



Anti-Apartheid Movement

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*The Anti-Apartheid Movement
is in Consultative Status with
the Economic and Social Council
(ECOSOC) of the United Nations*

Rt. Hon. Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London, SW1

14th August 1989

I am writing to express my grave disappointment that you have failed to take any personal initiative prior to your departure on holiday to try and persuade the English cricketers involved to abandon their planned tour of South Africa next year.

The Gleneagles Agreement was entered into by Heads of Government of the Commonwealth and therefore, as Prime Minister, I am sure that you would acknowledge that you have the prime responsibility for ensuring its implementation. I cannot accept that it is a matter which can be left solely to a junior Minister.

Our Chair, Robert Hughes MP, wrote to you proposing that you should intervene in support of the Gleneagles Agreement initially on 22nd May in connection with the World Rugby XV tour of South Africa and again on 1st August in relation to both the cricket and rugby tours. Inevitably your silence is being interpreted as a lack of commitment to the Gleneagles Agreement.

As I am sure you are aware the signatories of the Gleneagles Agreement pledged that their Governments would take "every practical step" to discourage sporting contacts with South Africa. Your refusal to intervene in effect means that you are failing to take one very simple and practical step.

You will be aware of the consequences for British sport should the impression become widespread that the Government has not fully implemented the Gleneagles Agreement. I therefore wish to add my support to those who have already called upon you to intervene with the cricketers involved and to ask you to treat this as a matter of the utmost urgency.

Yours sincerely,

+ Trevor Huddleston
President.