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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CULTURAL RESISTANCE TO APARTHEID

SECHABA



GLASGOW 1990

SUNDAY 23 SEPT. – THURSDAY 27 SEPT.

CITY HALLS – GLASGOW
SCOTLAND

FOR A UNITED, NON-RACIAL AND DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA

ORGANISED BY THE SCOTTISH COMMITTEE OF THE ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT IN ASSOCIATION
WITH THE SCOTTISH TUC AND IN CONSULTATION WITH THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.



SECHABA**GLASGOW 1990**

"as in almost every other field of human endeavour in South Africa there has emerged a definable alternative culture — the People's Culture, permeated with and giving expression to the deepest aspirations of our people's struggle, immersed in democracy and enduring human values."

**INTRODUCTION****PEOPLE'S CULTURE**

The oppressed South African people's opposition to the inhuman system of apartheid exudes from every pore of that country's political and economic life.

And hand-in-hand with the people's heroic opposition to apartheid's political and economic imperatives has gone their rejection of its cultural imperative — Apartheid Culture.

With the heightening of the people's struggle throughout the 1980s and the draconian State of Emergency clampdown on almost every facet of political and economic opposition, the oppressed people's long tradition of cultural resistance to apartheid burgeoned in virtually every artistic field to become one of the most dynamic forms of creative expression in the world.

Today in South Africa there is a clearly definable alternative democratic culture — **PEOPLE'S CULTURE**.

SECHABA — GLASGOW 1990

To the oppressed people of South Africa the African word SECHABA means **Nation**.

It is also the title of a most ambitious cultural event which takes place in the City of Glasgow — Europe's Capital of Culture — between 22 September and 7 October.

The main theme of SECHABA GLASGOW 1990 is "Cultural Resistance to Apartheid — For a United, Non-Racial and Democratic South Africa" and it will be organised by the **Scottish Committee of the Anti-Apartheid Movement** in association with the **Scottish Trades Union Congress** and in consultation with the **African National Congress**.

Its aim will be to display the widest possible range of the great movement of cultural resistance to apartheid that is sweeping South Africa today and is playing such an important part in the struggle against the racist regime.

SECHABA GLASGOW 1990 has two distinct but inter-connected parts: a 16 day Festival (22 Sept. — 7 Oct.) and a 5 day International Conference (23 — 27 Sept.).

SECHABA**GLASGOW 1990**

SECHABA

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

23 – 27 SEPTEMBER

APPEAL FOR DELEGATES

With such rapid and important developments taking place in South Africa today, it is vital that the anti-apartheid forces throughout the world are able to meet and discuss with representatives of the oppressed people about how the international campaign to abolish apartheid can best be pursued in this fast-moving and complex situation.

The Sechaba International Conference, which is to be held in Glasgow over the above 5 days and attended by hundreds of delegates from around the world, will provide just such an opportunity for discussing the way ahead and the significance of cultural activity in the struggle for democratic change.

Leaders of South Africa's Liberation and Mass Democratic Movements will attend the conference along with their brothers and sisters from newly independent Namibia and other Front Line States and they will play an important part in the work of the conference.

More particularly the conference will bring together cultural workers from South Africa and their international counterparts to discuss and debate Sechaba's main theme "Cultural Resistance to Apartheid — For a United, Non-Racial and Democratic South Africa" and its relevance to people everywhere.

Since culture is everyone's concern, the conference organisers will seek to attract delegates from governments and non-governmental organisations such as trade unions, religious bodies, local authorities and many others and so deepen and broaden the conference's content.

TO THAT END, THE SECHABA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ORGANISERS TAKE PLEASURE IN INVITING YOUR ORGANISATION TO SEND A DELEGATE OR DELEGATES TO THIS IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL GATHERING WHOSE AIM IS TO ASSIST THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA IN THEIR STRUGGLE TO ABOLISH THAT OUTRAGE AND CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY — THE RACIST SYSTEM OF APARTHEID.



Brian Filling
Scottish Anti-Apartheid
Movement Chairman.



Campbell Christie
STUC General
Secretary.



Jim Tait
Coordinator.

SECHABA

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Delegates' Registration Form

* * Please Note * *

All delegates will be responsible for their own travel costs, meals and accommodation.
A separate accommodation form is enclosed for your use.

Name of Organisation:

Address of Organisation:

.....

Cost per delegate £150 sterling.

Name of Delegate	Address of Delegate	Registration Fee
Total Cost		£

The registration fee does not include the delegation's travel or accommodation costs. A separate accommodation form is enclosed for your convenience.

To ease the administration and to avoid possible disappointment organisations are advised to return forms at their earliest possible convenience.

If any of your delegation has special needs it would be helpful if you could inform the organisers, who will attempt to provide for them.

I have enclosed a cheque (payable to SECHABA) for £

Signed: Date:

Please return completed forms to: SECHABA (Conference Department)
52 ST. ENOCH SQUARE,
GLASGOW G1 4AA,
SCOTLAND.

* * PLEASE NOTE * *

Already keen interest has been expressed by many organisations in attending the conference and the organisers would encourage a speedy response to this appeal so that the anticipated demand for delegate places can be met.

SECHABA



GLASGOW 1990

"... culture is playing an extremely important part in our struggle for liberation.

"It is our view that Sechaba Glasgow 1990 must – and surely will – be supported by all peoples who seek to see a free and liberated South Africa.

"On our part we shall galvanise all our creative forces to make 1990 a memorable year, a major contribution to Glasgow really becoming the City of Culture in 1990."



MENDI MSIMANG

ANC Chief Representative
United Kingdom and
Ireland.

OUTLINE CONTENT

There are many aspects to the struggle inside South Africa and to the international campaign against apartheid. The Sechaba International Conference will attempt to explore as many of these as possible in its plenary sessions and within its commissions and their related workshops.

These will include:

PEOPLE'S CULTURE

- * Drama and the Performing Arts
- * Literature
- * Music
- * Visual Arts
- * The Media
- * Workers' Culture

RACIST CULTURE

- * Apartheid Culture
- * Imperialist and Colonialist Culture
- * The Aim of the Culture Boycott
- * Workers' Resistance to Racist Culture

THE BOYCOTT CAMPAIGNS

- * Sanctions
- * The Economic and Political Boycotts
- * The Trade Union Boycott Campaign
- * The Sporting Boycott
- * The Academic Boycott
- * The Cultural Boycott

THE FRONT LINE STATES

- * Culture and Development in the Front Line States
- * Workers on the Front Line

WORKERS AND THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

- * Workers' Culture
- * Workers' Resistance to Racist Culture
- * The Trade Union Boycott
- * Workers on the Front Line

OUTLINE PROGRAMME

Although Day 1 of the Conference is on Sunday 23 September, all delegates will be asked to register and receive their credentials and papers on Saturday 22.

The main venue for the conference will be the City Halls, Candleriggs in the Merchant City area of Glasgow. However Day 1, the Opening of Conference, and Day 5, the Final Day, will both be held in the Banqueting Hall of the City Chambers, the magnificent 100 year old headquarters of the City Council of Glasgow.

The general outline programme of the conference is:

Day 0	Saturday	22	Registration of Delegates
Day 1	Sunday	23	Opening Day
Day 2	Monday	24	Plenary – Commissions – Workshops Civic Reception for delegates
Day 3	Tuesday	25	Plenary – Commissions – Workshops
Day 4	Wednesday	26	Day Off for Sightseeing/Tours
Day 5	Thursday	27	Final Day.

SECHABA**GLASGOW 1990**

"Now is the time to intensify the struggle on all fronts."

NELSON MANDELA

Deputy President of the ANC. On the day of his release from prison - Sunday 11 February 1990.

"The partial lifting of sanctions at this moment before fundamental and irreversible changes take place in the policy of the country will be a disaster."

Mandela's speech to the European Parliament, 13 June 1990.



Archbishop TREVOR HUDDLESTON — President of the Anti-Apartheid Movement.

When Trevor Huddleston was working as an Anglican Priest in the Johannesburg township of Sophiatown, he wrote an article in the British OBSERVER newspaper in which he argued for "... a cultural boycott of South Africa." That article in 1951 launched the Cultural Boycott of Apartheid and within two years cultural workers and their organisations began lending practical support to Huddleston's plea.

A leading representative of the AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS will attend the Sechaba International Conference.



RON TODD — British Trades Union Congress International Committee Chairman and General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union since July 1985. In 1986 he and TUC General Secretary Norman Willis visited South Africa and witnessed the horror of apartheid at first hand.



MONGANE WALLY SEROTE — is a poet and writer and works for the African National Congress's Department of Arts and Culture. He is author of inter alia: TO EVERY BIRTH ITS BLOOD and poetry collections including A TOUGH TALE, THE NIGHT KEEPS WINKING, TSETLO, BEHOLD, MAMA, and FLOWERS.

His poem I WILL WAIT has just been set to music by the Scottish composer William Sweeney, and this new work will have its premiere at the SECHABA FESTIVAL.

**SECHABA'S SPONSORS**

Many organisations are still in the process of deciding the level of their support for Sechaba but so far the project's sponsors include:

Glasgow District Council
National Association of Local and Government Officers

General Municipal and Boilermakers Trade Union, Scottish Region
National Union of Civil and Public Servants

Midlothian District Council
Tayside Regional Council's Equal Opportunities Committee.

Transport and General Workers Union: Scottish Region, Edinburgh District, Inverness District, Strathclyde Staff Branch Housing Associations

Kilmarnock and Loudon District Council
Edinburgh School of Art Students Association.

National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers.

Rutherglen Constituency Labour Party
Fire Brigades Union Strathclyde Region.

Strathclyde Regional Council.
Manufacturing Science and Finance: Scottish Region, Glasgow University.
Schoolhouse Management

Shetland Islands Council

East Lothian District Council.

Renfrew District Council

National Union of Mineworkers Scottish Area

Equal Exchange Campaign Coffee.

SOGAT North, East and Central Scotland Branch.

Civil and Public Servants Association.

National Union of Railwaymen:

Glasgow and West of Scotland Branch.

Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund.

East Kilbride District Council.

Society of Telecom Executives.

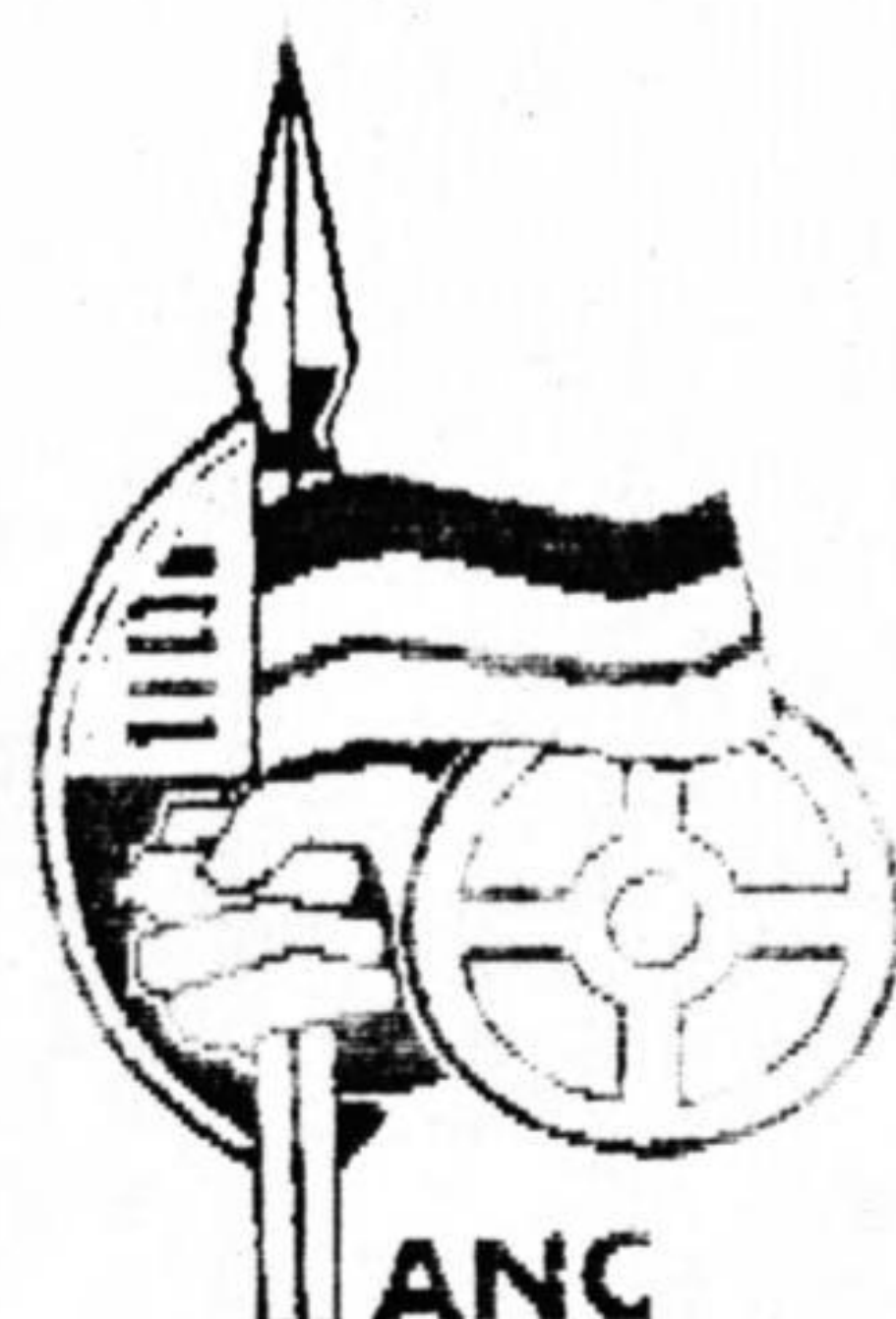
Educational Institute of Scotland:

Dundee Local Association.

Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians.



Funded from Glasgow District Council's Festivals Budget.

SECHABA**GLASGOW 1990**

SECHABA FESTIVAL

22 SEPTEMBER – 7 OCTOBER

The Sechaba International Conference's partner is the Sechaba Festival which will, over the above 16 days, attempt to display a wide range of the Cultural Resistance to Apartheid that permeates the fields of music, theatre, literature, cinema, photography and the visual arts.

AMANDLA

One of the Festival's major attractions will be the ANC's cultural ensemble – Amandla. This 35 member troupe is led by Jonas Gwangwa who, as co-composer of the music for the film *CRY FREEDOM*, received an Academy Award nomination. Amandla fuse the diverse forms of music, dance and theatre among the peoples of South Africa and using poetry, drama, recital, modern and traditional dance, they are a uniquely powerful and political theatrical experience.

MUSIC

The amazing diversity of South African Music, from traditional rural styles to urban jazz sounds, will feature largely in the festival with live performances by South African bands. As well as South African musicians, Scottish classical, rock, folk and jazz musicians will play a big part in the Sechaba Festival performing their own music and joining with the South Africans in what will be an adventurous and exciting merging of music and culture from two countries.

GRAND GALA OPENING NIGHT

On Sunday 23 September, the Sechaba Festival will stage a major highlight of its 16 day programme which involves bringing together a unique ensemble of Scottish and South African musicians.

That ensemble will consist of the 40 voice choir of the Association of South African Students in Britain, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, jazz musicians and a Scottish choir who will combine to perform a new work by the Scottish composer William Sweeney that will have its premiere at the Sechaba Gala Opening Night.

This new composition has been specially commissioned by Sechaba and is sponsored by the National and Local Government Officers Association (NALGO).

All International Conference delegates will receive a complimentary ticket to the Gala Opening night.

Other features of the festival will include:

AN EXHIBITION OF CULTURAL RESISTANCE

This will consist of a number of exhibitions of paintings, prints, posters and photographs by South African artists.

LITERATURE

A book of new and previously published works by Scottish and South African writers about South Africa will be launched at the Sechaba Festival. During the Festival, readings from the book will be given by the authors including some of the South African contributors.

CINEMA

Films including *CRY FREEDOM*, *A WORLD APART* and *MAPANTSULA* will form part of a South African Film Festival to be presented by the Glasgow Film Theatre.

COMEDY

The FUNNY FARM comedy group will stage a special performance for the Sechaba Festival.

THEATRE

Drama is playing an important part in the alternative culture movement and Sechaba will bring a group of South African actors and theatre workers to Glasgow who will work with a number of Scottish theatre companies.

This partnership of Scottish and South African theatre workers will result in the production of a new dramatic work that will have its premiere during the Sechaba Festival.

• • Please Note • •

All International Conference delegates will receive an allocation of complimentary tickets and concessions to Sechaba Festival events.

More generally, Glasgow's European Capital of Culture 1990 celebrations involve literally thousands of events throughout the year and many of these will take place during the Sechaba Glasgow 1990 period.

A sample of what can be seen is contained in the enclosed brochure.

SECHABA**GLASGOW 1990**

"As a major and unique contribution to our City of Culture celebrations the Scottish Committee of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, in association with the Scottish TUC and in consultation with the ANC, is organising the Sechaba Festival and International Conference which I am proud to say the City of Glasgow fully supports."



SUSAN BAIRD
Lord Provost of Glasgow



GLASGOW – THE IDEAL VENUE

After competing with 8 other British cities, Glasgow, in November 1986, was ratified unanimously by the European Community's Ministers of Culture as Cultural Capital of Europe for 1990.

The Scottish Committee of the Anti-Apartheid Movement in association with the Scottish TUC felt that the prestige and international attention that Glasgow would have bestowed on it during 1990 made it imperative that the issue of Cultural Resistance to Apartheid should be discussed and displayed in Europe's cultural capital.

As well as being the 1990 City of Culture, Glasgow's record of opposition to apartheid has been a truly outstanding one.

Some of the milestones include:

- * 1960s – The Late Chief Albert Lutuli, President of the ANC from 1951-1967 was Rector of the University of Glasgow.
- * 1981 – Glasgow is the first city to award Nelson Mandela the Freedom of the City.
- * 1981 – Lord Mayor's declaration launched by Glasgow Lord Provost Michael Kelly at the United Nations in New York and signed by 7,000 Lord Mayors from all continents.
- * 1986 – The Glasgow square where the South African Consulate is situated was renamed Nelson Mandela Place by Lord Provost Robert Gray.
- * 1988 – The Glasgow to London Nelson Mandela FREEDOM AT 70 march is launched by current Lord Provost Susan Baird.

Many organisations and institutions in Glasgow have associated themselves with the Anti-Apartheid Movement including Glasgow and Strathclyde Universities and the Kelvingrove Art Gallery.

Winnie Mandela has been Rector of Glasgow University for the past three years and Strathclyde University Students Association has established the Nelson Mandela Scholarship which assists ANC approved students to study at the university.

During its year as European City of Culture, Glasgow has a great opportunity to reaffirm its deep association with the anti-apartheid struggle and its commitment to humanitarian values.

Jim Kerr of the SIMPLE MINDS rock band sings "Mandela Day" in front of the 30,000 people in Glasgow Green who turned out on June 12, 1988 to give an enthusiastic send off to the Glasgow to London NELSON MANDELA FREEDOM MARCHERS.

The main speakers at that inspiring "Nelson Mandela Freedom at 70" rally were Andimba Tshaka Tshaka – SWAPO Secretary-General, Archbishop Telo of Middelton – AAM President, Oliver Tambo – ANC President, and Alan Boesak – President of the World Council of Reformed Churches.

