For immediate release

Contact: Joshua Nessen
212-962-1210

APRIL 3 AND 4 NATIONAL PROTEST DAYS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN INVESTMENT: CITIBANK AND SHELL TARGETED

New York, N.Y., March 26....Protests against investment in South Africa will take place on campuses and in communities nationwide on April 3 and 4. The protests will stress the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr., who was assassinated on April 4, by emphasizing the link between U.S. support for apartheid and domestic racism. According to Joshua Nessen of the American Committee on Africa which initiated the protest days, "Protests will include campus actions for university divestment along with community protests targeting Citibank and Shell Oil Company for their strategic roles in sustaining South African apartheid. These protests will be the highlight of Anti-Apartheid Weeks of Action from March 21 to April 6."

On April 3 at Citibank world headquarters in New York City (53-54 Streets on Park and Lexington Avenues) at noon a religious, student, and labor coalition will blockade the building demanding that the bank close all its branches in South Africa and end all lending in that country. As during a protest January 15, in which 21 people were arrested, shanty structures will be used to block the entrances to the bank. That same day in Baltimore a city-wide student action coalition will picket and place a shanty in front of the Citibank branch at Light and Baltimore Streets at noon. On April 3 there will also be a rally at a Citibank branch near Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn and a protest on April 4 will be held at the main Citibank branch in downtown Chicago. Other actions on April 3 will include the building of a shanty at Drew University and divestment protests at Cornell University and Hamilton College, sites of recent student arrests.

The Shell Boycott Campaign will be holding protests on April 4 in Atlanta, Birmingham, Columbus, Houston (at company headquarters), Los Angeles, San Francisco, and on April 2 in Washington DC at the Shell offices from noon-2pm.
On April 4 at Columbia University, there will be a rally beginning at 2pm. Organizers are calling on the University to vigorously prosecute the white students responsible for a recent attack on eight Black students, to redress institutionalized racism as expressed in low third world enrollment, curriculum, and housing policies, and to fully divest of stocks linked to South Africa. At the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor there will be a march from the campus to the community linking anti-apartheid struggles to opposition to domestic racism on April 4. This event follows a March 20 sit-in by 300 people, mostly Black students, which succeeded in securing a University commitment for increased Black student enrollment.

At Yale University, activists will mark the first full year that shanties have been standing on campus with a rededication rally on April 4. To increase the pressure for full divestment and demands on institutionalized racism, there will be a statewide Black student rally at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill on April 4 at midday. Organizers will host a Black Student Conference at Walbash College in Indiana on April 4 that will also involve a demonstration for divestment. That same day a major indoor rally will be held in Los Angeles at 7:30pm at St. Vincent's Catholic Church that will call for an end to U.S. support for apartheid in South Africa and the Nicaraguan Contras. In Portland, Oregon an April 4 march against apartheid and racism will involve area-colleges and community groups.

As part of Two Weeks of Anti-Apartheid Action culminating April 6 there will a march on April 6 in Nashville Tennessee calling for state divestment. In Austin, Texas students will be holding an April 6 rally in solidarity with youth and students in southern Africa that will also address domestic racism and the failure of the University to fully divest. A statewide California student rally in Sacramento that day will emphasize the need for an Ethnic Studies requirement in the State University system and on April 11 at UCLA there will be a Free South Africa Day. On April 4 at Roxbury Community College students are holding all-day teach-ins as a prelude to a city-wide student rally April 11 at noon on the Boston Common. Students Against Apartheid and Racism at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton will be holding an afternoon rally April 7 that will feature local activists and musical groups from 1pm to 6pm.

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