

UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT

UDF UNITES! APARTHEID DIVIDES!



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UDF RESPONSE ON BISCA MARSHALL PLAN

The UDF regards the proposals of the British Industry Committee on South Africa (Bisca) for a "Marshall Plan" as totally unacceptable. We do not for a moment believe that this plan is motivated by a genuine concern for the plight of black people in South Africa.

The real motive is totally transparent: to protect the interests of British industrialists. This is part of a desperate attempt by South Africa and its Western allies to undermine the campaign of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the regime.

It is also an open secret that this is an attempt to divert funds away from support for organisations of the people into projects seen to be more in line with the interests of imperialism in South Africa. The objectives of this plan are calculated to undermine the entire liberation movement and the country's extra-parliamentary forces, in particular the UDF, COSATU and the churches.

We must point out that this scheme was not discussed with the very people it claims to be helping, that it is suspicious in its aims, and in the end can only serve to prop up the South Africa regime. Further we have no doubt that it is meant to help pave the way for a "Muzorewa solution", where a group of "black moderates" are to sell out the goal of democracy for a combination of dubious titles and fat bank balances. This can only serve to further distract a meaningful and democratic solution to South Africa's problems.

This attempt to whitewash British investment in apartheid will do little to improve the daily lives of our people. Decent education, housing and jobs will only be realised in an apartheid - free South Africa based on our programme, the Freedom Charter. The sooner British and other industrialists stop propping up apartheid, the sooner we will be able to achieve this goal. For these reasons Bisca must not expect any co-operation from the oppressed communities with schemes such as this.

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