registration insofar as it is designed to control and interfere in the internal affairs of the union.

The meeting specifically agreed to support each other in defiance of any abuse in the powers of investigation given to the authorities by the Industrial Conciliation Act.

The meeting also agreed that unions would support each other in defying the restrictions on supporting striking workers. It is an internationally recognised right of workers to withhold their labour. Moreover, under present conditions and legislation, strikes happen so frequently because of low wages, inadequate bargaining procedures and completely unworkable official dispute procedures. Workers therefore have no alternative to strike action outside of the law. It is, in any event, the duty and function of unions to stand by its members in any circumstances including the payment of strike pay. The prohibition on financial support for strikers will not be obeyed.

Resolution - Industrial Council: The meeting rejected the present Industrial Council system as an acceptable means of collective bargaining. The meeting recommended that unions that are not members of Industrial Councils should not enter any Industrial Council and requested that participating unions refer this back to their respective unions for endorsement. The unions agreed to support each other in the event of any union resisting participation on the Industrial Council.

Resolution - Ciskei: The meeting noted the severe difficulties created for workers by the homeland authorities and in particular by the current situation in the Ciskei, where union members and officials are subjected to

meeting resolved to send a delegation to Chief
Minister Sebe to express our extreme displeasure
at his anti-union stance, and to obtain
assurances about the security of the workers
after the so-called Ciskeian independence.

Resolution - banning and detentions: The meeting resolved to continue resisting banning and detention in any way possible and warned that continuation of the practice could only worsen the already deteriorating industrial relations situation.

Resolution - solidarity action: To give effect to the resolutions at the meeting the unions resolved to establish ad hoc solidarity committees in each region. These committees would discuss and initiate solidarity action arising out of our co-operation.

The meeting also resolved to convene again by November.

The following trade unions were present at the meeting and endorsed the above statement:

The General Workers Union
The Food and Canning Workers Union
and African Food and Canning Workers Union
The Federation of South African Trade Unions
(FOSATU)

Council of Unions of South Africa (CUSA)
South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU)
MACWUSA (Motor Assemblers & Component Workers
Union of South Africa)

The General Workers Union of South Africa (GWUSA)

The Black Municipal Wurkers Union CCAWUSA (Commercial, Catering & Allied Workers Union of South Africa)

The Orange Vaal General Workers Union General and Allied Workers Union (GAWU) Cape Town Municipal Workers Association

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