

CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS

Interim Government and Constituent Assembly:

Congress decided, amongst others:

- * that a non-racial and democratic constitution can only be written by a democratically elected constituent assembly;
- * that a neutral body for the supervision of the transitional period be established; and
- * that the tripartite alliance must formulate principles and criteria that will determine the character, size and shape of such a body.

Negotiations and Violence:

To deal with this political crisis Congress resolved that:

- * the tripartite alliance must establish people's forums for proper mandates to be given to negotiators at all levels where feasible;
- * leaders of the alliance should ensure that they interact with members at grassroots level without distinction based on geographical location;
- * the liberation movement should review the process of negotiations from time to time in the light of factors that might affect our ability to realise our objectives; and

- * that self-defence units must be formed on mines and adjacent townships to frustrate the regime's attempts to subvert our struggle for freedom.

SANCTIONS MUST STAY

Congress decided:

- * that the ANC and its allies should recapture the centre stage over the sanctions pressure;
- * that the ANC should convene a conference on sanctions for all those who called for the sanctions pressure with the following terms of reference:
 - that sanctions cannot be lifted until changes effected by the government are irreversible;
 - there should be an investment code with preconditions before sanctions can be lifted.

SOCIALISM

The mineworkers took the following positions on socialism:

- * the NUM rededicates itself to building socialism to achieve the goal of full political and economic emancipation for the working class;
- * we must start laying the basis for such democratic socialism in the following ways:
 - by deepening democratic organisation in the mines, factories, communities, schools and villages;

- by ensuring that the Workers' Charter is incorporated into the constitution of a democratic South Africa;

- by engaging in mass education on the issue of socialism;

- by entrenching the practices of direct mandate and accountability of leadership

- * we support a multi-party system, because socialism must be able to win the support of the majority, or dictatorship is inevitable;

- * the NUM must convene a national workshop to discuss the content of the mass education programme on the issue of socialism; and

- * that through such education, we must develop an approach that meets the needs of a democratic South African socialism.

Financial self-sufficiency

Congress noted with concern the union's continued dependence on foreign funding for its functioning. This was acknowledged as a serious weakness which contributes a great deal in the union's ineffectiveness due to financial problems.

Monthly subscriptions of R2 fall far below the costs necessary to run union activities to the satisfaction of union members.

Since financial viability is the life-blood of the NUM, Congress resolved to make the union self-sufficient by adopting a new subscription policy.

From now onwards each union member will pay to union coffers R1 on every R100 he or she earns on his monthly wage. Put in another way, monthly subscriptions will be paid as 1% of the monthly basic wage.

In actual terms the new subscriptions policy of the NUM is as follows:

| MONTHLY WAGE | MONTHLY SUBS |
|--------------|--------------|
| R500 | R5 |
| R600 | R6 |
| R700 | R7 |
| R800 | R8 |
| R900 | R9 |
| R1000 | R10 |
| R1100 | R11 |
| R1200 | R12, etc. |

It is only when this policy is in full operation that the NUM can overcome its financial problems and offer the best service to all members.

Congress charted the way to non-racial democracy under the political leadership of the ANC/SACP/COSATU alliance.

In the light of this, Congress resolved to:

- transform the potential mass support enjoyed by the ANC into actual organised membership;
- mobilise and agitate electrical energy and mineworkers against all forms of racial discrimination, poor working conditions and social conditions at work-places;
- embark on a programme of explaining the link between problems at work places to national oppression; and
- to campaign for freedom of association and expression at the workplace under the slogan "votes for all".



Delegates at Congress in a militant mood.