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**"Accelerating Industrialization of SADC Economies,
Through Transformation of Natural Endowment and
Improved Human Capital"**

SADC Summit Fresh impetus to regional integration

by Joseph Ngwawi

SOUTHERN AFRICAN leaders met in Botswana in August to discuss measures to deepen regional integration following the adoption in April of a revised development plan and a SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap.

The 35th Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government was held on 17-18 August in Gaborone, the first time leaders from southern Africa were meeting since an Extra-Ordinary Summit held in Harare, Zimbabwe in April that approved the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2015-2020 as well as the industrialisation strategy and its roadmap.

The Revised RISDP 2015-2020 is expected to guide the implementation of SADC programmes during the next five years and has four priority areas:

- Industrial Development and Market Integration;
- Infrastructure in Support of Regional Integration;
- Peace and Security Cooperation as a prerequisite for regional integration; and
- Special Programmes of regional dimension.

The scope and purpose of the Revised RISDP remain unchanged from those of the original document, except that emphasis has been placed on re-aligning existing priorities with resources allocation in terms of their relative importance and greater impact on regional integration, including frontloading industrialization.

The purpose of the Revised RISDP is to deepen regional integration in SADC and it provides SADC Member States with a consistent and comprehensive programme of medium-term economic and social policies. It also provides the Secretariat and other SADC institutions with a clear view of SADC's approved economic and social policies and priorities.

One of the key issues discussed by Summit was how the Revised RISDP will be financed. The revised blueprint identifies Member State contributions, official development assistance, local and foreign investment and Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) as strategic sources of funding for the implementation of the RISDP.

A number of strategies are proposed to build on existing initiatives as well as establish innovative approaches for resource mobilization.

These include operationalising the SADC Regional Development Fund, institutionalising self-financing mechanisms, promotion of non-traditional development partners such as the BRICS countries in the context of South-South cooperation, promotion of PPPs for the development and financing of infrastructure, and adopting policies and instruments that minimise the challenge of high-level capital flight, including illicit financial flows, from the region.

The summit agenda included a discussion of the implementation of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap developed following the decision of the 34th Ordinary Summit held in August 2014 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.



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SADC Summit Fresh impetus to regional integration



The primary orientation of the strategy and roadmap is the need for the structural transformation of the SADC region by way of industrialization, modernization, upgrading and closer regional integration. The strategic thrust is a shift from reliance on resources and low-cost labour to increased investment and enhanced productivity of both labour and capital.

The strategy envisages substantial quantitative shifts in industrial structure, manufacturing production, exports, particularly those in the medium- and high-technology categories, while doubling industrial employment.

Summit noted the need to explore sustainable ways of financing SADC programmes, in particular the implementation of the Revised RISDP and Industrialisation Strategy. To this end, Summit directed Council to finalise ongoing work on alternative sources of funding and report to the next Ordinary Summit.

Summit resolved to scale up implementation of regional infrastructure as a key enabler to economic integration in support of industrialization. (*see page 4*)

The historic launch of the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA), the largest integrated market covering 27 countries in eastern and southern Africa, was another topical issue at Summit, particularly how the SADC region can take advantage of the enlarged market.

Comprising the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC) and SADC, the TFTA was launched on 10 June in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt and has a combined population of some 600 million people covering half of the member states of the African Union (AU) and combined GDP of about US\$1 trillion.

A total of 16 countries have signed the agreement to launch

the grand FTA. Of these, eight are from SADC, and these are Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Seychelles, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe. All countries in the TFTA are expected to have signed the agreement within a period of one year.

The establishment of the Tripartite FTA is a decisive step towards achieving the African vision of establishing an African Economic Community as envisioned in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos of 1980, Abuja Treaty of 1991 as well as the Resolution of the African Union Summit held in Banjul, the Gambia in 2006. (*more on page 5*)

The decisions of the SADC Energy Ministers meeting held in July in South Africa were forwarded to the Council of Ministers and then Summit, including a comprehensive plan on how the region could fully harness its vast energy potential to meet growing demand. (*see page 6,7*)

Food security was another topical issue at the Summit against the backdrop of a poor harvest during the 2014/15 agricultural season and the threat of drought-inducing El Niño conditions during the forthcoming season.

According to the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET), regional forecasts indicate that there is a 90 percent chance of an El Niño during the 2015-16 rainfall season and a 40 percent chance that parts of southern Africa will experience El Niño-induced, below-normal rains.

The affected areas may experience a late start of the rainfall season, leading to late planting, and possibly reduced hectareage.

The 35th Summit also reflected on progress made in the implementation of the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, as some targets are aligned to the UN Millennium

Development Goals (MDGs) that expire this year. The post-2015 development agenda will be discussed in September at the UN General Assembly in New York.

Summit "noted progress made with regard to representation of women in political and decision-making positions and commended Member States that have achieved high female representation at State leadership, Legislature and Judiciary levels, and other senior positions both in public and private sector" and urged Member States to adopt measures to "improve and sustain these achievements".

Another agenda item for Summit was a review of the peace and security situation in the region, with the South African President Jacob Zuma tabling a report on efforts to address political challenges in Lesotho and an update on instability in eastern DRC.

Summit noted the "significant improvement in the security situation in DRC, coupled with strengthening of FARDC operational capabilities and the need to support the progressive downsizing of MONUSCO troops in DRC."

Summit also urged the International Community to support the administration of the Transit Camps in DRC, and facilitate the repatriation to Rwanda of the already disarmed ex-combatants or their resettlement in a third country.

Zuma is the outgoing chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation which has been mediating in the political challenges in Lesotho.

Following his report, Summit urged the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho, and all political parties and key stakeholders to develop a roadmap to implement Constitutional and Security Sector reforms as a matter of urgency, and pledged to continue to support the Kingdom of Lesotho in this regard.

Summit re-affirmed the approved Terms of Reference of the Commission of Inquiry and strongly urged the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho to gazette the Terms of Reference of the Commission as approved.

Summit also called upon the Government of Madagascar and all political key stakeholders to safeguard achievements made in nation building and reconciliation by fully implementing the SADC roadmap for Madagascar.

Cognisant that Terrorism is a global threat and that the region needs to have a common and co-ordinated approach to prevent and combat acts of international and domestic terrorism, Summit approved the SADC Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy.

Summit endorsed international calls for the United Kingdom to expeditiously end its unlawful occupation of the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, with a view to enabling Mauritius to effectively exercise its sovereignty over the Archipelago, without which the full decolonisation of Africa is not complete.

Summit commended the people and governments of the six SADC Member States of Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia who delivered their maiden speeches, and President Jakaya Kikwete made his farewell address to fellow SADC leaders as this the last Summit he will attend as President of the United Republic of Tanzania. (*more on page 10,11*)

The 35th SADC Summit was addressed by the new leaders recently elected in Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia who delivered their maiden speeches, and President Jakaya Kikwete made his farewell address to fellow SADC leaders as this the last Summit he will attend as President of the United Republic of Tanzania. (*more on page 10,11*)

Summit directed the Secretariat to develop a mechanism to honour the legacy of the SADC Founding Fathers, to be submitted for consideration at the next Ordinary Summit. □

SADC Ministers review progress on water programme

SADC MINISTERS responsible for water met in Harare, Zimbabwe in June to review progress and provide guidance on the implementation of the third phase of the Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP III) on Integrated Water Resources Management and Development.

The RSAP is the framework for action to achieve the sustainable development of water resources in the southern African region through developing water infrastructure on the basis of sound water governance and management.

The first RSAP was implemented from 1999 to 2004 and focussed on creating an enabling environment for the joint management of regional water resources.

It aimed to provide the institutional basis for the execution of infrastructure projects and related development initiatives.

The second and third phases implemented from 2005 to 2010, and between 2011 and 2015 respectively, focused on water infrastructure development.

Ministers noted that the implementation of the third water programme, RSAP III, continues to register remarkable progress despite human resource capacity challenges at the Secretariat.

SADC Member States were urged to continue facilitating the implementation of programmes that are lagging behind.

Programmes cover water supply and sanitation, hydrological cycle observing system, ground water management, Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) demonstration projects, as well as joint cross-border water initiatives,

awareness and communication on water resources management, shared watercourses, capacity building in water resources management, climate change adaptation and indigenous knowledge in forecasting.

Consultations on issues to include in the RSAP IV are ongoing through the SADC National Water Weeks, which have been conducted so far in 11 of the 15 SADC Member States.

The Water Weeks for the remaining countries are scheduled to take place in July.

At the meeting, the ministers reviewed and approved the draft structure and content of the fourth phase of RSAP that is currently being developed, and directed the SADC Secretariat to finalize the strategy in collaboration with the Water Resources Technical Committee members.

The main objective of the fourth phase of RSAP, which will run from 2016 to 2020, is to unlock the potential for water to play its role as an engine and catalyst for socio-economic development through water infrastructure development and management.

RSAP IV will support water supply and sanitation, energy, food security, and water-related disasters with the ultimate goal of contributing towards peace and stability, industrialisation, regional integration and poverty eradication.

Ministers reviewed and approved the list of priority intervention areas for the water sector for the 2016/17 budgeting and planning year, as follows:

- Facilitate implementation of the Regional Water Infrastructure Development Programme as outlined in the

Regional Infrastructure Master Plan;

- Facilitate and support integrated water resource management;
- Facilitate implementation of water quality, wetlands, aquatic weeds as components of the RSAP IV;
- Support island states and other coastal areas of SADC to implement freshwater and marine-related issues;
- Facilitate and support implementation of the river basin organisations establishment and strengthening;

- Facilitate development of water financing options and water-economics initiatives of the RSAP IV; and
- Promote the implementation of water as a regional instrument for cooperation.

The Zambezi Watercourse Commission Council of Ministers was held to coincide with the SADC Water Ministers meeting on 29-30 June in Harare.

The last SADC Water Ministers meeting was held in Luanda, Angola in 2013 and Botswana is expected to host the next meeting in 2016. □

Key interventions/programme areas for RSAP IV

SOME OF the key intervention areas received from the 11 SADC countries who have already conducted the Water Weeks consultations include the following:

- Water supply and sanitation, and hygiene, including human rights to water;
- Water resources management including surface and groundwater;
- Environmental water management covering water quality, environmental water service, wetland protection, aquatic weeds, seawater intrusion, marine ecosystem protection;
- River basin organisations establishment and strengthening;
- Regional instruments for cooperation (for example, guidelines or procedures for implementing the protocol, guidelines for river water quality);
- Water infrastructure development, operations and maintenance (large infrastructure resource-mobilisation, project preparation, cross-borders pilot projects, IWRM pilots);
- Water economics and financing;
- Capacity building and research development;
- Communication, awareness creation and stakeholder participation;
- Climate change and variability (support interventions aimed at improving resilience of communities from impact of water-related disasters, for example, floods, droughts and saltwater intrusion);
- Mainstreaming indigenous knowledge;
- Marine/Maritime related interventions; and
- Regional water youth programme. □



SADC showcases the region in China, seeks investment in infrastructure

SOUTHERN AFRICA has taken its multi-billion-dollar infrastructure development plan to potential funders in China – a country that is now the leading investor in Africa.

In the last decade or so, Chinese investments in Africa have been on the rise, despite an overall decrease of foreign investment on the continent by some traditional partners due to a combination of factors, including depleted resources caused by the 2008/09 global financial and economic downturn.

According to the latest white paper on China-Africa economic trade and cooperation released in 2013, Chinese investment in Africa has rapidly increased from US\$1.44 billion in 2009 to US\$2.52 billion in 2012.

In addition to this, several agreements targeting infrastructure development have been signed to boost the blooming China-Africa partnership.

One such deal, hailed by the chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma as the “most substantive project the AU has ever signed with a partner,” is a continental transport deal signed early this year to develop road, rail and air transport routes to link cities across the continent.

At present, the quickest route to travel from one side of Africa to another can involve air connections routed via Europe, although it is feasible to connect directly.

To complement this cooperation, as well as attract a sig-

nificant share of Chinese investment into the region, SADC presented its infrastructure development plan to Chinese investors at a recent SADC-China Infrastructure Investment Seminar held in Beijing.

The seminar follows two other successful investment conferences held in 2013 in Maputo, Mozambique and London, United Kingdom to attract investors for the SADC infrastructure programme.

At these meetings, various infrastructure projects in the six priority areas of energy, transport, telecommunications, tourism, meteorology and water were presented to potential funders.

The projects are contained in the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP) approved by SADC leaders at their 32nd Ordinary Summit held in August 2012 in Maputo.

The RIDMP is a 15-year blueprint that will guide the implementation of cross-border infrastructure projects between 2013 and 2027 over three five-year intervals, with the first phase covering the period from 2012 to 2017 and costing around US\$64 billion in investment.

The second and third intervals will cover the periods from 2017-2022 and 2022-2027, respectively, with a total proposed investment target of between US\$428 billion and US\$558 billion.

At the Chinese investment seminar, greater focus was on showcasing the main priority

projects contained in the short-term action plan covering the period 2012-2017 and in particular those projects in the energy, transport and water sectors.

The target for the energy sector is to address the four key areas of energy security, improving access to modern energy services, tapping the abundant energy resources in the continent and increasing financial investment while enhancing environmental sustainability.

Priority energy projects planned for implementation by 2017 include the construction of the ZiZaBoNa Interconnector Project linking Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Namibia, as well as the establishment of the Namibia-Angola Interconnector that will connect the latter to the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).

All mainland SADC countries, with the exception of Angola, Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania, are interconnected to the regional grid through SAPP, allowing them to trade in energy.

With regard to the water sector, the short-term RIDMP plan prioritizes strengthening institutions; preparation of bankable strategic water infrastructure development projects; increased water storage to prepare for resilience against climate change; improved access to safe drinking water; and strengthening of

sanitation facilities for SADC citizens.

With respect to the transport sector plan, focus is on effective regulation of transport services; liberalization of transport markets; development of corridors and facilitation of cross-border movement; construction of missing regional transport links; and harmonization of road safety data systems.

The priority transport projects to be implemented by 2017 include those targeting the expansion, rehabilitation and modernisation of Durban and Walvis Bay ports; new road links connecting Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); and the introduction of a one-stop border post at Beitbridge between South Africa and Zimbabwe.

“The objective of the conference was to bring to the table, a number of bankable projects and those under preparation for consideration and possible funding,” the SADC Secretariat said in a statement.

The SADC-China Infrastructure Investment Seminar held on 9 July was organized by the SADC Secretariat in collaboration with the SADC Committee of Ambassadors in Beijing, and the China-Africa Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

sardc.net □



SADC takes charge of the Tripartite Taskforce

SADC IS chairing the Tripartite Taskforce for the current period, and one of its tasks at the helm is to oversee the speedy implementation of all integration programmes by the three regional economic blocs – COMESA-EAC-SADC.

The SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, took over the rotating chair in July from the Secretary General of COMESA, Sindiso Ngwenya.

Speaking soon after assuming the chair, Dr Tax urged tripartite members to ensure that ratification of the Tripartite Free Trade Area by the required majority of Member States is completed expeditiously so that the agreement enters into force.

“It is clear that if these processes are overly delayed, this may have implications on the promise and potential of this grand project, not only for the tripartite region but also for the Continental FTA,” she said,

adding that it was time to also mobilize the required resources to fully support the tripartite arrangement.

The vision by COMESA-EAC-SADC to establish a single market of 27 countries, covering half of the member states of the African Union, became a reality in June following the signing of the TFTA Agreement and Political Declaration at the 3rd Tripartite Summit held 10 June in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. □



“Signing of Tripartite FTA is not the end of RECs”

THE HISTORIC signing of the Tripartite Free Trade Area by COMESA-EAC-SADC does not signal the end of the individual regional economic blocs, but is aimed at deepening integration in eastern and southern Africa.

This new arrangement also addresses some of the trade inconsistencies and costs in regional integration as a result of overlapping memberships since most countries in eastern and southern Africa belong to more than one Regional Economic Community (REC). The chart shows multi-membership of some of the countries in the region.

The RECs will continue with their current programmes in Member States until they reach the final stage of merger as stipulated in the tripartite roadmap.

COMESA Secretary General, Dr Sindiso Ngwenya

said each REC will move towards integration in its programmes and projects in their various Member States.

“We shall continue to work as usual because the signing of the FTA agreement does not signify the end of the individual RECs,” he said, adding that “we shall operate like always and consult each other until such a time that all the logistics are put in place.”

According to the Treaty establishing the Tripartite FTA, the merger of the three RECs will be the final stage in the tripartite integration process.

SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax concurred, saying that while each REC retains its own control, working together is critical to deepen integration among African countries.

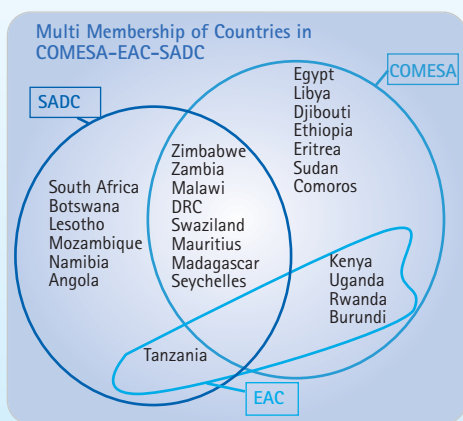
“COMESA, EAC and SADC have similar programmes and projects that are being implemented and will be implemented and it’s just wise that we continue to work together as we aim at achieving the same objectives,” she said.

“The integration agenda that the three

RECs has been mandated to implement is the only saviour to the African continent. It will provide much-needed jobs through the developmental projects that the tripartite has embarked on.”

In this regard, the Tripartite Arrangement is not a new legal structure, nor is it a new REC. However, it is an attempt to merge all African RECs into the African Eco-

nomic Community in line with the aims and objects of the Lagos Plan of Action, the Abuja Treaty and the Sirte Declaration as well as the Constitutive Act of the AU. □



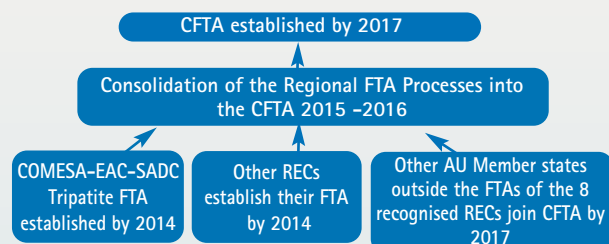
Africa begins negotiations for the Continental FTA

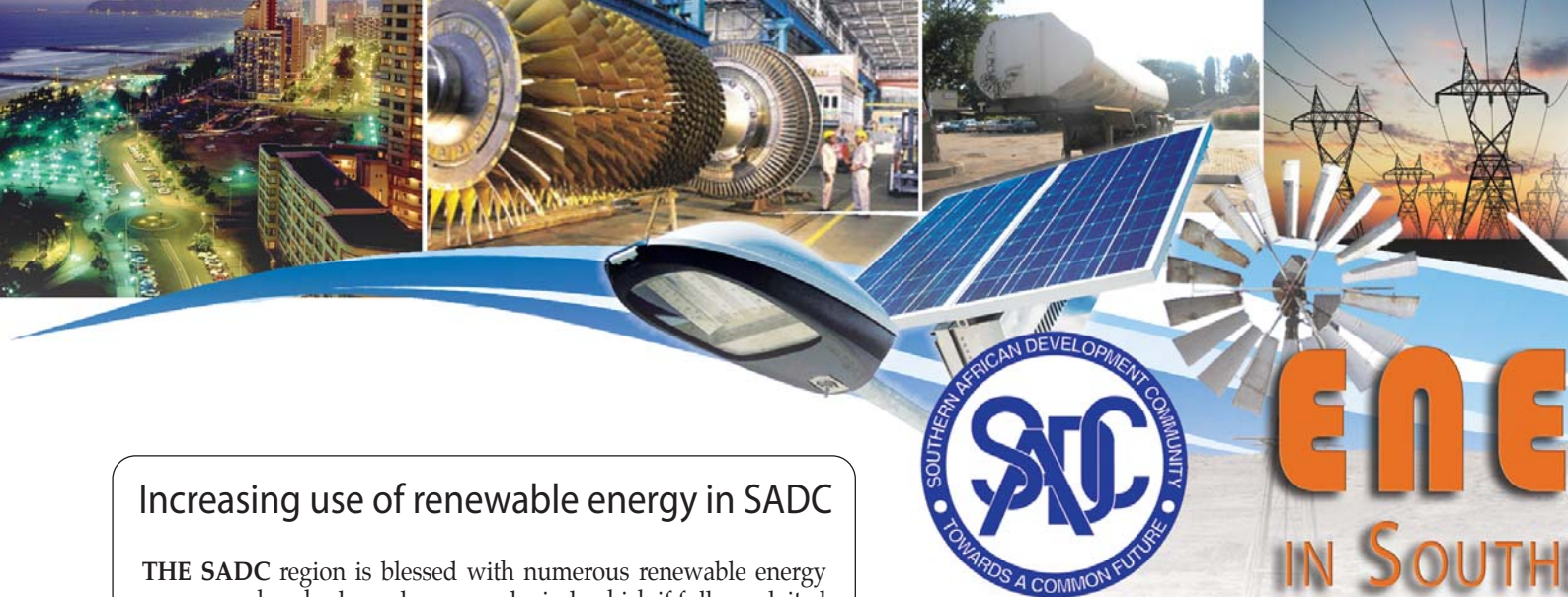
NEGOTIATIONS TO establish a continent-wide Free Trade Area began in June as Africa aims to achieve such a milestone by 2017.

The creation of a Continental FTA seeks to promote the smooth movement of goods, services and people across the continent, with a combined market of more than 50 African countries, a population in excess of one billion people and a combined GDP of more than US\$3.4 trillion.

As part of the strategy to achieve this, the Continental FTA is expected to evolve from the existing FTAs in sub-regional economic blocs, such as the Tripartite FTA involving COMESA-EAC-SADC. The Table shows the roadmap for the Continental FTA.

Continental FTA Roadmap





Increasing use of renewable energy in SADC

THE SADC region is blessed with numerous renewable energy sources such as hydro, solar, gas and wind, which if fully exploited and utilized could address the energy situation in the region.

The African Development Bank estimates that the total hydropower potential in SADC countries is estimated at about 1,080 terawatt hours per year (TWh/year) but capacity being utilised at present is just under 31 TWh/year. A terawatt is equal to one million megawatts (MW).

Thus the SADC energy ministers have approved the establishment of the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE) to spearhead the promotion of renewable energy development in the region.

The centre, to be based in Namibia, is expected to contribute substantially to the development of regional renewable energy and energy efficiency markets through knowledge-sharing and technical advice on policy and regulation, technology cooperation, and capacity development, as well as investment promotion.

An increase in the uptake of renewables will allow the region to achieve a renewable energy mix of at least 32 percent by 2020, which should rise to 35 percent by 2030. Currently, SADC generates about 74 percent of its electricity from thermal stations. □

"Time to address the power

ELECTRICITY IS a common challenge. Whether one is in Johannesburg or a suburb in Gaborone, Harare, Windhoek, or any other city in southern Africa, one thing is almost certain to happen – a power cut.

The SADC region has been facing challenges in meeting energy requirements for more than a decade due to growth in demand, forcing most countries to implement Demand Side Management (DSM) programmes such as load shedding.

While load shedding has succeeded in restraining the overall electricity demand in the region to some extent, the measure has also affected socio-economic growth since the availability of energy is one of the key enablers of sustainable development, and is essential to the industrialization agenda.

So the question is, what is SADC doing to address this common challenge and ensure that the region has enough energy to power its development?

Improving cross-border trading in energy

CROSS-BORDER power trading in SADC is facilitated by the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP), and the trading allows countries to buy and sell electricity through an existing network of transmission lines and relay substations.

This enables the exchange of power from those countries that have energy surpluses to those that suffer deficits. All mainland SADC countries, with the exception of Angola, Malawi and Tanzania, are interconnected to the regional grid through SAPP.

To ensure all countries benefit from this initiative, the region has resolved to fast track the implementation of priority regional transmission projects in order to connect the three remaining countries to the regional grid.

These projects include the Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya Interconnector, Namibia-Angola Interconnector and Malawi-Mozambique interconnector.

The Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya Interconnector will link Tanzania and Kenya to the SAPP grid, and ultimately link SAPP to the East African Power Pool, thereby improving energy trading in southern and eastern Africa.

The Malawi-Mozambique interconnector will allow Malawi to have access to the regional market through Mozambique's interconnected grid with Zimbabwe and South Africa.

With regard the Namibia-Angola Interconnector, the latter will be connected to SAPP through Namibia.

The ministers also called for the completion of the Zimbabwe-Zambia-Botswana-Namibia (ZiZaBoNa) as well as the Mozambique-Zimbabwe-South Africa (MoZiSA) transmission projects, which are meant to relieve congestion on the regional grid and facilitate greater electricity trade.

Introduction of energy-saving technology

The ministers called for an increase in Demand Side Management (DSM) programmes to allow the region to address its energy challenges in the short term, while mobilizing resources to develop new power generation projects that will add more electricity to the regional grid.

The DSM programme includes the phasing out of incandescent light bulbs, and replacing them with Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) and Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs), as well as the installation of solar water heaters.





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situation in the region"

"We have put in place a variety of measures to address the energy situation in the region," Moses Ntlamelle, Senior Programme Officer responsible for Energy at the SADC Secretariat said.

Some of the measures were discussed and approved by the 34th SADC Energy Ministers Meeting held in late July in Johannesburg, South Africa.

This edition of *Energy in Southern Africa* profiles some of the decisions made by the ministers to address the power situation in the region. The decisions of the energy ministers were forwarded to the SADC Council of Ministers for final approval ahead of the 2015 SADC Heads of State and Government Summit held in Gaborone, Botswana in August. □

Speeding up the implementation of energy generation projects

THIS YEAR alone, the region plans to commission a total of 2,763 megawatts (MW) of new electricity to the regional grid. Most of the power will come from South Africa which will add 1,828MW while the Democratic Republic of Congo is expected to add a further 430MW.

Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe are expected to add a further 205MW, 150MW, 135MW and 35MW, respectively.

By 2019, the region aims to have commissioned a massive 24,062MW, allowing SADC to fully recover from the energy crisis. In addition to increased power generation, the region is also rehabilitating a number of power stations to ensure that they operate at full capacity. □



Research shows that residential lighting accounts for about 20 percent of the average domestic electricity bill in the SADC region.

Switching from traditional light bulbs to compact fluorescent lamps has been effective in most SADC countries as they have significantly reduced energy use.

CFLs have been shown to save up to 80 percent of the electricity consumption, compared to incandescent bulbs. Between 2010 and 2014, about 4,561MW savings were achieved from DSM initiatives in the region, according to SADC.

It is envisaged that the SADC region will save more than 6,000MW by 2018 if such initiatives are implemented according to plan. As such SADC has agreed to phase

out incandescent bulbs and other inefficient lighting devices and replace them with quality, approved energy-saving bulbs by 31 December 2016.

Towards SADC cost-reflective tariffs

Another important measure is for the region to revive electricity regulation to attract investment in the sector.

SADC adopted the principle of cost-reflective tariffs as far back as 2004. However, most countries are failing to migrate to cost-reflective electricity tariffs due to challenges in raising local tariffs to cushion consumers.

A recent survey conducted by Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa showed that the region's energy sector is not self-sustaining.

For example, hydroelectricity generation – which is the most common method of

producing power in the region – costs between 6 and 8 US cents to produce a kWh while it costs an average 7.5 USc to make a kWh of electricity using coal-fired power stations.

Such tariffs are considered as not providing the right signals for new investment and efficient use of electricity.

"Ministers noted that 12 out of the 15 SADC Member States have introduced regulatory oversight in the form of an energy or electricity regulatory agency and that the remaining Member States are at different stages of the process," said a statement released by SADC energy ministers.

Only Namibia and Tanzania have reached cost-reflective tariffs, and therefore the ministers adjusted the timeframe of their previous decision and reaffirmed their commitment to ensure that the SADC Region reaches full cost-reflective tariffs by 2019.

Malawi is expected to host the next meeting of SADC Energy Ministers in 2016. □

TRADE Facilitating trade, reducing time and costs

One of the major success stories of regional integration in southern Africa has been the One Stop Border Post (OSBP) initiative that was launched in November 2009 at Chirundu border between Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The establishment of the Chirundu OSBP is in line with the SADC Protocol on Trade ratified in 2000, which among other things advocates for the elimination of barriers to trade as well as the easing of customs and transit procedures.

Under this one-stop scheme, the immigration and customs procedures are carried out just once in each direction, in contrast to the situation at most border posts in the region where paperwork must be completed on both sides.

This development brought huge benefits to travellers crossing between the two countries.

Commercial trucks were taking between four and six days to cross the Chirundu border, however since the introduction of the one-stop border initiative, the crossing time has been reduced to less than 30 hours on average. Vehicles with pre-clearance can cross on the same day.

As a result of this, truckers who spent long periods waiting to be cleared now spend much less time. The reduction in cost has been passed on to the end user, making goods and products cheaper in the region.



DEVELOPMENT CORRIDORS Maputo paves the way for growth

THE MAPUTO Development Corridor is one of 18 transport corridors in the region aligned to the SADC Spatial Development Initiatives -- a strategy that aims to connect industries in landlocked countries to seaports and develop the inherent natural endowments of the corridor.

The corridor was established in 1996 by Mozambique and South Africa as a network of roads, railway transport and logistics facilities connecting the port of Maputo to South Africa and Swaziland.

Since its inception, it has become one of the most successful development corridors in SADC, attracting more than US\$5 billion in investment.

This includes US\$500 million invested in the port of Maputo since 2003, the development of a toll road from Gauteng to Maputo at a cost of about US\$400 million and a further US\$200 million invested in the railway line between Ressano Garcia and Maputo.



SADC SUCCESS STORIES

Achievements towards socio-economic

THIS YEAR marks 35 years of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Over the years, many achievements have been recorded to improve the quality of life of people in the region.

However, some of these achievements are not well known, and SADC has produced a publication to document the milestones in the regional integration process.

The achievements cover several sectors including trade, infrastructure, the development of regional policy, through implementation at national level.

The publication is supported by short video clips on social media at www.sadc.int and www.sardc.net Knowledge for Development

This August edition of *Southern Africa Today* highlights some of the success stories published in the SADC Success Stories publication launched at the 35th SADC Summit in 2015, Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development through GIZ.

Development corridors support economic integration, anchor spatial development, help open up markets and promote increased trade and investment. The corridor provides more than just a trade route – it drives business growth. For example, the corridor has had a major impact on Mozambique's economy.

"We moved from about US\$300 million of exports 10 to 15 years ago to more than US\$2 billion now," says Nuno Maposse, the information and marketing services coordinator for the Investment Promotion Centre of Mozambique.

WATER Getting cooperation to flow

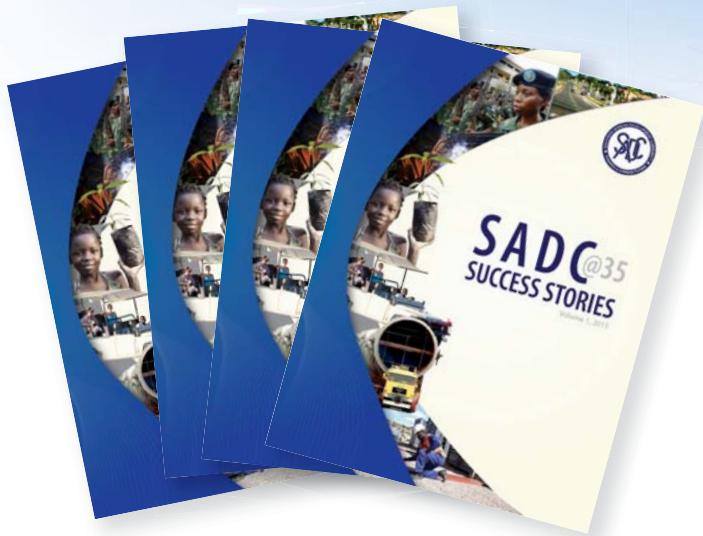
MORE THAN 70 percent of the region's fresh water resources are shared between two or more SADC countries.

To promote the strategic management of transboundary water resources, river basin organisations have been established across the region to support joint infrastructure, planning and co-operation in line with the Revised SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourses.

These river basin organisations include the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM), and the Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM). Establishment of these organisations has provided a platform for coordinated planning and management of transboundary water resources in the region.

For example, more than 19 million people rely on the Orange-Senqu river basin. It is one of the most developed





Economic development

ent Community (SADC) and many achievements and successes e region.

so the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre es by profiling some of the notable practical achievements of the

structure, finance, water, energy and tourism, and are tracked from tional level, to the impact on people in their communities. edia as well as on SADC and SARDC websites.

f the achievements of regional integration contained in the *SADC* Gaborone, Botswana, with support of the German Federal Min-

river systems in the SADC region with over 300 built structures ranging from inter- and intra-basin transfer schemes to large interventions.

Cooperation between and among regional countries in managing their water resources has made it possible to bring water from one part of the region that has the resource in abundance to a water scarce area in another country.

Most important, this has not just improved access to water, but also access to clean and safe drinking water.

ELECTRICITY Power cooperation benefits citizens

SADC HAS suffered power shortages since 2007 as the generation surplus capacity has diminished while demand has grown.

This situation has prompted many Member States to resort to various coping mechanisms that include load shedding and other Demand Side Management (DSM) measures, while longer term solutions are being sought to remedy the situation through improved supply.

One such mechanism that has proven to be a huge success is co-operation in energy trading through the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).

Trading through the SAPP regional grid has given planners and managers additional options to meet growing demand.



All power utilities in mainland SADC, except Angola, Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania, have interconnected to the SAPP grid, allowing them to sell electricity to one another.

Without this arrangement (power trading), the region would have more serious shortfalls.

The cooperation was best demonstrated during the 2010 FIFA World Cup when SADC Member States agreed to dedicate most of their surplus electricity supplies to South Africa to ensure that there was adequate power during the tournament.

According to SAPP Coordination Centre Manager, Dr Lawrence Musaba, power trading has increased significantly over the years. It soared to more than 450,000 megawatt hours (MWhr) in February 2015 compared to just 50,000 MWhr in 2009.

More than US\$3 million is exchanged on the Day Ahead Market (DAM) each month, and about six percent of all energy which is traded in southern Africa is accessed through the competitive market.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION Living with floods

Floods and drought have been major natural disasters affecting the region for many years.

Floods are becoming more common in recent years as climate change stimulates unpredictable rains coupled with increasing floods in the region. The result of this natural occurrence has been the loss of lives and destruction of infrastructure such as houses, roads, bridges and schools, and livestock.

Since natural disasters affect several countries at once, SADC saw the need to coordinate national policies into a regional approach.

One of the important regional cooperation initiatives is SADC's Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Inaugurated in 2011, the Platform has saved hundreds of lives. For example, the floods that affected Mozambique in the year 2000 killed about 700 people, however due to improved preparation and coordination, the recent floods in 2014 affected fewer than 20 people.

The lower death rate is attributed to improved early warning systems, and better coordination.

Instead of a single protocol on disaster risk reduction (or management), the multidisciplinary nature of disaster risk management means that several existing SADC documents are relevant to the issue.

For example, Article 2 of the Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation notes that a specific objective of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation will be to "enhance regional capacity in respect of disaster management and co-ordination of international humanitarian assistance."

The Regional Water Policy also includes provisions covering people's protection from water-related disasters, including personal security and property protection, disaster prediction, and management and mitigation. □



Newly elected SADC leaders to advance SADC values, principles

by Kizito Sikuka

NEWLY ELECTED leaders from southern Africa gave similar messages of support when they delivered their maiden speeches to the 35th Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government held in Gaborone, Botswana.

The message was clear – “we will continue with the work of our predecessors in pushing forward the regional integration agenda of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).”

Presidents Filipe Nyusi of Mozambique, Hage Geingob of Namibia, and Edgar Lungu of Zambia as well as Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili of Lesotho said in their maiden speeches that they will remain committed to the ideals of SADC.

The ideals of SADC are towards a common future within a regional community that will ensure economic wellbeing, improvement of standards of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice, and peace and security for the people of southern Africa.

Since its formation as the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) in Lusaka, Zambia, in April 1980, to the transformation to SADC in 1992, southern Africa has sought to achieve these goals and demonstrate the benefits of working together.

President Lungu, who took office this year after a presidential by-election following the death of former Zambian president Michael Sata in 2014, said cooperation among SADC member states has promoted stability in the region, which is a prerequisite for socio-economic development.

“In keeping with its charter, our regional community is thriving and continues to enjoy peace while taking de-



From Left: Presidents Filipe Nyusi of Mozambique, Hage Geingob of Namibia, Edgar Lungu of Zambia and Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili of Lesotho.

finite steps towards regional integration and development as espoused in the SADC Treaty,” Lungu said.

“My government, therefore, remains fully committed to the implementation and realization of all SADC protocols and programmes.”

His Mozambican counterpart, President Nyusi, concurred, saying that the new generation of SADC leaders has a responsibility to carry on with the legacy of the founding fathers of SADC.

“Yesterday we began the liberation struggle against the last redoubts of colonialism, under the aegis of the Front Line States, and then we advanced to the creation of the SADCC,” said Nyusi, who took over from Armando Guebuza this year following national elections in late 2014.

“Today our activity in SADC grants primacy to regional integration, sustained

by the preservation of peace, security, regional stability and development.”

Prime Minister Mosisili, who has served previously in the same capacity, said that without SADC support, Lesotho could be experiencing more serious challenges.

He said SADC is an important organization that should always remain strong to advance socio-economic growth in the region.

“To us in Lesotho, SADC remains a vital instrument for articulating and promoting the region’s collective aspirations for political cooperation and economic integration, deepening of democracy, observance of rule of law, as well as waging a relentless war against poverty, underdevelopment and the scourge of HIV and AIDS in the region.”

“I wish to reiterate the unreserved commitment of Lesotho to the ideals and prin-

ciples of SADC and to work closely will all Member States of our regional organization in pursuit of the noble goals of unity, solidarity, and cooperation among our people,” said Mosisili, who was elected in February this year.

President Geingob said SADC has come a long way, and achievements recorded since its formation show that the region stands to benefit more from working together rather than in isolation.

“We have a lot to celebrate in SADC. Our people are free from the yoke of colonial rule and a strong democratic culture has been entrenched in our countries,” he said.

Geingob succeeded former President Hifikepunye Pohamba in March following elections in November 2014.

He said it is critical for SADC Member States to continue working together and consolidate the gains realized so far.

“I believe that if we continue to pull together in the spirit of Harambee, we will achieve our objective of an industrialized and prosperous region.”

The 35th SADC Summit, which was held on 17-18 August, ran under the theme “Accelerating Industrialization of SADC Economies, Through Transformation of Natural Endowment and Improved Human Capital.”

The theme continued the trajectory of the previous summit held last year in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, which focused on economic transformation and sustainable development “through beneficiation and value addition”.

The summit ended with a strong call for Member States to implement all the agreed regional projects, programmes and activities within the stipulated timeframes. sardc.net □

SADC and Organ Troikas for 2015/16

THE NEXT SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government is scheduled for August 2016 in the Kingdom of Swaziland. Therefore, King Mswati III joins the SADC Troika as deputy. The current chair of SADC, President Seretse Khama Ian Khama of Botswana, and the outgoing chair, President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, are the other members of the SADC Troika.

A new SADC Organ Troika was appointed at Summit, with President Filipe Nyusi of Mozambique in the chair, deputized by President Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania. The other member of the Organ Troika is the outgoing chair of the Organ, President Jacob Zuma of South Africa. □



SADC chair calls for improved economic cooperation

THE HOST of the 35th Ordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government, President Seretse Khama Ian Khama of Botswana, who is the incoming chairperson, spoke to the theme of "accelerated industrialization" and called for improved economic cooperation within the region.

Speaking soon after taking over the SADC chair from his Zimbabwean counterpart President Robert Mugabe, Khama said southern Africa should benefit from its own resources.

"The current trade imbalances within the SADC region

are reason enough for us to expedite and jump-start efforts towards industrial development, particularly with regard to the creation of value-chains," Khama said.

"It is, therefore, my sincere hope that through our deliberations going forward, we will be able to come up with decisions which will guide and direct our officials towards actualising the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap."

The outgoing SADC chair, President Robert Mugabe said countries in the region can achieve more by working to-

gether rather than in isolation. "Let us now work assiduously towards the early and speedy implementation of these regional programmes and activities."

Mugabe also called on fellow SADC and African leaders to recognize those who contributed to the liberation of the region and the continent, and establish a mechanism to honour the legacy of founding fathers such as the former Tanzanian leader, Julius Nyerere.

He cited the contribution made by Nyerere and other leaders such as the founding

President of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda, and the late Seretse Khama, Botswana's founding President. However, little has been done to pay tribute to those who sacrificed and dedicated their lives to the ideals of attaining political freedom and deepening regional integration.

"Let us remember those who have endowed us with this legacy. Can't we have a fund in their honour?" Mugabe said as he delivered a keynote address before handing over the SADC chair to President Khama of Botswana. sardc.net □

I leave SADC a happy person – President Kikwete

THE PRESIDENT of the United Republic of Tanzania, Jakaya Kikwete says that he leaves his leadership position in southern Africa as a happy person because the region has remained true to its values of promoting socio-economic development.

Kikwete said this in his farewell speech to Southern African Development Community (SADC) leaders at the 35th SADC Summit held in Gaborone, Botswana.

As stipulated by the Tanzanian constitution, Kikwete is serving his second and last term in office, and is not contesting the 25 October general elections to choose a new president and members of Parliament (*Bunge*).

"As I leave, I am gratified that peace and security reigns in the SADC region," said Kikwete in a speech read by the Tanzanian Prime Minister, Mizengo Pinda.

"I am a happy man having seen how our region has evolved from its humble beginnings to be a promising regional body. I am optimistic that not too long we will close the sad chapter of poverty, industrial and infrastructure backwardness and conflicts and unnecessary crises," he noted.

He said one of his greatest achievements as part of the SADC leadership was during Tanzania's tenure as chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation when he led the process of promoting peace and stability in the region, including the process to finalise and launch the Revised Strategic Indicative Plan of the Organ (SIPO) in 2012.

The main objective of the Revised SIPO is to create a peaceful and stable political and security environment through which the region will realize its objectives of socio-economic development, poverty eradication, and regional integration.

"As I leave office, I urge Member States to continue their support in the implementation of this important policy," he said.

On the economic front, he said it is pleasing to note that SADC has developed an industrialization strategy and roadmap as well as finalized the review of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP). He said, if fully implemented, these strategies have the capacity to allow the region to maximise the use of its abundant natural resources.

With regard to the Tripartite Free Trade Area (FTA) launched in June, he thanked "our Secretariat and the negotiators for their diligent work and the effort they put into finalizing the agreement. It is now our turn to roll up our sleeves and make the Tripartite FTA a reality."

On gender development, Kikwete said SADC has made significant progress in ensuring women and men are represented equally in all decision-making positions.

"No other day in the past 10 years was I jubilant than the day when the SADC Summit witnessed the swearing-in ceremony of the first woman as Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, witnessed by the then SADC chairperson Joyce Banda of Malawi and Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, the chairperson of the African Union Commission. That was historic in our region, and a sign of positive progress that has taken place in the region," he said.

Kikwete paid tribute to SADC for honouring the late Hashim Mbita, who served as Executive Secretary of the Liberation Committee of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), saying Mbita "was a true liberator who did his job with all his heart."

"I also wish to extend my profound appreciation to SADC for launching another book of the African icon and liberator which is a collection of photographs and speeches made by *Mwalimu Julius Nyerere* from 1959 to 1999. I thank in a special way, the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre for their diligent work," he said.

SARDC's work was also acknowledged by the outgoing SADC chair, President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, at the opening of Summit, when he announced the launch of a picture book on the history and life of Nyerere, titled *Julius Nyerere – Asante Sana, Thank You, Mwalimu*.

Kikwete said SADC should continue working together, adding that "no other region enjoys the same level of shared values and aspirations as we do in SADC."

"Together we share, together we endured, and together we can bring formidable changes in our region," he said. sardc.net □



SADC encourages greater involvement of women in science and technology

A FINAL draft charter to establish an organization for women in science, engineering and technology will be presented to a joint ministerial meeting in September 2015, after wide consultations with stakeholders.

The Final Draft Charter on Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (WISSET) will be submitted for consideration by a joint ministerial meeting of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) and Education and Training, before going to Council of Ministers for approval early next year.

Ministers responsible for Science, Technology and Inno-

vation at their annual meeting held in Windhoek, Namibia in May 2011 approved the establishment of a Working Group on this initiative. Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Namibia, Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe were tasked with drafting the charter for a regional organization on WISSET.

This was in response to the resolution of the inaugural Conference of African Women in Science and Technology, organized by the African Union in Johannesburg, South Africa, in August 2007.

The resolution agreed to form continental and regional

platforms to promote women in science and technology in line with the January 2007 decision of the AU Summit of Heads of State and Government.

To further encourage more countries to implement gender-sensitive programmes and activities, the AU declared 2015 as the "Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063".

Agenda 2063 is a continental framework adopted by the AU in 2013 to enable the continent to fully exploit its resources for the benefit of its people.



The purpose of the Draft Charter is to establish a regional platform that will implement regional programmes and projects to promote women in science, engineering and technology.

The Draft Charter calls for the establishment of national chapters which will constitute the membership of the regional SADC WISSET organisation.

SADC Gender Ministers, meeting in Harare in May 2015, were invited to give inputs to the Draft Charter on establishing WISSET. □

SADC sets new digital migration deadline

SOUTHERN AFRICA has set a new deadline to allow all countries in the region sufficient time to migrate from analogue to digital broadcasting.

The 9th SADC Digital Broadcasting Migration Forum, which met in Walvis Bay, Namibia in June 2015, set June 2016 as the new cut-off date.

SADC had initially targeted analogue switch off by 31 December 2013 to give regional countries time to complete the migration process ahead of the 17 June 2015 global deadline set by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) for migration to Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) broadcasting.

The SADC Digital Broadcasting Migration Forum, which convened a few days after the global deadline, reviewed the implementation of the SADC Roadmap on Digital Broadcasting Migration.

The new deadline is now expected to give countries in the region time to address some of

the challenges encountered in meeting the June 2015 deadline and ensure that the digital migration is achieved by the new target date.

Digital broadcasting involves the use of digital signals rather than analogue waveforms to transmit television broadcast channels on assigned radio frequency bands.

Thanks to the use of data compression, digital links generally have more efficient bandwidth usage than analogue, making it possible for more services and improved television picture quality than had been previously feasible.

So far, four SADC Member States have completed migration to digital broadcasting (Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia and United Republic of Tanzania) while Zambia has its DTT network in operational mode.

Mauritius and Tanzania were the first SADC Member States to migrate to the new system, and meet the re-

gional target of December 2013, but faced a number of challenges with implementation.

Mauritius was the first African country to fully digitise television broadcasting for all regions and islands in 2007, after initiating its migration process in 2005 with a "soft launch" of its first digital services offering six free-to-air channels.

Tanzania completed the migration at the end of 2012 and commenced a staggered programme of switching off analogue broadcasting in December of the same year in an exercise that saw six of the regions accessing DTT services, including the capital Dar es Salaam.

Another country that has made significant progress is South Africa which is in a "dual-illumination" stage.

This is the interim period in which both analogue and DTT signals are allowed to be transmitted before the cut-off date when the analogue signal will be switch-off.

All SADC Member States have established national DTT migration task forces or committees; have DTT policies in place; have adopted DTT standards; and have enacted DTT regulations.

The Forum agreed that the SADC TV Bouquet piloted by Sentech should continue in order for Member States that are operating DTT networks to undertake tests on their platforms.

The SADC TV Bouquet aims to provide content to fill programming gaps that may be created by the migration.

The bouquet provides African stories to be used by various channels created as a result of the digital migration.

A SADC TV Bouquet Task Team, which was formed to finalise the modalities and operations of the bouquet, will meet to analyse and consider the initial outcomes of the pilot programme and submit their recommendations to the next SADC DTT Forum. □



Regional investment policy framework on the cards

A **REGIONAL** investment policy framework for southern Africa is expected to be finalized by the end of the year.

The Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (TIFI) Directorate at the SADC Secretariat said in its annual report that significant progress has been made to develop a regional investment policy framework.

The regional programme on investment has the objective of strengthening the investment environment in southern Africa.

"The investment policy framework is aimed at harmonizing Investment policies and regimes in order to improve the investment climate in the region, working with selected four pillars of tax incentives, infrastructure investment, foreign direct investment restriction and legal protection," TIFI said, adding that "this exercise is expected to be completed by 31 December 2015."

The SADC Investment Policy Framework is being developed under the Regional Economic Integration Support (REIS) Programme funded by the European Union.

The Secretariat has facilitated the development process of the SADC Investment Policy Framework, which has included the following activities:

- Taking stock of Member State investment policy programmes using diagnostic questionnaires;
- Member State input through questionnaire responses and the drafting of analytical reports that practical recommendations for implementation; and
- Development of common guidelines, together with analytical reports, on the

four pillars of tax incentives, infrastructure development, FDI restriction and legal protection.

The SADC region has huge investment opportunities ranging from sectors such as mining, tourism, energy to infrastructure development and agriculture. The mineral sector alone contributes about 55 percent of the world dia-

mond production while the platinum group of metals contribute about 72 percent.

The region also has an abundance of arable land and vast water watercourses such as the Congo and Zambezi, with the Inga Dam situated on the Congo River.

With regard to energy resources, the region has the capacity to produce enough

energy for itself as well as export.

According to the African Development Bank, the total hydropower potential in SADC countries is estimated at about 1,080 terawatt hours per year (TWh/year) but capacity being utilised at present is just under 31 TWh/year. A terawatt is equal to one million megawatts. □

Regional payment system reaches R1 trillion mark

MORE THAN R1 trillion (about US\$79 million) has been traded on a regional electronic payment system that aims to promote the smooth settlement and clearance of payment in southern Africa.

The SADC Integrated Regional Electronic Settlement System (SIRESS) was established in July 2013 and piloted in four countries – Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland.

The system has since been expanded to five more SADC Member States -- Malawi, Mauritius, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Therefore, a total of nine countries are now participating in SIRESS, with more expected to do so soon.

SIRESS is a SADC electronic payment system developed by Member States to settle regional transactions among banks within the SADC countries.

Where transactions previously took two to three days to clear, now they are cleared within 24 hours and fees previously paid to non-SADC clearing banks are saved.

The main benefits of the system is its efficiency and reduction in costs because previously the transactions would go

through a correspondent bank. Therefore, the cutting out of the intermediary – often a United States or European correspondent bank – means money stays in the region.

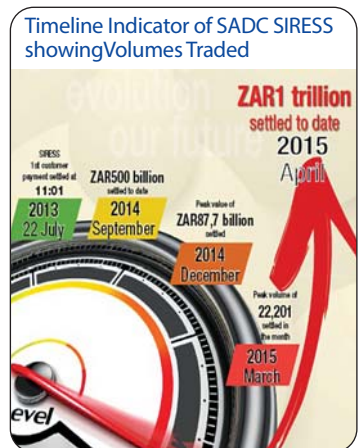
The establishment of SIRESS has thus facilitated the cross border transactions that are essential for boosting intra-regional trade among the SADC Member States.

Since its launch in 2013, volume of transactions traded on the system has significantly increased, and have reached the R1 trillion mark as of April 2015.

The development of SIRESS is in line with the SADC Protocol on Finance and Investment which aims to improve the regional investment climate through enhanced cooperation among member states on payment, clearing and settlement systems in order to facilitate trade integration.

To accelerate the implementation of this objective, the SADC Committee of Central Bank Governors (CCBG) was in May 2009 given the approval to spearhead the initiation of the SADC payment integration system project.

In addition to the CCBG, which focuses activities from a



Committee of Central Bank Governors in SADC

regulatory perspective, the SADC Bankers Association (BA) was also established in 1998 to coordinate activities of commercial banks in the SADC region in developing the financial market infrastructure and regional clearing house operations to support the utilization of SIRESS.

The implementation target is to have all SADC countries participating in SIRESS by 2016.

The current settlement currency is the South African Rand, and the payment system is housed at the South African Reserve Bank. However, as the system grows to include other countries, a permanent location will soon be identified. □



Towards stability in Lesotho

THE POLITICAL challenges in the Kingdom of Lesotho have a long history that dates back to the time the country attained its independence in October 1966.

To help to resolve the current challenges, SADC has approved the establishment of an Oversight Committee on Lesotho that will act as an early warning mechanism in the event of signs of instability in the country.

The committee may intervene as appropriate in solving the crisis after consultation with the SADC-appointed facilitator, the South African Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa.

The decision to set up the Oversight Committee on Lesotho was made by SADC leaders at their Extraordinary Double Troika Summit held in Pretoria, South Africa in early July.

The Double Troika was then made up of the SADC chairperson (Zimbabwe), deputy chair (Botswana), immediate past chair (Malawi), and the chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (South Africa) as well as immediate past chair of the Organ (Namibia).

The extraordinary summit was convened in the wake of the alleged assassination of the former Lesotho Defence



The SADC Facilitator for Lesotho, the South African Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa (front) and the SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, with Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili of Lesotho.

Force commander, Brigadier Maaparankoe Mahao in June.

Lesotho has been battling to restore stability since an attempted coup last year which led to an early election in February this year.

The elections were declared to be in conformity with regional and international standards, and all political parties pledged to work together in restoring peace to the country. Pakalitha Mosisili became

Prime Minister of a coalition government,

In this regard, SADC leaders have urged the Lesotho government and all political stakeholders to work together, including undertaking constitutional and security sector reforms.

"Summit urged the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho to create a conducive environment for the return of the Opposition Leaders to the country," read part of a statement issued by SADC leaders soon after their Extraordinary Double Troika Summit in July. □

Continental military exercise to be held in SADC

PREPARATION FOR a continental military exercise to be hosted in the southern African region are progressing well.

Known as AMANI AFRICA II, the exercise is scheduled for October-November in Lohatla, South Africa, according to the SADC Directorate of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

The holding of the exercises code-named AMANI, which means "peace in Africa" in Kiswahili, is part of preparations for the operationalization of the African Standby Force (ASF).

The exercise is being organized by the African Union (AU) Commission to validate its capacity to mandate and employ a Rapid Deployment

Capability of the ASF as a start-up operation, and to run a full multidimensional peace support operation.

The AU aims to launch the ASF this year. When operational, the ASF will consist of standby arrangements within Africa's five sub-regions, composed of multidimensional capabilities, including military, police and civilian, on standby in their countries of origin and ready for rapid deployment.

Therefore, AMANI AFRICA II is critical in evaluating the readiness of the ASF to respond swiftly to conflicts unhampered by any heavy political and instrumental burdens.

Various training sessions for AMANI AFRICA II have

been held in the region in preparation for the main event late this year.

The first continental exercise of this kind was conducted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in October 2010 with the aim of evaluating the operational readiness of the ASF.

The exercise, AMANI AFRICA I, provided the highlight to a two-year training and capacity building cycle designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the AU Commission, through its Peace Support Operations Division, to employ the ASF for an AU-mandated peace support operation.

The AMANI AFRICA cycle is a collaborative effort between the AU and the European Union as part of the implementation of an ongoing strategic partnership between the two organisations.

AMANI AFRICA II was originally scheduled to be held early this year in Lesotho, before it was postponed and relocated to allow the country to conclude its peace process. □

SADC RPTC gets new commandant



THE SADC Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre has a new commandant who will lead the provisions of training (military and civilian) for peace missions in the region.

Brigadier-General Bonngani Jonas from South Africa replaces Brigadier-General Christopher Cheliah from Zambia.

The SADC RPTC has trained more than 5,000 officials, including individuals, military, correctional services, police and civilians.

The establishment and operations of the centre falls directly under the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, whose main objective is to promote peace and security within the region. □



Events August-October 2015

August 3, Zimbabwe	SADC Ministers of Finance and Central Bank Governors The SADC Third Peer Review Panel meeting of Ministers of Finance and Central Bank Governors will deliberate on key aspects of macro-economic convergence and financial sector integration.
5-6, South Africa	SADC Environment Technical Meeting Senior government officials meet to discuss environmental issues in preparation for the forthcoming meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Environment and Natural Resources.
10-18, Botswana	35th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government SADC leaders meet to discuss regional integration and development, preceded by meetings of senior officials and Council of Ministers. This year marks 35 years since the founding of SADC as the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). At the Summit, the host nation Botswana will take over the chair from Zimbabwe.
20, Tanzania	SADC Lawyers' Association Annual Meeting The SADC Lawyers' Association (SADCLA) is the representative body of lawyers, law societies and bar associations in the region. They will meet under the theme, "Using the law to strengthen good governance practices and to facilitate social, economic and political transformation in the SADC region".
TBA	Southern African Regional Climate Outlook Forum Climate experts from SADC Member States will meet as SARCOF to review the regional climate outlook, using indicators of seasonal rainfall to produce a regional forecast for the 2015/16 rainfall season.
September 1-3, Botswana	45th SAPP Management Committee Meetings Energy experts from national utilities will meet as members of the Southern African Power Pool to discuss the energy situation in the region to plan for sufficient electricity supply to meet the demand of expanding economies.
7-11, South Africa	XIV World Forestry Congress South Africa will host the first World Forestry Congress to be held in Africa, aimed at reviewing and analysing global issues affecting the forestry sector.
15, Botswana	SADC Energy Thematic Group Meeting The Energy Thematic Group is a coordination meeting of cooperating partners, experts, SADC and subsidiary organizations to review the energy situation in the region.
25-27, New York	UN Summit on Post-2015 Development Agenda Heads of State or Government of Member States of the United Nations will meet in New York to discuss and adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda to replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which expire this year.
28 Sept – 6 Oct, New York	70th Session of the UN General Assembly The General Debate of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 70) takes place at UN headquarters in New York. On the first day, the Secretary-General will report on the work of the organization.
October 5-9, Botswana	SADC Ministers of Environment and Natural Resources SADC Ministers responsible for Environment and Natural Resources will meet to discuss progress in reaching regional target as well as issues and challenges affecting the sector.
14-16, Ghana	4th Congress of African Economists The congress aims to mature the debate on Africa's industrial policy to identify strategic policy options and priorities for the rapid industrialization of the continent. The theme is "Industrial Policy and Economic Performance in Africa".
25, Tanzania	General Elections Tanzanians go to the polls on 25 October to choose new leaders including the president and members of the National Assembly for the next five years.



SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY
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Knowledge for Development




SADC @ 35 1980 – 2015

THIS IS a special year for the region as SADC celebrates its 35th anniversary.

Inspired and driven by the Front Line States, the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) was established in 1980 by the leaders of nine independent southern African states who signed a Declaration titled "Southern Africa: Towards Economic Liberation".

The main objectives were:

- To reduce Member States' dependence, particularly, but not only, on apartheid South Africa;
- To implement programmes and projects with national and regional impact;
- To mobilise Member States' resources in the quest for collective self-reliance; and
- To secure international understanding and support.

These objectives were pursued with determination and vigour. Through SADC, the founding fathers sought to demonstrate the tangible benefits of working together, and to cultivate a climate of confidence and trust among Member States.

This was the culmination of a long process of consultation, as it was clear to the leaders of the region that political independence alone would not lead to improved living standards for the people of the region. The positive experiences gained in working together as the Front Line States to advance the political struggle for independence had to be translated into broader cooperation in pursuit of economic and social development.

Active consultations were undertaken by representatives of the Front Line States, culminating in a meeting of Foreign Ministers in Gaborone, Botswana in 1979, followed by a meeting of ministers responsible for economic development convened in Arusha, Tanzania, in July the same year, leading to the birth of SADCC in Lusaka, Zambia in April 1980.

SADCC was transformed into the Southern African Development Community (SADC) through the Windhoek Declaration and Treaty on 17 August 1992, in another step towards an African Economic Community. This far-reaching transformation advanced the regional agenda from one of loose cooperation to deeper regional integration based on legally binding protocols. □

SADC History Project / HASHIM MBITA PROJECT

Southern Africa Liberation Struggles 1960-1994



Hashim Mbita

THIS LONG-AWAITED publication contains narrative and personal stories about,

- the armed struggle for independence in the Liberation War countries of Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe;
- the role of the Front Line States in the liberation of southern Africa, notably the original Front Line States -- Botswana, Tanzania and Zambia;
- the "extension countries" including Lesotho, Malawi and Swaziland; support from countries and regions outside southern Africa, in North and West Africa, China, Cuba, GDR, USSR and Nordic support; and,
- support by the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organisation of African Unity, United Nations, and solidarity organisations.

The nine-volume sets contain one volume on each of the Liberation War countries of Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe; one volume on the Front Line States, mainly the original Front Line States – Botswana, Tanzania and Zambia; one volume on the extension countries – Lesotho, Malawi and Swaziland. There is one volume on countries outside of SADC; and one volume on the support from international organisations. The work was compiled by teams in all of those countries and edited by historians Arnold J. Temu of Tanzania and Joel das Neves Tembe of Mozambique. The publication was launched at the SADC Summit last year in Zimbabwe by President R.G. Mugabe, and distributed to Member States at the 35th SADC Summit in Botswana in August 2015. The publisher is Mkuki Na Nyota Publishers in Tanzania. www.mkukinanyota.com. □

9 volumes

5,000 pages

2 million words

1,000 sets printed



SADC FOUNDING Fathers in Lusaka, Zambia in April 1980. Back from left: Dick Matenje, Malawi; Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister-designate of Zimbabwe; Rt. Hon. Prince Mabandla Dlamini, Prime Minister of Swaziland; Hon. Mooki Vitus Molapo, Minister of Trade and Tourism, Kingdom of Lesotho. Front from left: H.E. José Eduardo dos Santos, President of Angola; H.E. Sir Seretse Khama, founding President of Botswana; H.E. Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda, founding President of Zambia; H.E. Samora Moises Machel, founding President of Mozambique; H.E. Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, founding President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

BRIG-GENERAL HASHIM MBITA (retired) was an icon of the liberation struggle in southern Africa. He served as Executive Secretary of the OAU Liberation Committee for 22 years, from 1972 until 1994 when the liberation of the subcontinent was completed with democratic elections in South Africa leading to majority rule. The Liberation Committee provided and coordinated material support for the African liberation movements who fought for independence during a 30-year period from 1963.

Brig-Gen Mbita titled the final report of the Liberation Committee, *Mission Accomplished*, and dedicated it to the "gallantry of Africa's freedom fighters, especially to the memory of those who did not live to see the dawn of this era in Africa. This is a tribute to their courage, a salute to the heroes and heroines of African liberation."

He later initiated the SADC History Project and became its active Patron, insisting that the financing should come solely from Member States and the work should be done in and by Member States. He saw the completion of his project which was launched in 2014. He died in Dar es Salaam on 26 April 2015, age 81.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN SADC

August-October 2015

1 August	Parents Day	DRC
3 August	Farmers Day	Zambia
8 August	Nane Nane Peasant Day	Tanzania
9 August	National Women's Day	South Africa
10 August	Heroes Day	Zimbabwe
11 August	Defence Forces Day	Zimbabwe
15 August	Assumption Day	Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles
17 August	SADC Day*	All
26 August	Heroes Day	Tanzania
6 September	Umhlanga Reed Dance	South Africa
17 September	Somhlolo Independence Day	DRC
18 September	National Heroes Day	Mauritius
24 September	Heritage Day	Namibia
25 September	Armed Forces Day	Mozambique
30 September	Botswana Day	Malawi
4 October	Peace and National Reconciliation Day	Mozambique
4 October	Independence Day	Lesotho
14 October	Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Day	Tanzania
15 October	Mother's Day	Malawi
24 October	Independence Day	Zambia
25 October	General Elections	Tanzania

*SADC Day is not a public holiday but a commemoration of signing the SADC Treaty on 17 August 1992