

## THE PEACE ACCORD

We pledge ourselves with integrity of purpose to make this land a prosperous one where we can all live, work and play together in peace and harmony

This pledge by the signatories to the National Peace Accord stands in contrast to a history of conflict in South Africa. For generations, the harsh social and political contexts of our diverse society have sparked conflicts — between armies, tribes and races, between classes, even between generations.

From the time of Van Riebeeck's conquest, the overarching theme of our politics has been the dispute between groups for power, land and influence. Violence and death have been constant companions.

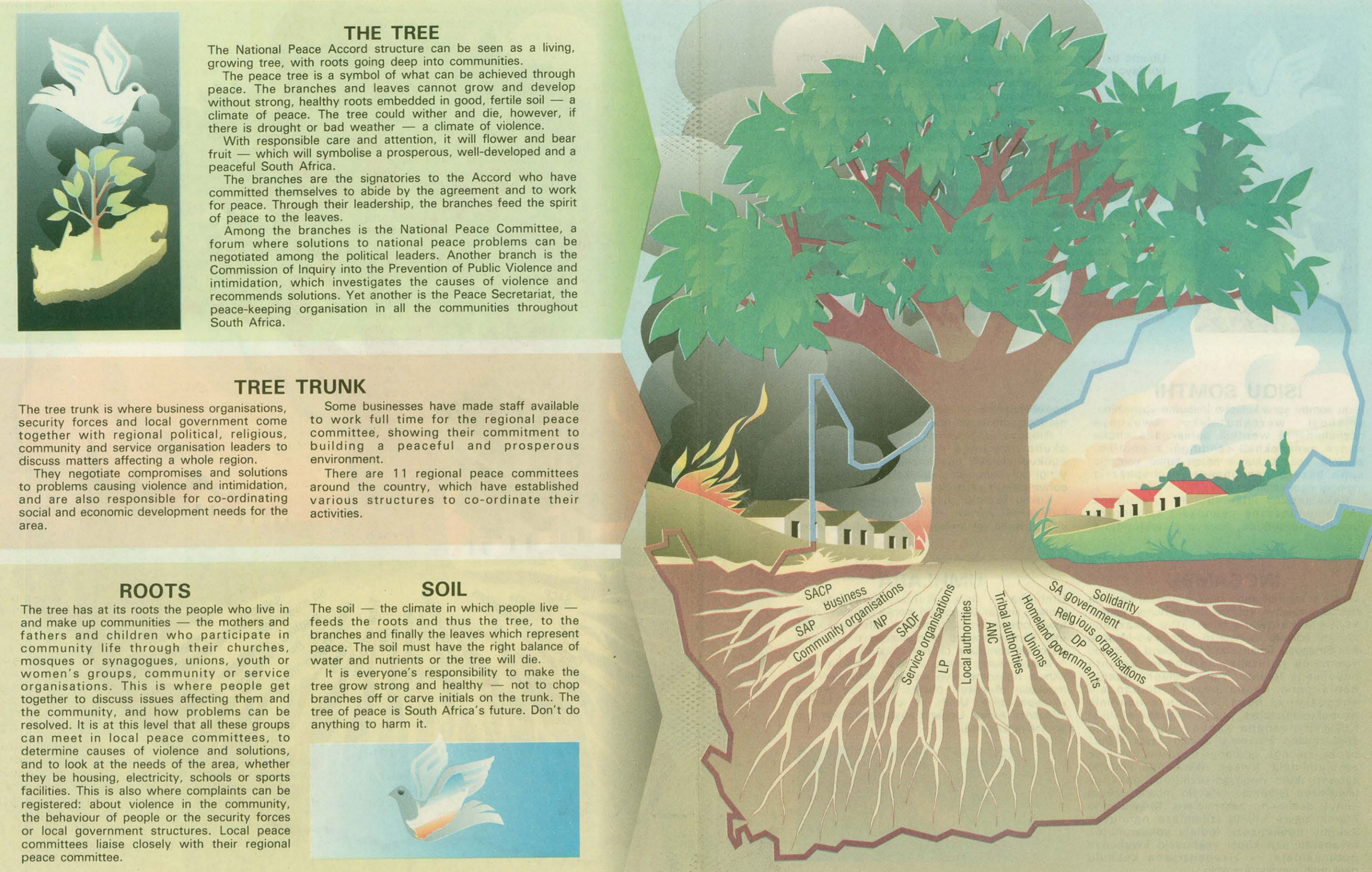
Now, in the 1990s, as South Africans get down to the historic task of forging a democracy, achieving peace remains the greatest challenge, and the threat of violence appears greater than ever.

Without peace, fear is rampant. And the politics of fear is tyranny. Democracy will never take root, and never survive, without peace.

The National Peace Accord provides the basis for national peace and harmony, for the resolution of anger and bitterness and for ridding communities of fear. This makes it a critically important document. A negotiated settlement of our national dispute is simply not possible unless South Africans feel free to express their politics fearlessly.

But making peace is not just for the politicians... it is as much, if not more so, a task for the people. It is up to all of us to make sure we really do have peace in our time. And the National Peace Accord is the very instrument to help us achieve it.

# The Peace Tree



### THE TREE

The National Peace Accord structure can be seen as a living, growing tree, with roots going deep into communities. The peace tree is a symbol of what can be achieved through peace. The branches and leaves cannot grow and develop without strong, healthy roots embedded in good, fertile soil — a climate of peace. The tree could wither and die, however, if there is drought or bad weather — a climate of violence. With responsible care and attention, it will flower and bear fruit — which will symbolise a prosperous, well-developed and a peaceful South Africa.

The branches are the signatories to the Accord who have committed themselves to abide by the agreement and to work for peace. Through their leadership, the branches feed the spirit of peace to the leaves.

Among the branches is the National Peace Committee, a forum where solutions to national peace problems can be negotiated among the political leaders. Another branch is the Commission of Inquiry into the Prevention of Public Violence and Intimidation, which investigates the causes of violence and recommends solutions. Yet another is the Peace Secretariat, the peace-keeping organisation in all the communities throughout South Africa.

### TREE TRUNK

The tree trunk is where business organisations, security forces and local government come together with regional political, religious, community and service organisation leaders to discuss matters affecting a whole region.

They negotiate compromises and solutions to problems causing violence and intimidation, and are also responsible for co-ordinating social and economic development needs for the area.

### TREE TRUNK

Some businesses have made staff available to work full time for the regional peace committee, showing their commitment to building a peaceful and prosperous environment.

There are 11 regional peace committees around the country, which have established various structures to co-ordinate their activities.

### ROOTS

The tree has at its roots the people who live in and make up communities — the mothers and fathers and children who participate in community life through their churches, mosques or synagogues, unions, youth or women's groups, community or service organisations. This is where people get together to discuss issues affecting them and the community, and how problems can be resolved. It is at this level that all these groups can meet in local peace committees, to determine causes of violence and solutions, and to look at the needs of the area, whether they be housing, electricity, schools or sports facilities. This is also where complaints can be registered: about violence in the community, the behaviour of people or the security forces or local government structures. Local peace committees liaise closely with their regional peace committee.

### SOIL

The soil — the climate in which people live — feeds the roots and the tree. The soil must have the right balance of water and nutrients or the tree will die. It is everyone's responsibility to make the tree grow strong and healthy — not to chop branches off or carve initials on the trunk. The tree of peace is South Africa's future. Don't do anything to harm it.

## Peace and you



THE Peace Accord gives people powerful rights and protection, as long as they behave in a peaceful and responsible way.

- Everyone has the right to:**
- Their own beliefs and religion, and to express their opinions;
  - Freedom of association;
  - Peaceful assembly;
  - Peaceful political activities;
  - Freedom of movement;
  - Elect the leaders of the government and hold them accountable for their behaviour;
  - Be informed;
  - Take part in the affairs of civil society;
  - Protect themselves and their property;
- This means that you may take part in peaceful marches and protests, go to any political meeting and listen to all points of view, to discuss issues with friends, family or neighbours and to tell people what you think and believe. You can join an organisation and take part in the affairs of your neighbourhood or region.

- Everyone should be a responsible citizen:**
- Don't tolerate war talk or violent behaviour from friends, family or neighbours;
  - Don't be influenced by people who try to encourage violent behaviour;
  - Be tolerant of other people's points of view and political beliefs;
  - Report any incidents of violence, intimidation or harassment that you witness, or give evidence at the commission of inquiry. Your identity can be protected if necessary;
  - Become active in your community — join an organisation or participate in church activities which will link you to Peace Accord structures;
  - Write down complaints you may have and pass them on to your local peace committee through your organisation;
  - If there is no local peace committee in your area, write to the regional peace committee and ask for their help in getting people together.
- You also have the right to refuse to take part in any activity if you don't want to.
- You do NOT have to:**
- Join a political party or organisation, or resign from one;
  - Take part in boycotts or protest action;
  - Give money to any organisation or political party.

To make sure that everyone is free to exercise these rights without fear of violence or intimidation:

### You may NOT:

- Kill, injure, intimidate, threaten or be violent towards another person because of what he or she believes;
- Carry any dangerous weapons when you go to meetings or protests;
- Carry unlicensed guns;
- Form private armies;

It is important that the police be allowed to do their work in trying to stop violence.

**The police are allowed to:**

- Investigate violence and crimes in communities;
- Arrest people who have been violent towards others or caused damage;
- Disarm people carrying dangerous weapons at meetings, marches and protests;
- Try to prevent violence.

### The police must:

- Serve and protect everyone and not take sides;
- Be prompt and efficient;
- Help the courts to carry out their duties;
- Behave in such a way that people can trust and respect them;
- Use as little force as possible;
- Talk to community leaders and local peace committees.

People also have a responsibility to help the police in doing their work, not to encourage violence towards the police and to report any complaints against the police to police reporting officers attached to regional peace committees.

### Justices of the Peace

Every area will have Justices of the Peace who are well-known, liked and respected members of the community. The Justices of the Peace will investigate complaints about public violence and intimidation, try to solve problems between people which may cause violence and work closely with local and regional peace committees. Find out if there is a Justice of the Peace in your area, and try to help him in his duties. If you know of someone who would be a good Justice of the Peace, write to the regional peace committee and tell them.



## A CONDENSED GUIDE TO THE NATIONAL PEACE ACCORD

THE National Peace Accord, signed in Johannesburg on September 14 1991, is an unprecedented social contract, demanding a peaceful purpose from every single person in the land, backed up by structures to make it work.

It is the result of hundreds of hours of negotiation between all the parties and its core provisions are to bring about an end to violence, power-sharing in a multi-party democracy and social and economic reconstruction, with all signatories monitoring each other. This is a condensed summary of the accord.

### THE PRINCIPLES

THE Peace Accord has two basic aims: to create peace in South Africa and help in the development of its people and the reconstruction of society.

It accepts the principles of freedom of conscience and belief, freedom of speech and expression, freedom of association, freedom of movement, peaceful assembly and peaceful political activity.

It makes provision for social and economic development and reconstruction, in which the community decides what its needs are.

All the leaders who signed the agreement are committed to a multi-party democracy for South Africa, where all the people have the right to vote for their leaders and to hold them responsible for what they do.

People have the right to learn about all different points of view and all political parties. To achieve this, newspapers, radio and television must be free to report and discuss what is going on in the country.

### CODES OF CONDUCT

HOW people behave — from individuals in communities to the leaders of the country, political leaders and the security forces — is an important factor in making sure that life is peaceful.

The Peace Accord has codes of conduct for political organisations, security forces and the police in particular.

It sets out that political parties and organisations, and their officials, are not permitted to kill, injure, apply violence to, intimidate or threaten any person. It also requires that political parties and organisations give their full assistance to the police in the investigation of violence and help the police arrest offenders.

### SECURITY FORCES

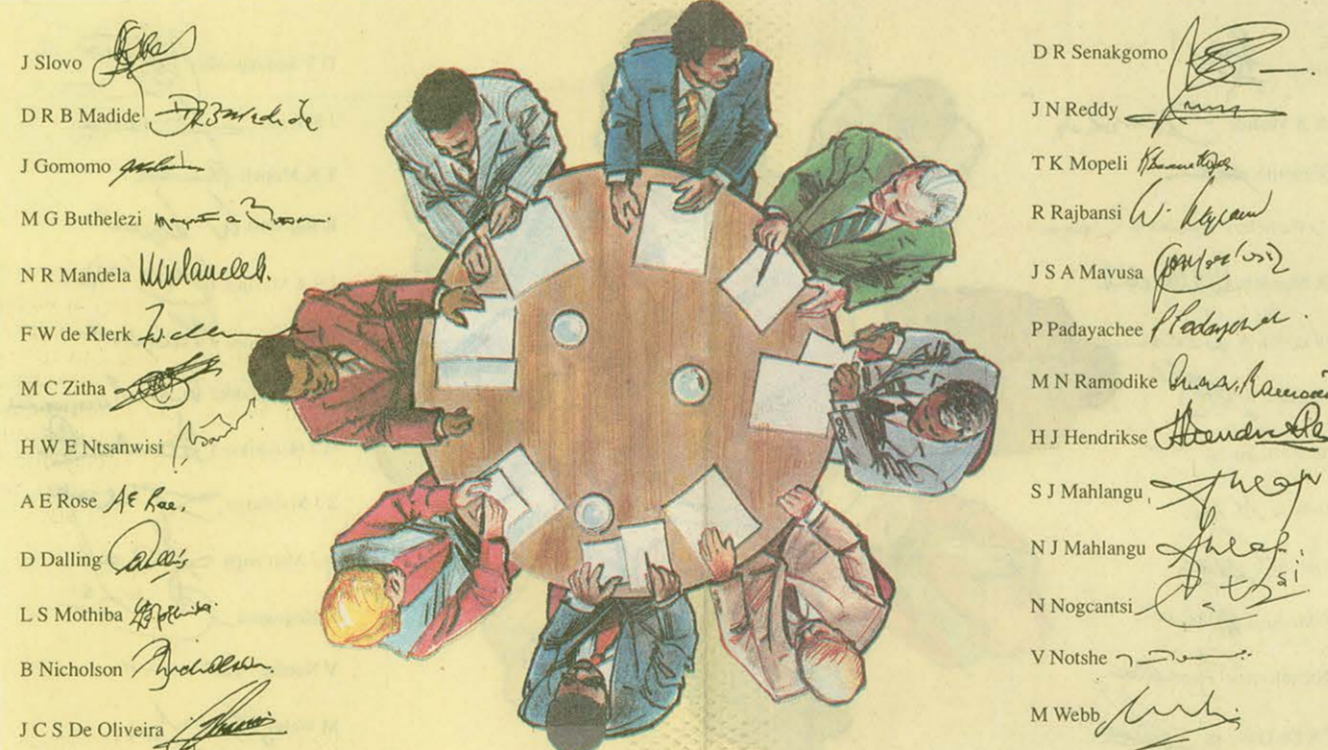
THE security forces have a big role to play in making and keeping peace. Many communities are suspicious and distrustful of them because of the role they have played in the past and this has to be changed.

For this to happen, people also need to change their attitude towards the security forces, to put aside antagonism and distrust.

The security forces must protect all people from criminal acts and must not take sides. They must try to prevent crimes and try to arrest people who are suspected of committing crimes.

The security forces are accountable to all of society and people must be able to trust and respect them. They must work together with communities to combat violence, not against them. Where force is necessary, they must use as little force as possible.

## The Peace Accord Text



### POLICE

FOR the police, there are more detailed requirements, including special rules for investigating political crimes and regular consultation with local peace committees and community leaders.

They must serve the community, by protecting the people of South Africa from all criminal acts and acts of political violence, and they must do this without bias against any political belief. And the police must talk to local leaders about ways to work together to stop the violence.

Police should try to disarm people carrying illegal weapons. They must always wear name tags and numbers and all police vehicles must have numbers painted on the sides.

A special unit has been established to investigate political violence and complaints against the police. There will be police reporting officers in each region where people can lay complaints about police conduct.

Police can also complain if they feel they have been unfairly treated by an organisation.

A Police Board, representing the public and the police, has been established to make recommendations on training and the work of the police, to try to make the relationship between communities and police work better.

### POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS

TO make peace work, influential leaders also have to behave in a responsible way. They cannot talk peace while making war. The Peace Accord has a code of conduct for political parties and organisations which commits them to peaceful behaviour.

All political parties and organisations must condemn violence publicly and encourage an understanding of

### COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

IT is important that incidents of violence or intimidation are investigated and brought to an end. The National Peace Accord allows for this in the Commission of Inquiry into the Prevention of Violence and Intimidation, where people can give evidence about what has happened to them or things they have seen.

The commission, chaired by Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, must find out the causes of the violence and tell the government what must be done to stop it. Anyone can give evidence without his or her name being made known.

### SPECIAL PROCEDURES

THE Peace Accord also allows for special procedures to deal quickly with people causing violence, and for Justices of the Peace to be appointed to act as peacemakers in their communities. The people appointed to these positions must be trusted, respected and well-liked.

**COMMUNITY RECONSTRUCTION**  
FAMILIES who have lost their homes in the violence must be given food and shelter and buildings which have been damaged must be repaired.

Resources must also be made available to develop facilities in areas without enough housing, electricity, water, schools or transport.

Money must be invested in training and job-creation projects.

Everyone must be involved in deciding what the community needs and these demands will be taken up by sub-committees of regional peace committees.

### THE SIGNATORIES

- African National Congress ..... Nelson Mandela
- Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers of South Africa ..... J C S De Oliveira
- Confederation of Metal and Building Unions ..... B Nicholson
- Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa ..... LS Motlaba
- Congress of South African Trade Unions ..... John Gomomo
- Democratic Party ..... Dave Dlamini
- Dikwankwela Party/Owaqwa Government ..... TK Mopeli
- Federation of Independent Trade Unions ..... A E Rose
- stayaway
- Ximoko Progressive Party/Gazankulu Government ..... H W E Ntsanwisi
- Inkatha Freedom Party ..... M G Buthelezi
- Intando Yesizwe Party ..... N J Mahlangu
- Inyandza National Movement/Kangwane Government ..... M C Zitha
- Kwandabale Government ..... S J Mahlangu
- Kwazulu Government ..... D R B Madidze
- Labour Party of South Africa ..... H J Hendrikse
- Lobowa Government ..... M N Ramodike
- United People's Front ..... M N Ramodike
- Merit People's Party ..... P Padayachee
- National Forum ..... SA Mavusa

National Party/Government of South Africa ..... President F W de Klerk

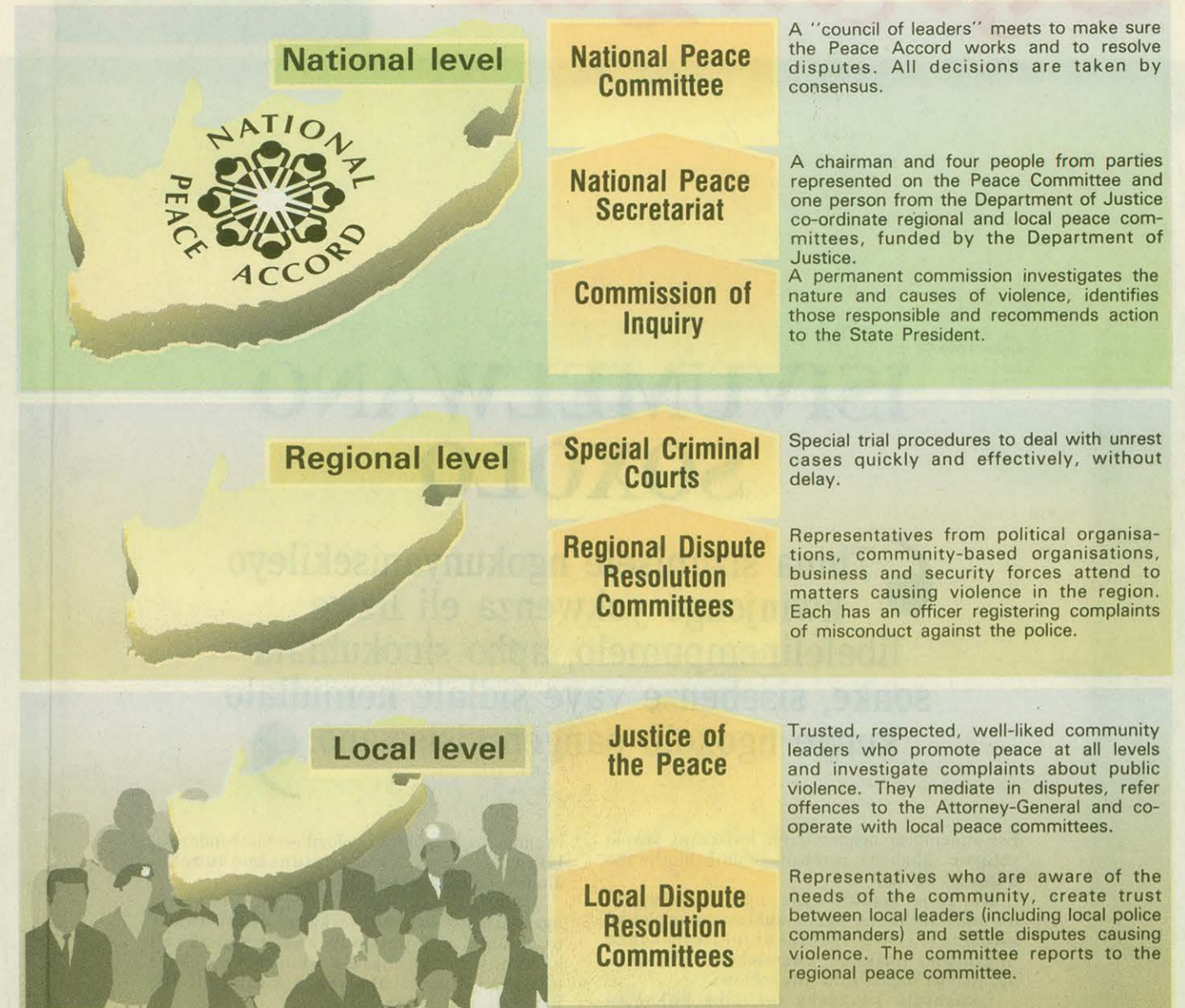
National People's Party of South Africa ..... A Rajabani

Solidarity Party ..... J N Ruddy

South African Communist Party ..... Joe Slovo

United Workers' Union of South Africa ..... Dr Senakgomo

## Structures and how they work



### Who to contact in your regional peace committee

1	W Cape: ☎ 021-658 2291 Retief Olivier
2	N Cape: ☎ 0531-21 378 Dr Pieter Barnard
3	E Cape: ☎ 041-559 141 K P van Wyk
4	Border/Ciskei: ☎ 0431-439 912 André Sauerman
5	OFS: ☎ 051-484 504/5 Saret van Reenen
6	Natal/Kwazulu: ☎ 031-327 652 Garry Cullen
7	E Transvaal: ☎ 0135-3154 J Engelbrecht
8	W Transvaal: ☎ 018-83 149 Ben van As
9	Wits/Vaal: ☎ 011-726 7104 Mona Tip
10	N Transvaal: ☎ 012-342 2780 Bruce Wilkens
11	Far N Transvaal: ☎ 01521-914 689 Piet Grov

## Teaching teachers.



Lucky Molobye conducts a teacher training course.

### Upgrading teaching skills is a BP commitment to higher standards of education.

For many years BP has put support behind teacher upgrade programmes — such as the BP Breakthrough Teacher Education Unit — to help teachers, and pupils, achieve their full potential. In all an estimated million black children have already benefited from such programmes. BP Southern Africa, striving to enhance the quality of life for all our tomorrows.



We like to keep you moving.