

while the Government claims to be ready to negotiate, it is in truth not yet prepared to negotiate fundamental change, nor to countenance the creation of genuine democratic structures, nor to face the prospect of the end of white domination....Its programme of reform does not end apartheid, but seeks to give it a less inhuman face.

Efforts to increase pressure on South Africa received a new lease of life when the Commonwealth Heads of Government, who had sponsored the EPG, met in London from 3-5 August, 1986. Six of the seven (the exception being Britain) agreed to impose additional sanctions such as a ban on bank loans and on imports of uranium, iron, coal and steel. They also decided to withdraw various consular services. In the autumn of 1986 the United States, Japan and the European Community also agreed to impose restrictions which would limit trade or investment with South Africa as well as to sever other links. Nonetheless these measures were far less stringent than those which the six Commonwealth countries had wished to see imposed on an international basis. As the US Congress was voting in favour of these economic sanctions, several US firms withdrew from South Africa, in accordance with the policy announced in 1985. By November 1986 more than seventy firms had abandoned their South African interests in the course of two years. At that point there were still fifteen Canadian companies which maintained substantial operations in South Africa.

In the meantime Pretoria had taken steps to impede the operations of two important anti-apartheid organisations within South Africa. The United Democratic Front was forbidden to accept assistance of any kind coming from abroad and 100,000 black workers from Mozambique, a country which Pretoria believed to be sympathetic to the African National Congress, were forced to leave South Africa when their contracts expired.

On 11 December South Africa announced new restrictions on the freedom of the press and a system of censorship was set up in several areas which prohibited the release of information about political agitation whether by local journalists or foreign correspondents. During the same period the