NATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fall 1989 National Meeting in Chicago was a great success! Members from over sixteen states and representatives from Cooperation Canada-Mozambique and Clergy and Laity Concerned attended the weekend conference. The meeting was opened by a public address by R.E. Dr. Pascual Mocumbi on Friday night.

The following is a brief summary of highlights from the meeting:

1) A new executive committee was elected.
   Co-chairs - Dr. Loretta Williams (Boston) and Mackie McLeod (Washington D.C.)
   Secretary/Treasurer - Anne Evene (Chicago)
   Alt. Sec/Treas - Amy Sullivan (Norman, OK)
   Executive Committee - Rachel Chapman (Los Angeles), Chris Benner (San Francisco), Roberta Washington (New York), Gerard Nkoli (Chicago), Allen Isaacman (Minneapolis), Grace Jones (Cleveland); Alternate - Randy Carter (Boston)

2) Members voted to undertake a fundraising campaign for an orphanage in Zambesi province for children traumatized by war. Lisa January made contact with the facility during her trip in September. The National Office has initiated correspondence and is drafting fundraising materials to be available in January 1990. RACHEL CHAPMAN and JAMES PFEIFFER from the Los Angeles chapter will help in drafting fundraising materials.

3) Members voted to undertake a postcard campaign against bank loan applications to South Africa. DR. Loretta Williams has supplied the wording for the cards. National Office is in the process of having the cards typeset and printed for distribution.

4) JIM EITEL of San Francisco volunteered to produce an eight page booklet on RENAMO.

5) CHRIS BENNER from San Francisco will produce RENAMO WATCH as an addition to the MSN NEWSLETTER.

6) GRACE JONES of Cleveland will coordinate a project with JOSHUA LAZERSON of Chicago to produce videotapes to sell (at minimal price to cover costs) to MSN chapters to enhance organizing efforts.

7) JULIA LYN WALKER of the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center in Memphis will publish an MSN HANDBOOK for activists. Details are attached to the minutes.

8) A Regional meeting structure is scheduled to start Spring of 1991. A proposed regional structure and three year meeting schedule is included. Please take a look at this proposed structure and send in your comments. Any regional cooperation which can start among local groups before 1991 is encouraged!

UPDATE

JOB WELL DONE, especially to Seattle, for counteracting the misinformation about the six Americans detained in Mozambique. Enclosed are a selection of clippings from around the country.

JUST A REMINDER that if your local group has not filed a chaster petition, please do so ASAP (a petition is enclosed). This will greatly reduce time and paper needed to keep your local group updated with mailing lists and materials...PLEASE SEND IT TODAY!

MALANGATANA took the country by a chrisic storm. MSN has produced a commemorative 4-color post card (sent out as a “Happy Holidays” postcard). They are 1.25 each, but available to MSN CORE at a 40% discount for orders of 20.

CONGRATULATIONS ANA SARAN for receiving a $250.00 grant for the Atlanta MSN from the Fund for Southern Communities.

GRASSROOTS FUNDRAISING is the type of funding which will keep this office operating. The executive committee is in the process of designing a fundraising plan. They need to know how much each group can comfortably pledge as a fundraising target to keep the National Office open. PLEASE DISCUSS THIS AT YOUR NEXT LOCAL MEETING AND SEND IN YOUR PLEDGE. This information is needed to plan for long term sustainability.

Time did not permit for an analysis/criticism of the National Meeting. Participants are encouraged to send in their comments so that the meeting in Spring 1990 will be more productive.

A FINAL PLEA...Please read mailings from MSN National Office or from Prexy Nesbitt. These mailings contain the latest political information, financial statements about MSN, fundraising successes, and notices about new materials in the National Office.

MSN membership grows everyday as we inform more people about Mozambique. Let's keep up the momentum!