



**Conference in Solidarity
with Women of
South Africa and Namibia**

**November 16 and 17, 1984
OISE, 252 Bloor St. W.
Toronto**



Conference in Solidarity with Women of South Africa and Namibia

Ad Hoc Planning Committee

TEXT OF TELEGRAMS SENT ON BEHALF OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE "CONFERENCE IN SOLIDARITY WITH WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA."

On November 16 & 17 a Conference In Solidarity with Women of South Africa and Namibia was held in Toronto, Canada. Participants send greetings to ANC Women's Secretariat in this the YEAR OF WOMEN. We wish to express our solidarity with your continued struggle against the racist apartheid regime. We pledge to do our utmost in the coming period, and look forward to the day when we can all celebrate the creation of a free and just South Africa. Amandla!

On November 16 & 17 a Conference in Solidarity with Women of South Africa and Namibia was held in Toronto, Canada. The participants send greetings to the SWAPO Women's Council in this the ANC declared YEAR OF WOMEN. We wish to express our solidarity with your struggle against the apartheid regime which illegally occupies your country. We pledge to do our utmost in the coming period and look forward to the day when we can celebrate the creation of a free and independent Namibia. Amandla!

LETTER TO THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

Honourable Joe Clark
Minister of External Affairs

On November 16 and 17 a Conference in Solidarity with Women of South Africa and Namibia was held in Toronto, Ont. It assessed the special conditions faced by women in these two countries, particularly as a result of the abhorrent bantustan policies of the South African regime. Conference participants felt strongly that continued relations with South Africa - in the economic, political, cultural and sporting spheres - by certain Western nations, have allowed the apartheid regime to continue its repression inside South Africa and in neighbouring Front Line States.

On behalf of the Conference participants, we therefore call on the Canadian government to bring its policies in line with its expressed opposition to the apartheid system. Only the total isolation by the international community will exert effective pressure on the racist regime. It is in this area that Canada can take a leading role in guaranteeing change in the southern Africa region.

cc - Ambassador Steven Lewis at the United Nations
Ed Broadbent, Leader of the New Democratic Party
Pauline Jewitt, Member of Parliament for the New Democratic Party
John Turner, Leader of the Liberal Party



Conference in Solidarity with Women of South Africa and Namibia

Ad Hoc Planning Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CONFERENCE IN SOLIDARITY WITH WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA
AND NAMIBIA HELD IN Toronto, Ont. Nov. 16-17, 1984.

On Saturday afternoon, November 17, 1984 in Toronto, Ont. workshops were held on the following topics:

Education and Literacy; Women in the Workforce; Health and Childcare; the Political Role of Women in the Struggle.

The proposals and suggestions formulated in those workshops are summarized below. For more information on immediate needs contact the liberation movements. For more information on ongoing campaigns contact the solidarity groups.

Actions regarding South African Government Policy

1. Constant monitoring of and protests to the South African Government and Embassy in Canada (via letters and telegrams), condemning acts of aggression against students, trade unionists, leaders of the United Democratic Front etc.

Actions regarding Canadian Government Policy

1. Increase pressure on the Canadian government through letter writing campaigns, petitions, etc. to impose mandatory sanctions in all spheres against the South African regime.
2. Urge the Canadian government to officially recognize the African National Congress of South Africa and the South West Africa People's Organization of Namibia as the legitimate representatives of the South African and Namibian people.
3. Urge the Canadian government to provide funding for technical expertise needed in the educational and other institutions run by the ANC and SWAPO.

Actions regarding Boycott & Divestment Campaigns

1. Increase support for divestments campaigns, cultural boycotts and boycotts of South African products.
2. Local and provincial governments should be urged to impose some form of contract compliance - ie. - that tenders will not be given to companies with investments in South Africa and Namibia.

Actions regarding the raising of public awareness

1. Further educate the Canadian public on apartheid, the illegal occupation of Namibia, and Canadian complicity in supporting the South African regime. The struggle of Southern African women should be publicized in all available media, looking at why that struggle is important for Canadian women.

2. Get information out on a broader level - through organizations, trade union newspapers, radio programmes etc.

Actions regarding the collection of Material Aid

1. Increase aid for the ANC and SWAPO either in the form of money or direct material aid. The latter might include medical supplies, clothes and toys, paper supplies(pads, pencils, paints, crayons), baby cereals(whole grain) and diapers(disposable and cloth.)
2. Assist in the purchasing of office equipment such as photocopying machines.

Actions regarding Educational Institutions

1. Urge universities to withdraw funds from companies with investments in South Africa.
2. Urge educators not to visit South Africa as "consultants" / "teachers" to the government.
3. Oppose educational exchange and assistance programmes for students such as those sponsored by service clubs.
4. NGO's and agencies should urge universities and colleges to offer scholarships to students in consultation with the ANC and SWAPO.

Actions for Medical and Health Care Organizations

1. All Canadian medical and paramedical bodies should boycott and condemn their South African counterparts for legitimizing the establishment of two healthcare systems - one for the whites, an inferior system for blacks.
2. Boycott the South African Medical Association internationally, and recognize NAMDA - the National Medical and Dental Association - as the legitimate medical body in South Africa.
3. All Canadian medical and paramedical bodies should be discouraged from attending conferences in South Africa, or allowing South Africans to be present at any conferences outside South Africa. All such actions should be taken in consultation with the ANC and SWAPO.
4. Canadian medical and paramedical associations should be pressured to reverse their decision to allow South Africa to be reinstated in the World Medical Association.

Other Suggested Actions

1. A campaign should be initiated to change the names of Pretoria Bridge and Pretoria Avenue in Ottawa, to Mandela Bridge and Avenue.
2. That there be support for the renewal of a Free Mandela campaign in Canada.
3. That letters be sent to Upjohn Pharmaceuticals, protesting their dumping of banned & illegal drugs into southern Africa, particularly the contraceptive Depo-Provera.

Addresses of Groups represented on the Ad Hoc Planning Committee of the
Conference in Solidarity with Women of South Africa and Namibia.

International Women's Day Committee
c/o C. Wright
100 Bain Ave., #4 Elms
Toronto, Ont. M4K 1E8

Toronto Committee for the Liberation of Southern Africa (TCLSAC)
427 Bloor St. West,
Toronto M5S 1X7 phone 416-967-5562

SACTU Solidarity Committee
P.O. Box 490, Postal Station J
Toronto M4J 4Z2 phone 416-465-7386

Inter Church Coalition on Africa
129 St. Clair Ave., West
Toronto,

United Church of Canada - Div. of World Outreach
85 St. Clair Ave. East,
Toronto M4T 1M8 phone 416-925-5931

Canadians Concerned about Southern Africa -Toronto (CCSA)
P.O. Box 6468 Postal Stn. A
Toronto, Ont.

CCSA - Canada
P.O. Box 545, Adelaide St. Stn,
Toronto, Ont.

Committee for Racial Equality
P.O. Box 6468, Postal Station A
Toronto, Ont.

Congress of Canadian Women
924 King St. W.,
Toronto, Ont.

Silvia Platoon
924 King St. West
Toronto, Ont.

Young Communist League
24 Cecil Street
Toronto, Ont.

Liberation Movements

African National Congress
Box 302 Adelaide St. Station
Toronto M5C 2J4

SWAPO
801 - 2nd Ave., Suite 1401
New York, N.Y. 11017

SWAPO - Headquarters
Box 953
Luanda, Angola

ANC - Head office
PO. Box 31791
Lusaka, Zambia