

CUSA and AZACTU Support Worker Unity

Representatives of CUSA (Council of Unions of South Africa) and AZACTU (Azanian Confederation of Trade Unions) met on November 2 to examine common ground for a future working relationship. At that meeting a sub-committee was established to explore the future of the working class in South Africa. The meeting found common ground on the following issues:

- * black leadership;
- * acceptance of white involvement at grassroots level;
- * non-affiliation to political organisations;
- * agreement on financial accountability to members within unions;
- * independent action of unions within a federation;
- * methods of international financial assistance;
- * continued community involvement.

CUSA and AZACTU discussed the formation of COSATU and resolved that: "noting the formation of COSATU, CUSA and AZACTU wish to place on record the following:

1. We believe in the principle of worker unity based on the material conditions workers are exposed to.
2. We believe in the principle of worker control based on anti-racism/non-racialism to build a non-exploitative, democratic society based on the leadership of the working class.
3. Our belief in a new federation which would unite the majority of organised black workers in our country, expressing the true aspirations of black workers and not accommodating the aspirations of a minority leadership.
4. CUSA and AZACTU remain committed to discussing the basis of working class unity with truly worker-controlled organisations.
5. We further believe that it would be contrary to working class unity to create new organisations where democratic worker controlled unions have already been established.
6. We believe that any federation of the working class has to identify with and participate in the national liberation struggle.
7. We believe further that a federation of the working class has to inform and educate its membership for life-long education. Therefore the education of workers should be based on a broader political philosophy of self-reliance and self-determination.
8. The solidarity of workers should start at home and the process

of unity thereafter should spread to Southern Africa, Africa and the international community.

9. CUSA and AZACTU have agreed to the following and therefore invite all organisations of students, parents, community, civic, political and workers, including COSATU, to join us in:
- 9.1) establishing trade union regional solidarity committees;
 - 9.2) calling for a national strike if the state of emergency is not lifted by 31 December 1985;
 - 9.3) develop a worker manifesto,
 - 9.4) begin an unemployed workers' project,
 - 9.5) form solidarity alliances in the community,
 - 9.6) control service organisations through participation on the management committees,
 - 9.7) establish national May Day Committees.

(Report taken from Izwirethu 3.9-10, Nov-Dec 1985)

CUSA Resolution on the Education Crisis

Recalling the 1981 CUSA resolution on education, which inter alia called for universal desegregated education at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels in an undivided non-racial/anti-racist South Africa, the CUSA NEC, as CUSA and parents, therefore:



1. endorses the resolutions of the meeting in Johannesburg on 28-29 December 1985 on People's Education for People's Power;
2. condemns the selective sectarian implementation of the resolutions, and wishes to warn those church and community organisations present at the consultation to enforce the resolution not to open the schools until 28 January 1986;
3. dedicate ourselves to involvement at the local, regional and national level of the creation of a National Crisis Committee but require that these structures be established and operate on democratic principles;
4. call on all CUSA structures and the branches of all affiliated unions to participate in these structures at every level;
5. Call upon the various committees to publicise meetings as widely as possible so that this crisis can truly reflect the People's power for a People's Education.