

16 June 1989
Press Statement

With great relief we welcome the return of Rev Frank Chikane. Rev Chikane is not only a leader in the church but one who holds respect and reverence of a broad range of South Africans, black and white.

It is the breadth of support he enjoys and the depth of his vision which has made him the subject of detention without trial and assassination attempts on his life. It is part of the ongoing informal repression against leading activists in the struggle for democracy. We believe that this attempt is linked to the assassination of David Webster, Dulcie September, Victoria Mxenge and also to the disappearance of Stenza Bopape.

The Mass Democratic Movement fully supports the decision to launch a systematic investigation into the attempted assassination of Rev Chikane. Our own organisations are the subject of similar unresolved acts of terrorism.

The police has thusfar failed to find the Khotso House bombers or even the killers of Mathew Goniwe or the whereabouts of the three Pebco leaders who disappeared in 1986. As the victims of these terror attacks it becomes incumbent upon us to conduct our own high level investigations.

It needs to be said that many in the community suspect police involvement in the poisoning of Rev Chikane. We call on the Minister of Law and Order to make it possible for the envisaged community - led investigation to extend its work into the ranks of the police force

Mohammed Valli Moosa
Acting general Secretary
UDF