

Native hits

ABORIGINAL leader Mrs Faith Bandler lashed out yesterday at racism in Australia.

She accused many Australians of supporting the Springbok "ambassadors of apartheid."

"Your silence when this team toured this country is a true indication that you condoned racial discrimination," Mrs Bandler told the National Evangelical Anglican Congress.

Mrs Bandler who is general secretary of the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Straits Islanders, told delegates:

"I have never said this publicly before and I hoped I would never have had to say it.

"Is the apathy so deeply embedded that it's impossible to make amends?"

"How long are you going to sit

at race bias

by and allow the Government of Queensland to impose a racist law on the black people of that State and allow the Government of WA to do the same thing?"

Mrs Bandler called on the 500 congress delegates to "trek off to the corridors of power in Canberra.

"This is where you must raise your voices to abolish all forms of racial discrimination which exist in Government legislation throughout this country today," she said.

"It is not sufficient to leave it to the Government.

State

problem

"If the Prime Minister says racial discrimination is a State problem, don't believe him, it's a lie."

Mrs Bandler's scathing attack was enthusiastically applauded.

She told delegates she had spoken out "because I watched your reactions your comments and your behavior before and during the South African rugby tour of this country."

Mrs Bandler said the problem of black South Africans was the problem of black Australians.

"And many of you cannot dare deny that you supported this team of sportsmen — the ambassadors of apartheid."

