



North American Anti-Apartheid Conference

Dear Friend:

The initial stages of planning for a North American Anti-Apartheid Conference have begun! At a meeting held in Portland on July 29th, organizers from Eugene, Portland, Coeur d'Alene, and Seattle made the decision to begin preparations for a conference, to take place in Seattle in the Fall of 1990.

The next planning meeting will be held in Portland on August 19th and 20th.

The following points were discussed in a brainstorm session, as part of the process of thinking about what a NAAAC might achieve. The list includes both goals and tactics:

- 1). Put pressure on the U.S. government
- 2). Put pressure on existing national anti-apartheid groups to meet grassroots organizing needs
- 3). Create a new national organization that does meet our needs
- 4). Rally around a specific issue
- 5). Break the press censorship
- 6). Attract large numbers of people to an action
- 7). Expose the role of the power structure in maintaining oppression
- 8). Create an emergency response network
- 9). Plan a national action
- 10). Emphasize trade unions as a tactic
- 11). Present the issue in non-cultural terms to prevent divisions
- 12). Address apartheid in the USA and oppression in all forms
- 13). Examine links between racism in the USA and Southern Africa
- 14). Consider human rights issues
- 15). Focus on conference as part of a larger tactic
- 16). Work on education in the school system
- 17). Develop a better national communications network

Participants in the planning meeting repeatedly stressed the need for unity and unified action. Creating a united North American Anti-Apartheid movement and network was seen as a basis

on which to build the conference. A suggested theme was "Unity Against Apartheid Everywhere." The focus of the conference will be a major item of discussion at the next meeting (August 19/20). The fall of 1990 was chosen--only a year away--because of the urgency of the situation in Southern Africa. It was also noted that 1990 will be an election year. It was agreed that Seattle was the appropriate location for a conference because of its wider reputation, and because the logistics of planning such an event outside of the Northwest seemed unworkable to those organizers who are now involved.

Proposed agenda items for the next meeting are:

- 1). Report back on tasks
- 2). Discuss the invitation of speakers and groups, especially Southern African groups
- 3). Consider funding possibilities
- 4). Discuss the scenario of combining the conference with an action
- 5). Address group divisions
- 6). Discuss goals and expectations of this conference
- 7). Set goals for planning the conference
- 8). Discuss workshop ideas
- 9). Figure out how to broaden the issues (Racism in the USA, Sexism, Politics and Economics)
- 10). Discuss the possible need for a steering committee
- 11). Set up work committees
- 12). Plan the outreach for further organizing
- 13). Discuss the format of the conference

If you have ideas or would like to help with any of the following tasks, please contact the person listed:

1). FUNDING--

Deborah Marshall (503) 236-9687
2107 E. Burnside
Portland, OR 97214

2). SETTING UP FOR NEXT MEETING--

Cliff Walker (503) 287-6334
4017 North Interstate Ave.
Portland, OR 97227

3). OUTREACH FOR PLANNING, CONTACTING NATIONAL GROUPS--

Kurt Meyer (206) 524-6957
6515 16th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98115

4). PREPARING A PROPOSED AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING--

Kurt Meyer

5). RESEARCHING LOCATIONS, ACCOMMODATIONS, APPROPRIATE DATES--

Kurt Meyer

6). MAKING PRELIMINARY CONTACT WITH POTENTIAL SPEAKERS--

Lisa Anderson (208) 664-4825
1517 7th St.
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

The mailing list for this group still needs to grow, so please send any addresses of groups or individuals in your area that should also be contacted. Any monetary contributions you are able to make to help cover the cost of mailing will be greatly appreciated. Send checks to USAMBA.

Thanks for your interest and support.

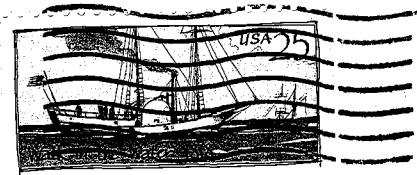
A luta continua!



For general information about this project, contact

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