

Vom 7. bis 9. November 2002 fand in der Nähe von Johannesburg/ Südafrika die zweite Konsultation im Rahmen des Projektes „Partnership on Cooperative Development“ (Deutschland-Südafrika) statt. Auf der Konsultation konnte eine Erklärung verabschiedet werden, der alle Beteiligten (ca. 60 Vertreterinnen und Vertreter aus den Bereichen Politik, Wirtschaft und Nichtregierungsorganisationen, darunter Gewerkschaften und Kirchen) zustimmten.

Begonnen hatte das Projekt mit einer Konsultation im März 2001 in der Evangelischen Akademie Loccum. Als nächster Schritt wird die Einrichtung des in der Erklärung erwähnten „Advisory Committees“ erfolgen, das Mitte 2003 erstmalig zusammentreten wird, um die für 2004 vorgesehene „Plattform“ in Loccum vorzubereiten.

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## **Kopanong Statement on Cooperative Development**

### **From Loccum to Kopanong: Building Partnerships**

Participants from South Africa and Germany, drawn from government and government related agencies, business and civil society groups, met at Kopanong Conference Centre, Gauteng, on Partnership for Cooperative Development from the 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2002. The Consultation was a follow-up to the Loccum, Germany Consultation held in March 2001 with a view of promoting “people-to-people” partnerships between the people of the two countries.

The Consultation met against the background of major changes in Europe with the possible expansion of the European Union, and equally significant political and economic changes on the African continent with the dawn of the African Union and the adoption of New Partnership for Africa’s Development, a development strategy to put Africa on an accelerated path of development and ending its economic isolation in the global economy.

The purpose of the Consultation was to continue strengthening the relations between Germany and South Africa with a view of improving the well being of our people through socio-economic cooperation.

The stated purpose of the Partnership for Cooperative Development is to develop a platform of already existing networks in Germany and South Africa by gathering actors in politics, economy and development organizations for an exchange of views and experiences about their activities, seeking for synergetic cooperation in a self organized way according to the specific interest of the participants. The agenda of the Cooperative Development shall seek to build on constructive issues of common interest.

The Partnership does not intend to establish a new institution nor duplicate already existing ones. It seeks to provide a platform for dialogue, networking and exchange, as well as creating an open space for developing new networks amongst those who seek to work together.

The Partnership has identified the following fields requiring special attention and joint collaboration: Investment Promotion, HIV/ AIDS, Housing, Tourism Promotion, Rural and Local Development and Vocational Training/ Capacity Building.

## **The Kopanong Consultation: Strengthening Existing Partnerships**

The Kopanong Consultation deliberated on the six themes identified at Loccum, provided the platform to share existing projects with the aim of finding ways of joint collaboration. The consultation recommended the following projects for cooperative development:

### **Investment:**

- Continue the promotion of South Africa in Germany as a preferred investment destination with a view of extending investment in people and communities.
- Broaden cooperation between South African and German ports and channel these initiatives through the Joint Maritime Committee.
- Seek support and partnership for the Uitenhage/ Dispatch Development Initiative presented and led by Volkswagen South Africa, Provincial and Local Government and the Unions in the Eastern Cape as a pilot cooperative development flagship project.
- Foster cooperation of people involved in rural sustainable projects and implement initiatives addressing basic needs of the population.

### **HIV/ AIDS:**

- To pool information on HIV/Aids related projects and share best practice.
- Ensure that every project integrates HIV/AIDS as a component with a view to mainstreaming the intervention strategies.
- Establish a network constituting participants of Loccum II from the HIV/AIDS Working Group.
- Identify and work with already existing structures – Department of Health and Department of Social Development, Non-Governmental Organisations with a view to meeting the needs of youth, elderly and volunteers.
- Facilitate the transfer and lessons learnt in supporting HIV infected and affected employees from the Big business sector to Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMME's).

### **Housing:**

- Promoting a holistic view and integrated approach to housing which also addresses other basic rights of people concerned.
- Advocate for the provision of housing to progressively realize economic social rights by building communities.
- Skills development and capacity building at various levels including assistance to emerging contractors to ensure quality of service and their sustainability.
- To undertake a study on working models trying to address the problem of informal settlements.

### **Tourism:**

- Establish a network that enables trainees on tourism in particular tour guides to meet once a year to exchange ideas and experiences.
- To support the establishment of a forum for Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMME's) in tourism to enable them to influence and make inroads into the tourism industry.
- Create a synergetic partnership between German and South African Tour Operators.
- Mobilizes support for the role played by Amathuba and continue canvassing additional support for this initiative.

### **Rural/ Local Government Development:**

- Five partners; German Development Service (DED), Protestant Development Service Germany (EED), DaimlerChrysler, Independent Development Trust (IDT) South Africa and National Development Agency (NDA) South Africa agreed to establish a forum to explore concrete options on capacity building for rural communities.
- The group agreed to meet outside this consultation to concretize proposals on the following areas; Land and Agriculture, Skills Development in rural areas, as well as identifying the gaps with reference to skills that exist in communities.

### **Vocational Training/ Capacity Building:**

- To mainstream the new South African learnership system which features elements of the dual system of vocational training as practiced in Germany for implementation to address the acute unemployment amongst the youth.
- Urge multiplication of the CATS Vocational Training model of South African German Companies.
- Concentrate on Capacity Building for Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMME's).

### **Follow-up Process and Structure**

1. The Participants agreed to organize **Platforms of Dialogue and Exchange** every two years alternating between Germany and South Africa. This Platform should serve as a forum for the participants to exchange ideas and experiences informed by the projects, from project related networks amongst themselves, evaluate ongoing projects, and foster a forum of cooperation.
2. A group of up to twelve persons will constitute an **Advisory Committee**, to keep the process going, assist the networking amongst the partners, conceptualize the biennial platforms and evaluate them. The group should represent governments or government related services/agencies, business, and NGO's including the Churches and Trade Unions. The Advisory Group will meet annually between the platforms and participate in the Platforms themselves.
3. It is proposed that the Protestant Academy at Loccum and a nominated institution by the South African participants be tasked with the responsibility to offer **Secretariat support** to the Advisory committee as well as organizing the Platforms.
4. To facilitate this process a **Budget** to cover the costs for the Secretariat, meetings of the Advisory Committee as well as Biennial Platforms will be prepared by the Advisory Committee. Initially, a two year Budget of **Euro 75.000** must be raised to ensure success in the follow-up process.

### **Conclusion and Acknowledgements**

The Participants agree to meet in **2004 in Loccum**, Germany at a Platform for Dialogue and Exchange to reassess the Partnership, reflect on new challenges and opportunities for investment, review ongoing projects, and identify possible areas for new cooperation.

The Participants extend their gratitude to the convenors of the Loccum Process, **Ambassador Professor Sibusiso Bengu** and **Bishop Christian Krause**, as well as the Presidents of the two countries for lending their support to the process. The Participants also express their gratitude to the **Protestant Development Service (EED)** for enabling the consultation to take place through a generous grant.