

SACBC ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD STATEMENT

ON

THE RUSTENBURG DECLARATION (30/1/91)

As leaders of the Catholic Church in South Africa, we welcome the Rustenburg Declaration. We thank God for the new hope that emerged for this country from the Conference of Church Leaders held in Rustenburg.

The Declaration has led us with considerable pain to examine our own history. We recognise that its message applies to our Church as a corporate body. We must admit with sorrow that though as a Church we have often spoken out against the sin of apartheid we are not innocent of all complicity in supporting or going along with the sin of apartheid.

So we ask forgiveness from all those, both within the church and beyond, who have suffered from our actions, blindness and negligence in the past.

We recommend to our members that they reflect upon the message of Rustenburg, pray over it and put it into effect. For our part, we re-affirm our commitment to remove all vestiges of apartheid in our institutions and procedures.