Gauteng workshops on legislative drafting

Seidman, Robert

http://hdl.handle.net/2144/19013

Boston University
Dear Professors:

Greetings from Johannesburg. My name is Jennifer Pelzman and I am a program officer with the National Democratic Institute (NDI). In a meeting last night with Firoz Cachalia, we finalized our commitment to bring you to South Africa to present a course for legislative drafting for relevant members of the Gauteng provincial government.

NDI's Southern Africa Regional Director Patricia Keefer and I would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about this program, as I believe there are several aspects of the course which we must work through based upon the existing situation in the legislature and your schedules. Is there anyway we could arrange a phone call with you in the next couple of days? I realize you must be busy with your program there but I predict we have a lot of work to do in preparation for your visit here, and the sooner we could speak the sooner we can insure that everything will be ready for your arrival.

From the telephone book here, I understand that you are presently 4 hours ahead of South Africa time. Patricia and I could be available over the weekend, or after Tuesday next week. If at all possible, could you fax us a time frame and a telephone number where we could contact you? We will both be at NDI Cape Town's office tomorrow, the fax number there is 27 21 461-7304.

We look forward to speaking with you, and working with you in the near future.
DATE: 

TO: Ralph leader

FAX NUMBER: 37400

FROM: Bob Sedlmaier

COVER PAGE PLUS: 1

This just-arrived while we were gone. We hope to

firm it up when we're there.
December 3, 1996

Mr. Firoz Cachalia  
Gauteng Legislature  
Office of the Leader of the House  
Private Bag X52  
Johannesburg 2000  
South Africa  
FAX 011-27-11-498-5999

Dear Mr. Cachalia:

On November 6, we FAXed you some ideas about developing a program to improve the Gauteng Legislature's capacity to translate policy into legislation. We also mailed some background materials which we hope, by now, you have received. The ideas we sent remained very tentative, obviously subject to your revision in light of circumstances there.

We are trying to arrange our schedule for the coming term. If, as your earlier FAX indicated, you still have any interest in our conducting a workshop at the end of February or early March, we would much appreciate it if you would let us know so that we can include it in our plans.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Very sincerely,

Ann Seidman and Robert B. Seidman,  
Co-Directors, Program on Legislative Drafting for Democratic Social Change
15 April 1997

PROFS. ANN & BOB SEIDMAN
Boston University
School of Law
Massachusetts.
Fax: 091 617 353 3077

Dear Ann and Bob

Thank you for your letter of April 14. I am very sorry that we only had a few minutes together. There was also a slight misunderstanding as I had expected you at about 17h30. However, it was good to have been able to meet with you. I have read the documentation which you gave me. I am definitely interested in a legislative drafting programme. However, we need to shape it according to our requirements.

I would be quite happy with your pursuing discussions with UNDP with a view to organising a programme in South Africa. I shall consider your letter a little bit more carefully and then give you an idea of the kind of programme which would suit our situation.

I shall write to you again shortly. I have already discussed the matter with Medard. I think that the September to December period may be a good time for the participation by four of our personnel in the September to December programme. That also will be finalised.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

DR A M OMAR MP
MINISTER OF JUSTICE
May 5, 1997

Hon. Dullah Omar
Minister of Justice
Department of Justice
Cape Town
South Africa
FAX: 27-31-461-6560

Dear Dullah:

Thank you for your FAX of 15 April. Sorry we did not respond sooner, but we have just returned from Lao PDR, where we have been working on a UNDP legislative drafting project with the Ministry of Justice. Incidentally, one thing we learned in Lao PDR is that—despite language problems (it proved difficult for them to read in English)—the four who participated in last fall’s BU programme here conducted an excellent workshop for MOJ drafters and line-ministry personnel on priority bills dealing with agriculture, industrial promotion, and local government. We really think they have made significant progress in beginning to institutionalize an effective drafting program.

We are delighted to hear that September to December may be a good time for the participation by four of your personnel in the BU legislative drafting program. Based on the Lao experience, we are even more persuaded that they should be able to learn enough to play a similarly useful role in institutionalizing a drafting programme for producing transformational legislation. Incidentally, since one can best learn to draft by working on real bills, it would be helpful if the Ministry could assign them to work on specific areas of social problems for which bills are needed. If possible, it would help if we knew what those areas are so we could find experts to supervise their readings in the relevant materials.

We are also pleased that you might be interested in developing a UNDP programme.

It looks like we will be coming to South Africa in July to conduct a legislative drafting workshop for dautang drafters working with Firoz Cachalia. If you have time then, perhaps we could discuss some details relating to both programmes then. We will let you know as soon as we have more details as to our own schedule in July.

We do look forward to seeing you again.

With warmest regards to you and to your wife,

[Signature]

CONFIRMATION REPORT

05-05-97 11:00A ID: 617 353 3077 NAME: BU SCHOOL OF LAW

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