



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

YOUTH, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORTS COOPERATION FOCUSED
ON FOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY CENTRES
PROJECT 2007-2009

Entered into by and between:

Minister dr. Essop PAHAD -
Minister in the Presidency of the Republic of South
Africa

and

Minister Bert ANCIAUX
Vlaams minister van Cultuur, Jeugd, Sport en Brussel

THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN AGREED UPON

1. SUBJECT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

In the framework of the Bilateral co-operation agreement between THE FLEMISH MINISTRY FOR CULTURE, YOUTH, SPORT AND MEDIA AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION, all partners agree to realise the project on youth, arts, culture and sports cooperation focused on four local community centres, as described below.

2. BACKGROUND

Previous Cooperation's

On the 28th of October 1996 the current cooperation agreement was signed between the governments of the Republic of South Africa and Flanders. This agreement was the result of preliminary visits in 1995 (in June and in November/December) of two delegations of South African experts in youth work, public libraries, women's organisations and organisations for handicapped people. The first three working programmes (1996-2001) focussed on capacity building in libraries and in the non-formal adult education on one hand and on capacity building of young South African people that were assigned to build a strong youth policy and the necessary structure according to the Reconstruction and Development Programme of the Nelson Mandela's government.

The project on local cultural policy was launched in 2003 for a period of three years with a specific focus on the development of a local cultural policy in South Africa. The project was included as a priority theme in the co-operation programme that was signed early February 2003.

Youth¹ sector: development of a local youth policy. Multiannual project based on CAR (Capacity Building, Advocacy and Research) in co-operation with the National Youth Commission². 2006 was the last year of the project. In particular, it was the intention to assess the capacity building component and study the possibilities of further use and improvement of this format.

Arts sector: exchanges focussing on music and dance groups. Participation in festivals etc.

Heritage sector: exchange between the 'Vlaams Centrum voor Volkscultuur' and the Centre of Popular Memory in Cape Town.

Sports sector: co-operation projects in the Free State Province and also exchange of expertise in training and education of trainers/coaches in South Africa.

Co-operation within the framework of 'co-operation development': in 2003 the South African and Flemish government concluded a bi-lateral agreement for the building of capacity in the South African arts and culture, education and crafts sector. The agreement considered three projects: community arts centre project (CAC), arts and education project and arts and crafts project.

The CAC project focused on the development of a sustainable policy-driven network of community arts centres throughout South Africa. The objectives were: setting up a national office, capacitating clusters of community arts centres, formulating a policy for community arts centres, training of arts centre managers, international exchanges and twinning with Flemish cultural centres.

¹ Youth in South Africa contains young people from 14 till 35 years.

² Facilitate increased youth access to leisure and recreational activities through the establishment of multi-purpose youth centres. Establish facilities to host arts and cultural activities in communities. Encourage use of sport and recreation activities in fostering community development and alleviation of poverty and unemployment. (p. 14 of the National Youth development policy framework (2002-2007) Towards integrated national youth development initiatives and programmes)

Future co-operation 2007-2009.

On the occasion of the visit of Minister Anciaux to South Africa in November 2005, a number of local community centres were visited and after meeting with Minister Pahad (Youth) and Minister Jordan (Culture) the idea emerged to give a new direction to future co-operation initiatives with South Africa.

Unlike previous co-operation initiatives, future co-operation between Flanders and South Africa must be increasingly coordinated, i.e. it must be coordinated across the policy areas of youth policy, socio-cultural work, the arts, heritage and sports. Moreover, special attention should be paid to sports as it is also power exercised by our Minister. The heart of the new vision is the 'adoption' of local community centres spread over South Africa, for the 2007-2009 period, laying an emphasis on youth, culture and sports.

Coordination in South Africa is entrusted to the National Youth Commission.

The aim is to support the operation of these centres in a concrete and sustainable way, focussing on sports as well as on various cultural aspects: the arts, heritage, socio-cultural work and youth work. The target group consists of young people who come from deprived backgrounds with special attention to gender and disability issues.

During a prospective visit from 18 to 24 August 2006, a wide variety of these centres were visited by a delegation composed of: 3 Flemish culture officers, 2 representatives of the National Youth Commission, 3 representatives of the Arts and Culture Department, Yves Wantens and Jasper Walgrave who was commissioned to prepare this visit from Flanders. On the basis of the report on this prospecting trip and taking into account certain criteria, 4 possible centres were selected. The list of selected centres was submitted for approval to Ministers Pahad and Jordan by Minister Anciaux. The selection was confirmed.

The following centres will be co-operated with in the future:

- Gauteng Province: Ipelegeng Community Centre in Soweto
- Kwazulu Natal Province: BAT centre in Durban
- Free State Province: Through the department of Sports and Recreation, Arts and Culture - Mmabana arts and cultural centre and the satellite centres: Zamdela arts and cultural centre, Thabong arts and cultural centre and Basotho cultural village.
- West Cape Province: Nyanga Arts Centre

Minister Anciaux earmarks³ around 1 million euro a year for this co-operation:

- ±400 000 euro: 4 selected local community centres
- 120 000 euro: coordination NYC
- 60 000 euro: capacity building courses
- Others will be spent for the 'structural actors'

³ Under the reservation of an approved budget by the Flemish Parliament.

In the framework of these new co-operation initiatives, the NYC concludes a co-operation agreement with each of the community centres. Each community centre receives annually an amount for the implementation of the approved working programme. In principle, this arrangement covers a period of three years. During this period, stakeholders must reflect on the possible continuation of activities and preservation of experience gained.

Moreover, there are several Flemish structural actors ⁴ who receive grants for the activities they will implement on the basis of the co-operation initiatives with the centres.

Both in South Africa and in Flanders, a steering group of committed representatives from all policy areas is established: youth, culture and sports. Task: to monitor these new co-operation arrangements and to serve in a kind of ambassador role.

The results of the co-operation achieved and the exchanges of the past co-operation period must be further built on. The CAR model shall be applied when elaborating and developing these new cooperation initiatives:

Capacity building courses: the aim is to give actors linked to the operation of the local community centres a sort of "on the job training" in Flanders. Depending on the budget, it is the ambition to schedule this initiative once or twice a year each time for 20 South African participants (multipliers);

Advocacy: apart from the development of effective communication, lobbying, the creation of a network and the dissemination of "good practices", further reflection is needed on the benefits of these achievements for the whole of South Africa;

Research: it is of importance to describe those "good practices", to ensure a systematic data collection as well as to specify the possible effects and progress.

It is also the intention to set up a sort of conference in 2008 or 2009, building on the experience gained, and to ensure that this experience is embedded in policy making so as to benefit the whole of South Africa.

3. Project Objectives

- The selected centres will function as a link with local culture and youth policy, increase the local actors' involvement and competences
- To integrate sports and recreation in the neighbourhood context in these projects;
- The cooperation will function as an example of an integrated and successful format for other centres (in other towns);
- To strengthen civil society organisations in South Africa
- To develop "twinning" between the centres and the Flemish local authorities or civil society organisation;
- The centres must be a natural preference for Flemish artists and organisations visiting South Africa;

⁴ Support centres from different policy areas

- The centre will promote Capacity building of the different actors involved in the centres in SA and in Flanders.
- The centres will spread and share information on a national level of the acquired experiences, building a South African network
- To promote youth access, participation and development in the community centres and to promote partnership between the community centres and the local municipalities
- To promote economic development of young people in the community as informed by the government programmes e.g. **ASGISA**: for Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiatives-South Africa, it is a programme initiated by government to promote economic growth and to reduce poverty and unemployment by 2014 and **JIPSA** stands for Joint Initiative for Priority Skills Acquisition: it is also a government initiative led by the Deputy President to identify solutions to skills shortage in critical areas over the next three years. The government has called for all sector departments and organizations to develop strategies that will form part of the programmes in accordance with their target group, in this case the NYC's strategy on ASGISA/JIPSA will focus on how to address the skills shortages, unemployment and poverty affecting young people in the country

4. Expected outcomes of the partnership

- To stimulate social cohesion amongst the youth through arts, culture, heritage, sports, and youth initiatives
- To inculcate moral regeneration within the youth through arts, culture, heritage, sports, and youth initiatives
- To encourage participation of youth in arts, culture, heritage, sports, and youth initiatives
- To develop four examples of an integrated and successful format of local community centres.
- To encourage the centres to progress in the direction of multi purpose community centres
- To develop a common vision for local community development

5. Project plan for each community centre

The signing of the MoU will be followed up by working programmes for each centre and with clear deliverables, timelines and resources required to successfully execute the project.

6. Parties to MoU

6.1. National Youth Commission

The National Youth Commission (NYC) was established on 16 June 1996 as part of the democratic Government's plan to develop a comprehensive strategy to address the challenges facing young women and men in South Africa. The Government plan also situates youth as a critical role-player in the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) of the country. The NYC is a statutory body established in terms of the National Youth Commission Act (Act 19 of 1996) as amended in 2000. The Minister in the Presidency, Dr Essop Pahad, has political oversight of the NYC.

Vision

"An enabling environment in which youth realize their potential and contribute to the consolidation of a caring society."

Mission

"To coordinate, promote and monitor youth development through the implementation of an integrated youth development framework."

The overall mandate of the NYC derives from the National Youth Commission Act, No 19 of 1996 (as amended in 2000), which outlines the objectives of the Commission as follows:

- i. To coordinate and develop an integrated national youth policy
- ii. To develop an integrated national youth development plan that utilizes available resources and expertise for the development of youth and which shall be integrated with the Reconstruction and Development Programme
- iii. To develop principles and guidelines and make recommendations to be government regarding such principles and guidelines, for the implementation of an integrated national youth policy
- iv. To coordinate, direct and monitor the implementation of such principles and guidelines as a matter of priority
- v. To implement measures to redress the imbalances of the past relating to the various forms of disadvantages suffered by the youth generally or specific groups or categories of persons among youth
- vi. To promote a uniformity of approach by all organs of state, including provincial government, to matters relating to or involving the youth
- vii. To maintain close liaison with institutions, bodies or authorities similar to the Commission in order to promote cooperation
- viii. To coordinate the activities of the various provincial government institutions involved in youth matters and link to those activities to the integrated national youth policy
- ix. To develop recommendations relating to any other which may affect the youth

6.2. Flemish Ministry for Culture, Youth, Sport and Media

Since 1 April 2006, the Ministry of the Flemish Community has been reorganised. The basic principle was to achieve more logical entities. Culture used to belong to the large Welfare, Public Health and Culture Department. Now, it constitutes one entity together with Youth, Sport and Media.

The former Culture Administration had a hierarchical structure and consisted of a Directorate-General and four Divisions: "Adult Education and Libraries", "Youth and Sport", "Visual Arts and Museums" and "Music, Literature and Performing Arts".

This sectoral structure has been abandoned. The former 4 Divisions have now been merged into 2 large autonomous Agencies. The first Agency encompasses the arts and heritage, the second one the socio-cultural work for adults and youth. The Department for Culture, Youth, Sport and Media exists on the same hierarchical level as the Agencies. This provides the link between the 4 dimensions of the broad policy domain. The Department has three Divisions: the Policy Division, the Media Division and the Management Support Services Division.

There is a clear division of tasks:

- The Minister is responsible for defining policy. The Policy Council (a consultation forum between the Minister and top civil servants) is used as a forum for debate.
- The Department is responsible for policy preparation and evaluation.
- The (internally and externally autonomous) Agencies are responsible for the (operation) implementation of regulations.
- There is no hierarchical link between the top civil servant of the Department and the top civil servants of the Agencies.

7. Duration

This MoU is excluded for a period of three years, from 2007 - 2009.

8. Obligations of the Flemish Ministry in the cooperation

- To establish a reference group
- To conduct a capacity building course
- To second Tine Cornillie to coordinate the work of the four local community centres
- To assist in convening the National Conference on Local Government for the community centres in 2009.
- To ensure visibility of the cooperation
- On an annual basis, the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports will provide a grant for the NYC on the financing of
 - the management of the project by the NYC
 - the annual work programmes of the four centres
 - the capacity building courses

9. Obligations of the NYC in the cooperation

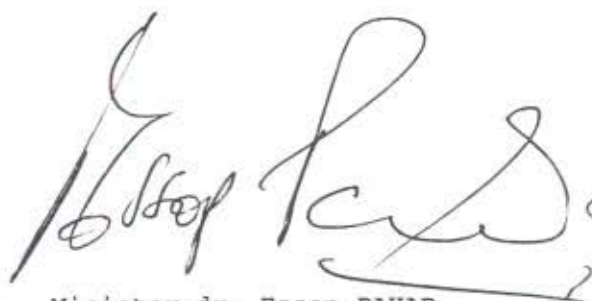
- To develop and enter into a programme based contract with the each centre
- To monitor on an ongoing basis the implementation of the programmes of the centres
- To coordinate the Capacity Building programme
- To sign an MOU with the Department of Arts and Culture in SA and the Department of Sport and Recreation in SA and to ensure that both departments participate in the reference group
- To rope in all relevant role players to join the project
- To advise the centres on youth development programmes
- To establish and chair the reference committee
- To appoint Tine Cornillie as the Project Coordinator.
- To ensure visibility of the cooperation
- To coordinate the 2009 National Conference on the cooperation.

10. Annual partnership monitoring and evaluation

The partners will prepare a joint evaluation of the partnership annually. The monitoring and evaluation will review the success of the partnership, lessons learned, and changes that will be made, if necessary, to meet the goals of the partnership

Dated at:
of May 2007

On this the 2nd day



Minister dr. Essop PAHAD
Minister in the Presidency
of the Republic of South Africa



Minister Bert ANCIAUX
Vlaams minister van Cultuur,
Jeugd, Sport en Brussel