

# Banned Political Parties Unite In New South Africa Coalition

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**JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, March 26**—Delegates to the biggest political meeting of Africans ever held in South Africa decided today to form an organization to fill the gap left when the Government banned their two political parties.

The African leaders to the two-day conference in Maritzburg, Natal, numbered more than 1,000 and represented 145 sports, cultural and religious bodies.

They agreed at the end of the conference today to form a national body and regional action committees. The African National Congress and the Pan-African National Congress were the parties banned by the Government.

Other decisions taken during the meeting included the organization of mass demonstrations against the race-separation policies of apartheid on the eve of South Africa's becoming a republic May 31.

Police detectives watched the meetings.

More than 250 delegates represented Transvaal areas. Delegates from the Tugela-Non-goma area of Zululand, wearing national costumes, mingled with overcoated tribesmen from Pondoland, a recent trouble

spot. Some of the delegates who had held office in the African National Congress met one another for first time since the state of emergency was declared last year.

The chief speaker was Nelson Mandela, one of accused men in the treason trial that has dragged on for years. He is former president of the African National Congress in Transvaal and, until ten days ago, was banned from attending the meeting.

Mr. Mandela said the "main aim of this conference is to consolidate African unity."

"Africans must feel, act and speak in one voice," he declared. "We must fight for democratic change, for which our leaders have been arrested. We should emerge from this conference with fullest preparations for a fully represented multiracial national convention."

The conference was originally scheduled to take place in the Government-owned Edendale Health Committee Hall. But when it was discovered that the public address system had been wired for tape recordings, all the delegates left the hall and, in a drizzling rain, walked half a mile to the Indian-owned Arya Samaj Hall.

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