AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS - ANC

13 March 1996

DRAFT ANC PROPOSAL ON PREAMBLE - 13 MARCH 1996

We, the people of South Africa -

Recognising the injustices of our past, resolve to heal the divisions among us and strive to improve the quality of life of all citizens;

Honouring the countless men and women who have suffered for freedom and justice in our land, affirm that our country belongs to all who live in it;

Believing that people of diverse backgrounds can live together as equals and compatriots, united in common loyalty to build a new nation;

Celebrating the diversity of our nation, aspire to achieve our full economic, social and cultural development by freeing the potential of each person;

Committed to open a new chapter in our history, establish a society founded on the principles of equality, dignity, fundamental rights and personal freedom, in which every South African is equally protected by law;

Determined never again to permit our diversity to render our nation apart, lay the foundation for a free and open society based on the sovereignty of the people and democratic values:

Respectful of international law, build a united democratic South Africa, able to take its rightful place in the family of nations in Africa and as an active member of the world community;

Solemnly agreeing to live together in harmony, respect the rule of law, and govern ourselves as a constitutional democracy we adopt this Constitution as the supreme law of the Republic.

Nkosi Sikelela iAfrica. Morena boloke sechaba sa heso. God seen Afrika. May God bless our country. Mudzimu fhatutshedza Afrika. Hosi ketkisa Afrika.