

**RESOLUTION ON PROLIFERATION AND U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS COLLABORATION WITH
SOUTH AFRICA**

Passed at the Third National Conference of the
National Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign

Because all nuclear proliferation poses great danger and increases the difficulty of achieving control over nuclear weapons, the National Conference of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign recommends that the National Staff develop an educational program aimed at building awareness of and opposition to the export of materials and technology by the U.S. which might be used by other nations to develop nuclear weapons or to improve existing nuclear weapons capabilities.

Whereas, in 1961 and 1974 sub-Saharan African states at the U.N. requested that all the then current nuclear powers respect the whole African continent as a denuclearized zone; and

Whereas, the U.S. has voted against historical sub-Saharan African requests for denuclearization at the U.N. on grounds that such a request "interfered with an overall approach to disarmament"; and

Whereas, in December 1982 an overwhelming majority of sub-Saharan African states voted heavily in favor of a bilateral nuclear weapons freeze between the U.S.-Soviet Union; and

Whereas, over the course of the past 38 years the U.S. government has specifically assisted South Africa in developing its nuclear weapons capacity by training South African engineers and scientists at U.S. government nuclear facilities, allowing the U.S. corporate export of nuclear weapons grade materials and other fuel supplies to operate weapons capable reactors in South Africa, exporting sophisticated computers with weapons capable usage; and

Whereas, U.S. nuclear weapons collaboration with South Africa only adds to the already dangerous proliferation of nuclear arsenals; and

Whereas, a U.S. assisted racist South Africa, capable of regional nuclear war-making is repugnant to the interests of most sub-Saharan African states and to our nation's popular desire for international security in an environment of racial justice; and finally

Whereas, the campaign for a mutual U.S.-U.S.S.R. freeze on nuclear weapons, especially in their production and testing stages, should seriously consider that such production and testing has historically contributed to the continued U.S. nuclear collaboration with South Africa and its consequent nuclear arms buildup.

Now, let it be resolved that the Third National Conference of the National Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign that:

- 1) The Conference recommend that all local Freeze organizations include in their educational, outreach and organizing work materials about U.S. collaboration in South Africa's nuclear war-making objectives.
- 2) The Conference especially recommend that all local Freeze organizations take steps to educate and involve Freeze supporters in legislative efforts around HR-1020 sponsored by Rep. Charles Rangel D-NY which would cut off all nuclear exports to South Africa and prohibit the training of South Africans at U.S. governmental nuclear facilities.
- 3) The Conference direct the National Strategies Task Force in concert with the National Minorities Task Force to take steps to review endorsement of national coalition efforts to end U.S.-South Africa nuclear collaboration, and to make a recommendation on this issue at their earliest convenience or at least in time for the National Committee meeting in June 1983 after the Freeze Resolution vote in Congress.

Sponsored: Clergy and Laity Concerned and the Washington Office on Africa