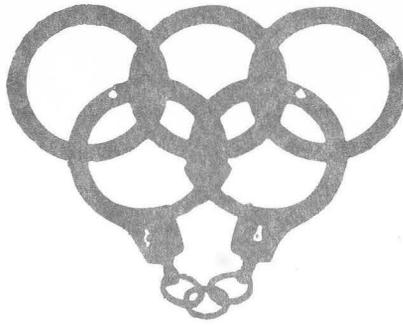


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c/o "CONFERENCE"  
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#### CONFERENCE STATEMENT

The Conference on International Sport, Politics, Racism and Apartheid, in its closing session on March 12, 1978 at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, affirmed its support for the people of South Africa in their struggle against racism and apartheid and declared its determination to contribute in whatever way possible to the ongoing struggle until it is brought to a successful conclusion.

The Conference, after a thorough study of various aspects of the problems of politics, racism and apartheid in international sport, expressed its desire to assist the resolution of those problems by working in harmony with the people of South Africa who are fighting to remove those evils from their sport.

The views of the Conference were expressed in a three-part Resolution reflecting the discussions. The Resolution is attached.

The Conference expressed its appreciation to the United Nations for its work in taking action against apartheid and in educating the world community on the oppressive nature of the apartheid system and welcomed the adoption by the United Nations in December, 1977 of an International Declaration Against Apartheid in Sport. The Conference urged the United Nations to proceed rapidly to the adoption of a tough and precise Convention Against Apartheid in Sport.

The conference also expressed its gratitude to the agencies of the United Nations and particularly the Special Committee Against Apartheid for the enormous contribution it has made to the international struggle against apartheid, with particular reference to apartheid in sport. Specifically, the Conference expressed its appreciation to the Special Committee and to the Ad Hoc Working Committee for an International Convention Against Apartheid in Sport for the presence of a Delegation throughout the three days of the Conference.

The Conference expressed its appreciation to the co-sponsors of the Conference, ICARIS (the International Campaign Against Racism in Sport) and

**Conference on International Sport, Politics, Racism and Apartheid**

the Pre-Alumni *Association* of Meharry Medical College for arranging a successful and constructive occasion. The Conference also expressed its thanks to all organizations represented at the Conference (see attached list). The Conference noted the large measure of agreement which existed between the organizations participating in the Conference and their united determination to oppose racism in sport.

Particular attention was focused on the proposed Davis Cup tennis match between the United States and the racist South African Tennis Association at Vanderbilt University in Nashville on March 17, 18 and 19. This planned event was vigorously condemned and the Conference called for its cancellation in messages sent to Chancellor Alexander Heard of Vanderbilt University, President W. E. Hester of the United States Tennis Association, and President Jimmy Carter at the White House.

The Conference noted that its final session was conducted on the day after the burial of Robert Sobukwe, founder and leader of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania and saluted him for his important contribution to the struggle against apartheid and for the hardship and persecution which he endured under the vicious apartheid regime. The Conference also paid tribute to all those men, women, and children who have heroically resisted the brutalities of the apartheid system and expressed its solidarity with them; particularly those of the South African liberation movements, the African National Congress, the Pan Africanist Congress, the South African Students Organization, and the South African Students Movement.

The Conference paid tribute, too, to the non-racial sports administrators of South Africa and particularly the members of the non-racial South African Council of Sport who have courageously represented the true sports aspirations of all South African sportsmen and sportswomen.

The Conference undertook through ICARIS and other participating organizations to continue the work against racism in sport and to particularly work relating to the Commonwealth Games to be held in Edmonton, Canada in July, 1978.

The organizations represented at the Conference affirmed their commitment to the struggle to eliminate racial discrimination and apartheid from sport and their solidarity with the people of South Africa in their fight for justice and freedom.

Nashville, Tennessee

March 12, 1978