

# Parliamentary Dialogue

## on the margins of the Hellenic Presidency to EU

### *“Democracy: Cornerstone for Development”*

*March 20, 2014*

*Athens*



# AWEPA

- \* AWEPA works in cooperation with African Parliaments to strengthen parliamentary democracy in Africa, to keep Africa high on the political agenda in Europe and to facilitate African-European Parliamentary dialogue.
- \* AWEPA's overall objective is to support the realization of human rights and development in Africa via strengthening democratic institutions. With the help of parliamentarians and elected officials worldwide, AWEPA actively supports human development and institutional capacity building within parliaments made up of decentralized authorities.

# AWEPA in Greece Late 1987

*Mr. Jan Nico Scholten, President of AWEPA, along with Mrs. B. Luhrman –Fuchs, Director of AWEPA, visited Athens to inform the Greek political parties and Members of the Hellenic Parliament about AWEPA goals and mission.*

*Mr. Theodossis Georgiou from the Democratic Renewal Party in Greece at that time, has helped AWEPA Delegation during the meetings.*



# March, 1988

**A Greek AWEPA Delegation**

**Mr. Yannis ZIAGAS, MP**

**Mr. Basil BEKIRIS, MP**

**Mr. Ilias MALEVITIS, MP**

**Mr. Theodossis GEORGIU, Coordinator**

*participated in a conference held in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique focusing on the Western Europe's response to the South Africa's problem (apartheid).*

**Dr. Sotiris Mousouris, Director of the UN Center against Apartheid**, was one of the speakers.



# 1988

1<sup>st</sup> Conference during the Hellenic Presidency to EU

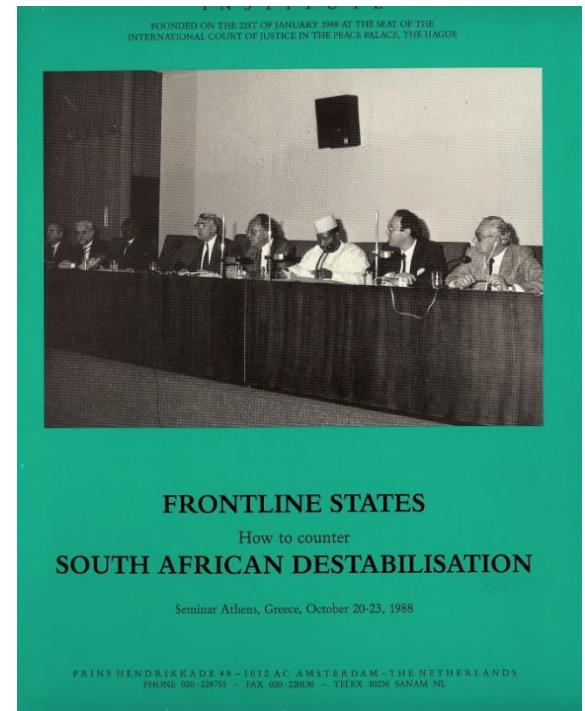
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece

## “Frontline States.

## How to counter SOUTH AFRICAN DESTABILISATION”

October 20-21, Athens

Participants from around Europe and Africa, Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Greece and Mozambique and the Speaker of Zimbabwe



# 1988

## 1<sup>st</sup> Conference during the Hellenic Presidency to EU

*Mr. George Bizos, Lawyer of Nelson Mandela, was the Guest Speaker*



# 1988

October 22, Patras

## First Greek anti-apartheid city

Participants of the conference participated in a special event in Patras (3<sup>rd</sup> biggest city in Greece), where Mayor **Andreas Karavolas**, in a special ceremony, declared Patras as the “First anti-apartheid city” of Greece



# 1989, April

**Mr. Karavolas**, Mayor of Patras, and **Mr. Georgiou**, AWEPA Coordinator in Greece, participated in the conference in Zimbabwe.

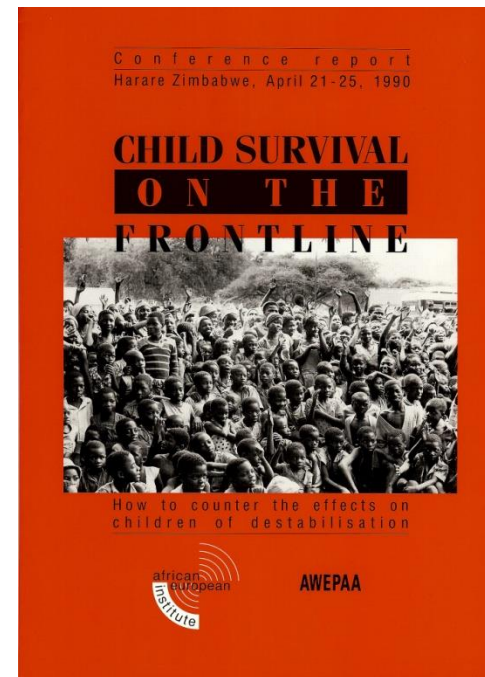
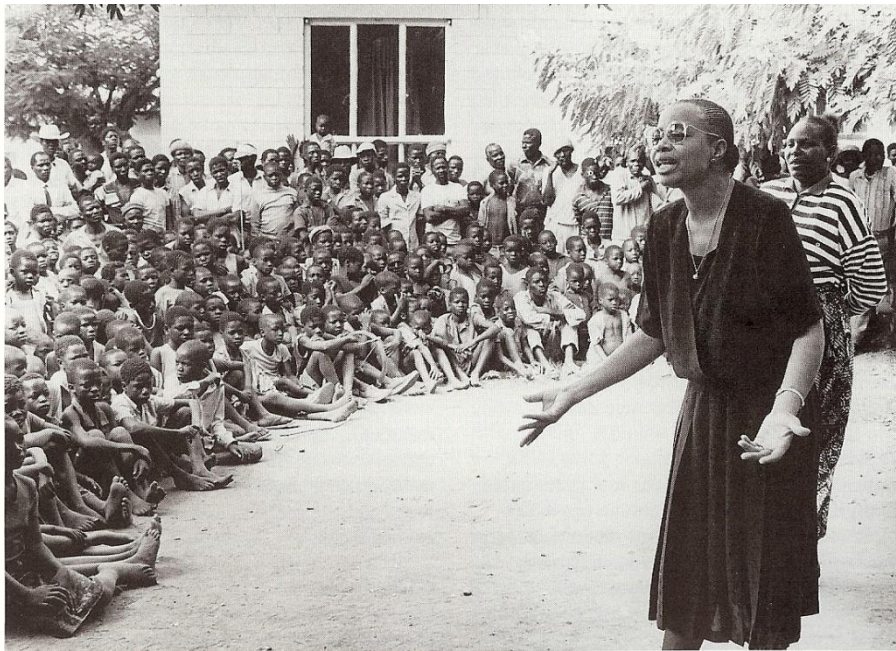




1990, April

# Child survival on the front line Conference in Harare, Zimbabwe

*Greek delegation consisting of 5 female Greek politicians and other experts, participated in this conference.*



# 1993: Greek Association for Women and Children in Southern Africa

In the continuation of the conference in Zimbabwe, a “Greek Association for Women and Children in Southern Africa”, was initiated in Athens, with the coordination of **Dr. Aliko Mitsakos**.

A conference focusing on this issues was organized in October 1993 in the Amphitheatre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



# 1990, June

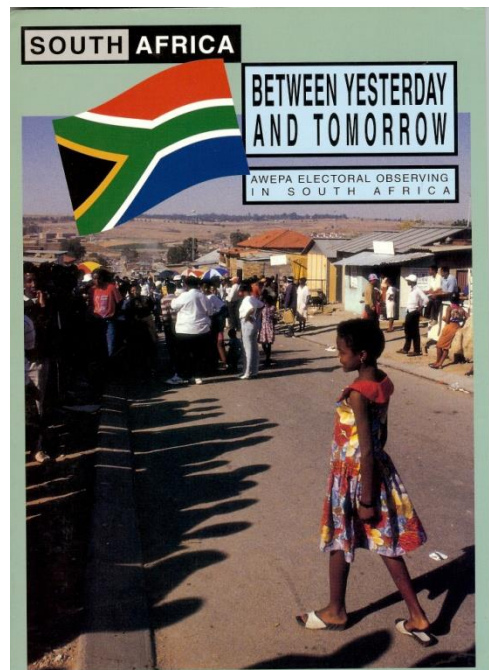
During the first address of **Nelson Mandela** in Europe, AWEPA Greece was represented by Mr. Georgiou. The event was organized by AWEPA in the European Parliament in Strasbourg.



# 1994, April

## South Africa's first free elections

Greek Parliamentarians and Personalities are members of the AWEPA Multinational Delegation to observe the elections.



# 1994, April

## South Africa's first free elections



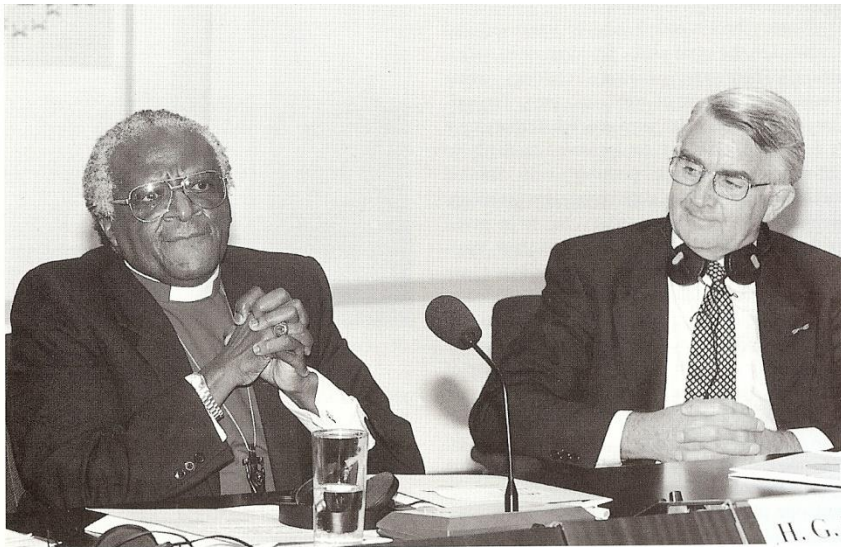
1994, June 22-24

## South African Economy in Transition

2<sup>nd</sup> Conference during the Hellenic Presidency to EU,

### Zappeion Conference Hall

*“ This conference focuses on the transition taking place in the South African economy. This transition will have a major impact on the other countries in the Southern African region. Southern Africa stands on the threshold of unprecedented opportunity in regional cooperation and integration” Jan N. Scholten*



# 1994, June 22-24

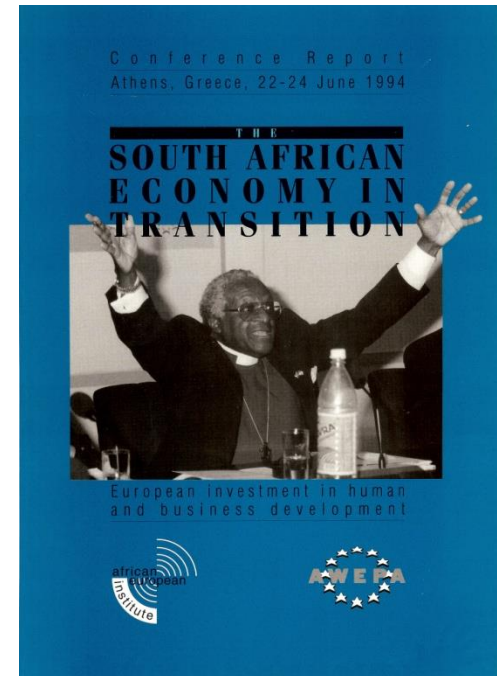
## South African Economy in Transition

*“We are asking our partners against apartheid in organizations like AWEPA, to become our partners in the struggle for social and economic development in Southern Africa. Europe can play a key role in the development and democratization process in Southern Africa” – Nelson Mandela*



## Honorary Guest *Archbishop Desmond Tutu*, *Nobel Prize laureate:*

“...and therefore it is my privilege on behalf our people to express a very deep and profound thank to the international community and especially to AWEPA for supporting us...”





# *till today...*

*Many Greek MPs and Personalities have supported the work of AWEPA and participated in numerous conferences in Europe and Africa.*

*Among the most distinguished Greek Politicians who have honored AWEPA with their Membership in past, are:*

- \* The President of the Hellenic Republic **Mr. Karolos Papoulias**
- \* **Mr. Konstantinos Stefanopoulos**, Former President of the Hellenic Republic
- \* **Mr. Konstantinos Mitsotakis** ,Prime Minister of Greece
- \* **Mr. Konstantinos Simitis**, Prime Minister of Greece
- \* **Mr. George Papandreou**, Prime Minister of Greece
- \* **Mr. Athanassios Tsaldaris**, Speaker of the Hellenic Parliament
- \* **Mr. Apostolos Kaklamanis**, Speaker of the Hellenic Parliament
- \* **Mr. Theodoros Pangalos**, Vice Prime Minister of Greece

# Greek involvement in the Governing Council of AWEPA

Mr. Th. Georgiou, contact person in Greece, has been elected member of the Governing Council several times and since then he has participated in its annual meetings.



# AWEPA renews relations with Greece

## March 2014

President Mrs. M. Smet together with other 25 delegates visited Athens on March 20-23 to attend the “Parliamentary Dialogue” and other meetings on the margins of the Hellenic Presidency to EU



Ms. Miet Smet, Minister of State and President of AWEPA.



# Parliamentary Dialogue in the Hall of Senate

On March 20<sup>th</sup>, the “Parliamentary Dialogue” was held in the Hall of Senate at the Hellenic Parliament and was attended by AWEPA delegates, Greek MPs and European and African Ambassadors. The First Deputy Speaker **Hon. Mr. Ioannis Tragakis**, as well as **Hon. Mr. Tsiaras**, President of Committee on National Defense and Foreign Affairs **Hon. Mrs. Papakosta**, President of Committee on Equality, Youth and Human Rights, were among the speakers.

The event was chaired by **Mr. Th.Georgiou**, Member of GC of AWEPA.



Participants at the Parliamentary Dialogue in the Margins of the Hellenic EU Presidency, held in Athens on 20 March 2014.

# We would like to express our gratitude to:

- \* **Hon. Mr. Tragakis**, *Vice Deputy Speaker*
- \* **Hon. Mr. Tsiaras**, *President of Committee on National Defense and Foreign Affairs*
- \* **Hon. Mrs. Papakosta**, *President of Committee on Equality, Youth and Human Rights*,
- \* **Mr. Dimitris Kourkoulas**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, for including this event under **the Auspices of the Hellenic Presidency to EU.**

## Special thanks to:

- \* **Mrs. Nagia Miliou** - Director General for International Relations and Communication and all the staff of the Hellenic Parliament

Dear President Mrs. Miet Smet,  
we can assure that Greece will continue to support AWEPA's  
activities

