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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS CONDEMNS  
NEW SOUTH AFRICAN RESTRICTIONS

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, today strongly condemned the South African Government's imposition of draconian new restrictions on the political activities of 17 anti-apartheid organizations in South Africa. He said the restrictions will further limit peaceful, legal activities in opposition to a system of institutionalized racism which is unacceptable to most South Africans and to the international community. The effect of the new restrictions would appear to place new obstacles in the way of meaningful dialogue leading to negotiations towards non-racial representative government. Opposition to apartheid by the majority of South Africans will remain until the system is dismantled.

Mr. Clark stated that Canada will continue to assist opponents and victims of apartheid and that the Canadian Embassy would maintain its contacts with a broad spectrum of South Africans including opposition groups. Mr. Clark indicated that he is consulting with the other members of the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Committee on Southern Africa on the situation.

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