

QDQKOM 85x3) A '90 CL m

MEMORANDUM

TO: UNHCR

FROM: AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

DATE: 2.0 SEPTEMBER 1991

1. INTRODUCTION:

For South Africa, there are today substantive indications debarring the many pitfalls present that the apartheid conflict is moving towards resolution, hence the repatriation of the refugees and the return of political exiles. It must be argued the the most effective eelutibn is informed voluntary repatriation.

Repatriation within the South African context takes place under characteristically different conditions to those that have pertained in other conflict areas. The country is in the throes ef the painful transition period. There are still many obstacles in the path to a norm society. The old apartheid state apparatus is still in place. Refueeee end exiles will be returning home to a country of heightened teneiene a" polarised communities in which violence is wreaking havoc. The economy the country is on the down slide and there are estimates of : 6 millien nemplbyed. The ANC's decision to begin the process of repatriation tak lace within the context of the Pretoria and Greote Schuur Minute. It w at a period when there was much government political pestering ever possible UNHCR involvement and the state sought to isolate the repatriation programme to a local issue.

Our (ANC) past experience in repatriation without the involvement of the international community (UNHCR) has demonstrated shortcomings On the pa of the regime to honour its commitments.

1.3 There have been:-

- harassment of returnees even in cases when they had been granted indemnity those notably affected are these who are eriginaliy from Bophutatswana.

- Some returnee have been victims of police inspired killings.

rt

Hence the ANC reiteration for the need of UNHCR'S involvement and the necessity for amnesty for the protection and dignity of returnees. However, because of the present political climate of violence in which state participation has been proven absolute guarantees cannot be given.

PROGRESS REPORT AND FUNCTIONAL ASSISTANCE

Approximately 7000 AND exiles have returned. They have returned in enlarged families in overcrowded conditions. Their families have been dispersed by removals and other socio - economic factors. These are predominately from Zambia (about 85%) The QNC have been responsible for return flight arrangements and internal ground transport. In conjunction with the NCCR primary reception is being provided. Correspondingly arrangements have been made for:-

- temporary housing (more than 500 returnees already do not have any accommodation)

- They have returned to enlarged families in overcrowded conditions. Their families have been dispersed by removals and other socio - economic factors.

2.3 EDUCATION

Approximately 400 students ranging from pre school, primary and junior secondary school have returned. There is presently no provision for boarding and placement for the majority of them. Their parents are unable to guarantee schooling for them because they are unemployed and cannot afford to pay tuition fees. Limited placement has been found in sympathetic institutions such as Khanya College in the Eastern Transvaal. Attempts to establish facilities to cater for 2000 students from SDMAFCG failed when the Hillview school was destroyed in 2 bomb blasts. We are thus faced with a severe test of our ability to provide the most basic need to our returning comrades. We request the UNHCR to place urgent attention to this requirement especially since another 2000 students will soon join those already in dire need.

752 of returnees have a necessity to engage in skill training because they did not have opportunities to further their academic prospects. The need for vocational training especially since most returnees have dependents is of priority.

2.4 EMPLOYMENT

We have in conjunction with NCCR and other NGD's found limited employment for the skilled in a climate of fierce competition due to unemployment. This effort is receiving some support from the local business community, but only accommodates the professional and academic sectors.

A breakdown of the characteristic features of job seekers indicates the following categories:-

- 10% of professional skills and university graduates they are in the age group of late 20's to mid 40's
- 45% have Std 7 Std 10, and primarily with no skills and therefore marketable. The age group is mid 20's to late 30's.
- 10% are university dropouts, artisans and craftsman in most case without formal qualifications. Their age group is anything from early 30's to late 50's.
- 5% are semi-literate with no skills, with the level of education being Std 7 and below. Their age group is mid 30's to 60's.
- 152 are school dropouts of between 18 and 25 years who can still go to school but opt to work because of disillusionment with the education system, or they have to support families and forfeit schooling.
- 10% are young people of school going age or matriculants who need temporary jobs for resettlement purposes before they start schooling or raise money for their studies.
- 52 are above pension age who need something to engage in, either to support themselves or to keep busy. They are without marketable skills.

NB, It will be important at this stage to realise that no distinction can be made between the plight of exiles and political prisoners. 9G2 of political prisoners are former combatants coming from outside and were released as a result of the February 2nd initiative. The job creation initiative has not yielded any significant fruits, this is due primarily to the skill level as well as the state of the economy.

__-.W.-__m__.

With the scaling down of traditional donor assistance for projects such as SOMAFCO and our other institutions elsewhere abroad and because of the new initiative for a New South Africa, most of our donors prefer to support projects internally based hence the scaling down of support abroad. The ANC has incurred tremendous pressures to ensure the speedy return of our exile community. Since we are unable to ensure efficient logistical support. In some of our host countries there are mounting political pressures which necessitate immediate evacuation e.g. Bulgarian authorities have suspended granting allowances to our students and they have asked that they must leave by the 16th of September 1991.

In order to ensure that our students at SGMAFCG have the best possible chance educationally we needed to prepare to return them home by July 1991 in order to guarantee preparation for integration into educational endeavours at home. Our failure to do so has resulted in a potential crisis. The Dukwe camp in Botswana has had its fair share of problems. Long periods of waiting to proceed further coupled with poor welfare support cost many to return independently which has in most instances resulted in their arrest at various neighbouring border posts.

Over and above for a long period it seemed unlikely that the South African authorities would provide UN with the necessary status to undertake the repatriation exercise.

Circumstances prevalent after February 2nd 1990 created conditions which gave us no other choice except to ensure repatriation commences. This situation will only change once UNHCR's presence is fully established and its programme commences.

THE NEED FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE:

It becomes imperative for UNHCR to focus differently on the South African repatriation. The organisation's traditional reinvestment package will be inappropriate for South African returnees. For seeds and agricultural implements (Zimbabwe and Namibia) the land available

to returnees will be of little or no use. 90% of returnees are urban and do not have any affinity to the land.

1' N

There has been acknowledgement of this by even UNHCR as a result of our long association in dealing with exile's needs. In the past returned have been assisted while in exile in monetary terms through subsistence allowances, educational assistance and loans for income generating projects. It would therefore be odd that, while in exile, efforts were made to accord them appropriate urban assistance but that this form of assistance be denied them when they tried to settle in urban South African conditions where possibilities for durable integration are optimum. Hence the emphasis on the need for development assistance from the onset to complement other assistance.

.

I

over estimated especially when we consider that the predominate skill of returnees is basic use of weaponry in an already highly charged society. Hence emphasis must be placed on :-

iii impact 40,000 person will have on an already fragile economy can not

- assistance for loans for income generating projects
- educational assistance for primary and secondary school as well as tertiary

- Job creation and placement

- Skill training and counselling service

1

All type of development assistance must guarantee a basic skill with the provision for upgrading and ensure remunerative engagements at the job level. It must seek to provide a community service thus ensuring harmonious integration.

. Support from the UNHCR from the onset for development assistance will have to heighten this characteristic need to the international community and guarantee support for the South African repatriation programme.

QBEAS OF CONCERN:

The organisation has utilized a lot of resources originally intended for the initial restructuring process of the organisation on the various needs of returnees. '

These have had to be diverted to the following:-

a) Hiring of planes

:5

U

m

Ln

b) Settling in allowances of returnees per returnee)

c) Welfare and medical assistance.

z 1

There will be an ever increasing number of vulnerable cases as the repatriation programme unfolds. Amongst those that have already returned are:

- a) Homeless
- b) Widows who are unemployed and with minor dependents. In other . instances these are not South African by origin.
- c) Hemiplegic cases
- d) Cadres with substance abuse problems who need to be rehabilitated.
- e) , Prosthesis cases for whom trianing courses need to be set up D?"
- f) who need to engage in a self - help scheme
- f) aged returnees
- g) Destitute single mothers with dependents

we further wish to draw to the attention of UNHCR that we have only provided 35% of the returnees with settling in allowances.

INTERNQTIIDNAL ORGANISATION DF MIGRATION gIOM)

The UNHCR has to take cognieance of the developed infrastructure of our country as it undertakes the repatriation programme. The significance of the programme will be more worthwhile if it can ensure maximum community participation whilst guaranteeing the high level Bf eephieti ' characterizing UNHCR'S programmes elsewhere in the world. We for IBM at the level of provision of expertise and upgrading communication.

QQHSQLlDAIED__lHQQhE_5IAIEMEHI__EQR_IHE__EEBIQQ__EHDED_EQ__JHEE
13a;
IHQQHE
Grants Received 1. 3,849,144.13
LESS: F q
Returnees Allowances 2,365,525.00
Welfare 2. 13,585.69
Local Travel ' 50,057.22
Air Travel 187,922.90
Salaries 98,300.00
Allowances 8,240.00
Sundry Expenses 3 25,355,13
Acculated Surplus
'2 2.55 UJS 54
PA 7 9
Wu.

AGCHHMLAIED_EHHDS_
Accummulated Surplus 1,094,128.59
Short-term Loan: Finance Department 20,840.83
EHXLQXMEHILLHLJHHHEi
EIXED_ASSEI&
Motor Vehicle 30,000.00
Office Equipmert 226.00
(Telephone Answering Machine 30,228.00
IEEESIHEHIS 1,000,000-00
(FEB CALL ACCOUNT: 42907006311)
19 V q c
Debtors 200-00
Cash at bank 84,541.42 84,741.42

.FP
1331
Emma
Grants Received
Short-term Loan
EAXMEHTQ
Returnees Allowances
Welfare
Local Travel
Air Travel
Salaries
Allowances
Sundry Expenses
InvestmentstNB Call Ace.
CASH AT BANK
3,849,144.
20,840.
3,889,984.
2,385,525
50,057
88,812
1,000,000
" 'C
13
83
.00
13,585.
.22
187,922.
98,300.
3,240.
.73
.00
89
90
00
00
3,785,443.54

W

Ix)

The total grants of 3,849,144

APHEDA on the following dates viz:

11.12.90 250,000

16.01.91 971,859

09.04.91 1,276,595

20.06.91 1,350,688

3,849,144

.13 were received

.00

.94

.74

.45

HELEARE

The total cf R13,585.89 is made up as follows, viz

Medical expenses: T. Sindelo 2,126.00

T.P. Dlamini 162.00

K. Maphumulo 1,050.00

Tselane Kokoropo 350.00

Yvonne Dube 350.00

Thando Jack 350.00

Sipho Mogolegang 350.00

Gugulethu Maduna 350.00

Amandla Jack 350.00

Gwen Abe 350.00

Nonceba Magobiyane 350.00

Themba Mogolegang 350.00

Corina Kunene 350.00

Selby Msimang 350.00

Luthando Jack 350.00

A. Kunene 350.00

F. Letlaku 350.00

N. Gwamanda 350.00

N. Madikiza 350.00

M. Ramatsoma 350.00

Food Allowances for some returnees 797.69

Sundry expenses: John Sizane 2,000.00

Khosi Gxagxisa 1,500.00

from

W

The total of R38,388.73 is made up as follows, viz:

Detainees/Prisoners Special Needs

Car maintenance (MSXS11T)

Bail: J. Maphalala

Cash bag for Repatriation Committee

Removal & Storage in JHB

Hotel Accommodation

Communications: 7 x Pager rentals

Stationery

Rent: Lusaka Office

Petty Cash

Bank Charges

20,000.00

3,000.00

1,000.00

180.00

1,520.00

500.80

4,309.90

100.00