

BUSINESS DAY, Johannesburg, 17 October 1991

Sanctions

Major and Mandela stay mum on sanctions

HARARE — British Prime Minister John Major yesterday headed off a recurrence of past conflicts at the Commonwealth summit, emerging from an apparently amiable lunch with ANC president Nelson Mandela, who expressed confidence about SA's political development and integration into the international community.

The lunch took place on the first day of the summit, which began with a series of speeches by heads of government.

Both Mandela and Major refused to be drawn on the issue of sanctions, which is due for discussion today.

In a joint news conference with Major, Mandela said he had not expected SA to

task of negotiating a new constitution for a free and democratic SA.

Major said all Commonwealth leaders could play their part in tackling obstacles to agreement, but SA would need "more than just our good wishes" to return to the economic growth essential for stability.

Mugabe's sentiments were echoed by Commonwealth secretary-general Chief Emeka Anyaoku of Nigeria, who welcomed the "substantial developments" of the past 18 months. He warned, though, that the process was still fragile and said there was a "chilling degree of violence".

Anyaoku, commenting on a report that sets a yearly target of \$5m in aid for a post-apartheid SA for a minimum three-year period, said the Commonwealth would have to support a transformed SA.

The report of the Commonwealth Expert Group on Human Resource Development in a post-apartheid SA recommends the convening of a global donors' conference and suggests a leading role for the Commonwealth in mobilising aid.

TIM COHEN and
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change faster and was optimistic that the rate of progress would be maintained.

Asked if he would want to see SA back in the Commonwealth, Mandela said: "Once the political situation inside the country is normalised, I would strongly support our return."

Mandela is expected to present to the 50 heads of government an ANC formula to merge the existing phased "New Delhi plan" for lifting first trade, then financial sanctions.

In his opening address, Zimbabwe's

The goals of the group are to contribute to the process of political change, educate blacks to occupy senior government positions and advance education and training institutions committed to a nonracial, post-apartheid SA. It says out of the top 3 000 jobs available in government, 800 should be filled by blacks as soon as possible. This would cost about £8.6m.

Yesterday Major and Mandela agreed on a pilot training scheme, the Daily Telegraph reports. The proposal involves programmes in British universities and at the Civil Service College in Berkshire for nominated black South Africans to learn public administration and local government skills. There are also plans to train black police officers in Britain for what is described as a "new approach to policing".

There were gasps from the 6 000-strong audience in the Harare conference centre when President Kamuzu Banda of Malawi, estimated to be between 87 and 93 years old, fell heavily as he entered the auditorium.

President Robert Mugabe delivered a conciliatory message, saying the Commonwealth must stand ready to support change in SA. "As you stand on Zimbabwean soil, only a stone's throw away from SA, the world expects us to spare no effort in helping to achieve an outcome there which will bring comfort to the oppressed people of SA."

"While we readily admit that difficulties emerge in any process as protracted as the one under way in SA, we call upon all SA leaders to put matters in their proper perspective and to override seemingly irreconcilable minor issues, and face the real

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2

THE CITIZEN, Johannesburg, 17 October 1991

People curbs to go?

and promotion of tourism. While the oil and arms embargoes should stay until a new democratic government was installed in South Africa, the ANC was reportedly in favour of lifting trade, investment and financial sanctions.

According to a senior ANC source quoted in Harare, ANC president Nelson Mandela will agree to the Commonwealth's intention to lift "people-to-people" sanctions such as the bans on cultural and scientific ties.

— Commonwealth proposals to lift "people-to-people" sanctions against South Africa will come up for discussion at the Harare summit today.

Any fears that the summit could spill over into a mud-slinging exercise against Pretoria were finally dismissed when Chief Anyaoku also paid special tribute to State President De Klerk's "realism and courage" over the last 18 months, after praising the "heroism" of other South Africans such as Mr Mandela.

The opening address by Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe, marked by his conciliatory statements on South Africa.

— Commonwealth secretary-general, Chief Anyaoku Emeka, Zimbabwe, Britain, Namibia and Cyprus welcomed developments in South Africa so far to remove apartheid.

Even Cyprus's President George Vassiliou, a vociferous critic of Pretoria in the past, said the end of the apartheid system of apartheid appeared to be in sight.

In contrast to his angry criticism of the South African Government in the past, he called on all South African leaders to put matters into the proper perspective for the sake of their country, override seemingly irreconcilable minor differences, and get on with the real task of negotiating a new democratic constitution.

The overall sentiments were that all leaders in the country should be encouraged to override their differences to enable faster movement towards a negotiated democratic settlement.

Today we witness the birth of a non-racial South Africa, which we hope will join the Commonwealth family of nations," he said.

Namibian President Sam Nujoma, who upset a tight schedule by far overrunning the eight-minute speech rule, said he was certain that in a few years time the evil face of apartheid would be wiped off the earth. —Sapa.

"We stand ready to assist the South Africans to create a peaceful climate."

Every possible assistance to South Africa to achieve this should be given by the Commonwealth.