

UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT

UDF UNITES! APARTHEID DIVIDES!



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UDF REJECTS THE IMPOSITION OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCILS

The apartheid regime has once again chosen to ignore the legitimate demands of the people and impose Regional Services Councils (RSC's) on our communities.

In doing so the government re-affirms its determination to ignore our demand for democratic organs of self-government, the abolition of all institutions of minority rule and our right to bring up our families in comfort and security.

The RSC's rest on a system of local government involving the racially separate Black Local Authorities and the Management Committees, both of which have been rejected by communities throughout the country. The RSc's will further entrench Group Areas and other racist legislation.

The government refusal to recognise the people's legitimate opposition to these corrupt and shallow structures has resulted in nearly three years of violent conflict which has taken the lives of hundreds of men, women and children.

Instead of changing this system of local government, the RSC's aim to entrench it by attempting to hoodwink our people and presenting themselves as a 'broadening of democracy'. Beneath the sham of non-racialism and a complicated system of indirect representation lies a racist structure which aims to keep power in the hands of the white minority.

The government is attempting to set aside the majority demand "The People Shall Govern" by offering so-called political power sharing at the third tier. Under the guise of "own affairs" and "general affairs" the regime continues to abdicate its responsibility to provide housing, health care and equal education for all citizens.

The financing of the RSc's will be felt by the person in the street. The cost of living will increase as commerce attempts to pass on the costs of the regional establishment (turnover tax) levies to consumers. The government claims that the RSCs will streamline administration and are being set up for economies of scale reasons are ridiculous.

RSC administrators and officials are being paid vast salaries to oversee reluctant white municipalities and mini-fiefdoms in the black areas that have a long history of misrule and corruption. Our people will continue to live in squalor and poverty.

Under the label of 'orderly urbanisation' the RSC's will administer a new form of influx control denying our people the right to live and work where they choose.

The UDF rejects the RSC's for the fraud that they are. We say to the collaborators in the Black Local Authorities and Management Committees: Your participation in the RSC's has no support from the people. We will oppose it just as we opposed your involvement in the BLA's and the MC's.

To the business sector we say: do not be fooled into thinking that the RSC's will solve the problems in our country or the conflict that is tearing it apart. There can never be any solution to this problem as long as undemocratic structures like the RSC's remain. Do not allow yourselves to be used as a pawn by the apartheid regime. Our people are fully aware of your participation in these structures.

To our people in the community and on the factory floor we say: Let us unite against the imposition of the RSC's. Let us stand together side by side until all bodies of minority rule are replaced by democratic organs of self-government, until all our people take part in the administration of the country, until there is housing, security and comfort for all.


Murphy Morobe

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