



# SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY



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# 2010

## MORE THAN JUST SPORT

by Kizito Sikuka

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**SOUTHERN AFRICANS** are optimistic that the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup finals scheduled for South Africa in June and July could showcase the region's tourism potential and boost the regional economy.

This could not have come at a better time, when the region is reeling from the global financial crisis that hit global markets last year.

Agriculture, tourism and mining -- major economic sectors for most Member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) -- were the most affected, hampering growth and development in the region.

Hosting the World Cup finals in the region is expected to help to counter the impact of the economic crisis and provide

opportunities for an economic boost.

A number of benefits associated with hosting such a major world sporting event are already being felt in some parts of the region.

These benefits include investments in infrastructure development, especially sporting facilities supported by FIFA and the People's Republic of China, but also the upgrade and construction of new transport and communication links. Southern Africa has witnessed an increase in tourist arrivals over the past few years while numerous employment opportunities have also been created.

In South Africa itself, as many as 150,000 jobs have been created, notably in the construction and hospitality

industries, since 2004 when FIFA announced that the country would host the finals in 2010.

A special report prepared by FIFA says that about 2,140 on-site jobs had been created to construct the stadiums alone. According to the South African organising committee, some of these jobs have been offered to skilled people from neighbouring countries.

With regard to regional integration, the World Cup finals have contributed to deepening relations between and among SADC Member States as countries have worked together on various projects and promotions in preparation for the tournament.

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## 2010, More than just sport

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These joint projects include the establishment of Trans Frontier Conservation Areas such as Greater Limpopo, straddling Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe, and the Liuwa Plain/Mussuma that involves Angola and Zambia.

SADC countries are also working towards the creation of a single Univisa system that regrettably may be in place only after the World Cup finals.

A Univisa is a single visa for visitors to the SADC Member States that enables tourists to move between and across associated countries with ease without having to apply for travel documents each time they enter a different country.

The proposed new visa system makes economic sense for the tourism industry as it saves time, money and bureaucratic hassles, and makes travel much easier.

While the Univisa is still under negotiation, most SADC countries have signed bilateral agreements between themselves to encourage the smooth movement of SADC citizens within the region.

Other benefits achieved by southern Africa in recent years include the construction of new hotels, stadiums, airports and roads. These improvements will leave a lasting legacy for many years to come.

A vibrant transport and communication network, for example, has the capacity to attract more investment to all sectors of the regional economy.

Seamless and reliable networks have the potential to boost regional integration as well as ensure that joint programmes such as the SADC



Free Trade Area (FTA) launched in 2008 and the impending Customs Union are successfully implemented by promoting the movement of goods, services and capital across borders.

About 90,000 soccer fans and officials mainly from qualifying countries are expected to visit South Africa for the soccer finals, according to FIFA.

This is in addition to some 300,000 tourists from all over the world that are expected to visit Africa during the month-long tournament that starts on 11 June. Projected figures have been reduced due to the recent global financial recession that hit the world last year.

South Africa has publicly said it would not be able to

accommodate all the guests to the finals hence neighbouring countries should be well prepared to cater for some of the visitors. However, some countries have complained about the high advance payments required by FIFA in this regard.

Recent announcements by most participating football teams that they will camp in the host country during the finals has not deterred the region from targeting other direct or indirect benefits of hosting the World Cup in the region.

South Africa's neighbours have intensified their marketing strategies to ensure that they benefit from the influx of tourists.

Studies from past tournaments held in France (1998),

Japan-South Korea (2002) and Germany (2006) have shown that many soccer tourists prefer to settle in surrounding countries that offer better and attractive packages.

South Africa is hosting the first World Cup final on African soil, after winning the bid to host the finals in 2004 ahead of four north African countries -- Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia.

FIFA President Sepp Blatter had earlier declared that the 2010 finals would be held in Africa. The other four continents with the exception of Oceania have hosted the finals previously.

The World Cup final, surpassed only by the multiple events of the Olympic Games, is the next most prestigious and lucrative sporting event in the world.

Expectation is high that an African team will fare well in the finals, although no team from southern Africa is taking part in the tournament except the host country's Bafana Bafana.

Through the history of the tournament, no African team has won the World Cup nor gone beyond the quarter-finals.

The best performance for an African team was when Cameroon and Senegal reached the quarter-finals in 1994 and 2002 respectively.

The 1994 World Cup final was held in the United States while Japan and South Korea co-hosted the 2002 finals.

At the 2010 finals, Africa is pinning its hopes on six teams -- Algeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and South Africa.

A total of 32 teams from around the world are taking part in the finals, which are held every four years. □



## SADC Water Ministers meet

# Progress on water management commitments

SADC MINISTERS responsible for water have noted significant progress in the implementation of the regional action plan that seeks to improve the management of water resources.

The Regional Strategic Action Plan on Integrated Water Resources Development and Management (RSAP-IWRDM), which is being implemented in stages, is currently in its second phase that runs from 2005 to 2010.

The first phase (1999-2004) was highly successful as it demonstrated that international cooperation is possible in the management of scarce resources. It also revealed that local communities could be mobilized to participate in water resource planning.

Some of the major achievements realized during this period include the preparation of the regional water policy with assistance from International Cooperating Partners (ICPs).

The water ministers, who met in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, said implementation of the current plan is progressing well, and they approved the mid-term review report of the second phase (RSAP2), adding that the findings and recommendations would form the basis of the development of third Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP3).

They said RSAP3 should put more emphasis on the development of water infrastructure. The ministers underscored the importance of impact that infrastructure will have on regional integration and development through support to irrigated agriculture, energy and in contributing to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals.

"RSAP3 should also consider the emerging regional, continental and global issues, such as climate change, and ministerial declarations on water and sanitation that have been made in the past such as the 2008 Sharm El Shaikh declaration," the ministers said in a statement.

They also noted progress in the development of strategic water infrastructure, regional water supply and sanitation programme, and support to the establishment and strengthening of river basin organizations for the 15 shared watercourses in the SADC region.

The ministers urged all Member States to proactively participate and provide necessary support such as budgetary allocations to ensure these regional initiatives are a success.

With regard to the Annual Water Dialogue, the ministers said this is an important event that should be supported as it allows stakeholders to share ideas in view of the crosscutting nature of water.

On relations with ICPs, the ministers appreciated the support that the partners have accorded the SADC Water Programme, especially on the substance of the enabling environment including studies that are either ongoing or have been completed.

The ministers said this support is vital, particularly now as SADC is changing focus from "soft" to "hard" infrastructure.

Preceding the ministerial meeting was a meeting of the smaller group of ministers responsible for water from the Zambezi River Basin, made up of eight countries, namely Angola, Botswana, Malawi,

Mozambique, Namibia, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The Zambezi Basin ministers noted with appreciation the progress registered with the signing and ratification of the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) agreement.

ZAMCOM is designed to help the riparian states unlock the potential of the basin in contributing to the socio-economic development of the participating Member States and the region as a whole.

Tanzania ratified the agreement in February while Malawi and Zimbabwe are at an advanced stage of the ratification process. Zambia is yet to sign.

The remaining riparian states made a commitment to speed up either their signing or ratification processes so that the agreement can come into force by the end of 2010.

The ministers also reaffirmed their commitment to fund the core activities of the ZAMCOM Interim Secretariat, urging that the operationalization of the Secretariat be speeded up.

Regarding other planned activities in the Zambezi Basin, ministers endorsed decisions to support two projects -- Chobe-Zambezi Agro-Commercial project in Botswana and the Mpanda-Nkuwa dam project in Mozambique.

The ministers however, cautioned that great care should be taken to ensure that the projects do not pose a threat to the Zambezi river system.

They further advised that constant communication should continue among Member States regarding the progress of the two projects.

With respect to the Permanent Okavango River Basin Commission (OKACOM) and Orange-Senqu Watercourse Commission (ORASECOM), the ministers noted progress made towards strengthening the river basin organizations in the region.

The full water ministers meeting was held on 21 May while the meeting of ministers from the Zambezi riparian states was held a day earlier.

Lesotho is scheduled to host the next meeting set for 2011. □

## Shared River Basins

River Basin	Basin States (in SADC)
Buzi	Zimbabwe, Mozambique
Congo	Angola, D.R. Congo, Tanzania, Zambia
Cunene/Kunene	Angola, Namibia
Incomati/Nkomati	Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland
Limpopo	Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Maputo	Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland
Nile	D R Congo, Tanzania
Okavango/Cubango	Angola, Botswana, Namibia
Orange/Senqu	Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa
Pungwe	Mozambique, Zimbabwe
Ruvuma/Rovuma	Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania
Sabi/Save	Mozambique, Zimbabwe
Umbeluzi	Mozambique, Swaziland
Etosha-Cuvelai	Angola, Namibia
Zambezi	Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia

## Africa, Japan to jointly tackle socio-economic challenges

**AFRICA AND** Japan have agreed on a roadmap to implement joint initiatives aimed at strengthening relations and addressing socio-economic challenges facing the continent.

The roadmap that was adopted at the second Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) ministerial follow-up meeting focuses on climate change, agriculture and infrastructure development.

These initiatives are expected to support the implementation of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the year 2015.

Under infrastructure, Japan pledged to avail a total of US\$2 billion over the next two years to finance developments in the sector.

The loan is to be released under the Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Africa and is to fund critical projects that include road networks and electricity grids.

With regard to climate change, Africa and Japan agreed to closely work together towards the success of the Conference of Parties (COP 16) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change scheduled for December 2010 in Cancun, Mexico.

"We recognise the necessity for agreement to be reached on ambitious targets and actions and agree that Japan and African countries strengthen their dialogue in subsequent international negotiations," a statement released after the meeting said.

Japan said it would also continue to support climate

change projects in Africa through the Hatoyama Initiative, which is already underway.

The Hatoyama Initiative mainly focuses on adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, including strengthening national and regional capacity to cope with natural hazards associated with climate change, and for renewable energy as a mitigation measure.

Japan further announced that it would convene a ministerial meeting on forest conservation cooperation and climate change to discuss, among other issues, ways on how to manage the environment. The meeting is scheduled for October.

On the cooperation to achieve the MDGs by 2015, Japan pledged to set up a fund valued at about US\$1 billion beginning this year to help African countries meet their targets.

Africa and Japan said they would "encourage the High-Level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs in September to determine a global strategy and

specific actions to achieve the MDGs by 2015.

"The success of such an approach, as an indispensable component for attaining the MDGs, should be duly reflected in the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs."

Under trade and agriculture, Africa and Japan said they would "redouble their efforts in these areas, while taking note of the significant progress that has already been made," adding that improvement in these sectors would alleviate poverty and promote sustainable economic growth and create employment.

"The goals which were announced by the Government of Japan at the TICAD IV Summit in Yokohama have been achieved faster than expected for the second year of its follow-up process," Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete said.

Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Katsuya Okada said his country will continue to cooperate with Africa in various areas.

He said in the last two years the amount of Japan's ODA has averaged US\$ 1.7 billion, nearly reaching the pledged US\$ 1.8 billion target. The provision of 45 percent of our pledged US\$4 billion ODA loan target has also been committed."

"As for the accelerated implementation of approximately US\$2 billion of grant aid and technical cooperation pledged last year in Gaborone, about US\$ 1.8 billion has been committed."

The second TICAD ministerial follow-up meeting was held on 2-3 May in Tanzania to review progress on the implementation of the Yokohama Action Plan issued at the fourth TICAD Summit held in Yokohama, Japan in 2008.

The Yokohama Action Plan outlines measures to be implemented through the TICAD process during the next five years. Launched in 1993, TICAD provides an opportunity for Asia and Africa to collaborate in various development programmes. *sardc.net* □

## Construction of the Metolong Dam in 2011

**LESOTHO WILL** next year start constructing the US\$197 million Metolong Dam in a bid to improve access and supply of water.

Metolong Authority communication manager Matseliso Makoele said completion of the dam, scheduled for 2013, should help to meet growing residential and industrial demand of water supply, particularly in Maseru.

"Maseru and its surrounding areas have under-

gone rapid growth, which has put a strain on resources such as water. The current water supply system is overstretched and this prompts a need to augment supply to the city and its surrounding areas.

"During infrastructure development, jobs will be created around the project areas, therefore enhancing livelihoods."

The dam will be third largest dam in the country. The others are the Katse and

Mohale dams, which also supply water to South Africa.

The 73m high, compacted concrete dam will hold a 53 million cubic metres reservoir, on the south of the Phuthiatsana river, 35km east of the capital.

The project, to be funded by the governments of Lesotho and South Africa together with various development partners is planned to supply more than 350,000 urban dwellers. Lesotho has a population of about 2.4 million. □

## Unity Bridge: Symbol of unity, prosperity

IN A remote corner of southern Africa, the opening of the “bridge of dreams” marks another milestone towards deeper regional integration.

The new Unity Bridge is the only land crossing over the Ruvuma river between northern Mozambique and southern Tanzania.

Initiated 35 years ago by the then presidents of the two countries, the late Samora Machel and Mwalimu Julius Nyerere respectively, the bridge became a reality on 12 May 2010.

The opening of the bridge means that the two countries, separated by a river but with longstanding historical and family ties, can further strengthen their political, social, economic and cultural relations, and expand intra-regional trade.

Mozambican President Armando Guebuza described the bridge as one of the greatest achievements in recent history, saying that its “benefits will not be limited to bringing closer the people of our region, but also of the whole of Africa with all the resulting positive spins towards development.”

He added that more should be done in terms of rehabilitating road and communications networks on both sides of the border to ensure the smooth movement of goods and people.

“The bridge of the dreams of those who imagined our future is here,” Guebuza said at the inauguration ceremony that was witnessed by his Tanzanian counterpart, Jakaya Kikwete.

“We are aware that we still have to complete the work that we have started with the bridge. With the same commitment with which we built the bridge, we are sure that

those improved roads, from Negomano to Mueda, in Mozambique, and from Mtambatswala and Nangomba, in Tanzania, will soon become a reality.”

Kikwete said the construction of the bridge is remarkable considering the limited resources that were available to finance the project.

He said few would believe that the two countries built the bridge using their own resources, adding that this represents the will of both governments to develop their countries as well as improve the lives of the two peoples.

“Within a few months from now, we will see a difference,” he said, adding that “the bridge will stimulate economic activities in the region and, consequently, improve people’s living standards”.

He urged everyone to take care of the bridge, saying if it is destroyed “we will go back to travelling in canoes”.

Spanning about 720 metres long and 13.5 metres wide, the bridge cost the governments of Mozambique and Tanzania more than US\$35 million.

This was after international donors gave the project a lukewarm response when approached, claiming that there was not enough traffic between the two countries to warrant such an investment.

However, the leaders of the two countries were determined that infrastructure development should come first in order to promote traffic. This meant that the governments had to take bold decisions to make sure the project became a reality.

The Unity Bridge is expected to boost development, not only in the riparian regions of Mtwara in Tanzania and Cabo Delgado in Mozambique, but



President Armando Guebuza



President Jakaya Kikwete

also in the rest of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region as it is an important component of the Mtwara development corridor.

The Mtwara development corridor is a Spatial Development Initiative which has the backing of the four countries directly linked to it – Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania.

The corridor initiative, which was launched in 2005, will include the improvement of the port at Mtwara, and the

road and telecommunications network.

Mtwara is strategically located in southern Tanzania, touching on northern Mozambique, as well as being a potential port for northern Malawi and eastern Zambia.

It is hoped that the completion of the bridge would provide important lessons for SADC Member States to intensify similar projects such as the Kazungula Bridge, which involves Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. *sardc.net* □

## Sir Seretse Khama airport to be ready in time

THE NEW Sir Seretse Khama Airport terminal is expected to be completed just in time for the 2010 Soccer World Cup set for South Africa in June-July, the government said.

The state-of-the-art terminal was designed to promote Botswana as an international gateway into the rest of the SADC region.

Initially, the expansion was also aimed to attract World Cup bound teams to set up base in the country ahead of the finals. However, no team has yet said it will camp in Botswana. This has not

deterred the country’s preparations.

The airport expansion, which began in 2008, involves the construction of a new terminal building and the extension of the existing runway compliant with the International Air Transport Association requirements to accommodate larger aircrafts and to increase peak volume arrivals per hour.

Currently, the airport has the capacity to accommodate about 120 passengers. This would increase to 870 when the construction is completed. *Mmegi* □



## Angola takes leadership of FAO in Africa

**ANGOLA HAS** been chosen to head the African regional United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the next two years.

African ministers responsible for agriculture made the decision at the recent FAO conference held in Luanda, Angola.

In his acceptance speech, the Angolan Minister for Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries, Afonso Canga, pledged to ensure continuity in the implementation of various projects aimed at boosting production and promoting food security.

"The country is ready to play its role in promoting agriculture, fighting poverty and eradicating hunger in the continent," he said.

He urged Member States to work together in tackling challenges in the agricultural sectors, saying the continent has the capacity to feed itself.

At the meeting, the ministers agreed on a number of measures to boost production. These range from allocating substantial budgets to agriculture and investing in technology such as irrigation, improved seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.

With regard to fertilizers, the ministers agreed to increase cooperation in the production of the farming inputs.

They also proposed the creation of an African fund for fertilizers, which is aimed at among other things to assist the less privileged farmers get access to fertilizer.

On allocating substantial budgets to agriculture, the ministers said more could be done to ensure the sector is well funded.

FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf concurred and said the present food security situation demands undivided attention from various stakeholders.

He said a political will to implement appropriate policies could increase agricultural production, income and food security in Africa.

For example, he said, only nine African countries had allocated at least 10 percent of

their national budget to agriculture.

This is despite an assurance made by all African countries at the African Union Summit held in 2003.

Diouf also bemoaned the sudden decline in assistance from international partners saying this has fallen from about 19 percent in 1980 to around 5 percent in 2009.

He said given the current pattern coupled with the

recent global economic crisis, there is need for all stakeholders to work together in tackling the challenges.

"The recent global economic downturn has put agriculture and food security at the heart of national and regional development policies and programmes, which allows us to look to the next decade with greater optimism," he said.

The five-day conference, which was also attended by various agriculture stakeholders, was held on 3-7 May. □



Nine African countries allocate 10% of budget to agriculture.

## Namibia to increase dam construction

**NAMIBIA HAS** completed building a total of 35 earth dams in its north-central province to harvest rainwater, which will be used for livestock.

The water would also be used for other domestic purposes such as watering vegetable gardens.

Agriculture Minister John Mutorwa commissioned one of the dams at Ondjadjaxwi village in the Ohangwena Region recently.

Other earth dams that have already been commissioned include those in the Caprivi, Hardap, Karas, Erongo, Kavango,

Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa and Kunene regions.

"Construction of some 58 earth dams to the tune of N\$46 million will be completed in various regions of the country by the end of the 2010-11 financial year," Mutorwa said at the ceremony.

The construction of earth dams started in 2008 under the government project for dams, traditional wells and pans for livestock drinking. Namibia embarked on the earth dam exercise to harvest and collect rainwater for livestock, particularly in areas that are dry. *The Namibian* □

## Small holder farmers get boost

**SWAZI AGRICULTURE** Minister Clement Dlamini has said the government will continue to support small-holder farmers to boost production and ensure food security.

He said the assistance would be managed by the Swaziland Agricultural Development Programme (SADP).

He said it was important that small-holder farmers get the support they require so they could produce at the best of their abilities.

"We are grateful for the assistance from the European Union and the UN's Food and Agricultural Organization," he said.

"As development partners, we are fully conscious of the impact the programme will have to economic development."

He said focus areas for SADP include ensuring that feasible improvements to current smallholder agricultural practices are identified, tested, and documented. *Swazi Observer* □

## China pledges funds for Kafue Gorge hydropower plant

**CHINA DEVELOPMENT** Bank has pledged to provide US\$1 billion towards the financing of the 600 Megawatts (MW) Kafue Gorge Lower hydropower station in Zambia.

Provision of the funds are part of the estimated \$1.5 billion needed by the country to embark on the construction of the hydro power station through a private partnership next year, which is expected to be completed by 2017.

China Development Bank (CDB) president, Jiang Chaohang said during his recent visit to Zambia that the bank is ready to finance the project through the Sino Hydro Corporation of China.

Lang, who held separate meetings with Energy and Water Development Minister Kenneth Konga, Mines and Minerals Development Minister Maxwell Mwale, and Finance and National Planning counterpart Situmbeko Musokotwane, did not elaborate on the condition of the deal.

Jiang said the bank and the China-Africa Development Fund would finance the Sino Hydro Corporation if the company won the project to construct the power plant.

He said Sino Hydro Power Corporation would get all the support because the company has strong background in hydro power projects.

"With the financial status that CDB has and the rich experience of Sino Hydro Power Corporation, we believe that we will be able to contribute to the alleviation of the bottlenecks Zambia is facing in terms of hydro power," he said.

Sino Hydro Corporation of China is currently engaged as a contractor for the engineering, procurement and construction of the Kariba North Bank hydro extension project, which would add about 360 MW to the current 600 MW at the plant.

The CDB has already contributed a substantial amount of money to various projects in the country.

Energy Minister Konga said the support pledged by China is encouraging and the country would do its best to ensure it accesses the fund.

"Because we are the ones that are in a hurry to develop, we shall move with the quickest speed to ensure that we access the funds from the CDB and the China-Africa Development Fund," he said. □

## Mozambique aims to improve access to energy

**INVESTMENT IN** Mozambique's national electricity grid is currently running at more than 100 million US dollars a year, Energy Minister Salvador Namburete has said.

Speaking in parliament, the minister said more and more people now have access to energy compared to a few years back.

"In 2004, only seven percent of the Mozambican population had electricity in their homes. Today the figure has risen to 15 percent.

This translates to about two million people who have gained access to electricity in the last six years, Namburete said.

At independence in 1975, the country had about 300 km of primary electricity transmission line.

Since then the figure has increased to 6,000 km. To date more than 92 of the 128 district capitals are linked to the national grid.

Namburete said that by 2014 the government expects to have linked all districts to the grid. AIM □



Kafue Gorge to generate more hydropower with support from China.

## Solar is the way to go – Pohamba

**AFFORDABLE ELECTRICITY** for poor people in rural settlements remains one of the biggest challenges facing Namibia, but President Hifikepunye Pohamba has given the assurance that government will continue to fund solar systems in the country.

In his recent State of the Nation Address in Parliament, Pohamba said the government is supporting the acquisition of solar systems for domestic use.

He said the support would be channeled through Namibia's Solar Revolving Fund as part of rural electrification and the promotion of renewable energy.

"So far," he said, "892 solar systems were financed at a value of N\$21 million (during the year under review). Under the Off-Grid Energization Master Plan, the government will also electrify public institutions with solar energy in off-grid areas."

Accessibility and availability of reliable infrastructure for information and communication technology also featured in Pohamba's State of the Nation Address, saying that such technology was the way of the future.

"It will not only improve current economic performance, learning in our schools and efficiency in the public service, it will also take us towards the attainment of Vision 2030." □

# AFRICA'S WORLD CUP KICKS OFF IN STYLE

**THE 2010** Soccer World Cup finals kicked off in style on 11 June with a superb performance by the host nation both on and off the field of play.

Unlike previous opening ceremonies in Germany 2006 and South Korea/Japan 2002 that went for the incredible acrobatics, perfect choreography and breathtaking fireworks, South Africa opted for something different and original - the use of colour.

The use of colour, which formed the core of the performances by various groups, was so absorbing and something to behold.

It was bright and intense -- showing the way of life in Africa. And when a group of performers dressed in earth-coloured pieces of fabric depicted the world map, emphasizing Africa, the audience both in the 95,000-seater stadium and millions more watching on television at home could not ask for anything better.

South Africa and Africa had sent out a strong message - "We are ready to welcome the world".

The joyful performance by well-loved artists such as Hugh Masekela, Lira, R Kelly,

K'Naan, the Colombian artist Shakira backed by South Africa's freshly ground, and the US group Black-eyed Peas was the first kick-off with a highly successful celebration concert held on the eve of the tournament in Johannesburg. More than 150 artists from across all the five continents featured at the concerts.

The opening match between South Africa and Mexico did live up to its billing. Watched by South African President Jacob Zuma and his Mexican counterpart Felipe Calderón and a host of other Africa and world leaders at the newly built Soccer City Stadium, the game was intriguing.

When South Africa scored the tournament's first goal, the

whole of Africa celebrated, and the vuvuzelas blew harder and louder.

Not even a late equaliser by Mexico deep in the second half could silence the *vuvuzela* nor dampen the carnival mood as South Africa and the continent lived its dream, to witness the first World Cup final kick-off on African soil.

Huge benefits in various sectors such as tourism, trade and infrastructure have been gained with the rehabilitation and construction of new stadiums, roads and hotels.

And South Africa's neighbours too enjoyed some of the direct benefits.

Brazil, one of the tournament's biggest draw cards in terms of travelling fans,

played two warm-up matches against national teams in Zimbabwe and the United Republic of Tanzania on 2 June and 7 June respectively, winning both but the hosts proved suitable opponents as the coach said he wanted to warm up against teams that were fast and fit.

Portugal engaged Mozambique on 8 June while Zimbabwe played against Japan on 10 June. Both matches took place in South Africa at the invitation of Portugal and Japan.

While the soccer tournament will end on 11 July, the awareness raised across the globe about Africa's capabilities and investment opportunities should transcend the sporting legacy. □



## Six African teams at the World Cup finals...

**AFRICA IS** pinning its hopes on one of the six teams to win the 2010 Soccer World Cup finals in South Africa. These are Algeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and the host nation, South Africa.

In the history of the tournament, no African team has won the World Cup nor gone beyond the quarter-finals. However, expectation is high that Africa will do well at the 2010 finals - the first to be staged on African soil.

It is also the first time that six teams from the continent are taking part in the tournament. At the previous two editions, a total of five African teams took part in the finals. Prior to that, only three participated at the tournament.

Three-time African Footballer of the Year, Abedi Pele, was confident that at least one African team would go on and raise the trophy.

"When I make this prediction people laugh, but I believe it," he said. "This is our best chance of

lifting the trophy because if you study the history of the World Cup, Brazil is the only team to win it outside their continent."

The best performance for an African team was when Cameroon and Senegal reached the quarter-finals in 1994 and 2002 respectively.

The 1994 World Cup final was held in the United States and 1998 was hosted by France, while Japan and South Korea co-hosted the 2002 finals. The previous finals were held in Germany in 2006. □

## One-Stop Border at Beitbridge

**ZIMBABWE AND** South Africa have agreed to implement a one-stop border post at their common entry point at Beitbridge during the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup, where customs and immigration officials from both countries will work from one place to speed up the flow of human and vehicle traffic.

Under the temporary arrangement, travellers will be cleared once for passage into the two countries. People travelling to and from South Africa





## ... Once in a lifetime...

### Univisa a boost for regional tourism

**SOUTHERN AFRICA** starts implementing the UNIVISA system in June in a bid to promote regional tourism and the movement of people across Member States.

Ministers responsible for Tourism said at their meeting in Blantyre, Malawi in April that five countries will initially spearhead the implementation process.

These are Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Other Member States are expected to adopt the Univisa system once the necessary preparations have been made.

The SADC Univisa, which had been discussed for many years, is a single visa for visitors to the SADC region.

It would enable tourists to the region to move between and

across associated countries with ease, without having to apply for travel permits each time they enter a different country.

The new visa system makes economic sense for the tourism industry as it saves time, money and bureaucratic hassles. Such benefits would not have come at a better time than now, when SADC is hosting the 2010 Soccer World Cup finals in South Africa in June-July.

More than 300,000 tourists are expected to visit the region during the month-long tournament, and many would welcome a flexible system that allows them to move with ease across the region. Projected figures have been reduced due to the global financial recession that hit the world last year.

The 2010 Soccer World Cup that is being held for the first time in Africa has been

declared as more than just a South African event, but a regional and continental event.

SADC Heads of State and Government at their annual summit held last year launched a regional investment promotion programme, which provides a framework to guide, inform and coordinate the activities of the region as a whole to "ensure all 15 Member States benefit from the international exposure that these world finals offer in terms of foreign direct investment."

The "SADC 2010" promotion is running under the theme "One Team - 15 Nations: For Sustainable Development".

SADC Tourism Ministers said for the Univisa system to be a success, Members States, including those that are yet to adopt the system should "facilitate the easy movement of visitors" across the region during the finals. □

### South Africa will deliver a safe, secure World Cup

**SOUTH AFRICA'S** security forces are ready for the 2010 FIFA World Cup, says National Police Commissioner, General Bheki Cele.

Speaking at a police simulation exercise staged at the newly built King Shaka International Airport in Durban, Cele said over 40,000 police officers are ready to deal with any eventuality.

During the exercise, the police units for bomb disposal, hostage negotiators, tactical, search and rescue had to demonstrate their ability to deal with a simulated airplane hi-jacking incident, a first for KwaZulu-Natal in relation to preparation for the World Cup.

"I am indeed confident that with all the training, equipment and manpower we have, we will deliver a safe and secure World Cup," he said. "We have even gone a step further in encouraging our members to be ambassadors for the police and country, indicating our commitment to making this the most beautiful World Cup."

The demonstration was then moved to the Princess Magogo Stadium in KwaMashu, north of Durban where there were displays of vehicle hijacking situations, parachuting and crowd management simulations.

"The show of support by the local community at the Princess Magogo Stadium reinforces the ties the police and community share," he said.

Cele also launched the Good Ambassador Campaign of the South African Police Service, (SAPS), which aims to instill a spirit of goodwill by SAPS members and South Africans. *BuaNews* □



### during World Cup

normally queue for clearance on both sides of the border.

Beitbridge and Chirundu between Zambia and Zimbabwe were selected as one-stop border sites due to the high economic activity there.

The system is working full-time at Chirundu while authorities from South Africa and Zimbabwe are working towards implementing the system permanently at Beitbridge.

Addressing delegates during the formulation of the

Beitbridge Rural District Council and Musina 2010 FIFA Disaster Contingency Plan in May, South Africa immigration official Anyone Motebele said they were fully geared for an influx of travellers during June and July.

"We have put in place measures to ease congestion and speed the flow of traffic between the two countries.

"At the moment we have mounted tents on both sides of the Zimbabwean border where

port authorities from the two countries will work under one roof and clear travellers for passage into either country once.

"Our main worry remains on the staff complement ...we have 21 officers per shift and would need an extra 15 to work at full strength.

"Furthermore, we have installed new clearance systems that will ease congestion, which has become a common thing during most holidays," he said. *The Herald* □



## Cross border fuel pipeline project gains momentum

**HAVING ALREADY** secured guarantees of support from Zimbabwe, Botswana hopes to conclude fuel supply negotiations with Mozambique, paving way for a regional fuel pipeline that would run through three southern African countries.

The deal would enable Botswana to secure fuel supplies, routes and storage facilities from the Mozambican ports, through Zimbabwe.

Fuel supplies to Botswana would be ferried by rail and road, while the proposed Harare-Francistown pipeline is under construction.

Botswana imports nearly all its fuel through South Africa, with marginal supplies coming from Namibia. Recent strikes in South Africa exposed Botswana's over-reliance on Durban fuel supplies, as the industrial action caused local shortages.

As a result, Botswana is accelerating the diversification of its fuel routes and sources, with the high capacity ports of Beira and Matola in Mozambique being the most logical option.

Any supplies from Mozambique will, by necessity, have to be imported through Zimbabwe, which already has a 600-kilometre oil pipeline to Beira.

Botswana's initial overtures to Zimbabwe earlier this year struck success with Harare offering use of its oil storage facilities, which could then form the inlet of the proposed Harare-Francistown pipeline, which would cost about US\$1 billion. *Mmegi* □

## Reducing emissions through forest protection

**REPRESENTATIVES OF** 52 countries have agreed on guidelines for a non-binding framework that will release aid to protect forests in the developing world.

Germany, France, Norway, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and Japan pledged US\$4 billion to fund the new programme, called REDD Plus (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation).

REDD Plus aims to encourage rich countries to finance forest conservation projects while ensuring transparency and preventing aid waste.

The deal was made at the recent Oslo Climate and Forest Conference. It is being hailed as the first concrete sign of global action on climate change since international leaders failed to reach legally binding agreement on carbon emissions at the United Nations climate summit last December in Copenhagen.

The establishment of a REDD Plus is in line with decisions taken by the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which has encouraged the Parties to undertake coordinated efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. □

## AfDB approves US\$49 million budget support for Zambia

**THE AFRICAN** Development Fund has approved a US\$48.89 million loan to assist Zambia in implementing its 5th National Development Plan aimed at economic growth and poverty reduction.

The Third Poverty Reduction Budget Support (PRBS III) will support ongoing government efforts to improve economic and financial governance through efficient public financial management, creation of a favourable business environment and strengthen the fight against corruption.

The operation is expected to yield several results. Through enhanced public financial management, Zambia will have a more credible budget management system that will allow more efficient use of resources and reduced opportunities for leakages and corruption.

By enhancing trade competitiveness, the operation will also improve the private sector investment climate, notably by simplifying and reducing costs related to business licenses, and shortening the time for cross border trade.

The operation will also consolidate and deepen far reaching reforms recently undertaken by government.

"The improved financial governance and investment climate resulting from this programme will help intensify Government's robust efforts to enhance efficiency,

prevent corruption and improve Zambia's economic competitiveness," the director of economic and financial governance at the AfDB, Gabriel Negatu said. *AfDB* □

## Vuvuzela makers struggle to meet demand

**THE VUVUZELA** has become one of South Africa's fastest-selling sports items during the 2010 Soccer World Cup, leaving manufacturers struggling to keep up with demand.

"Before sales averaged 20,000 a month but two weeks before the World Cup we started selling 20,000 a day," said Clinton Currie, who runs the Johannesburg-based Vuvuzela Branding Company, which has reached its production capacity.

With up to 70 percent of his patented vuvuzelas being sold internationally in countries including the United Kingdom, Brazil and Portugal, Currie says demand has been "unbelievable" and may continue with orders coming in for the months after the tournament ends.

The plastic horn, the Zulu name of which means "to make a loud noise," costs anything from 13 rand (\$1.65) at discount retailers to 60 rand on the streets of Johannesburg where informal traders expect buyers to haggle.

There are at least four manufacturers of vuvuzelas in South Africa as well as a number of Chinese competitors. □

## Zimbabwe can increase coffee production

**ZIMBABWE HAS** the capacity to increase coffee production if the industry stabilizes and become self-sustaining, the outgoing Head of Delegation of the European Union, Ambassador Xavier Marchal has said.

Marchal said there are opportunities for growth, which should attract and promote new entrants into the sector. He said increased production would create employment and improve standards of living.

"Zimbabwean commercial farmers are certainly among the best in the world, should coffee be 'teamed up' with other very valuable crops such as macadamia nuts or avocados." *The Herald* □

## Climate change affecting development in Africa

**MOZAMBICAN PRESIDENT** Armando Guebuza has warned that some African countries may fail to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) as a consequence of climate change.

Guebuza said this at a recent session of the France-

Africa summit which was held under the theme "Climate and Development: A Challenge to All at Planetary Level".

He said the debate on climate change is associated to the challenges the African continent is facing to meet the MDGs.

"In the first MDG we commit ourselves to eradicating hunger and extreme poverty," he said, questioning if these objectives can be met in a scenario where floods and droughts are becoming more intense and more frequent than before,

affecting food and nutritional security.

Gender equity in education and autonomy of women was another of the MDGs. Guebuza mentioned.

"This objective will remain a mirage unless we solve the underlying problems of low school performance and of girls dropping out of education," he said.

He added that more and more girls are forced to walk longer distances to fetch firewood, and have to work harder on the land to harvest less than before.

Measures were urgently needed to check this trend, he said, urging the development partners of African countries to honour their commitments given in Copenhagen, particularly concerning the granting of resources and means for adaptation and mitigation.

The MDGs, adopted by all the 189 member states of the United Nations in 2000, also include cutting child mortality by two thirds and maternal mortality by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, halting, and then reversing the spread of HIV and AIDS, and guaranteeing environmental sustainability.

In their final declaration, the heads of state and government who took part in the Nice summit urged all UN member states to respect the Copenhagen Agreement on climate change.

They highlighted the importance of restricting global warming to no more than an increase of two degrees centigrade, to be achieved by slashing carbon dioxide emissions to 50 per cent of their 1990 levels. *AIM* □



## SADC committed to tackle effects of climate change

**SADC MEMBER** States met in Lusaka, Zambia recently to come up with strategic responses concerning the effects of climate change affecting the region.

Speaking at the meeting, Zambian Tourism Minister Catherine Namugala said there is need for the region to speak with one voice on climate change issues.

She said the problem of climate change was a global issue which could only be resolved through concerted regional, continental and global action.

"We, therefore, remain committed to dealing with this problem within the multi-lateral context of the United Nations Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) negotiation processes," she said.

She said it was for this reason that key regional economic centres such as COMESA, the East Africa Community and the SADC were now engaged in the negotiation process.

"As you are aware, climate change is now widely acknowledged as one of the

most serious developmental challenges of our time," she said.

"This is evidenced by adverse effects of climate change that we are already experiencing in most of our countries such as increased incidences of severe floods and droughts."

She said the region's most vulnerable and sensitive sectors such as agriculture, forestry, wildlife, water, energy and human health had already been adversely affected by climate induced changes, thereby significantly reversing the gains that had been recorded in the past years.

"As we prepare for COP 16 that is scheduled to take place in Mexico later in the year, we should bear in mind the COP 15 which will be remembered as one of the biggest international conferences outside of the United Nations that had raised a lot of expectations without achieving the desired outcome," she said.

"Although the Copenhagen outcome acknowledges that an

enormous amount of work still remains to be done before the world can admit that a turning point in the fight against climate change has accrued, we remain optimistic that the expectations created in Copenhagen will ultimately be translated into a binding and ambitious international agreement on climate change."

The minister said African countries needed to negotiate for a global incentive mechanism that would recognize the continent's resource endowments such as forests.

"These can be used as our contribution to the global efforts in addressing climate change," she said.

She said the mechanism should be negotiated in such a way that local forest-dependent communities were rewarded for conserving and sustaining utilization of their forests.

The three-day meeting that was attended by SADC countries was held under the theme "Beyond Copenhagen". *The Post* □

## SADC parliamentarians want regional House

by Patson Phiri

**PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM** the Southern African Development Community have again called for a regional parliament to strengthen integration among Member States.

The initiative to set up a regional assembly was mooted a few years ago and has the support of many leaders. However, regional parliamentarians noted at their recent meeting that little progress has been made to make sure the project becomes a reality.

SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF) chairperson, Prince Dlamini, said a regional parliament has the capacity to cement relations among Member States, as it would discuss economic and political development from a regional perspective.

Dlamini, who is also the Speaker of the House of Assembly of Swaziland, said the forum has since resolved to take an active role to ensure that SADC Heads of State and Government seriously consider and approve the plan.

"We have resolved as the SADC Parliamentary Forum that a delegation be sent to meet the current SADC chairperson to discuss the matter," he said.

Democratic Republic of Congo President Joseph Kabila is the SADC chairperson. He took over the rotating chair from his South African counterpart, Jacob Zuma at the 2009 Summit held in Kinshasa, DRC.

"The forum will propose that the establishment of the regional parliament be put up for discussion at the forthcoming SADC Summit," Dlamini added. Namibia is scheduled to host the Summit in August.



The African continent has the Pan-African Parliament

A regional parliament is considered important for development as it has potential to widen SADC citizenry participation in regional integration as well as guiding ratification, domestication and implementation of SADC Protocols and other decisions.

Chairperson of the SADC PF Trade, Development and Integration Committee, David Matongo also said the establishment of a regional parliament was crucial to address some of the socio-economic challenges facing the region.

He said a number of challenges that affect individual countries also have an impact on the whole region.

"As such, a regional parliament is best placed to deal with regional issues. We cannot speed up the implementation of regional integration benchmarks without a policy maker to guide that process," he said.

At the meeting, the parliamentarians also deliberated on issues such as the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), status of the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and the smooth movement of goods, services and people across the region.

"Mindful of the MDGs and the targets set for 2015, the plenary emphasizes the need for governments to scale up efforts towards the attainment of these goals and the need for Parliamentarians to increase oversight on this matter," the parliamentarians said in a statement.

With regard to the adoption by Heads of State and Government in August 2005, of the Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons the plenary said it is sad to note that the protocol is yet to come into force as only four countries have ratified it.

The parliamentarians urged Member States to speed up the ratification process in order to strengthen socio-economic cooperation and regional integration.

Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa and Swaziland are the only four countries to have ratified the protocol. At least a two-thirds majority of the 15-member regional community should ratify the protocol for it to have binding force.

While a number of Member States are still to ratify the protocol, most SADC countries have, however, signed bilateral agreements to encourage the smooth movement of SADC citizens within the region.

On the current status of EPA negotiations, the plenary reiterated the need for governments to consider the long term benefits of the deal and urged national parliaments to continue to play the oversight role on the matter.

The meeting also noted that the gender imbalance in regional parliaments where women continue to be the minority, posed a challenge to the pursuit and attainment of the 50/50 gender representation in politics and decision making positions in accordance with the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development.

"The plenary recommends that greater effort be put into the advocacy for the engendering of the structures and processes of political parties especially ahead of primary elections. The plenary further urged countries that are still to do so to ratify the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development."

The 27th Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum was held on 27 May to 5 June in Livingstone, Zambia.

Zambian Vice-President George Kunda officiated at the meeting, which ran under the theme "Towards Facilitation of Free Movement of Persons in SADC. [sardc.net](http://sardc.net) □



## Ramgoolam re-elected in Mauritius

**MAURITIAN PRIME** Minister Navichandra Ramgoolam has been re-elected for another five years after his coalition won the 5 May parliamentary elections with two-thirds majority.

The Alliance of the Future, which comprises the Mauritius Labour Party, Mauritian Social Democratic Party and the Mauritian Socialist Movement, won 41 of the 62 direct seats in the house of assembly.

The main opposition coalition, the Alliance of the Heart led by former Prime Minister Paul Bérenger secured 18 seats.

The alliance of the Heart is made up of the Mauritian Militant Movement, National Union and the Mauritian Social Democratic Movement.

The Rodrigues Movement got two seats while the other remaining seat was secured by the Mauritian Solidarity Front.

Mauritius has a 70-seat unicameral assembly. A total of 62 members of parliament are elected by direct popular vote in a block system where each voter gets to cast three ballots for three candidates from each of the 21 constituencies, including the island of Rodrigues, off the south-east coast of Mauritius, which elects two deputies.

The remaining eight candidates are drawn from a list of "best losers" to ensure a fair representation of various communities of the country.

Speaking soon after the announcement of results by the Electoral Supervisory Commission, Ramgoolam said attention should now focus on the economy and national building.

"The results of the poll are clear. Since 1991 no government has obtained a second term after an election," he said, adding that all people, includ-

ing parties that took part in the polls must respect the results as in a "democracy we have winners and losers."

Opposition alliance leader, Bérenger conceded defeat, saying he will play his part in nation building.

More than 729,000 people registered to take part in the polls. Mauritius has a population of about 1.3 million. As many as 65 alliances and political parties as well as independents took part in the election.

Regional and international election observers have applauded the way the island nation held its elections, saying the polls were in conformity with regional standards and principles.

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Election Observer Mission

(SEOM) said the elections were conducted in compliance with the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections.

"The pre-election phase was characterised by a peaceful and tolerant political atmosphere," head of the 52-member SEOM delegation, Henrique Banze said.

"SEOM was encouraged by the enthusiasm of voters, who were able to express their franchise peacefully, freely and unhindered. It is therefore, SEOM's overall view that the polling phase was conducted in an open and peaceful manner."

Banze, who is the deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation in Mozambique, urged all political parties and candidates to respect the will of the people.



Prime Minister Navichandra Ramgoolam

He said democracy and political stability in the country would be beneficial not only to the SADC region, but also to the whole African continent.

Banze said a detailed report on the electoral process in Mauritius would be released within thirty days after the announcement of the results.

Prime Minister Ramgoolam is expected to announce his cabinet once Members of Parliament take their oath of office. [sardc.net](http://sardc.net) □

## New cabinet falls short of SADC gender threshold

**THE NEW** Mauritian government announced by Prime Minister Navichandra Ramgoolam fails to address the gender gap in terms of women's participation in positions of authority.

Only three women have been appointed ministers in the 25-member cabinet. These are Sheilabai Bappoo, who is the Minister for Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare; Leela Dookun-Luchoomun who was appointed Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions; and Santi Hanoomanjee, who is the new Minister for Health and Quality of Life.

Bappoo is the only one of the three women who served in the previous cabinet as Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Senior Citizens Welfare and Reform Institutions.

Dookun-Luchoomun is a former Minister of Arts and Culture from 2000-2005 while Hanoomanjee is new in the cabinet.

In 2005, Mauritius had two women ministers in the 22-member cabinet, representing nine percent. This therefore, means that the recent appointment has marginally increased gender representation to 12 percent.

However, the figure still falls short of the SADC target to have 30 percent women in decision-making positions by 2005, and shows little progress toward the agreed SADC target to achieve 50 percent of women in decision-making positions in the public and private sector by 2015.

The 50-percent target is also in line with the current target of the African Union.

Mauritius is a signatory to the 2005 regional target to

have 30 percent women in decision-making positions. However, the country is yet to append its signature to the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development.

Gender representation in the 5 May parliamentary election also fell short of the regional target. Of the 529 candidates, only 21 were women - with 10 elected to the 70-seat assembly under the block system of triple balloting. Three more women were appointed among the eight "best losers", representing about 19 percent of the total number in parliament.

A similar method to the block system could be adapted to address the gender imbalances.

At the last elections held five years ago, 12 women were elected in parliament, representing about 17 percent. [sardc.net](http://sardc.net) □

## G15 Summit calls for UN reforms

**DEVELOPING COUNTRIES** have called for an urgent review of the United Nations Security Council, saying it has lost credibility to serve the world.

Heads of State and Government of developing countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America made the call at the recent G15 Summit held in Tehran, Iran.

Iran president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said the Security Council continues to live in the past and treats countries differently.

Ahmadinejad, who is also the outgoing G15 chairperson proposed the formation of a consultative committee to hold regular meetings attended by foreign ministers to assess further convergence on different global and regional issues regarding current global conditions.

Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa who is the incoming G15 chair concurred, saying there is need for a new order that serves the interest of all countries.

He said countries - whether developed or developing should be equal partners in addressing peace and security issues affecting the world.

"The G15 stress the need for reforms at the Security Council and other international institutions to better enable the world to monitor and respond to as well as prevent potential disasters," he said.

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe also castigated the Security Council, saying that some powerful nations continue to abuse the council to "bully and threaten smaller nations".

He said, "False security concerns are used to justify

interference in the internal affairs of other countries."

Brazilian President Luiz Lula da Silva weighed in and said the council is for a selected few as some "members force their decisions on others".

He said there is need for urgent changes at the council to make it more democratic. Brazil currently holds one of the seats for non-permanent members of the Security Council and has been leading efforts to reform the structure and mandate of the council.

The UN Security Council, whose primary responsibility is to maintain international peace and security, is made up of five permanent members as well as ten non-permanent members who hold the seats for two-year terms.

The five permanent members are - China, France,

Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Turkey and Uganda make up the current non-permanent members.

Each council member has one vote. Decisions on procedural matters are made by an affirmative vote of at least 9 of the 15 members.

Decisions on substantive matters require nine votes, including the concurring votes of all five permanent members. This is the rule of "Great Power Unanimity", often referred to as the "Veto" power.

Under the Charter, all Members of the UN agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council.

While other organs of the UN make recommendations to governments, the Council alone has the power to take decisions which Member States are obligated under the Charter to carry out.

It is this kind of set-up that most developing countries are against and want a review that ensures equality, for example, a permanent seat reserved for developing countries.

The G15 Summit, which brought together 18 developing countries from Asia, Africa and Latin America, was held on 17-19 May.

The annual summit provides an opportunity for developing countries to discuss various challenges and prospects of Third World countries. The next G15 Summit is to be held in Sri Lanka in 2011. □

## Zanzibar to hold referendum on unity government

**ZANZIBARIS ARE** expected to hold a referendum on 31 July to decide on whether or not to have a unity government.

"We received a statement from the Zanzibar president directing us to conduct referendum on 31 July. Preparations for the referendum to include extensive awareness have started," the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC) said in a statement.

The planned referendum has been the outcome of the political reconciliation started by Zanzibar President Amani Abeid Karume and the opposition party, the Civil United Front, in November last year.

The referendum law was approved by the Zanzibar legislators in January, and if

Zanzibaris vote in favour of a unified structure, Zanzibar will have a President from a winning party and two Vice Presidents including the first Vice from a party which comes second in elections.

Zanzibar is a part of the United Republic of Tanzania. However, the Zanzibar archipelago, comprising the two main islands of Unguja and Pemba, retains its own governance structure and electoral system in addition to the Union structures.

Therefore, Zanzibaris vote twice in national elections, once for the President and Parliament of the Union government, and once for the President and Parliament in Zanzibar. The Zanzibar elections are often confrontational and occasionally violent,

which does not happen elsewhere in Tanzania. The next elections as set for 31 October this year.


The Zanzibari president has no jurisdiction over the mainland. Legislative functions are vested in the House of Representatives which enacts laws except on constitutionally decreed Union matters, such as foreign affairs, home affairs and defence.

Zanzibar entered a Union with Tanganyika, as the mainland was then known, in 1964 to form the United Republic of Tanzania.

It was forged by two independent states - Tanganyika (independence 9 December 1961) and Zanzibar (independence 10 December 1963). □

## EVENTS DIARY 2010

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June 1-4, Zimbabwe	<b>Meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Infrastructure Development</b> The meeting is to review and adopt a roadmap to accelerate implementation of infrastructure development projects in the region.
10, South Africa	<b>2010 World Cup Celebration Concert</b> Featuring 150 artists from all the five continents, the concert is a celebration of the first Soccer World Cup finals in Africa. All proceeds will be donated to charity.
11 June-11 July, South Africa	<b>2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup Finals</b> The world biggest soccer showcase will be played in South Africa by 32 teams, including six from Africa. This is the first time the finals have been played on African soil.
13-18, South Africa	<b>NEPAD Best of Africa Investment Conference</b> The conference is focused on showcasing Africa as a business and investment destination, and is part of a bigger trade promotion and capacity-building project running 2010-2015.
22-25, Ethiopia	<b>2nd Science with Africa Conference</b> The conference is expected to discuss innovative ways of improving the efficiency of technology development, transfer and commercialization in Africa.
29, Switzerland	<b>Africa Energy Forum</b> The forum brings together energy experts from both the private and public sector to discuss proposals for the development of the continent's power sector.
July 5-7, South Africa	<b>Highway Africa Conference 2010</b> African journalists meet to deliberate on challenges and opportunities in the media industry.
18-23, Austria	<b>International AIDS Conference</b> The conference provides an opportunity for stakeholders review progress in the implementation of various programmes as well as present new scientific knowledge and offer opportunities for structured dialogue on the major issues facing the global response to HIV.
19-23, South Africa	<b>Banking Outlook Africa 2010</b> Stakeholders meet to assess the status of banking in Africa with solutions for key challenges faced by Africa's emerging banks.
19-27, Uganda	<b>African Union Summit</b> Delayed to accommodate the 2010 Soccer World Cup finals, the summit will focus on "Maternal, Infant and Child Health and Development in Africa."
21-13, Zimbabwe	<b>Mine Entra10</b> The annual exhibition creates a platform for local, regional and international companies to showcase and market their products.
26-28, South Africa	<b>Africa Mining Congress</b> Africa's premier mining and investment conference seeks to offer solution in the mining industry.
31, Zanzibar	<b>Referendum in Zanzibar</b> Referendum to decide on the establishment of a unity government after the October elections. If approved, Zanzibar will have a president from the winning party and two vice-presidents including one from a party that comes second in the elections.
August 16-19, South Africa	<b>Infrastructure Investment World Africa</b> The conference will discuss infrastructure investment opportunities and offer possible solutions for investing in African infrastructure assets.
17, Namibia	<b>SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government</b> SADC leaders meet to discuss issues aimed at promoting regional integration as development in the region, preceded by meetings of senior officials and Council of Ministers. This marks 30 years since the formation of SADC through its predecessor, the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC).
TBA, Swaziland	<b>35th SAPP Meeting</b> The meeting is expected to review the power situation in the region. SAPP is made up of 12 electricity utilities in SADC.



# 25 May 2010 -- Africa Day

**THE DAY** of Africa. What does that mean to most people too young to remember its origins 47 years ago?

This day, 25 May, is an important part of our heritage, past, present and future, and should be remembered with respect and vision... and a bit of wonder.

From 22-25 May 1963, when the founding fathers (there were yet no mothers in high political office), met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to form a continental organisation, most African countries were still colonised by Europe, and there was a passion and a vision to be free - free of colonial bondage, free of apartheid and racism, free to determine the future of the continent.

There had been three Pan African conferences, Kwame Nkrumah's Ghana had gained independence in 1956 and Julius Nyerere's Tanganyika in 1961.

Nkrumah wanted immediate unity of the continent; Nyerere wanted political independence first as half of Africa was still under colonial rule.

Nyerere stressed his country's desire for peaceful constitutional progress, reflecting the approach of those of that era in Africa who were seeking majority rule without bloodshed.

He called for a "candle on Kilimanjaro", the highest mountain in Africa, and what he meant was a beacon of light for liberation.

"We the people of Tanganyika would like to light a candle and put it on top of Mount Kilimanjaro which would shine beyond our borders giving hope where there was despair, love where there was hate, and dignity where there was before only humiliation."

As the leaders of independent Africa gathered in the high-altitude capital of one of the few African countries that escaped colonisation, Ethiopia, hosted by the Emperor Haile Selassie, they pledged to establish the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and its Liberation Committee, and to remember their hopes and dreams every year on 25 May, Africa Day.

Despite many setbacks such as Nkrumah's overthrow in a foreign-sponsored coup d'etat, they succeeded with their hopes, dreams and aspirations through their vehicle of the OAU.

Some of the 53 African countries gained independence through negotiations with the colonial power, and some had to fight against the colonial power and allies but, in the end, all 53 countries gained their freedom, including, finally, South Africa, overcoming the oppressive apartheid system of separate development by race in 1994.

The African leaders established the OAU Liberation Committee to spearhead the drive for independence in Africa, and made resolutions about South Africa, South West Africa (now Namibia), and Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe).

They noted that most of the remaining dependent territories in Africa were dominated by foreign settlers, and they declared that the "forcible imposition by the colonial powers of the settlers to control the governments and administrations of the dependent territories is a flagrant violation of the inalienable rights of the legitimate inhabitants of the territories concerned."

The peaceful invitation by the African statesmen was ignored and their threat had to be carried out through the vehicle of the OAU Liberation Committee, based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to support an armed struggle for independence where it was not granted through negotiation.

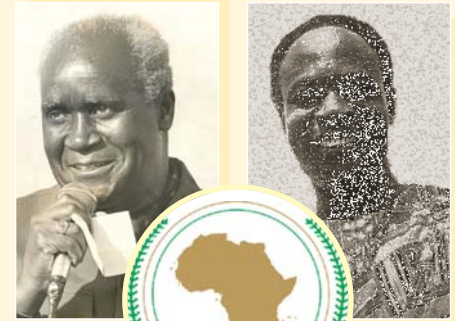
In southern Africa, this resulted in the eventual liberation of Mozambique and Angola (1975), Zimbabwe (1980), Namibia (1990) and South Africa (1994) through wars of liberation.

Very many young people in their late teens and twenties left their countries for education and military training. Very many young people died, men and women, leaving their blood on the battlefield and their dreams to be carried forward by the next generation.

Thus came political independence, but the African leaders, and especially the leaders of the Front Line States, saw that while political liberation was hard won, the battle for economic independence and prosperity was an even bigger battle yet to come.

With this in mind, they transformed the OAU into the African Union in 1997 and set the continent on a course for development and integration, a road filled with as many potholes and potholes as the liberation struggle, and still ongoing.

The building blocks of the African Union are the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).



**THE OAU** Assembly of Heads of State and Government, meeting in Tunisia in June 1994, just 31 years after the formation of the OAU, recognised that the mandate of the Liberation Committee had been successfully completed. They noted that, of the 22 countries that gained independence after 1963, 11 had attained self-determination through the direct assistance of the continent, through the Liberation Committee.

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN SADC June - August 2010

1 June	International Children's Day	Angola
5 June	Liberation Day	Seychelles
16 June	Youth Day	South Africa
18 June	Nativity Day	Seychelles
25 June	Independence Day	Mozambique
26 June	Independence Day	Madagascar
29 June	Independence Day	Seychelles
30 June	Independence Day	DRC
1 July	Sir Seretse Khama Day	Botswana
5 July	Heroes Day	Zambia
6 July	Unity Day	Zambia
6 July	Independence Day	Malawi
7 July	International Trade Fair Saba Saba	Tanzania
17 July	King's Birthday	Lesotho
19 July	President's Day	Botswana
20 July	Public Holiday	Botswana
22 July	Public Holiday	Swaziland
1 August	Parents Day	DRC
2 August	Farmer's Day	Zambia
8 August	Peasant Day	Tanzania
9 August	National Women's Day	South Africa
9 August	Heroes Day	Zimbabwe
10 August	Defence Forces Day	Zimbabwe
15 August	Assumption Day	Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles
26 August	Heroes Day	Namibia