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The editors of *Transformation* believe that it is appropriate to put out an issue of the journal on the question of the political economy of South Africa after apartheid. We believe that a full discussion and debate about the kind of economic policies and strategies which would be most appropriate to meeting the demands of a united, non-racial democratic South Africa, is critically important at this juncture, even if these debates do no more than clarify the implications of alternative 'models' of economic growth.

This issue departs from our usual format in that it begins with the document section, in which the summary recommendations of the joint workshop of the ANC-COSATU-Economic Trends Research Group (ET), in Harare in March/April 1990, are reproduced. While the Harare document on economic policy has received some publicity, it has not been widely debated in progressive circles. It should be pointed out that these recommendations do not have the status of policy as yet and are presently being debated within ANC and COSATU structures.

This is followed by our debate section, in which the initial responses of some ET members to the Harare recommendations are given. These responses, by Dave Kaplan and Alec Erwin, were especially prepared for internal discussions in the July 1990 ET meeting, and (at our request) they have not been substantially revised, given time constraints.

These debate pieces are followed by four articles on the economy which were presented at the Harare Workshop. Subsequently, most of these articles have been revised, and some have since been presented at other forums as well.