



17 John Street • New York, NY 10038 • (212) 962-1210

Tilden J. LeMelle, *Chairman*
Jennifer Davis, *Executive Director*

DUMISANI S. KUMALO

Projects Director

Since 1980, Dumisani Shadrack Kumalo has been Projects Director for The Africa Fund and the American Committee on Africa. Soon after arriving in the U.S. as an exile from apartheid in 1977, Kumalo joined the struggle for economic and justice in South Africa. He traveled throughout the U.S. speaking out against apartheid. As far back as 1981, Kumalo began working closely with state and local legislators, pension and public investment trustees, to help them divest funds from banks and companies doing business with South Africa.

Since the lifting of economic sanctions against South Africa by President Nelson Mandela in 1994, Kumalo has worked to encourage re-investment and support for the Reconstruction and Development Program in South Africa. He is also bringing focus to needs of other countries in the southern Africa region which were for years overshadowed by the struggle against apartheid. Kumalo continues to travel around the country lecturing on southern Africa.

Last April, Kumalo was one of 1,000 special international observer at South Africa's first democratic election. He also was invited by President Mandela to join a delegation of Eminent Persons invited to President Mandela's inauguration in Pretoria.

Currently, he is directing an Africa Fund program to link American state and local legislators with their counterparts in southern Africa, as a way of strengthening the emerging democracies in the African continent. Consultation forums will be begin in three countries, South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe, about ways to build strong governance in the changing world of the 1990s.

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