

PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIONS REPORT BACKS

The Crisis Coalition prepared the Yellow Paper and had circulated it to the Provinces for discussion and feedback before the Conference⁵. Representatives from Mutare and Bulawayo were requested to report back to the Conference on their discussions and Consultations.

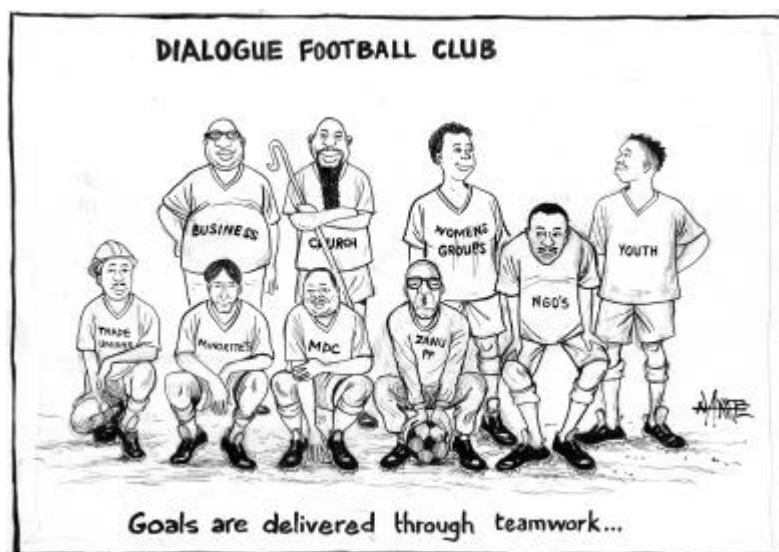
These report backs indicated that there was similarity in the provinces' consultations, with both reports indicating:

- ◆ There was agreement about the contents of the yellow paper.
- ◆ Dialogue and “talks” would prove an essential part of seeing Zimbabwe out of its current crisis.
- ◆ Civil society, including the church, should ensure that its concerns are also addressed in any negotiations.

The consultations in Mutare also debated the role of the church specifically in achieving the position identified in the “yellow paper.” They agreed that Senior Church Leaders should play a mediatory role, and Middle and Junior church Management would play an advocacy role lobbying these positions.

In Bulawayo, the meeting also stated that the only preconditions for dialogue should be surrounding the creation of a climate conducive for talks e.g. the release of political prisoners and the end to the state sanctioned organized violence and the repeal of POSA and AIPPA. That meeting also agreed that any talks should address humanitarian and social justice issues, not only political concerns.

The Bulawayo meeting further agreed that the composition of the Transitional Authority should be inclusive with representatives from all sectors of society.



5 See Appendix 3 for example, report from the Bulawayo consultation.