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African National Congress

Office of the President

FAX TRANSMISSION COVER

TO

NELSON MANDELA
DEPUTY PRESIDENT

FAX NO
FROM

27 11 834 1019/982 7037

OLIVER TAMBO
PRESIDENT

DATE

28 FEBRUARY 1991

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African National Congress

Office of the President

My dear Nelson

Thanks for calling me, and reporting on the Cape Town meeting.

I do remember your concern over the examination results of the year, 1989, when you were still in prison, and how you contacted various people with the request that they see what could be done to save the children.

What could be done in jail was very little, and the year ended with no results. But the 1990 examination results shocked everybody. You immediately reviewed the contacts of the year before, and added more, bringing together a most successful educational conference chaired by Mr de Klerk. This has been very heartening.

Now, we find ourselves confronted by yet another problem: our greatest artists, who should be contributing to the changing environment in our beloved country as a united force, are divided. Fortunately, they have never come together at a time as rich in change as is happening at the moment. This week, which started with a very successful meeting with de Klerk, deliberating on educational issues, cannot be allowed to end with a failure on the part of our artists.

My sincere request, which I would like you to relay to your meeting with the artists tomorrow, 1 March 1991, is that:

"our country and people, at this hour of need,
would greatly benefit from a strong and united
South African artists."

To be able to move forward and contribute to the positive environment taking place in South Africa, it is important to work together and bury our differences.

Wishing you all very good and successful discussions, please tell our brothers and sisters that we are full of hope.

Oliver

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TÂ«g YEAH Of action

fob a Dtwic*w>e soon, v*nc*

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STATEMENT BY THE DBPARTMfiINT 0? ARTS
h\$Â£> CULTURE OF THE LHC.

In the 's/ate of intense discussions si the December Consultative Confere
nce of
ibe ANC end numerous applications for international arilsts to perform in
South Africa, the debate around the cultural boycott has intensefted

A misconception exists mat the cultural boycott totally forbids any excha
nge
with the international cultural world. It is on tjh.te basis Lhat.reoen,tly,
suggestions have been aade to relax or lift the cultural boycott.

The Dae, in reviewing the situation, reaffirms Lhat the boycott is sri!! firm
y in
place. and intends to mate- it more effective by linking it with me ANC's
campaigns for csass action in!99J.

the DAC wishes to .clarify its position by defining it, as first stated by the
President O.X, Tambo in 1357, and further refined fit subsequent meeting
s vith
various internal and international organisations.

The cultural boycott consists d vsro components:

Â»

1. To continue to isolate the apartheid regime generally, and apartheid cul
tural

structures in particular; suff

2. To support t culture for a democratic South Africa,, In parUeult-* d^cioc
ratlc,
non-raclai cultural organisations.

Wltniit this framework we 'wilt continue to Use international pressure and
internal caass action to isolate identified apartheid cultural organisations

that

engage the international community

We believe in engagement with the international cultural community by

vn 3BS'-0i*?3,--p;Â©s

South African organisation* is Important to help fust&in the development of a culture for a new South Africa. Tfce apartheid herfcag\$ of oppressed South Afreans has been one of a denial of education, stills aft d resources, This has hampered the develops meet or cultural exptras&oa 1f t this regard, therefore, we see international artist? coming here, not only to perform, but siso to contribute to redressing the inequities of apartheid. We would request from iheca a contribution h tercis of importing skills, providing resources. and political and moral support.

At this stage, the democratic cultural strUtures win giv# priority for interaction and exchange, to those ifftternatloaai cultural groups a fid individuals vno. over the years of struggle, have supported us. At the same time, those who Â©eel the criteria for coming to South Africa. wiU also be considered.

The dismantling of apartheid is not only about the repeal of legislation, but t ai*o about wiping out the soclo'conomlc backlogs caused by apartheid. It is sti ll necessary to ttransforca. apartheid organisations. One Of tke means ve wi ll, â€œ continue to use is international isolation of apartheid structures and development of indigenous cultural, organisations by international engagement and support.

DATED 7.2.91