

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

N°: 08

January 14, 1986.

CANADIANS FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID

The Department of External Affairs today released the following report on the anti-apartheid register.

By year's end over 1000 Canadian individuals and organizations had responded to the invitation of the Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to register the measures they have taken to oppose apartheid.

In announcing the opening of a Canadian register on September 13, Mr. Clark stated, "The list of measures will have an exemplary impact and will be conveyed to the Secretary General of the United Nations." He expressed the hope that "other nations would follow suit" so that there will develop a world-wide register of the actions of individuals who abhor apartheid.

Many Canadians have taken action, but their gestures may not have been widely known - or known at all - within their own communities or outside Canada. The opening of such a register, the first in any country, is a sign of the important part played by other levels of government and by the dynamic private and voluntary sector in Canadian society.

Responses to date indicate a wide variety of peaceful actions ranging from the boycott of South African products to the awarding of scholarships for the training of black South Africans at Canadian universities. Replies have come from across Canada. Support for the concept of the register has been overwhelmingly positive.