

In that spirit, he met, at Victoria Falls, in January, with three Commonwealth leaders of the Front Line States, President Kaunda of Zambia, Prime Minister Mugabe of Zimbabwe, and President Masire of Botswana. He saw for himself the threat posed to fragile economies by the violence rooted in apartheid. He heard unanimous concern that violence would increase as South African intransigence and aggression caused more of the victims of apartheid to lose hope of a negotiated settlement.

The Prime Minister affirmed the Canadian commitment he gave to the United Nations on October 23, 1985, when he said: "... if there are not fundamental changes in South Africa, we are prepared to invoke total sanctions against that country and its repressive regime. If there is no progress in the dismantling of apartheid, our relations with South Africa may have to be severed absolutely".

The Front Line States understand that Canada does not seek, through sanctions, to bring the South African government to its knees, only to its senses. Our approach is steadily to build international pressure on South Africa, as we restrict its trade. Canada will invoke further measures when we consider that they will have the most impact. We have told the Front Line leaders we think that being on the front line itself means economic sacrifice and political risks. They should not be held to a rigid timetable on the question of sanctions, costly as they would be to them, and vulnerable as they are to South African retaliation.

In the Nassau Accord, the Commonwealth has called for a suspension of violence on all sides. Our Commonwealth partners and the Front Line States understand Canada's position that we cannot support violence, although we can understand the feelings of those who have felt the full effect of the violence of apartheid. Indeed, part of the Prime Minister's purpose in going directly to the Front Line States, was to demonstrate again that they are not alone in this fight against apartheid, nor in their work to build and maintain their own economies.

Canada is determined to provide material as well as moral support to South Africa's neighbours. At Victoria Falls, the Prime Minister signed an agreement to build a \$50 million electrical interconnector line, which will permit Botswana to tap into the electrical resources of Zimbabwe and Zambia. This is only one of many ways in which Canada is helping South Africa's neighbours to reduce their vulnerability to South African sanctions. Over the next five years, we expect to contribute approximately \$30 million annually to the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference. That is in addition to the