

ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT



**NATIONAL
CONVENTION
FOR
SANCTIONS
AGAINST
SOUTH AFRICA**

10am-5pm

SAT. 27th JUNE 1987.

**Westminster Central Hall,
Storey's Gate, London SW1**

ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT NATIONAL CONVENTION FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

SATURDAY 27 JUNE 1987 10am-5pm

Aims and objects:

- ▶ to demonstrate the breadth and unity of the will of the British people to help end apartheid by imposing sanctions against South Africa
- ▶ to place the issue of sanctions high on the agenda of international priorities for the next British government
- ▶ to show that support for the freedom struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia comes from every quarter of British society

The NATIONAL CONVENTION FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA will be a delegate event, with representatives from:

Political parties	Anti-Apartheid & anti-racist organisations
Churches/religious organisations	Environmental and peace groups
Trade unions (branches, Trades Councils, regional, national)	Women's groups and organisations
Community associations	Student unions and youth groups
Aid agencies	Local authorities in Wales, Scotland and England
Black and ethnic minority organisations	

Delegate Allocation: 1 per local organisation
2 per regional organisation
3 per national organisation

The **NATIONAL CONVENTION** will be a 'People's Parliament' against apartheid. As such, it will seek to reflect the immense range and variety of the opposition to apartheid and support for sanctions — with a geographical spread that covers every part of Britain. Since space is limited, early application for registration is advisable. In the event of over-subscription, the Steering Committee will prioritise applications for registration to achieve the broadest geographical spread and most representative range and variety of organisations.

The NATIONAL CONVENTION will adopt a Declaration and a Programme of Action aimed at giving a new momentum to the sanctions campaign. Groups and organisations sponsoring delegates will be sent initial drafts of these documents, and are invited to send comments and suggestions to the Steering Committee not later than 29 May 1987.

They are also invited to submit materials (including posters, photos, brochures etc) reflecting their own activities in solidarity with the liberation struggle in South Africa and Namibia and in support of sanctions, for possible inclusion in an exhibition "People's Action Against Apartheid" that will accompany the conference.

(For practical reasons, such material must be submitted on the understanding that it will not be returned.)

WHERE WILL YOU BE ON JUNE 27 1987?

One of the most important and inspiring struggles of our times is unfolding in Southern Africa. The peoples of South Africa and Namibia are striding toward their freedom and independence. Their indomitable courage, persistence and dedication have thrown the racist South African regime into confusion, and made the world realise that action against apartheid is an urgent necessity.

The Botha regime's response to this massive upsurge of the liberation struggle, headed by the ANC and SWAPO, has been to unleash a horrific regime of terror against the people. Many tens of thousands have been thrown into detention and tortured, countless children included. A permanent state of emergency and savage censorship of the media, together with the military invasion of the townships, have failed to quell the popular demand for freedom. The struggle continues . . .

What is our response in Britain to their life-and-death struggle for the democratic values and human rights we claim for ourselves? On the one hand Mrs Thatcher has denounced sanctions as 'immoral' and scoffed at the Commonwealth's 1985 sanctions measures as only 'a tiny little bit'. On the other hand the majority of the British people have come out clearly for effective sanctions. Opinion polls prove this, the annual resolutions of the TUC, of the Labour, Liberal and other parties prove this, the policy of the British Council of Churches proves it, the boycott and disinvestment actions of individuals and institutions throughout the length and breadth of the country prove it.

By 27 June 1987 we *may* have a new government in Britain. The peoples of South Africa and Namibia *won't* have a new government by then — they have been under the racist rule of the Nationalist Party for 38 years.

That's why the imposition of sanctions is so urgent. That's why all opponents of apartheid need to join together to make sanctions a top priority for the next British government, and to break the links with apartheid South Africa through People's Sanctions. This is what the National Convention for Sanctions will be all about.

Be there!

