

AM44

2nd August 1984.

Beis "AM44"

Dear Comrade(s)

INVITATION TO A PROTEST CONFERENCE AND RALLY IN SOWETO.

You are invited to attend a "protest" conference and rally of Civic Associations/Organizations and representatives of rural and resettlement areas to be held at the ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH in PHIRI, SOWETO, on the 12th August 1984, starting from 11a.m. to 3p.m.

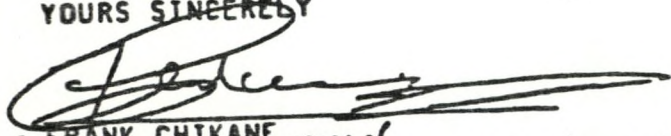
The Protest Conference will consist of two sessions. The first session will be a business session to adopt a position statement on the 'Coloured-Indian' elections and the New Constitution. The Statement will then be read in the second part of the meeting which shall take the form of a Rally.

The aim here is to "raise" the "voice" of those affected by the Bantustan System and the Black Local Authorities which are the basis for the New Constitution. To register a message that participating in these elections (New System) is accepting and endorsing the pain and misery of the oppressed majority in the country. We want to make a decision as to what we should do with the Hendrickse's and the Rajbansi's who claim that they are going to represent 'Africans' in the New System.

The Draft Position Statement is enclosed for your consideration and suggestions. Please Telephone the office of Rev. F. Chikane at 339-2513 (011) for ammendments and additions to the Statement before or on Thursday the 9th August 1984.

DO COME TO THIS HISTORICAL DAY THAT WILL TURN THE TIDE AGAINST THIS EVIL SYSTEM AND THE PARTICIPANTS THEREOF.

YOURS SINCERELY



FRANK CHIKANE
(On behalf of ~~the~~ ^{most of} the Civic Associations in the Witwatersrand)

PROPOSED POSITION STATEMENT ON THE "COLOURED INDIAN"
ELECTION FOR THE TRICAMERAL PARLIAMENT.

We, the confined majority within the ghettos and deserts of this our motherland through the inhuman and unjust laws of this Apartheid Regime executed through the Apartheid Courts, police and the army. We, the confined majority within 13% of the land in the barren Bantustans (and so called independent national states), resulting in the loss of our citizenship and thus becoming foreigners in the land of our birth, noting:

- (1) That the New Constitution of South Africa as endorsed by the white minority at the November 2nd 1983 referendum is based on this brutal act of confining us into the Bantustan by force after the long and painful process of dispossession.
- (2) That this New Constitution is founded on the pain and suffering and even unto death, of about 3 million Africans who have been forcefully removed and relocated to complete the confinement of the African majority, thus paving paving a way for the New Constitution.
- (3) That this Constitution is based on the success of the Apartheid Regime in confining the African majority within the Bantustans and proclaimed "white" areas through the racist influx control which has resulted in the prosecution of millions of our people (at a rate of more than 500 people per day in 1982) in the Apartheid Courts of the Racist Regime with many serving jail sentences and others "deported" to the said Bantustans.
- (4) That thousands of our people have been brutally killed and some tortured to death others maimed by the police force and army of this Apartheid Regime for rejecting and resisting Apartheid.
- (5) That many of our leaders are languishing in jail and many others have served long (and short) sentences in the Apartheid prisons resisting this Apartheid Regime.

We therefore wish to declare to all South Africans (both White and Black) and to the world at large.

- (a) That there will never be peace in South Africa as long as the majority of the oppressed is not involved in determining their own destiny but confined in a brutal way to 13% of the land.
- (b) That those who have chosen to participate in the racist Tri-Cameral Parliament have henceforth crossed the battle line (like all participants in the Bantustan System and the Black local authorities) to join the white minority in the oppression of the Black Majority.
- (c) That all those who are going to put their vote on August 22nd and 27th shall also be declaring their side with the enemy against the oppressed majority and thus will be taking the blame for the evils of this system as perpetrated against the defenceless majority and also for the blood that will be shed in South Africa after August 1984.
- (d) We further wish to warn, in the strongest possible terms, Hendrickse and Rajbansi and their parties to stop the crime of saying they are going into the system to represent Africans when they are doing so for their own personal gains. We want to make it clear that we do not need their representation. We are here to represent ourselves, our leaders are here to represent us, they are languishing in prison.

We express nevertheless our confidence in our brothers and sisters in both the Coloured and Indian communities that they will never abandon our long tradition of suffering and struggling together, and that they will refuse to be co-opted to the system on the election-day by staying away from the polls in solidarity with the oppressed.

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