



BRITISH EMBASSY
CAPETOWN

28 February 1992

The Chairman
Daily Management Committee
Convention for a Democratic South Africa
World Trade Centre
Johannesburg

Dear Chairman,

BRITISH GENERAL ELECTION: OBSERVERS

As you will know, a General Election is to be held soon in Britain. The Prime Minister has not yet announced the date for the election, but it will in any event take place by July this year, and you will no doubt have seen speculation in the press that it will take place rather before then.

I am writing now to say that the British Government would be happy to arrange for a group of observers from CODESA to visit Britain for a few days while the campaign for the General Election is underway, to see for themselves how we manage these things in Britain. The objective of such a visit would be to enable South Africans to observe the British practice in such areas as electoral rules, the role of the Civil Service, and access to the media: this might be helpful to them as they look forward to democratic elections in this country. In this way, my Government would hope to make a small contribution to the work of CODESA.

We would envisage the delegation of observers from South Africa as comprising four or five members, including senior representatives of some of the key players in the CODESA negotiations. The British Government would be responsible for the major costs of such a visit, including air fares to and from London and hotel accommodation in the UK.

I should be grateful, therefore, if you would consider this offer with your colleagues in the Daily Management Committee, and would let me know how you would like to take it forward. As soon as the date for the General Election is announced, we shall clearly need to make the arrangements rather quickly.

With best wishes,

*Your sincerely
Anthony Reeve*

(ANTHONY REEVE)

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A. P. Wise

(ANTHONY REEVE)