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Initiated and organised by the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) a process of discussion of cultural and sport policies and strategies has begun within the movement

It is long overdue that the ANC come together to consolidate its position on these issues and in turn meet with cultural workers from South Africa and the international community in order to advance the struggle on the cultural front.

In the first instance Regional Cultural Workshops have and are being organised, with the explicit aim of involving as wide a cross section of the membership as possible. The Lusaka Regional Cultural Workshop was highly successful. Very constructive criticisms, assessments and recommendations were made which tackled cultural matters of regional and national nature. The high calibre of participation lays a strong foundation for the In-House Seminar and augurs well for its success.

The In-House Seminar and ensuing Cultural Conference are planned within the next 7 months. The importance and timing of these deliberations cannot be overstressed, particularly in the wake of CASA and present strategically important meetings with sports bodies from within South Africa,

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MEETINGS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS BODIES 6c SPORTS DESK.

A series of meetings have been held with the following.

SARB South African Rugby Board

SARU South African Rugby Union

NSL National Soccer League

SASF South African Soccer Federation

SANROC South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee

## SAAAB South African Amateur Athletics Board

Further requests for meetings have been made. These important strategic initiatives taken by the ANC to create further divisions within the ruling class and to ultimately unite sports persons under one democratic non-racial sport body must be continued. This requires meetings with sports persons from home and continuity, all of which reflect the urgent need for a Sports Desk.

DAC has initiated the beginnings of a Sports Desk. Documentation is being collected and files have been established. A survey of the needs of the movement for the development of sport within the ranks is currently underway. The issue of sport is to be discussed at the Regional Workshops, Seminar, Conference, and National Education Council Meeting. So it is expected that resolutions will give clear guidelines and recommendations as to how the ANC should proceed to effectively handle this hitherto neglected but important area. We hope to target SOMAFCO and DAKAWA for a comprehensive sports programme which will cover a range of sports. What is needed urgently is office space and equipment, training programmes and sport workshops, equipment and facilities.

## COMPUTERISATION PROGRAMME

In October DAC computers were installed, to cover the needs of the following

sections:

ADMINISTRATION word processing and filing system

# RIX AKA RESEARCH 6c DOCUMENTATION

## LIBRARIES

### ART WORKSHOP

desktop publishing  
data filing and retrieval system  
classification, archiving & lending system  
computer graphics

In November an In House Training Programme was begun but needs to be further extended to cater for all DAC members. Once everyone is competent in basic computer usage, a more advanced course is planned for February 89 to be run by a computer specialist from a technology development aid group, to meet the specialised needs of the department as a whole.

The three terminals currently in use are insufficient for the needs of the department and expansion of our Information Technology programme is a priority.

Issue No 5 is being printed in London ready for distribution. The former editor and co-founder of RIXAKA, Cde Mandla Langa, is taking responsibility. Desktop Publishing workshops have been budgetted and planned for next year to coincide with final camera-ready preparations for each issue. Cde Mandla presently studying Printing and Publishing in London will be the tutor.

Work has begun on establishing a subscription service in Europe. AABN agreed. Canadian solidarity groups have been approached re establishing a similar service for the North Americas and DAC HQ will be responsible for East and Southern Africa. These are to be implemented once RIXAKA is brought out on a regular basis. Desktop Publishing facilities are the means to ensure our control over regularity of production.

### VIDEO UNIT:

The Video Unit Training Project has now reached a crucial stage in its development. It has proved very successful, notwithstanding problems, and a firm found

dation has been established with a well knit small production team. This project is administered by a board made up of two representatives each from DIP and DAC .

The present trainer, a CUSO volunteer, has arrived back in Lusaka and begun formal courses. He was previously here for 10 months and will spend 6 months this time. Another video trainer from the Netherlands will follow with a three month production workshop before going to Mazimbu to help the video project there.

The Unit have made a number of high quality videos, including one of the CASA conference and festival, most of which have been aired on Zambian T.V.

An expansion programme, in terms of advancement in technology, more equipment, wider training and increased output and exposure of video material has been proposed and funds have been promised from Canada. Two new trainees have recently joined the group making in all 6 and new larger office and work space has been provided.

Problems, particularly those of unclear chain of command, artistic and educational development, accommodation and rehearsal space, still persist. Hopefully some of the outstanding issues can be dealt with at the workshops and seminar but very un-

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fortunately the Angolan Cultural Workshop had to be cancelled due to present political situation.

An outstandingly successful tour of Australia and New Zealand took place early in the year, followed by tours of the Netherlands, Belgium and Zimbabwe, That of Zimbabwe, funded by the ANC, was financially disastrous, but it was the political aim of Amandla appearing before a Zimbabwean audience that led us to accept a last minute agreement to perform.

Invitations have been preferred for tours to Italy and France next year and organisers are looking into joining with other countries to minimise travel expenses and extend exposure of the ensemble

Recently there have been new recruits into AMANDLA as older members have left, These new recruits would benefit immensely from workshops in the various performing arts disciplines, as would the entire ensemble. It has been many years since AMANDLA has had the advantage of creative input from professional artists. Their present show also urgently needs up-dating and re-formulating and their limited repertoire needs expanding, especially so that smaller groups from within the whole can travel and perform according to invitation and type of performance required. There are considerable financial constraints for the entire 30 member cast to travel. Consequently funding has been found for workshops in Drama, Music, Dance and Artistic Direction for 1989, which will lay the basis for new and broader repertoire.

In addition, AMANDLA does not generate any income and as such their needs other than living expenses must be met by DAC. Much of their costumes, instruments and publicity material are beyond repair and need replacing.

## DAKAWA CULTURAL CENTRE

Dakawa is the focus of DAC's plans for developing the artistic skills and creativity of ANC members, especially in view of the fact that there are little or no trai

ning facilities in the Arts for black South Africans.

The department is approaching this enormous project in a practical and realistic manner. Rather than building a large centre at once we are establishing working and viable projects in phases. This modular approach allows the department to prepare and train comrades who will work in the various units, It was considered most appropriate to first concentrate on the Fine Arts and Crafts as these are of a productive nature, with Performing Arts following. Moreover we have 1 fully qualified fine artist with 10 more presently being trained.

#### Textile Printing Workshop

This is the first module, begun in 1986, which has proved to be a great success, with excellent printed cloth being produced, Under the consultancy of Malin Sellman of Sweden 5 comrades have been trained with 3 more joining this year. The project is an on-going training programme whilst simultaneously establishing a productive and self-reliant workshop.

Such a workshop will serve as a model for similar cultural projects in post-apartheid South Africa, The workshop is based in temporary housing and our immediate need is for a permanent building, the first projected for the actual centre, and a vehicle.

## Weaving & Dyeing and Graphics Workshop

Using the same format and approach plans are underway to introduce these two workshops in September 1989. Given the desperate shortage of physical space and increased demand for housing permanent buildings will have to be constructed

The ANC has commissioned architectural plans for the centre and our Construction Department will be responsible for the building. DAC needs to secure funds.

## WORKSHOPS

Workshops are a vital and dynamic means of motivating, exposing and developing artistic talents of ANC members, particularly in the absence of permanent Art centres and facilities. Over the years DAC have held a number of successful workshops and plan to hold increasingly more.

The aim is to use the expertise of ANC or solidarity artists. ANC artists who are presently studying are encouraged to hold workshops during their holidays, thereby keeping them in dynamic contact with the movement. The involvement of artists from other countries strengthens the understanding and solidarity between their respective communities and the ANC.

The workshops planned for 1989 are as follows:-

EAST AFRICA Textile Printing Design, Fine Art, Poetry, Music, Drama

AMANDLA Music, Drama, Dance & Artists Direction

LUSAKA Desktop Publishing & Fine Art Curriculum Development.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAINING

There is a small core of trained and experienced artists in the movement and many more who have talent but no training. Besides our internal training projects as aforementioned the department had placed great emphasis on the importance and necessity of training our cadres, especially so that we have skilled and politically conscious cultural workers ready to face the challenges of post-apartheid South



Africa. Currently we have 16 members studying in the following discipline  
S:-  
Drama, Music, Fine Art Sc Graphics, Printing Publishing and Literature.

## FINE ART CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

In conjunction with the Department of Education Fine Art was introduced into the SOMAFCO secondary school syllabus as from January 1988. Next year it is planned for a resource person to work in the creche, nursery and junior sections, not only to teach art but to introduce to the teachers and child minders the use of art in the class and creative play.

In October 1987 a Fine Art Curriculum Committee was established to introduce, monitor and develop an appropriate Fine Art curriculum for SOMAFCO and post-apartheid South Africa. There will be a meeting with specialists in the area in August

1989.

## THAMI MNEYELE QUARTET

This ANC quartet is under DAC, Lusaka and performs not only locally but internationally.