

AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON AFRICA

Steering Committee

Minutes

August 4, 1965

Present: Peter Weiss (Chairman), Robert Browne, Nelson Bengston

Staff: George Houser, Collin Gonze, James Robinson

1. Brief Reports

- a) It was announced that Rev. Wendell Foster will join the staff as Associate Director on September 13th.
- b) The staff announced that a periodical bulletin being prepared primarily for circulation to all members of Congress had been issued under the title of "South Africa - For Your Information." It is hoped that this bulletin may go as frequently as once a month when Congress is in session.
- c) The Conference of Nationalist Organizations in Portuguese territories which had been scheduled for some time in July in Dar Es Salaam has been postponed. The date for the Conference has not yet been set.

2. Ads in Africa Today. There was a brief discussion of policy on types of ads and conditions for these ads in Africa Today. It was agreed that such ads either ought to relate to Africa, be paid for at our regular rates, or be accepted on a reciprocal basis.

3. The African Aid and Legal Defense Fund. George Houser reported on his discussion with Bill Scheinman about the possibility of Bill doing some work with the new Defense Fund. Any decision on this of course must be made by the Board of Trustees of the new Fund. The Steering Committee felt that this ought to be explored further with discussion of specific proposals on how this can be carried out.

4. Dr. Ian Gilchrist. It was reported that Dr. Gilchrist had returned to Canada from the Congo. There had been some most unfortunate developments that had forced him to leave. It was agreed that this should be reported on fully and discussed at the September meeting of the Executive Board.

5. ACCOA representation. The question was raised about ACCOA conferees for the Conference group of US Organizations on the United Nations, and persons who might represent ACCOA at the International Cooperation Year White House Conference in late November. It was suggested that the staff should check with various members of the Board to see who would be interested and who would be able to represent us at either of these organizations and special gatherings.

6. University for depository of ACCOA files. The Committee agreed that it would be a good idea for the ACCOA to have an arrangement with one university for depositing our filed material as we no longer need it. The staff was instructed to correspond with a number of universities who might wish to have our material in their files for historical purposes. Among the questions to which we would want to get answers are:

Will the material be kept confidential?

Would we have access to the material after it is in the University library?

Would the university have to obtain our permission if they wished to throw some of the material away?

Would the university agree to pay for the costs of transporting the material?