



## Outcome Report: Visit by the Cyprus Chief Negotiators to South Africa 25-29 April 2014

### Programme Background

Since 2011 UNDP-ACT has been supporting low-profile dialogues between senior civic and business leaders and political party representatives from the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. Working with British-based NGO, [ENGI](#), UNDP-ACT supported the sharing of negotiation experiences from other conflicts such as South Africa and Northern Ireland. The record of this process includes sharing experiences from the Northern Irish peace process with Cypriot politicians in Nicosia in October 2011; a special session at the British House of Commons hosted by the [UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Conflict Issues](#), which was led by Cypriot civil society leaders in May 2012; a high level workshop involving 60 senior Cypriot civic and political leaders in [Malta in September 2013](#); the start of a multi-party dialogue process in April 2014, and a visit of the chief Cypriot negotiators to South Africa in April 2014. Collectively these exercises have created a momentum for the engagement of political and civic leaders within each community and across communities to discuss issues on how to improve the quality of the peace process by supporting multiple broad-based and inclusive dialogues.

### Purpose of the South Africa Visit

The decision to support a visit by the Greek Cypriot chief negotiator, **Mr Andreas Mavroyiannis** and the Turkish Cypriot chief negotiator, **Mr Kudret Ozersay** to South Africa emerged from discussions between UNDP-ACT and Mr. Roelf Meyer, who was the Chief negotiator for the National Party representing the Government of South Africa in the 1990s. Mr. Meyer was the key resource person during the Malta workshop and played a supportive role in the formation of the civic dialogue process with the political parties. Following discussions with the US Ambassador in Cyprus, UNDP-ACT and Roelf Meyer's South African NGO, [In Transformation Initiative](#), designed a project to introduce high level Cypriot decision-makers to the South African negotiating experience. The visit was aimed to support experiential learning and provide space for the two negotiators to build trust and mutual understanding.

These objectives were articulated in the following manner:

- Expose the Cypriot negotiators to the South African peace-making experience and to introduce them to the key personalities which were responsible for the transition from Apartheid to a multi-racial democracy.
- Demonstrate the tools and tactics which helped to make the negotiating process in South Africa successful.
- Provide a practical introduction to the significance of other social and political actors in the overall peace-making endeavour, with particular emphasis on the utility of civic dialogues that support the negotiations.
- Inspire the negotiators to reach a mutual understanding of their common purpose.

### Main Outcomes

- The visit did build trust between the two negotiators and allowed them to learn from another negotiation process.



- New knowledge was gained by the delegation in the areas of deadlock breaking mechanisms, negotiation styles, sufficient consensus, inclusiveness, ownership and process development.
- The negotiators were exposed to the value of multi-party inclusive processes and the lessons from the South African experience demonstrated that a successful peace process needs to be multi-layered, in which pure negotiations form only one dimension of the overall project of making peace.
- A key lesson related to the need for frequent direct contact, rather than negotiating through the media or through a third party such as the United Nations.
- As the visit proceeded the Cypriot delegation understood the similarities between the Cyprus and South African negotiation experience, though the contexts of the respective conflicts are very different. ITI provided the Cypriot delegation with a key resource documenting *41 lessons from the South African Negotiations* (Restricted Access).
- In this respect the Cypriot delegation showed keen interest in the following topics of discussion:
  - Constitutional framework, especially regarding the separation between central and local powers, including the appropriate devolution of powers and competencies.
  - The design and management of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), with a special emphasis on the timing of the commission which was only started after the Interim Constitution.
  - The creation and management of new multi-ethnic apolitical state institutions.
  - Development of fiscal arrangements
  - Allocation of civil service functions and the development of civil service capacities in the new South African state.
- Both negotiators understood the value of leadership and the need to make difficult decisions for the sake of the country. During the meeting with former South African President, FW de Klerk, there was a discussion about how to move beyond the “give and take” of a negotiation to form a shared vision of the future.
- Throughout the visit the role of civil society and other non-political actors was emphasized and both negotiators took note of the different roles that CSOs can potentially play.
- A good relationship was forged between the negotiators (and their advisor) and UNDP-ACT staff, which will be useful in the future programme work.
- Finally the two negotiators issued a public joint statement on 29 April, affirming that the visit to South Africa was useful and that it had helped strengthen their mutual understanding.

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## AGENDA

Time	Activity	Topic/Details
<b>Friday 25 April, Johannesburg</b>		
12h30	Lunch with <b>Ebrahim Ebrahim</b> , Deputy Minister of International Relations and Co-operation	Official welcome to SA and message of support from SA and themes, the Mechanism and the Structures of the SA negotiations
14h00	Depart for the <b>Apartheid Museum</b>	<a href="http://www.apartheidmuseum.org">www.apartheidmuseum.org</a>
19h30	Dinner with <b>Andries Nel</b> , Deputy <a href="#">Minister of Local Government</a> in President Mbeki's cabinet. <b>Mohammed Bhabha</b> , ITI director.	Sharing the reform and integration of the South African Justice system as well as discussing the restructuring of Local Government in SA.
<b>Saturday 26 April, Limpopo</b>		
08h00	Breakfast with <b>Allister Sparks</b> , retired editor and writer	A explanation of the Peace-making Process in SA – from the Pre-talks in 1986 to the Constitution signing moment in 1996
10h00	Depart for the <b>Game Lodge</b> called Wildside Safari Lodge in Limpopo Province	
14h00	Discussion with <b>Roelf Meyer</b> , <b>Mohammed Bhabha</b> and <b>Ivor Jenkins</b> (Directors of ITI)	The principles of the SA negotiations process
16h00	Game Drive	
19h30	Dinner discussion with <b>Roelf Meyer</b> continues	The principles of the SA negotiations continues
<b>Sunday 27 April, Limpopo/Pretoria</b>		
06h00	Game Drive	
09h30	Breakfast	
10h30	Discussion with <b>Roelf Meyer</b> and <b>Ivor Jenkins</b>	The principles of the SA negotiations continues
19h00	Dinner with <b>Moe Shaik</b> , retired Head of National Intelligence	Role of Intelligence and integration of different previously opposing agencies during and after the negotiations process.
<b>Monday 28 April, Cape Town</b>		
13h00	Lunch with <b>FW de Klerk</b> , former president of South Africa	How the Party principals were kept in the loop during the negotiations process
15h30	Meeting with <b>Charles Vila Vicensio</b> , retired Executive Director of Institute for Justice and Reconciliation	The TRC and its role in SA society
19h30	Dinner with <b>Valli Moosa</b> , senior negotiator for the ANC	The final Constitution and its pronouncements on devolution of power
<b>Tuesday 29 April</b>		
08h00	Breakfast with <b>Peter Gastro</b> , MP for the opposition during the 1980's.	The Nation Peace Accord and the SSR that was required after 1994