



## TO NATIONAL CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On behalf of the oppressed people of our country we wish to inform you that the 8th of January 1987 marks the 75th anniversary of the ANC. The anniversary marks decades of a relentless struggle against the evil system of apartheid, whose moral and theological justification has been declared a heresy by the world religious community.

The ANC has always viewed the religious community in our country as an important component of our struggling people. This is testified to by the very fact that among the founding fathers and early leaders are outstanding Christians such as the Rev. John Dube the first President of the ANC; S. M. Makgatho (a lay preacher) the second President of the ANC; Rev. Z.R. Mahabane third President of the ANC; The Rev. W.B. Rubusane, one of the first vice-Presidents of the ANC. These early Christians in our country laid the foundations of struggle on which the present confessing churches and religious communities are based.

Today, the churches and religious communities continue to regard it justifiable to speak against injustices practised by the apartheid regime. In a vain effort to extricate itself from the crisis it now faces the colonial Pretoria regime has resorted to more and more naked repression against the mass democratic movement in our country, not excluding the religious community. The churches response to this situation was made in the KAIROS DOCUMENT in which they expounded the need to remove this ungodly regime by all means.



Steve Tshwete Secretary of the 75th Anniversary Committee.

The ANC, as the leader of the oppressed people of South Africa, takes this opportunity to express our profound appreciation to you, the church and the religious community and institutions in S.A. and abroad for their steadfast positions against apartheid and the support you continue to render to our struggle for freedom, justice and peace.

As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of our Movement we join you to participate in our campaigns and activities for 1987. We

call upon you to highlight the just struggle of the peoples of South Africa through prayer in the week of January the 8th and to initiate other activities and campaigns in observance of this auspicious occasion.

We are looking forward to your close co-operation and collaboration.

Yours in the struggle,

**STEVE TSHWETE**  
Secretary — 75th Anniversary Committee.