

Natal communities get ready for national meeting



A 17 person coordinating committee was elected to draw in other rural communities in Natal and to ensure that rural land and development needs are addressed in regional and national structures.

REPRESENTATIVES from 25 rural areas mainly in the Natal midlands and north western Natal met on November 20 and 21 to prepare for a national community land conference planned for February 1994. The national conference, organised by affiliates of the National Land Committee, will draw together rural people from all parts of South Africa to draw up a rural land charter around which to organise and to lobby political parties in the coming election.

At the Natal regional preparatory meeting, delegates identified several land related issues which they want addressed at

regional and national levels. These ranged from increased access to productive land and security of tenure to water provision and education facilities in rural communities.

Delegates also elected a 17 person coordinating committee to draw in other rural communities in Natal and to ensure that rural land and development needs are addressed in regional and national structures, such as the Regional Economic Forum. The committee comprised representatives from labour tenant, land claiming and landowning communities.

- Delegates to the meeting came from: Abekunene, Alcockspruit, AmaHlubi, AmaQadi, Baynesfield, Bergville, Camden, Charlestown, Colenso, Compensation, Cornfields, Cramond, Cremin, Greytown, Groutville, Hopewell, Impendle Development Forum, Ladysmith, Melmoth, Mooibank, Muden, Steincoalspruit, Stoffelton, Tembalihle, Weenen.