

## Banks are asked to put pressure on South Africa

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A Commonwealth committee has recommended that banks put financial pressure on South Africa to end apartheid but suggested no new trade sanctions.

The recommendation came yesterday as the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa ended its fourth meeting in Australia's capital city.

During the three-day meeting, the eight foreign ministers discussed a report on further sanctions against South Africa, independence for Namibia, the Commonwealth Games and South

Africa's relationship with neighboring countries.

"For now, I am happy that we have come to an agreement on hitting South Africa's financial ties," said Tanzanian Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa.

"We have to make those and existing trade sanctions work together as a package."

The ministers, including External Affairs Minister Joe Clark, said in their final communique they want international banks to put the squeeze on South Africa in the sensitive area of debt refinancing.

Billions of dollars of loans to South Africa are to be renewed in June, 1990, and the ministers say they will ask banks to impose tough repayment terms. One suggestion is that the banks impose the highest possible interest rates.

A senior External Affairs spokesman said last night that Mr. Clark has written a letter to the chairman of a technical committee for world banks to discuss financial pressure.

Mr. Clark, the chairman of the meeting, and the other ministers decided to leave the matter of new trade sanctions to the heads of government, who meet in October in Kuala Lumpur.

Meanwhile, the foreign ministers decided they would send delegations to countries that have trade sanctions against South Africa but are not adhering to them.

Mr. Clark named West Germany, the United States, Brazil and Japan as such countries.

The eight ministers were united in saying that no further trade sanctions should be imposed now, but Mr. Mkapa said he will be asking the meeting in Malaysia for additional sanctions.

One of the most controversial reports of the meeting, received Tuesday, recommended an end to trade with South Africa within five years. That report will be discussed at Kuala Lumpur.

In other items covered in the communique, the committee recommended that a team be sent to Namibia to assist in that country's transition to independence from South Africa. The committee denounced South Africa for interfering with neighboring states.

The committee also expressed hope that there would be no boycott of the Commonwealth Games in Auckland in January, a threat that has increased since cricket and rugby players announced tours to South Africa.

Besides Canada, other countries represented at the talks were Australia, India, Guyana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Nigeria.