

, Draft , .

Conneluelon on Education: Reeolutlen to ANC 48th Netlonal Conference
' _ : Preamble.

The Apartheid education eyetem hll generated an educational crlele
OE dleuetroue proportioneb thch menifeetp lteolf ln groee
dlstortlone and racial lmbalancee ln the educational development of
our people at all levels, vast dlnperlitlee ln the allocation of
educational resources, an eroded climate of learning, an Immense
wastage of human reeourcee and e bureaucratic, Heeteful and corrupt
admlnletretlon of education ln South Africa.

The Apartheid educational eyetem makes little provlelon for the
critical needs for adult education and preschool Eacllltles ln our
communtlee. It has aluo felled to address the urgent educational
needs of the millions of our youth who at present flnd themselves
excluded from Eozmal schooling.

Ibaxtheld education continues to be fundamentally undemocratic and
has failed to respond to the leqltlmate demands of the people of
South Africa. It has also felled to respond to the human resource
skills needed for future economic growth ln our country.

The Apartheid etute etande fully accountable for thin crisis ln
education ln South Africa. The state lacks the political legitimacy
to meanlngfully resolve fundamental contradlctlonu ln the
educational system and address the historical imbalancee produced
by Apartheid education. This crlels cannot be resolved without the
democratic partlpatlon of our people ln all aspects of resolving
thl: Impasse.

.Esucatlon has and continues to be an important arena of struggle
and transformation. The ARC must develop educational policies and
strategies as an intagzal purl: of thrs ctnqulc for the
transfer of power and treneformatlon of South Africa to a non-
racial, democratic society. ANC'e educational policies and
strateglee are therefore lnaepareble from the ARC: political,
constitutional, economic and otherzpollcles.

Conference Reaffirms that:

1. Education ls a fundamental human right.
2. The education system shall have an lte foundation and promote
the values of non-zacellellem, non-eexlaw, and democracy.

1

3. A llterate end numernte eoclety le essential forithe economic,
H social and polltlcel development of a democratic society.

4. The protlelon of educutlon ls the primary responsibility of
the state under a nlnple depaxtment of education.

5. Compuleoty'and free education shall be provided to all SouLh
Africans up to the age of sixteen.

- S. The education needs of the women, youth and adults uhall be
eneured through the provlelone ln an Educational Bill of
nghte.

- ' t through the

7. A top priority must be affirmative action
zedlutzlbutlon of educational resources toward: educationally
deprived communities and regions.

0. Appropriate education ehnl be provided to the handicapped.

9. 'Adult and technlcel education programmes shall be established.

10. Apartheid Education must be replaced by an educational system
reflecting the aspirations and needs of our communities.

Resol uti ons

Horxuc;

The urgent need to unite all democratic forces ln the struggle
to transform Apartheid education,

RESOLVE THAT;

1. ln line with its dcclelon to form a Patriotic Front, the ANC
must take a leading role ln the development of a broad
educational patriotic front which must include our alliance
partners, antlepartheid' -and progresslve educational
organizations to strengthen the educational movement, set
priorities and develop joint strategies.

HOTIHG;

The critical need to reintroduce the culture oi learning among
all our people,

RESOLVE THAT;

1. we commit ourselves to the reinduction of a culture of learning among our members and the broader society,

2

. 4 To promote the culture of learning to reach all our members and the broader community and strive to involve everyone in either teaching or learning,

. To facilitate workshops and seminars on the "Culture of Learning". These discussions must, inter alia, include our own cadres, youth, disadvantaged communities and student organisations, teachers and parents. It would include such issues as the creation of a stable learning environment, building on the positive educational experiences of the community and its organisations, developing a culture of participation in educational work, the collective use of educational resources and Educational and such like matters. The outcomes of these discussions should be used to inform the development of our strategies and tactics in the educational struggle, '

1. i To establish practical educational programmes such as learning support programmes, learning circles and adult education programmes through our organizational structures at all levels and in cooperation with our allied organizations,

5. To encourage and facilitate active consultation and united, coordinated action at all levels whenever the "Culture of Learning" is threatened in institutions of learning, and
i. That all our campaign: shall be informed by our stated commitments to the re-establishment of the culture of learning.

IOTI m3;

That the lack of clarity in the relationship between the internal and the external education structures has created difficulties and misunderstandings,

RESOLVE THAT

1. The matter of the relationship between the internal and external

LHC educational structures be considered by the MEG as a matter of urgency, that the matter be resolved and that the NBC formally communicates its decision on this matter to the relevant structures as soon as possible.

NOTING THAT:

i. It is fundamentally important to engage the organisation as a whole in policy and strategy discussion so that the development of policies and strategies leads to building of organisation.

3

ii.
iii.
iv.

The ARC must intervene in and provide leadership to resolve the education crisis in such a way as to build our long term educational aims and to strengthen our organisation now, recognising that; our short- and long-term objectives are directly related to each other.

We need to develop policies and strategies to vigorously oppose the policies being put forward by the regime and its supporters such as the policy of the privatisation of education and the degradation of the educational environment. At the same time we must continue to put pressure on the regime to discharge its responsibilities in respect of the fundamental right of access to education.

Educational campaign: need careful and proper preparation, planning, and management through democratic and informed participation, discussion and consultation, reporting back and mandates within the ANC, with our allies and in the communities which are directly concerned with the particular campaign.

While this Conference cannot resolve the educational crisis LHC can make a leading intervention in initiating the process of resolving the crisis.

CONFERENCE RESOLVES THAT:

The process of the discussion of educational policies and strategies must commence immediately after this conference in

Every Branch and Region of the ANC.

Such discussion must be facilitated by the Education Department of the ANC.

That the necessary resources be made available to the Department for the purpose: of facilitating these discussions, including the development of the REGIONAL EDUCATION structures, and the preparation of background material (for workshops to be held in the Regions and at the Branch level. Where it is practicable to do so, Regions and Branches must invite organisations which represent the community and which can make a meaningful contribution to discussions on any particular issue.

In addition the Regions must consider engaging with our alliance partners, and in particular with the education policies and initiatives of COSATU, and the HECC, and with organisations of the PATRIOTIC FRONT in such discussions.

5.2

5.3.

The purposes of the discussions must be to:

Develop 'short Term Strategies through educational intervention: for which campaign: can be mounted to ensure that the present state discharge: its educational responsibilities. These can include such issues as the universal and equal access of all those in: and out: of school to educational provision, (i.e. in the schools AND every other kind of educational Institution), the full and proper utilisation of existing educational facilities, including places of learning other than schools, the provision of facilities (including food and nutrition where necessary), the provision of bursaries, facilitating the development of literacy and numeracy on a national basis - Including the use and availability of appropriate national and regional media, and other issues, ARR

Develop our Long Term Educational Policies and Programme. These could include such issues as the development of democratic and informed decision making structures for a post-apartheid state, the aims of our educational system, the questions of Finance, Administration, curriculum development, educational research, the relationship between education and training, education and production, the division between mental and manual labour, the development of the human potential of our society and the like.

be mounted and provide concrete ideas about how such campaigns can be organised Locally, Regionally or Nationally. In addition such interventions must be based on realistic and achievable demands and must not be a 'general 'whopping list' of demands. t

That every branch of the ANC immediately facilitate in its area, the formation of PTSA's: where these do not exist. Where these do exist the Branch in question shall formally open discussions in regard to the matters in this resolution with such PTSA'S.

The Regions shall report on the discussions flowing from this resolution by not later than the 15th December 1991. and such reports shall be discussed at a Conference to be convened by 6th July 1991.