

# SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY



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## Deeper integration SADC sets priorities for 2014

by Kizito Sikuka

**AT LEAST** seven priority areas have been identified for implementation this year as southern Africa intensifies efforts to deepen integration for socio-economic development.

The priority areas were adopted by the SADC Council of Ministers, which met in March in Lilongwe, Malawi.

The ministers agreed to intensify efforts towards finalizing the review process of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and consolidating the SADC Free Trade Area (FTA) launched in 2008.

Other priorities are the conclusion of negotiations to establish a single market covering 26 countries in eastern and southern Africa; fast-tracking implementation of the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan; strengthening measures to improve food security; and implementation of the HIV and AIDS cross-border initiatives.

The seventh priority is on peace building and consolidation of democratic practices in the region.

The SADC Council of Ministers that oversees the functioning and development of SADC is made up of ministers of Foreign Af-

fairs, Economic Planning or Finance from the 15 Member States.

The current Chairperson of the SADC Council, the Malawian Foreign Affairs Minister Ephraim Chiume, said implementation of the priority areas is critical in promoting regional development, particularly in view of the weakening global economic outlook.

"The world economy is showing signs of slowing down, and this may have a domino effect on the economies of SADC and that calls on us to find innovative ways of subduing these effects," said Chiume.

A multi-stakeholder task force has been set up to implement recommendations of an independent review of the RISDP that was concluded last year.

The task force is expected to propose new priorities, main focal areas, milestones, outputs, targets and timeframes for the remainder of the implementation period of the RISDP; and suggest new policy, strategy, and institutional innovations for the post-2018 period after the development plan comes to an end.

The team is expected to prepare a summary of key recommendations and priorities for completion of the RISDP and present these to Council for deliberation and endorsement when it meets again in Zimbabwe in August.

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## Deeper integration SADC sets priorities for 2014

The review of the 15-year SADC development blueprint that was adopted in 2003, aims to ensure its targets are realistic and in line with regional agreements as well as continental and global dynamics.

Council resolved to devote greater energy to implementation of the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan that aims to create an efficient and cost-effective infrastructure network in southern Africa by 2027.

Implementation of the master plan got a boost in February following the signing of a €12 million (about US\$16.5 million) agreement between SADC and the European Union for the operationalization of the Project Preparation and Development Facility (PPDF).

The PPDF aims to facilitate preparation of bankable projects in the region.

Under its ambitious US\$64 billion infrastructure programme, SADC aims to develop cross-border infrastructure in the six key areas of energy, transport, tourism, water, information communication technology, and meteorology.

Implementation of this programme started in 2013 and will be done in three five-year phases of short term (2012-2017), medium term (2017-2022) and long term (2022-2027).

With regard to food security, the region is aiming to boost capacity through greater commitment to various regional measures on agriculture such as those identified in the Dar es Salaam Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security.

Adopted in 2004, the Dar es Salaam Declaration encourages member countries to allocate at least 10 percent of their national budgets to agriculture annually.

Other measures include improving the availability and access to agricultural inputs for farmers, consisting of improved seed varieties, fertilizers, agrochemicals, tillage services and farm implements.

Significant progress has been made in meeting some of the targets. However, a number of countries still lag behind in implementing the plan -- a development that could derail efforts to boost production and make the region food self-sufficient.

Full implementation of the HIV and AIDS cross-border initiatives would enable the region to curb the spread of the disease, allowing SADC to strengthen its human resource base -- a key component in advancing the regional integration agenda.

As part of the initiative, Member States are expected to improve the regional response to HIV and AIDS among mobile populations, including long-distance truck drivers, commercial sex workers and communities that live close to border areas.

At least two mobile clinics are expected to be established in each Member State to provide various services such as testing and counselling, and medical referrals as well as behaviour change communication.

In addition to fast-tracking the various regional targets and programmes, SADC plans to deepen integration this year by consolidating gains such as the FTA and the

peace that prevails in the region.

The SADC FTA came into force on 1 January 2008 following implementation of agreed tariff phase-down commitments between 2000 and 2007.

From 2008, producers and consumers no longer pay import duty on an estimated 85 percent of all trade on goods between participating member states, which are Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Two countries, Angola and DRC, have said they will join the FTA later.

However, as borders have gradually opened up, critical issues emerged about the impact of the FTA on the consumer, industry and public sector.

As member states lifted import duties, one immediate effect has been lower prices of goods imported from countries that have a comparative advantage.

Another fundamental impact has been the increased competition as member states removed tariffs and subsidies. All companies in the same sector are competing on an equal footing, regardless of their size.

With regard to engagement with other Regional Economic Communities, the finalization of the tripartite agreement with COMESA and EAC would boost intra-regional trade, by creating a wider market covering 26 countries in eastern and southern Africa.

SADC companies will have access to a combined

population of approximately 600 million people, spanning from Cape to Cairo.

The single market would serve as one of the building blocks of an African Economic Community, which has been a longstanding vision of the continent's leaders since 1963 at the formation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and eventually agreed in writing decades later when the leaders approved the African Economic Community Treaty in 1991.

The target for COMESA-EAC-SADC is to reach an agreement by June, paving the way for the launch of the grand FTA that will become a new benchmark for deeper regional and continental integration in Africa.

Consolidation of democratic practices and good governance in the region is critical in maintaining stability and peace in SADC.

Stability is a prerequisite to economic and industrial development. The SADC region has experienced relative peace and stability over the years, attracting investment in sectors such as mining and tourism. r



## Madagascar formally readmitted to SADC

**MADAGASCAR WAS** formally readmitted into SADC during the Council of Ministers held in Malawi in March but will remain in an observer status until it clears its membership arrears.

This followed the lifting of the suspension of Madagascar's membership by SADC Heads of State and Government during an Extra-Ordinary Summit held on the sidelines of the 22nd African Union Ordinary Session in Ethiopia in January.

The lifting of the suspension paved the way for Madagascar to resume its participation in all SADC activities.

"On behalf of the SADC Member States... I would like to pledge our firm commitment to support and cooperate with the people and government of the Republic of Madagascar in their bold efforts towards national reconciliation, social and economic recovery that will ultimately lay a path for sustainable economic development and inclusive growth," said Council chairperson and Malawian Foreign Affairs Minister, Ephraim Chiume.

Chiume noted that Madagascar will participate as an observer until its membership arrears are cleared.

"We have mandated the Secretariat to negotiate with Madagascar so that they can come up with a payment plan because we understand where they are coming from and their circumstances which we will consider when we meet again," explained Chiume.

Madagascar was suspended from SADC in 2009 when the country slid into a political turmoil.

This was after opposition leader Andry Rajoelina seized power from then President Marc Ravalomanana in a public demonstration backed by the military, similar to the method used by Ravalomanana when he seized power a few years earlier from his predecessor, Didier Ratsiraka.

Since the suspension in 2009, SADC has been at the forefront of mediation efforts to ensure constitutional order returned in Madagascar.

Former Mozambican president Joaquim Chissano was appointed as the lead negotiator in peace talks between the political parties, mainly those of Ravalomanana and Rajoelina.

The appointment of Chissano in June 2009 came a week after the African Union and the United Nations suspended their mediation efforts, citing lack of political will by the two parties.

Those organizations refused to recognize the Rajoelina regime and at one point even suggested military intervention to save millions of Malagasy citizens

affected by the political situation in their country.

SADC mediation finally paid off at the end of 2013 when Madagascar held presidential elections won by the former finance minister, Hery Rajaonarimampianina.

He defeated his rival, Jean Louis Robinson, by 53.49 percent to 46.51 percent of the total votes.

Rajaonarimampianina, who needed a run-off to win after coming second in the first-round presidential election in October, was sworn in as democratically elected president on 25 January 2014. r

## Review of electoral principles underway

**THE SADC Electoral Advisory Council (SEAC)** is reviewing the principles and guidelines governing the conduct of elections and developing a handbook on elections in the region.

The review follows a decision of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation during a meeting in Lusaka, Zambia in June 2011 mandating the SEAC to revise the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections and develop a SADC Electoral Handbook.

The SEAC has developed a "Revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections", which is now being shared with key regional players through a series of stakeholder consultations.

The consultations are targeting Member States, electoral experts and non-state actors such as research institutions and academia.

Adopted in August 2004 at the Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government in Mauritius, the principles and guidelines contain procedures to be followed by SADC observer missions and minimum standards that a Member State should follow if its election is to be declared free and fair.

The electoral guidelines aim to enhance the transparency and credibility of elections and democratic governance as well as ensuring the acceptance of election results by all contesting parties.

They are, however, not legally binding and are subservient to the provisions of national laws.

It is also not mandatory for a Member State holding elections to invite a SADC Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) to observe its elections. Section 3.1 states that a SEOM will have an observation role only "in the event a Member State deems it necessary to invite SADC to observe its elections."

However, in the interest of consistent application of the electoral principles, all Member States should be obliged to invite a SADC observer team to observe its elections.

The 12-member SEAC was inaugurated in April 2011 to advise the region on electoral matters and issues pertaining to enhancement of democracy and good governance.

It is composed of one representative from each Member State, selected from a list nominated by governments. r



# Mauritius removes all customs duties on SADC products

by Joseph Ngwawi

**MAURITIUS HAS** become the first country to remove customs duty on all products imported from SADC Member States as part of efforts to improve intra-regional trade.

According to the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), all products imported from SADC countries are duty free from 1 January 2014.

"As per the Government Gazette of Mauritius No.116 of 28 December 2013... all customs duties have now been removed on the remaining sensitive products including plastic products, edible oil, wheat flour, margarine, soaps, baby napkins, iron bars and soft drinks," the MCCI said in a notice.

To qualify for duty exemption, all goods must be accompanied by a valid SADC certificate of origin.

The removal of tariffs is in line with provisions of the SADC Protocol on Trade under which Member States agreed to gradually remove customs tariffs and non-tariff barriers on intraregional trade.

Implementation of the Protocol started in the year 2000 and provided for the gradual elimination of all customs duties among SADC countries with a longer tariff phase-down period for sensitive products.

The negotiating process was conducted through the "request-offer approach" under the auspices of the Trade Negotiating Forum, which met regularly as provided for in the Trade Protocol.

Critical to the negotiating process was the principle of asymmetry, which was born out of the realization that, among other issues, SADC Member States were at vary-

ing levels of economic development.

For purposes of implementation of the Trade Protocol, Member States were put into the following categories:

- Developed Countries (mainly South Africa but *de facto* the Southern African Customs Union which includes Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland);
- Developing Countries (Mauritius and Zimbabwe); and

- Least Developed Countries (being the remainder, i.e. Angola, DRC, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Seychelles and Zambia).

Based on these clusters, SADC pursued a tariff phase-down programme at variable scales of speed in which the developed countries cluster was expected to generally frontload their tariff reductions to achieve the "substantially all trade"

threshold by about year five of implementation, by 2005.

The developing countries cluster was expected to generally mid-load their tariff reductions to achieve the same threshold by the eighth year of implementation, by 2007/08, while the last category, the LDCs, was expected to backload their tariff reductions beyond the eighth-year threshold but not exceeding 12 years. r

## Malawi, Tanzania move towards One Stop Border Post

**MALAWI AND** the United Republic of Tanzania have taken the first step towards creation of a One Stop Border Post at the Songwe-Kasumulu entry point in a move aimed at facilitating the free movement of persons and goods between the two SADC Member States.

Officials from the two countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in March that formalized the creation of a single customs and immigration centre at their common border.

Under the MoU, the border posts of Kasumulu in Tanzania and Songwe in northern Malawi will be operating under one umbrella by the end of the year.

Under the one-stop border post scheme, travellers and goods are cleared just once for passage into another country in contrast with the current situation where they have to be sanctioned on both sides of the border.

This development is widely expected to address issues of delays, which are often experienced at most border posts as well as promote the smooth flow of goods through the removal of often perceived "restrictive" operational procedures at borders.

Speaking during the signing ceremony held on the sidelines of the SADC Council of Ministers meeting in Malawi, the Tanzanian Finance Minister

Saddah Mkuya Salum said the development will help to reduce the cost of doing business between the two countries.

"Establishment of the single customs and immigration centre at the Songwe-Kasumulu border will not only reduce costs of doing business, but also cement the existing bilateral relations between the two countries," she said.

The Malawian Industry and Trade Minister, Sosten Gwengwe, said the common border post will bring efficiency of people, goods and services between the two neighbours.

He said the current arrangement where persons and goods are cleared twice to cross from one country to another was costly in terms of time spent at the border.

He was confident the proposed centre would facilitate smoother transportation of Malawi-bound cargo from Tanzania, since the former is a landlocked country.

Mkuya said experts from both countries would soon be meeting to develop a work plan on how to implement the project. r



A One Stop Border Post at the Songwe-Kasumulu entry point facilitates the free movement of people between Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania.





## EU boost for SADC infrastructure programme

by Danai Majaha

**THE SADC** Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan received a boost from the signing of a €12 million contribution agreement (about US\$16.5 million) to strengthen regional capacity to develop bankable projects.

The agreement between SADC and the European Union, signed in February, is expected to address challenges faced by SADC in preparing bankable projects, especially for the infrastructure sector.

Only a few of the regional projects identified in the Master Plan's Short-Term Action Plan (2013-2017) have secured financing, sometimes covering only part of a project in one country.

Most of the projects are at the phase of feasibility or pre-feasibility study, and there is urgent need to complete these in a form that can attract funding.

### AfDB approves Mauritius country strategy

**THE AFRICAN** Development Bank has approved a strategy to drive infrastructure and technical development in Mauritius during the next five years.

The Mauritius Country Strategy Paper (2014-2018) is designed to help the country to build its competitiveness and resilience to exogenous shocks to strengthen the quality of growth and accelerate the country's transition to a High Income Country.

Pillar I of the strategy targets policy reform activities aimed at addressing bottlenecks in energy, transport, and water and sanitation infrastructure.

"This would enable Mauritius to improve the quality and



Investing in the transport sector increases regional capacity.

The SADC Project Preparation and Development Facility (PPDF) is one of the institutional mechanisms expected to achieve this.

The facility aims to support SADC Member States to address the supply-side infrastructure constraints affecting economic development within the region, as a means to promote regional economic integration.

This will be done by identifying and preparing a pipeline

of regional economic infrastructure projects; developing human capacity within the region for the identification, preparation, evaluation and marketing of economic infrastructure projects; and marketing of investment proposals.

The SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for regional integration, Dr Theminkosi Mhlongo hailed the PPDF as a giant leap in the right direction.

"This is a valuable step towards the implementation of the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan, as infrastructure is the cornerstone of economic development and one of the key drivers of regional integration and cooperation in the SADC region," Mhlongo said during the signing ceremony for the agreement.

Head of the EU delegation to Botswana and SADC, Gerard McGovern, signed on behalf of the EU.

"This programme will narrow the infrastructure deficit in the southern African region. This programme is a pragmatic response to the preparation of bankable regional infrastructure projects," McGovern said.

The €12 million is part of €84 million that the EU has committed to SADC under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF10) programme.

In addition to the EU funding, the German government, through Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), has also contributed up to €4.8 million towards the facility.

The SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan was approved by the Heads of State and Government at their 32nd Ordinary Summit in August 2012 in Maputo, Mozambique.

Southern Africa is seeking investment and finance for a US\$64 billion programme to improve transport, energy and other infrastructure over the next five years.

The transport sector has the largest number of projects under the STAP, with 40 projects for the improvement of road, railways, ports and border posts, valued at about US\$16.3 billion.

It is followed by the energy sector, which has 16 projects valued at US\$12 billion that are targeted for implementation by 2017.

Priority transport infrastructure projects include those targeting the expansion, rehabilitation and modernisation of Durban and Walvis Bay ports; new rail projects and rehabilitation of existing ones; new road links connecting Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and rehabilitation of others around the region; and a one-stop border post at Beitbridge between South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Major energy projects marketed during a conference for investors held in Mozambique in 2013 include the flagship ZiZaBoNa Interconnector Project to be implemented by Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Namibia as well as the proposed Namibia-Angola Interconnector that will connect the latter to the Southern African Power Pool. r



**SOUTHERN AFRICA** expects to commission new power projects in 2014 that will add about 5,500 megawatts of electricity to the regional grid as the region targets to attain energy self-sufficiency within the next four years, according to the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).

New and rehabilitated energy generation projects planned for commissioning this year are expected to add about 6,141MW of electricity, but 685MW of the new capacity will come from Angola and the United Republic of Tanzania which are not connected to the regional grid.

Other new power will come from South Africa, which is expected to commission 4,936MW this year, Zambia (195MW), Mozambique (175MW) and Botswana (150MW).

In line with a regional target to gradually increase the uptake of cleaner energy sources by 2020, about 36 percent of the planned new interconnected capacity in 2014 will be from renewable energy sources, which will be produced by independent power producers in South Africa.

Part of this will come from the Sere Wind Farm in the Western Cape region of South Africa that is expected to be one of the largest wind farms in southern Africa, producing 100MW on completion.

Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) projects are expected to add more than 1,800MW to the grid.

CSP systems use mirrors or lenses to concentrate a large area of sunlight onto a small area. Electrical power is produced when the concentrated light is converted to heat, which drives a heat engine connected to an electrical power generator.

Southern African countries agreed in 2012 to increase the uptake of cleaner energy sources that result in reduced carbon emission.



## SAPP to commission 5,500MW

This follows the adoption of a wide-range of strategies aimed at aligning the region with new trends in the global energy sector, which now favour renewable energy as opposed to fossil fuels.

Meeting in Botswana in April 2012, energy experts from the region agreed that SAPP should achieve a renewable energy mix in the regional grid of at least 32 percent by 2020 and 35 percent by 2030.

They also agreed that Member States must identify all renewable energy projects that can be connected to the regional grid and that SAPP should develop a Renewable Energy Development Plan that lists projects according to priority, which should be linked to the SADC Regional Infrastructure Master Plan.

It was agreed that by 2015 all SADC Member States and SAPP should have assessed their grid capacity for renewable energy and



## South Africa interested in joining ZiZaBoNa

**SOUTH AFRICA** has expressed interest to participate in the ZiZaBoNa project, an electricity transmission interconnector that currently involves Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Namibia.

According to Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) chief engineer Alison Chikova, the South African power utility, Eskom, has finalised internal due diligence exercise to establish the financial and commercial implications of joining the ZiZaBoNa project.

He said Eskom was expected to appoint consultants in March who will advise on the modalities of becoming part of the project.

A committee of lawyers from Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Namibia recently met in Namibia to discuss how the ZiZaBoNa project will be structured.

The ZiZaBoNa Lawyers Committee looked at the project's Shareholders Agreement, under which the respective power utilities from the four countries will have equal shareholdings and are all expected to finance parts of the project that fall within their national boundaries.

The transmission interconnector project has the capacity to increase power trading among participating utilities, as well as provide an alternative power transmission route and help decongest the existing central transmission corridor that currently passes through Zimbabwe.

The ZiZaBoNa project will help to provide another wheeling path and, therefore, increase trade between the northern and southern parts of SADC.

The initial capacity of the transmission interconnector will be 300 megawatts (MW), which will later be increased to 600MW.

The project is to be implemented in two phases. The first phase will cover the construction of a 120-kilometre, 330kilovolt line from Hwange Power Station to Victoria Falls where a switching station will be built on the Zimbabwe side. The line will extend to a substation at Livingstone in Zambia.

The second phase will involve the construction of a 300km 330kV line from Livingstone to Katima Mulilo in Namibia, through Pandamatenga in Botswana.

The Zimbabwe-Zambia interconnector will be built as a high voltage line with a transmission capacity of 430kV. However, it will operate as a 330kV line during the first phase. r



## new generation capacity

identified requirements for grid upgrades, if any; and that all countries should have undertaken strategic environmental assessments for the various renewable energy types in their countries. r

### Lack of data delays tariff status report

**LACK OF** data is affecting the finalisation of a regional status report on the level of electricity tariffs in southern Africa.

Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa (RERA) Executive Secretary Elijah Sichone said finalisation of a regional status update on tariffs is hindered by delayed and/or incomplete data submissions from Member States.

He said regulatory bodies from only six SADC Member States had submitted data on their tariffs while partially completed or no returns had been received from the remaining nine countries.

Completed forms have been received from regulators in Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

"RERA needs urgent assistance to finalise the status update, including timely and sustained data collection/submission for publications," Sichone said during the 13th meeting of the SADC Energy Thematic Group held in Gaborone, Botswana, in February.

RERA has since 2010 worked with the SADC Secretariat and



the Southern African Power Pool to produce an Annual SADC Electricity Tariffs and Selected Performance Indicators.

This flagship regional publication has served as an essential information aid on regional trends pertaining to electricity supply industry tariffs and selected performance indicators for governments, regulators, utilities, non-governmental organizations, academia, investors and other interested parties

Evidence has mounted of low tariffs negatively affecting southern Africa, and consensus has increasingly emerged about

the severity and likely impact of this problem.

Existing SADC energy tariffs do not provide the right signals for new investment and energy conservation, efficiency and substitution practices by consumers.

A survey conducted by RERA with support from the Southern Africa Global Competitiveness Hub (USAID Trade Hub) in 2009 showed that the region's energy sector is not self-sustaining.

According to the survey, electricity tariffs within the SADC region range from 2.7 US cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) to 12.5 USc/kWh.

In some cases, the cost of generating the electricity is higher than what the utilities are charging.

For example, hydroelectricity generation – which is the second most common method of producing power in the region after coal – costs between 6 and 8 USc to produce a kWh while it costs an average 7.5 USc to make a kWh of electricity at any of the coal-fired power stations.

The survey showed that Angola and the United Republic of Tanzania had the highest tariffs in the region, at 12.5 USc/kWh and 12 USc/kWh, respectively.

Zambia had the lowest electricity tariffs at 2.7 USc/kWh followed by the Seychelles (3.2 USc/kWh) and South Africa (3.7 USc/kWh). r

## Seychelles sets up energy regulator

**SEYCHELLES HAS** become the latest SADC Member State to create an institution to regulate operations of the energy sector.

The newly formed Seychelles Energy Commission (SEC) becomes the 12th energy regulator in the SADC region.

Other regulatory bodies exist in Angola, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The Office for Electricity Regulation (ORE) of Madagascar is, however, not a member of the Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa (RERA).

The remaining three SADC Member States (Botswana, DRC and Mauritius) are at various stages of energy sector reform.

Of the 12 Member States with regulatory bodies, four are electricity regulators, six are energy regulators and two are multi-sector (energy/water) regulators.

The electricity regulators are the Institute for Electricity Sector Regulation of Angola, National Electricity Advisory Council (Mozambique), and Electricity Control Board (Namibia).

Energy regulators available in the region are the Malawi Energy Regulatory Authority, National Energy Regulator of South Africa, Swaziland Energy Regulatory Authority, Energy Regulation Board (Zambia), and Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority.

The multi-sector regulatory bodies are the Lesotho Electricity and Water Authority and the Energy & Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Tanzania). r

GENERATION PROJECTS – 2014 TARGET					
No	Utility	Country	Name	Type	Capacity [MW]
1	ENE	Angola	Lemaum	Hydro	65
2	ENE	Angola	CFL New	Coal	70
3	ENE	Angola	BIOCOM	Coal	50
4	ENE	Angola	SOM-JESUS	Coal	50
5	IPP	Tanzania	Kinyeredzi	Gas	150
6	IPP	Tanzania	Sao Hill	Gas	10
7	IPP	Tanzania	Somanga	Gas	200
8	Eskom	RSA	OCGT	Gas	800
9	Eskom	RSA	Medupi	Coal	722
10	Eskom	RSA	Ingula	Hydro	1332
11	IPP	RSA	Cogen	Gas	100
12	IPP	RSA	Sere	Wind	100
13	IPP	RSA	RE - Round 1	PV, CSP, Solar	1328
14	IPP	RSA	RE - Round 2	PV, CSP, Solar	554
15	IPP	Mozambique	Ressano Garcia	Gas	175
16	BPC	Botswana	Morupule	Coal	150
17	ZESCO	Zambia	Kariba North	Hydro	180
18	ZESCO	Zambia	Lunzu	Hydro	15
TOTAL					6141

685 MW  
Not  
Interconnected

1982 MW  
Renewable  
Energy



# Strengthening

**FLOODS HAVE** become a common feature in the region. When flooding occurs, this can cause the loss of homes, crops and property, and outbreak of diseases. Measures are being taken by SADC Member States to prepare for and respond to the devastating challenges.

## Mozambique early warning system saves lives

**MOZAMBIQUE IS** seriously impacted by floods, mainly because it is home to nine international rivers, making it especially vulnerable.

The country suffered a devastating flood in the year 2000 that left more than 700 people dead and hundreds of others displaced, according to the official statistics.

However, the government has now put in place a vibrant disaster management institute to deal with such phenomena.

The strengthening of the Mozambique National Institute of Disaster Management (INGC) over several years has shown results as fewer people are being affected by the floods due to an effective early warning system, as well as swift evacuation services for those affected by the floods.

For example, in March 2014, the INGC saved lives when it alerted residents of 3 de Fevereiro village near the Incomati River basin in Manhica district to leave the area before floods approached.

"We are calling on the population to leave the area," Rita Almeida, the spokesperson for the INGC announced on national radio, adding that people living in the Incomati basin were at risk from flooding as water levels along the river had reached about 5.9m in the low-lying southern district.

Most of the people heeded the advice and sought refuge in emergency shelters on higher ground.

President Armando Guebuza has praised "the way in which our people have accepted instructions to withdraw from areas of risk."

He urged all stakeholders including the government, community leaders, civil society organisations and the public, to remain on high alert against the possible occurrence of flooding.

In addition to improving its early warning system, Mozambique has also invested heavily in disaster management.

Between 2009 and 2011, the Mozambican government set aside an estimated US\$275 million towards reducing the risks of flooding.

This huge investment is essential as Mozambique learns to cope with such disasters.

## Zambia, Zimbabwe improve coordination in opening Kariba floodgates

**EVERY RAINY** season the floodgates of Kariba Dam have to be opened to relieve pressure on the dam wall.

However, the opening of the floodgates has had a negative effect on people living close the banks of the Zambezi river, particularly downstream of the dam.

While the Cahora Bassa Dam in Mozambique also has the capacity to accommodate the sudden inflow of water when floodgates are opened at Kariba, there have been cases where the sudden flow has caused serious flooding along the Zambezi Valley, especially in Namibia and Mozambique.

As a result of this, Zambia and Zimbabwe, which manage the Kariba Dam through the Zambezi River Authority, have introduced a mechanism that ensures that the opening of the floodgates is well-managed.

For example, only one gate is opened at any particular time compared to the past when two or more gates would be opened at the same time.

Furthermore, the opening of the floodgates is announced at least seven days in advance, and communicated to all parties, including local communities as well as Mozambique and Namibia.

This improved coordination in communicating the opening of Kariba floodgates which has allowed people to move to higher ground, re-





# disaster management in southern Africa

In most parts of southern Africa, and each time human lives and animals as well as destruction of diseases. *Southern Africa Today* looks at what States to strengthen early warning systems, and the attendant challenges caused by floods and the attendant challenges.

reducing the impacts of possible flooding that usually occur near the Zambezi river banks when the floodgates are opened.

## Mauritius acts on storm surges

**STORM SURGES** are common in Mauritius due to its coastal location in the Indian Ocean, and have claimed lives and destroyed infrastructure.

To deal with this challenge, Mauritius has come up with a plan to implement an early warning system for storm surges.

The Early Warning System (EWS), announced in March, will be implemented jointly by the Mauritius Meteorological Services and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development.

The Mauritius Meteorological Services will manage the system and detects storm surges before they strike the country.

Information will be disseminated to people living in areas that are at high risk of the surges to enable them to evacuate to higher ground.

It is planned that people living in coastal areas will have at least three hours warning of possible incoming surges.

More than 226,000 people in Mauritius live in the coastal zone and are directly vulnerable to the effects of storm surges.

A storm surge is usually generated by extreme weather conditions caused by changes in sea level. The most dangerous phenomenon is associated with cyclones which account for more than 70 percent of deaths and damage.

The EWS, which aims to protect the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable coastal communities, is expected to improve understanding of climate change among residents and build capacity of communities to respond to disasters.

It is expected to be operational by July 2014.

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development has committed significant financial resources to ensure the system is a success.

The EWS is one of the components of the Adaptation Fund, an international fund that finances projects and programmes aimed at

helping developing countries to adapt to the harmful effects of climate change.

It was set up under the Kyoto Protocol of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

## South Africa uses dykes and hydraulics

**SOUTH AFRICA** has been seriously afflicted by flooding in recent years, and in 2011 more than 90 people were killed by floods.

In response to this, the government has started to build dykes and hydraulic systems to ensure that the flooding does not continue to recur and have an even more serious impact.

The dykes and hydraulic system captures some of the increase in water flows, limiting its impact on people and property.

## Other regional initiatives

**SADC MEMBER** States are also assisting each other in dealing with floods, since flooding knows no geographical location.

For example, Namibia sent three helicopters to Zimbabwe in February to rescue and evacuate more than 600 people from the severely flooded Tokwe-Mukosi river basin in Masvingo, in the south of the country.

In addition to resilience measures, other strategies have been drawn from or incorporated into local culture and action through the use of local traditions known as Indigenous Knowledge Systems for longer than written records have been kept (*see box*). r



## Kuomboka

**THE KUOMBOKA** is an annual traditional ceremony celebrated at the end of March or beginning of April by the Lozi people of the western province of Zambia. The ceremony commemorates the seasonal movement of the Paramount Chief, the Litunga, from the floodplains to higher land, hence the name *kuomboka* which means "getting out of water".



## Mauritius helps companies to expand in Africa



**MAURITIUS HAS** launched a 500-million rupee (US\$17 million) fund to buy stakes in local companies that want to expand their business in Africa.

Finance Minister Xavier Duval said the government

would buy stakes of up to 10 percent but did not mention any specific companies.

"We are optimistic to attract more partners like pension funds and private equity funds which would

help to increase the Africa Fund to 2 billion rupees," Duval said.

Mauritius has been trying to reduce its reliance on tourism, sugar and textiles and now has growing businesses in offshore banking,

outsourcing, luxury real estate and medical tourism. *r*

## Malawi explores new tobacco markets



**MALAWI HAS** embarked on a programme to explore new markets for its tobacco as it aims to diversify its client base.

A Malawian delegation completed a promotional tour of Egypt and the United Arab Emirates in March.

The chief executive officer of the Tobacco Control Commission (TCC), Bruce Munthali said the tour generated a lot of interest from potential buyers who have asked for samples of Malawian tobacco, especially the burley variety.

"The promotional tour has yielded achievements as we have managed to raise the visibility of Malawian tobacco in the countries we visited and there are positive signs that we may see tobacco export demands increasing."

Munthali said a number of companies from the three countries visited also expressed interest in investing in cigarette manufacturing industry.

Malawi has only one cigarette manufacturing firm. *(The Nation) r*

## King Mswati opens new Swaziland airport



**KING MSWATI III** inaugurated a new airport in Swaziland in March that has capacity to handle larger aircraft and more passengers.

The US\$280 million King Mswati III International Air-

port is located about 70km away from the capital Mbabane and will eventually be able to handle 300 passengers per hour while its runway will accommodate jumbo jets once it is fully operational.

The airport is, however, yet to be granted an operating

licence by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The southern African nation does not have an airline of its own and is currently serviced by South Africa's SA Airlink, which operates from a smaller airport in the commercial hub of Manzini. *r*

## Seychelles tourism arrivals rise 11 percent



**THE SEYCHELLES** registered an 11-percent growth in tourist arrivals in 2013 on the back of new investment in the tourism sector and strong performance by the national airline.

President James Michel revealed that Seychelles welcomed more than 230,000 visitors in 2013, an increase of 11 percent over 2012.

"At the same time, we have continued to attract investment, both local and foreign, in the tourism sector," he said in a State of the Nation address.

The number of guesthouses and hotels increased from 417 in 2012 to 438, and room capacity rose by seven percent during the same period.

Two large hotels are currently under construction at Beau Vallon and Bel Ombre, which are expected to increase room capacity by 300 rooms and create 600 new jobs. *r*

## Botswana, Namibia to sign dry port pact



**BOTSWANA AND** Namibia are set to sign an agreement that will see the neighbours develop a 1,500km railway to transport coal to Walvis Bay port.

Botswana Chamber of Mines chief executive Charles Siwawa said "technical glitches" that delayed the Trans-Kalahari railway project have been resolved.

He said the joint-venture agreement will pave the way for funding initiatives and tenders.

This follows an agreement in principle between Namibia and Botswana last year to construct a dedicated Trans-Kalahari railway line that will transport commodities, mainly coal, from Botswana to Walvis Bay.

Botswana's Morupule coal deposits are among the biggest deposits in the world and have the capacity to export about

100 million tonnes of coal per annum.

The Trans-Kalahari railway line has been on the cards for a couple of years, as it would make it ideal to export the coal through Walvis Bay. *r*

### Currencies

April 2014

Country	Currency	(US\$1)
Angola	Kwanza (100 lwei)	97.59
Botswana	Pula (100 thebe)	8.89
DRC	Congo franc	912.50
Lesotho	Maloti (100 lisente)	10.68
Madagascar	Ariary	2,344.00
Malawi	Kwacha (100 tambala)	404.55
Mauritius	Rupee (100 cents)	29.90
Mozambique	Metical (100 centavos)	31.55
Namibia	Dollar (100 cents)	10.68
Seychelles	Rupee (100 cents)	12.04
South Africa	Rand (100 cents)	10.68
Swaziland	Lilangeni (100 cents)	10.68
Tanzania	Shilling (100 cents)	1,632.00
Zambia	Kwacha (100 ngwee)	6.03
Zimbabwe	US Dollar (100 cents)	1

Zimbabwe has since 2009 used multi-currency systems in which the US\$ is the most common currency in circulation.





## Time for gender parity

**FIVE NATIONAL** elections to be held in southern Africa this year in South Africa, Malawi, Botswana, Mozambique and Namibia are strategic in several aspects.

They are being held just one year before the 2015 dead-

line for SADC to attain the target of 50:50 representation of men and women in key decision-making positions.

According to the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development signed that entered into force in 2013 after ratification

by two-thirds of the signatories, southern African countries should achieve 50:50 representations in key decision-making positions by 2015.

However, only five SADC countries are significantly close to the target of parity in

Parliament, having gone above the 30-percent threshold set previously by regional leaders for representation by women in decision-making.

These are Seychelles (43.8 percent), South Africa (42.3 percent), Mozambique (39.2 percent), the United Republic of Tanzania (36 percent) and Angola (34.1 percent).

Zimbabwe, which introduced a quota system under the new constitution, now has 31.5 percent representation in the National Assembly.

The average representation of women in parliament is well short of the 50 percent target agreed under the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, even though it is on the increase from 20.6 percent and 23 percent in 2005 and 2011 respectively to 25.8 percent as of mid-2013.

In terms of representation of women in cabinet, only South Africa has surpassed the previous 30-percent target, but more women in the region now hold a wider range of ministerial portfolios such as foreign affairs, home affairs, defence, finance, education, health, and trade and industry. *sardc.net*

## South Africa approves gender equality bill

**THE SOUTH** African Parliament has approved the Women Empowerment and Gender Equality (WEGE) Bill in a move described as a major milestone for gender equality in the public and private sectors.

The Bill was passed by the National Assembly in March and referred to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) where further consultations are expected to take place at grass-roots level across all provinces.

The Bill calls for the progressive realisation of at least 50 percent representation of women in decision-making structures, improved and equal access to education and training and skills development as well as measures to promote and protect women's reproductive health, elimination of discrimination and harmful practices including gender-based violence.

Current representation of women in governance structures stands at 44 percent for Parliament, 42 percent for cabinet and 38.4 percent for local government.

"The Bill affirms the commitments to the promotion of gender equality and prohibition of discrimination on the basis of gender, as provided for in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution and the international instruments that South Africa has signed and ratified," said Lulu Xingwana, Minister for Women, Children and People with Disabilities.



The South African Parliament in Cape Town

The regional and international instruments that South Africa is a party to include the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, the Beijing Platform for Action, the African Union Protocol, the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, and the

Millennium Development Goals.

South Africa joins a few other SADC Member States that have gender equality laws.

These include Malawi, which passed a Gender Equality Bill in 2013 that, among other things, seeks to promote equality in all spheres of society. *r*

## Namibia acts against GBV

**THE NAMIBIAN** government has vowed to act swiftly to implement measures to ensure that perpetrators of Gender Based Violence are severely punished.

President Hifikepunye Pohamba said the measures include amendments to existing legislation such as the Criminal Procedure Act and the Correctional Service Act to tighten bail requirements and deny parole to culprits.

He said new legislation will be introduced that will impose longer prison sen-

tences on persons convicted of offences.

Namibia has experienced a sharp increase in cases of domestic violence in the past year, mostly involving the murder of women by their husbands or partners.

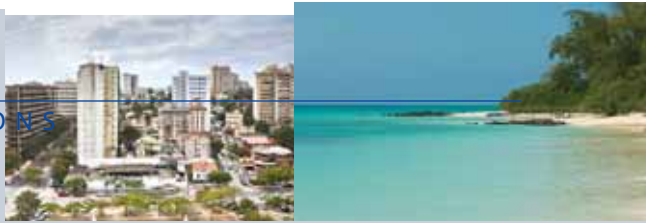
"In the face of this unprecedented onslaught, we need to take urgent action. We need to come together as a nation and confront this ugly phenomenon with a common determination and resolve," Pohamba said.

The Namibian cabinet made a special resolution in March to

amend the Criminal Procedure Act of 1977 to tighten requirements for bail application by persons charged with violent acts of domestic violence.

Pohamba said Namibia is planning to hold a Second National Conference on Gender-Based Violence where the country will try to find solutions to GBV.

The Namibian leader was addressing close to 10,000 people who gathered in the capital Windhoek on International Women's Day to pray for the victims of GBV. *r*



Top left, Davis Simango, Afonso Dhlakama and Filipe Nyussi, the Presidential candidates to contest the Mozambique elections.

## Mozambique elections process underway

by Phyllis Johnson

**VOTER REGISTRATION** began in Mozambique in February, eight months ahead of elections set for later this year.

This first phase of elections preparation, expected to last until 29 April, was extended for a further 10 days at the request of one of the opposition parties, the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo).

The process is thus expected to end on 9 May, to be followed by registration of political parties and candidates for presidential, parliamentary and provincial elections scheduled for 15 October 2014.

For the parliamentary election, each provincial list must contain enough candidates to fill all the seats allocated to that province, plus at least three supplementary candidates.

This would seem to rule out minor parties with no chance of winning seats. However, 20 or 30 parties are expected to present applications for registration in May as the state provides funding for election campaigns and any party whose candidates are accepted by the elections commission is entitled to a share of the resources.

The three main political parties are expected to present full or extensive lists of candidates, although Renamo may struggle to do so, having lost personnel, funding and support to the breakaway Mozambique Democratic Movement (MDM).

All three parties have identified their presidential candidates to contest the elections, including Afonso Dhlakama of Renamo and Daviz Simango, the leader of MDM, who is the current Mayor of Beira, having won another term in municipal elections in November last year.

The Frelimo party of President Armando Guebuza will have a different candidate this year, as Guebuza has served the

two terms in office allowed by the country's Constitution. He remains leader of the party.

The Frelimo candidate for President of the country is Filipe Jacinto Nyussi, the defence minister, who was elected by the party central committee last month.

Nyussi, 55, was born at Mueda in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, signalling that the party is beginning to shift focus to the resource-rich north of the country, and back to its roots.

Cabo Delgado was the heart and headquarters of the war of liberation in Mozambique (1964-1975), supported by the United Republic of Tanzania.

Both countries have recently identified significant reserves of natural gas offshore in the border area, and many strategic minerals are located in the area.

Nyussi was born on 9 February 1959 and brought up in the national liberation movement that won independence from Portuguese colonial rule.

Before he was two years old, an incident occurred in Mueda on 16 June 1960 that was as significant in mobilizing and politicizing Mozambicans as the Sharpeville massacre was for South Africans just three months earlier.

The colonial police fired on unarmed protesters demanding better living conditions and wages on the cotton estates, in what became known as the Mueda massacre. As many as 500 people died, although the exact figures were disputed by the colonial authorities.

Both of Nyussi's parents were veterans of the war, which was starting at the time he was taken across the nearby Ruvuma River, the boundary with Tanzania, to the Frelimo primary school at Tunduru just across the border.

Tanzania provided shelter for Mozambican refugees and a

rear base for Frelimo guerrillas, including training and equipment as well as hosting the Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Nyussi is from the Makonde ethnic group, and the Makonde African National Union (later Mozambique African National Union) was one of the first movements formed to demand independence, and one of three parties that came together to form Frelimo in 1962.

Frelimo launched the liberation war from Cabo Delgado on 25 September 1964, and the man credited with firing the first shots is Nyussi's popular predecessor as Defence Minister, Alberto Chipande, who was appointed by the first President, Samora Machel, at Independence in 1975 and held the position until 1986.

Young Filipe Nyussi was able to return home during the war to start his secondary education at the Frelimo school at Mariri in Cabo Delgado, by then a liberated zone, and finished later at the Samora Machel Secondary School in Beira, after Independence was achieved on 25 June 1975.

He later earned a degree in mechanical engineering (1990), and joined the national ports and railways company, CFM, becoming Executive Director of CFM Norte from 1995-2007, during a period when Guebuza was Minister of Transport.

If elected on 15 October this year, he will become the first President to originate from the north of the vast country that stretches 2,470 kilometres along the south-east coast of Africa between Tanzania and South Africa, although the current President Guebuza, who is from the south, also grew up in the north and fought in the liberation war.



Mozambican President, Armando Guebuza

Nyussi was appointed by Guebuza as Minister of Defence in 2008, and elected to the party central committee in 2012.

The opposition Renamo, which holds 51 seats in the National Assembly, has resumed isolated armed attacks on the main North-South Road from the safety of a base near Gorongosa, in Sofala province in the centre of the country, reminiscent of the destabilization of the country in the 1980s through economic and physical sabotage, supported by the then apartheid regime in South Africa.

Renamo did poorly in the November municipal elections, with little indication that it will improve its performance at the national level.

Another contestant in the elections is the MDM, led by Simango, which broke away from Renamo in 2009.

The MDM hold only eight seats in the National Assembly, but did well in municipal elections held in 54 municipalities in November 2013, winning mayor and council elections in three of the four main cities (Beira, Quelimane and Nampula) and a smaller town, while Frelimo swept the rest and is confident of victory.

The MDM, also confident following the expansion of its support in urban areas, has announced its objective to win a majority in the National Assembly. *sardc.net*



## Central African Republic

## Conflict on the boundary of SADC

by Joseph Ngwawi

**FOR MOST** people in southern Africa, the conflict in the Central African Republic is a distant affair detached from the political and economic situation in southern Africa.

Yet a violent and brutal conflict is underway in a country that borders the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), a SADC Member State.

Four different people have occupied the presidency since March 2013, currently the former Mayor of Bangui and now interim President, Catherine Samba-Panza.

The capital, Bangui, is in the border area, and inevitably there is spillover to northern DRC with the potential for further escalation, although most of the violence is taking place in rural areas in the north of the country bordering Chad.

The current phase of violence in the Central African Republic (CAR) began in January last year. Nearly a million of the CAR population of 4.8 million have since fled their homes, and between 80,000 and 100,000 refugees have now fled to neighbouring countries, including DRC.

There are several dimensions to the conflict, including between ethnic and religious militias, and deeply intertwined with the colonial history of the country, notably the former colonial power, France, a similar situation to former French colonies to the north, such as Chad and Mali.

Rich in diamonds, timber, gold, uranium and oil, the CAR has been affected by five coups and numerous rebellions since independence from France in 1960 as different groups fought for control of resources. Although rich in minerals, the country is among the poorest in the world.

That, along with spillover from conflicts in neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Sudan and Chad, have destroyed the rule of law, leaving the interim government with the formidable task of trying to restore order.

The UN has warned of genocide, drawing parallels with its failure to stop genocide in Rwanda 20 years ago.

The UN Deputy Secretary General, Jan Eliasson, warned last year that the situation could descend into "complete chaos", and called for urgent action. "A country in the heart of Africa is descending into complete chaos before our eyes."

There are 6,000 Africa Union peacekeepers in CAR, operating as part of the African-led International Support Mission to the CAR (MISCA), and the United Nations Security Council voted unanimously on 10 April to authorise a 12,000-strong peacekeeping force.

The existing AU peacekeepers will operate as part of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) to be launched on 15 September for an initial period up to 30 April 2015.

The mission is expected to provide civil protection, support disarmament and delivery of humanitarian aid. However, it remains unclear where the other 4,000 troops and 1,800 police as well as multi-million dollar funding will come from.

The European Union has announced that it will send 1,000 EU troops at the end of April to support 2,000 French troops already on the ground.

Despite the seeming remoteness of the problems in the CAR, the conflict should be real cause for concern for the SADC region.

The landlocked country shares a 1,577-km border with

DRC, making it a potential new front for insurgents fighting against the government of President Joseph Kabila in the east of the country.

According to Nanjala Nyabola, a political analyst based at Harvard Law School, the CAR is part of a conflict system that involves South Sudan, Sudan, northern Uganda, north-eastern DRC, and Chad, with the tacit involvement of neighbouring countries Rwanda and Cameroon.

The United States has sent 100 special forces to operate in that geographic area, ostensibly to hunt for a Ugandan rebel group, and the number has recently been increased.

"In the CAR, although geographically, the current war is occurring in a separate independent political entity, it is also part of a broader system of violence that links to ongoing or apparently resolved conflicts in the region," Nyabola wrote in the Namibian-based Southern Times.

Continued violence in the CAR should, therefore, be seen in light of its potential to worsen the political problems in the DRC.

Tens of thousands of refugees have sought refuge in the DRC since mid-2013, crossing the border in the Ubangi

region of the Equateur Province, and in the Bas Uele region of the Orientale Province of the DRC.

The influx of the refugees is likely to worsen security problems in the DRC, which is fighting insurgents who launch attacks from neighbouring Rwanda and Uganda.

The insurgents launched a rebellion against the DRC government in April 2012 and threatened to march on Kinshasa, the capital of the vast, mineral-rich country which is an important player in both regional politics and economics, and home to one of the world's largest deposits of diamonds, copper and cobalt.

A flare-up of the DRC civil war would have damaging effects on SADC, whose integration agenda is premised on stability, peace and security in the 15-member region.

The DRC also has vast untapped agricultural capacity and could be the next foodbasket of Africa, if current peace efforts bear fruit.

Straddling the equator and spanning two tropical zones, its climate favours the cultivation of a wide range of tropical and sub-tropical crops. More than half of the DRC's land is arable and suitable for farming but currently just a fraction is being utilised. r



## MDGs

### Countdown to 2015

**SOUTHERN AFRICA** has made steady progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

However, a lot more needs to be done to sustain this momentum well beyond the MDG timeline to ensure that the general socio-economic conditions continue to improve.

A total of eight goals, ranging from education, health, poverty and the environment were approved by the global community in the year 2000 with desirable targets and measurable indicators.

The targets aim to improve socio-economic development in the world, particularly in developing countries.

“Africa’s substantial progress toward many goals, targets and indicators is beyond doubt,” according to the 2013 MDG Report. (*See Table*)

The SADC region leads in areas such as gender development and health. For example, of the 11 best-performing countries in achieving Goal 3 on promoting gender equality and empowering women, six are from southern Africa.

These are Angola, Botswana, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles and South Africa.

According to the SADC Gender Monitor 2013, all of these countries except Botswana have achieved more than 30 percent gender representation in parliament.

Gender equality is firmly rooted in SADC’s regional integration agenda and Member States support the fundamental principle that both women and men must be equally engaged in decision-making at all levels and in all positions of leadership.

This is reflected in the SADC Protocol on Gender and Devel-

opment that calls for 50:50 by 2015, and in the constitutions of most SADC countries that provide legal frameworks against gender discrimination.

With regard to Goal 6 on combating HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and other

diseases, five of the 15 best-performing countries are from the SADC region. The five are Botswana, Namibia, Mauritius, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Performance towards achieving other goals has been

mixed due to various challenges that have affected the implementation process of the MDGs.

Thus it remains necessary to define concrete measures to accelerate the implementation of some of the targeted goals. r

## Towards a post-2015 agenda

**CONSULTATIONS ON** a post-2015 development agenda have gathered pace as the global community aims to develop a consensus position on a new programme to replace the Millennium Development Goals after next year.

As part of the consultation process, the United Nations administered questionnaires to selected countries on what issues should be included in the agenda.

Of the 68 countries selected, three are from the SADC region. These are Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The three SADC countries identified a number of priority areas that must be addressed by the proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

Among the priority areas identified are poverty reduction, food security, infrastructure development, capacity building, transfer and mitigation to climate change.

On whether the SDGs should be common to all countries, defined by each country, or common to all

with variations depending on country characteristics and level of development, the three countries provided similar responses.

They said the goals should be common but differentiated depending on country characteristics and level of development because priorities for each country differ.

“Most countries have different cultures, economies and policies, as such it is important that they be given different targets instead of ascribing to a prescribed one,” reads part of a response given by Botswana. r

## Africa’s Millennium Development Goal performance at a glance 2013

Goal	Status	Best performing countries, selected targets and indicators
Goal 1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	Off-track	Target 1A Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Morocco, Tunisia Target 1B Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Togo, Zimbabwe Target 1C Algeria, Benin, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Mali, South Africa, Tunisia
Goal 2 Achieve universal primary education	On-track	Indicator 2.1 Algeria, Egypt, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe Indicator 2.2 Ghana, Morocco, Tanzania, Zimbabwe
Goal 3 Promote gender equality and empower women	On-track	Indicator 3.1 The Gambia, Ghana, Mauritius, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe Indicator 3.2 Botswana, Ethiopia, South Africa Indicator 3.3 Angola, Mozambique, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa
Goal 4 Reduce child mortality	Off-track	Indicators 4.1 and 4.2 Egypt, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tunisia
Goal 5 Improve maternal health	Off-track	Target 5A Equatorial Guinea, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Mauritius, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Tunisia Target 5B Egypt, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland
Goal 6 Combat HIV and AIDS, TB, malaria and other diseases	On-track	Target 6A Côte d'Ivoire, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe Target 6B Botswana, Comoros, Namibia, Rwanda Target 6C Algeria, Cape Verde, Egypt, Libya, Mauritius, São Tomé and Príncipe, Sudan, Tunisia
Goal 7 Ensure environmental sustainability	Off-track	Target 7A Egypt, Gabon, Morocco, Nigeria Target 7C Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, Mali, Mauritius, Namibia, Swaziland
Goal 8 Global partnership for development	Off-track	Target 8F Kenya, Libya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia

United Nations (UN)





## Events April-June 2014

April 8-9, South Africa	<b>SAPP Renewable Energy Working Group</b> The Southern African Power Pool working group on renewable energy meets regularly to develop strategies to increase the uptake of renewable energy in the SADC region as well as to help assess the impact of renewable energy technologies on the SAPP grid.
TBA, Botswana	<b>SADC Digital Broadcasting Migration Forum</b> The forum will bring together broadcasters and governments from the SADC region to discuss activities to ensure that all member states are ready for the digital broadcasting transition set for June 2015.
28 April-May 2, Ethiopia	<b>Joint AU Ministers of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Aquaculture and Rural Development</b> Following the declaration of 2014 as the year of Agriculture and Food Security for Africa, ministers will meet to discuss ways to boost agricultural production and food security as well as improve the lives of people living in the rural areas.
29-30, Zambia	<b>1st African Water Integrity Summit</b> Marking the conclusion of a successful three-year regional integrity training programme in sub-Saharan Africa, the summit aims to encourage African experts and politicians to improve availability of water and reduce conflicts over the commodity.
May 7, South Africa	<b>General Elections</b> More than 25 million South Africans will cast their ballots in elections to choose members of the National Assembly, which will then elect the President. These are the fifth general elections in South Africa since the black majority was allowed to vote after the end of apartheid in 1994.
20, Malawi	<b>Tripartite Elections</b> As Malawi prepares to mark 50 years of independence on 6 July this year, some 7.5 million people are eligible to vote to elect their President, Members of Parliament and local government on 20 May.
June 5, Global	<b>World Environment Day</b> World Environment Day is celebrated to raise awareness of changes to the environment. In support of the designation of 2014 as the International Year of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) by the United Nations, celebrations this year will focus on SIDS in the broader context of climate change. The objective is to help build momentum towards the Third International Conference on SIDS in September.



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# 20 years

## South Africa's first democratic poll

**APRIL 2014** marks 20 years since South Africa held its first democratic elections.

Following a series of tense negotiations and years of liberation struggle, the first democratic election was held in South Africa on 27 April 1994.

For the first time all races in the country voted for a government of their choice. A total of 19 political parties participated in the elections in which more than 20 million people voted.

The African National Congress (ANC) swept to victory, taking 62 percent of the vote, just short of the two-thirds majority required to amend the Interim Constitution.

As required by that document, the ANC formed a Government of National Unity with the National Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party, the other two parties that won more than 20 seats in the National Assembly.

The 400 members of the National Assembly were chosen from party lists in proportion to each party's share of the national vote.

The first act of the new National Assembly was to elect Nelson Mandela as president, making him the country's first black leader.

Mandela was sworn in as president on 10 May, with FW de Klerk and the ANC's Thabo Mbeki as deputy presidents.

The election was conducted under the direction of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), and marked the end of a four-year negotiation process that ended Apartheid.

On 2 February 1990, then President FW de Klerk had lifted restrictions on 33 opposition groups, including the ANC, the Pan African Congress and the Communist Party, at the opening of Parliament.

That was followed by the release of Mandela from prison on 11 February of the same year and the piecemeal dismantling of restrictive legislation.

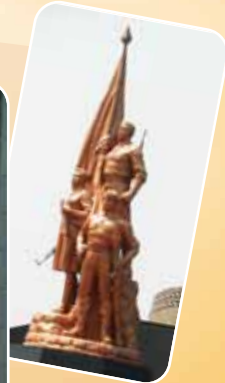
Political groups started negotiating the end of white minority rule, and in early 1992 the white electorate endorsed de Klerk's stance on these negotiations in a referendum.

An agreement was reached in 1993 on a Government of National Unity which would allow a partnership of the old regime and the new.

The optimism generated by the negotiations was shattered by the assassination of Chris Hani, the secretary-general of the Communist Party. Only a prompt appeal to the nation by Mandela averted a massive reaction.

An interim constitution was agreed to by 21 political parties at the end of 1993.

The date 27 April is now a public holiday in South Africa and known as Freedom Day.



## Mugabe on essence of independence

**"THIS TO** me is the human essence that must form the core of our political change and national independence. Henceforth, you and I must strive to adapt ourselves, intellectually and spiritually, to the reality of our political change and relate to each other as brothers bound one to another by a bond of national comradeship. If yesterday I fought as an enemy, today you have become a friend and ally with the same national interest, loyalty, rights and duties as myself. If yesterday you hated me, today you cannot avoid the love that binds you to me and me to you. Is it not folly, therefore, that in these circumstances anybody should seek to revive the wounds and grievances of the past? The wrongs of the past must now stand forgiven and forgotten." – President Robert Mugabe in a speech delivered on 4 March 1980 after election victory leading to independence on **18 April 1980**.

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN SADC

April-June 2014

4 April	Peace and Reconciliation Day	Angola
7 April	Sheikh Abeid Karume Day	Tanzania
	Women's Day	Mozambique
8 April	Public Holiday	Mozambique
18 April	Independence Day	Zimbabwe
	Good Friday	All SADC countries except DRC
19 April	Easter/Holy Saturday	Seychelles, Zambia
	King's Birthday	Swaziland
21 April	Easter Monday	All SADC countries except DRC
25 April	National Flag Day	Swaziland
26 April	Union Day	Tanzania
27 April	Freedom Day	South Africa
28 April	Public Holiday	South Africa
30 April	Youth Day	DRC
1 May	Workers Day	DRC, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe
	Labour Day	Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Swaziland
4 May	Cassinga Day	Namibia
5 May	Public Holiday	Namibia
7 May	Public Holiday (National Elections)	South Africa
14 May	Kamuzu Day	Malawi
17 May	Liberation Day	DRC
20 May	Public Holiday (National Elections)	Malawi
25 May	Africa Day	Angola, Lesotho, Namibia, Zimbabwe
	Africa Freedom Day	Zambia
29 May	Ascension Day	Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Namibia, Swaziland
5 June	Liberation Day	Seychelles
16 June	Youth Day	South Africa
18 June	National Day	Seychelles
19 June	Corpus Christi	Seychelles
25 June	Independence Day	Mozambique
26 June	Independence Day	Madagascar
29 June	Independence Day	Seychelles
30 June	Public Holiday	Seychelles
	Independence Day	DRC