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REPORT OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SECRETARIAT (NHS) TO THE FIRST NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING OF AZAPO HELD IN PORT ELIZABETH FROM THE 1st TO THE 3rd JUNE 1984.

2.3.21

COMPOSITION:

1. Cde Dr Abubaker Asvat Secretary/Head
2. Cde Dr Joe Veriava
3. Cde Ruweida Halim
4. Cde Kelello Lengane
5. Cde Dr Maitshwe N. Aubrey Mokoape
6. Cde Jenny Tisong
7. Cde Thandi Myeza

Cognisant of the very difficult times the Organisation is going through presently the National Health Secretariat(NHS) wishes to state emphatically that we are not deterred in our task and would like to fulfil its with even more vigour so that the struggle of the people can reach its fruition sooner.

The NHS would like the Branches to:

- i) Set up disaster relief teams so that in the event of any catastrophe the Organisation will not be an onlooker but a participant in the assistance of the people in times of need. Branch members should familiarise themselves with First Aid.
- ii) Explore the possibility of setting up clinics together with nursing and medical personnel in the area of operation. Stress should be paid to preventative health.
- iii) Assist with the distribution of "Handbook on Health" as far and wide as possible. Members should familiarise themselves with the contents of the "Handbook" so that they are equipped to answer any questions posed. Since this is the first issue of the booklet there may be items which Branches would to include/exclude. We therefore request Branches to send in their recommendations in writing to the Projects Co-ordinator. While sources are being tapped for financial assistance, Branches will have to do their own photocopying.
- iv) Stimulate worker consciousness in the area and assist with the setting up of Unions where none exist.
- v) Drought Relief Self-help projects should be initiated in drought affected regions. Regions are requested to hold seminars on "Health" where groups and individuals could participate and the main health problems affecting an area or region are/ shall be looked into and ways and means of how best to tackle the given situation on the basis of the input from these seminars.

ACTIVITIES:

The NHS HAS up to thus far:-

- a) Had a meeting with the President of the World Medical Association(WMA) and the Organisation's standpoint re: MASA(Medical Association of South Africa) and the holding of WMA Congress in Cape Town next year was fully explained.
- b) Attended a meeting in Soweto, convened by the Family Planning Association of South Africa on "Teenage Sex".
- c) Went to Mhwelereng(Potgietersrust) to inspect and assist with problems affecting a huge "squatter camp"-adjoining the ghetto-known as kwa-Mazakhele. The Projects Co-ordinator will explain further regarding this matter.
- d) The NHS has in the pipeline visits to numerous outlying areas where the Organisation has no branches to work in co-operation with the local people in setting up programmes on preventative health.

AMANDLA AWETHU

Aluta Continua

One Azania

One Nation

NATIONAL HEALTH SECRETARIAT.

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