

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

ANC/COSATU Meeting

The ANC and COSATU held a joint meeting on the 26th May in Johannesburg. Listed below are some of the most important points raised in the meeting.

1. The Alliance

The ANC is the leader of the ANC-SACP-COSATU alliance. This alliance should avoid the pitfall of overlapping leadership. The alliance will be structured at local, regional and national level.

The alliance will be based on democratic principles and processes. Negotiations and movements will be the focus of the alliance making that such organisations will remain independent and will develop its own policies on various issues and messages.

This is a strategic alliance with the central objective to democratically transform and build a new social, democratic and unitary South Africa.

2. Support on the Groote Schuur talks

On the 2, 3, 4 of May 1990 the ANC met with the Minister's Government to discuss ways aimed at reversing obstacles to the process leading to negotiations. The talks were the result of the adoption of the Harare Declaration by the ANC, the Six Allied Movements and the UDF.

There must be free political activity and open opportunities for all parties before negotiations on the cessation of hostilities and the constitutional framework can begin.

The ANC had raised its demands i.e. the removal of all political prisoners, the removal of the ban on the UDF, repeal of security legislation, the return of the mines and the lifting of the State of Emergency which has now been partially lifted.

A joint working group was set up to deal with the practical implications to remove obstacles.

3. Programme of re-building the ANC

The ANC has set up business regions. By the 19th of December 1990 when the first ANC Conference takes place within South Africa also the re-structuring, ANC branches must have been established throughout the country. A branch can be established by recruiting new founding members or more.

The youth, women and the processes will form their own institutions which will be part of the ANC.

For reconstruction purposes the ANC has appointed members from the UDF and COSATU to the Internal Leadership Core. These appointments are temporary until democratic elections are held.

COSATU committed its full support to the building of the ANC.

4. On Natal

It was agreed that a conference should be organised in Natal to highlight the rights of the people of Natal.

The first week of July has been declared a week of action in support of the people of Natal and economic strikes should be taken in witness of our people in Natal.

A campaign for the re-establishment of the Independent Commission of Enquiry about the role of the police in the Natal violence should be intensified.



1990: The Year of Peoples' Action for a Democratic South Africa