

EXTRACT OF SPEECH BY DR. F. VAN ZYL SLABBERT TO  
INKATHA YOUTH CONFERENCE AT ULUNDI ON 25 AUGUST 1985

1. The Government is talking to us in South Africa in a language which only they themselves understand :-

(a) They say they want reform but when we ask them what they mean, they cannot give us clear answers.

(b) We ask them : Will you scrap influx control ? They say, they will look at it to improve it because it is too costly.

(c) We ask them : Will you accept Blacks as citizens of South Africa ? They say that there is no second and first class citizenship, but Blacks will not be accommodated as citizens in the same way as Whites, Coloureds and Asians.

(d) We ask them : Will South Africa have one constitution for all its people ? They say that there is no model in the world that they accept for South Africa; that there can never be one state for all its people, but that somehow everyone must be part of the decisions that affect their lives.

2. I think the time has come for the people of this country to tell this Government : We hear what you say, but we cannot understand you. You talk the language of yesterday and you are trapped by the problems of the past that you have created yourself. You wish to carry those problems into the future and now ask to negotiate how this can be done. The future cannot be negotiated by men who live in the past. Even the President who has opened the door of reform does not show us how to walk through the door he has opened. South Africa stands before the open door of reform in a state of confusion created by the Government.
3. The Government cannot or will not speak to this country in a language we can understand. We must speak to this Government then in a voice that can be heard by the whole world, that is clear in its message and unmistakable in its vision. Let all who care about the future of this country, whatever their organization, movement or party; whatever their constitutional wishes for the future, come together and declare :

There can only be peace in this land and violence can only be prevented if :-

- (a) There is ONE CONSTITUTION, based on
- (b) ONE CITIZENSHIP, in
- (c) ONE COUNTRY.

This is the minimum basis for negotiation.

What that constitution will look like, only the future will show, but that it will be based on one common citizenship for all South Africans based on an undivided South Africa, we have no doubt.

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