

TALK AND HUMANITARIAN AID GO HAND IN HAND

DURING an unofficial visit to Germany, Chief Buthelezi was received at the Chancellery in Bonn by high ranking Government officials.

They included The Honourable Dr Volkmar Kohler MP, Under-Secretary of State in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Mr Horst Teltschik, Foreign Affairs Analyst to Germany's Chancellor.

Chief Buthelezi told Dr Kohler that Blacks were encouraged by expressions of abhorrence in the West towards South Africa's apartheid society.

However, no amount of rhetoric used in condemning it could help the victims of apartheid wrestle with the problems they faced such as ignorance, poverty and disease.

The struggle for liberation in South Africa was more than a quest for political liberation.

It was against this background, said Chief Buthelezi, that he wished to thank "War on Hunger" in Bonn for the aid it had given to KwaZulu after the area was hit by cyclones early this year.

He added: "It is the measure of the hypocritical atmosphere within which the struggle for liberation has to be waged that both the External Mission of the ANC and SWAPO spokesmen attacked "War on Hunger" for ordering this much needed aid to KwaZulu. They talk as if the struggle for liberation is not taking place within South Africa.

"We have appreciated the money which has come to us through the German Consulate in Durban to enable some of our people to keep their heads above water.

"I do not wish to look a gift horse in

the mouth but I do wish to add that I hope the day may come when the German Government can give us more humanitarian aid in line with its programmes in the rest of Africa, Asia and in South America."

Chief Buthelezi said it was "high time" the West realised that it did not make sense to Blacks that the West should in one breath state that South Africa's politics were a threat to world peace, and in the next breath give excuses as to why it could not help the victims of apartheid to help themselves.

"We do not pretend that the international community has any obligation to help us," he said.

"But in terms of the many thousands of words which are spoken each year to condemn apartheid, there appears to be a moral obligation to render assistance commensurate with that condemnation..."

GERMAN GOVERNMENT TOLD THERE'S NO CHANGE IN SA

CHIEF Buthelezi, in another top level meeting in Bonn, told the Chancellor's Foreign Affairs Analyst, Mr Horst Teltschik, that the situation in SA had not changed.

He said there was an "illusion" in some capitals of the West that the new constitution was a step in the right direction.

This was a "... gross error of judgement..."

"In the first place this constitution enshrines racism into the constitution of South Africa," he said.

"The old Westminster-type Constitution could not be faulted as it stood — except that we Blacks were denied the vote. That was not the fault of the old constitution."

Blacks had been "heartened" by the fact that, so far, they had not heard

"any approving noises" from Bonn regarding the new constitution.

Chief Buthelezi said he feared more violence if more Blacks in South Africa lost hope and continued to indulge in the "self-lacerating violence" which was now taking its place.

This necessitated more moral, material and diplomatic aid to those — such as Inkatha — who are waging a non-violent struggle in South Africa, he added.

"In this difficult time when there is such despondency in the Black community as a result of the African exclusion in the new political dispensation, we need more and more diplomatic material and moral support from the West.

"Because the road ahead is so long and so hard, the more necessary it is

that we who pursue non-violence as a strategy should not be made to feel alone by being denied the support I mentioned.

"I believe that Germany can make a great contribution towards change by exerting diplomatic pressure on South Africa, while not isolating the country altogether in such a way that she finds an excuse for continuing to be the international rogue elephant which runs amok in the whole sub-continent of Southern Africa."

Chief Buthelezi said Blacks expected a lot from West Germany — commensurate with the influence it wielded in the West.

"We believe that the problems of South Africa will be resolved in South Africa by both Blacks and Whites but the process could be unnecessarily painful and costly depending on the extent to which the West fails us in denying Blacks material, moral and diplomatic support within South Africa's borders."