

2nd August 1992

PRESS STATEMENT

Some 50 women from organisations supporting the Pro Democracy Campaign began a 48 hour fast for peace and democracy in the Methodist Church on Buitenkant Street this evening.

The fast began after a service at the Roman Catholic Church in Guguletu this afternoon which was addressed by Dorothy Boesak and Mildred Lesiea, Chairperson of the ANC Women's League. Mrs Hilda Ndude, ANC Women's League National Executive Member chaired the service.

After the service, the women moved to the Methodist Church where, after a message of support by Dr Allan Boesak, the fast began.

The fast has been organised by women in organisations supporting the Pro Democracy Campaign during the week of action. The women, many of whom belong to churches like the Manyanos, have chosen to express their solidarity with the Campaign in prayer and will be holding another service on Thursday 6th August.

On Sunday 9th, women from a large number of organisations will celebrate National Women's Day at the Baxter Theatre - with cultural events from 11am and a rally at 2pm.

This will be the 36th anniversary of National Women's Day which commemorates the day when some 20 000 women gathered at the Union Buildings to protest against the extension of the pass laws to women. It was described by the Cape Times the following day as "probably the largest mass gathering of women in the country's history".

Issued by the ANC Women's League

For more information, please contact Susan de Villiers 448-5651 or 689-2373