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# AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

75th Anniversary Committee
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MEC

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# NOTES ON CDE SINDISO MEENYANA'S BRIEFING.

#### INTRODUCTION:

Cde Sindiso briefed the members on the NEC Emergency meeting held from the 18° 19th September which was immediately followed by the National Working Committee meeting. The Emergency meeting was convened mainly to discuss the question of the mounting violence which is threatening the peace process in the country.

He explained that all the NEC meetings held inside the country are attended by co-ordinators of all the regions. He gave the list of co-ordinators as follows:-

- 1. Eastern Cape Benson Fihla.
- 2. Eastern TVL Ntombi Shope.
- 3. Southern Ntl Terror Lekota.
- 4. Western Cape Trevor Manuel.
- 5. Natal Midlands Harry Gwala.
- 6. Transkei Alfred Xobololo.
- 7. S. Free State Caleb Motshabi.
- 8. Border Arnold Stofile.
- 9. Northern TVL Thabo Makunyane .
- 10. N. Free State Tsiu Matsepe.
- 11. N. Natal Willi Mchumu.
- 12. W. TVL Tyrone Thomas.
- 13. PWV Area Kga lema Motlanthe.

Cde Sindiso also drew our attention to the fact that besides regional co-ordinators invitations are also extended to the MDM and to certain officials who are not necessarily ANC members but who are leaders in their own right to attend NEC meetings. They are Popo, Barney, Vusi Khanyile, Peter Mokaba, Cyril Ramaphosa and J. Naidoo.

#### NEC EMERGENCY MEETING:

As earlier mentioned this meeting was called to discuss the escalating violence in South Africa.

The point made by our Deputy President was that the regime seems to be ignoring the role of the police and that because the ANC welcomed a peaceful process this gives them ground to afford to play around. He made particular emphasis that the ANC is open to review its position on armed struggle if the other side continues to play a negative role.

The government, it was said keeps on saying they have taken measures to curb the violence by reffering to the 76 centres where it was agreed that we should help by having our people who would liase and work with the police.

It also came out that ANC members are active in the formation of Residents Committees though in same areas this has not been done. The NEC agreed that it was the full responsibility of the government to stop the violence and all the parties involved and maintain order in the country. However, the ANC is ready to take whatever measures necessary to keep peace and order.

Cde Sindiso stressed that the NEC noted that the violence was not between the ANC and INKATHA nor between Zulus and Xhosas but that there was a third force which is the combination of various forces that want to destabilise the peace process in South Africa. The involvement of INKATHA specialised units was a recognised and that these units were sent for military training outside South Africa and also the pattern the violence follows. The specialised units are said to be moving from one sport to another and violence crupts whereever they are; their targets being the hospels. These reports have been sent to the government and the police but have an Vlok says the ANC is making allegations which cannot be proved.

A process of getting affidavits on the involvement of the security forces is underway and this was the initiative of all the progressive bodies inside the country.

The NEC also recognised the involvement of other forces such as RENAMO, UNITA etc. and that all these forces have been brought in to demonstrate to the world the inability and weakness of the ANC to govern its people. The meeting passed several resolutions,

- i. Condemning these acts especially the involvement of the third forces.
- ii. Though the ANC has suspended armed struggle it is its responsibility to defend the people of SA and therefore the need for self defense units was emphasised. There should be marshalls who will operate on adhoc basis and that selection of such marshalls should be properly done. In order to operate in a more organised way their work should be co-ordinated and the capability of protecting the masses should be strengthened.

Cde Sindiso drew the attention of the meeting to the statement issued by de Klerk offering high rewards for people who will return weapons and give information about those who have them. Since this was not discussed with the ANC, ANC units will not respond to this call or appeal. The regime, it was said got to do this in order to get weapons stolen by the Right Wing. After thorough analysis of the statement the

the NEC found that this was meant to give the government more information not on the Right Wing but on our people.

# NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING:

He announced the administrative changes effected by the Working Committee and decisions that were taken in the meeting;-

- i. The first decision taken was the transfer of the bulk of the NEC members to SA, which Cde Sindiso said was deliberate. They found that it was unrealistic to hold meetings and take decisions with the majority of them being outside the country.
- ii . Lusaka is still the HQ exce pt that major decisions will be taken in South Africa.
- iii. A certain number of NEC members will have to remain outside for the purposes of co-ordinating and lissing with the internal leadership/Structures.
- iv. All National Structures are expected to move into the country and operate from there. He noted that some departments have already begun the process of transfer.
- v. He mentioned a number of departments that have been affected by the NMC's decisions.
  These are:-
  - (a) IPC this structure has been dissolved since there is no need for it.
  - (b) PMC still open for discussion and recommendations.
  - (c) NAT this item was postponed for another meeting.
  - (d) MHQ still has work to do.
  - (e) DIP the leadership has already moved in though still finalising its work outside.
  - (f) DIA is moving in.

- (g) DOE & DMD it was felt that these structures should remain so as to ensure the education and training of our comrades.
- (h) DOH must remain to look after the health of our people in exile.

  The ANC is further creating the health and education desks inside the country to liase with the department of education and health in exile.
  - (i) DAC is in the process of transfer.
  - (j) Department of Economics & Planning has opened offices and is winding up,
  - (k) Wome n s Secretariat is working to move in.
  - (1) YOUTH there has been hitches here and there but they have to move in.

Cde Sindiso stressed that Lusaka will operate like all other regions. He said several decisions were also taken with regard to MHQ and other structures that had special attention in terms of maintanance of its cadres. They will now receive food supplies and allowance like everybody else in the region.

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He further informed the meeting that there is pressure from all our supporters who say there is no reason to be calling ourselves a Liberation Movement and as such are reluctant to release funds to be used outside SA and already these funds have been reduced. The only funds available are for building the ANC inside South Africa.

The National Working Committee also felt that the ANC has to introduce democratic practices, try and encourage its members to be active in Civic Associations. It must be seen to be tolerant of other existing organisations and must try to avoid to regard Civic Bodies as ANC.

#### EDUCATION.

Cde Sindiso raised the problem faced by parents and education authorities with regard to education. The problem is no longer that of strikes, it has been realised that a sort of culture against education has in the process developed. No effective education is going on in the schools. The children have developed an understanding that schooling is secondary and they decide when they will go to school. If there is a rally, important etc. they stay away from school as a result teachers and parents are facing a nightware and are now appealing to the ANC to come and remedy the situation.

He also visited a number of Educational Institution and at UNITRA he was shown a list of vacant posts which they hoped our people could fill up. He found that a lot is expected from us and as a result all ANC structures have been instructed to make it possible for everybody to undertake some form of eduaction or training. DOE is expected to assist in this regard. He emphasised that MK cadres are free to further their education and this does not mean they are being chucked out of the army, their status remains the same.

MHQ has forms which have to be filled in for A purpose of records. They are also free to improve themselves militarily if they so wish. They could even join the Regular Army and this is voluntary.

## REGIONAL MEETINGS:

Cde Sindiso announced the suspension of regional meetings by the National Working Wommittee and stressed the importance of strengthening the existing branches. He, however noted that the RPC would be free to arrange a General Members Meeting when there is an interesting visitor from SA to address the membership.

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Conference still stands for December 16 in Johannesburg. Conference Documents will be made available to the RPC for circulation to the Branches. At the end of November the NPC co-ordinator, Cde Stuart will be briefing all the regions. Lusaka will be expected to send 15 delegates to Conference

# NEW ANC OFFICES.

It was decided that offices should be opened up in the undermentioned regions and at the same time appoint. Chief Representatives to man them. These are:-

- 1. Gaborone -- Cde Mkhize.
- 2. Swaziland -- Cde George Twala.
- 3. UGANDA -- Cde A. Masondo.
- 4. ZAIRE -- nobody as yet.
- 5. USSR -- Cde Makana is coming back to Lusaka a nd Cde Koos is replacing him.

### CONCLUSION.

In his closing remarks Cde Sindiso sounded a word of warning to those who wish to travel to SA on personal matters that prior to repatriation none will receive any financial assistance from our office in SA.