May 26, 1992

BY FAX TRANSMITTAL

State President F.W. de Klerk
Union Building
Pretoria 0001
SOUTH AFRICA

Dear President de Klerk:

Our Task Force on Southern Africa of the Church Council of Greater Seattle joins with the Seattle-Daliwe Sister Community Project in denouncing the arrest last week of Moses Mayekiso. We urge that all charges against him and those arrested with him be completely dropped. It is ridiculous for the South African police to ignore Mr. Mayekiso's application to carry a licensed weapon and then to arrest him and charge him with carrying such a weapon.

We are especially alarmed because on April 13, 1992, our very own Mayor Norman B. Rice participated in an historic international telephone conference with Nelson Mandela, Moses Mayekiso and elected representatives of most of the ten other U.S. cities which have sister community relationships with oppressed communities in South Africa that are resisting forced removal. The fact that the South African police are harassing and detaining such a prominent trade unionist and civic leader as Mr. Mayekiso underscores the seriousness of apartheid agents' intentions to stifle democracy through violence, regardless of the human cost.

As chief executive officer of South Africa, we believe that it is your responsibility to stop the apartheid-financed violence, quit trying to weaken the majority through killing and harassment, and abandon your attempts to retain white veto power in a last-ditch effort to prevent any major change in apartheid. You don't fool us, and we intend to keep the pressure on the apartheid regime.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Prince, Chair
Task Force on Southern Africa

cc: Rev. Elaine Stanovsky
    Honorable Norman B. Rice
    Honorable Paul Simon
    U.S.A.-South Africa Sister Community Project