

iv. STATEMENT BY TRADE UNION ORGANISATION

STATEMENT BY COSATU

Cosatu warns the government that if it passes Le Grange's Bills it will be declaring war on Cosatu and all democratic organisations. And by declaring war on our organisations it is declaring war on the workers and our people as a whole. These Bills in whatever form are totally unacceptable to us. Attempts by Botha's stooges to sugar-coat these poisonous Bills only serves to anger our people further.

Business and the government must note that these Bills wont bring any peace whether in the workplace or community. They will only heighten conflict and bloodshed and deepen the resolve of the oppressed and exploited people to free themselves from this regime. We are left with no option by to defend themselves against these attacks. History has shown that the smashing of mass democratic organisation has paved the way for all -out fascism and martial law. We will not allow this to happen to South Africa. The organised strength of the working class and all democratic forces will defeat the government in its attempts to smash our hard-won gains. As such we support a call for a National Day of Action against Le Grange's Bill on the 9th June 1986.

These Bills make a mockery of the governments claims to be seeking a negotiated solution to the conflict in South Africa. We repeat the demands for the scrapping of Apartheid laws, the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles, the unbanning of the ANC and other organisations and the withdrawal of the SADF and the SAP from the townships. We add to these demands the demand to drop these catastrophic Bills of Le Grange. Only these steps can lay the basis for the movement towards a truly democratic transformation of South Africa.