



3. OFS.

Rev C "52"

2. INTRODUCTION

Since the UDF national launching conference in Cape Town on 20th August 1983 there has not been any form of contact between the national office and those delegates who attended the conference.

The communication breakdown is due to the fact that none of the delegates' address or telephone numbers are available. Also because of the pressure of work in the last two months both ~~the~~ officers of the UDF have not been able to make a follow up.

3.2 WELKOM - COSAS MEETING ON 7th October 1983.

Despite the communication break-down <sup>with</sup> the rest of the Orange Free State, new ground was broken in Welkom. On 7th October the General Secretary and the Publicity Secretary were invited to speak ~~about~~ <sup>on</sup> the United Democratic Front at a Cosas meeting.

Two main issues were discussed at that meeting viz. ~~the~~ historical overview of resistance in South Africa and the history and nature of the UDF. The two subjects were handled by the Publicity Secretary and the General Secretary respectively.

The students emerged out of the meeting clearer on the UDF and also with a renewed determination. They resolved to carry on with consultations with individuals and organisations in their locality, with a view to forming a UDF area committee. Already on the same day they had sent a delegate to talk to people in Bloemfontein and Brandfort.

### INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS:

#### INDIVIDUALS

A number of individuals prominent in the Thabong<sup>location</sup> such as Teachers, Lawyers, Community Leaders etc. were identified. We met some of them in the evening to discuss explain the UDF. Also present was an Azapo member who accepted the UDF declaration. In the overall this grouping had no problems with the UDF. Their immediate concern was opposition to the Black Local Authorities Elections.

However community organisations, in particular the Thabong Rent Action Committee <sup>is</sup> weak. Cosas is the strongest of all organisations.

#### 2.2 List of organisations

The following organisations were identified in the Thabong location.

1. Azapo
2. Cosas
3. Azapo

- ⑦
4. National Union of Mine Workers
  5. TRAC.
  6. OFSATA and
  7. several Church youth groups in the eleven existing churches in the org area.

### 3.2 NEEDS

1. Pro to starting facilities
2. help-financial <sup>aid</sup> to reprint membership cards of Cosas.
3. Asking for UDF T-shirts.

### SKILLS

They want to be help to workshops on:

1. UDF -
2. youth to deal with youth organisation
3. poster, banners and pamphlet making etc.

### Followup Program:

Arrangements have been made for the Publicity Secretary and the TVL Secretary Moss Chikane to go to the OFS on Wednesday 9th November 1983.

### 4. UNIONS

4.1 FOSATA

A UDF delegation comprising Publicity Secretary, General Secretary & the TVL joint Secretary - Mohammed Valli met the entire Fosata NEC at Wilgespruit on 17th September 1983.

4.1 AFFILIATION: Fosata felt that besides their commitment to joining the federation of unions they could not affiliate to the UDF because

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they have within their ranks people who do hold the same views as the UDF and are therefore afraid that <sup>affiliation to</sup> they the UDF may cause a split within Fozatu. This was stated by Mr. Joe Foster - General Secretary. He also picked out differences between Fozatu and the UDF (Western Cape Region). He claimed that they were attacked by our region in the Western Cape. He also read a photo paragraph(s) from a letter written to them by our region in the Western Cape which said that Fozatu had excluded itself from the UDF.

#### 4.1.2 Areas of Co-operation.

The UDF delegation made it clear that affiliation to the UDF was not a condition for working/co-operating with the Front. We pointed out that whilst affiliation to the UDF would be an advantage to the Front, was not a priority.

We identify identified areas of co-operation such as:

- common campaigns against sales tax
- joint campaigns for <sup>extension of</sup> workers rights to family and domestic workers.
- exchanging literature
- sending speakers to each others meetings

4.1.3. AFCWU

A meeting was held with the African Food and Canning Workers Union delegation in Benin (Actonville) on 9th September 1983. UDF was represented by Cheryl, Popo, Yunus, and Derrick and Ferrar.

4.1.3.1 AFFILIATION: AFCWU indicated their willingness to co-operate with the UDF. However they could not affiliate at this stage as their priority was a Federation of unions.

We agreed an area of co-operation similar to those we agreed upon with Fesatu.

4.1.3. Cawusa: We have had discussions with Cawusa Shopstewards. They state their workers at <sup>the</sup> Grand Bazaars are currently on strike and have asked for UDF support in all provinces where Grand Bazaars operate. They are calling for boycott of the products of Grand Bazaars.

5. COMMISSION ON EDUCATION:

Mr. Geris Nkondo appointed to provide terms of reference on education has been ill and could not prepare his report. He has promised to have it ready by within the next week.

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