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PARLIAMENT
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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
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**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS IN PARLIAMENT
HELD ON 26 AUGUST 2009, AT THE MARKS BUILDING, PARLIAMENT, CAPE TOWN**

ATTENDANCE:

1. Mr A Trollip – DA
2. Mr M Dandala – COPE
3. Mr M Shilowa – COPE
4. Mr MB Skosana – IFP
5. Mrs P de Lille – ID
6. Mr B Holomisa - UDM
7. Dr P Mulder – FF+
8. Dr CP Mulder – FF+
9. Rev KRJ Meshoe – ACDP
10. Mr S Mfundisi – UCDP
11. Mr BJR Masilo – UCDP

APOLOGIES:

1. Prince M Buthelezi – IFP
2. Mr MA Mangena – AZAPO
3. Mr NT Godi – APC
4. Mr RB Bhoola – MF

1. Opening. Hon Shilowa – who chaired the meeting – welcomed all the leaders. In his introduction he gave a brief synopsis of the circumstances that led to this meeting. He mentioned that this initiative arose from informal discussions among him, Hon Holomisa and Hon De Lille, who concurred that it was necessary to formalise the process of cooperation among opposition parties since the need for such was generally accepted by the parties, their voters and commentators alike.
2. Discussion about the agenda. The agenda was discussed. A matter was raised about the question of process, in particular the manner in which the initial invitations for the meeting were issued. After deliberations it was resolved that for the time being the Multi-Party Forum secretariat should coordinate meetings among the parties.

The agenda was adopted with the following items:

- a. Cooperation in Parliament
- b. Meeting with President Zuma (27 August)

- i. Appointment of the Chief Justice
- ii. Donen Commission Report
- iii. Service delivery protests
- iv. Multi-Party Forum resolutions, previously tabled during a meeting with the Head of Government Business, the Deputy President Motlanthe.

3. Cooperation in Parliament. The meeting resolved to establish a small committee to develop and draft a framework for future cooperation, flowing from previous discussions on issues of mutual interest in the Multi-party Forum. This committee will also include the Whips of the various parties to develop proposals on how they can cooperate on issues inside Parliament.

The meeting resolved that the committee should help to clarify the role/function of the Multi-Party Forum (which also includes the ruling party) in relation to this initiative among opposition parties.

4. Meeting with President Zuma (27 August). The meeting deliberated on the upcoming meeting among opposition party leaders and President Zuma. It was agreed that issues of mutual concern should be raised with the President, namely:

- a. Appointment of the Chief Justice.
- b. Donen Commission Report.
- c. Service delivery protests.
- d. Multi-Party Forum resolutions previously tabled in a meeting with the Hon Deputy President.

The meeting resolved that a letter should be addressed to President Zuma indicating that the parties would like to discuss these matters during their meeting with him. Mr Holomisa was tasked with drafting this letter.

5. Closing. The meeting agreed that a statement – on behalf of all the leaders – should be issued to the media, indicating the meeting's resolutions as well as those agenda items which would be raised with the President. Mr Holomisa was tasked to deal with this in his capacity as Chairperson of the Multi-Party Forum steering committee.

The meeting was formally closed and the media were invited in. Mr Trollip gave a short briefing to the media about the meeting and the resolutions that were taken.

MINUTES DRAFTED BY B HOLOMISA, MP