

Support for Conditional Investment

The disinvestment and sanctions debate has been sloganised between "starving the Blacks until the Whites give up" - from the establishment side - and short-term suffering for long-term gain - on the opposition side. According to your perception, where does the truth lie?

Mr Motsuenyane: "Well, as far as I am concerned, disinvestment will not yield any positive results in terms of upgrading economic standards in this country and in the Black community.

But it is an indication of the disapproval of the system by the world - which of course does register some impact in the minds of the policy-makers in this country. If for instance the world did not resort to sanctions, I believe this country would remain more and more complacent about its ability to negotiate and to do "business as normal" with the international community. But now that the resentment is being demonstrated through sanctions, perhaps it will activate the Government and the people of this country to move faster towards finding appropriate solutions for the country's problems. But I don't believe I see the gains of disin-

vestment in terms of upgraded standards. I believe a lot of suffering will take place as a result of the introduction of sanctions. Therefore my organisation and myself believe that we must not support total disin-

vestment. What we really should be supporting is conditional investment - investment on conditions - that will enable investors coming into our country to recognise standards that are desirable for the people

working for them. For instance, we are advocating a complete deracialisation of business. Business must at one stage no longer be seen as Black or White, it must **just be** business. When a man opens a business here, he should **not** be looking at employing Whites only in top positions of his business and then leaving the Blacks right at the bottom. I think he should look for qualified skilled people. Whoever comes should be eligible to become the MD of the company - which would be going against the normal practice of today. Another thing which we would like to see, is Blacks being able to buy shares in White companies..."



Mr Sam Motsuenyane, Chairman of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and the African Bank.