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PH-COMMONWEALTH-EDUCATION; 0348

By DENNIS PASSA

CANBERRA (CP) - THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT PROHIBITS ADVANCED EDUCATION FOR BLACKS AND THEN CITES THEIR LACK OF TRAINING TO SAY THEY COULD NOT MANAGE IN A POST-APARTHEID SOCIETY; SAID A STUDY RELEASED TODAY.

"IN SOUTH AFRICA; BLACKS HAVE BEEN DENIED THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THE SKILLS NECESSARY TO MANAGE THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INSTITUTIONS;" SAID THE REPORT PRESENTED BY TED SCOTT; THE ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO.

SCOTT; ALSO A DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH AFRICA EDUCATION TRUST FUND; PRESENTED THE REPORT TO THE COMMONWEALTH COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA ON THE FINAL DAY OF ITS THREE-DAY MEETING.

THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT A SKILLS FOR SOUTH AFRICA PROGRAM BE ENDORSED BY THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN OCTOBER IN KUALA LUMPUR; MALAYSIA.

SCOTT SAID AFTER HIS PRESENTATION THAT ADVANCED EDUCATION IS ONE OF THE WAYS BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS WILL FORCE PRETORIA INTO A MULTI-RACIAL SOCIETY.

FEW PROFESSIONALS

"AS AN EXAMPLE; THERE ARE ONLY 25 BLACK ACCOUNTANTS IN A COUNTRY OF 33 MILLION PEOPLE; 85 PER CENT OF WHOM ARE BLACK;" HE SAID. "AND THERE'S BEEN ONLY ONE BLACK PERSON GRADUATE THIS YEAR IN SOUTH AFRICA IN COMPUTER SCIENCE."

HE CALLED FOR MORE WORK EXPERIENCE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ADVANCED EDUCATION.

"THERE ARE TWO OR THREE PEOPLE IN SOME REFUGEE CAMPS WITH UNIVERSITY DEGREES; BUT THEY'VE NEVER BEEN GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK;" HE SAID.

THE REPORT SAID THERE IS A NEED TO SELECT AND TRAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE A POTENTIAL TO PLAY A SENIOR ROLE IN A POST-APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA; AND TO STRENGTHEN THE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF BLACK-LED ENTERPRISES.

BY LAW AND CUSTOM; APARTHEID ESTABLISHES A RACIALLY SEGREGATED SOCIETY IN WHICH SOUTH AFRICA'S BLACK MAJORITY HAS NO VOTE IN NATIONAL AFFAIRS; BUT ITS WHITE MINORITY CONTROLS THE ECONOMY AND MAINTAINS SEPARATE DISTRICTS; SCHOOLS AND HEALTH SERVICES.

THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF AUSTRALIA; CANADA; GUYANA; INDIA; NIGERIA; TANZANIA; ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE ARE MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH COMMITTEE THAT HAS BEEN MEETING IN CANBERRA SINCE MONDAY.

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