

PRESENTATION TO THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE.

Those who are in charge of sport in this country are not interested in the development of sport among the youth but in their egos. South African sport lacks a master plan, whose function would be to show the way regarding the growth of the sport and how this growth should take place, what measures would have to be taken for the growth and how the growth should be managed. Managed in terms of how should the resources be applied. One would believe that this amendment Act is responding to some of these concerns.

South African sport across the board still puts too much emphasis on the role of the administrators and not on the role of the individual sportpersons and what is expected of them. Sometimes government needs to act ruthlessly in dealing with administrators in the same way governments in other parts of Africa deal with their administrators. In other words government should request an explanation on why a representative team did not qualify for a world events, or performed unsatisfactorily at a International event. It has happened too often in this country that certain sporting codes do not qualify for major world events or do not perform satisfactorily at major world events but no questions are asked by government and the public at large.

During the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens the South African Volleyball team did not qualify, yet Volleyball receives funding for development from the government and at the same the executive members of Volleyball South Africa where at the Olympic Games in Athens. On their return they were not asked to provide the Department of Sport doling out the money for development, the reason for not qualifying. The South African Under 23 football team did not qualify for the Olympic Games and yet no one requested the South African Football Association for an explanation and how they are going to make sure that this team qualifies in future. Recently South Africa did not qualify for the FIFA World Cup in Germany and this has been accepted as just another phenomenon, that some countries that hosted the World Cup did not qualify for the World Cup in the four years preceding them hosting the World and this is rubbish. The South African Athletic team did not bring a single medal from the Track and Field World Championships and yet nobody has requested them to account for this less than convincing performance. Whose role it is to develop the sports master plan? What is the role of the Ministry of Sport and the Department in this mess we find ourselves?

We seriously need to revisit our strategies for the growth and development and government needs to be involved. Whatever the workshop will produce we need a strategy that will be all encompassing and stem the tide of under performance. I took a look at the Bill and made the following observations:

The National amendment Act No. 110 of 1998.

- 1(d) the change of definition in 'National Federation' does not say what the earlier definition was.
- (i) SASCOC cannot by any stretch of imagination, be a non-governmental organization when it falls within the ambit of the Ministry of Sport and the Department of Sport and Recreation. And are funded by Government.
- (e) Schools Sport in my view cannot be treated in the same vein as the Commonwealth and Olympic bodies or a federation. School sport cannot be left to its own devices. It should fall directly under SASCOC for purposes of uniformity in terms of the countries Sports Master Plan. In other words Ussassa should scrapped and be replaced with a sub-committee at SASCOC.

Section 2

- 2 (b) the section is treating the function of SASCOC lightly. They cannot be said to be developing guidelines for the promotion and development of high performance sport, but should be entrusted with the development of 'Sports Master Plan' with deliverables and milestones.
- © this part of the Bill is vague.
- (d) this section might also be deemed vague.

Section 3

Services level Agreements are a good thing but it is not SASCOC that should be implementing but the federations.

Section 4

- 1 (a) it is confusing that the Minister should from time to time determine the general policy with regard to sport and recreation. This is rather strange as these needs to be a National Policy Framework. This might open the policy up to different interpretations.
- (b) One is not sure why SASCOC should play a role in determining the building of sports facilities. The need for facilities is normally determined by the Federations and then become the function of the local government and the people who are organizing sport in that locality, SASCOC could play a role in determining the standards.

Section 6.

- (c) 2 National Federations should take full responsibility for the safety issues in their sport. SASCOC should then play a guiding role.

Section 7.

This function is already performed by the Hospitality and Sport SETA. Does this mean that SASCOC will take over this function from the Federation especially technical officials and the education of officials. Who can be better suited in training these officials than the federations. The area that would really need assistance would be the education of officials in soliciting sponsorship and marketing. This will also have to be contained in strategic document as part of their strategic intent.

Section 9

It is strange that this function should be relegated to SASCOC when it is supposedly holding a series of Minmacs throughout the year with his provincial colleagues. Probably should SASCOC develop a Master Plan then these aspects can be part of that plan, provincial departments and Sport and Recreation South Africa should be part of the development team on the plan. Each of these entities will then have no choice but to work according to the master plan.

Section 10.

SASCOC should develop a funding policy which should make up part of the regulations. Or should adopt the principles of the PFMA.

Section 11.

A National Colours Board should be a separate body or a sub-committee of SASCOC. A separate body would give credibility to the national colours. The body should also monitor the proper application of national colours and not what we have come to see where the green used in cricket is different from the green used in soccer and Rugby and vice versa. A set of guidelines on the application and use of the national colours should be developed and no deviation should be entertained.

Section 13.

SASCOC cannot be expected to deal with disputes as there could be a conflict of interest as many members of the Board of SASCOC have serious attachments to various federations. This function should also be left to an independent entity, with no links to SASCOC.

Conclusion.

In conclusion one thought that there should an unambiguous definition of Transformation come out of this Bill. We have seen over the last twelve years that this aspect of our democracy in sport has been misinterpreted sometimes purposely by people who resist transformation for their own ends. We also have not been able to communicate what we mean by transformation. Many still believe that transformation is euphemism for black faces in National teams, which definitely is not necessarily the case, our sports administrators and probably all of us, have been largely been sleep walking through naked racism in sport in this country and very little has taken place in transformation. Transformation should be such that, people in an organization should see and accept the need for transformation and assist the process. If we do not address this aspect of our

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