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Within this perspective, DeveTopment andFREconstruction is defined as invoTving three interreTated aspects:

1. FirstTy it invoTves changing the social and power relations that exist at the moment, in a way that resuTts in power being distributed more equally among all the people. This must aTTow peopTe to have greater democratic controT over the social, poTiticaT and economic aspects of their Tives. This will allow them to participate fully and empower them to take decisions that affect their Tives, at work, in their communities and the country as a whole. These processes of democratic participation by peopTe in decision making need to become institutionaTised to guarantee their continued existence. The ANC and the democratic movement have done much to build a tradition of democratic mass participation in South Africa. This needs to be sustained and used as a foundation upon which a practice of participatory deveTopment can be constructed.
2. SecondTy, the process of budeing real democracy must be accompanied by an improvement in the material Tiving conditions of the majority, ensuring greater access to food, cTOthing, sheTter, incomes, jobs, heaTth and education. These improvements must be achieved through a process of popular participation, which effectiveTy invoTves the peopTe in designing poTicies, giving them contrQT over its impTementation in a way which encourages greater sharing, equaTity and a spirit of community.
3. Democracy and an improvement in the quaTity of Tife must be reTated to a fundamentaT restructuring of the economy, to allow for sustainabTe process of change and growth. This incTudes, improving our technoTogy and industriaT and agricuTturaT capabiTities, producing the needed goods and services using decreasing amounts of resources while protecting the environment and improving the capacity of peopTe to buy and save to aTTow for future investment to make the economy grow, while enhancing the quaTity of our human FEBSCDUI'CGBS.

If the economy does not grow continuaTly and produce adequate goods and weaTth then it wiTT not be possibTe to meet the needs of the' peopTe. If there is no reaT democracy and a change in the distribution of both economic and poTiticaT power then, even if we did have economic growth, it wiTT benefit only the rich and the powerfuT, and the needs of the majority will not be met.

It is cTear that. a process of deveTopment and reconstruction requires aTT three aspects to be equally emphasized.

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February . 1991 . 7

4. AN APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT

In working towards a development strategy we have identified several elements which will be vital components of any such strategy. They are as follows :

Having a developmental approach

This involves moving beyond struggles around single issues or reactive approaches to development into having a more holistic approach that takes on board the challenge of transformation. It involves building well defined development plans at a national, regional and local level that set out clearly the problems, the long term goals and the strategy for the transition. This involves a conceptual shift from creating development projects to creating development programmes that involve a cross sectoral and integrated process that will involve a multiplicity of actors in transforming a particular area or sector of society. A programme could therefore apply to the country as a whole, a specific sector or a locality. Development programmes are based therefore on a combination of projects within a sector or between sectors, i.e. housing, health education etc. This calls for a process of networking within and between sectors to maximise the benefits of cooperation. Development programmes must be built around community participation and control. For this to be effective, resources, time, information, education and training are required, so that communities can take informed decisions and participate from a position of strength. Training and human resource development need to become part of all stages of the development process.

Defining priorities

Within any development programme, there is a need to define priorities. This is done so that the allocation of scarce resources can be planned. Often defining priorities is equated to drawing up a 'shopping list' of demands, which does not account for constraints on resources, both human and material. We need realistic priorities to be worked out in conjunction with the people affected. We need to develop mechanisms that can continuously define and update priorities. An example is a co-ordinating forum for a sector or area that brings together views of mass organisations, service groups and development agencies and technical experts, who could consider all the many variables in determining priorities.

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February. 1991. - 3

Relating to different development actors

Here we have identified three categories of development actors. Those within (a) the democratic movement; (b) state, parastatal, and private sector; and (c) international agencies.

(a) Within the democratic movement, there is a need to network and maximise cooperation among the range of organisations and individuals that are involved in development work.

(b) In relation to this sector we need to 'engage' these structures on well defined terms to achieve our development goals. Mass struggles and democratic participation by the communities involved is central to any process of engagement. Local level negotiations between civics and local or regional authorities are one example of engagement.

(c) This sector has an important contribution to make to our overall development goals. We need to recognise their role but at the same time maintain our independence and control of the development process. We need to draw on their international experiences and learn the lessons of others. Like all the other actors, this relationship will be dynamic and we will need to have a flexible and creative approach to the relationship.

Financial Planning and administration

We have identified two key questions; how do we raise money for development and how do we use that money effectively.

Recognising the macroeconomic constraints on resources, we need development to be based on multiple sources of funds, including state allocations, local and international aid and self generated funds. We need to become less dependent on foreign aid, consider mechanisms for cost recovery, and investigate areas of development work that are linked to production and economic growth. We need to create a culture of proper financial administration and accountability to ensure that resources are used efficiently.

We also need to develop mechanisms for the establishment of community based development funds to improve long-term self-financing. Donors should thus be sensitised to the need for allowing a percentage of current donor contributions to development initiatives to be placed in such "development savings".

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February, 1991. 9

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This is crucial to the success of any development work. The current state of our skilled human resource shows major gaps in a whole range of technical, managerial and administrative aspects. This contributes to dependency relationships with skilled experts and agencies outside of communities. The Apartheid legacy in the field of human resource development amongst black South Africans must be targeted as a matter of urgency. The training of development cadre must receive urgent attention. We need to consider empowerment and training of local capacity as an integral part of all development programmes and also consider specialised agencies that could provide formal or on the job training.

THE WAY FORWARD

In addressing the question of priorities the importance of building and strengthening the ANC and the Democratic Movement cannot be over emphasised. Within this context, it will be crucial to obtain support for the repatriation of exiles and resettlement of ex-political prisoners and internally displaced people. A further priority will be to mobilise resources to support local and regional development initiatives which empower communities in the process of meeting their basic needs.

People throughout the country have responded with a measure of urgency to the challenge of reconstruction and the formulation of socio economic development policies. Development forums that bring together sectors and regions are being set up throughout the country. These forums have begun the process of identifying development priorities, building indigenous models for development and facilitating cohesion and coordination.

The challenge remains to take these ideas down to the ground-on a National scale and engender a development consciousness that will contribute to meeting the challenge.

There exists a rich experience of development, and a willingness to learn. These need to be harnessed and greater effort needs to be put into formulating creative and flexible development programmes that will contribute to meeting our national development objectives. The more detailed ideas and concrete proposals that will be presented here over the next few days reflect the progress that has been made.

We look forward to a meaningful exchange of ideas and concrete agreements which can serve as a useful starting point, upon which we can build a democratic and peaceful future for all.

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February, 1991. 10