids in
Delivering the Asa Briggs
Lecture during this week's
Second Pan-Commonwealth

Forum on Open and Distance -

Learning in Durban, Lewis
said one of the themes that
came out of the recent Inter-
national Aids Conference in
Barcelona dealt with re-
sources. 2003

He said the question of
resources in fighting the Aids

pandemic probably vexed the
conference more than any

other issues.

2004 Everyone is looking for that

target of \$10 billion to spend
every year to deal almost exclu-
sively with HIV/Aids, 2005 said
Lewis.

He added that it had been
almost a year since the UN's
Kofi Annan set a target of \$7 to
\$10 billion and now everybody
agreed on \$10 billion for a glob-
al fund on Aids, malaria and
TB - although its primary
focus is on Aids.

- three

Aids set to wipe
out gains in Africa

UN envoy says donor countries need to change writes Mbulelo Baoyf

" 2004 The donor nations have con-
- tributed \$2.1 billion in total -

most of it pledged, not yet
delivered - 2003 over a period of
years. 0

2004 It is such a lamentable
moral lapse in the refusal to

provide the money to save the
lives of human beings that is-
beyond, [must admit to you,
my capacity to understandâ\200\231
said Lewis.

- He pointed out in the last sixâ\200\231
to eight months; Western coun- -
tries have raised over \$100 bil-
lion to fight the war on terror--
ism at the G8 conference.

Lewis said in hignative coun-- =
try of Canada;â\200\231it:look a matter -
of minutes to agreeâ\200\231 to .an
expenditure of \$20 billion fo

dismantle â\200\230weapons-in Russia
and other states of the former
Soviet Union,

â\200\234But to find relatively tiny
amouwris of money as they are
dealt with internationally, to
respond to a pasdemic which is

_ STEPHEN' LEWAS

ravaglng human kind, we have
to'grovel on our. knees and beg
in order to get the nch nations
â\200\234to respond.

â\200\234All of us have to continue to
apply nnrelenting pressure to
rich countries and I thought to
myself that I wish Asa Briggs

could be-writing about the
social . and econoimic history of

.peoples- being sabotaged by

Jpolitical rigidity, heartlessness
and 1 suspect, a pretty good

. quotient of racism.â\200\235

He said a UNAids report pre-

â\200\230sented at the recent Inter-

nationat Aids Conference in
Barcelona suggested that by
â\200\230the year 2020, it was likely that

- 68 million Itves would be lost
worldwide as a result of HIV/..

Aids with the greatest number
of those fatalities coming frnm
sub-Saharan Africa..

- With South Africa representing about 40% of sub-Saharan Africa, he said this country's economic output faced a real

challenge - gross domestic product 17% - lower than it would have been

without Aids.

Lewis said although the New Partnership for Africa's Development was a classic neo-

- liberal doctrine not emphasising trade, investment, governance

and corruption and all the things which Africa collectively wanted to confront or invite, it also had right at its heart a

- paragraph which said unless

African countries dealt with

- the problem of communicable diseases, - would remain an "impossible

then development dream"

I THINK everyone would acknowledge that this eco-

-nomic and social plan for

Africa hardly recognises the

existence of HIV/Aids. Lewis said it was interesting

to note that at the Commonwealth

Forum on Open Learning,

the whole world agreed that the answer to HIV/Aids is education.

Education somehow has to survive the intolerable assaults of HIV/Aids. However, how it is to survive is not immediately apparent. said Lewis.

In 2001 alone one million

teachers to Aids, a special session on children held in New York heard in May, he said.

Forum on Open Learning = HIV/Aids made it necessary to > devise new ways of teaching = education against the epidemic

ic.

â\200\234School planners and | e
makers envision altern: â\200\224
forms of schooling such 2
schooling structured around ____
modules and semesters rather >
than around age-hour H
grades.â\200\235

In addition, he said, open and
distance education, together

-with appropriate technology;

could change delivery of edu-
cation in a way that would have
a tremendous impact on the
collective scourges of HIV,
Aids, orphaned children, out of
school kids and refugee chil-
dren.

â\200\234The most recent definitive
report on the Aids situation is

" beginning to use the language

that the Commonwealth
Forum on Open Learning vees
- particularly where teach <
are concerned, in environ o>
beyond urban centres, where =
they could absorb knowle.S2

_and use it so that 'it could have

a tremendous contribution 45
combating the pandemic."

Get real, Dr Sutcliffe_e' 1

THIS is'an open letter to . paying bills like you.
Comrade Suiccliffe and his " Do you know why I am
overpaid councillors who are earning so little?
doing nothing. At is you who Instructed your
"I am a father of two. nmanagers to cut my salary
I am working for vour without any reason and force
â\200\234companyâ\200\235. me to-work part-time, .
Iearn R1936.73 before Let me quote Peter Worman
deductions, which comes to and say â\200\234Get real, Dr Sutcliffe!â\200\235
R802.00 after deductions. - T
My two kids are at school like . . HUNGRY WORKER
vours. They eat like yours. Iam Umhlanga â\200\231
: 4

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6:11 Â¢00Â¢

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THE MERCURY

Â\$Â¢:11 Â¢00Â¢

LAND CLAIMS COMMISSION NEEDS TO BE SEEN TO BE TAI(ING ACTION

ALYYd WOQ3TÂ¥d YHLYINI

LAND Claims Commission spin doctor invasions wĩ¬\2021 spread to other areas. - Cmm]ssioner mgethemmĩ¬\201 a whole Fourteen months later the oĩ¬\202ice o.tâ\200\230 Memela apparently fails fo

Zwelihle Memela, in his polemical - It is disturbing that an employee of phalanx of- politi cians- (ihclpding the - the Land Claims Commissioner is sti}l appreciate that he and his co lleagues

response to my article on land the department handling crucial land national ministers of land affairsand fiddling while Mangete burns. : including his Commissioner, are invasions, ignores the fact that many ~ issues considers it inflammatory to home affairs) d escended on the area Seemingly confident that they will public servants who are funded by farmmis in areas other than Mangete â\200\224 draw attention lo this disgraceful state and told the landowners, i no rem_ziln where they are, illegal -)

! - " hardpressed taxpayers - whose right ali of which are, co-incidentally, owned of affairs. nneertain terms, that they shouldâ\200 \235 occupants, most of whom are not - isto question why they are not doing by people formerly classified as _ Had Memela read my article more negotiate rather than co ntinue wrl.h claimants, continue to build with

_) their jobs properly, especially when

coloured or Indian - have been carefully, he would have seen that I . the court proceedings . impunity, in contravention of the _ peopleâ\200\231s safety and livelihoods, and t

Hllegally occupied. was not referring to recent The land owners were assured by- ' conditio ns of negotiation. smbĩ¬\202xty of the provinee, are at stalne However, he takes exception to my postponements of Mangete court the Land Claims Commissio ner that, The police appear either unable or -

. raising the possibility of racial hearings, but to the events of June - by negotiating, m atters would be unwĩ¬\2021mg to stop what are clearly 4 MARYDE HA: overtones, and asking whether 2001, when the provincial Land Claims sorted out within three months. - illegal acuuns _ Durban)

9Â¢/L *d

. Johdnnesburg.

Zondi: â\200\230leaders are accountableâ\200\231

IFP march
marred

by viol

ence

- and rape

has called on its Gauteng lead-

ers to open an investigation
into violence that marred the partyâ\200\231s
protest in Johannesburg yesterday.

IFP national spokesman Musa
Zondi said IFP leaders in Gauteng
are accountable for the demonstra-
tion and the party instructed them
to investigate whether IFP members
were involved. SR

â\200\234If anyone of our members were
involved in the violence, they should
be disciplined,â\200\235 he said. .

â\200\234We condemn the violence, it can-
not be justified, These people must -
be disciplined accordingly.â\200\235 -

- A woman was raped, one person
was shot and wounded and 17 peo-
ple were arrested on charges of rob-
bery, intimidation and possessing
uplicensed firearms during a protest
march that ended in downtown

THE Inkatha Freedom Party

Gauteng police spokeswoman
Director Henriette Bester said two
men raped the 22-year-old woman
at a Soweto hostel] when IFP sup-
porters. grouped to take part in the -
march. The rapists are still at large,
she said.

Police found the injured person,

believed to be an IFP supporter, -
. withâ\200\231 & bullet wound in the thigh

after they heard gunshots. -'
Earlier yesterday many IFP sup-

porters went on a rampage at the -

Nancefield hostel. They robbed,
assaulted and - intimidated people,
forcing them to join the march.
These violent incidents took place
when scoresâ\200\231 of people, â\200\230protesting
under the banner of the IFP Youth

Brigade, marched through the city's *
streets to highlight their frustration
. about floor-crossing legislation,

. The demonstrators, most of them
clad in traditional garb and IFP
colours, marched from Joubert Park
to Beyers Naude Square [formerly
the Library Gardens] where they
handed over a memorandum of
grievances. :

- . The document, addressed to Pres-
ident Thabo Mbeki, said the antici-
pated defection clause denies voters
their right to choose their leaders.

Supporters of Pan Africanist Con-
gress, the United Democratic Move-
ment, and the Azanian People's
Organisation formed part of the
demonstration.

Some of the demonstrators car-
ried posters reading: "Mbeki: steal-
ing of voters is fraud" and "Voters
have the power".

The protest marked the eve of a
Constitutional Court application
contesting the constitutionality of
the legislation.

The hearing begins today and fol-
lows a court order, obtained by the

UDM, which suspended the legisla-
tion until the Constitutional Court
rules on its constitutionality.

A woman was raped
- during the march
et e T

Bester and the Democratic
Alliance voiced their anger at the
way in which IFP supporters
behaved during the march. -

"Where there is lawlessness, you
cannot find democracy. Where are
the democratic rights of the people
who were intimidated and the raped
woman? I want to condemn this
action," she said-

A DA MPP said he could see the
mayhem in the streets of Johannes-

. burg from his third floor office in
- the Gauteng legislature,

"This behaviour needs to be con-

demned regardless of the perpetrators,â\200\235 he said. .

IFP Youth Brigade leader Xolani Mbuthu said the manner in which . the government handled the inclu-

sion of the defection clause . was

â\200\230unacceptable, -
He said the. government should

have waited for another election '

before changing the legislation.â\200\235
â\200\234We, as the youth of South Africa,
- can never allow this to happen,â\200\235
said Mbuthu. Sy
E -~ Sapa.

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BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, August 6 2002

Violence mars
IFP youthsâ\200\231
protest march

Police make arrests for robbery, rape

Xolani Xundu and Sapa

VIOLENT incidents marred a
protest march organised by the
Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP)
Youth Brigade against the defec-
tion legislation yesterday.

The march in Johannesburg
resulted in the arrest of 17 people
on charges ranging from assault
to robbery and rape. :

The Constitutional Court is
due to hear arguments for and
against the legislation today.

Supporters of the Pan African-
ist Congress, the United Demo-
cratic Movement (UDM) and the
Azanian Peopleâ\200\231s Organisation
also joined in the march.

The mayhem started at about
3am when Ægolice were called to
the Nancefield railway station
when a mob went on the tam-
page, assaulting and robbing
commuters on their way to work-

A woman, pulled out of her
cab, was raped.

Police- ep!
Mbhazima Shiburi said 16 people
were arrested on public violence
charges, while one was arrested
on a charge of possessing an un-
licensed firearm. .

The - violence apparently
spread to the nearby Nancefield
hostel. Shiburi said the arrested
individuals would be questioned.

He said the situation was un-
der control and police were mon-
itoring the area. The motive for
the violence was not known.

IFP spokesman Musa Zondi
condemned the violence, saying
the party was â\200\234deeply distressed

and alarmedâ\200\235 by the reports and

. called on the party's Gauteng leadership to investigate whether their members were involved or connected to the violence.

If found guilty, they would be subjected to disciplinary action. Irrespective of the details of the

incident, which are at present

sketchy, the IFP deplores violence of any kind," said Zondi. Democratic Alliance leader in

"

Gauteng Jack Bloom said "he could see the protestors smashing

hawkers' tables in Market Street and shop windows being broken.

Here was general disorder that led to rubber bullets being fired by the police. I have just witnessed the appalling indiscipline. This behaviour needs to be condemned, regardless of the perpetrators," said Bloom.

Police spokeswoman Director Henriette Bester said criminal incidents allegedly related to the protest ranged across the city.

Where there is lawlessness, you cannot find democracy. {Where are the democratic rights of the people who were intimidated and the raped woman? I want to condemn this action.

Bester said most people living in the hostel were forced to take part in the demonstration.

More than a thousand people; most of them clad in traditional Zulu garb and IFP colours, marched from Joubert Park to Beyers Naude Square to highlight frustration over the election.

Some of the demonstrators carried posters reading: Mbeki: stealing of voters is fraud and Voters have the power.

Today's hearing at the Constitutional Court follows a court order, obtained by the UDM, which suspended the floor-crossing legislation until the court's ruling on its constitutionality. ~ The UDM chairman Kingsley Masemola and other leaders

handed a memorandum of |

noes to justice ministry
spokesman Paul Setsetse.

IFP youth leader Xolani
Mabuthu said the manner in
which government handled the

e A T T e M i 7

. inclusion of the defection clause

was unacceptable.
He said government should .

have waited for another election -

before It considered changing the
legislation. We, as the youth of

. SA can never allow this to hap-

pen" said Mabuthu.

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BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, August 6 2002

Detection legislation is
not flouting voters's will

Old DP gams if Constitutional Court rejects law, but it reflects political realities

Pierre L Cronjé

Several commentators
have treated the floor-
crossing legislation as a
purely academic-moralis-
tic exercise and in so do-
ing made certain fundamental er-
rors about the real world of politics.

The constitution is quite clear .

(23A.(1)) that: a person loses his
membership if that person ceases to

be a member of the party which
nominated that person,

But that very same constitution
foresees that (23A (3)): Parliament

may after a reasonable period pass .

legislation for members to cross the
floor without losing their seats, and

that (23A (4)): Existing parties may
merge or subdivide.

A reasonable time has passed,
We are already well into the life of
the second democratic Parliament
but more so, in view of the very real
problem posed by the Democratic
Party-New National Party (DP-NNP)
merger and ensuing subdivision,
Parliament has passed the legisla-
tion as foreseen in the constitution.

Commentators then argue the

electorate voted for a party and

therefore members who were elect-

- ed on a party list will be breaching -

the confidence and trust of the elec-
torate if they were to cross the floor.

This argument is flawed on three
very real political grounds: |
First, the electoral votes for par-
ties for two reasons: the party's

manifesto, but perhaps even more importantly .for the team that it fields. Most apathetic voters put their trust in the party leadership: â\200\234If . Van Zyl Slabbert cdn be a Prog, then who amI to argue?â\200\235

The confidence and trust of the public in a political party is therefore shaped to alarge degree by the composite trust in the history, integrity, popularity and charisma of its public representatives.

M Second, it is implied the party remains true its manifesto and that members who do not agree with a

partyâ\200\231s posxhon on a specific issue - must thus resign. This is simply not the case as parties do change their positions betwÃ©en elections because of chan circumstances, without consulting the electorate who placed them there hvwae afan

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MUSICAL CHAIRS.

â\200\230 [CR\ENGATGTENS who have undergone a tahotomy will agree with every single item on a party INERRE R : huys a package. ,

moil and chwge. parties often track .

public opinion and then change

. their positions against. their mandated manifesto.

" We already have a precedent lor" -members to cross the floor, and

Slabbert concedes that in the municipal " systemn, ward councillors

â\200\234may cross the floor, and do so with

integrity, as they may have made promises under a party manifesto which the party no longer supports,

Yet in the same locality members of the same party who attracted votes on the same platform but who happened to be on the party list must lose their seats if the party wavers from its manifesto?

Only individuals who have undergone a lobotomy will agree with every single item on a party man-

ifesto; one buys a 200\231 package. Some 200\231

items may carry more weight in certain localities and under certain circumstances and members mov

draw the meat of different pump tsh AlHVd K0Q334d YHLYAN Ired &0;98 L1rd00Â

Geaphiz: PUOIKY RIADLINGC2)

fore demdmg to pancompany '
B Third, there is the very real prob-

lem: posed by the DP-NNP merger
into the DP and subsequent subdi-

200\230 vision into the (new) DP and original NNE.

In terms of the foreseen act of

Parliament in the constitution, parties can merge or subdivide to form new parties without members losing their seats, This is indeed what has happened with the on-off merger-between the DP and the NNP but without the protection of the act. Therefore at national and provincial level . 200\234 Democratic Alliance (DA)" members still sit, expediently,

as members of the DP or the NNB

while at local government level, members were elected on a DA label subsequent to the merger.

" Then came the subdivision where the DA subdivided into its

original components of the old"
ATNTD anAd laao 200\235 T v t 200\230 dm

- the
- (ANC) 200\224 the biggest party 200\224 even
- no single member crossed the floor

the divorce. This means at national and provincial level members both the NNP and DP/DA can retain their seats although they both changed their allegiance twice. local government level those members who elected on the DA label but who were of the NNP persuasion are now trapped; they cannot return to the NNP fold without the disputed acts. DA members from the DP persuasion, however face no such problem as the DP simply changed its name to the D - It is interesting that those who now oppose the acts, seem to favour neither the DP nor NNP in the .

1999 manifestos asked for a mandate to form the DA. Thus in the formation: of the DA, the DP and the

. NNP flouted the will of the voters

who voted for these parties. The ANC will indeed restore the will of the people who voted DP or NNP in the last election. Why ask for an election now that the 1999 position of the popular will can be restored?

.. The fact that Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal may see a change of coalition and so a change in government is coincidental. In Western Cape the minority DF, with a disproportionately large number of

executive members in the coalition

with the NNP, may be replaced by the African National Congress

In KwaZulu-Natal the Inkatha Freedom Party may be replaced by

the NNP as the ANC coalition partner

ner, with the defection of DP members to the ANC. -

In both cases the will of the people who voted ANC will not

: been frustrated, as the ANC has always

said it is prepared to work with any party committed to reconciliation and reconstruction. So, do not let the issue of coalitions bedevil the argument about individual members crossing the floor or parties merging or subdividing, which are what the acts are about.

It is ironic that the old DP who had its origins in the defection of Helen Suzman and the other brave fifty-niners, and who diligently promoted and supported the disputed acts since 1994, will be the only beneficiaries if the acts were to be struck down by the Constitutional Court.

3Ny Â\$ ANCMP

Not right to flee political parties

I MUST compliment Michael McCarthy on the content of his letter in The Mercury of July 19

I fully agree with him that a move by a politician who has won the votes and confidence of those who voted for him to "on a whim" cross the floor, especially for his or her own gain, by swapping parties, should be declared unconstitutional.

- What right does that person or "flea" have to

Jump from one body to another for their own gain and not for the well-being of the persons who voted for them in the first place? -

I believe if these people were to go to their constituents and ask them to vote to allow them

to "cross the floor", they may just find that they may not get any votes, Is the present situation not like this, where politicians can "waltz" to any drumbeat they like without the permission of those who put them there in the first place ? Do they justify this by saying, "I believe this is the best move for those who voted for me?" Or do they just say, "Stuff the voters, I can stay alive and get more money by making this change." Watch out for whom you vote. They may not be the "honest Joe or Joeleen" you think they are.

" JOHN KNOTTENBELT
West Riding : :

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2002 10:17

T.Aug.

The Citizen Tuesday 6 August 2002

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-. DESPITE the Constltutlional Court vic-

tory, the HIV/ Aids pandentic remains
with us. Much still needs to be accom-

plished to save the lives of millions of '

South Africans.

There is a wealth of practical steps

that can be taken. I will expand onâ\200\231
two: making the disease notifiable-

and enhancing SAâ\200\231s pharmaceutical
manufacturing capacity.

Making a disease notifiable means
creating a real-time measure of actual
occurrence. It allows government and
society to develop appropriate strate-
gies. .

Can government and society devel-
op proper and adeguate strategies ta

combat HIV/Aids without reliable,

information about incidence and
prevalence, available on a real-time
basis? No.

There are those who argue we

already have statistical studies and
models. But the statxstn:s are educat-

_â\200\230ed guesses, and no matier how accu-
- rate; they do not give the full picture.

Although I have -great respect for
the. institutions that compile these
statlstlm, there will always be others

â\200\224'some. in the ruling party â\200\224 who will _"
. deny the accuracy of the statisticsand .~
" accuse researchers of incompetence, .
" When a disease is notifiable, such.:

criticism cannot be raised, and the

"PRACâ\200\231F ICAL steps can be '
- taken to combat HIV/Aids,

writes BANTU HOLOMISA

in 2011 millions who suffer cannot be ignored.

- Notifiability does not mean sacrificing the privacy and dignity of

people living with HIV/Aids. Confidentiality

must be protected, and notification made anonymously, without the individual's identity

being recorded. Notifiability is dependent upon confidentiality.

I respect the fears of those who say making HIV/Aids notifiable will lead to stigmatisation and victimisation. But those fears are misplaced. Notifiability does not mean the public declaration of a person's HIV/ Aids status.

Many South Africans already undergo HIV tests by medical

schemes and insurance companies. They trust the private sector to keep

their HIV status confidential.

Similarly, people with HIV who enter

public health institutions have to trust these hospitals and clinicians to

protect their confidentiality.

A second practical step we can take is to enhance South Africa's pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity.

There is no other country on the continent, and few in the world, that

has the resources, infrastructure,

expertise and technological know-how this country has. We can produce for the whole continent

HIV medicine of high quality at a reasonable price.

A public-private partnership to develop treatment and build pharmaceutical factories will be an investment in the health of our nation.

It will also be a longterm investment in our economy that will establish us as a world-player in the multi-billion dollar pharmaceutical industry. Certainly it would be a much wiser investment than the R60 billion being wasted on weapons, when the SANDF cannot even maintain their current equipment. Never before has

an opportunity of this scale presented

itself to simultaneously save lives as well as develop our economy and create jobs.

South Africans must come together around a national plan of action, of definite practical steps. Countries

- such as Uganda that have had a measure of success have proven this is the only way to fight HIV/Aids.

Â® Bantu Ha!om:sa is UDM president.

P. 8/17

No.6713

[NKATHA FREEDOM PARTY

2002 10:18

T.Aug.

The Citizen Tuesday 6 Augustâ\200\230Z00Z

â\200\230Senior IFP man sexually
assaulted meâ\200\231 - worker

By THULANI MSIMANG
POLICE confirmed yesterday they
were probing a charge of indecent
assault laid by an employee at the
IFPâ\200\231s offices on the East Rand, who
alleged she was sexually assaulted
by a senior party member.

According to police spokesman
Captain Thobile Xakeka, police
were in the process of interviewing
the victim when her legal team in-

sisted that they be present during
statement taking.

Xakeka said a team of detectives
tasked with investigating the mat-
ter had been deployed to the IFPâ\200\231s
offices yesterday with the intention
of interviewing the victim but were
unable to locate her. The matter was
now in the hands of the lawyers. .

The charge is related to an inci-
dent which took place at the partyâ\200\231s
offices. Last week the IFP confirmed
it was investigating allegations of
sexual misconduct against a senior
member. No arrest has been made.

10/17

[NKATHA FREEDOM PARTY No.6713 P.

2002 10:18

7.Aug.

The Citizen Tuesday 6 August 2002

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A HAWKER chases a marcher who stole from his stall during the protest march through central Johannesburg yesterday.
Picture by MARIOLA BIELA =

protest march

Rape, looting during anti-floor crossing demo

By KINGDOM MABUZA
SCORES of passengers were
pulled off and others hurled from

the Johannesburg-bound trains' in
Nancefield and Tokwezi stations in
Soweto as hundreds of Inkatha -

Freedom. Party (IFP) members
boarded on their way to an anti-

floor-crossing demonstration yesterday.

terday .

Earlier in the morning a group
of people coming from the IFP-
dominated Nancefield Hostel al-
legedly raped a woman. The group

is also alleged to have then moved:

on to Nancefield Station, where
they allegedly assaulted and

beat train passengers who were

going to work.

Journalists who went into
Nancefield Hostel to get pictures
and conduct interviews were
chased out. Several shots were

fired, forcing police and journal-

ists to flee for cover.

Police spokesman Captain
Mbhazima Shiburi assured the
media that nobody had been in-
jured when the shots were fired.
- ~Some -3-000 IFP members
flocked from various hostels and
townships in Gauteng and were

later joined by pockets of Pan -

Africanist Congress (PAC) and
United Democratic Movement
(UDM) supporters in Joubert Park.

. The march to the Gauteng Legis-

lation was marred by violence as

hawkers' stalls were looted.

Muntumhle Khawula, an IFP
Youth Brigade leader, told the
gathering that President Thabo
Mbeki was a fraudster out to steal
votes. .

- Mbeki is stealing votes,
and unfortunately the police do

riot have the infrastructure to
fight this kind of crime, said P

Khawula. et
The march, organised by the

Joint Youth Forum, made
up of youth organs of the IFP, PAC -
and UDM, argued in a memoran-
dum that all MPs, MPLs and coun-
cillors were elected through a Te-
gitimate representation system in
which voters voted for political
parties and not individuals.

The memorandum said the
floor-crossing legislation was a
strategy of political expediency. .

Spokesman for the Depart-
ment of Justice and Constitu-
tional Development, Paul Set-
setse, accepted the memoran-

-dum. The Constitutional Court

will decide today on the legality
of the floor-crossing legislation.
Meanwhile, police spokesman

Director Henriette Bester con-
demned crimes committed dur-

ing the march.
- "Where there is lawlessness,

"to find democracy " she
said.

' ETAN Tuesd.ay.August 6 2002

PERMIT me to respond to Joshua Mazibuka's letter in Sowetan of July 3E.

Between Mazibuko and I, I don't know which one of us is an ignorant Rip van Winkle, sleeping through the history of violent clashes, propaganda and counter-propaganda involving the Inkatha Freedom Party and the African National Congress -- not only in KwaZulu-

Natal but also here on the Reef and in East

Rand townships. .

Unlike Mazibuko, who is clearly a mouth-piece for his political bosses, I hold no brief for

the ANC or any other political party.

He queries whether there will be violence

. in KwaZulu-Natal if the floor-crossing legislation is declared null and void? I

If the ANC or its supporters resorted to violence in that province or any part of this country -- for any reason whatsoever, -- that would deserve condemnation, in the same way that similar action by the IFP would deserve

- condemnation. .

This country is sick and tired of violence perpetrated by politicians and their supporters.

It doesn't matter _Whof;

Mazibuko cynically attempts to drag this issue down to the level of a pointless argument about who started the violence between the two parties. . . B <

Nobody, except Mazibuko, really cares which party started it. . and

Both parties have been found to have per-

petrated brutal violence against each other on

many occasions, with horrendous conse-

quences for the ordinary citizen. :

The main issue and challenge for the people of this country is to be vigilant against |

circumstances in which violence is provoked.

At the moment there are serious political tensions between the IFP and ANC in

KwaZulu-Natal, where the proposed floor-crossing legislation could spark trouble.

Virtually everyone knows that the IFP is

extremely unhappy about this because it could

lose control of the province. Based on past

experience in the region, is it unreasonable to .
expect the worst?

Johannesburg

THABO RAPGO

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