TO: Members of the Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa

FROM: Chris Root, Interim Executive Secretary

Here are the minutes of the first meeting of the steering committee of the Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa, which was held in Philadelphia on February 28. We apologize for the delay in getting the minutes to you; shared note-taking meant that it took some time to pull the minutes together.

The steering committee working out some organizational matters, planned for some specific projects for the coalition, suggested methods for improved co-ordination of local work, and laid out methods to deal with more substantial coalition actions in the future. As you can see from the minutes, all of this work depends largely on the member groups to implement -- items that require follow-up by many or all groups are marked in red. In addition, you can see that there are several issues which we can already anticipate discussing at the next steering committee meeting in mid-May, and which your group will probably want to discuss before that time.

Because the coalition involves local groups which often have to meet to make joint decisions, the coalition is going to work slowly. But it is imperative that groups try to respond as quickly as possible, so that the coalition doesn't stagnate just when it is beginning its work.

I think this meeting got the coalition off to a good start!