



**TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA
FIRST SESSION (2012 - 2014)
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

RESOLUTION NO. 64

WHEREAS the world learnt with sadness, on the 5th December 2013, of the passing of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, the first democratically elected President of the post Apartheid South Africa;

AND WHEREAS Guyana has long recognized Nelson Mandela as the genuine and legitimate leader of the South African people, a freedom fighter forced to support armed struggle after years of non-violent struggle against apartheid, the internationally known and loved political prisoner, imprisoned for 27 years for campaigning against the barbarous and iniquitous system of apartheid which pervaded every aspect of life in South Africa;

AND WHEREAS Nelson Mandela (Madiba) became the symbol of the struggle for the abolition of the system of Apartheid in South Africa;

AND WHEREAS his wise leadership upon gaining his freedom, his election as President of the ANC and his subsequent election as President of the Republic of South Africa, the highest position in his land, he demonstrated his commitment to the ANC 1961 Kliptown Declaration of the Congress of the People and the Freedom Charter of a free and democratic South Africa for all of its peoples;

2.

AND WHEREAS Mandela was the architect of crafting of the new South African Constitution founded on a spirit of reconciliation, non retribution and unparalleled magnanimity that conferred new freedom and dignity to the oppressed and the oppressor alike;

AND WHEREAS from the early 1950s Guyana's progressive forces, through the Peoples' Progressive Party and the Peoples' National Congress, were committed to principled and unwavering support for the African National Congress and the abolition of the system of apartheid; and the creation of a free, independent and democratic South Africa;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana, despite the international challenges it faced, was steadfast in its commitment and support for the liberation of South Africa and Southern Africa in general. This was demonstrated significantly through Guyana's contribution of US\$50,000 (United States dollars fifty thousand) annually for the African liberation struggle as well as its agreement for the landing and refueling of Cuban aircraft en route to support the Southern African liberation movements; support for the international boycott of South African goods and sport; and Guyana's severing of sporting contacts with apartheid South Africa;

AND WHEREAS Guyana, in recognition of the African liberation struggle built the African Liberation Monument in the forecourt of the Umana Yana and demonstrated our respect and recognition of the role of Nelson Mandela by naming a section of a major city highway for him;

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3.

AND WHEREAS we are proud as Guyanese of our country's, successive governments and civil society's forthright and unwavering stand in support of the international struggle against apartheid and for the freedom of the South African peoples;

AND WHEREAS we recognize the power of the international movement against apartheid which grew from strength to strength isolating the apartheid regime as the pariah of the world and salute the strength and commitment of the South African people over long decades that finally opened the way for Mandela's release, the abolition of apartheid and the birth of the "rainbow" nation;

AND WHEREAS we the members of this National Assembly salute Nelson Mandela, as a dear friend of Guyana, a great humanitarian and an architect of reconciliation and hopefully a new international political culture;

RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly formally offers its profound condolences to the entire Mandela family and to the Government and people of the Republic of South Africa, while at the same time acknowledging the precious heritage which this man of exceptional courage and wisdom bequeathed to all of humanity.

Passed by the National Assembly on Thursday, 16th January, 2014

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S.E. ISAACS

Clerk of the National Assembly