

①

ORT. 18

**MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING,  
HELD ON THURSDAY JUNE THE 28, 1956.**

**PRESENT:** A.N.C., S.A.C.P.O., S.A.I.C., S.A.C.T.U., S.A.C.O.D.

**1. EVATON BUS-BOYCOTT.**

That three members to contact a Lawyer, and that they be responsible for the issuing out of a Press statement.

**2. REPORTS ON JUNE 26th.**

That the members who are undertaking the extensive S.A. tour should contact Constituent Bodies and Regions and request for reports on the amount of work done.

**3. Women's Protest to Pretoria:**

An extensive campaign is being undertaken by the Transvaal preparing for events which will culminate on August the 9th, by mass Women's demonstrations to Pretoria.

**N.B.**

The next meeting of the N.C.C. will be held on Thursday 12th July, 1956.

**AGENDA:**

1. Reports on June the 26th from Constituent Bodies and Regions.
2. Signature Campaign.
3. Co-ordination of work within Constituent Bodies.

Chairman.

Secretary.

Date: 10/7/56.....

Bewysstuk No. ....  
 Getry by: *A. K. Tamba* .....  
 D.M.: *Chief* .....  
 Te: *37 8 de ...* .....  
 Datum: *5/10/56* .....  
 Verwysings No. ....

*A copy has been dispatched to the Chief*



(231)

A 75

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE

COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 22nd SEPTEMBER, 1955.

PRESENT: A.N.C. 2 representatives  
 S.A.I.C. 2 representatives  
 S.A.C.O.D. 2 representatives  
 S.A.C.P.O. 2 representatives

1. It was reported that the meeting of last Thursday was not held owing to bad attendance and that the minutes of a previous meeting were not available.
2. A letter was read from the Joint Congress Committee, Cape Western, stating that it was not practicable to have a provincial Consultative Committee in the Cape because of the geographical structure of the Cape. The letter therefore recommended that there should at least be two regions in the Cape. Each region to work directly under the supervision of the N.C.C. A reply to this letter by the secretariat was asking the Joint Committee to carry on temporarily until suitable arrangements are made.
3. The Secretariat reported that **VERSIONS** of the Freedom Charter were sent to the various regions for the meeting

Drawn by No. ....  
 Copy by A.N.C. Kaniou  
 Date 5/SEPT. 1955  
 To Tohann  
 Date 27/9/1955  
 Verifications No. 143 A. 32 (1)



Dear.....

To.....

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
HELD ON MONDAY NOVEMBER, 1ST, 1956.....

(1)

**Present:** Federation of S.A. Women. 1. Representative.  
African National Congress. 2. Representatives.  
S.A. Coloured Peoples Organisation. 2 Representatives.  
S.A. Congress of Democrats. 2 Representatives.  
S.A. Indian Congress 1 Representative.  
S.A. Congress of Trade Unions. 0 Representatives.

**APOLOGUES:** S.A. CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS.

1. **MINUTES:** The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

2. **ANTI-PASS CAMPAIGN:** It was reported that four members had met and submitted amendments to the above memorandum. The document had now been completed and sent to the National Executive Committees of the above organisations for their attention. The matter was now in the hands of the various organisations whose duty it was to implement the plan on a national, local and regional basis.

3. **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM ON NATIONAL AND LOCAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES:**

A Memorandum explaining the functions of the Local Consultative Committees and their relationship to the National Consultative Committee had been drafted for circulation to the various organisations, but had unfortunately been mislaid.

IT WAS AGREED that a further attempt be made to obtain the document falling which a second memo. would be written by the Secretariat. REPORT at next meeting.

4. **MINUTES:** IT WAS AGREED that the circulating of minutes of the National Consultative Committee be treated as a matter of urgency. All constituent bodies were to receive copies of the minutes as soon after N.C.C. meetings as possible.

5. **MEMORANDUM ON ANTI-GROUP AREAS ACT CAMPAIGN:** A Memorandum on the above topic was submitted by the S.A.I.C. A discussion took place during which the following were the main points made:-

- 1) The Memorandum did not have sufficient specific detail as to what was to be done by the various organisations.
- ii) That the campaign against the Group Areas Act be considered on a national basis as in many instances it was the smaller towns that were bearing the brunt of the Act. The present Memo appeared to have neglected this aspect of the campaign.
- iii.) That a resume of the plans prepared by the various town councils for Group Areas, be included in the Memorandum, as an indication of the serious threat that the Act was to the people affected.

IT WAS AGREED that the Memorandum be referred back to the S.A.I.C. for further drafting and that it be re-discussed at the next meeting of the N.C.C.

6. **S.A.I.C. RESOLUTION ON "CULTURAL BOYCOTT"** The representative of the S.A.I.C. reported that a resolution had been adopted at the 42nd biennial conference of the S.A.I.C. requesting the N.C.C. to discuss the matter.

IT WAS AGREED that the matter be discussed at the meeting after the next one and that copies of the resolution adopted at the T.I.Y.C. Conference be circulated to members and used as a basis for discussion.



7. MIDDLE EAST SITUATION: It was reported that representatives of the six organisations had met and approved a press statement on the above matter. The statement had been sent to the Rand Daily Mail and the Star. Copies of the statement would also be sent to S.A.P.A. and other centres.

IT WAS REPORTED that the Secretariat had met and made the following recommendations:

- 1) Public Meetings: That a public meeting be held at the Market Square or any other suitable venue as soon as possible in order to explain the Middle East situation and express solidarity with the people of Egypt.  
THIS PROPOSAL WAS AGREED UPON.
- ii) That letters signed by Chief Lithuli expressing our opposition to the military action taken by the three powers be sent to the British Labour Party and the Trade Union Council.  
THIS PROPOSAL WAS AGREED UPON.
- iii) That the A.N.C. be requested to send a letter to the A.N.C. ~~organisations~~ in the Rhodesias condemning the stand taken by the Prime Minister there, in support of the military action against Egypt.  
THIS PROPOSAL WAS AGREED UPON.
- iv) That a day of observance be organised amongst the Moslem Community as a mark of solidarity with the people of Egypt.  
REFERRED TO SECRETARIAT.
- v) (a) That the Jewish Democratic Association be approached and asked to send telegrams to bodies in Israel opposing the Israeli-Anglo-French action.  
(b) That they be asked to prepare a leaflet on the Middle East situation for distribution.

AGREED.

- vi) That Speaker's Notes be drafted for use at public meetings.

AGREED.

- vii) That a solidarity fund be started:

The committee were reluctant to launch such a fund-raising campaign in view of the difficulty which the movement had in collecting finances at the present moment. It was however agreed that telegrams expressing their solidarity with Egypt be sent by the various organisations and that

Resolutions adopted at mass meetings by the organisations be cabled to Egypt and that the expenses incurred in this connection be covered by holding collections at these meetings.

IT WAS AGREED that the Secretariat re-discuss this point.

- viii) That a telegram be sent to Strijdom demanding ~~that he should~~ him to call upon Britain, France and Israel to withdraw their troops from Suez

THE COMMITTEE DID NOT FAVOUR THIS SUGGESTIONS AND IT WAS THEREBY REJECTED.

8. CLOSURE: In view of the lateness of the hour, the meeting was adjourned and adjourned for one week.  
The following matters were left over:-

1. Correspondence Len-Lee Warden.
2. Blood Apartheid.
3. Bloemfontein Conference (Organisations were in the meantime requested to issue statements of support for the Multi-racial Conference)
4. Discussion of Slavery in different parts of the world.



6974 ①

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
HELD THURSDAY NOVEMBER, 21ST 1956.

F

<u>Present:</u>	S.A. Congress of Democrats.	2 Representatives.
	S.A. Congress of Trade Unions.	2 Representatives.
	African National Congress	2 Representatives.
	S.A. Coloured Peoples Organisation.	1 Representative.

11

Apologies: Federation of S.A. Women.

1. Anti-Pass Campaign: Further reports were received from:-

a) S.A. Congress of Democrats: Speakers Notes and a questionnaire had been prepared. A house to house canvass of the European public was being conducted and general propaganda work on the anti-pass campaign was being carried on.

b) Federation of S.A. Women: The Anti-Pass and Group Areas Act campaigns would be discussed at the forthcoming regional conference of the Federation on December 2nd. Attention would be paid to the establishment of anti-pass and group Areas Act Committees.

A broad anti-pass committee had been established in Orlando where 16 nurses had been elected on to a committee.

c) S.A. Congress of Trade Unions: No specific campaign was being undertaken but work was being done amongst individual Trade Unions.

2. Memorandum on National and Local Consultative Committees: In the absence of the original document a new draft was presented by the Secretary.

After discussion it was agreed that the Memorandum as amended be sent to the national organisations and the existing consultative committees.

3. Resolution on Cultural Boycott: A full discussion would be held at the next meeting.

Further copies of the T.I.Y.C. resolution would be circulated to members of the Committee.

4. Middle East Situation:

a.) Public Meetings: No open space in Johannesburg was available but the Broadway Cinema, FORDSBURG, had been booked for a meeting on Sunday 25th November. Details of the meeting were left to the local organisations.

b. Letters to the Labour Party and British Trade Union Council: Chief Lithuli had been on leave and it was not known for certain whether these letters had been written. REPORT NEXT MEETING.

c.) Protest by Jewish Democratic Association: A leaflet on the Middle East situation had been distributed by this Association. 800 copies of the leaflet had also been posted to various individuals.

d.) Solidarity with Egypt Fund: It was reported that a fund had been started by a few Moslem individuals and that some monies had already been donated. The Secretariat had suggested that rather than start a new fund that ways and means be found of supporting the existing one.

A collection was to be made at the meeting of the 25th and it was suggested that the proceeds be used to send a message of solidarity to Egypt. Any remaining funds could be donated to the above fund.

5. Memorandum on Anti-Group Areas Campaign: Owing to the absence of the



6974

(2)

the S.A.I.C. Representative the above Memo was unable to be discussed. It was AGREED that the S.A.I.C. be written to, advised that it was essential for their representatives to attend N.C.C. meetings regularly.

6. Multi Racial Conference: The following report was made for the information of members, by the A.N.C. representative.

Several organisations had expressed their support for the Conference although no date had as yet been announced for same. The A.N.C. had been advised that a meeting of representatives who were present at the original "All-in" Conference was being called to discuss plans for the convening of the Multi-Racial Conference. This preparatory meeting was to be held in December with a view to holding the Conference in April next year. Among matters to be discussed by the "preparatory committee" was the question of who was to sponsor the Conference.

Various suggestions had been advanced in this regard. The African Ministers Interdenominational Federation had been considered possible conveners of the Conference but fears were expressed that the racial composition of the Federation might militate against the success of the Conference. Some individuals had suggested that the Congresses sponsor the Conference but it was felt by some people that this might detract from the broadness of the gathering. The S.A. Institute of Race Relations had also been ~~suggested as~~ suggested as sponsors.

The matter was still being discussed.

7. "Blood" Apartheid: Owing to the absence of the S.A.I.C. Representative this matter was left over for the next meeting.
8. Memorandum from S.A.C.T.U. The Committee accepted a suggestion that the N.C.C. discuss ways and means by which the Congresses could assist the Trade Union Movement. The S.A.C.T.U. representative agreed to submit a memorandum on this subject as soon as possible.
9. Germiston Banishments: It was reported that the 4 individuals who had been ordered to leave Germiston under the Urban Areas Amendment Act had been arrested. After discussion it was AGREED that
1. Efforts by the C.O.D. be made to inform the European public, particularly in Germiston, of the viciousness of the Act and
  2. Efforts be made to contact the dissenting Town Councillors in Germiston with a view to holding a public meeting or raising some form of protest.
  3. The Committee recommended that the A.N.C. issue a leaflet on the matter.

This concluded the business of the meeting which thereupon terminated.

---



N.C.C. Meeting , 21/1/56.

①

②

Anti Pass: <sup>0</sup> COP  
Pass. Questionnaire.

② Memo sent to members.

11  
6973

① A.N.C. Nil.

③ SAEPD Nil

④ SAETU No specific Campaign.

Individual work amongst various TU's  
Encouraging women to work in Fed.

F.S. Fed. of Women

Proc. Conf. 21/2/56

Concentrating on Identifying Cal. women

Conf on Group Area + Passes for women

hope to use est. of Anti Pass Committee

also for Group areas.

Sales of pamphlet. won. in this

400 copies of Booklet on Coprene.

1 had anti pass committee in Ontario. - 80 nurses  
nurses in 10 nurses.

Memorandum on National + Local Consultative  
Committees.

① Revised draft Submitted by Sec.

Doc Be sent to org. to be passed on to Regions  
and to all org + to existing Consultative  
Committees.



Boycott Resolution 6973.

(2)

for  
Middle East Situation

meetings: no open space available  
Meeting being arranged at Broadway  
Theatre —

Letters to TUC + British Labour Party: — taken  
away. — Held over!

Day of Observance: Moslems had  
been contacted — a few meetings had been  
held.

Jewish Democratic Assoc.

800 letters posted.

Speakers Notes: — Being prepared: —

Solidarity Fund: See. Reported individuals  
had started a fund  $\equiv$  Dow had given  
\$500 at present a Moslem Fund.



(3)

1) Sec. <sup>relates</sup> suggests. Not rather than start our  
our fund - <sup>if that we rather</sup> find ways + means of  
supporting existing fund.

2) Rodeno stand est. fund + we start  
try + assist them.

3) At Sweep try collectors for  
telegrams of support.

SAIC Memorandum:

SAIC  
~~Last 2 meetings~~ had not been present  
at last 2 ~~mem~~ meetings.  
Have undertaken work a behalf of  
Committee - Joint ant importance  
of having representatives on Committee.



6973

(4)

Multi-Racial Conference:

Several org. expressed support for Conference  
Able contacted Rev M. who planned to  
call on urgent matter of Reps of org rep  
at the All. In Conf. to get the to  
accept a plan for the calling of the  
Multi Racial Conf.

This preparatory meeting to be held Dec  
with a view to 2nd April Conf.

Prep. meeting to consider who should  
sponsor Multi Racial meeting

Various suggestions made in this regard  
in ministers to — Racial fields might militate  
to success.

Congresses might exist opposite to other  
bodies.

Race Relations might be suitable.  
Opinions still to be obtained

Blood Apartheid. Loved ones

Memo from SAETU — on how Congress

could assist the T.O. Movement.

Policy Statement suitable for this purpose  
~~amended for use by SAETU & Congress~~



6973

(S)

6973

~~Statement ~~made~~ could be made~~

~~Statement to be made available~~

SACTU to produce a memo<sup>©</sup> Low

Congress could assist the <sup>Trade Unions</sup> Congresses.

Role of T. U. S. in Lib. Struggle.



Piet → Coronary Thursday. (6)  
transport: Helen → 6973.

~~Said Peter~~ — Gemston: Arrived yesterday  
at 4

COO Educate Clynus of  
Gemston. also contact with  
Councillors — leaflet by NMC. eduway.  
- apt Babel →



4th JULY 1956.

LEN 31  
C(52) N.C.C.  
P.O. Box 11045, JOHANNESBURG

TO ALL ORGANISATIONS AND CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES.

After the adoption of the Freedom Charter in Kliptown on June 26, 1955, the Congresses initiated a nation-wide campaign for the endorsement of the Charter by the people of South Africa. A target was set of one million signatures by June 26th 1956. Consultative Committees were established on National, Provincial and Local levels to direct this campaign. But by June 26th this year we had not achieved our goal.

Why did we fail?

There are a number of reasons which led to the failure to achieve our target. But the most important of all, is that we failed to link up the Freedom Charter to the very problems that surround the people in their every day life. There has been a tendency on our part to treat the Freedom Charter as a noble dream - an abstract idea of Freedom to be achieved in the future. We made the mistake also of treating the campaign for the endorsement of the Charter as a separate campaign unrelated to other campaigns.

If we are to succeed in making the Freedom Charter a dynamic living document we must apply it to every aspect of our struggle for freedom and democracy in our country. We must link up the endorsement of the Charter with our fight against the vicious Section 10 of the Urban Areas Act, under which our people are being hounded, against the Prohibition of Interdicts Act which makes it possible for Africans to be deported and banished without recourse to the courts of law, against the threat of increased rent in municipal townships and many other oppressive laws of the Nationalist Government. Our immediate task therefore is to continue the campaign for the endorsement of the Freedom Charter, for the last twelve months have proved that the masses of the people of South Africa are prepared to support the Charter.

What next?

The militant and spontaneous determination of the African women to reject the passes opens up a new phase of the struggle against the whole pass system. The Pass Laws, the Population Registration Act, leading to the vicious re-classification of the Coloured people constitute a fundamental part of the machinery of oppression. The whole congress movement must play its part in the struggle against these laws.

The nation-wide opposition of all women to passes for African women will be canalised in a national protest to the Prime Minister, Mr J.G. Strijdom on August 9th when 20,000 women of all races from all provinces of the Union are expected to march to the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

The National Consultative Committee calls upon all Provincial Regional and Local Committees to give full active and unqualified support to the women in this campaign against the passes.

1. All available forces of the congresses should be mobilised to make the National Protest the major activity of the next five weeks so that large numbers of women may be sent to Pretoria from every place in the Union.
2. It is of vital importance that on the same day, August 9th, the many thousands of women who cannot go to Pretoria must be organised to carry out local mass demonstrations to Native Commissioners, so that throughout South Africa women of all races will be protesting at the same time against this humiliation.
3. The Freedom Charter must be closely linked up with this campaign. Special signature forms on the lines of the attached form should be used to focus the attention on the campaign against passes and at the same time to set the campaign within



LEM 31

the framework of the Freedom Charter campaign.

All Committees are required to send full reports of the participation in the campaign for national and local demonstrations. These should reach the Secretariat not later than July 31st.

We thank all those Committees who organised mass meetings on June 24th and 26th to celebrate our National Day June 26th and to commemorate the first anniversary of the adoption of the Freedom Charter.

FORWARD TO THE FREEDOM CHARTER!

Yours in the struggle,

*[Handwritten signature]*  
SECRETARIAT.

Bewysstuk No.....  
 Gekry by *Sadie Mawanyane*.....  
 Deur *27/ers 25/ers*.....  
 T. *3373 Mtunzwastraat, Doornburg, B.H.*.....  
 D. *5/12/1956*.....  
 Verwysings No.....



**Collection Number: AD1812**

**RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961**

**TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:- Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand*

*Location:- Johannesburg*

*©2012*

***LEGAL NOTICES:***

**Copyright Notice:** All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

**Disclaimer and Terms of Use:** Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of the collection records and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a private collection deposited with Historical Papers at The University of the Witwatersrand.