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PORT ELIZABETH - WORKSHOP ON 14 AUGUST 1983

1. INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the decision taken in Cape Town on the 21st August, 1983 the National secretariat held a workshop at Malabar in P.E.

2. ATTENDANCE:

About 100 activists attended this workshop. At least 13 organizations were represented.

3. OBJECTIVES OF WORKSHOP

- 3.1 to improve our understanding i.e. the understanding of the National secretariat of the dynamics of the situation in the P.E. region.
- 3.2 to gain knowledge on how organisations operate in this region
- 3.3 to acquaint activists with the history of the U.D.F.
- 3.4 to develop a common understanding of the concept Front
- 3.5 to familiarise activists with the documents of the U.D.F. such as the Declaration, the working principles and the resolutions.

4. PROGRAMME OF WORKSHOP

4.1 History and present state of UDF

An outline of the history of the UDF, its origin, the process of building, its structure and the tasks facing it were discussed.

4.2 CONCEPT FRONT

The concept front was discussed extensively with a view to giving the activists a better understanding of different alliances. And within various alliances to situate the UDF clearly.

Under this heading, attempt was unable to show factors which influenced movement towards a front.

4.3 Documents of the UDF

A short explanation of the Declaration and policy based on resolutions was discussed.

4.4 Discussion local situation and organizations

There was a lengthy discussions on the conditions and organization in P.E. It emerged during the discussion that there were about 54 organizations in P.E. However most of them were very weak and were not meeting regularly. According to reports given to the National Secretariat

only PEYCO had called a report back meeting after the Cape Town Conference.

4.5. Some ideas on programme:

The following decisions were taken regarding the POA for P.E.

- 4.5.1 to consult with executive committees of all organizations not yet serving in the interim committee
- 4.5.2 consult with all prominent personalities with a view to drawing them into the UDF
- 4.5.3 to encourage reproduction of all important discussions acquired in workshops at the level of organizations
- 4.5.4 to organize more workshops and to identify all people with important skills particularly those with specialised skills
- 4.5.5 to reorganize existing structures and consolidate them
- 4.5.6 to strengthen the committee by drawing into it more and organizations which had not yet been consulted.

5 EVALUATION OF WORKSHOP

The Secretariat viewed the workshop as very successful in terms of numbers which turned up. However a number of questions remained unanswered, amongst other questions like how mobilization can complement each other. How to set up organization where non existed.

There was also a need for the people themselves to decide on the kind of structure and representation of organizations in the P.E. Regional UDF.

It was noted that the programme of the UDF must be flexible enough so as to suite specific conditions in P.E. It was also observed that objective conditions in P.E. and also in local areas would determine precisely the type of issues around which the UDF could build up its campaign. For instance in the Coloured and Indian areas the might be elections of Indian management committees whereas no elections were held in African areas. Even under those conditions organization around day to day problems like housing, rent and electricity must go on.

6. NEXT WORKSHOP

another workshop was being planned for the 17th September 1983. The Secretariat has been invited to handle discussions

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