

PH-COMMONWEALTH-AFRICA; DL BGT 1ST LD; 0873
 1ST LEAD - 518 (UPDATES WITH RECOMMENDATIONS ACCEPTED; COMMENTS;
 TRIMS; NO PICKUP)

BY DENNIS PASSA

CANBERRA (CP) - EIGHT COMMONWEALTH FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED TODAY TO ACCEPT FOR CONSIDERATION RECOMMENDATIONS IN AN INDEPENDENT REPORT FOR INCREASED SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

DIFFERING VIEWS EMERGED; HOWEVER; ON HOW SOME OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MAY EVENTUALLY BE IMPLEMENTED.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER JOE CLARK; CHAIRMAN OF MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA; SAID THE MINISTERS AGREED THE RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD BE CONSIDERED AT THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN OCTOBER IN KUALA LUMPUR; MALAYSIA.

BUT CLARK; SPEAKING IN HIS CAPACITY AS CANADA'S REPRESENTATIVE; SAID HE COULD NOT FORESEE NEW CANADIAN TRADE SANCTIONS "IN THE SHORT TERM" AGAINST PRETORIA'S APARTHEID POLICIES.

THE SCOPE AND TIMING OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS DOMINATED THE MEETINGS TODAY; AND THERE WERE A VARIETY OF TRANSLATIONS AS TO WHETHER INTENSIFYING SANCTIONS MEANT THAT THERE SHOULD BE NEW ONES.

NIGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MAJ.-GEN. IKE NHACHUKWU TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE; "I SEE THAT WE NEED TO HAVE NEW SANCTIONS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO SHOW SOUTH AFRICA THAT WE MEAN BUSINESS."

BUT CLARK SAID THERE WAS NO CONFUSION ON THE TERMINOLOGY; AND ANY NEW TRADE SANCTIONS WOULD FIRST HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT IN OCTOBER.

HE SAID "WE ARE BETTER ADVISED AT THIS POINT IN TIME TO SEEK BROADER ADHERENCE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO SANCTIONS THAT ARE ALREADY IN PLACE IN THE COMMONWEALTH."

"THERE WERE NO DISAGREEMENTS;" CLARK SAID. "WE ALL HAVE DIFFERING VIEWS ON HOW TO DO IT DOWN THE LINE; BUT WERE UNANIMOUS TODAY IN THE MEETING."

NOT ENOUGH

THE INDEPENDENT REPORT SAYS THAT PRESENT SANCTIONS HAVE ONLY PARTIALLY SUCCEEDED IN MEETING THEIR OBJECTIVES AND THAT THEY ARE NOT ENOUGH TO MAINTAIN PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA.

THE NEW FINANCIAL SANCTIONS RECOMMENDED INCLUDE A TIGHTENING OF CONDITIONS FOR DEBT REPAYMENT; DESCRIBED AS AN IMPORTANT STEP BECAUSE A NUMBER OF SOUTH AFRICAN LOANS ARE COMING UP FOR RENEWAL IN 1990.

FURTHER RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE FINANCING; MONITORING THE BAN ON MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM LENDING; AND A BAN ON NEW BANK LENDING WERE ALSO RECOMMENDED.

THE REPORT'S AUTHOR; JOE HANLON; AN EX-NEW YORKER WHO LIVES IN LONDON; SAID AT A NEWS CONFERENCE THE COMMONWEALTH HAS FALLEN BEHIND NORDIC COUNTRIES AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE SCOPE OF ITS TRADE SANCTIONS. HE RECOMMENDED A TOTAL BAN OF TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA WITHIN FIVE YEARS.

AMONG THE 30 RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WILL BE CONSIDERED IS THE BANNING OF THE SALE OF ALL VEHICLES AND VEHICLE PARTS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

"THIS IS A MOST IMPORTANT ITEM BECAUSE NOT ONLY DOES IT HURT THE WHITE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA; BUT IT WILL INEVITABLY CREATE JOBS FOR BLACKS IF CAR IMPORTS DRY UP;" HANLON SAID.

HE ALSO RECOMMENDED BANNING THE SALE TO SOUTH AFRICA OF COMPUTERS AND AUTOMATION TECHNOLOGY.

THE REPORT SAYS THAT FIVE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD BE ADOPTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THEY INCLUDE THE BANNING OF THE IMPORTATION OF ALL SOUTH AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS; ALL NON-STRATEGIC SOUTH AFRICAN MINERALS; INCLUDING COAL; IRON ORE AND URANIUM; AND ALL SOUTH AFRICAN MANUFACTURED GOODS.

"THE BANNING OF IMPORTS IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN EXPORTS;" SAID HANLON. "YOU CAN ALWAYS GET SOMEONE ELSE TO EXPORT TO SOUTH AFRICA; BUT IF YOU BAN THEIR EXPORTS; THERE WON'T BE ANYWHERE FOR THEM TO GO."