

APPENDIX ESTATEMENT ISSUED BY THE SYNODICAL COMMITTEE OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN AFRICA (S.C.A.)

It is our conviction that the present unrest and tension in our country is a sad but urgent reminder of the fact that the future of the people in South Africa is nothing but a shared future and that whatever is happening affects all people. As a Church of Jesus Christ primarily called to serve the Indian Community in SA, we feel ourselves deeply involved in the present situation and wish to identify ourselves with all people who have become the victims of urgent and humiliating measures. In defence of the dignity given by God to all people and concern for peace and justice in our country, we therefore wish to make the following urgent representations to the Government:

1. to take immediate steps into the direction of equal rights for all people and to refrain from making minor concessions in order to appease discontent and frustration since the latter action will in fact encourage more unrest and violence.
2. to refrain from polarising people in searching for solutions. We are convinced that the designed Cabinet Council will bring about a dangerous and unjustified polarisation of Whites, Coloureds and Indians on the one hand and Africans on the other hand.
3. To withdraw the Group Areas Act immediately since this not only had adverse and disrupting effects on the lives of many people but it is also increasing isolation and promoting tension and suspicion among the different groups in SA, at a time when this can least be afforded.