

MINUTES OF THE 1969 SASO CONFERENCE

1st of July 1969.

Time: 8 p.m.

- PRESENT:
- (i) University College of Zululand;
  - (ii) University of Natal Non-European Section;
  - (iii) St. Peter's Seminary, Hammanskraal;
  - (iv) University College of the North;
  - (v) University of South Africa.

Apologies were received from:

- (i) University of Botswana, Lesotho & Swaziland;
- (ii) Lutheran Theological College;
- (iii) South African College of Higher Education, Natal - verbal; and
- (iv) University College of Durban.

Conference was opened by the Chairman Mr. P.M. Machaka.  
Introductory Remarks were made by Mr. D.O. Lenamile.

CENTRE REPORTS:

As in the appendix.

The meeting was dissolved at 1.00 a.m.

2nd of July 1969.

CONSTITUTION

Resolution 1/69

That this Conference adopts the draft Constitution in its final form as the true Constitution of the South African Students' Organisation.

Mover; Mr. P.M. Machaka (Unanimous)  
Second: Miss Y. Nkabinde,

Resolution 2/69

This Conference Resolves:

- (i) That Section 10(a) (i) of the Constitution be suspended until the SASO Executive Committee recommends registration of SASO as a body corporate.
- (ii) That the said Executive Committee investigates this problem and makes its recommendations known at the first annual GSC session.

Mover: Mr. D.O. Lenamile.  
Second: Mr. P.M. Machaka.  
(Unanimous)

N.B.

It was suggested that the Executive should seek legal advice on this.

Resolution/

Resolution 3/69

This Conference taking into account that:

- (i) SASO is still in its initial stages,
- (ii) SASO is still not in a sound financial position,

Resolves (a) That some unconstitutional functioning on the part of the Executive be condoned until the organisation is on a sound administrative and financial footing.

- (iii) That this resolution be reconsidered at the next GSC session.

Mover: Mr. J.P. Mathunyane.  
 Seconder: Mr. J.P.S. Moshidi.

3rd of July 1969

Contact Among Centres

Contact shall be encouraged in all fields among the centres. The Executive shall be responsible for maintenance of contact. The 1969 SASO conference recommends that such contact be maintained in the following ways:

(1) SPORTS

(a) Whenever there is an inter-varsity between two centres, provision should be made for addresses by student leaders from both sides so as to promote a feeling of oneness among the centres.

(b) That the Executive shall be required to draw a skeleton of an inter-varsity and distribute it to the various sports unions.

(c) The Executive should organise a meeting between the various sports unions for the purpose of arranging a fixture list.

(d) A General Intervarsity should be held once in three years with centres taking turns at being hosts.

(e) In the event of an intervarsity being held at a particular centre, other affiliated centres in that region should be invited.

(2) S.R.C. INTER-VISITS AND CORRESPONDENCE

(a) During each inter-varsity visit, provision should be made for inter-S.R.C. meetings. In the event of General Intervarsities there should be provision for inter-S.R.C. conferences held on fairly informal bases.

(b) A programme should be drawn up for inter-S.R.C. visits between centres; this could be limited to Executives or a portion of the S.R.C. to obviate travelling expenses.

(c) Provision should be made that visiting S.R.C.s should have the opportunity of addressing student bodies.

(d) There should be a strict observation of inter-S.R.C. minutes exchange programme; this should extend to minutes of mass meetings.

(3) CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

(a) The Executive should strive to introduce the idea of debating societies where these do not exist, and occasional inter-visits between them should be encouraged.

(b) Any centre should invite others to any worthwhile symposia it has. Students should be encouraged to take active participation in the symposia. The speeches at the symposia should be compiled/

affiliate to SASO. Not only was the support verbal but nationally too SASO in the initially stages has depended to a great extent on donation and loans made available by the UNICON SRC.

The SRC at Unicon maintains relationships both with SASO and NUSAS. SASO's stand in student politics has been explained by the SASO executive members from Turfloop.

(c) University of Natal, Non-European Section, (UNNE)

The initial experiences with the SRC indicated noncommittal attitude. However the SRC decided after a time at the request of the SASO executive by bring the whole topic of affiliation to SASO under discussion.

While various fears have been expressed by the students to the idea and nature of SASO the resolution to affiliate to SASO was passed by a comfortable majority. There has been close cooperation between the SRC and SASO and thus like Unicon, Unne remains one of the pillars of SASO.

(d) University College of Zululand (UNIZUL)

The participation of the Unizul SRC in the initial SASO conference was also on a noncommittal basis.

A visit by the President to the Unizul campus resulted in a lot of interest being shown to the organisation by several of the Unizul students. However he could not meet the SRC as it was particularly busy at the time. A few members of the SRC expressed hopes that SASO would ultimately be accepted by the SRC and student body. The whole question of affiliation to SASO never reached any fruitful discussion at student body level. The dialogue between the SRC and the SASO executive also did not reach fruition because of a breakdown in communication between the two parties concerned.

(e) University College of Durban (Salisbury Island)

This centre has no SRC. The students to whom approaches were made believe that the cause for the refusal to form an S.R.C. stems from the powerlessness of that body under the existing contribution which virtually places the Rector at the head of the SRC and, indeed, of all student committees. This has made communications difficult since there is no one to take this responsibility. The students amenities committee seems to do most of the functions normally done internally by the SRC. However no one seems to know exactly how this body is elected.

(f) University College of Fort Hare.

Very little contact has been maintained with this centre; like Salisbury Island the centre has no SRC. There are two schools of thought at the moment - that which feels that as a least measure of protest and in keeping with its tradition Fort Hare should reject the formation of an SRC whose constitution grants almost limitless powers of the to the Rector. There are also those who feel that accepting an SRC and gradually increasing its bargaining power would in fact be the better stratega.

SASO has not as yet entered this debate in the belief that this is an internal matter.

(g) University College of the Western Cape (Belville)

There is nothing known of this centre's stand towards SASO. So far all attempts to elicit a reply to our letters have failed. It is also difficult to the power which the SRC wields.

(h) Lutheran Theological.....

in trying to establish branches at all centres in their regions which qualify to be constituent centres.

Mover: Mr. J.P. Mathunyane  
 Seconder: Mr. B.S. Biko.

(Unanimous)

#### CONTACT BETWEEN SASO AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Relations referred to in the appendix.

#### Resolution 6/69

That this Conference

- (i) Realising the need to establish contact with other organisations;
- (ii) Having laid down specific policies to each one of these bodies,

THEREFORE

Instructs the Executive to make contact with the bodies listed below:

NUSAS, U.C.M., A.S.B., S.A.I.R.R., SACHED, S.C.M., S.C.A., TUATA, OFSATA, CATU, NATU and their other non-white counterparts, and S.A.G., and should report its findings to the next GSC session.

Mover: Mr. P.M. Machaka.  
 Seconder: Mr. J.P. Mathunyane.

(Unanimous)

#### Resolution 7/69

This Conference requests the S.R.C. Executive of the University College of the North to release one of its delegates to NUSAS to act as an official spokesman of SASO and to allow the rest of the delegation to protect SASO interest at the NUSAS Conference.

Mover: Miss M.S. Kgwere.  
 Seconder: Mr. B.S. Biko.

(unanimous)

#### CONFERENCE

#### Resolution 8/69

That this Conference expresses its sincerest thanks to the S.R.C. of the University College of the North for acting as hosts to the 1969 SASO Conference.

Mover: Mr. B.S. Biko.  
 Seconder: Miss V. M. Shalaba.

(Unanimous)

#### Resolution 9/69

That this Conference expresses its sincerest thanks to the registra of the University College of the North for allowing the University College of the North to be used/

used as venue for the 1969 SASO conference.

Mover: Mr. B.S. Biko.  
 Seconder: Miss M.S. Kgwane.

(Unanimous)

Resolution 10/69

That this Conference requests the UNNE S.R.C. to act as hosts to the next SASO Conference.

Mover: Mr. J.P.S. Moshidi. (Unan.)  
 Seconder: Miss M.S. Kgwane.

It was suggested that after other centres have affiliated, we should get them to invite Conference so as to get them actively involved in SASO work.

ELECTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

President: Mr B.S Biko (Unanimous).  
 Vice President: Mr. P.M. Machaka (Unanimous).  
 Secretary: Miss V. Mashalaba  
 Miss M.S. Kgwane

Miss M.S. Kgwane (nem con).

Treasurer: Mr. D.O. Lenamile (Unanimous).  
 Regional Representatives:

The Transvaal: Mr. M.J. Mohale (Unanimous)  
 Natal: Miss V. Mashalaba (Unanimous).

NB. Regional Representative for Western and Eastern Cape, and the Orange Free State were not elected because these provinces were not represented at the Conference, and thus it was deemed not advisable to elect people in absentia.

COMMUNIQUE

A communique on the formation of SASO was drawn for distribution to other centres and organisations.

Resolution 11/69

This Conference moves that the communique be adopted and that copies be sent to other organisations and to institutions of higher learning in which SASO has interests.

**Mr. P.M. Machaka passed a vote of thanks. The President made closing remarks, and conference was dissolved at 10.00 p.m. on 4th July 1969.**

F I N I S