

# From Apartheid to Democracy

## South Africa in Transition

A Conference to assess the process of change in South Africa and mobilise solidarity with the fight against apartheid.

“Negotiations on the dismantling of apartheid will have to address the overwhelming demand of our people for a democratic, non-racial and unitary South Africa.



**Saturday**  
**20 October 1990**  
**11am to 5.30 pm**

School of Oriental  
and African Studies,  
off Russell Square,  
London WC2

Tube: Euston,  
Euston Square,  
Goodge St, Russell Square



Organised by the  
Anti-Apartheid Movement

There must be an end to white monopoly of political power and a fundamental restructuring of our political and economic systems to ensure that the inequalities of apartheid are addressed and our society thoroughly democratised.”

Nelson Mandela, Cape Town,  
11 February 1990.

# From Apartheid to Democracy

## An Anti-Apartheid Movement Conference

In South Africa today, most apartheid laws are still in force. Life has changed little for the black majority. Yet a unique and complex process of change is underway - where is it leading? How far and how fast will it go?

What can we in Britain do to help end apartheid and contribute towards the birth of a free South Africa - united, non-racial and democratic?

The conference will explore three main themes:

### **1** *The goal of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa*

What does this mean for the ANC and Mass Democratic Movement? What sort of South Africa is the National Party under De Klerk aiming at?

*The Freedom Charter; the ANC's Constitutional Guidelines; the Harare (OAU) and UN Declarations. The goal of a non-racial South Africa and its meaning to the liberation movement. One person-one vote on a common roll?*

*The National Party and the white electorate; the role of the ultra-right and the security establishment. 'Group rights' and the protection of minorities.*

*What role for other forces? The Pan Africanist Congress; AZAPO, the Black Consciousness Movement; Inkatha and other Bantustan political organisations; the democratic Party; the role of the churches, the media and big business.*

### **2** *The path to a united, non-racial democracy*

Negotiations and their implications for other forms of struggle, including the armed struggle; what are the prospects for a Constituent Assembly or an interim government?

*The return of political exiles; rebuilding the ANC; the new role of the United Democratic Front; re-emergence of the SA Communist Party; what prospects for a broad 'patriotic front'? The current debate about nationalisation and its implications for a future democratic government.*

*Are there outstanding obstacles to negotiations? Who will take part in negotiations? Will the white electorate have a veto over any agreement reached on a new constitution?*

*What role for the international community during negotiations? What does 'fundamental and irreversible change' mean, and how long should sanctions stay in force?*

### **3** *Solidarity during the transition*

How can we popularise the goal of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa, and build support for the ANC in seeking to achieve it through negotiations. What is the role of sanctions, boycotts and other campaigns in undermining the pillars of apartheid and maintaining pressure on the regime?

*The continuing problem of repression - formal and informal (death squads, vigilantes, right-wing terrorism), and the conflict in Natal.*

*How can we sustain and strengthen: existing sanctions; the consumer boycott; campaigns against apartheid tourism, coal, gold etc? What role for the sports, cultural and academic boycotts?*

## Registration Form

Persons registering before 8th October 1990, will receive a pack containing background/briefing materials.

### Registration fee

Organisations: £10 per person

Individuals: £5 in advance (unwaged£3)

£6 on the day (unwaged £3.50)

I/We wish to attend the Conference

**Individuals** (please give details below for documentation)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

**Organisations** (please give details for documentation)

Name of Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Names and addresses of representatives

1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Disabled access is provided. please tick if details required

Creche will be available. Please tick for application form (It should be returned to AAM by 12 October)

Registration fee enclosed £ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation £ \_\_\_\_\_

Total (cheques payable to AAM please) £ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return asap to: Paul Brannen, Anti-Apartheid Movement,  
13 Mandela St, London NW1 ODW. Tel 071 387 7966

# Outline Programme

10.00 Registration and coffee

11.00 **Towards a United, Non-racial and Democratic South Africa.**  
Keynote address - invited speaker from South Africa.

11.45 Questions and discussion

## Workshops 1

12.00 Six workshops will discuss the goal of united, non-racial and democratic South Africa, and the path to its achievement. Each workshop will open with a brief introduction focussing on a different theme such as -

- *How the ideal of a non-racial democracy grew out of liberation struggle*
- *The forces opposed to a non-racial democratic solution*
- *The significance of fundamental and irreversible change*

1.00 Lunch

2.00 Plenary session with questions and reports arising from workshops

3.00 **From Apartheid to Reconstruction: Key economic and social issues.** Keynote address to cover: land, housing, the nationalisation debate, role of foreign capital.

3.45 Tea

## Workshops 2

4.00 Four workshops to exchange ideas on mobilising in solidarity with the liberation struggle:

- Brain-storming about boycotts and sanctions
- Creating a climate of free political activity conducive to genuine negotiations - what is our role?
- How to build support for the ANC
- Promoting non-racial democracy - what can we do?

5.00 Panel discussion on solidarity during the transition

5.30 Conclusion