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black institutions of learning and regards this with the contempt it deserves, as we view this as an attempt to subjugate and intimidate black students into inaction so as to render them impotent in the struggle for democracy.

AZASO believes that students have the right to organise themselves and demand a relevant education but always realising that the goal of a just education system can only be achieved in a democratic society and that the education struggle will contribute to the establishment of a democratic society.

SPORT

AZASO rejects multi racial sport as we view this as being meant to exploit the presence of black players in these multi racial sporting organisations in order to gain international recognition. We endorse the boycott by several organisations which has also been taken up by the United Nations Committee against apartheid to have racist South Africa isolated from international sporting, cultural and economic activity. We urge all international sportsmen, artists, musicians and other personalities to avoid being used as mercenaries of apartheid. We also call upon all peace-loving South Africans to stop supporting sporting and cultural activities which involve international artists as this can only perpetuate our oppression by giving credibility to these mercenaries of apartheid.

DIALOGUE, NATIONAL

AZASO believes in discussing points of mutual interest, establishing and maintaining working relations with organisations inside the country, whose principles and policies are not in conflict with those of AZASO.

INTERNATIONAL

AZASO fully recognises the need for dialogue with genuinely progressive organisations on the international front, as long as such dialogue shall be based on the principle of mutual respect.

GOVERNMENT-CREATED INSTITUTIONS

AZASO views with scepticism all government-created bodies and believes in principle that the oppressor cannot voluntarily relinquish his privileged position and therefore asserts that no government-created institution will ever be instrumental in ushering in total liberation.

AZASO regards all government-created institutions as the apartheid system's strategy to delay our struggle for a democratic society.

FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

AZASO rejects the practice of foreign investment in South Africa and views this as operative in sustaining the apartheid exploitation system of South Africa and in furthering the super-exploitation of black workers. If progressive organisations are offered facilities by these multinational companies they should only be accepted if there are no strings attached.

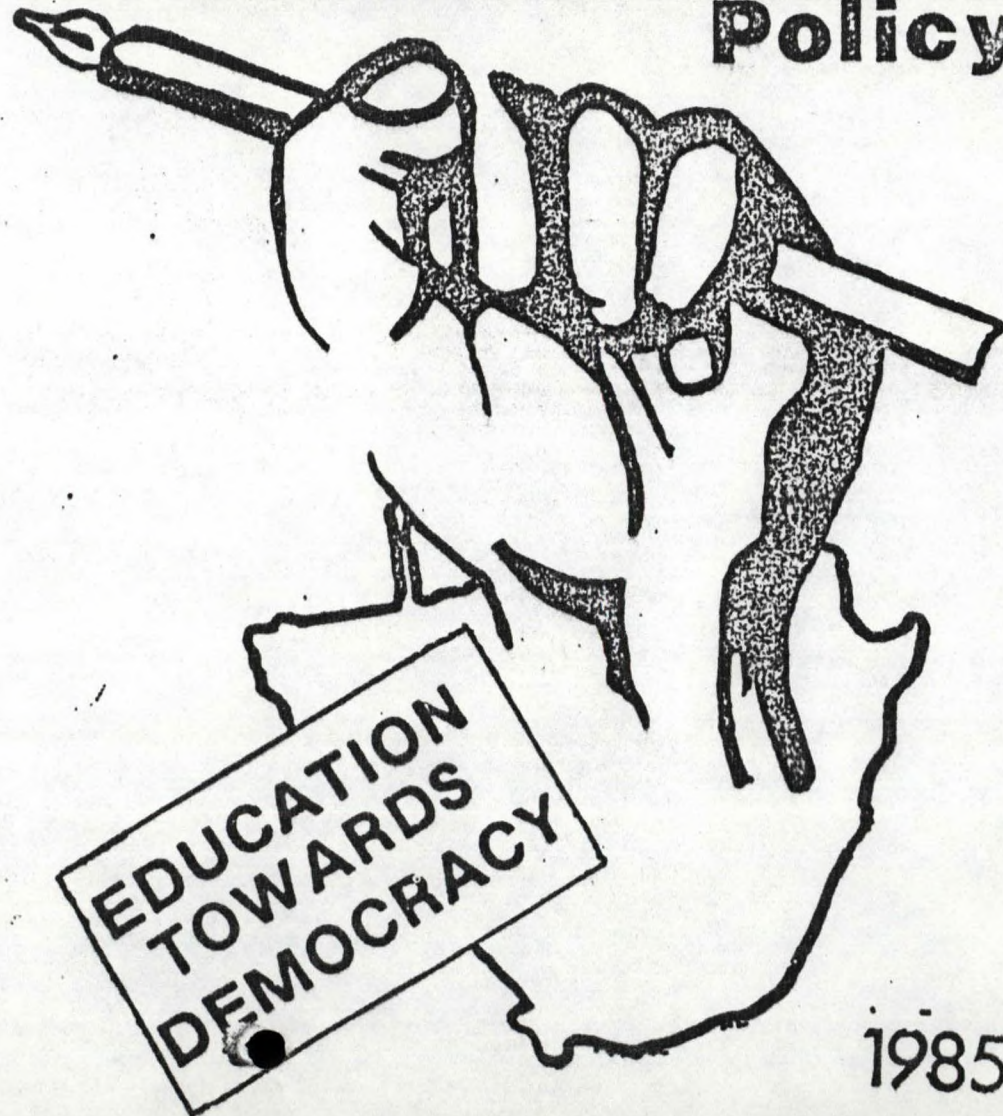
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AZASO

Azanian Students Organisation

FOR STUDENT UNITY

Constitution and Policy



PREAMBLE

Whereas we the Black students of South Africa, realising that we are members of an oppressed community before we are students, and committing ourselves to a non-racial democratic society free from exploitation and national oppression, in which harmony among people will prevail, find it necessary to articulate the aspirations of the oppressed people in a united and organised manner are therefore determined:

To organise students so that they could take up their demands for a relevant role in society.

To also organise students so that they could play a more meaningful role in the community in general.

Therefore resolve to found a national students' organisation.

SECTION 1.

The name of the organisation shall be the Azanian Student's Organisation, hereafter referred to as AZASO.

SECTION 2.

Membership shall be open to all students of all institutions of higher learning and training and as decided by the GSC. Associate membership conferred to organisations by GSC.

SECTION 3.

Aims and Objectives
To unite students of South Africa.
To take up demands of students in South Africa.

3. To be the national and international voice of the student community in South Africa.

4. To forge links with all relevant organisations concerned with the liberation of oppressed and exploited people in South Africa.

5. To identify with the liberation of the black worker and strive towards the eradication of their exploitation in the labour field.

6. To strive for the eradication of exploitation of women and sexist attitudes in our society.

7. To strive for a relevant and non-racial education.

SECTION 4.

Annual Congress.

The Annual Congress hereinafter referred to as the AC, shall be the supreme policy-making organ of AZASO. Each branch shall send 3 delegates to the AC.

SECTION 5.

General Students Council (GSC).

The General Students' Council hereinafter referred to as the GSC, shall consist of members of the National Executive Committee and 3 delegates from each branch.

SECTION 6.

The National Executive Committee (NEC).

The National Executive Committee hereinafter referred to as NEC, shall be the President, the Vice-President, the Secretariate consisting of the National Secretary, the Correspondence Secretary and the Minute Secretary, the National Co-ordinator, the Treasurer, Projects Officer and the Womens' Organiser.

POLICY

The main guide to AZASO policy is a resolution which was drawn from discussion at the 1st AZASO conference in July, 1981. The resolution reads as follows:

We at the AZASO conference, learning from the struggles of oppressed people in the world against oppression, pertinently in Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, and realising that they have fought against the system and not against individual Portuguese colonialists or white Rhodesians and noting Samora Machel's statement on racism and capitalist exploitation, "We always say that we are struggling against the exploitation of man by man of which Portuguese colonialism is today the principal expression in our country There are nationalists - some naively, because they do not have a developed class consciousness and others because they are involved in exploitation - who think that the purpose of our struggle should be to establish black power instead of white power, and to elect or appoint blacks to various political, administrative, economic and other posts which are now held by whites. Their ultimate aim is to 'Africanise' exploitation. For them our struggle should be a struggle between black power and white power, whereas for us the struggle is between the power of exploiters and people's power. A black state of rich and powerful men in which the minority decides and imposes its will would be the continuation in a new form of the situation against which we are struggling".

We wish to dispel the myth that all blacks are workers, whilst we confirm that black workers in South Africa are the most exploited and therefore the vanguard in the national struggle for democracy.

We therefore resolve that:

1. AZASO urges the oppressed community to take cognisance of the above and support those who have already taken this position to confirm that we are struggling against the system and not individual whites.

2. We must seek a working policy relating directly to the struggle of the workers as conducted by the progressive trade union movement.

3. Since the success of our struggle depends upon effective mobilisation of all people committed to democracy, we call for genuine unity of the oppressed against the oppressive system.

EDUCATION

1. AZASO regards the present form of education as a kind of education that prepares black people to be tools of the system and obedient followers, and a kind of education that aims at dividing black people firstly into racial and ethnic units and secondly into classes which seek to make us ineffective as a force against the present system.

2. AZASO condemns the presence of uniformed gun-toting servicemen

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