

ECONOMY, THE POLITICAL EFFECT OF SANCTIONS IS TO INCREASE RESISTANCE TO CHANGE RATHER THAN ENCOURAGE CHANGE. THERE SEEMS TO BE A CLEAR CORRELATION BETWEEN THE IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS BY THE US CONGRESS AND THE COMMONWEALTH AND THE STRENGTH OF EXTREME RIGHT-WING PARTIES IN SOUTH AFRICA UTTERLY OPPOSED TO CHANGE.

BRITAIN BELIEVES IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY FORWARD IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE FIRST STEP IS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONCEPT DEVELOPED BY THE COMMONWEALTH EMINENT PERSONS GROUP, TO OPEN THE WAY TO SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS TO START ABOUT THE FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICA. THIS REQUIRES:

- RELEASE OF NELSON MANDELA AND ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS;
- LIFTING OF THE STATE OF EMERGENCY
- UNBANNING OF POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS
- ALL AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF SUSPENSION OF VIOLENCE.

SOUTH AFRICA HAS TAKEN THE FIRST STEPS DOWN THIS ROAD AND MUST BE ENCOURAGED BY ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES OF PEACEFUL PERSUASION TO PROCEED FURTHER. AS AND WHEN SOUTH AFRICA DOES TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS THEN IT WOULD BE RIGHT TO LIFT SOME OF THE MEASURES IMPOSED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, SO AS TO REWARD PROGRESS AND ENCOURAGE SOUTH AFRICA TO CONTINUE FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD OF REFORM. THE AIM SHOULD BE TO SECURE POSITIVE INFLUENCE WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT RATHER THAN ADD TO THE SANCTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN LARGELY FRUITLESS.