apartheid system and then during the 1990's sought to educate the masses on the political process of transformation. Extremely low literacy and education levels and hampered this strategy as well as making information available to more than eleven distinct linguistic groups. Secondly, although mainly a peaceful movement, the MK armed resistance wing placed the seizure of power on the agenda and used measures of violence, property damage and civil unrest to intensify pressure on the government.(ANC, 1994: 1) The third strategical tactic was the mobilization of workers across the entire country. Probably the most integral component of the opposition movement was the ability to bring the country to its knees economically through frequent and protracted, nation-wide strike action. This is also related to the fourth tactic which was to make the country ungovernable through high levels of civil disobedience and unrelenting protest action. The movement also harnessed growing moral opposition to the apartheid regime by networking through international NGOs and citizens groups to encourage states to implement economic sanctions and enforce boycotts of South African products. Not only did this strategy seek to isolate and weaken the apartheid regime but also to gain international financial support for the movement's activities. And lastly, they created a network of underground structures inside and outside of the country to ensure the goals of the liberation movement.

These tactics were consolidated and enhanced by the inherent strengths of the union movement. The high levels of unionization in South Africa during the decade of struggle granted the unions considerable organizational leverage by involving most sectors of the economy in strike and protest action. In addition, the external supportunions received from other labour organizations and NGOs provided much needed financial resources and practical advice for the movement's activities. As a civil organization working in opposition to the state, the movement was strengthened by the absence of a formal relationship with the state. This strategic position allowed the movement to operate autonomously and free from fears of co-optation or government muzzling. In addition, the negotiating strategies employed by the union federations were conciliatory and amiable which provided a key example for other bodies involved in the process of change. This atmosphere of compromise and negotiation was of vital importance to promoting a smooth transition to democracy and promoting an accommodating relationship between unions, business and government.

Of prime importance for the opposition movement however, was the resolute internal solidarity of the movement itself. By banning political parties during the apartheid period, the government forced ideology into the union movement and "the result was a politically engaged union movement combining socio-political and 'bread-and-butter' demands".(Baskin, 1996: 22) This broad class consciousness which infused the labour movement motivated the unions to act on behalf of all citizens to push for societal reforms. By moving beyond a narrow focus of business unionism and sacrificing opportunities to improve the conditions and terms of employment for workers, the labour movement put the needs of greater society ahead of its membership. Of course, this could not have been achieved without the active support and participation of the millions of workers who comprised the labour movement and devoted years of their lives to the struggle. The collectivist concept of "ubuntu", the belief that people are people through other people, was clearly a driving force behind the liberation movement.