

# CAMPAIGN TO OPPOSE BANK LOANS TO SOUTH AFRICA



Interim Address:

1838 Calvert Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
(202)-797-1253

Coordinator: Carole Collins

June 2, 1981

Dear COBLSA affiliate and friends:

I am looking forward to seeing you at the NATIONAL COBLSA MEETING on JUNE 13-14, 1981. Our first meeting will be Saturday evening at 8 PM. (Location to be decided but will be at someone's house.) We will meet Sunday from 9 AM to 4 PM at the Marxist School, 151 West 19th Street, 7th Floor. Enclosed are the following materials:

- a) Proposed Agenda. To find out the location of the Saturday evening meeting/party, call me after June 8 at (202)-797-1253. I will be attending the Conference on Public Investment and South Africa at the UN Church Center June 12-13. If you need to find out the location of the Saturday meeting/party on those days, call either:
  - ACOA, (212)-962-1210 (days)
  - Jim Cason, (212)-663-5989 (eves)
- b) Coordinator's Report (for presentation Saturday evening).
- c) Factors Affecting Current Bank Loan Campaign Work: An Outline (for discussion Sunday morning)
- d) Proposals for National Work of COBLSA (for discussion Sunday morning/afternoon)
- e) Working Paper on Organizing and Research Tasks (for discussion Sunday morning/afternoon)

The following materials will be available a) at our first meeting, or b) at the Legislative Conference on Friday-Saturday.

- 1) Financial Report.(for presentation Saturday evening)
- 2) Current Status of Bank Lending to South Africa. Paper by Beate Klein. (for discussion Sunday morning)
- 3) Working Paper on Structure - Some Proposals (for discussion Sunday afternoon)
- 4) Suggestions on Fund-raising (for discussion Sunday afternoon)
- 5) Selected materials from Zurich Conference.

I would like to request that all local affiliates prepare a 2 pp. summary of local group activities in the past 17 months for presentation/distribution at the national meeting. Those attending the meeting should, if possible, bring 25 copies to the meeting.

These summaries should include, if possible:

- a) successes and failures in changing local banks' policies/getting groups

- and individuals to withdraw funds;
- b) what tactics/activities were most useful? least useful? what worked, what didn't and why;
  - c) what constituencies do you work with and why? what links to new, broader constituencies are being developed? which ones and how? What problems are you encountering with this?
  - d) from your local experience(s), what directions should national COBLSA be moving in for greater effect? (i.e. new tactics or strategy? new target(s)? new constituencies? new ways of working?)
  - e) how can the national coordinator best assist your local work? What priorities should she be focussing on?

See you in New York!

a luta continua -

Carole Collins, National Coordinator

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#### SPECIAL REQUEST TO LOCAL AFFILIATES:

In order to create a more up-to-date and comprehensive file on local bank loan campaign activities around the country (given the 17 months since the last national bank campaign meeting), I would like to ask local groups to send the following to the national office:

- materials on activities by your local group in the past 17 months (leaflets; informational brochures; research on local bank activities; news coverage; evaluations of actions)
- copies of local banks' positions on financial links to So. Africa (letters to depositors; public statements, including at shareholders' meetings; other)
- a comprehensive listing of withdrawals brought about in your area (including, where possible, what groups or individuals withdrew funds from what banks; when and how much; any public statements accompanying withdrawals)
- statements by local/regional organizations supporting the bank loan campaign (local or state/regional union and church bodies; community groups; universities; others)



NATIONAL COBLSA MEETING - JUNE 13-14, 1981 - NEW YORK

Proposed Agenda

SATURDAY EVENING  
JUNE 13

(Location still to be decided, but it will be at someone's home.  
Call me after Monday, June 8 or ACOA on Friday, June 12 for  
precise place.)

8 PM on . . . .

COBLSA GATHERING (part business; part social)

- 1) Introductions (15 minutes)
- 2) Discussion of local groups' activities and main issues  
emerging from local reports. (1-1/2 to 2 hours)  
( 2 pp. reports on local activities in past 17 months should,  
if possible, be written and distributed in advance either  
at the Legislative Conference or at the beginning of the  
meeting; otherwise orally summarized)
- 3) Coordinator's Report: activities since being appointed(10 min.)
- 4) Financial Report (10 min.)(to be distributed at meeting)
- 5) PARTY!!!!!!!

SUNDAY 9-4  
JUNE 14

(At the Marxist School, 151 West 19th Street, 7th Floor/989-6820)

9 - 9:30 AM

REVIEW AGENDA: assign chairpersons for sessions; find out when  
people have to leave.

(Coffee, tea and donuts will be available!)

9:30-10:30 AM

CURRENT STATUS OF BANK LENDING TO SOUTH AFRICA: Implications  
for research and organizing.

(Discussion will be based on a paper prepared by Beate Klein,  
to be distributed Saturday evening.)

10:30-11:30 AM

DEVELOPING A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COBLSA: Broad discussion of  
factors affecting how we set priorities, how we target the  
banks and how we carry out our work.

(Based on Factors Affecting Current Bank Loan Campaign Work: An  
Outline, prepared by coordinator.)

11:30-12 NOON

DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS ON PRIORITIES FOR BANK LOAN CAMPAIGN  
WORK - Begin discussion of:

- a) Proposals for National Work of COBLSA; and
- b) Working Paper on Organizing and Research Tasks.

Discussion should focus on:

- do these adequately reflect what needs to be done?
- what national work makes sense strategically? tactically?  
what would be most effective?
- what is feasible, given our current strength organiza-  
tionally? resources?

- what can local affiliates/activists contribute to carrying out proposed activities? what can the national coordinator be expected to contribute?

- 12 NOON-1 PM      LUNCH (2 people will be asked to bring back food from a Deli in advance)
- 1 - 3 PM            DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS ON PRIORITIES (Continuation of earlier session and setting of priorities)
- Discussion will also take up: Working Paper on Structure - Some Proposals. Its purpose will be to focus on (a) what our organizational identity is, and (b) how we can best organize ourselves to effectively carry out our priorities.
- 3 - 3:30 PM        FUNDRAISING AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (for running national office; for assisting local affiliates; for special projects)
- (Discussion will be based on Suggestions on Fund-raising, prepared by coordinator.)
- 3:30 - 4 PM        FINAL TASKS: delegation of follow-up tasks as appropriate; selection of representatives to Implementation Committee; adjournment.



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## COORDINATOR'S REPORT - JUNE 13, 1981

### Introduction

In late March, 1981 I was selected to be national coordinator for COBLSA for the coming year. This was made possible through a \$10,000 grant from the National Council of Churches Programme to Combat Racism made in August 1980. A committee made up of DC Bank Campaign members, chaired by Implementation Committee member Carolyn Long, had interviewed applicants and presented its recommendation to other members of the Implementation Committee for their consideration and decision.

For those who may not know me, I have been active in anti-Apartheid work in Chicago since 1972. In 1976-77 I spent 11 months in eastern and southern Africa on a 'personal and political sabbatical', doing writing and research on southern Africa liberation. In 1977-78, I was the national coordinator of the Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa and have been active since 1978 in a Chicago affiliate of COBLSA, the Chicago Coalition on Southern Africa.

May 1st was the official date for my assuming duties in Washington, D.C. (On the basis of a conference call of Implementation Committee members last September, it was decided to relocate COBLSA's national office in Washington, D.C. because of the willingness of the local affiliate, the DC Bank Campaign, to provide a Local Support Committee to assist the national coordinator in his/her work.) However, I carried out certain tasks prior to May 1st as well. Below is a summary of my activities as your national coordinator in the past 9 weeks.

### Activities prior to May 1:

1. Zurich Conference: Shortly after being designated coordinator, I was asked to attend an International Seminar on Bank Loans to South Africa co-sponsored by the U.S. Special Committee Against Apartheid in cooperation with the World Council of Churches, the Swiss Anti-Apartheid Group, the Berne Declaration Group and the Non-Governmental Organizations Subcommittee on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Apartheid and Decolonization. Based on a phone poll of Implementation Committee members, it was decided that I should attend and that efforts would be made to replace funds expended through fundraising. (The Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church did give us \$300 towards travel expenses.)

The Seminar provided an opportunity to make direct contacts with bank campaigning groups from around Europe. Many presented country reports on the status of bank lending by banks in their countries to So. Africa, as well as campaigning activities. Your May 1st letter contained a listing of papers available at the Conference. Appended to this report is a copy of the recommendations made by campaigning groups at the Conference (2 pp.) as well as a summary of selected material from the



conference itself.

2. Contacting Local Affiliates:

- a. Prior to going to Zurich, I made phone contacts with several local affiliates (DC; Portland, Ore.; Boston; Chicago; S.F.) to get a sense of local activities in the past 17 months since COBLSA's last national meeting. Some of those activities were summarized in a 3 pp. Summary of Local Bank Campaign Activities prepared for informal distribution at the Conference. (Enclosed in the May 1 letter.)
- b. May 1st Letter: a 4 pp. letter was sent to local affiliates briefly summarizing the Zurich Conf. and upcoming plans for the Conference on Legislative Investment and South Africa. It also proposed a National COBLSA Meeting to immediately follow the Legislative Conference (to conserve resources and provide some national guidance to the new coordinator).

3. Participation in the Campaign Against Investment in South Africa (CAISA):

Since last summer, representatives of several East Coast anti-Apartheid groups had been meeting to set up a network/campaign against public investment in South Africa that would link up various state and local legislative campaigns that had developed in the past year. These groups (WOA, ACOA, ICCR, AFSC, CALC, TRANSAFRICA, Connecticut Anti-Apartheid Coalition and UMC-Women's Division) had also set up an advisory group of State Legislators. In early spring they began planning for a national conference that would a) launch the campaign and CAISA; and b) bring more state and local legislators on board. After my appointment, I was asked to represent COBLSA on the Coordinating Committee planning the Conference and have attended two planning meetings. I also added COBLSA to the list of groups sponsoring CAISA and the Conference.

We need to discuss, at our National Meeting, how we want to relate to CAISA: what our participation should be and how it fits into our national and local priorities.

Activities between May 1 - June 12:

1. Preparations for National Meeting:

- a) Contacting local/national affiliates: Within 10 days after the May 1 letter, I began contacting affiliates by phone to assess attendance at both the National COBLSA Meeting and the Legislative Conf. and to get reactions to the proposed agenda. (SF, Rochester still unsure they can come; NC cannot)  
  
Phone contacts: Los Angeles (activists); San Francisco (\$BOA); Oregon (Eugene; Portland); Seattle, WA; Chicago, IL; Minneapolis, MINN; Boston, MASS; Rochester, NY; Detroit (local activist); North Carolina (local activist).  
  
Informal meetings: AFSC (Jerry Herman); WOA (Jean Sindab/Chris Root); ACOA (George Hauser); CLAC (Mark Harrison); ICCR (Tim Smith); DC Bank Campaign; former NY-COBLSA members.
- b) Preparation of materials: Much of the first two weeks in June has gone into preparing materials for this meeting.
- c) I made the decision, in order to ensure as well-attended a national meeting as possible, to pay part of the travel for a few representatives from the West Coast. That will involve paying \$80 towards travel expenses for 2 people coming from Los Angeles; \$120 toward travel expenses of the person coming from Seattle; and possibly \$120-150 toward travel expenses of the person from S.F. (These are all roughly 1/4 to 1/3 of the total cost of these persons' travel costs.) As this obviously depletes our meager national resources, we should discuss how to recoup these funds.



## 2. Setting up COBLSA's National Office:

a) Office space: Since early May, negotiations have been taking place with the Institute for Policy Studies on obtaining office space for COBLSA there. They have been facilitated by two IPS staffers who were involved in the past in IPS's Southern Africa Project. I gave a roundtable presentation on COBLSA May 26 and the IPS Assembly will meet June 5 to decide on our request. Should they decide favorably, we would get free office space, access to a xerox machine and the use of summer and fall interns. I have not pressed ahead with other office options pending their decision.

b) Files: I spent 3 days in NYC going through the very disorganized COBLSA files at ACOA and identifying what I felt would be useful to have in DC. ACOA is currently xeroxing the files for me. Much of the material in the files is very old and irrelevant to current work. I also plan, following the national meeting, to go through some of ICCR's extensive bank files to supplement what is missing from more recent activities/materials, since they have had an intern available to keep their files more up to date.

c) Correspondence and contacts: Letters have been sent to funders, to several local affiliates (Chicago CALC; Seattle), to a Florida contact interested in working on the Bank Loan Campaign; and to several community organization/research oriented groups. Have invited New American Movement, Lutheran Coalition to Conf.

Informal meetings have been held with Tina Simsich (Corporate Campaign, Inc., NY; formerly with CDE, NY); Anne Beaudry (National Center for Economic Alternatives, DC); Randy Barber (Pension Investment & Control Issues); Bill Minter (Africa News); Detroit activist; IPS staffers interested in southern Africa.

## 3. Supporting Local Activities:

- summarized the Zurich conference and the upcoming national meeting plans at a DC Bank Campaign meeting
- gave a presentation on COBLSA to IPS Fellows at a roundtable meeting
- endorsed DC protest against visit by SA Foreign Minister Roelof Botha in COBLSA's name; drafted and typed stencil for "What You Can Do" handout for distribution at demonstration (in front of White House; approx. 500 attended; speakers included local affiliate (DC Bank Campaign), WOA, Transafrica, Bill Gray of the Congressional Black Caucus, others)

## 4. Other:

Met with Local Support Group to begin to define ways in which they can provide both support and accountability for the coordinator, as well as assist in particular areas such as fundraising. The LSG has been extremely helpful in such areas as: a) setting up bank accounts and financial records system; b) finding out about health coverage, incorporation process, etc.; and c) thinking through tasks related to fund-raising and the structure of COBLSA (and how they fit into it). The LSG is contributing to the two Working Papers on these issues that will be available at the Conference. In addition, members of the LSG act as an extremely useful sounding board for the national coordinator on a daily basis.

## APPENDIX

Recommendations of the Campaigning Groups at the Zurich Conference



## International Seminar on Bank Loans to South Africa

Zurich, 5-7 April 1981

### I. Summary Discussion of the Workshop on Research and Information

Workshop participants discussed the need for further research into issues which had been raised in the course of the conference; clarifications and refinement of information in particular areas; and improvement in communications and exchange of research and campaign information among bank campaign organizations. This could begin with the exchange of comments, additions, and corrections to the papers which were presented at the seminar.

### II. Joint Recommendations of the Workshops to the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid

Members of the workshops recommended that the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid under take the following tasks as part of its continuing programme against bank loans to South Africa:

- 1) to publish all papers which have been presented in the plenary sessions of the Seminar as a special series of the Centre against Apartheid's "Notes and Documents", and to distribute these papers to all interest parties, including seminar participants, interested organizations, and banks concerned.
- 2) to produce on an annual basis one international poster in various languages on the theme "No more loans to South Africa."
- 3) to utilize United Nations press facilities to publicize reports on actions by the bank campaigns in different countries.
- 4) to compile a report on trade union positions and activities in relation to the campaign against the financing of apartheid via:
  - a) the collection of information and documentation from national campaigns about trade union positions and activities in their countries, and
  - b) the provision of a "form letter" from the Special Committee against Apartheid for use by campaigning organizations in requesting labor union information regarding this issue.
- 5) to seek specific action which has been taken against the lending banks listed in the Final Declaration of the Seminar by international bodies and members of the United Nations, the World Council of Churches, the International Labor Organization, Organization of African Unity, Non-Aligned Movement, and Arab oil-producing countries; and to produce periodic progress reports on actions taken by these bodies in respect to this issue.



6) to finance the production of a popularly written handbook on the international bank campaign which will serve to introduce and initiate new people and organizations into the campaign. Chapters should encompass: basic explanation of apartheid and the role of the liberation movements; how international credit supports apartheid; how international lending functions; how finance functions in South Africa in specific areas such as nuclear and military financing, and gold marketing; review of the history and tactics used by various national bank campaigns; a list of alternative banking institutions, or at least basic criteria by which to establish alternative banks; and an extensive resource list including publications and organizations concerned with the banking issue.

It was suggested that research and writing on the different sections of the handbook be undertaken by member organizations within the bank campaign and an editorial staff be responsible for the final editing and compilation of the handbook.

### III. Recommendations to Bank Campaign Member Organizations

- 1) that a "standing group" of 10 - 12 members of the International Bank Campaign against South Africa (IBCASA) provide an international network for quick exchange of information, resources, etc. on the bank campaign and that members of this group be responsible for further distribution of information within their countries.
- 2) that ELITSA undertake the production of an international newsletter containing new loan information, reports on the different national campaigns, and resource listings provided regularly by the different campaign groups; and that this newsletter be distributed three times a year to an expanded list of bank campaign members and sympathizers.
- 3) That IBCASA join together in international actions, beginning with an International Day of Action against Barclays Bank on October 15, 1981.
- 4) that certain member organizations act as collection points for information, research, and analysis on the following areas: a) new bank loans, b) IMF c) Sasol d) Nuclear financing e) gold, both conditions of production and the marketing of South African gold f) trade financing, including specific organizations supporting trade with South Africa g) military financing.
- 5) that campaigning groups inform the UN Centre against Apartheid of local activities and actions for publication through UN press facilities and, when possible, send audio tapes to the U.N. radio for use.

### IV. Other Recommendations by Bank Campaign Member Organizations

- 1) That Dr. William Howard, president of the National Council of Churches of Christ, make special efforts to inform church bodies in western countries of the results of this International Seminar and ask that they give appropriate attention to the issue of bank loans to South Africa.

FACTORS AFFECTING CURRENT BANK LOAN CAMPAIGN WORK: AN OUTLINE  
(For discussion Sunday morning)

1. Changes in U.S.-S.A. Financial Links (see paper by B. Klein)

- new Citibank loan for 'social' projects (making loans to Apartheid 'acceptable')
- use of European subsidiaries of US banks to make less visible loans
- trade financing as major conduit (hard to document)
- resurgence of loans to SA since mid-1980 (Citibank; Bank of America; North Carolina National Bank among others) & US as primary market for SA gold coins (1980)
- possible 'turnover' of loans due in 1981-2 (large number coming due)

2. World and domestic economic conditions & the role of banks

- world-wide recession and growing role of gold in monetary system  
(note SA's pressures to form international gold cartel)
- role of banks in fiscal crises of US cities (NYC; Chicago)
- role of banks in:
  - red-lining (mortgages; home loans)
  - anti-affirmative action practices towards blacks, women
  - failure to provide credit to local businesses in poor/minority communities
  - failure to provide credit on terms that prevent plant relocations/closings
- growth in ownership of smaller banks by larger banks

3. The current situation in South Africa

- escalating internal unrest (ongoing strikes in Cape province among workers for foreign corporations; urban sabotage leading up to Republic Day celebrations; continuing student protests; intensifying military activity along Namibian front)
- growing need for international capital in light of world drop in gold prices in late 1980-1981 (see B. Klein paper)

4. Reagan Administration

- more pro-SA policy and foot dragging on Namibia solution; placing US policy toward SA solely in an anti-communist policy framework
- possible rollback of Ex-Imbank limitations and encouragement of greater US foreign investment/loan exposure there (possibly pushing Sullivan principles)
- possible legislation allowing national branch banking for the first time

5. Developing Constituencies

- the development of constituencies at the grassroots level which are targeting the banks on other issues. These include:
  - anti-nuke, pro-nuclear-divestment groups
  - community groups concerned about red-lining, plant closings, fiscal crises of cities
  - black and women's groups concerned about affirmative action
  - union groups concerned about union-busting tactics of banks
  - other?



PROPOSALS FOR NATIONAL WORK OF COBLSA  
(for discussion Sunday morning/afternoon)

1. What should our role be in the legislative work of the Campaign Against Investment in South Africa (CAISA)? How actively should we participate in the Coordinating Committee? What particular input do we want to have? What balance do we want in our local work between:
  - a) legislative campaigns for divestment of public monies at state/municipal levels;
  - b) withdrawal campaigns targeting 'private' deposits by churches, unions, community groups, individuals.

What implications does the balance we choose have re: constituencies we target; tactics and educational strategies we utilize; alliances we develop?

2. Can we agree on a national target or activity to better unite local campaigns' efforts and gain greater visibility/impact? Is any national 'target' feasible to organize around locally? Would this drain energy and resources from local groups/campaigns or strengthen their efforts and impact? What balance should there be between working on national or local targets/activities?

Some proposed targets or joint activities we should consider include:

- a national campaign against Citibank, currently the largest US lender to SA, which has service offices in 22 states & may own large shareholdings in many local/regional banks (e.g. 20% interest in Central National Bank-Chicago, another lender to SA). Shd explore possible relation to "Shadow Board" set up by Nader groups on Citibank to monitor banking activities.
- A protest at the American Bankers Association national meeting in SF in October, in conjunction with other groups targetting the ABA, such as National People's Action (national umbrella of community organizations). Could possibly be coordinated with a) a national teach-in following the ABA meeting, and/or b) local actions against ABA members who are lenders to SA. (It may be that there are more appropriate bankers' groups to target; also SF grps wd be key)
- another National Day of Withdrawal in late fall/early spring with careful thought given to how to obtain/attract major media coverage and how to utilize to build constituencies.
- Other?

3. Can we join at all effectively with campaigning groups from other countries in coordinating international days of action? Can this fit into local campaign work in any meaningful (i.e. more than symbolic) way?

Specific proposal: At the Zurich Conference, British campaigning groups requested that other national campaigns join them in an International Day of Action against Barclay's Bank on October 15, 1981 (Barclay's is the largest lender to SA).

4. Should the national office focus on getting more national groups and labor unions to endorse the campaign and concretely exert pressure on banks via organizational withdrawals/publicity? Does this detract from assisting local campaigns or strengthen local linkages they can make?



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## WORKING PAPER ON ORGANIZING AND RESEARCH TASKS - JUNE 1981

A key need of COBLSA is to clarify priorities and needs in the areas of (1) organizing tasks to be carried out by the national office, and (2) research/analysis tasks to be carried out by the national office. Obviously these can only be set with a realistic understanding of the resources (person, time and money-wise) available to the national office (as well as what contributions local groups can make to doing these tasks).

COBLSA has not met nationally since January 1980 or had a national coordinator since May 1980. Many research and organizing tasks have remained undone, including updating past research. Much of the research on recent changes in US-SA links (and in the banking industry as a whole) may indicate new points of leverage and strategies that COBLSA should pursue to effect changes in bank policies towards South Africa.

Below is a tentative listing of organizing and research/analysis tasks which need to be prioritized for the national office to act on (or try to find others to assist in carrying out).

### ORGANIZING TASKS

- A. Strengthen communication between and information flow to local affiliates.
  - hot line or more active Implementation Committee functioning, including regular meetings
  - internal newsletter for BLC affiliates (how often; categories of info to be communicated on regular basis; how could local groups have more input; how fund)
  - Other?
- B. Develop resources for local affiliates' use.
  - Update a listing of organizational statements calling for an end to bank loans to SA (and, preferably, endorsement of COBLSA) - A kind of "The People Say - On South Africa" to supplement ICCR's "The Banks Say - On South Africa". Would quote specific positions by organizations, date and place made, etc. (Local affiliates could assist in collecting statements by regional/local bodies and groups.)
  - Develop a Handbook on How to Build a Campaign (including how to research your bank's international lending activities locally; how to develop a local campaign).  
[This is currently being discussed with Beate Klein and Tina Simsich; it may also have potential for fundraising.]
  - Resurrect COBLSA News as a periodic external newsletter for general distribution (shd look at several local newsletters, e.g. the DC Bank Campaign one, as possible models as well)(again, how fund)
  - Re-issue COBLSA brochure describing its activities, focus, listing affiliates, organizational & individual endorsers.



- C. Attempt to re-mobilize inactive COBLSA affiliates (NY; Phila.) and generate new affiliates in areas of little previous focus or work (e.g. the South and Southwest)
- D. Generate renewed/new organizational and individual endorsements of COBLSA. (esp. among union groups, national networks of community groups, others?)
- E. Assist in carrying out/coordinating any national activities decided on by COBLSA. (See Proposals for National Work of COBLSA)
- F. Fund-raising for national office (including salary), work of local affiliates, and special projects.
- G. Exploring linkages with new constituencies currently or potentially targetting banks' domestic and/or international policies.  
Specifically, to explore other networks/organizations researching and organizing around the role of banks in the domestic and international economy and on people's everyday lives (including groups focussed on: anti-redlining campaigns; role of banks in urban fiscal crises; role of banks in disinvestment from local communities by US corporations; role of banks in job losses and plant closings; denial of credit to job-creating businesses in poor and minority communities; etc.)
- H. Facilitate COBLSA's ability to plan strategically through research and analysis. (See following section)

#### RESEARCH/ANALYSIS TASKS

- 1. Update of the status of US bank lending to South Africa, its parastatals or to private industry operating there. Should be placed in the context of recent trends in the South African economy (e.g. re-emergence in world capital markets in 1980; drop in gold prices) and the current strategic importance of bank loans and international finance to So. Africa. Should include amount of exposure, for what purposes, etc.  
[Beate Klein has prepared a brief update of the international loan picture and of top US lenders for the National COBLSA Meeting.]
- 2. Update of current bank policies on lending to South Africa.  
[ICCR is planning to update their 1979 "What the Banks Say" by the end of summer 1981.]
- 3. Update on new directions/conduits of major finance capital flows to South Africa. Should include compiling existing data and developing means to gain new data on less-accessibly researched financial links to South Africa, including:
  - methods & extent of trade financing, and nature of traded items
  - extent of eurocurrency loans and unsecured loans routing funds to So. Africa (e.g. Wells Fargo making eurocurrency loans through its UK branch)
  - role of correspondence banks & services they provide
  - using 3rd countries as conduits (e.g. 1st National Bank of Boston funding trade between Brazil and So. Africa)
  - new loans from European banks (any stake in them by US banks?)
  - role of European affiliates of US banks in loans, esp. consortia loans



[Should try to develop methods by which local groups can carry out some of this research.]

4. Information on Reagan Administration policy directions that would affect COBLSA work, including:
  - national branch banking (would change scope of campaigns against individual banks)
  - Ex-Imbank trade financing policy changes (immed. task: does FY 1979 loan exposure to So. Africa contradict 1978 Evans Amendment? Are there loopholes?)
  - IMF policy re: loans to South Africa (& US influence on that policy)
  - Other?
5. Research on relationship between domestic and international policies of banks and how they intersect with corporate policies (esp. corporations sitting on bank boards), including:
  - red-lining re: mortgages, home loans, insurance, credit for small/black businesses
  - patterns of divestment and investment worldwide as this affects the use by banks of local deposits [Update COBLSA piece by Gene Jones]
  - impact of foreign loans/investments by US banks on domestic disinvestment, job losses & inflation [See Ill. AFL-CIO study; Ill. Reg. Off.-US Commission on Civil Rights study; IPAC fact sheet]
  - destabilization at home and abroad: banks in NYC/Chicago and bank policies in Chile
  - interbank connections and ownership of one another
  - "Free enterprise" zones and parallels re: international investment policies
  - banks and the ideology of "reinvestment"

[to provide a basis for ongoing future work with community and grassroots constituencies and unions around the role of banks in affecting everyday economic realities at home and abroad]
6. Role and Extent of So. African gold in world and US markets and economy. The US is currently the largest market for SA gold coins. Need to research the major role of 3 NY gold dealers in internationally marketing SA gold output; which of 23 banking outlets for international Krugerrand sales are located in the US; concentration of Krugerrand sales in South/Southwest; SA role in pressing for gold cartel)
7. Research on Citibank, currently the largest lender to So. Africa: their service offices in 22 states; ownership of regional/local banks; large institutional investors in Citibank; pension fund holdings in Citibank; etc.
 

[as basis for assessing feasibility of targetting Citibank nationally]
8. Role of US banks in financing South Africa's nuclear industry (much of Namibian uranium may be refined in the U.S.)
 

[important as basis for working with anti-nuclear groups]
9. Research role, activities and significance of bankers' organizations such as the American Bankers Association as possible targets.
10. Research on alternative banks and on how large organizations can withdraw their accounts with least negative impact.

[Need to define what is "alternative" enough, esp. in light of building alliances with diverse constituencies targeting other bank policy areas; what criteria we should develop to guide placement of withdrawn accounts]

[B. Klein will be researching "How-To's" of the process of account withdrawal this summer for the WCC, which we may be able to adapt for use here.]



## COBLSA National Meeting 1981

### WORKING PAPER ON STRUCTURE AND SOME PROPOSALS

#### Background on Current structure:

It is difficult to describe COBLSA's "structure" since COBLSA has not had a coordinator in 11 months nor a national meeting in 17 months. The structure as reflected in minutes of the March 4, 1979 national meeting is as follows:

#### Coordinating Committee:

- should include organizations that are active participants in the bank campaign, including cities and organizations not present at this meeting (Criteria for membership: active participation in the bank campaign)
- ability to contribute financially is not a criteria for CC membership.
- local campaign groups, not the individuals at the meeting, should be designated current members of the Coordinating Committee; local organizations must designate a representative for each CC meeting.
- Coordinating Committee should review role of the Implementation Subcommittee every 6 months
- WOA should be on the Coordinating Committee; Maryknolls, FLM and UE should be approached.
- we should consider holding an annual conference to involve other groups in various regions to help set policy and select coordinating committee.
- organizations willing to raise money only for their own bank campaign work are eligible for the Coordinating Committee but not for sponsorship.

Sponsors: organizations that are active participants in the bank campaign and raise money for COBLSA nationally [in 1979-1980, ACOA and CALC were sponsors of COBLSA].

Contributors: organizations not involved in active campaign work but contributing money.

#### Implementation Subcommittee:

- composed [1979-1980] of representatives from two sponsoring organizations (George Hauser, ACOA; Barbara Lupo, CALC) Plus representatives from 3 local campaign affiliates (Gene Jones, NY-COBLSA; Carolyn Long, DC Bank Campaign; MiloAnne Hecathorne, \$BOA-SF).
- Responsibilities include:
  - a) Personnel (hiring staff; salary; staff support re interim policy decisions)
  - b) Fund-raising & review of fund-raising proposals
  - c) Financial oversight of COBLSA account
  - d) Regular and frequent communication with CC members.

National Coordinator: Hired by the Implementation Subcommittee, the NC was mandated to provide staff support for the national campaign via:

- 1) coordinating communication between bank campaign groups by telephone, correspondence and occasional travel;
- 2) collecting, interpreting & disseminating info concerning various aspects of the bank campaign, e.g. actions at the local level, resources, international & domestic issues, tactics, current state of withdrawals, and pension funds.
- 3) facilitate the CC's planning for regular meetings to map future strategy, coordinate demonstration dates, etc.
- 4) liaison with international bank campaign groups, particularly in Canada & Europe;
- 5) Prepare fund-raising materials.

Staff person is ultimately accountable to -he CC; immediately accountable to the Implementation Subcommittee.



In a September 1980 conference call, Implementation Subcommittee members decided that some DC Bank Campaign members would form a Local Support Group (LSG) to provide ongoing support and accountability structure for the COBLSA national coordinator once the national office was relocated in DC. The relation of the LSG to other COBLSA structures was left undefined, but Carolyn Long communicated its activities to the Implementation Subcommittee. The LSG interviewed applicants for the job of coordinator and made a recommendation to the Implementation Subcommittee for its decision.

### PROPOSALS:

#### 1. Re Local Support Group:

- that the LSG take on most of the tasks of the original Implementation Subcommittee (i.e. staff support; financial oversight of COBLSA account; assistance with fund-raising & review of funding proposals), meeting regularly or as needed with the coordinator & assisting with specific tasks as necessary or requested.
- that the LSG submit a quarterly written report to the Implementation Subcommittee for review.
- that the LSG change its name to Staff Support Committee

#### 2. Re Coordinating Committee:

- that its name be changed to National Committee, to meet once a year (or possibly every six months if needed)

#### 3. Re Implementation Subcommittee:

- that it be re-named Coordinating Committee, to be composed of approximately 2/3 local campaign groups and 1/3 national campaign groups (5-6 members)
- that it function as a consultative body for the national coordinator on substantive policy decisions between national meetings; it would also oversee SSC activities, communicate key decisions to local affiliates in each region, and act as the basis for a "hot-line".
- That it meet once every six months and deal with critical interim policy decisions via conference calls.
- that members possibly act as regional reference persons to whom coordinator can refer people from that region interested in becoming active in the BLC.

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### Proposed New Structure (& names):

National Committee: all local and national organizations that are active participants in the bank campaign, including those not present at national meetings; would meet yearly (minimum)

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Coordinating Committee: 5-6 members (2/3 local groups; 1/3 national groups) would provide consultation on policy decisions between national meetings; oversee SSC activities; communicate key decisions to NC members; act as basis for hot-line.

↑  
Staff Support Committee: 3-4 members from DC Bank Campaign (local affiliate in city where national office located), to provide staff oversight generally & assist with fund-raising. Wd report quarterly to CC (written).

↑  
National Coordinator: mandated to coordinate communication between local/national groups; collect & disseminate new info; facilitate national meetings of NC & CC; liaison with international BLC groups; fundraise.



4. Sponsors: (Defined as those groups active in the bank campaign and which raise money for COBLSA nationally)

Proposed: That groups/organizations which contribute \$1000 or more to COBLSA be considered as sponsors. They would be so recognized on our letterhead and in our literature and be invited to national meetings as observers.

If sponsors are also active participants in the bank campaign, they would be eligible - along with national groups active in bank campaign activities - to serve on the Coordinating Committee. [This is to provide incentive for financial sponsors to become more active in the work of COBLSA.]

5. Endorsers: Proposed: That old and potential individual/organizational endorsers be asked to endorse/re-endorse the Campaign Against Bank Loans to South Africa which:

- calls on all US banks to <sup>adopt a policy to</sup> end financial links with the Apartheid SA government, its parastatals and with private companies doing business there;
- asks organizations to withdraw deposits and pension fund holdings from those banks that continue to have ties with Apartheid;
- supports legislation that would bar state or municipal funds from being placed in banks that continue to do business with SA;
- supports federal policy that would deny Ex-Im Bank loans to SA and IMF loans to SA.

These endorsements would be used to mobilize other organizations/individuals to join the Campaign.

#### Future Growth of COBLSA:

- a) racial composition: Past COBLSA meetings have noted the largely white composition of COBLSA. How can we develop working relations with black groups that would be/are active in bank campaign activities? (e.g. Black United Front (BUF) - sponsoring Citibank protest June 16; National Black Independent Political Party; Transafrica; other?) (NAACP and Urban League seem possible as endorsers, not as active affiliates)
- b) links to national networks with local chapters/affiliates: these groups often are the basis for local COBLSA affiliates (e.g. CALC in Minnea.; AFSC in Seattle). Can we explore linkages to/joint work with such groups as: BUF; New American Movement - International Commission; Lutheran Coalition on South Africa; Conference on Alternative State & Local Public Policy; Operation PUSH; National People's Alliance; church bodies (esp. if interested in getting local churches actively involved where no local affiliates exist); other?
- c) Regional distribution: We need to build our representation in the south and southwest and to reactivate those groups which have become inactive in the past year (Phila.; NYC; North Carolina; Milwaukee). What role can/should the national coordinator play in:
  - trying to re-activate/campaigns which have become inactive?
  - forming new campaigns in areas where there has been no or minimal prior work?
 What role can local affiliates play in this?