

South African Council of Churches  
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SOUTH AFRICA

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WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
PROGRAMME UNIT ON JUSTICE AND SERVICE  
Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service  
November 30, 1987

Dear Friends,

SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PROGRAMME  
CONSULTATION , CARTIGNY - GENEVA

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Attached please find minutes of the above consultation which took place 22-23 October, 1987.

As usual the Consultation, the first one for Rev. Frank Chikane in his new re-incarnation, brought together a large number of participants. It was good the Namibia delegation, whose consultation had preceded SACC's were still around in Cartigny to attend some of the sessions.

Here are some of the highlights about which you will be reading in these minutes :

- Implications of the deepening crisis, and especially the state of emergency on the work and ministry of SACC and the churches;
- Help to victims of recent floods in Natal;
- Expropriation of Holgat Farm;
- Termination of FELCSA/SACC Joint Screening Committee;
- Netherland Churches sell pension shares in Shell and Philips;
- Europe lacking appropriate strategies for countering misinformation campaigns;
- SACC's budget increase for 1988 : reasons, pledges and shortfall.

- Next consultation October 1988.

Those of us in Geneva who annually try to coordinated this meeting on behalf of SACC and their ecumenical partners wish to thank all of you for your unflinching support of this programme of what Frank Chikanda called South African "Crisis" Council. Those of you who were not able to be in Cartigny will want, no doubt, to express in some way their continued encouragement and solidarity with SACC. Perhaps one ought to add also that the R 18,6 million pledged at the consultation constituted only 61 % of the estimated budget for 1988.

Best regards and seasonal greetings from all of us in the CICARWS Africa Desk.

Yours Sincerely,



Lal Swai  
Secretary for Africa

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MINUTES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES CONSULTATION  
Cartigny; Geneva; 22-23 October, 1987, ---

1. Opening

Prayers were led by Bishop Manas Buthelezi, followed by self-introductions. Nora Chase welcomed Rev. Frank Chikane, SACC's newly appointed General Secretary, and expressed best wishes for the success of the meeting. Christian Balslev-Oleson was appointed moderator. Janet Thomas took the Minutes.

2. Agenda

The tentative agenda (Appendix I) was adopted after inclusion of the Emergency appeal for South Africa and changes in the timetable.

3. Adoption of 1986 Minutes

The Minutes of the SACC October 1986 consultation were adopted without changes. It was noted that the 1986 meeting had not been only primarily a budget meeting but that there had been a broader cross-section of people responsible for information, education and advocacy which reflected the need for more organization in the North in discussions.

4. Update of the Situation

a) Bishop Manas Buthelezi shared information on the on-going low-key ministry of the church and the personal involvement/commitment of South Africans. He expressed gratitude for support and solidarity from within the ecumenical family and emphasized the need for strengthening local witness and black leadership within the church and schools.

b) Rev. Frank Chikane reported on the ministry of the SACC in relation to the Mission of the Church of Christ in its broader context where financial resources should not be considered foreign, but as resources within the one body of Christ which is struggling in partnership in a divided world. The people in South Africa would like assistance that would enable them to dialogue, share experiences and help one another.

In addition, Rev. Chikane reported on the deepening crisis, indicated by SACC's large budget, and the ministry to apartheid victims and underground congregations. SACC functions as a crisis council and operates as an alternative government in an abnormal situation where the government serves only the minority.

He reported that a number of new posts were approved by the SACC Executive Committee in 1986 (Council has approximately 80 staff with about 100 in Regional Councils). The General Secretariat is being restructured to alleviate pressures in administration, personnel and finance levied on the General Secretary.

The present situation is characterized by a state of emergency or "total onslaught of communism", which has become a part of life addressed by the government through its total strategy composed of:

i) a regional strategy, with the establishment of a political hegemony in the entire south african region (i.e. destabilization of states in the region), and

ii) an internal strategy with reforms, repression and war against people in South Africa (i.e. removal of leaders, for example, the detention of Rev. Zele for active involvement in the NECC. Contents of a letter from the South African Embassy in Bonn confirming his involvement in the consumer boycott as reason for his detention was shared); creation of political wastelands; and constitutional developments as a means of pacifying people.

Partners felt that a third aspect of the Pretoria government's total strategy was worldwide propaganda and restrictions against the press in South Africa (eg. warning issued to New Nation).

The war now involves official and unofficial arms of the state in its attacks against trade unions and children, and the police and military protect only 15 per cent of the population. Options proposed to the present situation by Rev. Chikane included:

- aid to the Southern African region;
- aid to the people of Mozambique, Angola and Namibia; and
- forcing Mr. Botha to abandon the apartheid system which creates victims. (It was agreed that the apartheid system creates heresy and doubt in people vis-à-vis their belief. It was noted that a number of people have lost Christian faith and there is growing agony about expectations from the church and how it can move faster.)

Signs of hope include increasing awareness of the people borne out of their involvement in the struggle and manifested by boycotts and strikes (there have been 372 strikes in 1987). James Mutambirwa shared PCR's difficulty in communicating not only violence from within South Africa, but feelings of hope to "people in the pew" in Europe.

The Dakar meeting and its seemingly positive effects were also discussed.

The meeting discussed the development of parallel structures since 1985 which is part of a counter-revolutionary movement (eg. the formation of the western Cape Council of Churches as opposed to SACC's western Province Council. It was proposed that the WCC coordinate in-coming information to assist partners in developing a common strategy to counter-act propaganda information.

SACC feels the the role of the Church should include ministry to the victimizer, which is not very clear, and helping the powerful to share power.

SACC informed that independent churches are involved in the life of the Council as affiliate members and is represented on the SACC Executive. It was noted however, that these churches are usually the poorest and weakest in the community and are not taken seriously in political decision-making in the South African context.

Regional Councils were discussed and the meeting was informed of the SACC Executive Committee's decision to meet with the Executive Committee of Regional Councils (RCs) in February 1988. The SACC Executive has not yet made a decision about funding RCs, but it is advised that support be given through the SACC for coordination. SACC requires quarterly

There has been some misunderstanding with regard RCs support for administration, however, their administrative budgets have been included in the SACC 1988 budgets. Staffing is not considered a problem but all divisions feel there is need for thorough training. Presently there are 22 regional councils.

Rev. Chikane stated the need to review Project Funding as there is no adequate/existing structure. As a policy, the Council uses church networks for channeling funds to the rural areas and not the official apartheid structure (i.e. homelands).

#### 5. Communication

The position of Editor/Journalist is still vacant. An information officer will also be employed. Future plans include linking the library/documentation centre with EDICSA and work with the Catholic Bishops Conference. The division will produce new releases on particular themes and programmes of the council and develop appropriate strategies for counteracting propaganda information.

#### 6. Update on Emergency appeals

##### a) Natal flood

The meeting was informed that R.100,000 from relief funds (Asimani) have been used to aid victims of the recent floods in Natal who have fallen outside government criteria. Aid from government is currently being administered through the security system. The present appeal is for R 500,000. A report from Rev. Sol Jacob on the Natal flood disaster was distributed.

Nico Keulemans reported that an alert was sent out after receiving news of the flood in a telex from SACC, pending further details to be provided during the consultation. Pledges presently amount to US\$ 120,000. He said the Emergencies office still needs reports on implementation and additional needs. A request has also been received from the Christian Council of Lesotho for affected regions in Lesotho, which might or might not be included in the South African appeal. The request presented to EEC by Trocaire has been considered favourably, but the request does not cover the appeal budget. The EEC funds will go through the Catholic Bishops Conference.

##### b) Mine workers strike

The Justice and Reconciliation desk has indicated a crisis in the trade union and expenditure of a large amount of funds. There is uncertainty about whether the funds available will be adequate to respond to pressing needs. Legal costs have been taken from the Asimani Relief fund.

#### 7. Scholarships

SACC has problems associated with requests for scholarships to study outside South Africa. The Council gives emergency grants to get people out of the country for security reasons, but once they are out, they can no longer be supported by the Council and other means of support must be secured.

## 8. Dependents Conference

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Ms. Sophie Mazibuko reported on the work of the Conference in the "Apartheid Infectious Dependent Society (AIDS)" while appealing for more financial support. The Conference is established in 21 areas and has 46 field workers (2 presently in detention). The Conference has provided accommodation and transportation for the 18 persons involved in the Delmas treason trial presently taking place in Pretoria who have been moved from their families. The Gahiso trial will require R. 650,000 for legal costs between October and December 1987 (people have to live in Soweto even though released on bail); and the case of the Kwa N'debele chiefs.

Reports from the Dependant's Conference evaluation workshop will be shared with partners shortly. A national meeting is planned for formulating policy, when hopefully, four regional coordinators and one national coordinator will be appointed to ensure closer collaboration with rural structures. Mandy Chinasamy said R 600,000 in the 1987 Revised Budget (P. 6) under DC Regional Office Expense should be deleted as it appears under the RCs budget.

## 9. Holoat Farm

Rev Chikane reported on the expropriation of the farm by the state in August when the Mahopa people were preparing to move. The Government claims that the farm will be used for education. In the meantime, permission has been granted for the community to live in a transit area for three months (until end of November) while trying to identify land to be purchased on their behalf.

## 10. Bilateral relationship

Partners expressed concern about requests received from member churches of the SACC and other groups within South Africa, especially if these groups felt that they were being discriminated against. The General Secretary said SACC does not have a criteria or particular ideological base, but ministers to all who are affected and/or in need. He said there is need, however, for staff to be more pastoral in giving information about obtaining SACC assistance, to the extent of publishing such information. He informed that the churches have been requested to take over certain cases in order to respond not only to financial needs, but also to minister in other helpful areas. He said there was a need for developing a control system regarding counter proposals (eg. scholarships) and a screening system.

## 11. Joint Screening Committee

The meeting was informed of the termination of contract of the Joint Screening Committee (FELCSA/SACC) by the SACC Executive Committee. A new committee, composed of SACC members, has been appointed and a new constitution has been approved. It was agreed that funds available within South Africa for distribution should be replenished annually.

## 12. Women's Division (formerly women's Desk)

Ms. Lulama Xirwana shared the aims and objectives of the newly established division (in 1987) which gets its vision from Galatians 3:28

(Appendix II). The programme includes development, assertiveness-raising, awareness-building, leadership training, coordination and networking. She reported on travels throughout the country to meet women and map out strategies for developing a wholistic/women's theology.

The Christian Development Education of the South African Catholic Bishops Conference (SACBC) has been requested to train 10 women from various Regional Councils who will eventually train other women at the local level. Regional committees have been set up under approximately ten regional councils and several women's groups have decided to embark upon a number of pilot projects. Future plans include inviting women theologians from other African countries, exposure visits to liberated countries with progressive women's cooperatives, and a conference on justice and peace in the South African context in 1988.

13. Ministry to Refugees administers the hunger and relief fund under Emergencies. This year, DC has referred grant requests to the Pietermaritzburg office.

14. Asengini Relief Fund

The fund provides for legal costs, bail money, relief of strike victims and assistance to families of exiles/refugees. Legal costs are coordinated by the Dependents Conference (reports of legal costs have been sent to partners and are available upon request). The SACC Executive Committee has decided to involve more persons (at least three) together with the General Secretary (who decides only in urgent cases) in decision-making for transparency. The General Secretary administers the discretionary fund which has a ceiling of R 10,000.

15. National Emergency Fund

Grants have a ceiling of R 10,000 and are administered by Regional Councils. SACC's Executive Committee has discussed the need for a clear demarcation between the Asengini and National Emergency Funds (NEF).

16. Finance

a) 1986 Audited Statement

Mandy Chinasamy presented the statement and made the following corrections:

Asimani Relief Fund:

p. 19, Church of Sweden 1986 grant: R 172,249 (not R127,249)

Dependants' Conference:

p. 20, Church of the Province of S. Africa:	R 3,535 (not R 2,625)
p. 21, Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society of Pecusa:	R 265,993 (not R 257,506)
" United Church of Canada:	R 324,104 (not R 333,497)
p. 23, Presbyterian Church - USA	R 30,140 (not R 4,676)
p. 25, Generale Diakonale Raad, Netherlands:	R 90,489 (not R 124,505)



National Emergency Fund:

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- p. 26, Commission on Interchurch Aid, Germany - grant of R 10,474 should be added

SACC auditors will issue and send correction letters to the agencies concerned, with copy to the WCC.

Note: Based on anticipated income, the 1987 revised budget is covered.

b) 1988 Budget

Mandy Chinasamy presented the SACC 1988 budgets totalling R. 30,455,949 (77% increase over 1987 budget). 16% inflation rate in South Africa was noted. Increase in administration is 27 percent. This represents 15 percent of the total budget. Two senior staff positions are provided for in the budget (total number of staff is expected to increase to 92). R 1.2 million have been built into programme budgets for administrative services. No budgetting has been done for capital expenditure which is written off during year of purchase. Interests gained over the past two years from investment of funds have been used to start a SACC staff housing/loan scheme.

The days deliberations ended with prayers said by Lulama Xinqwana.

Friday, October 23rd

Meditation was based on Phillipians 2:5 and conducted by Bishop Manas Buthelezi. Emphasis was on the meaning of self-emptying (kenosis) and on being Christ-like. He said what was demanded of us was far more than merely sharing our God-given resources.

17. Perspectives from the North

Partners exhaustively discussed the South African situation and agreed that the problem in Europe was the lack of appropriate strategies for using available information to counteract misinformation and was not the lack of information. Some suggestions/questions raised for addressing this problem were as follows:

- could PCR function as a center of strategizing? (Tveter)
- Partners must find ways of getting information compiled by EDICESA (fearful of it that taking on too much). (Balslev-Olesen)
- problem is lack of ability to have coordinated campaigns. It is necessary to work at congregational level to motivate congregations. (Minnaard)
- ways should be sought for collecting stories so that partners can have that information which is not in the professional media (Renshaw)

PCR is mandated to take initiatives. probably there is a need for more staff (Tveter)

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- what is lacking is strategy of the churches. If there is no official action by WCC Executive/Central Committee there will be no action. There is no forum for European and American churches on this issue. Annual meeting of agencies should be opened up (Hinz).
- CEC should be involved and could appoint a "working group on South Africa. Church leaders in Europe should be kept informed, possibly through CEC (Butselaar). Sommerfeldt will raise issue at CEC's January meeting.
- what is needed is involvement of church leaders who do not make decisions that influence government policy. Church leaders should be invited to a meeting and challenged to assume responsibility (Kugler).
- something similar to Namibian Communications Centre should be developed through multilateral structure in Europe; Also a confrontation of church leaders from progressive (eg. Scandinavian countries) and conservative (eg. Switzerland and Germany) countries on this issue. PCR is not the right instrument to do this. (Sommerfeldt)

Eva Militz stated that the role of PCR is to facilitate and help churches and partners to come together. Follow-up at the local level is the responsibility of the churches and agencies. She informed that the Lusaka Statement had been adopted by the WCC Executive Committee had adopted the Lusaka statement. She shared information on the visit of Eminent Persons, the Namibia Day of Prayer and "Namibia Year" (1988) which are being prepared by PCR.

Finally, the meeting adopted the following recommendation:

The annual meeting of the SACC and churches/agencies in the North discussed the need for coordination of awareness-building and initiatives for stronger actions amongst churches in the North.

The WCC is strongly requested to have a study done and report back to the next annual meeting, if not earlier. The study should describe and analyze the present situation and come up with a plan of action for greater mobilization and coordination of efforts.

The terms of reference should be worked out in consultation with the member church agency which is requested to implement the study. Alte Sommerfeldt of Church of Norway (CON) and Rudolf Hinz of EKD will work on strategies to further involve church leaders in Europe.

#### 18. Sanctions

The meeting heard the following reports on sanctions from the Northern partners:

a) Germany - is concerned about the Human Rights issue. The present government is not very sure about sanctions but is strongly favouring more active sanctions. Churches have stated that they are in favour of selected targeted sanctions. Catholic Bishops Conference have made it clear that

they are against apartheid even though they are not in a position to favor or disfavour sanctions (R. Hinz).

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b) United Kingdom - 1988 is next Lambeth conference. Anglicans might be asked what they are doing about sanctions. Anglican church in Zululand is against sanctions (P. Kenshaw).

c) Denmark - few months ago there was seeming unclarity about sanctions. The Scandinavian countries seem to be the only ones who have applied full sanctions. How effective have they been so far? (C. Balslev-Olesen)

d) Netherlands - from last visit to South Africa, seems like sanctions have been very effective for Black South Africans. Blacks, in a creative way, are more hopeful about their future. Many of them are finding new identities through their Christian faith. The Netherlands churches have decided to sell pension shares in Shell and Phillips. Churches been have invited by these companies and only the Catholic Bishops responded to invitation. (van Butselaar)

Rev. Frank Chikane informed that the document of the Catholic Bishops' Conference on sanctions was not adopted as a policy document, nor was the COSATU document. The Catholic Bishops Conference, however, has made a clear statement on their position and the Catholic church is the only church which has published a statement on sanctions even though it is unclear. The Harare Declaration has been adopted by the SACC Executive and referred to member churches. The National Conference has endorsed the Lusaka statement and referred it to member churches.

Rev. Chikane said people are emphasizing financial sanctions. He said the major cause of unemployment in the last five years has been a result of disinvestment. Eva Militz shared details of a study done by the "Community Agency on Social Inquiry on public opinion regarding sanctions, and asked whether the WCC criteria regarding relations with banks could be considered as a proposal. Partners felt that agencies and churches should reconsider their priorities which should be challenged with regard to money and personnel.

#### 19. Indication of Financial Support

Mandy Chinasamy reported the following pledges made by partners present (see Appendix III for details by agencies):

Block grants	3,198,390
<u>General Secretariat:</u>	
Administration Services + General Administration	1,023,000
Communications	
Regional Council Development	1,000,000
<u>Justice &amp; Society:</u>	
African Bursary Fund	2,178,000
Dependants Conference	2,555,000
Justice & Reconciliation	90,000
Ministry to Refugees	380,000

Pledges contd.

<u>Church &amp; Mission:</u>	
Mission and Evangelism	112,200
Youth Division	58,000
women's Ministries	170,200
<u>Dev. &amp; Service:</u>	
Home and Family Life	119,200
Inter-Church Aid	95,000
Hunger Relief	
Asingeni Relief Fund	4,610,000
National Emergency Fund	<u>3,075,000</u>
Total pledges 18,664,390	

Notes: - An additional R. 2 million is expected from other sources.  
 - The 1987 revised budget of R. 21 million has been fully covered.

The meeting seriously discussed implications of the 1988 budget with regard to its size and possibilities for covering the deficit. Partners questioned whether the budget was a reflection of actual needs or the expectation of available funds through the EEC. The high increase in the Asingeni fund over the last two years was also noted. The moderator referred difficulties in covering the SACC budget two years ago when partners requested the SACC not to rapidly increase its budget. Rev. Chikane affirmed that the budget was an indication of basic needs and briefly commented on the process emanating in the approved budget.

EEC Funding was discussed in a separate meeting on the evening of October 22nd. There is a possibility that EEC funds could cover the deficit, however, Rudolf Hinz drew attention to the danger of depending on EEC funds for special programmes. SACC receives EEC funds through NGOs and is in a position to issue letters certifying receipt of such funds for agencies needed them. EEC funds inflated the income of the Asingeni relief fund in 1986.

It was suggested that the churches be informed about the present situation which creates special needs and that attempts be made to raise more funds through public campaigns and church sources. Reference was made to the decision in 1986 to raise funds among partner agencies to cover any deficits.

20. Closing formalities

a) Bishop Manas Buthelezi expressed thanks on behalf of the SACC Executive Committee first, to the WCC for facilitating the meeting which is an essential activity of the life of the Council, and to partners for their efforts and goodwill in helping to understand the problems and difficulties, and for subsequently translating that goodwill into pledges.

b) Next meeting - It was decided that the next meeting be held in September or October, 1988.

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c) Following expressions of thanks to the SACC staff by the Moderator, Rev. Frank Chikane spoke about the Mission of the church and the need for theological understanding and ecclesiological praxis. He closed the meeting with prayers for strength and the ability to carry out that Mission.

The meeting was adjourned at 15.20 hrs.

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South African Council of Churches (SACC) Consultation  
Geneva, 22-23 October, 1987

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Agenda

Thursday, 22 October, 1987

- 1. Opening meditation
- 2. welcome
- 3. Selection of moderator/rapporteur
- 4. Adoption of agenda
- 5. Adoption of minutes - October 1986
- 6. Up-date and issues:
  - a) South Africa Bishop Manas Buthelezi
  - b) SACC Rev Frank Chikane
  - c) Emergency appeal
  - d) Dependant's Conference Ms. Sophie Mazibuko
  - e) South African Women Ms. Lulama Xingwana
- 7. Audited financial statements for 1986 (Ms Mandy Chinasamy)
- 8. Programme budget 1988 (Ms Mandy Chinasamy)

Friday, 23 October, 1987

- 9. meditation SACC
- 10. SACC issues and discussion continued
  - a) Presentation of budget and discussion
  - b) Indication of financial commitment/support
- 11. Discussion and perspectives from the North
- 12. Any other business
- 13. Closing formalities

Timetable:

9.00 - 10.30
11.00 - 12.30
14.00 - 15.30
16.00 - 17.30

1. BACKGROUND:

The Women's Ministries is a new Division of the South African Council of Churches. As such it is still developing.

It was established after a resolution passed in the 1985 South African Council of Churches National Conference on Women, recommended that the Women's Desk be established as a separate division outside of Home and Family Life.

The executive placed it within the cluster of church and Mission because its task involves theological exploration, consciousness raising as well as co-ordinating church women's programmes.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- (a) To engage in theological exploration and preparation of Bible studies.
- (b) To re-read the bible from the woman's perspective for total liberation.
- (c) To articulate faith reflections on women's realities, struggles and spirituality.
- (d) To develop a wholistic theology rather than just a feminist theology.
- (e) To liberate church structures from traditional stereotypes in relation to men and women.

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(f) To develop training and educational events aimed at raising awareness and self esteem in women so they can claim their rightful place in the church and in the community.

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(g) To clarify what we mean by feminism in the South African context.

(h) To develop programmes that will involve the community as a whole, i.e. to develop programmes that are community programmes not just church programmes.

(i) To work in a democratic and participatory style of governance.

(j) To forge strong links with women's organisations both secular and religious throughout the country, the church in Africa and the Third World as we struggle for a better world.

### 3. STRUCTURE:

To facilitate the work of the division, and to enable us to reach out to the grassroots women, the division will work through the following structure:

#### 3.1 AREA COMMITTEES:

The area committee will be composed of all the local Christian women's organisations. The area committee will choose one/two reps to represent them at regional level.

#### 3.2 DIVISIONAL REGIONAL COMMITTEE:

The regional committee will be made up of one/two representatives from each Area Committee. Representatives from regional member churches will also be included.



The Regional Committee will facilitate the initiation of projects in the region. The Regional committee will elect one/two representatives to the National Divisional.

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3.3. NATIONAL DIVISIONAL COMMITTEE:

The National Divisional Committee will comprise one/two representatives from the Regional Committees, and representatives from SACC member churches.

The Divisional National Committee shall meet not less than once per annum.

The Divisional National Committee shall elect the Divisional Executive Committee.

3.3.1 Functions of the Divisional National Committee

- (a) To elect members of the Divisional Executive Committee if it considers such a committee necessary.
- (b) To make such decisions as to policy, action and administration as are consistent with the aims, objectives and powers of the SACC and the directions of the National Conference or the Executive Committee.
- (c) To elect a chairperson from time to time who shall report on behalf of the Division to the Executive Committee.

The Divisional National Committee may allow observers to attend its meetings with the right to speak but such observers shall not vote.

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A quorum shall be constituted by one-quarter for the representatives appointed members to the Divisional National Committee.

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STAFF STRUCTURE:

1. DIRECTOR:

- (i) Responsible for overall administration of the division.
- (ii) Planning of educational programmes for women, in consultation with the national executive committee, the regional women's committees and the fieldworkers.
- (iii) Shall also participate in the training programmes.
- (iv) Liase with Christian Women's Organisations in the Church in Africa, the Third World and the World Church as we struggle for a better world.

2. NATIONAL FIELDWORKER/ TRAINER:

- i) Responsible for the overall training of fieldworkers in the region.
- ii) Liase with Regional Councils, member churches and organisation.
- iii) Compile and produce material for training.
- iv) Do research on women issues and document this.
- v) Collect material for resource centre in library.
- vi) Co-ordinate and collect articles for newsletter on women's work in the regions and internationally.
- vii) Participate in training programmes.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY:

- i) Responsible for arranging of seminars, conferences and meetings.
- ii) Act as a P.R.O. in the absence of the director
- iii) Also help in running and administration of the resource centre.

division, the fieldworker's reports and research work.

- v) Help the fieldworker in compiling material for training.
- vi) Arrange appointments for the director.
- vii) make travel arrangements for staff.
- viii) To organise staff meetings.

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#### WOMEN'S TRAINING PROGRAMME:

There is a need for an integrated development education in most regions. This came out clearly from the demands from workshops and seminars by women during various meetings called by the Women's Division in the regions.

The aim of this training must be:

- i) To create awareness of legal rights and of the women's potentials that can be used to develop their communities and their region.
- ii) To endeavour to stimulate critical minds that question conditions around them.
- iii) To enable them to confidently layout plans of action to improve their quality of life.

#### PROGRAMMES:

##### 1. THEOLOGICAL EXPLOFATION:

The main objectives will be:

- (a) To learn how to conduct Bible Studies in various women's groups.
- (b) To be able to interpret Biblical text in Context, in the light of total liberation.
- (c) To endeavour to change predominantly male-dominated church structures, by theologically exploring and adjusting the roles of men and women in the church.

## 2. LEADERSHIP TRAINING:

The main objectives of this programme will be:

- (a) To develop a deeper understanding of Christian perspective of a good leader.
- (b) To clearly define the role and duties of officers in committee meetings (e.g. secretary, chairperson etc.) and the general running of an organisation.
- (c) To enable participants to share organisational problems and experiences.

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## 3. DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

The programme's main objectives will be:

- (a) To eliminate the culture of passivity on women and to encourage participation.
- (b) To raise awareness of their roles versus their potentials, and to encourage meaningful utilisation of the latter.
- (c) To develop critical analysis in women which will enable them to identify the root causes of problems and how to overcome them.
- (d) To make women aware of resources available, both material and human, and how they can be used to develop their communities.

## 4. Socio-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS:

The objectives of this programme will be:

- (a) To create awareness of the root causes of hunger
- (b) To encourage training in agriculture and food production by women.
- (c) To create awareness of products that form the country's base.
- (d) To understand women's role in and benefit from such production.

## 5. LEGAL RIGHTS:

Objective will be:

- (a) To enable women to understand the country's laws, particularly those that affect them directly i.e. tax laws, matrimonial acts, etc.
- (b) To raise awareness of the implications of the various marriage laws for women.

Objectives will be:

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- (a) To help women understand their bodies e.g. importance of pap smears, hygiene etc.
  - (b) To emphasise the importance of pre-natal and post-natal care.
  - (c) To campaign against the use of Depo Provera (which has been rejected in the West) on Black women, particularly on teenage girls who do not understand its effects.
  - (d) To prepare women for emergencies in their homes and communities.

#### IMPLEMENTATION:

Most of these programmes will only be started when we have fieldworkers in the regions. For some, service organisations/resource people will be called in to run workshops or training courses for the particular region requesting such training. The target group will be women, especially those in the rural areas.

#### TRAINING:

The workshops will be organised by the regional women's committees and the National and Regional fieldworkers. The fieldworkers will receive training first, before they can serve as facilitators or trainers in this programme.

#### CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, I would like to point out that the task ahead of us is indeed a mammoth one. The Women's Division has been established during trying and difficult times in our country. For these reasons, we would like to appeal specifically to the churches for their support and solidarity.

The Central Committee of the World Council of Churches decided last January to launch an Ecumenical Decade - churches in Solidarity with Women. We hope during these crucial years, we will see meaningful changes

in the church with regard to the roles of men and women.

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What we ask is that the church should recognise that women can also be empowered to bring about change. The Holy Spirit does not descend only on men. Church structures must not continue to dampen and squash the enthusiasm and inspiration of women. Together we must see the new heaven and the new earth, where God will dwell amongst His people, when He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and there shall be an end to mourning and crying and pain, and the old order will have passed away.

#### OUR VISION

Women derive their legitimisation from vision expressed in Gal 3:28

"So there is no difference between Jews and Gentiles,  
between slaves and free men,  
between men and women;  
you are all one in union with Christ Jesus"

We therefore assert that there is in Christ no inequality on the basis of race, class and sex. This could also be the case in the Church.

However, this vision has never been realised in the Christian church. The Church has only maintained the in the church with regard to the roles of men and women.

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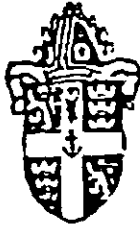
However, this vision has never been realised in the Christian church. The Church has only maintained the equality of all Christians only with respect to salvation, hope and charity, but not with respect to Church structures and ecclesial office.

The failure of the Church to realise this vision of Gal. 3:28 in its institutions and praxis has resulted in a long praxis of inequality and the suppression of the Christian vision of freedom and equality for all.

Women are therefore driven by their own conviction that Christian theology and faith are capable of transcending their own hierarchal and patriachal forms. We believe that the hierarchal-patriachal church structures have to be changed if women are to attain a meaningful place and share authority within the Church and theology, and in society as a whole.

LULAMA XINGWANA

DIRECTOR: WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



FROM THE ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP OF CAPE TOWN

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CA36.

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TELEPHONE: (021) 71-253

Christmas 1987

Dear Friends

Leah and I as well as the rest of our family send you very warm greetings for a happy and really blessed Christmas and a prosperous 1988 - especially after the stock market crash!

We give thanks to God who through the birth of His son proclaims that He loves our world, that He does not give up on it. He proclaims that people and babies and families matter; that justice and goodness matter; that He cares about exploitation and injustice and oppression and that He has a special concern for those who are their victims. He cares about the ragged procession of humanity in the long queues of refugees and exiles and He weeps as He looks out on His world to see just how His children illtreat and abuse one another. He cares that people disappear mysteriously and are not heard of again. He cares that some are imprisoned unjustly, are tortured, are detained without trial, are killed often brutally. And He rejoices as He notes the compassion the caring, the love, the courage, the commitment to justice and freedom and humanity in so many.

We are in the throes of a third State of Emergency whose curbs are more severe and restrictive than any other before it. At one time it seemed as if it would be illegal even to pray for detainees, that is what eminent lawyers said was the effect of the Minister of Law and Order's injunction, and so we decided to organise a service in our Cathedral Church precisely to pray for detainees and their release in order to challenge an unacceptable decree. The Minister then claimed that it had never been their intention to restrict worship services, and of course we believe him since they are all honourable men. They have detained children some of whom have been as young as 11 years of age. Since last year June some have been inside kept away from lawyers and their families and some even being detained alongside hardened criminals.

I am concerned for white people in our land. There are some truly superb people among them committed to working for real fundamental change. But the bulk as we saw from the results of the all white election in May intend to hold



on to power whatever. When we and others called for the release of the children, the Minister of Law and Order claimed that these children were guilty of doing naughty things.

And we then declared why, if that were so his task was simple. He could just bring them to court and produce his evidence on which basis the children would then be found guilty in an open court. But no, he did no such thing. Many of those detained have been released with no charges being preferred against them. My concern is that there has been hardly a whimper of protest from most whites. Indeed there have been those who supported the Minister's extraordinary reasoning. You would have expected a loud outcry at the abrogation of the rule of law.

And I am deeply distressed that the leaders of the western world have on the whole shown a remarkable equanimity in the face of this outrage concerning the children. Does anyone really believe that Mrs Thatcher, President Reagan and Chancellor Kohl would have been so unconcerned had it been white children incarcerated say in Mr Mugabe's jail? Well, I am a little cynical and think we have here a sad example of blood being indeed thicker than water. We are thankful that in many western countries the so called ordinary people have a different attitude to the horrors of the vicious system of apartheid.

The wonderful leaders of the west do not want sanctions because, patronisingly, they are concerned that blacks will suffer. They say we must not use violence (and we do not want to), they know we do not vote and yet when we call for the one strategy that might relatively nonviolently bring about the change they claim they want to see happen, then they stymie our efforts. God help us.

We are distressed at the level of violence in the black townships, especially in Natal where there is a struggle for control between the UDF and Inkatha. The churches have been trying to bring about peace. The situation is ultimately due to apartheid but that is small comfort for those who risk losing their lives daily in these townships. It is horrible. Pray for us.

We were saddened at the loss of life and the devastation occasioned by the hurricane in the British Isles. This came in the wake of our own floods in Natal and we are deeply thankful to our partner churches who responded so promptly and so generously to our appeals for help.

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We are all agog at the release of Mr Govan Mbeki who remains an unrepentant member of the ANC, the South African Communist Party, an avowed Marxist and a supporter of the use of violence after 23 years in jail! We are all praying that his release must represent the opening of the doors to all our leaders and other political prisoners and that eventually our political organisations will be unbanned and then, after the State of Emergency is lifted, we will see genuine negotiations taking place for the dismantling of apartheid and the establishment of a new dispensation in our beloved country. Thank you for your support of our struggle.

A little family news. I baptised our grandchildren just after Christmas in St Augustine's Church in Soweto where I had been rector before becoming Bishop of Johannesburg. That was a great joy for all of us for we had not been together like that in a while. Of course there had been the enthronement and we were all together for Christmas at Bishops court. Naomi, who is divorced from Corbin, is now working hopefully for a Ph D in Economics in the London School of Economics. Mpho has graduated in Electrical Engineering and is home looking for a job. Leah, wonderfully, has been doing an 80 day Spirituality course including a 30 day retreat. I would have collapsed! We had good visits to Australia, Brazil, Trinidad, USA, UK, Sweden (holidaying as guests of the Church of Sweden), Finland and Togo. People are so good and kind to us. Thank you all.

Until next time, God bless you

Yours affectionately

- Desmond, Leah, Trevor, Zenele.  
Palisa, Thandi, Mthunzi, Xabiso, Naomi  
Mpho

## **DELMAS TREASON TRIAL 1985-1989**

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