Dear Friends:

We are writing to urge your support for comprehensive sanctions against the racist government of South Africa and for the on-going work of the Washington Office on Africa.

On June 18, the House of Representatives, in a remarkable vote, passed sanctions legislation mandating corporate disinvestment and a total trade embargo against South Africa. This stunning victory for the anti-apartheid movement clearly demonstrates the growing impatience of the American people and the U.S. Congress with the Botha regime's ever escalating and brutal repression of South Africa's Black majority. As a result of this action the struggle to end U.S. complicity with Pretoria has advanced considerably. We are now closer than ever before to having Congress pass comprehensive sanctions legislation.

Without the dedicated leadership and diligent work of anti-apartheid groups such as the Washington Office on Africa, we could not have achieved this important victory. For fourteen years this church and trade union sponsored lobbying and research organization has worked hard to educate Congress and the American people on the need for a progressive U.S. policy towards southern Africa. The office has been at the center of coordinating lobbying efforts in Washington and in key states and congressional districts. Through its informative and reliable newsletter, timely action alerts and insightful educational resources, the Washington Office on Africa has helped members of Congress and millions of concerned citizens make responsible and informed decisions about action against apartheid.

Throughout the weeks and days preceding the House vote, the Washington Office on Africa was consistent in its clear and unwavering support for the strongest possible sanctions against South Africa. The office worked closely with our staffs in convening press conferences and organizing other events to focus attention on the urgent need for our colleagues to respond swiftly to the deepening crisis in South Africa.

On June 16-17, the Washington Office on Africa organized a major legislative briefing and sanctions lobbying effort in Washington on behalf of the Churches' Emergency Committee on Southern Africa (CECSA). The briefing's well-organized program featured speeches by the congressional leaders involved in the sanctions debate as well as representatives of the African National Congress and the U.S. State Department. Scores of church participants in the two day activity received a comprehensive briefing booklet and other materials prepared by the Washington Office on Africa. This major lobbying effort helped to generate pressure for passage of the provisions of H.R. 997, the Dellums bill.
In South Africa, the deaths, detentions, violence and torture continue unabated under state of emergency regulations imposed on June 12. Hundreds of trade union, church and community leaders have been forced into hiding. More than three thousand persons have been detained since martial law went into effect. The two-million-strong United Democratic Front and another 119 anti-apartheid organizations are prohibited from meeting or being quoted in the press. The largely unarmed Black population is defenseless in the face of heavily armed security forces who have helped send nearly 2000 victims, mainly children, to early graves. News of South Africa's atrocities has been severely curtailed due to harsh regulations restricting media coverage of Pretoria's repression.

In light of this urgent situation the Senate must respond quickly by passing S 2570 (companion legislation to the House passed bill). The Anti-Apartheid Action Act has been introduced by Senators Alan Cranston (D-CA), Ted Kennedy (D-MA) and Lowell Weicker (R-CT). The Washington Office on Africa is mounting a major, nation-wide education for action campaign to secure passage of S 2570 in the Senate. Funds are desperately needed to finance this effort. The next two months will be among the most difficult the anti-apartheid movement has ever faced. Your continued financial support of the Washington Office on Africa is essential if we are to lobby effectively for sanctions against South Africa.

Please send the Washington Office on Africa as generous a contribution as you can — today!! At few other points in the history of U.S. policy in southern Africa has your financial and political support of this dedicated office been as crucial as it is now. The Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group recently concluded that international pressure "may offer the last opportunity to avert the worst bloodbath since the Second World War." In order effectively to apply this pressure, the Washington Office on Africa needs your help. As a token of appreciation for contributions over $50.00, WOA will offer the recently released Penguin edition of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group report.

Your contributions and continued activism will work to put the U.S. government and the American people on the right side of history in the struggle for justice in southern Africa.

Sincerely,

Representative Ronald V. Dellums
Representative Mickey Leland
Representative Patricia Schroeder
YES!

I want to lend my support to the anti-apartheid movement!

Enclosed, please find my contribution of $______ to aid the work of the Washington Office on Africa.

I.D. NUMBER ______ (see mailing label) ______ Premium

NAME ____________________________

ADDRESS _______________________________________

CITY, STATE & ZIP ___________________________

TELEPHONE ( ) ___________________ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ______

MY CONGRESSMEMBER IS __________________________

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