## EXTENDED WORKING COMMITTEE: 14-09-1990

See Agenda

4.1 Our perspective of development and funding. This paragraph has been put aside for lack of understanding of the issues around it.

4.2 The future of the UDF

- The obvious lack of interest in UDF, the disintegration of the UDF. These are important questions.

- The situation around the country today, the balance of forces, state strategies a critical look at the structure of the ANC - slow, dull, weak (it does not capture the imagination of the masses), what is the relationship of the ANC with other organisations, the process taking place today - could we say that this is irreversible. These are important questions.

- Role of UDF needs to be dictated by the objective conditions on the ground, UDF should be involved in a situation of creating dual power.
- UDF left out its affiliates, ignored them and gave no financial assistance or clear direction. UDF should phase out and give way to the ANC. National Conference of UDF should be held to discuss the future of the UDF. We should build and strengthen the ANC now.
- SAYCO CEC feels that UDF should disband, Conference of UDF affiliates to formally disband, ANC should call National conference to form a new Front.
- Present condition, particularly the unfolding process, we usually focus on subjective factors, e.g training of UDF cadres by ANC, lack of proper accountability to affiliates etc. The subjective factors should not be the sole factors informing us, the objective factors must affect us as well. Conditions have changed reversal of some of the foresights which we had, e.g the question of negotiations, violence. What is going to be the response of the enemy if the ANC decides to recall armed struggle? What do we do about the structures that do not belong to the ANC, e.g youth, women and others. We still need UDF to exist to command our existing structures that do not belong to the ANC.

- Not all the people are members of the ANC or SACP. We need to keep these people within the general ambit of our influence. We need to shift varcilating people,e.g liberals and even Azapo members.
- Problems brought about by the sudden changes taking place in the country, the time factor is another important issue. We need to strengthen UDF so that it could strengthen the ANC.
- The UDF mobilised and united people during the time when the ANC was banned, the Front should remain in force and continue to mobilise the people, if we dismantle the Front, the ANC will be dismantled, the Front must remain and fuel the masses on the ground.
- Are we able to say that the UDF can sustain the momentum of mobilisation a against the pressure of the enemy? If we say the structures of the ANC are weak, are we not supposed to strengthen these structures? In the light of the decision to depoliticise the UDF, what role has it left to play. The resources that we have, the activists that we have should be placed at the disposal of the ANC. It is our duty to transorm the huge numbers we put together as UDF into a qualitative force that would be able to sustain the momentum even against state pressure.
- We agree that ANC structures are weak, and for the ANC to be strengthened it needs the activists of the UDF, the women and the youth are now moving away from the UDF to the ANC, trade union affiliates of COSATU are moving away form the UDF and ANC - they will now be open to all political persuasions. These factors point to a weakening UDF, and this progressive weakness is advantageous to us.
- Perhaps we should not emphasise the position of varcillators because there will ever be there, and in any organisation. If we have look at the strengths of the UDF, do we have reason to believe that it has an important role to play?
  We have just said that the Front cannot embark on any campaign, we should be wary of allowing the Front to die a natural death, we should rather from inside a dying Front engineer its own death. The ANC is said to be weak. This may be due to the fact that activists are spread thinly because of artificially maintaining the UDF.
- Still necessary to look at possibilities of retaining UDF even if for coordinating the civics.

- UDF and its affiliates played an important role to make fertile ground for the ANC. Objective conditions are supposed to be examined thoroughly show member-ship, number of branches being launced are very slow, this is a process, the withering away of the UDF.
- UDF should exist for as long as it is necessary to strengthen the civics, with the assistance of COSATU and the ANC. We should use our energies to support the ANC rather than the dying of UDF.

In summary, the UDF has to phase out. But the timing is of grave importance. The UDF should have, as its objective, the building and strengthening of COSAS.

## 4.3 VIOLENCE

Our view is that the fax should be endorsed as it is.

- Who should take the initiative on these issues? Is it the ANC or the UDF?
- Believe that UDF will take the initiative and the ANC will lead the process as it unfolds.
- If there will be a Conference that involves Gatsha, resolutions of the Natal conference would have to be included.
- Support the content of the fax, but we need clarity on the conference, and its objectives.
- This is a bitter time. If the organisation has correct politics (as politics is a weapon) the Movement may embark on this type of thing (cross-ideological conference). This may constitute ways and means to neutralise the enemy.