

Campaign for Open Media ⁴⁶

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19 November 1992

Mr Waters Toboti
Director of Publicity and Information
PAC of Azania
By telefax: (011) 838-3705

Dear Mr Toboti

REPORT BACK AND INVITATION CAMPAIGN FOR INDEPENDENT BROADCASTING (CIB)

1. At the recent workshop convened by the Campaign for Open Media at Vits University on Saturday, November 14, the 18 organisations present decided to launch a major campaign to be called "Campaign for Independent Broadcasting".

These organisations include:

Campaign for Open Media (COM)
Media Workers Association of South Africa (MVASA)
South African Union of Journalists (SAUJ)
National Council of Trade Unions (NACTU)
National Education Co-ordinating Committee (NECC)
South African Council of Churches (SACC)
Azanian Peoples Organisation (AZAPO)
African National Congress (ANC)
Broadcast Interest Group (BIG)
Transkei Broadcasting Corporation (TBC)
Anti-Censorship Action Group (ACAG)
Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU)
Institute for Contextual Theology (ICT)
Film and Allied Workers Organisation (FAWO)
Performing Arts Workers Equity (PAWE)
Congress of South African Writers (COSAW)
South African Communist Party (SACP)
Institute for the Advance of Journalism (IAJ)

To broaden the base of the coalition which forms the campaign, a campaign declaration has been drafted setting out the demands of the campaign. Organisations are now being requested to sign the declaration to indicate their support and association with it. We would appreciate it if the PAC of Azania were to sign it and become involved in the campaign.

2. A steering committee of the CIB was elected at the workshop consisting of representatives of the Media Workers Association of South Africa (Mvasa), the South African Union of Journalists (SAUJ), the South African Council of Churches (SACC), the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), the Campaign for Open Media (COM) and the National Education Co-ordinating Committee (NECC).

The steering committee was mandated to hold a press conference to launch the campaign and to take other steps to publicise the campaign and to broaden its base.

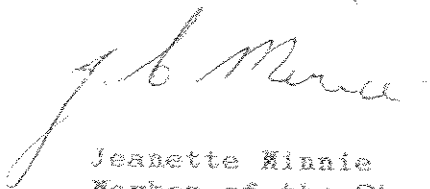
Consequently a press conference is to be held next week on Thursday, November 26, at 11h00 at the Institute for the Advance of Journalism, 9 Jubilee Road, Parktown, Johannesburg. At this press conference we would like high-profile leaders and individuals of various organisations to sign the declaration publicly in front of the news media. To this end we are requesting your President, Mr Clarence Makwetu, to be present to sign the declaration. Would you please convey this invitation to him.

Other people who are being invited to be present for the signing include Mr Mandela of the ANC, Mr Hani of the SACP, Mr Jay Naidoo of Cosatu, Ms Madine Gordimer of COSAW, Mr Richard Steyn --editor-in-chief of The Star, Mr Aggrey Klaaste - editor of the Sowetan, Mr Khulu Sibiya - editor of City Press, Mr Frank Chickane of the SACC and Mr Raymond Louw of COM.

3. The steering committee is also arranging for a briefing of the diplomatic corps to take place in the near future.
4. There will be a plenary meeting of all the organisations which constitute the coalition supporting the campaign on Friday, 27 November, at 17h00, also at the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism. The PAC is also invited to send a representative to this meeting.
5. Included is also a document outlining a draft proposed programme of action for the campaign arising from suggestions at the workshop. It was noted at the workshop that members of the campaign coalition do not have to support all campaigns, but only those that they can identify with.

Please can you confirm with me whether the PAC is willing to sign the declaration and thereby to become a member of the campaign and consequently whether Mr Makwetu can attend the press conference on the 26th to sign the declaration in public.

Yours sincerely



Jeanette Minnie
Member of the Steering Committee
Campaign for Independent Broadcasting