



Culture, a 'goldfield' for integration

by Tinashe Madava

The recent theatre festival of SADC countries in Maputo, Mozambique was a showcase of southern Africa's "cultural goldfield" which can enhance integration and reinforce peace and stability.

The artists and viewers at the festival were exposed to diverse cultures of this region and left Maputo convinced that the region has still a lot to learn about each other's way of life. Culture, a two-way traffic matter, has a great potential to be the most dynamic tool in community building in southern Africa if activities at the festival were anything to go by. Ordinary people and well-known artists exchanged experiences, in a way integrating and enhancing community consciousness.

SADC deputy executive secretary, Mr L B Monyake, was also touched by the festival and commented: "For as long as the arts and culture of the region do not reflect the thoughts and feelings of the majority of our people, both the art

continued on page 13



SADC Theatre Festival in Maputo showcases the region's "cultural goldfield".

Africans, African - Americans unite

by Munetsi Madakufamba

With adequate support from the developed world, Africa can do what east Asia has done in luring viable investment and ending poverty, Rev Leon Sullivan recently told delegates to the African-American

American Summit in Harare, Zimbabwe.

"What Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia have done, Africa can do too. In the next decades we can compete with any developing country in the world. But only if we unite," said Sullivan addressing delegates who attended the fourth summit held in late July.

Rev Sullivan, convener and founder of the AAA summit, declared on arrival that the bi-annual summit was not a platform for long and fruitless speeches. He reminded people that the previous summits had already generated about US\$500 million in investment.

"After this summit, (the investment) will be US\$2 billion because these (US) companies... are ready to see how they can tie in and do business with joint ventures," an optimistic Sullivan said.

Sullivan's confidence could not be doubted given the presence at the summit of chief executive officers and chairpersons of some of America's top companies which exhibited at the fourth summit's historic Trade and Investment Exposition which ran parallel to some 10

continued on page 4

Ministers discuss Trade Protocol

SADC Ministers of Industry and Trade held a special meeting in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 18 August.

The meeting, which was attended by all member states except Angola, was chaired by Dr William Shija, Tanzanian Minister of Industries and Trade in his capacity as the chairman of the Committee of SADC Ministers of Industry and Trade. It was a follow-up to the 11th Ordinary meeting of SADC Industry and Trade Ministers held in Port Louis, Mauritius, on 5 June.

During the Dar es Salaam meeting, ministers addressed three major issues outstanding from the Mauritius meeting, namely, modalities for tariff reduction, the time-frame

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for the submission of lists of sensitive products and the ratification of the Protocol. Regarding the modalities for tariff reduction, ministers agreed to adopt a Linear Reduction Approach as this was more predictable, simple to use and transparent as compared to other methods. On the time-frame, ministers agreed that member states should submit lists of sensitive products to the SADC Industry and Trade Coordinating Unit by October 1997 at the latest. Ministers also agreed on the preparation of the position of the southern African region on the future ACP/EU relations as a contribution to the definition of an overall ACP position on the subject.

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Theatre Festival 1



Water 5



Solar 6



Profiles 12

- ☐ SADC Programme of Action review and rationalisation 3
- ☐ Move to speed up ratification of trade protocol 4
- ☐ Gender: PAWO on peace 7
- ☐ Exclusive interview with Dr Kaire Mbuende 8
- ☐ Guest column: SADC Parliamentary Forum 10
- ☐ News from around the region 11
- ☐ Community Building: Sports and Culture 13
- ☐ Overview of inland fisheries, forestry and wildlife 14
- ☐ Book Review, recent publications and acquisitions 15
- ☐ SADC Diary 16

Ministers adopt documents on peace initiatives

The ministerial committee of the SADC organ on politics, defence, peace and security adopted in mid August in Harare a set of recommendations for consideration by heads of state and government at the Summit in Malawi.

The framework adopted outlines institutional guidelines of the organ which replaces the Frontline States. The three documents adopted outline: structures and operations of the organ; rules and procedures of the organ; and the organ's protocol on politics which provides the basis for the organ's work in conflict prevention, management and resolution.

"We discussed and adopted the three documents which we are now going to present to the heads of state and government for their consideration and adoption as necessary," Zimbabwe's Minister of Foreign Affairs told the *Herald*. Seventeen foreign affairs, defence and security ministers from all SADC member states attended the one-day meeting.

SADC reviews its policy strategy

A team of consultants including Professor C. Chipeta (Malawi), CSIR (South Africa) and Imani Development (Pvt) Ltd (Zimbabwe) were commissioned by SADC to examine its Programme of Action and framework for integration. The following are excerpts of recommendations in the main report submitted early this year.

Option One: Rationalisation of the status quo

The advantage of the current allocation of sectoral responsibility is that it has evolved over a number of years and is the result of a process of negotiation that has ensured that each member feels "ownership" of the sector(s) they are responsible for. This feeling of "ownership" is reinforced by the fact that each member state is required to establish and maintain a Sector Coordinating Unit for the sector it is responsible for at its own expense (except for the two SADC Commissions). Government organs dealing with sectors that are not their own government's responsibility work on SADC issues through the appropriate SCUs in other member states. This structure ensures the commitment of the various member states to the wider SADC Programme through collective self-reliance, this in turn results in mutual trust and confidence.

However, the disadvantages of the current sectoral allocation are that: in some cases the sectoral responsibilities are very fragmented - most obviously this is the case with agriculture. Some of the sectors were allocated for "political" reasons, not because of an assessment of the comparative advantages of the member in the sector it was allocated. Some sectors include all encompassing responsibilities e.g. environment and land management.

It is important, but difficult, to separate the "sectoral" issues from the "institutional" and even "policy" issues. A change of the policies will naturally cause a change in the institutions that administer those policies. A move from

a strictly functional to an integration approach will affect the alignment of sectoral responsibilities. For the present let us set aside the institutional issue of a member state gaining "ownership" through chairing a sector and hosting a SCU...

The future role of sectors and the institutions that serve them must be one of co-ordination and networking towards the objective of regional integration as laid down by the Treaty. This removes the onus of generating and "implementing" increasing numbers of projects - other stakeholders will do the job.

As the macro-economics of the region have changed from command to liberalised, so the role of the sectors must change - they cannot command at the regional level.

If this is accepted, then the possibility of redefining sectors and merging functions exist. Other stakeholders in-

"The future role of sectors and the institutions that serve them must be one of coordination and networking towards the objective of regional integration as laid down by the Treaty."

terests and sub-sectoral issues can be tackled at the sub-committee or working group level rather than create yet another

sector to overburden an already strained system.

If this option is pursued, then the logical route of one sector per member state should be adopted. New sectors could only be created if a new member joins, or preferably if a sector completes its objectives and new priorities emerge. This latter point needs to be given serious consideration because the current structure is static. It does not inherently encourage sectors to be dynamic and to have a finite life.

Using this rule, it is suggested that the following sectors be adopted by SADC if Option One is chosen: Agriculture (including: Inland and Marine Fisheries, Forestry, Agricultural Research, Livestock Production and Land Management); Transport, Communications and Information Technology; Industry and Trade; Finance and Investment; Human Resources Development (including Science and Technology, Employment, Labour and Gender); Energy; Water; Environment; Health and

Population (including Social Welfare); Tourism; Culture; and Mining.

Option Two: Create Clusters

The core of any changes to the SADC structure requires the acceptance that the current SCU/Commission structure is not the most effective way of promoting a regional integration strategy.

The areas of co-operation which form the basis for SADC's economic integration cut across the current sectoral alignment within SADC. This challenges the current structure of SCUs with a few Commissions, Sectoral Committees of Officials, and a small administrative/co-ordinating secretariat. This ends itself to a single sector, project specific approach, rather than a multi-disciplinary project or development programme approach. Fundamental to any change is the assumption that regional integration is a process and not a project. The process therefore needs to be driven by an institutional structure that can operate at the strategic level and facilitate/co-ordinate the implementation or operational level.

It would be impractical and ill-advised for the process of integration to seek to create institutions for everything. The approach to be adopted should be to create structures only for those activities that are best done at the regional level; the rest and most of the activities for regional interaction should be left to national institutions...

There are four main recommendations for the development of a new institutional framework.

As part of the process of change in management, there should be a clear definition of the role of the different SADC institutions. This will avoid duplication and maximise efficiency. SADC should move progressively into policy formulation and implementation thereof.

A National SADC Committee involving all key stakeholders should be established in each member state. This would create a strong linkage between regional and national initiatives.

The SADC structure should be streamlined by moving to a cross-sectoral approach incorporating institutions that can adequately and efficiently address such an approach. Technical resources to achieve SADC's goals should be drawn increasingly from all stakeholders within the region. □

Ministers activate ratification of trade protocol

Trade and industry ministers of the 12 member states of SADC at the 11th committee meeting in June 1997, in Mauritius agreed to accelerate procedures to ratify the Trade Protocol signed in Maseru, Lesotho in August 1996.

The ratification of the Trade Protocol was high on the agenda of the committee which grouped at least 60 delegates among which 10 were trade ministers.

Mauritius was the first country to ratify the Trade Protocol followed by Tanzania. According to Dr William Shija, Tanzanian Minister of Industries and Trade and Committee Chairman, other countries might ratify the protocol by the end of this year. Hopefully the quorum of two-thirds, the minimum required for the protocol to be in force, would be reached.

The ministerial committee recommended that the Trade Negotiating Forum, which is a committee of technicians looking into trade matters, should meet in early August 1997. It will study the final report by Imani Development (International) Ltd, a firm of consultants researching on tariff structures and trade procedures.

The recommendations of the Trade Negotiating Forum were important for a special ministerial meeting held in August. During this meeting, ministers discussed the strategy to be adopted in view of negotiations for the renewal of the Lome IV Convention which expires in February 2000. They also examined the presentation of a common stand by SADC for the WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Geneva in October 1997.

The Mauritian Minister of Economic Planning, International Trade and Telecommunications, R. Purryag who opened the Ministerial Committee meeting on June 5 spoke on the Lome Convention. He underlined that the preferential trade regime was one of the pillars of the African-Caribbean-Pacific (ACP) cooperation with the European Union (EU). The preferences in the form of duty free and quota free access to the EU for products of ACP origin were granted on a contractual and non-reciprocal basis.

On the Trade Protocol, Purryag af-

firmed that it would give an impetus to the process of trade liberalisation in SADC countries as it would trigger competition among firms of the region. The SADC countries, especially those which are limited by the extent of their domestic markets, are expected to derive significant economic benefits from flows of goods and services across the frontiers.

A major concern of the SADC member states, he stated, was that they are



SADC trade and industry ministers meeting in Mauritius recently

faced with a series of challenges in adopting the WTO obligations. "There is a need for a concerted effort from SADC members together with the ACP group to safeguard our common interests," said Purryag. □

African-African American Summit unites brothers and sisters

continued from page 1

thematic workshops.

Rev Sullivan, a renowned business leader, humanitarian and champion of self-help activities, led a delegation of about 1 000 African-Americans to the summit which was also attended by more than 4 000 African business and political leaders.

The bi-annual summit was officially opened by President Robert Mugabe who called for closer US-African ties.

Africa and the US "need to engage each other economically more than has been the case in the past," said President Mugabe, adding that for too long, the US has tended to regard Africa as a marginal part of the world which belonged to Europe. "Ours has been a continent in which the US became interested only as a stage for the cold war. We are confident, that image of the continent is now behind us all. This old negative image of Africa will only be fully erased if we continue to see many Americans coming to and seeking opportunities in Africa to engage fully in the many business ventures that are on offer," he said.

The US Presidential delegation was co-headed by Reverend Jesse Jackson,

a civil rights activist, and Rodney Slater, Transportation Secretary.

Rev Jackson noted that by sending Slater to represent the US government, President Bill Clinton had sent the right man as he was critical in conducting bilateral talks "on the nuts and bolts of how to help rebuild infrastructure". After years of railroad and port destruction in the southern African region during the apartheid era, rebuilding such infrastructure was a matter of great substance in expanding trade opportunities across the seas.

Slater, who spoke on behalf of the president, said US interest in Africa was growing from strength to strength. He said the mighty presence of American government officials and business leaders was testimony of the "kind of partnership we want to have with all of the peoples of the continent of Africa in the years to come".

The summit ended with African heads of state and government, and heads of the US delegation adopting the Harare Declaration, which seeks to consolidate previous declarations as well as broadening basic education and eradicating poverty. □

Sharing international resources the solution - SADC/EU

by Maxwell Chivasa

Equitable sharing of international resources may appear unattractive in the short run, but it is the only sustainable solution for the future, the joint meeting of Southern African Development Community and European Union concluded in Maseru, Lesotho, recently.

The conference, which looked at the management of shared river basins of southern African countries and those in Europe, identified three major pillars that could facilitate cooperation among nations. Three pillars for support were the political, the technical and the legal.

Technical cooperation will ensure mutual trust and understanding at the political and institutional levels. Legal arrangements would permit transboundary litigation by stakeholders which would be instrumental to enforcing the principle of preventing conflicts.

When disasters occur, such as droughts, floods and accidental pollution, these are excellent occasions to improve transboundary cooperation and to mobilise international political will. Political commitment at the highest government levels were important strategies which would then easily filter down to the users.

"Since disasters are opportunities for invigorating international cooperation, it is much more important to learn from them than to fight over who is to blame," said one of the recommendations from the conference which was co-chaired by the Netherlands, which occupied the EU presidency in the first half of the year.

Institutions, laws, agreements should build on the groundwork done at the operational level and the reverse. International cooperation can only be sustained if it is based on voluntary decisions, and if substantiated by concrete measures.

It was also important to "level the playing field" among riparian state through capacity-building in water re-

source management, focusing on technical aspects, administration, information and database management and negotiation techniques. Differences in human and financial capacities within a region were unavoidable but could be resolved.

Politically, it was also important for upper riparians of any river to be responsible to consider interests of the downstream neighbours.

SADC and EU have international rivers shared by different countries in the groupings. In southern Africa, the Zambezi river - with a total annual yield of 113 million gallons of water - is shared by 28 million people from Angola, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Malawi and to Mozambique.

The population dependent on the Zambezi river is almost half of the number relying on the Rhine river which is about 54 million yet its annual yield of

The Danube is the most shared river in Europe with four basins: the upper basin with Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Slovenia; middle basin - Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, and FR Yugoslavia; delta area - Moldavia and Romania.

Giving water its economic value, which in itself is a complex issue, the conference noted: "Whoever has some water available has the choice between using that water, or offering it to the highest bidder among alternative users.

"If he decides to use the water for whatever activity one is engaged in, he abstains from an income he could have earned by selling this water to someone else in the community or downstream.

"This means that the user decides that the value of water to him is higher than the income foregone. By not selling the water he abstains from an income opportunity, thus the concept opportunity cost."

In a joint paper on the experiences from Rhine, Meuse and North Sea on transboundary cooperation in shared river basins, Pieter Huisman, Joost de Jong, and Koos Wieriks said the quality of cooperation in shared river basins highly depends on mutual understanding and trust. Related problems should be defined.

In a paper entitled, "A view from downstream of the Incomati and Limpopo river basins", Alvaro Carmo Vaz and Arnaldo Lopes Pereira, who are water experts in Mozambique, said there is no information in Mozambique regarding the present water uses and planned future development in upstream countries.

Sparse information is presented in various types of fora. "Apparently, in Zimbabwe the river has been developed nearly to its full potential and the remaining runoff makes very little contribution to the flow in the Limpopo river."

Botswana and South Africa are separately planning new water developments and the construction of new storage dams. □



Cahora Bassa dam on the Zambezi river in Mozambique depends on mutual trust upstream

70 million gallons is almost half of the Zambezi's yield. The Rhine passes through Switzerland, Germany, France, Luxembourg and Belgium, and to the Netherlands.

Other rivers shared in the SADC countries are the Incomati, with its source in South Africa it passes through Swaziland before spilling into the Indian Ocean in Mozambique.

The Limpopo river starts in Botswana, enters South Africa and Zimbabwe and then Mozambique; the Okavango: Angola, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Botswana; the Orange: Lesotho, South Africa, Botswana and Namibia.

In Europe, the Meuse river flows from France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany, and to the Netherlands.

The elephant victory: implications for SADC

by Tinashe Madava

Southern African elephants range states' victory in downlisting the African elephant from Appendix I to II at the CITES meeting in Harare signifies the dawn of a new battle against poachers and corruption and need for greater cooperation among neighbours.

The downlisting is an advantage to southern Africa's concerted efforts to develop economies and reduce poverty. The elephant range states are expected to tighten loopholes that might give ivory trade a bad name when this resumes after 18 months from the transfer to Appendix II.

An experimental quota for raw ivory not exceeding 25.3 tonnes for Botswana,

13.8 tonnes for Namibia and 20 tonnes for Zimbabwe, may be traded with Japan subject to the conditions established by the Conference of Parties that require a tightening of the identified loopholes.

It was also agreed that all other elephant range states can, in the next 90 days, sell their declared government stocks of ivory to any willing donor nation with strict provisions that it be used for non-commercial purposes.

The CITES Panel of Experts was concerned about controls over ivory stocks in Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe which need to be improved as it was evident that Namibia and possibly Botswana still act as transit routes for ivory to South Africa.

The experts pointed out that in Japan, so far the sole importing country under the proposals, control over retail trade was "not adequate to differentiate the products of legally acquired ivory from illegal sources" and that the import of partially worked ivory or pieces of tusks cannot be reliably detected.

Regulation of Japan's domestic ivory industry relies on "self effort" on the part of the dealers. Poor controls pose a risk of a resurgence of continent-wide poaching and illegal ivory-trafficking.

Some delegates and observers from NGOs interviewed during the conference warned that animal rights groups would stop at nothing to ensure the ivory trade ban stayed. This means that SADC must unite against poachers, sponsored or not, if this source of revenue is to be maintained.

Chairman of the Zambezi society, Dick Pitman warned against the likelihood of an increase in sponsored poaching. "It's well known that some overseas NGOs will stop at nothing to impose their agenda. We need to be aware of this and to be extremely vigilant against further attacks that will materialise from these quarters."

Delegates from Ghana, Liberia and Kenya felt that downlisting the African elephant would attract poachers to their countries where elephant populations are still recovering. Such concerns must be addressed, not doing so might work against the elephant range states at the next COP meeting in Indonesia.

If the system cannot be watertight, it is possible trade will be forestalled. □

Develop solar technology: governments urged

by Tinashe Madava

The World Solar Commission has called on governments, especially in developing countries to promote appropriate technology for the successful implementation of the World Solar Programme which was adopted recently in New York.

Through the World Solar Programme and the 1996 Harare Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable Development, governments committed themselves to save the environment by using "clean energy".

The programme challenges governments, international organisations and funding institutions, NGOs, industries, scientific and research institutions to promote the development and use of solar technology.

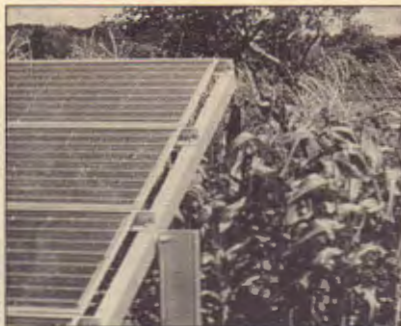
About 2.4 billion people in the world have no electricity and could benefit from the successful implementation of the WSP.

Nine months after the World Solar Summit in Harare in September last year, the secretariat of the World Solar Commission wants the recommendations of the now finalized draft document, the "World Solar Programme 1996-2005" to be implemented.

"The success of the World Solar Programme will depend in a large measure upon the commitment and involvement of the private and public sector in all different countries, industrialised countries and developing countries," said Federico Mayor, Director General of UNESCO.

UNESCO will "play a leading role in the setting up of the World Solar

Programme 1996-2005" and providing the secretariat of the commission, in close co-operation with the agencies and programmes of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations such as the European Union.



SOLAR: appropriate for rural communities

"This special session, therefore, provides an excellent opportunity to build on the momentum generated by the World Solar Summit and draw attention as to how sustainable energy issues such as efficiency, renewables, and clean technologies are a key component of the overall developmental process," said President Mugabe, current chairman of the World Solar Commission at the New York conference.

Mugabe pointed out that "the 2.4 billion people without access to energy services worldwide, and whose hopes were raised by the World Solar Summit await specification and implementation of the programme".

Reiterating that the successful use of Solar energy will also require adequate financial backing besides human resources, Mugabe urged developing countries to invest in solar technologies for the adequate supply of energy to the rural poor. □

PAWO pledges to sensitise African leaders on peace

by Barbara Lopi

Political conflicts in some African countries are derailing development and worsening the plight of women and children. This was observed by delegates at the eighth congress of the Pan African Women Organisation (PAWO) in Harare, Zimbabwe, in late July.

The congress challenged African women to shun activities likely to cause conflict because it is women and children who suffer most in wars.

As a process toward institutionalisation and improving the plight of women, the SADC summit in September is expected to endorse a regional gender strategy that was adopted by the Council of Ministers early this year.

The congress, which also elected a new executive for the next five years, resolved that a conflict-free situation was necessary for developing Africa.

Outgoing secretary-general of the 35-year-old organisation Ruth Neto of Angola, said in an interview that PAWO should sensitise African heads of state on their responsibilities toward achieving peace on the continent.

Neto, a sister to the late Agostinho Neto, former president of Angola and also a member of parliament for the ruling MPLA, said PAWO should work for peace and tolerance to attract attention and point out intolerance as a new threat against world peace and stability.

As other delegates, Neto affirmed that although PAWO collaborated with other organisations to attain peace and gender equality, the organisation's first mission of uniting African women and freeing the continent from conflicts has not been accomplished.

Mindful of the unaccomplished task, the incoming secretary-general, Assetou Koite of Senegal, pledged that PAWO will work with the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and other organisations to ensure African states enjoy total peace.

Koite says through education, "we can work towards promoting the notion of peace to our children who are the future guardians of the continent."

The congress, attended by PAWO members and representatives from over

20 African countries, elected Zimbabwe as deputy secretary-general, Namibia as secretary for finance and Angola for external relations. The names of individuals to take up the positions will be decided at national level.

The social and economic affairs position was taken by the Saharawi Democratic Republic, while Libya will represent PAWO at the United Nations.

Working under the theme, "The Effects of Conflict on African Development, from Rhetoric to Action", the congress identified political conflicts, economic hardships and inadequate involvement of women in development programmes as critical obstacles toward improving the plight of women in Africa.



WOMEN: determined to have a conflict-free Africa

The congress outlined a programme of action on political, economic, social, information and international relations to address the obstacles to women advancement in Africa.

On politics, regional secretariats were tasked to ensure real participation of women in the national programmes to realise the upholding of human rights, social justice, freedom and peace.

On the social and economic plan, regional secretariats were tasked to work with existing non-governmental organisations, government machineries and the donor community and lobby policy makers to prioritise the removal of all forms of discrimination against women.

Minister for Women, Children and the Family in Senegal, Aminata Mbengue Ndiaye said PAWO will need to apply new ideas to get involved in other battles such as social and economic advancement of women and their effective

participation in the development process.

However, for all these plans to be implemented, the organisation will need to embark on aggressive fundraising ventures to sustain its operations.

Throughout the congress, various members lamented the poor financial status of PAWO which is a non-profit-making organisation. This was attributed to non-payment of membership subscription from among PAWO's 53 African member states. At least 20 African states have not paid their dues for five to 15 years, it was revealed.

"While this arrangement worked better in the one-party era, it is very difficult to contain under plural politics because once that party falls out of power, the new government finds it difficult to take over such responsibilities as remitting subscription to an organisation like ours" commented one delegate.

Edwidge Mutale, a delegate from the Gender in Development Division in Zambia, and a Namibian member of parliament Pashukeni Shoombe,

suggested that PAWO be placed under the women's government machinery for continuity of the organisation's activities and responsibilities at national level.

While some delegates supported this notion, a few were sceptical. The congress thus resolved that the issue be decided at national level and presented to the regional secretariat for consideration, "because some countries have no problem with the present operation".

Zimbabwe's Minister for National Affairs Employment Creation and Cooperatives, Thenjiwe Lesabe, said although the ruling ZANU PF Women's League was the focal point for PAWO in Zimbabwe, the organisation was open to all women regardless of political affiliation. Until this congress, Zimbabwe was the regional secretariat for SADC. South Africa is the new SADC secretariat for PAWO. □

Exclusive interview with SADC Executive Secretary



SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Kaire Mbuende

Could you give the background against which this year's SADC Summit will be held?

This year's summit is meeting against a positive atmosphere of political and economic achievements in the region. We had a very good year in the sense that we have had good rains and a positive growth in most SADC countries. The question is, of course, how do we sustain this growth?

On the political front, the summit will review the regional situation including the holding of democratic elections in several member states as well as review of the recent developments in Angola and Lesotho. These are some of the developments that SADC will take note of. We shall also review the community building programme in SADC and consider new protocols such as mining, education and training and possibly facilitation of the movement of persons in the Community.

We shall in addition review measures taken towards ratification and implementation of existing SADC protocols, in particular the trade protocol.

The protocol on trade is very important to SADC because intra-regional trade and investment are the key to regional integration in southern Africa.

So far, two member states, Mauritius and Tanzania have ratified the SADC trade protocol. Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe are at an advanced stage of ratifying the protocols.

Other countries like Zambia, Namibia, Swaziland and Lesotho are awaiting the finalisation of tariff schedules

before they could ratify the protocol.

As you know, a meeting will be held in Tanzania on August 18 to finalise outstanding matters and if those matters are finalised, it is good.

On the other hand, if the matters are not finalised, we will have a crisis whereby we have a protocol which does not live up to its promise.

Therefore, I am positive that the Dar es Salaam meeting will come up with a tariff schedule which is acceptable so that member states will then ratify the protocols.

Otherwise a continuation of the status quo could cause political tensions among member states because of the imbalance of trade and lack of market access, a situation which is unacceptable.

The Windhoek Consultative Conference held in February this year agreed on the need to form a regional productivity forum as a way of enhancing the region's global competitiveness. How far has this gone?

After the Windhoek meeting in February, we convened a workshop which all stakeholders attended.

The private sector, NGOs, parastatals and government looked at this question of productivity and came up with a draft declaration to be adopted by the heads of state, and the programme of action for implementation. So we are left with a timetable following that recommendation and implementation of that Programme of Action.

Various recommendations were made by a team of consultants appointed last year to look into the review and rationalisation of the SADC Programme of Action. How soon do you think SADC will implement these recommendations?

Those recommendations have been a subject of the meeting (on Review and Rationalisation of SADC Programme of Action) that we are attending now. It appears that there are recommendations

that are straight forward and will be submitted to council in September. The other more difficult recommendations deserve further internal consultations among member states.

In 1992, SADC changed from a Conference to a Community. How much progress has been made in the region's community building endeavour?

In terms of transformation from the conference to a community, we have achieved much and continue to make progress.

One area of achievement is that SADC has legal status. We are in the process of developing various instruments for implementing the treaty in specific areas of cooperation such as the protocols that we have developed and that I have already referred to.

I must say that another critical ingredient of community building is the involvement of stakeholders such as the private sector, NGOs, labour and other organisations.

At the sectoral level, we have opened up the structures of sectors to subcommittees to allow the participation of stakeholders.

We hope that by next year we will complete the process of community development and thereafter we will set up its implementation.

The SADC region has hosted a number of important international conferences such as the Southern Africa Economic Summit held in Harare towards the end

of May. How much trade and investment has been generated by these conferences?

In terms of marketing opportunities in the region as well as providing the framework, the

conferences that we have held especially the Southern Africa Economic Summit, which is an annual event on our calendar, was beneficial to SADC. International, regional and local private sectors benefited.

In addition, we have seen the flow

"...another critical ingredient of community building is the involvement of stakeholders such as the private sector, NGOs, labour and other organisations."

of investment to the region. Opportunities identified at these conferences have been turned into investment projects. So, I think the benefits from these meetings have been positive. I think countries like Zimbabwe have benefited by investment from Australia which invested US\$100 million into a mining project.

These are the projects that were identified at the conference. Other countries are also making follow-up, of the discussions they held with other investors.

The recent Southern Africa Economic Summit made a number of commendable recommendations for SADC, among them formation of a regional business structure at Chief Executive Level. Has SADC done anything so far to incorporate these recommendations?

The formation of a regional business structure at chief executive level is indeed a critical one and we are working on it with the private sector.

We expect to convene a meeting with chief executives of private sector before the end of this year in Harare to follow-up those recommendations. But we are approaching this matter with caution because we don't want to create yet another bureaucratic institution. We had business councils which were not effective.

We have seen effective business councils like the West African Enterprise network and we have invited that organisation to come and share their experiences with us at the Harare meeting. It is also important to note that in as much as we are playing a facilitating role to see that private sector is organized at regional level, we do realise that the organisation of private sector at regional level has to be the responsibility of the private sector itself.

The agenda has to be private sector driven. We had sad experiences with the SADC Business Council and we don't want to run the risk and repeat the mistakes.

Definitely, the private sector itself has expressed interest to take a leading role in the process. They have actually invited the SADC Secretariat to play a coordinating role during the initial process.

We are playing that role and we are communicating with the national task forces which actually constitute the nucleus of the regional business organisation which will be created.

There have been press reports that countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Uganda may join SADC and that some of them have actually expressed interest to do so. Is there such a provision in the SADC Treaty for these countries to join the Community?

The treaty clearly provides for new members to join SADC. Of course, any application has to be approved by the Summit. Therefore, any country can apply and its application will be considered in accordance with written procedures and criteria set out by SADC.

The criteria include the question of geographic proximity, the cost effectiveness of cooperating with that particular country, the compatibility of the applicant's political and economic systems with those of SADC countries, and the benefits to be derived from the new member.

Yes, the short answer is that every application submitted will be considered in terms of agreed criteria and procedures.

There has been no indication yet from Uganda and Kenya to join SADC.

On the other hand, there has been clear indication from other countries such as Seychelles who have applied for membership. Madagascar has also indicated interest and has enquired about the procedures of joining SADC.

As you know, the Democratic Republic of Congo is already a partner of SADC in the energy sector. It has active programmes of co-

operation with SADC member states at bilateral level such as Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa.

We don't have an application from them yet, but I know for a fact that they are interested.

Is the interest in the Democratic Republic of Congo a result of change of government in that country?

The Democratic Republic of Congo, then Zaire, had long expressed interest

to join SADC, but at that time Zaire could not meet the criteria of admission.

The question of absence of democracy in the then Zaire and its destabilisation of a member state, in this case, Angola, disqualified that country from any consideration for SADC membership. But happily the situation has now changed.



M. Chivasa-SADC

President Laurent Kabila of the DRC: his country has long expressed interest in joining SADC

What are the prospects for a merger of SADC and COMESA?

Nothing has changed, the two institutions have agreed that they should co-exist. The two organisations are cooperating in the context of the African Economic Community.

South Africa's bid for the 2004 Olympics has been construed as an "African bid" and an important one for regional tourism. How is SADC helping South Africa win this bid?

We have been saying that the South Africa's bid is indeed a regional and an African bid. It is in our own vested interest to see to it that for the first time in the history of Olympics, they do come to South Africa, Southern Africa and Africa.

We in SADC, our member states individually, will be there to cast their votes on this matter. Individually, we are lobbying for the bid to come to South Africa.

This is not only SADC but also African countries are doing the same. From the point of SADC, we take the opportunity to make a case for Cape Town as the next venue of Olympics. □

Interview conducted by Sam Kaphodza, Gaborone, Botswana.

Why SADC Parliamentary Forum was established

Lack of maximum use of local intellectuals and other resources in analyzing social, political and economic phenomena in our region for purposes of enabling the formulation of realistic and more pragmatic national development policies; and the need to restructure SADC economies with the view to making them more competitive, by investing in the productive sector, mastering the skills of economic discipline, and containing inflation greatly influenced the formation of the Forum. It has the following aims and objectives:

To promote the principles of human rights and democracy in SADC

The reason for pursuing this first objective is self-evident. All of us in SADC are devoted to advancing and defending the principles of human rights and democracy. The elected representatives of the people are clearly in the best position to advocate and defend these principles in the parliaments in which they serve. It is through constant and faithful advocacy that our constituents come to appreciate the various dimensions of this important aspect of their daily lives...

To familiarise the peoples of SADC countries with the aims and objectives of SADC

This second objective is clearly very essential. We need to bring SADC closer to the people. Our people, all our people, need to know, understand and popularise the aims and objectives of SADC. For example, what is this concept of development, and of a development community? We need to start from the beginning and systematically inculcate the values of SADC in the hearts and minds of our constituents.

To inform SADC of the popular view on issues affecting SADC countries

Parliamentarians are in the best position to know the views of constituents on all matters. In particular, we are in a position to keep SADC informed of the views of the people on all issues ranging from drought relief, trade, nutrition and education. In that way we can strengthen the links between SADC - the regional bureaucracy - and its peoples.

To Provide a forum for discussion of matters of common interest to SADC countries

When we become aware of the people's views, it is essential that there be a forum where these views can be articulated and debated. The SADC Parliamentary Forum will provide that forum. As we grow closer to each other, we need to exchange views regularly, systematically and in a structured forum where rationality will prevail. As we develop, we will be able to identify a consensus, and in the process we will assist SADC to become more responsive and sensitive to the views and ideas of our constituents.



Dr. M. Tjitendero, Speaker of the Namibian Parliament and First Chair of the SADC Parliamentary Forum.

VIEW ON PARLIAMENT

To facilitate networking with other Inter-Parliamentary Organisations

It is important that SADC as an organisation keep in constant touch with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA). The Forum can readily facilitate that. But we also have several other parliamentary groupings which are supportive of our efforts here in Africa in general and in southern Africa in particular, e.g. the Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa (AWEPA), International Parliamentary Union (IPU), African Parliamentary Union (APU), CPA - African Region, and Parliamentarians for Global Action.

To popularise the concepts of development and wider cooperation in the sub region

This question of the popularisation of the concepts of development and wider cooperation fits in neatly with objectives no. 2 & 3. The only substantial difference here is that we are focusing on the questions of development and wider cooperation. As this is the *raison d'être* for

the existence of SADC, it is incumbent on us to ensure our constituents are familiar with these basic concepts and that we focus on them as critical in the operations of SADC and indeed our parliamentary grouping.

To encourage the effective implementation of SADC policies and projects

The SADC Parliamentary Forum will seek to assist in encouraging the effective implementation of SADC policies and projects by keeping in close touch with our constituents...

To promote the participation of NGOs and the business and intellectual communities

The effective integration of SADC with the wider community of each of our countries is critical if its programmes and objectives are to be achieved. The wider community includes specific interest groups represented by NGOs, for example, women, children, the disabled, the intellectual community represented by our university lecturers and teachers, the trade unions, the chambers of commerce and industry and many other similar associational interest groups...

To study and make recommendations to facilitate the more effective and efficient operation of SADC

One of the most important tasks for any organisation is to undertake regular reviews and initiate constant renewals so that it can remain relevant to the community which it seeks to serve. The problem that we all encounter is that self assessment always has its blind spots. External assessment, when it does not simply reflect the will of the organisation being assessed, often lacks a sympathetic historical and contextual appreciation of the realities. That is why we are of the view that a SADC Parliamentary Forum can take a sober look at the prevailing situation and make sensitive recommendations that will contribute to the more effective and efficient operation of SADC... □

This paper was compiled and written by the SADC Parliamentary Forum, Windhoek, Namibia, July 1997.

Chissano on western democracies

African nations must look with "justified suspicion" at those who would try to impose their own brands of democracy on them, especially during periods of transition and change.

President Joaquim Chissano, President of Mozambique, told more than 100 delegates at the opening session of a three-day International Conference of Democracy and Development in Zanzibar recently that democratisation was a process. Democracy in Africa was no less demanding than in countries of the north, but there is no point in saying the northern version is superior.

The Zanzibar issue, as it is known in Tanzania, was not supposed to be discussed, according to conference organisers who preferred to concentrate on a more theoretical discussion of democracy and development in Africa.

Zanzibar obtained independence from Britain in 1963 and became a part of the United Republic of Tanzania in 1964.

Following the 1995 elections, international donors led by the UNDP suspended aid to the Isles, as Zanzibar and Pemba are known, alleging human rights violations. Tanzanian Foreign Minister Jakaya Kikwete said the union government would continue to support Zanzibar.

The opposition have refused to take their seats in the House of Representatives, alleging rigging in the last elections.

Author and journalist David Martin, of Zimbabwe and a long-time observer of Tanzanian life, presented a hotly debated paper entitled "Democracy versus Diplomacy: The Case for Dialogue in Zanzibar."

In it, Martin accused western diplomats, who largely boycotted the conference, of a failure to understand the "centuries-old divide in Zanzibar" and of pushing for change by "transporting a western model of democracy to another country without taking into account the recipient's realities and history." □

'Improve information flow'

In a move towards improving the information flow and exchange among

SADC and non-SADC institutions, delegates attending a three-day seminar have recommended the rationalisation and coordination of information delivery systems and programmes.

The seminar, which also called for harmonisation of information flow, was hosted by the SADC Secretariat recently in Gaborone, Botswana, to discuss strategies for improving information flow in the SADC region, and underscored the need for accurate, relevant and complete information in the promotion of regional integration and community building. It brought together librarians, documentalists and information people from the SADC sectors and other non-SADC institutions.

"As custodians of SADC information, your role in regional integration and community building is as crucial as it is apparent," said Dr Kaire Mbuende, SADC Executive secretary on officially opening the seminar.

The seminar recognised that there is lack of communication among SADC institutions and that there is need to develop regional information networks to facilitate collection and information sharing needed for efficient implementation of the SADC Programme of Action. □

Cooperation call for SADC, EAC

The Executive Secretaries of Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Commission for East African Cooperation (EAC) have called for cooperation between the two regional organizations as a way of improving their economic and other institutional structures like energy, tourism and human resources.

Kaire Mbuende of SADC and Ambassador Francis Muthaura of the EAC underscored the importance of the South-South cooperation, especially in achieving set goals when dealing with international organisations such as the World Trade Organization and the African-Caribbean-Pacific and European Union and Lome negotiations.

Moreover, solidarity will strengthen SADC and EAC capacities and co-ordination mechanisms in economic matters. This is however only possible if the two organizations mobilize member states to pledge their support at international fora.

Mbuende and Muthaura also empha-

sised the need for the two regions to make use of their own resources for sustainable development rather than relying solely on donor support to implement regional programmes.

During the meeting in Botswana, the two leaders agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding once they have identified areas where cooperation is needed. □

ACP/EU Post-Lome relations

A workshop to discuss future Post-Lome relations between African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and the European Union was held in Botswana recently.

In his opening remarks, Dr Kaire Mbuende, SADC Executive Secretary, urged SADC members to adopt a position on a Successor to the Lome Conventions. This was in anticipation of the expiry of the Lome IV Convention in the year 2000.

Outlining the objectives of the workshop, Dr Mbuende emphasized the importance of the Lome Conventions to SADC and ACP states in relation to the principles of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The workshop brought together delegates from member states' government and private sectors and engaged all stakeholders in dialogue over the Lome Conventions. Whatever position SADC finally adopts, it will collectively represent all affected parties especially in the areas of agriculture, commerce, industry and export.

Issues discussed include the promotion and diversification of trade between ACP states and the European Union. Mbuende said that while promoting economic, social, cultural development and cooperation, the Conventions also mutually consolidated ACP/EU relations.

The conclusion of the Uruguay Round trade negotiations had a global impact on the world economy, thanks to technological change and the liberalisation of economic policies.

Developing nations were challenged to adopt new technologies to reduce costs of production and to economize on skilled labour if their products are to be competitive on the world market.

The Lome Convention allows developing countries asymmetrical preferential access to the European market. □

The next SADC Summit will be held on September 8 in Malawi. Following is a profile of the host President, and also of the newly appointed OAU Chairman. Included is also the recent co-winner of Africa Prize for Leadership for the Sustainable End of Hunger.
Profiles by Nomalanga Moyo.

Bakili Muluzi

*Host President
President of Malawi*



President Bakili Muluzi was born on 17 March 1943 in Machinga District in southern Malawi.

Muluzi attended several Catholic Church Mission schools for his primary and secondary education and then obtained a London School Certificate. He holds two Diplomas in Technical Education from Thirsted College in Denmark and Huddersfield College of Education in the United Kingdom.

In 1973, Muluzi became Principal of the Nasawa Technical College before entering politics as a Member of Parliament in 1975. He held a number of portfolios in Kamuzu Banda's Malawi Congress Party including that of Secretary-General. Muluzi resigned from the Congress Party Cabinet to devote himself to business, while also playing an active part in community work.

During this period, he served as the Chairman of SADC Malawi Regional Business Council, as well as various other parastatal boards.

He became a founder member and chairman of the United Democratic Front in 1991 owing to his diverse background as an educationist, businessman, farmer and veteran politician.

He championed the signing of a national referendum that led to a multiparty democracy in 1993.

Muluzi was detained several times for challenging former President Banda's authoritarian regime.

When Malawi finally went to the polls in 1994, Muluzi won a resounding victory. On assuming power, Muluzi suspended the death sentence and ordered the closure of some of Malawi's notorious prisons and detention camps which characterized Banda's rule. Since then, he has led Malawi on the road to unity and recovery. □

Robert Mugabe

*OAU Chairman
President of Zimbabwe*



Elected OAU Chairman in June this year, Zimbabwe's President Robert Gabriel Mugabe, has been actively involved in domestic and international politics since the early 1960s.

Born on 21 February 1924 at Kutama Mission in Zvimba, Mugabe attended various schools around the region including Kutama College. He holds degrees from Fort Hare, UNISA and from the University of London. In addition, he has received honorary awards in recognition of his role in promoting the struggle for freedom, peace and justice.

Between 1942 and 1955, Mugabe taught at schools around Zimbabwe before going to Zambia and Ghana where he lectured at Chalimbana and St Mary's Teacher Training College respectively. He entered full-time politics in 1960.

Mugabe is one of the founder members of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) in 1963. His political activities led to his detention and incarceration by the colonial regime between 1964 and 1974. In 1974, he escaped into Mozambique to revitalize the armed struggle led by the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army, the military wing of Zanu. In 1979, Mugabe headed the Zanu Patriotic Front delegation to the Lancaster House Conference London which led to the first democratic elections in 1980. He won the elections, becoming the first democratically elected black Prime Minister in Zimbabwe. Since then, he has led his party to three other landslide victories. In 1987, he became the President and First Secretary of Zanu PF, a portfolio he holds to date. Mugabe signed the crucial Unity Accord with Patriotic Front Zapu in 1987, initiating a policy of reconciliation and reconstruction in Zimbabwe.

Apart from hosting and chairing regional and international conferences and summits, Mugabe held the position of Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement in 1986 after which he hosted the summit in Harare. He is current Chairman of SADC Organ on Politics Defence and Security which replaced the Frontline States which supported the liberation struggles for Zimbabwe, South Africa and Namibia. □

Joaquim Chissano

*Co-Winner of Africa
Prize for Leadership for
the Sustainable End of
Hunger
President of Mozambique*



The Hunger Project has named President Joaquim Alberto Chissano of Mozambique, a champion for peace, reconciliation and reconstruction, and Joyce Banda, the founder and executive director of the National Association of Business Women (NABW) of Malawi, as the winners of the eleventh annual Africa Prize for Leadership for the Sustainable End of Hunger.

The two winners were announced during a ceremony on 25 July in Namibia under the chairmanship of President Sam Nujoma, who was the winner of the 1995 Africa Prize. Chissano and Banda join 18 other distinguished heads of state, grassroots leaders, researchers and environmentalists who have won the prize, including Nelson Mandela of South Africa and Wangari Maathai of Kenya.

The two 1997 laureates will share a \$100,000 cash award. The prize will be presented on 18 October 1997 in New York in conjunction with the Hunger Project's 20th anniversary celebration.

Born on 22 October 1939 in the Gaza province, Chissano attended schools in Mozambique before going to Portugal in 1960 to continue his university studies. One of the original founders of the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) in 1962, Chissano helped coordinate the struggle against Portuguese colonial rule. He was Prime Minister during the transition to independence in 1975, and then Foreign Minister. In 1986 he was elected head of the Frelimo party and the nation's President.

As President, Chissano not only initiated constitutional and economic policy reforms, but also made the first steps toward a resolution of the war that had been ravaging Mozambique for over a decade. His persistence and leadership during a long, difficult peace process finally achieved a groundbreaking accord with the rebel organization, Renamo, in 1992. Building from the more immediate tasks of postwar reconstruction, President Chissano's government began the arduous process of reviving economic activity and setting a course toward the development of the country's extensive resources. □

Africa Cup of Nations

Five southern African countries managed to get the necessary points to secure places in next year's Africa Cup of Nations soccer finals in Burkina Faso where sixteen African nations are expected to take part, reports *Caiphas Chimhete*.

Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia are sure of displaying their skills in the West African country in February next year, after qualifying in their respective groups. South Africa qualified by the virtue of being the current Cup holders.

All the five countries, except

Namibia, played in the same tournament last year in South Africa. Namibia swept in into the finals for the first time ever after a 1-1 draw with Gabon. Namibia took a second position, with Cameroon being the leaders in Group two.

Namibia, barred from playing abroad until after independence in 1990 because the South African-backed government was not internationally recognised, went to the closest challengers Gabon needing one point to qualify.

Zambia's qualification came after thrashing its fellow southerner, Malawi, in an effortless 3-1 win in mid-July while

Mozambique managed to secure the ticket to the finals through a second position in group seven after beating neighbouring Malawi 2-1.

Angola sailed to the finals after beating the highly regarded Warriors of Zimbabwe, who only needed a point for them to appear for the first time in the continental tournament.

The other African nations which proved their worth to display their skills in the finals are Cote d'Ivoire, Algeria, Ghana, Morocco, Egypt, Togo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tunisia, Guinea, Cameroon and Burkina Faso.

Track and field champions in South Africa

There was jubilation and celebrations at the Southern Region track and field championships at the giant Kingspark Sports Stadium in Durban, South African recently, as athletes from all over the region sprinted to set new records.

The host nation, South Africa, got the highest medals of more than 20 while Zimbabwe came second with 14 medals. In the tightly contested men's 1 500m race, South Africa's Felix Ebanzeze came first in 3 minutes 50.02 seconds while Shingirayi Badza of Zimbabwe took the second position in 3 minutes 51.21 seconds. Motlatei Mphodi of Botswana came third in 3 minutes 52.31 seconds.

Those who qualified in South Africa were expected to display their skills at the world track and field championships to be held in Athens, Greece from 1 - 10 August this year.

The championships attracted athletes from Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique, Namibia, Mauritius, Seychelles and South Africa and Zimbabwe. □

Culture, a 'goldfield' for SADC integration

continued from page 1

ists and ordinary people will continue to be marginalised in the process of shaping a new southern Africa".

Speaking at the festival in Maputo, Monyake called for the integration of the challenges of the present world in theatre activities.

"It is particularly through theatre that we expect to see a thorough and genuine exposition of the challenges and opportunities facing our region in its march towards unity, peace and prosperity," said Monyake.

The ordinary people in the region should define and own the process of community building, he added.

The SADC secretariat has been assisting member states to hold seminars and generate public discussions. This has enhanced popular participation in regional cooperation and community building programmes. Emphasising the importance of stakeholders in the implementation of SADC policies and programmes, Monyake pointed out that the culture and information sector should fully mobilise its numerous and dynamic stakeholders to carry out the sector's programmes such as the culture and arts festival.

The SADC Arts and Culture Project conceived in 1993 and other projects of the Culture and Information Sector are dependent on donor funding. Yet in 1993

it was argued that the arts and culture project would eventually become a responsibility of the cultural industries in the region.

"There was no time to review projects and answer the fundamental question of who the stakeholders of the projects are and what their responses to these issues of funding and sustainability have been," says Stephen Chifunyise, Permanent Secretary in Zimbabwe's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Recreation.

Chifunyise explains that the fast developing tourism industry is now playing a role in the promotion of a viable access to the arts and culture of the region by both the tourists and the region's population.

Urging the culture industry to invest their time and resources in cultural events Monyake and Chifunyise called on the private sector to help out and make the arts and culture

festival sustainable and give the ownership of the process of regional integration to the people of southern Africa.

Meanwhile, different cultures are coming to southern Africa, blending with local ones, according to the SADC Sector Coordinator on Culture and Information, Renato Matusse. He called on people in the region to ensure that the culture highway is a two-way traffic, and therefore cultures were exchangeable. □

“The ordinary people in the region should define and own the process of community building.”

STOP PRESS

South Africa makes history

The South African soccer team has qualified for the 1998 World Cup in France after beating Congo-Brazzaville 1-0 in Johannesburg. South Africa becomes the first SADC country to qualify for this prestigious showpiece. Another SADC contender, Angola, was not so lucky as they needed an outright win against Togo and hope Zimbabwe beat Cameroon in their last qualifying match. However, Angola was held to a 1-1 draw in Lome while Cameroon beat Zimbabwe 2-1 in Harare.

An overview of inland fisheries, forestry and wildlife

Below are excerpts from a report by the SADC Inland Fisheries, Forestry and Wildlife sector, coordinated by Malawi, February 1997.

Inland Fisheries

The Inland Fisheries Sector (IFS) is of importance to many segments of the society. Small scale and artisanal fisheries are found throughout the region and are frequently linked with small scale, subsistence agricultural activities in rural areas. The sector creates more diverse and increased employment opportunities, is income generating and provides an additional high quality protein-rich food. Small scale fish-farming practices or aquaculture is an important addition to traditional farming practices and provides the same benefits as above.

Sizeable commercial fisheries are established in the SADC region for example on Lake Malawi, Lake Kariba and Lake Tanganyika. This contributes to a diverse and strong economy in the SADC countries. Commercial fish farming in a similar way provides employment, revenue and increased food supply in many SADC countries.

According to available statistics, the consumption of fish in the SADC region has in recent years stagnated at around 8-9 kg/person/year on average. This is well below the recommended minimum consumption of 13-15 kg/person/year...

The present rate of human population growth in the SADC region (3-4 percent per annum) requires a substantial increase in fish production to meet growing demand and to decrease the need for import of fish products. It is estimated that a six percent annual increase in fish production is required to meet the needs...

Direct job opportunities in capture fisheries and aquaculture in the SADC region are currently estimated in excess of 200 000. Indirect opportunities in ancillary activities such as marketing, boat building etc. are estimated at 700 000. The importance of fisheries in terms of employment is thus considerable...

Forestry

The total forest area of the 12 SADC member countries is estimated at 2.4 million square kilometres following the accession into SADC by South Africa and Mauritius. The annual rate of deforestation in the member states is between 0.75 and 1.6 percent with Angola and Malawi having the lowest and highest rates respectively. While (statistics for forestry resources need) to be refined through detailed and nationwide vegetation mapping and forest inventory exercises, they nevertheless highlight the serious threat looming over the region's forest resources through deforestation, forest degradation and desertification, with the resultant negative implications on the environment in general and agriculture production in particular.

"...the serious threat looming over the region's forest resources through deforestation, forest degradation and desertification, with the resultant negative implications on the environment in general and agriculture production in particular."

Related to the above is the lack of information regarding appropriate forest management systems for the various indigenous forest types in most SADC member states. This is partly attributed to skewed national forest policies which in the past gave higher priority to the establishment, management and protection of exotic softwood and hardwood forest plantations vis-a-vis the indigenous forests...

Human resource development is not proceeding at par with the staff establishment and expanding needs in almost all SADC member states. Vacancies at various levels, in public forestry administrations particularly at professional level, do affect the efficacy of public and private forestry institutions to accomplish their established goals.

At the same time, University level forestry training institutions in SADC are inadequate to meet the region's high demand of forestry graduates...

The SADC Forestry Sector has to play a more explicit and clear role in the current international debate on sustainable management of the environment by

virtue of the large forest areas which are directly or indirectly under the national forestry administrations. At present the SADC responsibility for coordinating environmental matters lies with the SADC ELMS...

While individual public forestry administrations are contributing in their own way to international conventions to do with forestry such as Agenda 21 of the Earth Summit (1992) and the Convention to Combat Desertification (1994), there may be need for the SADC Forestry Sector to review this situation and agree on how best public forestry administrations can collaborate to contribute from a regional point of view to these and other international conventions that affect the forestry sector...

Wildlife

The wildlife of the SADC region is of notable diversity, and its significance to the region has been discussed in numerous SADC Wildlife sector reports.

However, of particular importance to re-emphasise is the need to integrate biological wildlife conservation with development of the rural communities who incur the bulk of conservation costs...

For Community Based Wildlife Management projects to achieve their objectives, there is need to strengthen the regional capacity to deter illicit use of, and trade in wildlife.

This is particularly important because of the current increase in demand for wildlife products, and use of sophisticated weapons used in killing key wildlife species, such as elephant and rhino.

Development of the SADC law enforcement protocol and strengthening the capacity of each member states to deter illegal off-take of wildlife are therefore, prerequisite to sustainable wildlife utilisation in the SADC region.

Research on the biological and ecological values of wildlife is also an important prerequisite for management and sustainable utilisation of wildlife resources...□

A New Partnership For African Development Issues and parameters:

Edited by Henock Kifle, A. Alukoshi,
L. Wohlgemuth

Reviewed by Nomalanga Moyo

A New Partnership for African Development: Issues and Parameters, is a compilation of presentations from a seminar held in Cote d'Ivoire to review and consolidate relations between Africa and the West.

The seminar which was attended by personalities from the business sector, civil society activists, government officials, and academics from different countries was a discussion of the problems of and the prospects for the establishment of a new partnership between Africa and Europe, particularly Africa and Sweden.

Topics covered include: towards a new partnership for African development—an introductory synthesis, electoral politics and popular participation—what role for donors, Africa's aid dependency and marginalization—what needs to be done, capacity building as a measure to lessen aid dependency, among others.

The publication urges Africa to leave behind its colonial legacy and concentrate on finding ways of shaping the future. The existing peaceful environment offers opportunities that Africa could harness to improve her economic and political status.

Also discussed is the fear that although global citizenship offers Africa hope for survival, globalization is threatening international cooperation and solidarity, especially when it comes to conflict resolution and environmental sustainability.

While global trade and production have accelerated, Africa's position in international capital flows has remained peripheral. Notwithstanding this, Africa has mapped out new strategies for survival which need to be considered when assessing future prospects of the region.

Political stability in the continent, also enables Africa to establish new development cooperation partnerships. Africa's responsibility then is to transcend "formal structures of electoral democracy towards the construction of a just and sustainable contract that takes full cognisance of the political and economic aspirations of all citizens," as one participant puts it.

Also explored is the expanding relationship between Africa and the donor community. Donors have contributed in projects, structural adjustment programmes among other things while of late, their focus has been on democracy, good govern-

ance and ownership as crucial factors in the widening boundaries of the aid relationship.

The report notes that while aid is necessary for Africa's survival, it perpetuates inequality between the West and Africa. It suggests that as a solution, the basis for design, implementation and evaluation of aid should be equality.

In addition, genuine partnership should rest on shared values, honesty and transparency. Africa needs to wean herself from donor dependence and strive for self-sustainability.

"The construction of a new basis for relations should thus strive to create conditions which make it possible to achieve self reliance. Africans and their partners should therefore, begin to think of a no aid or a limited aid relationship, and how current relations and cooperation on development could be used to bring it about," the report says.

The publication also asserts that mutuality and commitment are key to the creation of partnerships where all stakeholders benefit.

The report reviews the role of donors and NGOs following complaints that their approach is selfish and self-serving. Some delegates said that donors ignore values governing societies when administering aid, and at times, this aid does not coincide with the priorities of African governments.

The publication thus, suggests a restructuring and redefinition of relations between Africa and donors to include consultation and cooperation. Sweden's project "Relinking Africa-for a New Partnership with A Self-Reliant Africa", is quoted as a welcome initiative towards the achievement of better relations. To maintain the relations, Africa has to update policies to suit the times.

Finally, the publication represents a "...broad convergence of views on the need for and desirability of a new set of post-war and post-structural adjustment policies that could underpin relations between Africa and its development partners." □

Published by Nordiska Afrikanstitutet,
P.O Box 1703, Uppsala, Sweden.

Recent publications and acquisitions

The Commonwealth Yearbook 1997
-- Commonwealth Secretariat.- 1997
Available from Hason Cooke Ltd,
Jordan House, 47 Brunswick Place,
London. N1 6EB, Britain.

Human Development Report 1997
--United Nations Development Programme.- 1997
Available from UNDP offices in all
SADC countries.

We Can Make It: Stories of disabled women in developing countries
--Epstein Susan.-1997
Available from International Labour Organisation (ILO) CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland.

Social and Economic issues of HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa: A Review of Current Research
-- Rene Loewenson and Alan Whiteside.- 1997.
Available from Southern Africa AIDS Dissemination Information

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1997		Event	Venue
August	2-9	Zimbabwe International Book Fair	Zimbabwe
	4-6	Regional Workshop on Review and Rationalisation of SADC Programme of Action	Botswana
September	11-12	SADC Ministerial Meeting on Gender	Botswana
	11-15	Meeting of Ministers on the Protocol of Free Movement of Persons	Zambia
	11-15	SADC Tribunal Draft Protocol Meeting	Zambia
	17	SADC Day	All SADC
	17-20	NGO meeting on electoral procedures	Botswana
	18-21	SADC Trade Ministers Meeting	Tanzania
	1-2	SADC Standing Committee of Senior Officials Meetings	Malawi
	4-5	SADC Council of Ministers Meeting	Malawi
	8	SADC Summit	Malawi
	15-18	Second Southern Africa Water & Waste-water conference	Zimbabwe
	18-20	Africa's first international conference on wildlife & nature-based tourism	South Africa
	24-26	Mauritius National Seminar on SADC	Mauritius
October	6-8	Regional Workshop on Culture and Information Policies and Strategies	Swaziland
	28-29	Investors' Forum for Hotel and Tourism Development in the SADC Region	Zimbabwe
	29-31	Swaziland National Seminar on SADC	Swaziland

Public holidays in SADC for September - November

Date	Holiday	Country
6 September	Ganesh Chaturthi	Mauritius
6 September	Somhlolo Day	Swaziland
7 September	Victory Day	Mozambique
17 September	National Heroes' Day	Angola
24 September	Heritage Day	South Africa
25 September	Armed Forces Day	Mozambique
30 September	Botswana Day	Botswana
4 October	Independence Day	Lesotho
24 October	Independence Day	Zambia
30 October	Divali	Mauritius
1 November	All Saints Day	Mauritius
2 November	Martyrs Day	Angola
11 November	Independence Day	Angola

Currency checklist

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	(US\$1)
Angola	Kwanza (100 Lewi)	200979.00
Botswana	Pula (100 Thebe)	3.60
Lesotho	Maloti (100 Lisente)	4.65
Malawi	Kwacha (100 Tambala)	17.00
Mauritius	Rupee (100 Cents)	21.51
Mozambique	Metical (100 Centavos)	11103.85
Namibia	Dollar (100 Cents)	4.65
South Africa	Rand (100 Cents)	4.65
Swaziland	Lilangeni (100 Cents)	4.65
Tanzania	Shilling (100 Cents)	612.01
Zambia	Kwacha (100 Ngwee)	1300.07
Zimbabwe	Dollar (100 Cents)	11.78

Source: Standard Chartered Bank Zimbabwe Ltd, August 1997

LETTERBOX

Dear Editor

At SADC Windhoek conference we received the first issue of SADC Today. The Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa (NiZA) would like to subscribe to your publication.

Anton Dekker, NiZA Doc., The Netherlands

Dear Editor

We find SADC Today useful in our work and would appreciate to receive it regularly. It does not only increase our information base but also keeps us abreast of activities and events occurring in southern Africa.

Joseph Mutsigwa, Librarian, ZERO, Harare

Dear Editor

Kindly put us in your mailing list of SADC Today which will enable us to keep abreast with the SADC Progress.

M.W.FARUQUE, Chief Co-ordinator, Youth Approach For Development & Co-operation (YADC) Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Dear Editor

I run a small non-profit corporation dealing with environmental management and sustainable development in Africa. My areas of operation include environmental information systems, strategic environmental management and the design and development of successful african environmental organizations. I read in the PRODDER newsletter that you have a newsletter SADC today. Could I please get regular copies.

Dave MacDevette, EASD - Empowerment for African Sustainable Development, Cape Town, South Africa.

SADC Today welcomes letters and comments from readers. The Editor, however, reserves the right to edit the letters.