Workshop on a participatory process for transforming policy into law, May 24-28, 1993

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OUTLINE OF PROPOSED REPORT RE WORKSHOP
ON TRANFORMING POLICY INTO LAW
May 24-28, 1993

I. Introduction: A theory and methodology for a democratic, participatory process of transforming policy into draft legislation

II. Key problem: The poverty and oppression confronting the rural poor in South Africa, including:

those in rural peri-urban and rural unemployed and informal sector, farm workers and small African farmers, especially women in all these categories.

III. Three sets of legislative programs identified as essential for restructuring inherited apartheid system as it impacts on rural poor in the following areas:

A. Access to land, land reform and farm workers;
B. Access to skills, markets, inputs and credits;
C. Rural financial institutions as sources of credit for rural poor.

IV. Rough drafts and accompanying outlines of memoranda of law for two priority bills as the basis for further participatory research:

A. Proposed legislation for protection of farm workers and their families;
B. Proposed Extension Agency to Empower rural poor to obtain productive employment and improved living standards.

V. Follow-up proposals:

A. Establishment of coordinating network, including nomination of a steering committee, with a Johannesburg member to work with the Land and Agricultural Policy Centre;
B. Plans for six months of research to fill in gaps in memoranda of law and provide details for draft bills;
C. Workshop, January, 1994, to include foreign consultants on priority legislative program areas as decided upon by steering committee in next month or so;
D. Nomination of individuals to take 4 month programme to become teachers/facilitators of legislative drafting theory and methodology to transform democratic movement policies in priority areas into legislation.