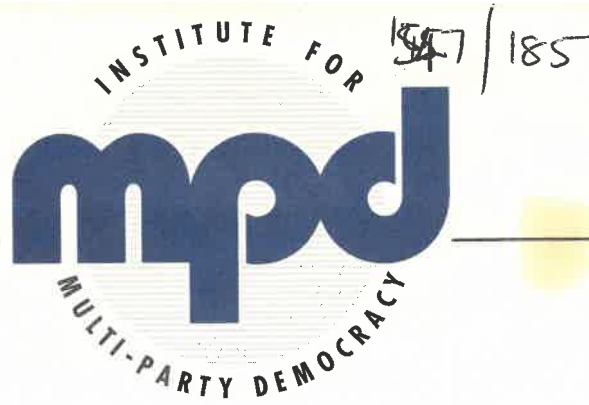


NATIONAL OFFICE

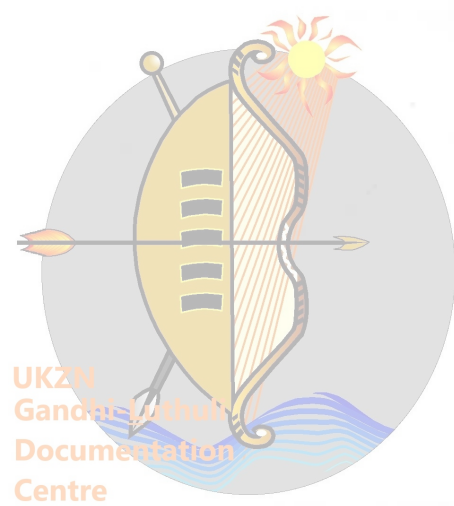


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**NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**  
**FEBRUARY - MARCH 1994**



**PERSONNEL MATTERS**

MPD was fortunate to acquire the services of Robbie Mopp in our Western Cape Region as Programmes Officer. Another new face to join us is Mrs Gita Papa who is our Senior Bookkeeper. We welcome them both.

Congratulations to Richard Mkholo, Programmes Manager on the birth of a baby boy.

Unfortunately Mdu Ndlovu, Natal Programmes Officer met with an accident while doing duty for the IEC. He sustained injuries but we have been informed by hospital authorities that he will mend quickly.

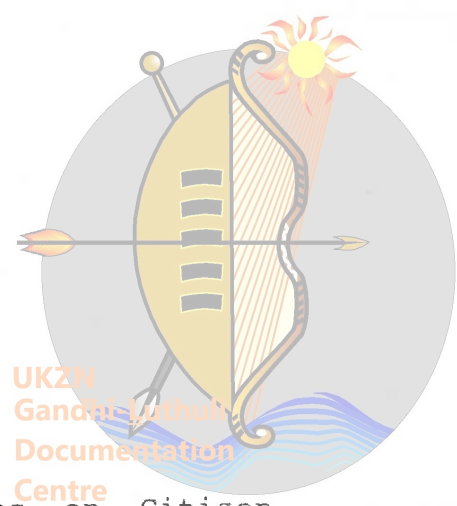
**REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**

All four regions have been active in the past eight weekends with our normal programmatic activities such as Education for Democracy (EFD). The focus meetings have equally enjoyed recognition in the respective regions as topical and local issues are taken up by the various political leaders.

Regarding focus meetings, we have ensured that topics that are handled are current, relevant and localised to deal with the dynamics of each region. Of course even national issues which have a bearing on local matters are addressed.

Voter education still remains our priority as the elections approach. We are also actively joining partnership with other organisations that teach voter education with a view to cross-pollinating ideas and sharing resources both material and financial. Our Natal region has conducted voter education for companies with financial spin offs to the Institute.

The Eastern Cape region has done well in introducing itself to the region. Staff have begun enthusiastically to effect our programmes.



## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The Western Cape region facilitated workshops on Citizen Peacekeeping/Marshalling. This was Thaabit Albertus' initiative. The programmes' objective is to empower trainers with skills on conflict resolution, monitoring and marshalling. This exercise is very pertinent to the developments in our country and fits in well with one of our ideals, viz to strive for political tolerance. The programme has been well received and we had guests from high ranks in the National Peacekeeping Force. Workshops were conducted in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town over four days.

Our Natal office has creatively developed leaflets on voting. These leaflets have been found to be useful as they are portable, are in simple language and succinctly explain voting and elections. We have recently translated some into Afrikaans, Xhosa and Sesotho.

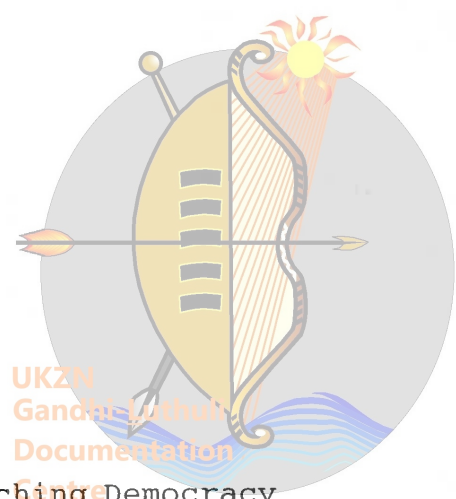
## **PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR**

Management identified the need to appoint an outside consultant to do a diagnosis and prognosis of our performance mainly as a team. This exercise was intended to be inward looking, to establish performance deficiencies, enhance team work and spirit. The result would be for the consultant to suggest remedies for dysfunctions that particularly have a negative bearing on performance. Overall the exercise was rated as useful and we hopefully will implement suggested solutions.

## **NEW PROGRAMME**

All regions were involved in the introduction of our new programme, Party Organisation and Development which took place in Johannesburg at the Eskom Centre. It is generously funded by the Hans Seidel Foundation and we are grateful to them.

The programme is intended to develop party leadership skills and enhance organisational abilities which are much needed by newer organisations particularly the erstwhile liberation movements. The attendance was encouraging. We thank Professor Lawrie Schlemmer for being party to this programme.



### **LAUNCHING DEMOCRACY**

The latest batch of surveys initiated by our Launching Democracy were out and have generated enthusiastic response from the print and electronic media.

### **JAPANESE DONATION**

The Japanese Embassy contributed generously towards our purchasing four vans for our regions to enable us to push our voter education activities further into the remote parts of the rural areas. We are immensely grateful to them.

### **INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION (IEC) VOTER EDUCATION**

The Institute has been commissioned by the IEC to do voter education for public servants including the homelands. The target group has been estimated at +- 800,000 with emphasis on new voters and staff at lower echelons in the public structures.

We have increased the training staff complement, structured ourselves according to local needs and we are well underway to ensuring that this important and enormous task is effected as soon as possible before the 25 April 1994. All possible assistance has been sought to ensure that a significant number of the target group is exposed to voter education.

### **CONFERENCE**

We co-hosted a successful forum with the American based Joint Centre for Political and Economic Studies in Durban. the attendance was phenomenal. We discussed "Safeguarding Free and Fair Elections" and our keynote speaker was Adv Digang Moseneke Vice Chairman of the IEC.