




A QUARTER CENTURY
SUPPORTING FREEDOM

HONOREES

WALTER SISULU was elected Deputy President of the African National Congress at its July 1991 conference. He has been Nelson Mandela's closest political associate for over thirty years. Before they were both imprisoned on Robben Island, he was the ANC's General Secretary, known as the "Lion of the ANC" for his courage and determination. Since his release from prison Sisulu has been centrally engaged in re-organizing the ANC inside the country.

ALBERTINA SISULU was elected Deputy President of the African National Congress Women's League at its first national conference in April 1991. She joined the ANC Women's League in the early 1940's and participated in dozens of protests, including the 1958 burning of pass books. After the ANC was banned in 1960, Mrs. Sisulu was subjected to 18 years of tough government restriction orders. Nevertheless she remained a key activist and was elected one of three co-presidents of the United Democratic Front in 1984.



THE AFRICA FUND has stood close to the heart of the struggle for freedom and justice in southern Africa for the past quarter century. It has worked closely with virtually every independence leader from Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe to Walter Sisulu and Nelson Mandela. The Africa Fund has crusaded to free political prisoners, spearheaded the drive to impose sanctions against apartheid, and mobilized the conscience of America on behalf of the oppressed peoples of southern Africa.

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National Congress*

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Mayor David N. Dinkins and The Africa Fund
welcome you to a celebration of the
Twenty Fifth Anniversary of The Africa Fund



PROGRAM

Tilden LeMelle
Chair, The Africa Fund

Rev. James Forbes
Senior Minister, Riverside Church

Honorable David N. Dinkins
Mayor, City of New York

Jennifer Davis
Executive Director, The Africa Fund

Marsha Bonner
Vice Chair, The Africa Fund

First Annual Africa Fund Lecture: "Challenges for Africa"
delivered by Walter Sisulu
Deputy President, African National Congress

Reception to honor Walter and Albertina Sisulu to follow

“ The African National Congress wishes to congratulate The Africa Fund on its 25th Anniversary

Two and a half decades of solidarity work with emphasis on fighting for a majority government in South Africa, one person, one vote, and a united South Africa has been the special focus of The Africa Fund.

We are especially proud of the intense advocacy work which was put into educating U.S.A citizens about the plight of the Black majority in South Africa, and the consequent campaign which The Africa Fund undertook to get sanctions accepted as a formal and correct political strategy for an end to apartheid in both the U.S. Senate and Congress. ”

*Nelson Mandela
17th September 1991*

“ The Africa Fund has played a redoubtable role in international solidarity with the struggle against racism, colonialism and apartheid. All those associated with the Fund may take legitimate pride in what they have achieved, which represents a significant contribution to the struggle against apartheid and to overcome its disastrous effects in Southern Africa. ”

*Mike Terry
Executive Secretary
Anti-Apartheid Movement (Britain)*

“ I offer my warm congratulations to The Africa Fund as it celebrates 25 years of hard work in building American support for the African struggles against apartheid and colonialism. Since the inception of The Africa Fund there have been difficult times for its leaders and supporters. But the difficulties were faced. Traditional colonialism in Africa is now a thing of the past, and apartheid is on the retreat.

But apartheid is not yet dead. The Non-White people of South Africa still do not have political equality. Further, the effects of apartheid – including the results of fifty years of social and economic inequalities – will have to be overcome. For a long period the post-apartheid state will need the understanding and active support of its friends.

Secondly, the political freedom of African nations is every day being undermined by their underdevelopment and by the ramifications of international economic arrangements. Their progress is blocked by debts, by the collapse of primary commodity prices, and by the economic power of international financial institutions and major industrialised nations – including the United States of America. Africa is now engaged in an economic struggle for freedom as serious, and more difficult, than its struggle for political freedom. It still needs the active support of organisations like The Africa Fund.

Congratulations are deserved by all those who helped to make the new realities. But I ask you to accept that the task of The Africa Fund is not ended. ”

*Julius K. Nyerere
19th September 1991*

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Special thanks to The Riverside Church, Rev. James Forbes, Pastor, The Riverside Church Southern Africa Committee, Artists for a Free South Africa, Lee Levin and many volunteers for contributing to this event. Special thanks also to our graphic designer Clive Helfet.





198 Broadway, New York, NY 10038

*The following information was received too late for
inclusion in the printed program*

**MESSAGE OF THE OAU SECRETARY-GENERAL
H.E. MR. SALIM AHMED SALIM
TO THE AFRICA FUND ON THE OCCASION OF ITS
25TH ANNIVERSARY**

On the occasion of the twenty-fifth Anniversary of The Africa Fund, I wish, on behalf of the OAU and on my own behalf, to convey our heartfelt congratulations. At this juncture of the anti-apartheid struggle, when many concrete gains have been made, I wish to acknowledge The Fund's solidarity with and support for the frontline states and the liberation movements of southern Africa. Its worthy contribution to the struggle against apartheid and colonialism, a cause most dear to the African states and enshrined, accordingly, in the charter of the Organization of African Unity, their organization has been of immense satisfaction over the years.

We wish The Africa Fund continued success in its future endeavors and look forward to further collaboration with it in the years to come.

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Special thanks also to David Seavey at Riverside Church
and to Mayor David N. Dinkins and his staff.