Gauteng workshops on legislative drafting

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Message:

I am the Leader of the House in the Gauteng Legislature and require your assistance on a matter which I believe Heinz, who is a close friend and comrade, has discussed with you.

The problem briefly is this: I have the impression that there are insufficient linkages between the policy making, budgetary and legislative drafting processes in our provincial Cabinet. There is also simply a lack of capacity to make decisions about when legislation is an appropriate instrument of policy, and having made such a decision, to draft the legislation required. As a result we are unable to effectively translate party policy into legislative programmes. At present most legislative drafting is "outsourced" to private consultants. For a number of reasons I regard this practice as undesirable.

I would appreciate any assistance that you may be able to provide to help us to address these deficiencies. This could involve workshops in South Africa with senior government officials as well as short periods of study in the US. We can deal with the details of such assistance once your have indicated whether or not you will have the time. I have in mind setting in place a process to address the problems I have identified commencing mid-February 1997. I would, therefore, like to have the details finalized before then.

Looking forward to hearing from you.