

-In their name and that of the National Executive Committee we greet the entire membership of the ANC and Umkhonto Ne Sizwe and charge that they

carry the tasks facing all of us with such honesty, courage, dedication and discipline as befit all true revolutionaries. In their name, and on behalf of the National Executive Committee, we commend all these

. revolutionaries and urge all other patriots to unite in action, to act for unity and, as one, to lead the people in united action.

In the name of the founding fathers, in the name of the martyred heroes of our people, and in the name of the leadership of the African National Congress, we call upon our people to observe 1982, the 70th anniversary of the formation of our national union, as the Year of Unity in Action.

Let this be the year of the most powerful offensive that our country

has ever seen. Let this be the year of our {Treatestmzxity lintaotiono  
Let this be the year of a great leap forward to the threshold of victory.

Bong live the Year of Unity in Action'.

Long live our glorious people's movement, the African National Congress'.

Meatla ke a rona' Amandla ngawethu'

'Ke nako, Rbyihlome'.

All power to the people'.

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Our struggle is, as part of the revolutionary process that is

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Sweeping SorSSS the Sontihent, draws inspirStioh and Support lom the victories Slfeady Soofed by Africa. Our victory SVer what was 3l the be-lnnlng, and remains, entrenched imperialist Smmination and llhits iminority rule, will constitute the apex of Africaaâ\200\23ls advance to genuinS

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political and economic emancipation.

It is equally true that the revolutionary transformations of the 1st SS have  
 taken place on the continent of Africa as a component part of this  
 broader global struggle waged by progressive mankind against the  
 of imperialist domination over the world and of the exploitation of man by  
 man. At the time of the founding of the ANC, a new phase of imperialist  
 domination of the rest of the world by the 1st SS had  
 been set up among the "Table" imperialist forces in pursuit of strategic  
 raw materials, profit, and spheres of influence. Millions of  
 people in the colonies and new colonies of the world had been reduced to  
 'of unbridled exploitation and producers of fat profits for foreign masters.

Tod.ay that p1Sture has Sâ\200\234nged. It has Câ\200\234â\200\235Wâ\200\235Od rdu10a13â\200\235 8.1d irrSvSrsihly;

The spheru Sf impSrialist Semi n i:ion has Shrunk trCMSniSu lg anS'oShtinuSS to do So as the forces of libwrmtlon and SSSiSl prSgrSSSgrow in SiÃ©e and, COWbathCEGuS.AS a Sonsewugnco, tlm SaLSnSe of forces, both continSntally and internStionally, has Sncisively Shiftad in favour of the forSSS of indepSnr&Shoe, demoorLSy lnd peaSS. The nmlnsuuw of this torld revolutionary prSSSS S Sre thS soSialist countries, fuJJv SSSSmitted to the Sense of natiSnal liberatiSn, the democratic forces in Lhe capitalist camp, and the national liberation movenamt. PIS too, therSfSrS, arc part SSS parcel of this 'revolutionary stream that is changing our planet for a bettSr and happier

world to live in.

Give this background, therefore, the 70th anniversary of the African American Congressional finds still for us better served than 1:9 have been there

TS SSrry our historic mission to dSStrSv the apartheid monster and realise  
thS';;;oal Sf total liberatich ofâ\200\230S AfriSSn Soï-\201tihent. It is our historic  
o\llâ\200\230dtl01, as it is that of Africa, uniteï-\202'lnler the Organisatibn of

Africw Uni;

to ijvlt tS ach.iSVS this goal, aha in Soing so, to contribute

tS thS SffSrtSL011SrdS ensurin{j th5t the Sontihe11t aS-a whole enjoys peace

and attends to the urgent task of winning economic liberation and raising the

the living Standards of its people.

The venue of this momentous event was NAEC" INC (Bloemfontein). Pixley ka I.

Seme explained Lo Lhe assembled i-\201ele3aLes:

"The while people of Lhis oounLry have farmed what is known as

Lhe Union of SouLh Africa ~ a union in â\200\235â\200\234101 we have no voice

in Lh.e maklnn of laws and no parL in Lheir adminieraLiongâ\200\230Ne\_

have called you.a. Lo Lhis conference so LlcLL we can LogeLheru

devise waays 3nd means of forming our national uxaion for Lhe

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The ensuingÂ°debaLe and delimerations oulminaLed

by a unanimous decision, in~

Lhe epooohnmaklhr formation of the African NaLional CoaneSs. The people of SouLhern Africa had LLLLS for3ed a new and mighLy weapon of eru3rle, a regional poliLioal force, a naational movemenL lll l13rew Lo becom' QerL of people's poliLioal life, experience and hisLor3,L1le CubOdLhent of Lheir deepest belief inthe oerLain y and vioLory and LL :0 expression of Lheir\_ idenLiLy wiLh Lhe progressive forces of Lhe\_world in Lhe pursuiL of man's

just cause.

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Taday, as we look back over 7 decades of uninLerrupLei-\201 3nd principled eruggle b3 Lhe African NaLional Con3mesg Lo free our oonLinenL and our moLherland from Lhe shackles of colonialism, raoismiahd fascism we riae in our millions

salsze of Lhe 3reaL paLrioLsswho Ceulereq at Men3up" in earlv Januar3,

1912. Amon3\*Lhem,- were.John Langalibalele Dube, So} PlaaLjie, Naller Rubusuna, Sam Mak3aLho, Alfred NanLona, Meshaok Pelem, ClurlObL Maxeke,T0138 Napikela, Edward Tsewu.and oLhers. There were the roval porgonafbe LLho had persohally orâ\200\230 whose forebears led Lhe armies of resisLanoel Lo Lhe colonial pooupaLion of Africa but also came to or were represenLed aL BloemfonLein Lo forge a new weapon of eLru33le, among Lhem: Solomon ha Linizulu of the Zulu, Mpthioa of Lhe Barolongr, Lewanika of Lhe Lozi, LeLsie II of Lhe SoLho, LaboLSiheni of Lhe Swazi, Dalindyebo;of Lhe Thembu, Sekhukhuni of Lhe Pedi and Khama of Lhe

Tswana.

The desire, the QLlova Lo brlnLo Lhe Bloemfonbeln COi-\2021OTLPCâ\200\234 all Lhe peoples of SouLllern Afrloa, as a fir sL step Lowards the uniflo Lion of Lhe African erugi-\201le, was i-\202efeated only by Lle f505 LheL we were separaLely subjumaLed by Lhree moLrOUollLah.Poâ\200\235v Â» w GreaL BriLain, Gerzm3v anÃ© Portugal.

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We greet these allies and friends on the occasion of our 70th birthday.

We greet the governments and peoples of the socialist community of nations,  
the

the governments and peoples of the countries organised in the non-aligned  
movement, the Scandinavian peoples and governments, and the anti-racist  
governments and peoples of the rest of Western Europe and North America in

the firm belief that we are together committed to act in unity against  
those who are committing a crime against humanity, the apartheid regime.

The year of

the 70th anniversary of the ANC has been proclaimed by that

authoritative body, the General Assembly of the United Nations, as the year of

mobilisation for the implementation of sanctions against apartheid. We urge  
that all those who truly wish to see and end to the inhuman system of  
apartheid should, 'act in unity, seize this opportunity to ensure that  
the Pretoria regime is isolated and brought to an end before. Failure to do this will  
condemn our people and those of Southern Africa in particular and in the  
end, the rest of mankind, to a terrible bloodletting that will forever remain  
a blot on the conscience of the entire humanity.

Today we commemorate with deserved pride the 70th anniversary of our national  
union. This is a historic occasion which has been made possible by the  
sacrifices which our people have made throughout these years and the support

of the

of the world democratic movement.

From Port Elizabeth and Bulhoek to Sharpeville and Soweto and many other  
widely dispersed points in time and space between, our people have laid  
down their lives in the struggle for our liberation and in pursuit of the  
goals for which the ANC was founded. On Robben Island, in Kroonstad and  
Pretoria are locked away leaders of our people, both young and old, men  
and women, black and white, heroes and heroines to whom the liberation of

the people is worth more than their own lives.

On this historic occasion we raise our banners in salute of all these  
martyrs and patriots and pledge to remain true to their example and  
steadfast in the execution of their command to seize power from our

oppressors.

Those who attended came from the British-ruled part of the region.

Today, however, the colonial barriers in-between separated us in 1911.

crashed under the weight of the African revolution. We have become one people, with one cause and one enemy - the S.A. fascist empire and their imperialist allies.

The African National Congress was conceived as a regional union of anti-colonial forces and had a distinctly continental perspective. On the occasion of its 70th anniversary the masses of the people of South Africa salute their comrades-in-arms, the peoples of Southern Africa:

110 founders of the ANC.

They salute the people of Africa - who, with the declaration of Namibia and South Africa, will have fulfilled their historic mission to achieve the total liberation of the Continent, while consolidating a firm foundation for a victorious struggle against imperialism.

The oppressed men and women of South Africa, through the ANC, salute all the world forces of change who, during the past 70 years, have fought triumphant struggles against colonialism, racism and fascism. Within 5 years of the formation of the ANC, the world's first socialist state came into being. Today a powerful world socialist system exists and the principles upon which it is founded are growing acceptance as men develop from his cave to his future.

The African National Congress, born of the people, a creation of Africa's history and experience, has moved with the people and with the times. It was born into the frontline, to spearhead the people's struggle. Thanks to the dedication of its members, the great vision of its leaders and the solidarity of its allies and supporters, it has remained in the forefront and is now spearheading the final assault upon the last colonial stronghold in

Africa:

is an integral part of the world. The 110 \*1911-1991 and has been influenced by the economic and social conditions which have come in the course of man's struggle for a better world. It is an integral part of the world-wide forces that are in fact changing the world by eliminating its injustices, correcting its social, economic and political order in which racism and peace will and war will have been removed. prevail because the forces of conflict

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On this historic occasion, marking the 70th anniversary of the founding of our Vanguard liberation movement, we extend our revolutionary greetings and congratulations to all our people on the great achievement and advances that they have thus far registered along this long and arduous march to our cherished goal of national and social liberation. That goal is already in sight. We are sighting this bold and confident goal, for our forces of national liberation have never been better poised for the final assault to eradicate the evil system of colonial and racial oppression and exploitation.

The formation of the African National Congress, on January 8, 1912,

is an expression of the future people's power won through protracted and

bitter struggles against the combined Boer and British colonial enslavement.

The ANC was, and remains to this day, the genuine political representative

and fighting force for the attainment of democracy and revolutionary change in our society.

The message that came out of the 1964 conference in Bloemfontein, 70 years ago, expressed the collective resolve of the peoples of Southern

Africa who perceived that they were suffering under the same yoke of colonial tyranny and that we share a common destiny. That message also coincided with the aspirations of millions of colonially subjugated Africans throughout our continent.

It is not accidental that history apportioned to our region the role of a forerunner in this regard. For it is here that imperialist domination and colonial occupation had achieved the most

pernicious and disastrous results, and therefore made more pressing

the need to challenge foreign

rule and to counterpose to it the right of the African people to self-determination and independence. Stretching from that period, the peoples of Africa have made gigantic strides, with practically the whole continent having attained political independence and now engaged in national economic

reconstruction to consolidate the se Meanâ\200\2346 A few poohets of racial and  
colonial domination remein,  
soon to  
swept off the surfemeof the  
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For us it was a time for reassessment, for the drawing up of a new

strategy

-and new tactics to meet the existing condition».

The administrative terror which the enemy unleashed against the popular upsurge: the bannings, banishments, beatings, torture in police cells, beatings and shootings ~ none of these have succeeded in neutralising the people's militancy. Instead they have reinforced our determination

to pursue the cause of liberation.

Under the leadership of the ANC and its allies as well as other patriotic revolutionary forces inside the country, organised political confrontation has grown immeasurably over the recent past. The underground forces of our movement are entrenched deeper and are multiplying: the people more than at any stage since the outlawing of our organisation. The country is engulfed in a crisis of deep proportions and is frantically looking for

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new wave out of this political quagmire.

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In the current period; our people have begun to reply to the enemy violence with revolutionary violence. Today our armed cadres are laying blow after blow at the enemy in wide-spread areas throughout South Africa» The growing sophistication of these blows, their frequency and their high organisation have inspired our people and reinforced their conviction that cause shall triumph. The enemy itself can no longer deny that

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they face a future in which a serious political upsurge will be more

level of

and more complemented by the

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armed action by the

people. We have

reached a stage where the people have opted for armed struggle as one of the most effective ways to resist the rulers

from power. Inside our borders the balance of forces is gradually tilting in our favour. The voice of the mass democratic movement, headed by the ANC and its allies is winning the hearts and minds of growing

numbers from among all the oppressed, pushing them into isolation the diehard racists and the apartheid state. This movement is not only an opponent of the apartheid rule but also actually a more effective force, the actual and active ally of the overwhelming majority of our people. Increasing numbers from the white oppressor group are steadily joining the stream for political and social change.

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The motto of unity was inscribed on our battle standards on the very day  
of the creation of the African National Congress. As Seme hai declared  
while organising the first congress,  
the delegates reÃ©blved to bring together the oppr08\$ed into cotmon &otion  
we are one people"q For

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as onÃ© political pÃ©ople.

We have therefore striven for seven decades to build one ogmmon nationhood  
with one destiny. Our shared experience of collective sacrifices in the

goal have knit us together as one solid block of,

~struggle for a odmmon  
liberatin; The comradeship thgtiwe have formed in the trenches of freedbm,  
transcending the barriers th&t thÃ© enemy sought to.create, is a guarantee  
and a precondition for our victory. But we need still to build on this

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aohiÃ©vement. All of us â\200\224 workers, peasants, stuĩ~\20lents, priests, chiefs,  
traders, tÃ©aohÃ©rs, ciVil servants, poets, writers, men women and youth,  
black and whitg ~ must take our common destiny in our own hands.

On this, our 70th anniversary, we call upon our people and on our allies  
and Supporters to make 1982 a year of Unity in Action with the intensification

of our agaault on all fronts.

We call upon our working people, the ba kbone of our liberation movement  
:to mobilise as never befre at the point of production to build a powerful  
democratic tradÃ© union movement for.the advancement of the interests of ,  
the workers and fOr thÃ©ir activisation into the struggle for the victory

of the national democratic revolution.

We call upon our people in the bantustans.to mobilise an& to isolate  
and destroy the Pretoria puppets. Let us all fight fqr\_a.democratio

and unified SOuth Africa;

We call upon our youth and studentg to maintain and heighten their  
MSpirit of rÃ©Ã©is ance. YOu havcâ\200\224alrewiy demonstrated that you are a  
'detÃ©cbmÃ©nt of greatest COUrage and heroismeai~\202owgâ\200\230more than aver before,

our stfuggle demands that you act-with supreme dedic&tion and vigour

Under the bannÃ©r bf our'fighting movement;

Today, C

â\200\234 b.e her010 sî-\201ruggle in which the Namibian people are engaged is  
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tsel f e mirhtv contribution to our own liberation, en elipreccion of  
a united offensive in which we who suffer under a common enemy are  
engaged. We pledge to our fellow combatants of Namibia that we shall  
intensify the Offensive on our front so that both our peoples can  
secure their emancipation.

We salute the heroic people of Angola who have resolutely sacrificed to  
sustain and advance the struggle of the Namibian people, in the process  
suffering aggression upon a sore heel by the fascist regime of South  
Africa. â\200\235

We Salute also other comrades in the struggle in the struggle to liberate  
themselves, including those of the Polisario Front, of Palestine led by the PLO, of El Salvador led by the Farabundo Marti  
National Liberation Front, of East Timor led by Fretilin, of Puerto Rico,  
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Guatemala and elsewhere

All these struggles together with our own belong to one democratic and  
anti-imperialist movement. Any advances they make contribute to the  
furtherance of our own struggle, any advances we make strengthen the  
line of these other movements which like us, confront the forces of

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Imperialism headed by the United States of America.

These forces of reaction can so that the risen peoples are determined  
to bring to an end the epoch of imperialist domination. They have

therefore decided to go on with the offensive against the people. The most  
backwards elements in world politics, therefore, be it apartheid

South Africa, Zionism

Israel or the reactionary Junta of El Salvador,

find encouragement to hang on to their ill-gotten power at all costs.

But in 70 years the world has changed radically. The people of Africa,  
of Southern Africa and of South Africa are not alone. We too have our  
allies and loyal friend countries and peoples who share the same vision  
as we do, who are prepared to carry the burden of the struggle together with  
us, who recognize that all humanity is diminished and world peace and  
security threatened if the continued existence of the apartheid regime

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Through our sacrifices, and in the face of brutal enemy repression and  
persecution, we have stubbornly and persistently depended on our great:

creation, the African National Congress, against frantic and desperate  
efforts by the enemy to blot it out. We have defended it because we knew

that without it our collective strength would cease to exist, without it

the prospects of our future power would fade into the distant future.  
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Twenty years after the departure of the old regime, the ANC today

on its 70th anniversary, â\200\2308 openly proclaimed as the leader of our people,

thanks to the imposition by the masses of a new popular concept of legality

which the enemy guns cannot shoot out of existence, and which his courts

cannot impede; By lifting the ban in this manner we have asserted

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ourselves as the alternative power of our land this only legitimate payer,

-because we are the people, the democratic majority, whose will must triumph

in the end.

In sharp contrast to the regimes who have sought to divide our country and

people into racial and ethnic compartments, we have upheld the ideal of one

country, one people and one democratic and non-racial destiny for all who

live in it, black and white

The people's determination not to deviate from these ideals remains  
steadfast and finds expression in the universal commitment we have made to

fidelity to the perspectives contained in the Freedom Charter. As there  
can be no compromise between democratic rule and racist tyranny, so must  
it be that the Freedom Charter, the alternative political, economic and  
cultural platform of popular power in our country, will emerge

â\200\235triumphant.

After 70 years of unrelenting struggle, and building on the historic and  
irreversible gains recorded during these years, we have reached a quarter  
of â\200\235750 /5,

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viz the process of consolidating, bases of popular power among the people

3câ\200\235un To promote this process we have decided to mobilise our people

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for the coming period under the motto "Unity in Action". Our  
strength lies in unity and our future advances, in action without unity

we are weak, and in action we remain oppressed. To move forward we  
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must at the same time, in unity and unite in action: The lines recorded during  
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70 years of struggle have, thanks to the  
successive generations of our people, given us the possibility to achieve  
the goal of a new society. In 1917, the  
in 1917

such unity in practice

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STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AFRICAN

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OF THE TCRMATION \200\235QB E"1111110 AN NATIONAL CONGRESS \200\224- ngjgggjx;

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Compatriots, allies and democratic supporters of the heroic'strug'le  
of The people of South Africa

Comrades,

The names of the founding fathers are in the minds of many of the oppressed  
' people of our Country today as we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the

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foundation of the African National Congress. One of these is PiAjele ka Izaka 1  
\200\231(y.

Seme, had declared in 1906:.

"The brigghĩ-\201 er dam is rising upon Africa, the

regeneration of Africa belongs to this new and powerful

Aperiod. The African people... possess a common

fundamental sentiment which is everywhere manifest,

crystallising itself

into one common controlling idea...

'The regeneration of Africa means that a new and unique

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Civilisation is soon to be added to the world".

In 1911, the historic Clarion call which articulated a widely felt need

for a united struggle against colonial domination in Africa, Pixley {a

Seme invited the people of the subcontinent to meet in conference and,

forgetting all past differences and divisions, to discuss and

plan together for their common future.

As an expression of The "regeneration of Africa" and in response to the Call

for united struggle, the most representative political gathering of Africans

ever held in the Subcontinent of Africa took place on January 1912 at  
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Delegates and representatives came from all over South Africa and from other

Countries of Southern Africa. They included workers, farmers, peasants,

professionals, Journalists, traders, churchmen, Chiefs, Members of the African  
royalty, poets, musicians and others.

We are better placed to move forward because our people are engaged in

mass mobilisation action at a level and the 'the' unsurpassed over the last seven decades. We are better placed to break new ground in our efforts on the economic front. These rising mass movements, from practical experience, that the revolutionary struggle: the 11:23 are envisaged as one leader and one perspective ~ the African National Congress in the Freedom Charter TCSA\200\234\200\234CulV01J. A\200\235e are better placed to move in on the enemy

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Umkhonto We Sizwe

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to the enemy in the language he understands best.

The 1912 founding conference was the first time that the movement to meet the changing context of the A\200\230e\200\234in  
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in which new conditions of the 1912 were still in the A\200\234c11  
infancy. Our people had been deprived of their land and all political rights. In the 1910s they were pushed into the mines and plantations to produce wealth for South Africa's ruling Class; This marked the emergence of the working class movement in our country. It was from the 1910s that the new forces of resistance came up. The past 70 years have witnessed unending efforts by the working people to combine and use their collective strength to defeat the oppressor. In

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pass campaigns, defence campaigns and the reform of Struggle, "to place

A\200\234practical School for training

all over the country. All these served as

and training our revolutionary forces. Gradually they have become stronger in strength A\200\234th  
and experience and now pose a real threat to the system of apartheid. They

economic struggle:

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Alread3 b3 the late 1940's our 30Ung mllltnte} thrown upâ\200\230hy the growii-\201g  
end intensifyini-\201'struï-\201i-\201ley began to elert new and more effective methods  
ef struggle for the new star". Tlll rrrpered tle ground for the massive  
confrontations of the 1C50' s m the umnl1'n fer the defiance of unjust lees,  
general pelitice1 strikes, more entlâ\200\224Da1010empel"ne eï-\201l the Confress of the  
People thlt adopted our 1181307010 doommb -â\200\230-511: Freedom Charter. B3 that '  
periodt1le African Netional Comeres lled heeome a myC.movCï-\201ent involving  
'all sections of the oppreeSed 1h.QCTli-\201C;SLTUWW1CoFbCud.Tliz znmifri\*ltehed'f  
by the risihy revolutionar3 tide, he enem3 dealered our movement illegal

and deteined men3 of Our lbu&CrÂ° ehd act1Vl1te.

We call upon our womenfolk to raise the cry for vengeance against those who are murdering, maiming and torturing our sons and daughters for their participation in our struggle. You have already demonstrated that you do choose between dying in defence of apartheid or joining the noble cause of national liberation.

We call upon the millions of the oppressed to stand shoulder to shoulder at this crucial hour in our history. The enemy manoeuvres to sow division in our ranks must be defeated. Our destiny is one.

We call upon these amongst our people who have been clad in police and

army uniforms to rethink their role. You have it within your grasp to choose between dying in defence of apartheid or joining the noble cause of national liberation.

We call upon those in the white community who are ready to live a life of racial equality and non-racialism to make common cause with our struggle for genuine liberation.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the African National Congress, itself a product of the trials and tribulations of Africa's children, we salute the OAU and the brother peoples of this continent. To all of them we say the need for us to continue acting in unity in the struggle to destroy the apartheid regime, the enemy of all Africa, increases with the intensification of the struggle. It is the hope of the millions of your brothers and sisters held prisoner at the Pretoria reformatory that this year, you will, together with them, take initiatives further to advance our united action.

We salute in particular the brother people of Namibia, their leader, SWAPO and the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN). It is to us a matter of proud record that as early as 1919, and in 1945, the ANC sent delegations to Versailles and the United Nations respectively, to fight against the territory of Namibia which was mandated to racist South Africa.