

The President of UWUSA, Mr Petros Ndlovu, says UWUSA's "primary objective" will be to organise, form and support industry-based trade unions throughout South Africa in order that they can concentrate "free from political intimidation" on the basic and vital labour affairs of their members.

He told Clarion Call that certain key issues regarding UWUSA were being misinterpreted in the Press and "deliberately misunderstood" by others in the union movement.

"We represent a union whose objective is to work for and on behalf of the workers of South Africa — to end the exploitation of workers and to improve the quality of their lives ..."

Mr Ndlovu said he wanted employers and managements to understand that while UWUSA stood for the free enterprise system and believed that a strong and vibrant economy held the key to freedom and liberation, UWUSA would not allow its members to be exploited under the free enterprise system.

"UWUSA will not allow poor or weak management to be used as an excuse for retrenchment or for workers to be paid below accepted levels. UWUSA is committed to representing all workers to ensure that they are justly rewarded for their efforts and their meaningful contribution to the economy of this country," Mr Ndlovu added. Mr Ndlovu said he wanted to emphasise that UWUSA was "fully committed" to serving the best interests of all workers.

"In order to do this we will recruit and employ the best consultancy services available in South Africa. If, within our executive and among our various union affiliates, we do not have the expertise that is required to serve our members, then we will recruit or train to provide the best professionals available."

He said UWUSA, in terms of its founding, should at present be regarded as a general union.

"Under our constitution we are also identified as a general union with the facility to set up serparate affiliates within various industries and so to evolve to become a federation.

"UWUSA will be registered as a general union under the Labour Relations Act of South Africa and we will use or exploit all the facilities that are available to us under the Act and the Industrial Court."



PRESIDENT:

Mr P Ndlovu, former school teacher, hospital compound manager, industrial relations regional controller for a group of companies in Natal. UWUSA regional chairman in the Durban region.

GENERAL SECRETARY:

Mr S Conco, community leader, former businessman, former Chief Whip of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly and chairman of the Empangeni bus boycott committee.

TREASURER:

Mr P Davidson. Mr Davidson studied economics in the United States and is a former employee of IBM and Anglo American.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

MR G RADEBE. Industrial relations and personnel relations officer for Tongaat-Hulett group from 1979 to 1984, former member of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly, parti-time Law student at Natal University majoring in labour law.

MR G MATHIYANE

Employed at Zululand Sawmills as a supervisor. Former national president of the Paper Wood and Allied Workers' Union, regional chairman of Federation of SA Trade Unions in northern Natal until for the formation of COSATU. Now chairman of the Zululand region of UWUSA.

MR G MALUNGA

(Pietermaritzburg region), driver for the municipality, member of the Transport Workers' Union until the formation of COSATU.

MR S MAJOLA. (East Rand region), employed by Consol Glass, former member of the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union.

MR M HLATSHWAYO (Newcastle), employed by Veka in Newcastle as a storeman, former member of the General Workers' Union.

(Unfortunately, pictures were not available of the entire executive before going to press.)