



South African High Commission
Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DP
Tel: 020 7451 7299

17 August 2009

Dear ACTSA Member

As you will probably be aware my tour of duty as High Commissioner of South Africa to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland is coming to an end this month.

It has been the greatest pleasure and an extraordinary honour to have worked with you in advancing the profile of South Africa in the United Kingdom.

Over the years, you have assisted the High Commission to make enormous strides in positioning the issues confronting South Africa to be more widely recognised in the UK.

You have contributed enormously to further the agenda set at the London Solidarity Conference, which you actively helped to ensure, to help build a better life for the people of the new South Africa after the horrors of apartheid. Indeed, many of you personally assisted at the Conference to make it the success that it was.

Above all, your continued solidarity, born during the dark years of apartheid, has done so much towards advancing my government's agenda regarding the new South Africa's socio-economic challenges. To date you are making meaningful interventions as ACTSA to help transform our country and to redress the horrendous legacy of apartheid.

Although it remains a challenge to undo generations of damage wreaked by colonialism and apartheid, I am heartened that ACTSA will continue to keep South Africa, and Southern Africa, squarely in focus at the centre of UK foreign policy.

Your continual lobbying at both government and civil society level is contributing to South Africa's growing prosperity.

Today I am more convinced than ever that Southern Africa can advance and prosper if we continue to work together in pursuit of our common goal.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your incredible support during my tenure in London.

I am deeply honoured to have had the opportunity to have worked with you over the last eight years and am delighted that the strong ties of solidarity forged by the Anti Apartheid Movement continues unbroken in the work ACTSA is doing to assist the people of new South Africa to achieve a better life for all.

I leave you with many fond memories, a heart full of gratitude for what we have achieved together and an abiding faith in great strides for the future. I have no doubt whatsoever that my successor, High Commissioner Dr Zola Skweyiya, will enjoy an equally close and fruitful co-operative relationship with ACTSA, and with you in particular.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Mabuza', written in a cursive style.

Lindiwe Mabuza
High Commissioner