

# SOLIDARITY WITH BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN WORKERS

In the last 6 weeks 100,000 black workers in South Africa have broken the law - by going on strike for a living wage (strikes by Africans are illegal).

At present 70% of these workers earn less than the minimum amount needed to survive. This in a country where the white workers' earnings are amongst the highest in the world.

The poverty wages mean that disease and suffering are the African's constant companion.

Child mortality rates among Africans are at a grotesquely high level (in certain areas as many as 1 child in 2 dies before the age of 10). Tuberculosis and other diseases flourish.

In addition, the African lives in constant fear of arrest under the pass laws or other offences. He travels miles each day into work from the segregated townships scattered around the white areas - he has no time or money. His entire life has been orientated to produce vast profits for the white minority.

The majority of the workers have now returned to work. In the words of one of the strikers: "We are returning because we are hungry, not because we have accepted a new wage."

Today, we trade unionists and others are here to express our solidarity with these courageous workers, and to pledge ourselves to campaign against the involvement in South Africa of the many British firms who are propping up the apartheid system and reaping rich profits from starvation wages in the process.

JOIN US NOW IN PROTEST AGAINST THIS EXPLOITATION

END BRITISH INVESTMENT IN APARTHEID

JOIN THE ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT

For further information: AAM  
89 Charlotte Street London W1  
01-580 5311

LEADING BRITISH TRADE UNIONISTS  
SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF BLACK WORKERS  
IN SOUTH AFRICA

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We, the undersigned, wish to express our solidarity with our black brothers in South Africa currently struggling for a living wage.

We reaffirm our condemnation of the apartheid system which is a total denial of all human and trade union rights (and under which it is illegal for black workers to strike); and invite trade unionists in Britain and throughout the world to join us in this condemnation.

We call on those British firms, which through their investment play such a key role in maintaining the apartheid system, to withdraw their investments in racism; and we urge British workers not to emigrate to South Africa. Such emigration helps to perpetuate apartheid and the iniquities of job reservation.

Signed: Alan Sapper: General Secretary, ACTT  
Jack Jones: General Secretary, T&GWU  
Eddie Marsden: General Secretary, AUEW (Construction)  
Lawrence Daly: General Secretary, National Union of Mineworkers  
Charles Grieve: General Secretary, Tobacco Workers Union  
W. Simpson: General Secretary, AUEW (Foundry Workers)  
W. Kendall: General Secretary, Civil & Public Service Association  
L. Knapp: General Secretary, SLADE & PW  
Ray Buckton: General Secretary, ASLEF  
Alan Fisher: General Secretary, National Union of Public Employees  
George Doughty: General Secretary, AUEW (TASS)  
Kenneth Morgan: General Secretary, National Union of Journalists