

# European Community

## News Release

### SOUTH AFRICA

Declaration of 25 May 1987,  
of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs  
of the Twelve Member States of the European Community

1. In light of the elections in the white community held on 6 May and of President Botha's address at the opening of Parliament on 19 May, the Foreign Ministers of the Twelve discussed recent developments in South Africa, and reviewed their policy towards the region. They expressed their deep concern over the serious risk of a further polarization of attitudes. They noted that this development would discourage those white and black South Africans who are genuinely working towards peaceful change.

2. Against this background, the Ministers reaffirmed that the objective of the Twelve's policy towards South Africa remains the total dismantlement of apartheid and its replacement by a genuinely democratic, non-racial system of government. They once again called for a process of fundamental but peaceful change and urged President Botha to take the steps necessary to allow a national dialogue to begin. These steps must include the lifting of the state of emergency, the unconditional release of all political prisoners and the unbanning of the African National Congress, the Pan-African Congress of Azania and other political parties. The Ministers reaffirmed that, in the absence of significant progress in the abolition of apartheid, the attitude of the Twelve to South Africa remains under constant review, taking into account their fundamental principles for the development of South Africa.

3. The Ministers underlined the fact that the Twelve remain committed to work actively for the initiation of a process of peaceful change. They continue to support those within South Africa who are in favour of the peaceful dismantlement of apartheid and, in the region as a whole, the Twelve are devoting significant resources to assisting the neighbouring countries which have suffered so much as a result of the South African government's policies.

- 30 -

Please address enquiries to Finn Olesen or Roy Christensen, Press and Information, Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities, 350 Sparks St., Suite 1110, Ottawa, Ontario, K1R 7S8.  
Phone (613) 238-6464.

 Delegation of the Commission  
of the European Communities

NR (87) 12  
2 June