

ILLINOIS LABOR NETWORK AGAINST APARTHEID

December 8, 1987

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for joining with more than 30 union representatives on November 23 to form the Illinois Labor Network Against Apartheid. It is a commitment to take action and not to stand by silently while South Africa jails union leaders and tries them for treason.

- The apartheid government intends to put Moses Mayekiso, General Secretary of the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA), and other labor leaders on trial for treason in early 1988. NUMSA, as well as the mineworkers union, are part of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's largest labor federation.
- The government has also announced its plan to try COSATU for treason.

Unions throughout the world are letting their voices be heard in outrage. There is much that can be done to stop the imprisonment and trials and to support South African trade unions.

Action
The Illinois Labor Network Against Apartheid has been encouraged by Region 4, United Auto Workers; District 8, Machinists; District 31, Steelworkers; and many other union affiliates. We are currently working to set up a coordinating committee, get an office, and so on.

But today I want to ask for your help now. There are two actions that your local union can do immediately:

Send letters from your union demanding the release of Moses Mayekiso and other labor leaders from jail. See the enclosed flyer on Mayekiso; instructions are on the back of where to send your letters.

Send letters to support the comprehensive sanctions bill currently in Congress (H.R. 1580/S. 556). See the enclosed Action Alert.

Please send me a copy of your communications.

I look forward to working together during the coming year and to your support. In solidarity,

Kathy Devine
Coordinator, Illinois Labor
Network Against Apartheid

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