# SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN COAL A one day delegate conference

## 10.00am-5.00pm Saturday, September 19th, 1987

Sheffield City Town Hall Surrey Street Entrance, Sheffield, Yorks

Anti-Apartheid Movement 13 Mandela Street London NW1 ODW



National Union of Mineworkers St James' House Vicar Lane Sheffield



#### SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN COAL

A one day conference to mobilise for a mandatory ban on all South African coal imports into the United Kingdom and the European Economic Community, and to promote action to stop such imports.

#### SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1987

#### **CONFERENCE AGENDA**

Morning	
10.00	Registration and video on Consolidated Goldfields.
	Welcome and opening – Arthur Scargill (President of the NUM)
	Speaker from the TUC General Council.
	Chair Richard Caborn MP (AAM Executive and Secretary, Parliamentary
	Labour Party Anti-Apartheid Group)
11.00	Apartheid, Coal and Mining in South Africa.
	Keynote address by Cyril Ramaphosa, General Secretary, South African
	NUM.
12.00	A strategy for sanctions against South African coal.
12.00	Keynote address by <b>Mike Terry</b> (Executive Secretary AAM)
	Followed by panel discussion with <b>Peter Kennedy</b> (International Officer
	NUM), Colin Adkins (Trade Union Secretary, AAM) and a representative
	from the Working Group Kairos (Netherlands).
13.00	LUNCH
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Afternoon	
13.45	Trade Union Sanctions video.
14.00	Campaigning for a mandatory ban on South African coal imports into
	Britain and the EEC. Discussion led by a Labour MP on a British ban and an
	MEP on an EEC ban.
	Chair <b>Peter Heathfield</b> , General Secretary, NUM
15.00	Action to stop South African coal imports and wider campaigning.
	Panel discussion with representatives from the AAM trade Union
	committee; the National Steering Committee for Local Authority Action
	Against Apartheid; Betty Heathfield, Women against Pit Closures; Phil
	Boyd, the Campaign Against the Namibian Uranium Contract; Dave Crane,
	EMBARGO; and a local AAM activist.
16.30	Adoption of programme of action.
	Final Address – Peter Heathfield – General Secretary of the NUM.

Delegates should register by **Friday, 4th September**, in order that documentation can be sent out in advance of the conference. Late registrations will be accepted subject to accommodation. Each organisation is entitled to up to three delegates. Additional representatives may attend as observers.

This conference is being run jointly by the Anti-Apartheid Movement and the National Union of Mineworkers, and sponsored by the following organisations: The Trades Union Congress, The National Union of Seamen, The Anti-Apartheid Trade Union Committee, The Parliamentary Labour Party Anti-Apartheid Group, The Labour Group of MEPs, The National Steering Committee for Local Authority Action Against Apartheid, Women Against Pit Closures



#### SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN COAL

On 16th September 1986 moves to impose a mandatory ban on all coal imports from South Africa into the EEC were blocked by the West German and Portuguese governments with the behind-the-scenes encouragemet of Mrs Thatcher.

A year later South African coal continues to flood into Britain and the EEC. The Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) and the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) are working together to stop all imports of apartheid coal and are launching their campaigning initiatives with a joint Conference on Saturday 19th September on the theme **"Sanctions Against South African Coal"**.

South African coal is tainted with the blood of black miners. They are employed in appalling conditions; forced to live in prison-like compounds; paid poverty wages, and work in the most dangerous conditions, as the Kinross disaster devastatingly illustrated. On average there are 600 deaths in the mines in South Africa annually.

Coal is a vital commodity for apartheid South Africa. The industry has expanded dramatically in the past decade providing much needed foreign exchange to fund the apartheid war-machine – R3.2 billion worth of exports in 1985 making it the second largest source of foreign exchange after gold. The South Africans have also deliberately sought to penetrate key markets such as the EEC, the USA and Japan in order to generate a dependency on cheap energy resources from South Africa.

But today in South Africa the Black miners are fighting back against racism and exploitation. The South African NUM is the giant of the rapidly expanding organised trade union movement. And the NUM in South Africa is appealing for sanctions and disinvestment as acts of solidarity with their struggle. At its last Congress the South African NUM resolved "to once again re-affirm its support for all forms of international pressures including sanctions and disinvestment".

Today it is calculated that 52% of all South African coal imports are destined for EEC countries – 22 million tonnes during 1986 alone. And in Britain, over the past decade, the problem has been growing. There has been a 3000% increase in direct South African coal imports which now stand at 313,000 tonnes per annum, according to official statistics; much more comes into Britain as blended coal from parts in Belgium and the Netherlands. Having broken into the British market during the miners strike, South Africa is now seeking to consolidate its position.

The time for action is now. The introduction of a coal ban in Britain and the EEC would strike a massive blow against the South African economy and give a boost to those such as the South African NUM who are the centre of the struggle.

The joint AAM and NUM one day conference "Sanctions against South African Coal" will provide a unique role in educating participants as to the realities of apartheid today; in exposing the role of the British government and big business in bolstering the apartheid system; and in mobilising action to stop all imports of apartheid coal.



### **REGISTRATION FORM**

Please return as soon as possible: The Trade Union Secretary, Anti-Apartheid Movement, 13 Mandela Street, London NW1 ODW.

#### SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN COAL CONFERENCE SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1987

We wish to attend the Sanctions Against South African Coal Conference.

Registration fee: £3.00 per delegate.

Name(s) of delegate(s) or observer(s)* * delete as appropriate	Addresses for documentation
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Registration fee enclosed: Donation to the campaign: Total	f f f
(Cheques, postal orders etc. should Movement)	be made payable to the Anti-Apartheid
The conference will be run on a dele organisations interested and involv African coal imports.	egate basis and open to all bona-fide ed in the campaign against South
Each organisation is entitled to up t representatives may attend as obse	