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COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT
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CFTC/RSA/1 18 April 1984

Dear Comrade Makgothi,

Distance Education Prpgremme for South African Exiles

As you are no doubt aware, my colleague Mr. Snelson discussed the above-mentioned Programme in Dar es Salaam on 3 April 1984 with Comrades Mabizela, Tikly and Metsiende. They were pleased to learn that agreement had been reached concerning arrangements to establish the South African Extension Unit (SAEU) later this year, as soon as the necessary funds had been made available. In that connection, the Commonwealth Secretary-General sent a letter of appeal to all Commonwealth Government: on 19 March 1984. A copy of that letter and its appendices was given to Cde. Mabizela; I attach a further copy for your information. When the required financial resources have been provided, the Secretariat will inform all concerned. The Director of the SAEU will then be appointed, office accommodation will be secured, a meeting of the Advisory Committee will be held and preparations made for the first meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Once the scheme has been firmly established in manzanie, we shall, as you know, consider its expansion to provide distance learning opportunities for South African Exiles in other Front-Line States. In this regard, we have noted in the UNHCR's report on its activities during 1982/83 (published on 1 August 1983) that there were last year 6,200 South African refugees in Angola and 2,800 in Zambia. Mention was made in the report that UNHCR assistance to those in Angola was directed specifically to improving agricultural production on the 6,000 hectares of land in the Province of Melange, which had been made available to the ANC by the Government of Angola, and that UNHCR support had been provided also for the 2,800 South Africans at the ANC farm in Zambia. We shall be grateful if you will inform us whether the ANC would wish the distance education project to provide assistance, in due course, to the ANC Comrades who are resident in such settlements within Angola and Zambia.

With warmest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

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Thrence R. Dormer, K

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