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PRESS STATEMENT NO 93/13

**HRC STATEMENT
 ON
 THE AMNESTY ISSUE**

In light of the current revival of the debate on the question of Amnesty - the HRC wishes to once again re-iterate its standpoint on this issue by quoting from our statement of the 31 August 1993 as follows:

The HRC strongly supports the concept of a Truth Commission. This concept is not new, having already proven itself to some extent in some Latin American countries as a means of revealing past human rights violations and of achieving a measure of reconciliation.

The HRC has always maintained that complete disclosure of all violations of human rights, from whatever quarter, during the era of Apartheid, is an absolutely necessary prerequisite to the process of putting our past behind us and getting on with the job of building a new society with solid human rights values. We see a Truth Commission, if properly constituted, as having the potential to achieve the fullest possible disclosure and then to act upon it in the most constructive way.

Full disclosure will achieve a number of objectives. Firstly it is psychologically vital for the families of the victims of human rights abuses to come to grips with the circumstances under which their loved ones were abducted, tortured and assassinated. In addition to the cathartic effect of such knowledge, the families and surviving victims must be entitled to suitable compensation for their hardships, anguish and deprivation. Secondly it is essential that the perpetrators be identified and isolated, not necessarily for the purpose of retribution and punishment, but more importantly to ensure that they are never again placed in a position of power to repeat their inhuman acts. Thirdly, the enormity of the crime of Apartheid as a system of social engineering must be revealed in all its nakedness, including the distortions wrought upon some of those who, in their fight against this evil, lost their way and engaged in some of the very human rights violations so systematically practised by their oppressors.

It must be stressed that perpetrators at all levels need to be identified, not only those who pulled the trigger, applied the electric shock or disposed of the body; but those who organised and funded the death squads, gave the orders or hired the assassins.

The history of Grand Apartheid, like the Nazi Holocaust has important lessons for us all; this is what must never be forgotten and this is where full disclosure is so essential.

National Chairperson: Dr. Max Coleman

National Director: Ms. Safara Sadek

Commissioners: Ms. Brigalia Bam, Rev. Danny Chetty, Dr. Max Coleman, Mr. Chris Dlamini, Fr. Smangaliso Mkhathshwa, Mr. Silas Nkenu, Adv. Dullah Omar, Mr. Wesley Pretorius, Dr. Faizel Randera, Adv. Jeremy Sarkin, Mr. Howard Varney

A Truth Commission has never been established or activated to cover the period of South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia

Priority given to jobs, schools, houses and health in 'new democracy'

ANC economic blueprint aims to quell white fears

David Beresford
in Johannesburg

THE debate on South Africa's economic future got into full swing yesterday with the release of a report which, if not the ANC's bible on economic policy, is likely to become at least its primer.

The Macro Economic Research Group's (MERG) report, the product of an international collaborative effort on behalf of the ANC by some of the world's leading development economists, was presented to the liberation movement after months of controversy over its expected contents.

The final document, while offering a fairly dramatic reconstruction programme, is likely to bring some reassurance to

ANC critics who feared it would prove a manifesto for macro-economic populism of a kind which has brought economic disaster to Latin American countries.

The 380-page report, Making Democracy Work, proposes massive cash injections into education and training, job creation, housing and health. It is based on a two-stage strategy. The first five years concentrate on public investment and the second on phased growth with an emphasis on private sector investment.

The more controversial aspects of the report include: The short-term redistribution of land mainly for the benefit of female members of landless households in rural areas. It argues that there is enough state and quasi-state land for such a programme. But it sug-

gests there could also be state acquisition of white farmland saddled by unsustainable levels of debt.

The establishment of compulsory funds to buy stakes in key quoted companies on the Johannesburg stock exchange in order to transfer the ownership of wealth to the majority.

The creation of a capital issues commission under the ministry of finance to authorise company plans for new issues. The possible nationalisation of some commercial banks if Reserve Bank regulation is inadequate to deal with crisis.

The (delayed) introduction of a wealth tax, a capital gains tax and a variable VAT structure with heavy duties (30 per cent is envisaged) on luxury items. A relatively high inflation target of 10 per cent. Some of the other highlights

of the MERG report include: The doubling of capital expenditure on education to R1 billion (£200 million).

A basic health care and nutrition programme to be introduced at a cost of R1 billion a year and the construction of 2,000 clinics.

A housing programme aimed at raising the level of completions from the present 38,000 a year to 350,000 a year by the end of the decade.

A job creation programme intended to produce 2.5 million new jobs in 12 years.

It recommends that the new government should limit personal income tax to its current share of GDP.

The establishment of a peoples bank at Post Office branches to encourage blacks to participate in the banking system.

Jurists' team calls for battalions of peace-keepers to be kept in reserve

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) has called upon the international community to step up its support for South Africa's upcoming elections, recommending at least four or five battalions of peace-keeping troops may be needed to secure a free and fair poll on 27 April.

In a report this week, the ICJ called for the removal of the Internal Stability Units (ISU), the KwaZulu Police (KZP) and all other homeland police forces from playing any role in the elections.

The international community should also provide: at least one monitor at all times at all voting stations; senior police advisors at SA Police headquarters and at every police station involved in the elections; and a reserve peace-keeping force to be placed under a South African commander and at the disposal of the Electoral Commission.

Calling on the UN to co-ordinate international help from countries including Britain, the Netherlands, the Scandinavian countries, India and members of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the ICJ said it doubted that the South African National Peace-keeping Force would be in place or adequate by the April poll date.

The ICJ team's recommendations included:

- A police investigation unit to probe criminal allegations against the police, first suggested after talks between the SAP and local branches of the ANC, should now be set up.
- It would lead to "a dramatic improvement in relations between the police and the community in Natal Midlands".

The suggestion had been shelved by the Natal commissioner of police.

- A new detective agency should be established to investigate crime. The "very successful" investigation teams of the Goldstone Commission will need to be replaced, and they could form the core of a new agency.

• Policing in KwaZulu and Natal should be brought under a unified command. At the same time "it should be no surprise if the Goldstone Commission recommends that the KwaZulu Police should be disbanded".

The KZP "must play no part in policing the election, that must be the task of the SAP".

• The National Peace-keeping Force "must not be another paramilitary unit". Even if it takes over the infrastructure of the Internal Stability Unit "we think it will be a great achievement indeed if the peace-keeping force is ready to play a constructive role in the trouble spots in April".

• About 1,000 foreign police advisers will be needed, coordinated by the UN, serving under its auspices, and seconded to the SAP.

• The UN should also coordinate a Peace Corps of experienced police, and volunteers from NGOs.

• A reserve peace-keeping force should be prepared because the National Peace-keeping Force is unlikely to be adequate. This force - "only to be used as a last resort" - should consist of a force of four to five battalions to be at the disposal of the electoral commission. This reserve could be deployed from February 1 and be under the command of a South African, appointed by the electoral commission.

The ICJ team noted that under the terms of the electoral commission act, the commission is placed "firmly in control of the policing of any election".

ENDING THE VIOLENCE

Three critical phases lie before South Africa in bringing political violence to an end:-

- The control of violence during the Election Campaign
- The Election itself
- Acceptance of the Election results.

Violence during electioneering

South Africa is already effectively into a period of election campaigning which will culminate in Election Day on 27th April, 1994. Crucial to the control or minimising of political violence during this period will be the proper and effective use of the total available security machinery of the country; and the energetic promotion of peace initiatives and political tolerance through the already well-established Peace Accord structures and international observer teams.

The Security machinery needs to be under the multi-party control of the Transitional Executive Council (TEC) to ensure that its efforts are totally directed towards promoting and supporting free and peaceful political expression and participation; and in no way to undermine it. At the same time its considerable resources must be brought to bear instantly and resolutely when potentially violent situations arise, either from covert or overt sources. The resources exist, but their improper use in the past has been part of the problem instead of the solution.

The various peace-promoting structures with their capacity to foster and encourage a peace culture and tolerance, and to intervene in tense situations, also have a vital role to play. They need to be fully supported and expanded, both politically and financially, in order to maximise their effectiveness.

At the rate of political killings of the last three years, 2600 people will die during the 10 month period from July 1993 to 27th April 1994, Election Day. Everything will depend upon the twin efforts of the peace-keeping and the peace-promoting structures, described above, as to whether that frightening figure can be substantially reduced or whether it will even be exceeded.

The Election

The importance of the Election itself in bringing an end to the violence, cannot be overestimated. Provided it is conducted in a free and fair manner, it will reveal for all to see the true support base for each and every participant and put an end to speculation about where the support lies. Political non-entities will be exposed and relegated to the rubbish heap of history; minor players will be cut down to size. Political posturing and grandstanding on the basis of imagined support will no longer have any meaning or impact; and trying to win support by violence, threats, intimidation and dirty tricks will no longer have any relevance.

The Namibian experience is instructive: After a dirty election campaign into which the South African Government had poured one hundred million Rand in an effort to affect the outcome by destabilising South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) and promoting Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), the electorate's decision became known and a constitution was expeditiously adopted. Almost overnight political violence disappeared in spite of dire predictions to the contrary by the prophets of doom who warned that the ethnic diversity of Namibia would bedevil all efforts to bring about peace. But the end of the political struggle for power signalled by the election result, brought with it the end to political violence. The purpose of such violence no longer applied.



In South Africa can we expect the same to happen? Certainly the violence related to the political jockeying for position must end once the election results are known. But will there then be dissidents who will not accept the results, will refuse to recognise them and have the power to act upon their refusal?

Acceptance of the Results

If one examines the possible existence of groups powerful enough to fill the role of spoiler after an election and with enough muscle to mount a sustainable campaign of violence to thwart the result, then not one emerges at the level of Unita in Angola, which is the example constantly referred to when pondering the acceptance of election results. The key questions in this issue are support base and sustainability; on both counts the three possible candidates fall short:

The first possible spoiler is the White Political Right Wing; it would include the members and supporters of the Conservative Party (CP) and extra-parliamentary groupings to the right of the C.P. It could also include some disaffected members and supporters of the Nationalist Party. At the outside we are looking at 5% of the total population and probably less than 1% of total population if one is considering only those who are prepared to bear arms and engage in a violent confrontation. From where material support for this hard core would be forthcoming is difficult to imagine especially in a world where there will be strong international pressure for the acceptance of the outcome of democratic elections, and for an end to Apartheid.

The second possible spoiler is the White Military Right Wing; this would include elements in the Security Establishment which are unwilling to be part of the transformation of Police, Defence and Intelligence into structures ready to serve a democratically elected government. It could also include members of the Security portfolios within Nationalist Government. There is also an obvious overlap with Spoiler No.1, above. However, material support and sustainability would be totally in the hands of the elected government and anyway dependent upon a healthy economy. A military coup is totally out of the question having regard to the high proportion of blacks in both the Police and Defence Forces. There must also be a significant number of whites in both forces who accept that their professional careers and aspirations will survive and even be advanced in a non-racial democracy.

The third possible spoiler is the Black Right Wing in the form of governments and administrations of those Homelands that struggle bitterly to cling to their inherited power. Again, they can be expected to draw support from Spoilers 1 and 2, each for their own reasons, in spite of being the strangest of bedfellows.

However, a big question mark hangs over the support they can expect from their own populations where the desire for democratic freedom is extremely compelling. Another compelling factor against sustainability of a go-it-alone attempt is the question of economic viability. During 1992, about 15% of the National Budget (or nearly 14 billion Rand) went as straight non-repayable grants to prop up the 10 homelands (6 "self-governing" and 4 "independent"), of which the greatest single beneficiary was KwaZulu at R3,148 billion (Business Day 1 September 1992). In addition it was reported in Business Day on 15 September 1992, that loans in the region of 7 to 8 billion Rand made by South African commercial banks and the Development Bank of Southern Africa to the four TBVC "states", are guaranteed by the South African Government. This generous support from parent to offspring will disappear on Election Day, if not before. Replacing it from other sources would be an impossible task, and collapse is inevitable.

In summary, the HRC has strong hopes that a free and fair election will dramatically reduce political violence, and that any attempts to reject the result will be non-sustainable. However, long-term stability and peace are going to depend on how a democratically elected government performs in delivering the fruits of democracy to all the people of South Africa. Therein lies our best guarantee that violence and destabilisation will never again return to haunt us.

Beware: disruptive forces at work

Glenys Kinnock sounds a warning on South Africa

SOUTH AFRICA is holding its breath. The hunger for democracy, for the right to vote, is powerful, but it is tempered with the fear that the relentless violence brings.

The weekend I arrived in Johannesburg, 21 people were killed in the East Rand. There are forces at work determined to disrupt the journey to democracy and it is a matter of great urgency that the negotiators are able to hold on to the 27 April date set for the elections. The time-frame is especially important for Nelson Mandela and President FW de Klerk, who both need to contain their agitated and impatient constituencies.

Security was the issue most often raised with us by people we met. The tensions I witnessed are being exacerbated by lack of a neutral, trusted police force. Some people are sceptical about proposals to create a national peace-keeping force, but in the absence of a commitment by the international community to help to maintain law and order, there seems no alternative.

I met victims of the violence, women and children who had fled their homes to live in a community hall, where they slept on the floor. They had lost all their possessions and depended on donated food and clothing. That day they had had only boiled carrots to eat. One woman, traumatised by the shootings, the fires and the fear, had just delivered stillborn twins. Another had been trapped in her home, which had been set alight. She was severely disfigured. Martha, whose son was shot dead two weeks ago, told us that the people in her township believe the police collaborate with Inkatha to perpetuate the harassment, the random shootings and gun battles that go on daily.

The Peace Action Group in Johannesburg is an independent monitoring organisation trying to assist efforts to create conditions for a peaceful election. They showed us how significant advances in the negotiations are followed by upsurges in violence. This should leave little doubt that there are forces that



South African students campaign for democracy: but the West must help them

Photograph: Reuter

conscientiously seek to impede, indeed destroy, the process.

I met a young man who had been dragged from his home by the police under suspicion of having firearms. He had been given electric shocks to his neck and had been "tubed". (This involves the face being covered with a water-filled inner tyre tube, which creates the effect of drowning.) He had been stripped and hosed down with cold water. He was held without trial for 21 days and then released.

Unsurprisingly, there is a mood of anxiety and concern that after

three years of talking there is still violence and rising political extremism. Less than 25 per cent of the white population now supports the ruling party. The far right is gaining in strength and confidence. In a meeting with the Afrikaner Volksfront leader, the former chief of the Defence Force General Viljoen, I was treated to a description of what he called the holy wars they will wage if they don't get their way.

What I have seen in South Africa has unnerved me about the prospects for keeping the election agenda on course. I came face to

face with the effects of the filibustering and saw the grinding poverty in a country where there is 50 per cent unemployment, where two million children are not being educated and where, according to Unicef, one in five black children die before the age of five. Five million children die in poverty each year, so there is an inescapable sense of urgency.

I also met many of those who have nurtured apartheid and enjoyed its benefits while never choosing to see the real lives of those who looked after their children, serviced

their cities and laboured on their farms and in their mines.

Many of these people accept the inevitability of change and want the stability that will encourage the investment the country so badly needs. Those who seek to destabilise the process should realise that the patience and tolerance of most of the population is being sorely tested. The international community must also recognise the need to assist those parties who long for a peaceful transition to the non-racial democracy that will emerge.

United Nations and other international monitors are needed in large numbers for the next few months. A minimum number of 30,000 domestic monitors will be needed. All will have to be trained. Twenty-two million black people have never voted, an estimated one million people are illiterate and have never even held a pencil. They need to be issued with ID cards and they need to feel confident that their vote is secret. The whole concept of democracy is new to them.

Mr Mandela, who is 76, has never voted. He will follow 18-year-olds into the polling booth. It is a right that was denied to Oliver Tambo, who died before he ever participated in the democracy he worked so hard to create.

The UN and the European Union should immediately offer increased financial and technical assistance. There are many exchanges that can take place. I learnt of the valuable support, for instance, of British police officers in training South Africans for the essential work of community policing.

One young ANC activist told me, "We are clear. We want all South Africa to board the train of democracy. Without the help of the international community, our train could be derailed." We have to ensure that the response is made, so that the train which left apartheid behind arrives at freedom safely, and on time.

Sandra Barwick's column returns next week.

The first black Miss South Africa is hot favourite to take the Miss World title on Saturday. Jacqui Mofokeng tells John Carlin how education, not titillation, is her aim

South Africa's collective psyche has undergone a number of shocks in the past three years, none greater than the victory of Jacqui Mofokeng in the Miss South Africa contest on 7 August. Jacqui — everyone in South Africa now calls her Jacqui, in the same way that everyone in Britain calls the Princess of Wales Diana — was the first black woman to win the title.

Mandela's release, the unbanning of the African National Congress, negotiations for a democratic constitution — nothing had prepared the white population for this: While black South Africa celebrated, white South Africa went nuts.

Rapport, an Afrikaans-language Sunday newspaper and a co-sponsor of the pageant, was inundated with irate calls within minutes of the judges' decision to choose Jacqui ahead of eight Aryan nymphs. In the following week, one issue dominated the nation's Letters pages. "Rigged!" readers cried. "Window-dressing!" "Blackwashing!" A Johannesburg radio station received wall-to-wall calls for the first 48 hours after Jacqui's crowning. "She's got a big bum!" "She's got ugly teeth!" "She had a baby at 15!" And a blunt: "I don't like black people!"

At the time 30 people were dying a night in the killing fields of Katlehong and Thokoza townships, but the black press indignantly joined the fray. *The Sowetan* carried a leading article denouncing "the bigots" who had turned Jacqui's young life "into absolute hell". One black columnist marvelled at a country where "a national crisis" could be precipitated by the verdict of a beauty contest.

The object of all the attention kept her head. Jacqui, who is 21 and a second-year commerce student at Johannesburg's Witwatersrand University with aspirations of being a stockbroker, came across as remarkably serene when I met her.

On Saturday she takes part as hot favourite in the Miss World contest in Sun City. The result is certain to be the main front-page story in every newspaper on Sunday. Nelson Mandela gratefully seized a photo-opportunity with Jacqui recently. She would make "a good ambassador" for South Africa, he told her.

What did she make of all the fuss? "Being Miss South Africa," she said in a suite reserved for her all year round at Johannesburg's Carlton Hotel, "does not only mean being a beauty queen — I hate the term. It means being a representative — I don't like the word ambassador — of your people.

"I know that it's mainly followed by white people, so I understand what happened. The reason for the outcry was that I was black and many didn't believe I could carry out the job so well, being a black girl. Plus you have a lot of ignorance about black people.

"Fortunately some have changed, like a white lady I met in Pretoria who said she was glad I won though she was against it at first."

In a country where the main political battles are being fought inside people's minds — "shedding albatrosses", President F W de Klerk called it this week

— Jacqui, building on the unique attention that Miss South Africa receives in a country hungry for showbiz celebrities, has played a central role in the all-important task of bridging the apartheid chasm. And she knows it.

"It's very, very important. I'm not saying I can change the world but I am opening people's minds. White people are seeing blacks as not all bad and I'm educating the blacks in my community — my mum still lives in Soweto.

"Hearing the lady in Pretoria saying she'd warmed to me, but also hearing other ladies there saying things like 'she's not that bad', I've realised there's much need to educate. It's what the country needs more than anything right now."

White South Africans' generally held view that blacks are genetically inferior has been modified, if not entirely eradicated, since Jacqui burst on the scene. Appearances on countless television and radio programmes, where she has discussed everything from abortion to the new constitution, have convinced everyone that she is bright. Had any of the other Barbie-doll contenders won the contest, it is unlikely that they would have declared, as Jacqui did, "I

'It's very important. I'm opening people's minds. White people are seeing blacks as not all bad'

love my country and I know tonight, as I sit here with a crown on my head, there are people dying in the townships. I have not forgotten them."

Jacqui's special quality is that she has successfully crossed apartheid's cultural divide. No one, for example, would describe her style of dress as African. During our interview she wore a fluorescent green long-sleeved top, black flared silk trousers and high platform shoes. Her diction, intonation and choice of words are more Surrey than Soweto. "A-may-zing", she kept on exclaiming, in a distinctly un-African manner.

The school she went to holds the secret to her success. Woodmead is an expensive private school in the white suburbs of Johannesburg much favoured by politically enlightened (there are a few) white parents.

"There were lots of black kids there. I really couldn't tell you what percentage, because I didn't see race when I talked to people. Race was a non-issue. It was a very liberal, open school. We could wear whatever we wanted. It was Utopia, an ideal world."

Jacqui's father, Willie Mofokeng, is a rare animal — a middle-class black who works as an executive for EMI. He brought his family up in a better-end Soweto neighbourhood where there are houses that would grace an affluent Middlesex suburb, inhabited by people with a fierce ambition to rise above apartheid.

Mr Mofokeng was one such. At great personal sacrifice, as Jacqui explained it, he pandered to her whim to go to

boarding school, to prepare for what in time will become, in the ANC's favourite phrase, the "non-racial" mainstream.

The job was successfully accomplished. When a white man talks to a black woman in South Africa, more often than not the submissiveness bred both by apartheid and the rampant sexism in black society impair any possibility of natural engagement. With Jacqui, the complications of race and gender do not rear their head. More surprisingly, given her educational background, nor did the complications of feminism.

"I've never entered a beauty pageant before. There's more to judging Miss South Africa than a beautiful face and a swimming costume. You have to know the people of South Africa and how to relate to the people of South Africa. You're judged on charm and poise and how you handle your reign. If you just stand and look pretty, there's definitely something wrong. I've done things like raising money for old-age homes, retarded kids. I went to Katlehong, where the violence was so awful I couldn't find words to describe it."

But surely standing there looking pretty was precisely what winning Miss South Africa was about before she came along? Acknowledging, with a slightly embarrassed laugh, that she had been caught on automatic pilot, she agreed. "You're right. It's me that's doing this. I'm defining my role — me, Jacqui Mofokeng — not 'Miss South Africa'."

She is clearly eager to embrace the fame and riches that the Miss World title might bring. She is ambitious in a way that her older sister — whose dreams will be fulfilled when she gets married later this year — is not, and her twin sisters, who are still at school, have not yet had a chance to be. But that side of her personality is probably buried for fear of undermining the regal image. For the fact is, she will remain until August next year South Africa's queen.

Like all good queens, she has assumed her responsibilities with a properly mature disregard both for temporal controversy and party politics. She must keep her politics strictly to herself if she is to become a symbol of national unity. Few people know that before assuming her title she was active in student politics, that her sympathies lay (and still do, no doubt) unequivocally with Mandela's ANC. Her fellow students shed all political misgivings when she won and engaged in riotous campus celebrations.

Victory for Jacqui in the Miss World contest would have a positive impact all round: on ordinary blacks, because it would enhance their nascent sense of equality and dignity; and on ordinary whites, whose need to get to grips with the new realities will be assisted if they can discover a black South African woman of whom they are proud.

Part of the battle has already been won. The suave diplomacy and poise that Jacqui has displayed since becoming Miss South Africa three months ago has ensured that the majority of the population, black and white, will be rooting for her on Saturday.

Archbishop Denis Hurley OMI, Catholic Archbishop emeritus says: "From my heart, I recommend the Natal Crisis Fund to your compassionate consideration. "Assistance to the victims of violence is one way in which our churches can bring comfort and hope in a very difficult situation."

The Revd Dr Khoza Mgojo, President of the South African Council of Churches says: "Church Leaders in Natal have been very encouraged by the existence of the Natal Crisis Fund which has enabled our churches to provide assistance to very many victims of the violent conflict."

Bishop Norman Hudson, Convenor of the Natal Church Leaders' Group says: "The Natal Crisis Fund has done an outstanding job through the years, and I am very impressed with the detailed and responsible way in which the committee has handled the fund."

An overseas church monitor says: "The small food parcel delivered to a displaced mother by the Council of Churches fieldworker was very modest but received with such joy..."

The Venerable Rubin Phillip, Chairperson of NCF says: "It is imperative that the Church continues this essential ministry to the victims of violence. Such a ministry instils hope in people. It also helps them to regain a little of their pride and dignity."

The Natal Crisis Fund

**relies entirely upon
donations.**

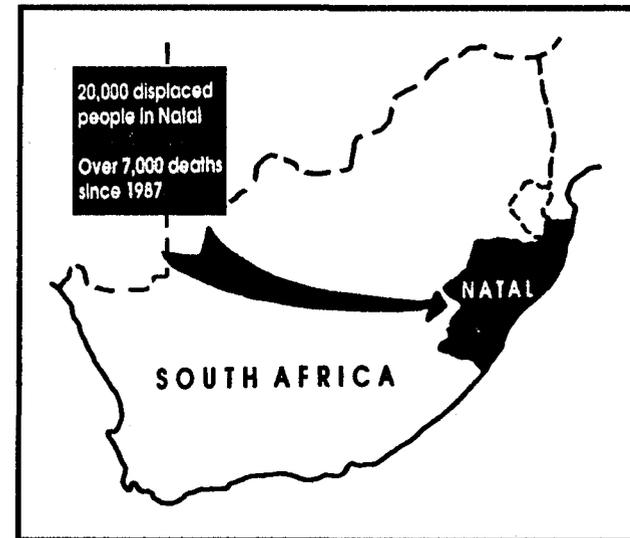
It needs your help now.

CRITERIA FOR FUNDING

1. The NCF makes funds available, upon application, to church based organisations (mainly) actively engaged in crisis intervention in communities affected by the political violence in Natal. Coordination with relief agencies is required by NCF.
2. No monies are advanced before applications are screened by the NCF committee which also requires financial accountability and full reporting on the circumstances in which crisis funding is made available.
3. Crisis grants are made only to people who are clearly the victims of political violence, irrespective of which side of the conflict they might support, and who are economically disadvantaged.
4. Crisis grants are made only in respect of emergency food, clothing, blankets, temporary accommodation and funerals. The NCF committee reviews the formulae for such grants from time to time. Consideration will be given to grants for special needs arising from instances of political violence i.e. counselling, support gatherings, local peace initiatives and the administrative costs involved with rendering such services.
5. Small grants for the reconstruction/repair of homes damaged in the violence can only be considered when funds allow. At present, thousands of people are unable to be helped to return to their homes because the NCF has no funds for this purpose.
6. NCF does not make any funds available for bursaries.
7. Applications are processed in close collaboration with local Councils of Churches. Kindly submit applications for funding to the Council of Churches in your area.

Natal Crisis Fund

**A project of the Natal
Church Leaders' Group**



The Natal Crisis Fund

P O Box 1879
Durban 4000

Telephone (031) 305 6001

Fax. (031) 305 2486

ECSA will send your contributions for the NATAL CRISIS FUND

Make your checks payable to: ECSA
339 Lafayette Street
New York, N.Y. 10012

THE COMMITTEE



The Venerable Rubin Phillip (Chairperson since the inception of NCF);

The Revd Fr John Patterson – Catholic Archbishop Wilfrid Napier's representative;

Ms Joan Kerchhoff – Anglican Bishop Michael Nuttall's representative;

Bishop Norman Hudson – Methodist, Durban;

Bishop Brian Fennell – Methodist, Natal Midlands;

The Revd George Irvine – Durban and District Council of Churches;

The Revd Noko Frans Kekana – Natal Midlands Council of Churches;

Mr Mzamo Mathe – Northern Natal Council of Churches;

The Revd Danny Chetty – Practical Ministries, Port Shepstone

Mr Paddy Kearney – Diakonia, Hon. Treasurer;

Ms Di Oliver – Hon. Secretary.

This active committee processes all applications and reviews monthly financial statements and reports from those it funds. Ven Phillip, NCF Chairperson, represents the fund on the Natal Church Leaders' Group.

"... so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it"

1 Corinthians 12:25-27

Since its establishment in late 1990, the Natal Crisis Fund has provided modest grants which have amounted to approximately R500 000 per annum. These grants have enabled:

- purchases of food, blankets and the provision of emergency shelter for families and individuals displaced by attacks on their homes;
- contributions towards the funeral costs of those killed in the conflict and whose families have been affected financially by such loss;
- the provision of counselling and support services;
- the transportation of church relief workers and monitors in the course of their outreach and support work;
- clergy support and back up services to rural areas far from available church resources;
- emergency assistance to displaced, orphaned and destitute children, whose families and communities have been shattered by violent attacks and persistent conflict;
- training, information, support and peace gatherings, particularly for under-resourced rural areas.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since, as members of one body you were called to peace.and whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3: 15 - 17

ENORMOUS NEEDS ARE NOT BEING MET

**- YOUR DONATION
WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

