

**SOUTH AFRICA 1991**

# **Give democracy a chance!**

**An Open Letter to  
Prime Minister John Major**



**Anti-Apartheid Movement, 13 Mandela St,  
London NW1 ODW. Tel: (071) 387 7966.**



## SOUTH AFRICA 1991

# Give democracy a chance!

Dear Prime Minister,

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED,**

**Warmly welcome** the progress made towards dismantling apartheid, and applaud the efforts of all who are striving to create a united, non-racial democracy in place of apartheid;

**Believe** that Britain should keep up the pressure to help ensure that the 'peace process' brings freedom to all South Africans;

**Call upon** you to publicly encourage the South African government to :

- agree to a Constituent Assembly to draw up a new constitution
- make way for an Interim Government to preside over the transition to a post-apartheid South Africa;
- allow negotiations to start as soon as possible by removing now the remaining obstacles, and in particular to -
  - release all political prisoners;
  - grant indemnity to allow all exiles to return
  - repeal all repressive laws.

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### South Africa 1991

At last apartheid is on the way out ! The freedom struggle has made huge strides forward - helped by international solidarity and the pressure of sanctions. But many racist laws and practices are still in place. And apartheid's terrible legacy of poverty, ignorance and home-lessness can only be overcome by a democratic government enjoying popular support.

**What happens next will affect South Africa's future for years to come.** Only democratic negotiations can establish a democratic society. But De Klerk is trying to be both referee and player in the 'peace process.' If he is allowed to dictate terms, the prospect of democracy being established will be put at risk. That's why the South African government should accept -

- **A Constituent Assembly** - as the fairest way to draw up a new constitution. It worked well in Namibia - why not also in South Africa ?
- **An Interim Government** - to ensure that agreements made are honoured. Drawn from all sectors, including De Klerk's National Party, only an interim government can stop the violence and repression, and maintain a climate of free political activity.

### Give democracy a chance !

Back the call for a Constituent Assembly - made by the ANC, Pan Africanist Congress, SA Council of Churches, United Democratic Front, Congress of South African Trade Unions, and many others.

Keep up the pressure for an Interim Government - to help ensure that what replaces apartheid is a **united, non-racial, non-sexist and democratic** South Africa.

### Local AA Group details

- Please send me details of the current AAM campaigns
- I want to join the Anti-Apartheid Movement (*tick a box*)
  - Concessionary £8.50
  - Individual £13.50
  - Joint membership £17.00
  - Until apartheid ends £100 (*one payment only*).
- I enclose cheque/postal order (*payable to AAM*) for:

£\_\_\_\_\_ (membership) £\_\_\_\_\_ (donation) £\_\_\_\_\_ (Total)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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