

CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY

**SUBTHEME COMMITTEE THREE
TRANSFORMATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

**THEME COMMITTEE 6
SPECIALISED STRUCTURES OF GOVERNMENT**

7 FEBRUARY 1995

PRESENT

Kgositsile B (Chairperson)

Fenyane S L E
Inkosi B Luthuli
Louw L
Malan J
Moatshe P
Mokoena L M
Mompoti R
Netshimbupfe M A
Ngubane H
Tshabalala M E
Turok M (Alt)
Van Wyk A
Zitha D A

B Levy, Prof R Erwee and Dr C Albertyn were in attendance

1. Opening and Welcome

Ms Kgositsile opened the meeting at 14:50 and welcomed the members.

2. Technical Experts

2.1 Role and Function

Ms Kgositsile welcomed the technical experts to the meeting.

Ms Kgositsile reported that the Subtheme Committee had not had sufficient notice of the Technical Experts' availability this week. For this reason the Subtheme Committee has not had a discussion on the role and function of the experts.

Ms Kgositsile suggested that the meeting attempt to isolate areas for the experts with regard to their function. Upon finalisation of the work programme, especially the area on the Gender Commission, further tasks would arise for the experts.

Dr Albertyn reported that she also has experience in the areas of the Public Protector and Human Rights in addition to her work in the area of gender. Dr Albertyn could thus be called on to assist with these other areas of the Subtheme Committee's work.

2.2 Programme for experts

A number of suggestions were made with regards to a programme for the technical experts, these include the following:

2.2.1 Ms Malan suggested that the experts write a paper on the history of the Women's Movement internationally. Ms Malan proposed that special focus be placed on the Scandinavian Countries, France and Germany. In addition she suggested an examination form the experience on the United Nations' decade of women.

2.2.2 Prof Ngubane proposed that there was a need to look at international experience that had a bearing to South Africa's situation. While it is important to examine gender equality generally one needs to take in to account the specific experiences and problems confronting women from disadvantaged communities.

2.2.3 Ms Mompati suggested that there was need to examine what was

being done with regards to gender in all fields of government and society such as gender policy and programmes in development, health, education and the economic field. Ms Mompoti proposed that there needed to be an examination of what different Ministries were doing with regards to the area of gender.

2.2.4 Prof Erwee argued that there was a need to clarify whether the Commission was a policy making body or an enforcement body. Prof Erwee maintained that the above suggestions fell within the ambit of the Commission as a policy making body.

2.2.5 Dr Albertyn proposed that there was a need to firstly examine issues generally with regards to the Gender Commission and the Human Rights Commission.

An examination of the notion of broad human rights issues was required and then one could deal with the institutions needed to give effect to them.

One cannot ignore the gender implications of the other structures such as the Public Protector and the Human Rights Commission. If these implications are ignored there is a danger that all issues dealing with gender will be located in the Gender Commission only.

While there is a need to focus on the Gender Commission this needs to be located in the context of the need for a National Machinery for women.

It was agreed that there was need to look broadly at what structures of government were necessary to give effect to gender equality. There was a need to examine Commission in the context of the need for national machinery for women generally.

In addition it was also agreed that the experts would need to examine the submissions that had been sent to the Subtheme Committee.

3. Work Programme

The Public Protector

It was agreed that all political parties needed to submit their submissions on the Public Protector to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

4. Lists of Experts

Ms Levy reported that no lists had been received from political parties.

5. Parties' final lists of Subtheme Members

Ms Kgotsile reported that these lists needed to be submitted to the Secretariat.

6. Any other business

6.1 Public Participation Programme

It was agreed that members would read the document on the Public Participation Programme and comment on it in the meeting of 8/2/95.

6.2 Media Coverage

Kgosi Mokoena raised a concern that none of the work of the Subtheme Committee had been covered by the media.

Ms Kgotsile reported that she would be meeting with the Media Committee of the Administration and would take up this issue with them.

6.3 Meetings of the Theme Committee

It was agreed that the members would meet after the seminar on the 8/2/95. In addition it was agreed that the Subtheme Committee would meet on Thursday 9/2/95 at 14:30.

7. Closure

The meeting rose at 16:00