

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
FROM THE 27 TO 30 AUGUST 1988 IN LUSAKA

Present: Comrades SD, BB, JKN, MSe, RP, ZZ, EM, MS, KM,
JMkh, JPM, SS, BN, and MB

Apologies: Comrades SK, and TB

Agenda: 1 Chairman's Opening Remarks
 2 President's Remarks
 3 Announcements and adoption of the agenda
 4 Minutes of the NEC meeting and Special NEC
 meeting
 5 Matters arising from the minutes
 6 General Secretary's Report
 7 SIC Report
 8 SED Report
 9 PIP Report
 10 SID Report
 11 National Treasurer's Report
 12 Resolutions

The meeting opened by singing the National Anthem and
chaired by Comrade BB.

Meeting agreed, that Comrades MSe, KM, EM, and RP should
be the rapporteurs and also constitute the Resolutions
Committee.

1 Comrade Chairman made his opening remarks (written
speech available).

2 President's Remarks:

In his remarks, he raised the following points:

- We must wage our struggle against the oppressor
- The general feature of the struggle we are waging
- The situation in the Frontline States and the
migrant workers
- Welcomed the comrades from outside Lusaka
- We must examine the 1986 Extended Meeting and the
resolutions. We must look into their implemen-
tation
- We are part and parcel of the Congress Alliance
headed by the ANC
- Internationally, the enemies of the working class
are busy and desparate

3 Announcements and adoption of the agenda:

Comrade JMkh moved the acceptance of the proposed
agenda, seconded by Comrades MSe and BN.

It was agreed, that Comrades BB, JKN and ZZ be in the
Steering Committee and that the chairmanship should
rotate.

Comrade JKN moved a minute's silence be observed in honour of the stalwarts who passed away in the period under review: Comrades Makaleng, Lulu, Mampuru, the Lion of the East (Gert Sibande) and Bawo, and that a message be specially sent to Comrade Oscar Mpetha and Harry Gwala. Unanimously agreed.

The meeting also observed a minute's silence in honour of the trade unionists who passed away during the period under review.

4 Minutes of the NEC meeting dated 19-21 August 1987. Comrade ZZ moved the acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Comrade JMkh.

5 Matters arising from the minutes:
It was agreed that these should be raised as the meeting was proceeding in its business under different offices and departments.

Minutes of the January 1987 meeting.
Comrade JKN and MSe explained about the loss of the minutes in the office.

The decision of the MC meeting of the 26.8.88 on this matter was endorsed.

The meeting further agreed that a Commission be set up to examine the state of organisation in SACTU including the various offices and departments at HQ. Members of the Commission were to be Comrades JMkh, RP and KM and a rapporteur.
Time period: End of October

Proposed Resolution 1:
It was tabled before the meeting by the Resolutions Committee. Seconded by Comrade EM. The resolution was passed and adopted. Addendum No.1 attached.

The meeting adjourned at 12.30hrs

This session was chaired by Comrade SS.

6 General Secretary's Report:

The report was read by the General Secretary.
(Written report attached)

At this juncture, the meeting discussed the issue of Comrade SS, who was to leave in the evening and agreed that he be released to attend to his business in France.

Comrade Chair thanked the General Secretary for his report. Acceptance of the report was moved by Comrade MS and seconded by Comrade JMkh.

Comrade JMkh chaired the meeting on the 28.8.88.

Discussion on the GS's Report:

Comrade ZZ: The report raises the question of a crisis. Re an article in Africa Confidential that "SACTU is the weakest link in the Congress Alliance". The GS has opened very frankly. From the Chairman's Report which raised drunkenness and tribalism - these were serious allegations.

WEO draft resolutions: To be accepted and adopted for the NEC Meeting.

Comrade JMkh: Associated himself with the analysis in the report of the GS. There is a problem in SACTU, p.6. "Inorder to decentralise work on Secretariat": Why was this decision not carried out. Despising of the resolutions, emergency'special MC meetings, high mobility of top leaders, who were seconded to the Secretariat? Reflection of carrying out of resolutions.

Agreed: From our principle, we created our federation under the principle of proletariat, outside any creed, colour or sex. Tribalism, factionalism etc were strongly condemned by the meeting. The NEC meeting at Kabwe gave a strong rebuff to tribalism and endorsed the principle of working for a non-racial and democratic South Africa.

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Agreed: We must learn new lessons. Any paper produced in a seminar is a property of SACTU and must therefore be examined by the organisation. If it is not accepted, then, it will not be allowed. This reference was made particularly to a paper presented by Comrade JPM, stating that, organisational work should be done on tribal lines.

Drinking - we have passed through this stage. It must be stopped, we cannot have people disgracing us especially members of the NEC, the meeting noted.

It was resolved that, anyone found drunk at work, he/ she must be warned and when repeating it, must be removed immediately from the NEC or from any position or responsibility. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Agreed: that at all times, there shall be at least three NEC members including either the General Secretary or the Assistant General Secretary at HQ.

In reviewing the General Secretary's report, it was resolved:

- a) That a letter be written to the President, Comrade O R Tambo, requesting him to relieve the GS from certain portfolios in the ANC. It was felt, that this would enable him to concentrate on SACTU work.

After a motion, adopting the GS report unanimously, the meeting commended the GS for providing an indepth analysis of our organisational and administrative problems. The meeting noted, that the report lacked political direction but mainly dealt with administrative and organisational problems.

The meeting noted, that there was a lack of women in the NEC and it was felt, that we must promote more women cadres in SACTU.

Meeting unanimously agreed, that a Committee be appointed to look/examine the development and training of cadres.

The Steering Committee proposed, that we close the discussion on organisation and administration and get to other business.

It was agreed that:

- a) the document "Role of SACTU" and addenda be broadly discussed within the ranks of the Movement including COSATU. Attn. GSO/PIP/SED.
- b) the two addenda be included in the main document for circulation and discussion.

Summing up by Comrade JKN:

The GS report lacks political content. We need to learn from the recommendations. We need also to be taught as leadership, so that we should change from the old ways of working, also the style of leadership should improve. He also raised the issue of meeting members of the Liberation Alliance to discuss SACTU/MK relation and MK and trade union movement relation.

He also agreed to attach the discussion document with the addendums to complete, so that it is broadly discussed.

Also agreed, that departments should submit reports to the GSO, so that when the report is prepared by the GS, they would be taken into consideration. Attn: GSO.

7 The PIP Report:

The meeting agreed, that Comrade EM submits a written report.

The following points were reported:

- Workers' Unity: Workers' Unity has been coming out, but not regularly. There was a decline in production since Comrade EM took over. 4 - 5000 copies. Following the 1986 decision that the nature of our propaganda should be to educate and not give news with an agreement from people inside the country. There is a positive response on Workers' Unity from H/F.
- Mailing list:
 - London 1 - 1500 too much
 - Denmark 1 - 1500 to 2000
- Two pamphlets
 - A Handbook of Trade Unions for Peace, produced at home.

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Problems:

- 1 Lack of contributors
- 2 Editorial Board - MC members too busy
- 3 Funding became a problem later

- Radio Unit: Not functional because ZBS closed since last year October.

It was agreed:

- a) Departmental meetings to be regularly organised.
- b) An Editorial Board for Workers' Unity consisting of three comrades should be elected.
Seconded and agreed.
- c) The meeting noted, that Workers' Unity should be an agitational paper and should deal in depth with trade union problems and not a theoretical organ.

In summing up the discussion, Comrade EM accepted some of the criticisms made against him, which were justified. He asked the members of the NEC to cooperate with him and assist in resolving the problems in the PIP. He requested for maximum cooperation.

7 The SID Report:

(Written report to follow)

Comrade KM chaired this session of the meeting.

- a) OATUU problems
- b) Affiliation of COSATU/NACTU to OATUU
- c) Complaint from COSATU to ILO

Discussion:

COTU contributed 8 million Shillings to COSATU, the problem was the collection of the money. Ask the ANC and discuss with them and say, that we are a labour organisation of the ANC and therefore should provide labour attaches in their offices. A person to be attached to the Kenya Mission from SACTU.

Comrade J Makhatini had requested a SACTU person to

- d) WFTU complaint: NEC delegation to visit the Socialist Countries. It was agreed, that a delegation should go there.
- e) Complaint from COSATU to ILO:
 - 1 ILO to be persuaded to reply to COSATU letter
 - 2 ANC to be met to discuss this matter, so that we can have a common position.
- f) Re ICFTU: Proposals:
 - SACTU/COSATU to have a joint delegation to meet the ICFTU and discuss with them our position. This matter must be on the agenda with COSATU. ICFTU affiliates must be isolated to work with them. We must form a common front against apartheid. It was agreed, that we discuss with COSATU our international connections including the WFTU.
- g) Organisational reports:
 - WEO report (written report)
 - Consistent visits to GS
 - Coordination problematic
 - Backed up by AAM and activities of the ANC

 - There are seven comrades in the office.
 - SACTU/ZCTU relations problematic. SACTU has to re-approach the ZCTU.
Task of the International Department - to cultivate relations with the ZCTU.
- h) Proposals:
 - The administration of SID sit with Comrade BB and take down everything he knows about the international situation.
 - Reports must be written and filed.
 - Preparation for travelling, lines of communication to be cleared.
 - The department to be strengthenedAll these proposals were agreed upon.

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8 The S I C Report:

Written reports (R1 - R8 submitted to all NEC members)

Motion: All documents connected with shares, privatisation etc, should be circulated and discussed. This was seconded, but not agreed to.

SIC report was unanimously adopted.

- a) Splits:
CCAWUSA etc.
SACTU/COSATU to have a meeting with the splitted unions, inorder to cement unity. This to be followed up.
- b) Problems of leadership:
Mergers - SACTU to call T&G and one COSATU official and discuss the matter of SARHWU and them.
See resolution on mergers.
- c) Principle on Funding:
The NEC examined the question of funding and agreed, that we accept assistance from anyone, provided, that it does not undermine the movement and there are no strings attached.
- d) Consolidation of COSATU:
SACTU to prepare educational and training material inorder to strengthen the Education Department of COSATU, and give them all possible assistance.

Papers to be written:

- National Unions
- Handbooks
- WFTU and ICFTU
- What is a trade union

All papers to be presented before the Extended Meeting.

- e) Communication with COSATU:
Reinforce the idea, that any trade union official coming outside, should meet either the ANC or SACTU. The other issue to be discussed is the 5/6 March Communique and how it functions.
Attn: MC.
- f) SID and SED to coordinate scholarships on admi-

- g) Women Organisations: FEDSAW
(Resolution attached)
SACTU to prepare a paper on the Role of Working Women in the Trade Union Movement and National Liberation Struggle. Agreed.
- h) Agreed, that SACTU/COSATU jointly meet SIDA -LO/TCO (Denmark). To be discussed.
- i) COSATU/NACTU
ANC/NACTU Communique:
SACTU to raise the question with the ANC and COSATU, to discuss the question of tactics in the trade union movement. SACTU should be consulted on matters of tactics. Consultations must take place to resolve issues.

Meeting noted the ANC/NACTU Communique:

Re resolution on unity.

Units of SACTU - not to be conflicted with the units of the Movement. They complement the work of the national liberation movement. The units are helpful in the distribution of Workers' Unity.

- j) Full-time Organisers:
The selection of the comrades, who are redundant in the trade union movement must be done and be made full-time organisers. Those comrades, who have been victimised in the trade union movement, must be assisted. IDAF has monies for this purpose, especially when they have dependants.

Reference to Report 2 page 8:

All armed detachments in the factories are to be commanded by MK. These units must be separated from the trade union movement.

High profile people must not be involved in MK detachments of any kind.

- k) Shares, privitisation:
Paper on shares ready. The WEO asked some people in Britain to draft guidelines for discussion on privitisation.

To include the 8th International TUI of Public Employees' Congress on the subject matter.

- l) Farm and Agricultural Workers:
COSATU/FAWU putting their resources. The NTO/SIC to focus their attention to this matter, by employing unemployed workers to organisations in those areas. SIC to obtain maps on the rural areas.
- m) SIC Funds and Finances:
Everything connected to this matter will be discussed under the NTO report. The meeting directed the National Treasurer in consultation with the MC to provide all financial, transport and material requirements of SIC, to effectively carry out its work effectively.
- n) October Elections:
SACTU to issue a statement on this boycotting the elections.
- o) Leaflets and our propaganda material should be produced.

The Laundry Workers' Union:

ONE UNION IN ONE INDUSTRY is our principle. This union was to be guided to join the Textile Workers' Union. Money has been sent to the union already. SACTU to have discussions with COSATU on this matter.

On the question of White workers:

Resolution was discussed broadly in WE. Could not reach anywhere in implementing the decision. This was discussed with COSATU at some of the meetings.

Privitisation and Wage Freeze:

Has thrown new light in this resolution. The matter to be discussed at the COSATU meeting.

The SIC Report was unanimously adopted.

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9 The SED Report:

Motion: adoption of the report was moved by Comrade ZZ
seconded by Comrade JKN.

A proposal was made, that the meeting adjourns to the
30.8.88. Agreed.

30.8.88

The General Secretary remarked, that the report of the
SED did not represent the sum total of the activities in
the department. The meeting further re-affirmed the
decision on the Commission on Organisation and
Administration of SACTU.

Discussion on the SED Report:

This session was chaired by Comrade BB.

Proposals:

- Lectures to be written down and sent into the country
and a lot of these should be put in cassettes.
- Administration: The British to be given a project on
this matter.
- Weaker unions: Administrators are necessary in these
unions, in order for them to do day to day work of
their unions.
- Trade Union School: This has been given to the Scandi-
navians project, which has not been followed up. It
has to be followed up.

The meeting rejected the report which dealt with our last
Extended Meeting. The meeting noted, that funds from the
ILO/ICCO were utilised for seminars and not as reflected
in the SED report.

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10 National Treasurer's Report:

The Commission's Report into the NTO and its recommendations were read.

Issues raised:

January 1988 NEC Meeting and August 1988 statements:
A proposal was made that Comrade KM audits the books.

Meeting agreed, that the National Treasurer's Report be deferred for discussion to the next NEC meeting, to allow for auditing and the Commission's report. Further that a competent person in the ANC be requested to examine SACTU's books and present a report to the MC, which should cover the period 1.1.87 to 30.6.88. Attn: GSO.

This NEC meeting resolved, that the NEC Extended Meeting be held during the first week of December i.e from the 1st -5th December.

All NEC members should be in Lusaka a week before the meeting.

It was agreed, that an NEC meeting would be held from the 25 - 27 November 1988.

Resolutions 1 - 5 adopted.

President's Closing Remarks made

The General Secretary gave a vote of thanks.

The meeting closed at 14.00hrs with the National Anthem.