



## Leaders appeal for debt cancellation at 1998 Southern Africa Economic Summit in Windhoek

**S**outhern African government and business leaders converged in Windhoek, Namibia, from 17 - 19 May 1998 to sell the region's economic potential to the international business community.

### SA promises to open market to neighbours

Regional economic integration is set to take a major leap forward with South Africa, the continent's biggest economy, vowing to open its market to fellow members in the SADC region.

"Genuine efforts are being made to open South Africa's markets more rapidly to her SADC partners. The offer that South Africa will be making in the near future under the SADC Trade Protocol should illustrate our seriousness in this regard," says J.K. Mamabolo, South African High Commissioner to Zimbabwe.

The *Sunday Independent*, a South African weekly, recently quoted a senior government official confirming South Africa's plans to offer market access to its SADC partners by the middle of the year as part of its commitment to deal with the trade imbalance in the region.

"We will [offer to] open up faster than the rest of the region... The offer will be very comprehensive, though it might differ from country to country, and from industry to industry," said Zavareh Rustomjee, Director-General of the South African Trade and Industry Department.

At present South Africa has a one-sided trade balance in its favour in its trade relations with many of its sister SADC countries. □

The sixth edition of the Southern Africa Economic Summit, co-organised by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Swiss-based World Economic Forum, made a resounding call for Africa's creditor nations and multilateral institutions to rid the continent of its mounting debt burden.

During the opening plenary session of the summit, Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Zambian President Frederick Chiluba echoed sentiments by host President Sam Nujoma who appealed to northern governments and organisations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank to free Africa of its debt bondage.

President Nujoma called on the "Bretton Woods financial institutions (the World Bank and the IMF), private international financial institutions and western governments to seriously consider the issue of debt relief for developing countries, especially for Africa."

"What I am advocating here is for the debts of the developing countries to be written off in order to allow them to spend their resources on industrialisation, human resources



The crippling debt is hampering Africa's efforts to fight poverty. A child in sub-Saharan Africa is born with a debt tag of US\$370. See story on page 9.

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## Gender equality in policy-making urged

by Barbara Lopi

**G**overnments in the SADC region should strive to achieve equal participation of women and men in political and public administrative decision-making positions in order to accurately reflect the composition of society.

Increased participation of women in political decision-making and govern-

ance can further the regional body's aims to achieve accountability and transparency -- two necessary ingredients for good governance.

At an International Conference on Gender and Good Governance recently held in the Zimbabwean capital, Harare, the Netherlands Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Wim Wessels, challenged

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## A note to the reader

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*The following are excerpts from the SADC Initiative in Education Policy Development, Planning and Management report compiled by a team of consultants. The report was adopted by the Seventh Meeting of Education Ministers of Africa (MINEDAF VII) in April in Durban, South Africa.*

**E**ducation is a key element in the development of human resources and a critical factor in socio-economic development of societies. For this reason, SADC includes in its structure a Human Resources Development Sector which coordinates a policy framework on human resources development within the community. The elements of this framework include the long-term strategy for human resources development and the Protocol on Education and Training.

But the internal inefficiency of the educational systems both in the qualitative and quantitative sense has been a growing concern of the SADC members.

A variety of causes of poor performance of education systems have been identified, including an underlying weakness in the key process of educational policy development and management; policy analysis, formulation and implementation; monitoring and evaluation; and impact assessment. Efforts being made by SADC countries to improve the process are however affected by serious capacity problems.

Extensive consultations among SADC member states, in particular through the mechanisms of the SADC Consultative Conference of 1994 have led to the identification of policy analysis and formulation, operationalisation and management as a priority area requiring collaborative attention within the SADC region.

A consensus has also emerged among the ministries of education in the region that the quality and effectiveness of the policy process could be strengthened at the national level through regional collaboration and cooperation using existing regional frameworks. UNESCO and the Netherlands Government have cooperated as partners in this consultative process, which has led to the formulation of the present SADC project on education policy development and management, of which the needs assessment exercise was the initial phase.

## Revamping education policy development in southern Africa

The main objective of the project is to build capacity at the national and regional levels to develop, implement and manage the education policy development process, through regional collaboration and cooperation. The first phase of the initiative which is being executed by UNESCO involves the assessment of the needs and capacity gaps, as well as existing institutional capacities in the SADC countries. To launch the needs assessment exercise, a meeting of permanent secretaries for education in the SADC region was convened on 9 October 1997 in Harare, Zimbabwe, to approve the terms of reference and agree on technical issues and logistical arrangements for the study. ...

The draft report prepared by the consultant team was reviewed within the countries and was later discussed at a second meeting of the permanent secretaries held in Lusaka, Zambia, on 9 and

10 February 1998. This final report incorporates comments received from various interested groups and completes the first phase of this initiative. The second phase will seek to implement the recommendations in this report.

In analysing policy formulation and implementation processes, the report has demonstrated significant activity in the area of policy formulation, improvements in some areas such as gender equity, but has drawn attention to weaknesses in planning, management and implementation.

Common challenges and priorities in education policy development, planning, management and implementation can be addressed through an annual forum whose task would be to strengthen existing forms of regional collaboration on the basis of existing national, regional and international capacities. □

*In September 1997, the SADC Summit in Malawi signed the Protocol on Education and Training. The following are some of its objectives:*

- to develop and implement a common system of regular collection and reporting of information by member states about the current status and future demand and supply, and the priority areas for provision of education and training in the region;
- to establish mechanisms and institutional arrangements that enable member states to pool their resources to effectively and efficiently produce the required professional, technical, research and managerial personnel to plan and manage the development process in general and across all sectors in the region;
- to develop and co-ordinate the formulation and implementation of comparable and appropriate policies, strategies and systems of education and training on member states;
- to develop and implement policies and strategies that promote the participation and contribution of the private sector, NGOs and other key stakeholders;
- to promote and co-ordinate the formulation and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the promotion and application of science and technology, including modern information technology and research and development in the region;
- to work towards the reduction and eventual elimination of constraints to better and freer access, by citizens of member states, to good quality education and training opportunities within the region;
- to promote policies for creation of an enabling environment with appropriate incentives based on meritorious performance, for educated and trained persons to effectively apply and utilise their knowledge and skills for the general development of member states;
- to promote the learning of English and Portuguese as the working languages in the region; and
- to progressively achieve the equivalence, harmonisation and standardization of education and training systems in the region which is the ultimate objective of this Protocol. □



# World Environment Day: Call to save the ecosystem

by Tinashe Madava

As the region celebrated the United Nations World Environment Day on 5 June, southern Africa was reminded of the importance of pursuing environmentally sustainable development.

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan kicked off the day with a message underlining the need to "focus our attention on one of our planet's highly valuable resources: the oceans." The theme this year was "For Life on Earth, Save Our Seas".

Annan added that "for far too long we have regarded the oceans' resources as inexhaustible... we have viewed the oceans as a bottomless receptacle for unlimited waste".

The aim of the UN World Environment Day was not to restrict coordination of events, but to enable each country to interpret the theme as it saw fit.

Since only six SADC countries have direct access to the oceans, landlocked countries were allowed to adopt different themes to identify with their immediate natural resources.

By approving the policy and strategy proposals on environmental policy, dubbed *Toward Equity-Led Growth and Sustainable Development in Southern*



Water hyacinth is smothering the Kafue river in Zambia. An environmentalist inspects the thick 'mat' created above the water by the weed mass.

dation are linked in a vicious circle in which people cannot afford to take proper care of the environment. A degraded environment produces less, so people become more vulnerable," says the policy document.

According to a recent study on global trends by the Worldwatch Institute, the world today is economically richer but environmentally poorer than ever before making it imperative for programmes aimed at conserving the environment to be put in place.

The report by the World Watch, *Vital Signs 1998: The Environmental Trends That Are Shaping Our Future*, says that in 1997 the global economy expanded at a near record four percent, but sites several environmental disasters across the globe as worth urgent corrective action.

Although eight SADC countries are landlocked, their activities still affect the seas as most rivers flow into the oceans. Main-

land industrial development and agricultural activities have been known to pollute water sources in the region.

"People and the Environment", the theme for Zimbabwe's Environment Day is relevant for a country heavily reliant on agriculture. Most farmers in the country use pesticides and herbi-

cides as well as several other chemicals on their farms.

Most southern African countries experience unsustainable agricultural activities such as streambank cultivation and water sources are heavily polluted by industrial effluent.

The Zimbabwean theme has strong implications for the region and the globe in general. According to a Worldwatch report, "at the end of 1997, we shared the earth with 80 million more people than a year earlier. And cities are growing faster than ever".

The rapid growth in population and economic activity has had its most visible effects on the earth's forests. Between 1980 and 1995, the world lost at least 200 million hectares of forest, an area larger than the cropland of southern Africa.

Martin Khor, in *Third World Resurgence* magazine, calls for strong environmental policies to curb the promotion of environmentally harmful technology models which contribute to overlogging of forests and depletion of fishery resources through trawl fishing.

"The stopping of aid flows and technical support to destructive forestry and fishery projects should be one of the obvious aims of a review process," writes Khor. He maintains that "sustainable agriculture today remains at the level of anecdotes and case studies".

However, southern Africa is making efforts to counter problems faced in the implementation of sustainable agriculture. □



Fighting desertification is one of SADC's highest priorities.

Africa, the region has tried to attain a balance between economic growth and environmental protection.

The policy document points out that without equity-led growth, poverty and the associated environmental degradation will increase.

"Poverty and environmental degra-



## Region upgrades transport networks to boost integration

by Tinashe Madava

**S**outhern Africa is in the process of upgrading its transport network - road and rail - linking countries in the region in a way that should boost economic performance and regional integration.

International highways are being constructed in a move hailed as a stepping stone to greater unity. Recently, Botswana and Namibia officially opened the Trans-Kalahari Highway linking southern Africa's east coast at the Indian ocean in Mozambique, to the Atlantic ocean in Namibia in the west, following completion of the Botswana section.

The Trans-Kalahari Highway is expected to improve communication and transport between Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Mozambique. The highway strategically connects the four SADC states. Goods worth US\$3 billion could be transported through the highway every year.

During the official opening of the highway, then President of Botswana, Ketumile Masire, pointed out that communication and transport are some of the strongest binding sectors for unity among members of SADC. He added that the highway will promote integration and economic development in the region.

The highway is also set to boost tourism as road tours to the two countries can now be offered as a package to travellers. A survey conducted by Botswana during the early stages of construction of the highway indicated that there will be a considerable amount of traffic crossing the border, bringing in new economic advantages to towns along the route, including the deep sea port of Walvis Bay.

Commenting on the highway, SADC Executive Secretary, Kaire Mbuende said: "Integration and communication are about people. The road will bring people together economically, politically and culturally."

Meanwhile, work has begun on the Trans-Capriivi Highway designed to

make the road network between Zambia, Namibia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) more efficient and reliable.

At a meeting in Windhoek in September last year, the governments of Namibia, Zambia and the DRC sealed the deal with hopes that the highway will help boost trade between the three countries.

The network will involve the construction of a 3 000 km road and a bridge linking Namibia and Zambia. The bridge, which will be built over the Zambezi river linking the southern Zambian border town of Sesheke and Katima Mulilo in Namibia, will enable Zambia and the Congo to access the Namibian harbours on the Atlantic ocean.



Construction of the region's road and rail networks is set to improve cross-border trade.

The region is also upgrading its railway systems. Recently, the Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano declared in the central port city of Beira that plans to reopen the Sena railway line would not only increase Mozambique's economic ties with Malawi, but could be used "as an alternative route for trade with Zambia".

The Sena line runs from Beira to the Zambezi, crossing the river at the small town of Sena. On the north bank of the Zambezi, the line divides in two: one branch heads northwest to the coal mines at Moatize in Tete province, and the second goes to the Malawian border.

The entire 600 km of the Sena rail system has not been functional since

1983. It was sabotaged by the apartheid-backed Renamo rebels, who in 1986 delivered the *coup de grace* by blowing up the Dona Ana bridge over the Zambezi, the longest railway bridge in Africa.

"The Sena line will allow us to step up our relations with Malawi, a country with which we have excellent political, economic and social cooperation. It can also be viewed as an alternative route for Zambian trade, either through Tete or via Malawi," said Chissano.

Meanwhile, the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) has started a vigorous marketing exercise to attract business in southern Africa. TAZARA managing director, Kingston Mkandawire, announced earlier in the year that a team of company officials would visit Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi and Zimbabwe. He said the railway line has become more efficient following major changes aimed at improving services.

Mkandawire said TAZARA has bought new locomotives and wagons to enable the railway line handle exports and imports for a number of countries in the region.

He said the transit time of six days for trains from the Central Zambian town of Kapiri Mposhi to the Tanzanian capital, Dar es Salaam, had been reduced to only three days. The reduction in running days also helps prevent the theft of transit goods.

With the increase in the construction and rehabilitation of highways and railway systems in southern Africa, cross-border trade and investment is set to rise, boosting regional integration. □



## gender equality urged

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governments working towards democratisation to ensure that "wisdom, energies and creativity of women are fully harnessed for everyone's benefit".

Ambassador Wessels said his government has placed the active participation of women in public office, and the equality of women and men in democratic decision-making processes, high on its public policy agenda and in development cooperation activities.

He added that "experiences throughout the ages have shown that when we engage the minds of women, in any society, everyone gains".

In southern Africa, the declaration on Gender and Development that was signed by SADC leaders last year, is among the region's processes to improve women participation in political decision-making and governance.

The SADC Gender and Development declaration commits southern African governments and states to have at least 30 percent women in political and decision-making

structures at national levels by the year 2000.

In the SADC region, Mozambique, followed by South Africa, have the highest number of women parliamentarians, 25 and 24 percent respectively. Malawi and Swaziland have the least at 8 percent.

More than 100 delegates to the Harare conference on Gender and Good Governance agreed that without gender equality in policy-making structures of governance, it would be impossible to promote sustainable democracy and reduce poverty.

The delegates comprising mostly women in political and public administrative decision-making structures in Africa, Asia and Latin America resolved that "governance that is not engendered is endangered".

They cited low literacy level among women; poverty and heavy workload; political systems based on patriarchy; lack of support from the family, society

and government; financial constraints; and inadequate solidarity from society and fellow female members in the political parties as major constraints to increasing the number of women in key decision-making positions.

The conference produced a declaration on Gender and Good Governance with specific recommendations to the national governments, civil society, political parties, media, and international organisations.

The media was challenged to transform and reflect all gender perspectives in their coverage of issues and be accessible to women and facilitate their effective participation in the governance process.

Other crucial issues that were debated included the role of donor communities in supporting programmes in the field of gender and good governance, women's political involvement in the process of transition towards a more democratic system and the importance of a gender-balanced budget.

The conference was organised by the Women in Development Division of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with the Royal Netherlands Embassy (RNE) in Harare. □

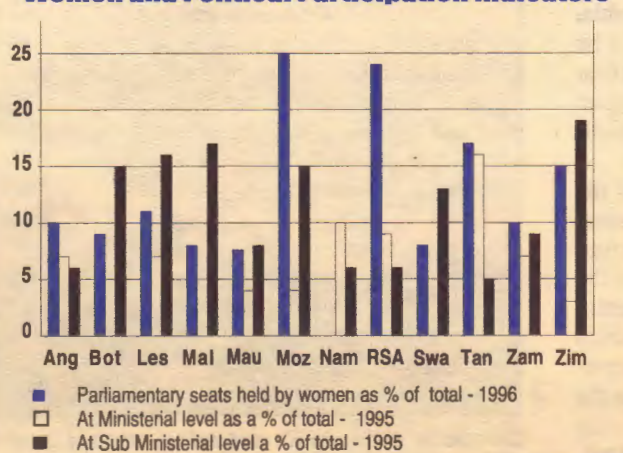
### Among the recommendations to the national governments are that:

- mechanisms be developed that ensure legal equality for women through public policies, institutional and legal reforms and harmonisation of national laws to enhance women's access and participation in the process of governance; and
- strategies be developed to ensure women's access to productive resources including land, poverty and finance to harness their full potential in the economic development process.

### To the civil society, the conference recommended that:

- women groups be encouraged to form strategic alliances with civil society organisations to ensure women's issues become mainstreamed in public policy which can also enhance their opportunities and status within governance structures;

### Women and Political Participation Indicators



- women be empowered to exercise their rights to vote; and
- a social watch movement be established to monitor the implementation of policies.

### Aware of the critical role political parties could play to increase female participation in political and decision-making positions, the conference recommended political parties to:

- promote balanced participation by women and men at all levels in the party and on the lists of candidates; and
- support women candidates by providing financial assistance during election campaigns to ensure their election.

### Recommendations to the international organisations include that:

- multilateral financial institutions must consider debt cancellations to free up resources for human development in afflicted countries and ensure that the international political economy is transparent and accountable in the true spirit of world democracy;
- women's vision be incorporated in transforming these institutions towards greater transparency and accountability.
- bilateral agencies ensure a gender balance in the processes of governance through their assistance to governments to promote women in the political process; and
- women as a group in countries torn apart by war be extended with stronger support in their efforts towards conflict resolution, peace-making and keeping. □



# Who does the new US trade policy on Africa benefit?

by Lazarus Nyagumbo and  
Munetsi Madakufamba

**T**he new United States trade and investment policy on Africa approved by the House of Representatives early this year has drawn mixed reactions from critics. To some optimists, it represents a welcome departure from America's past policy of negative intervention in Africa, while to others, it's still the same old face of benign indifference.

The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), was uppermost on President Bill Clinton's agenda during his 22 March to 2 April 1998 visit to Africa.

In the form in which it was passed by the House of Representatives, the Act proposes measures that are intended to spur trade and investment between the US and Africa. AGOA proposes removal of various tariffs and quotas in exchange for investment opportunities. The Act will increase the number of duty-free items under the Generalised System of Preferences by almost 2,000 from the current list of about 4,000.

The initiative also provides for the establishment of free trade agreements between the US and regional groupings or individual countries in Africa.

While the AGOA might be viewed as a show of US support for Africa's economic recovery and political renaissance, it contains many provisions that could undermine sustainable and equitable development in the continent.

For instance, opening up government procurement to international bidders, which already have more industrial muscle, means that contracts would automatically go to foreign multinationals, defeating any efforts meant to enhance domestic capacity-building.

Similarly, calling for equal treatment to foreign and local investors and the removal of restrictions on foreign investors can interfere with national development strategies and undermine deliberate efforts by African governments to promote particular sectors. For example, attempts by a government to promote rural banking by giving local businesspeople tax holidays and low interest loans would have to be extended to all

in the same sector, including already well-established transnationals.

Agricultural liberalisation, which the Act requires as part of economic reforms, entails removal of subsidies on inputs. However, African countries which have been compelled to pursue similar policies under the IMF/World Bank structural adjustment programmes have suffered a severe decline in local production, worsened by an influx of subsidised US grains.

Allowing free movement of goods, services and factors of production from the US to Africa would be a sure way of driving out of business all infant industries that are still adjusting to the chill winds of international trade.

And setting up a free trade area between partners of unequal potential will also accentuate trade imbalances that may already exist. Apart from minerals such oil, diamonds, gold and platinum, Africa is not likely to produce any commodities that can out-compete those from the US.

Furthermore, entering into treaties to avoid double taxation would mean the home country, and not the host, is going to get the lion's share of any personal and corporate taxes. It is an open secret that not many, if any, sub-Saharan Africa investors will put their money in the US.

Under the new trade policy, American companies are more likely to flock to Africa and given that taxes will only be levied by the home country, sub-Saharan Africa stands to lose from any deal on double taxation.

Some critics have said in its current form, the AGOA infringes on African sovereignty. But Clinton has strongly denied this. During his African tour, he said in a rather placatory tone: "In the past it was asked what could be done for Africa. The right question today is to ask 'what can be done with Africa'. Africa still needs the world, but it is equally true that the world needs Africa."

However, Clinton has been strongly criticised for advocating, through the Act, for more trade and less aid.

What Africa needs to achieve equitable growth, as rightly noted by South African Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, are both trade and aid. "I have always pleaded against the diminution of aid to Africa... A majority of African countries still need development aid," Mbeki told the US president. □

## OAU ponders economic integration

As the new millennium approaches, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) is extending its activities beyond conflict management and resolution to include cooperation in the economic sphere.

African leaders at the OAU summit in Burkina Faso recently revisited the issue of economic integration with a view to check progress under the OAU's 1991 treaty to set up an African Economic Community. Their discussions were especially focused on transport, communications, information and new technology.

When the OAU was formed in 1963 by Africa's independence leaders, they were keen to assert their sovereignty and new-found freedom after generations of colonial rule. With the African liberation dreams of its early years fulfilled, the OAU now seems to be veering towards the original idea of a United States of Africa from an economic perspective.

It is hoped that the various regional economic blocs in Africa are going to be the cornerstones of the perceived African Economic Community. Some of the regional economic blocs in Africa include SADC, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

SADC is among the front-runners in spearheading such regional integration in sub-Saharan Africa and its high record of democracy and stability, highest GDP growth in Africa, developed infrastructure and successful history of cooperation through the Frontline States, Southern African Customs Union (SACU), etc are going to be instrumental in trying to achieve this objective. □



## Southern Africa Summit

*continued from page 1*

development and productive economic development," said the Namibian president.



President Sam Nujoma hosted the summit.

President Chiluba expressed disappointment that there was lack of commitment on the part of industrialised countries to help Africa. "Debt servicing denies us the ability to reinvest in our economies," he stressed, adding that the countries of the north could not "say they were helping Africa to reform when they are holding a gun to its head".

The summit discussed how best to integrate southern Africa into the global economy, a reality that participants agreed could not be wished away. SADC Executive Secretary, Kaire Mbuende, said "going global has ceased to be a matter of choice. It is a matter of survival. Southern Africa has to improve its investment climate not only to attract foreign direct investment, but domestic investment too."

Information technology and telecommunications were highlighted as some of the sectors that hindered development in the region and therefore needed to be improved if countries were to attract significant foreign investment. Africa's telecommunications, most of which are still state-owned, do not compete favourably with those from other parts of the world.

In a world where 500 million people are connected to the internet, less than one percent of Africans have access to a

telephone, and those that do, cannot always get a dial-tone.

However, South African Minister of Telecommunications and Broadcasting, Jay Naidoo, speaking at a press conference during the Windhoek meeting painted a picture of a continent, and in particular southern Africa, that was taking urgent steps to address the problem.

Minister Naidoo said southern African countries were working on a joint telecommunications strategy and were already coordinating the regulatory environment within their countries.

"By June 2000, we will have a framework in place that will be attractive to foreign and local investors. It will include a data bank of African expertise, human resources and capacity building in information technology and telecommunications. We have to develop regional markets and regional frameworks, many of our countries are too small to negotiate individually."

Minister Naidoo said African countries were also developing the African Telecommunications Development Fund, an investment vehicle to fund projects on a regional basis. This would in turn work with Worldtel to sequence into the private sector and multilateral investment.

"Our intention is to wire the continent and give it a backbone with cellular satellites, sub-marine lines and landlines. We intend developing not only voice telephone but access to the internet and through that, tele-medicine, tele-health, tele-agriculture and tele-education," the South African minister explained.

The Southern Africa Economic Summit, which has become an annual event since 1993, discussed the Africa Competitiveness Report 1998, a controversial survey done on 23 African countries by the US-based Harvard University.

The competitiveness report, which has since sparked heated debate around the region, ranks Mauritius as the most investor friendly country followed by Tunisia, Botswana, Namibia, Morocco and Egypt. South Africa takes seventh place, while Swaziland, Ghana and Lesotho complete the list of the top ten countries with a positive competitiveness index.

Zambia is ranked 12th with a negative index, and so is Tanzania at 16, Mozambique 18, Zimbabwe 20 and Malawi 21, while Angola at 23, completes the list of countries with the "worst environment for foreign direct investment."

The report was dismissed by President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe as misleading saying it was based on information from foreign investors and looked at the performance of a national economy in a fragmented approach as opposed to a holistic one used in compiling the UNDP Human Development Report.

"This is not applicable to economies with so little foreign investment, most of which is in extractive industries or in light manufacturing for local or regional distribution," said President Mugabe.

Mihaela Smith, Chief Executive of the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management, said the competitiveness model was "only partially relevant to the evaluation of African economies". □



Increased spending on telecommunications is vital for southern Africa's development.



# Sub-Saharan Africa's mounting debt: Who pays the price?

by Munetsi Madakufamba

To many, the problem of debt servicing is a matter between the government and its international creditors. It's got nothing to do with the ordinary people on the street. They do not understand the economics of multi-lateral crediting or some such jargon as structural adjustment programmes anyway.

But when the debt accumulates to levels greater than a country's gross domestic product, levels that the national budget cannot sustain -- forcing the government to cut down on expenditure on schools and clinics -- who pays the price?

Of the world's 42 low-income and highly indebted poor countries, 33 are in sub-Saharan Africa. In 1962, sub-Saharan Africa owed US\$3 billion, by the early 1980s the debt had multiplied to US\$142 billion and today, the burden stands at US\$222 billion, representing about US\$370 for every man, woman or child in the sub continent. The trend is set to get worse and worse as countries lag behind on repayments.

Southern Africa, and Africa in general, has made measurable gains in such key areas as life expectancy, adult literacy and infant mortality, and general economic performance. But all these gains are under unbearable pressure from the crippling debt, and the situation is sure to deteriorate unless something is done to sensitise world consciousness on the dire consequences of the problem.

Mozambique, the only country in SADC to benefit from the World Bank/International Monetary Fund's Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, will have US\$3 billion of its US\$5.5 billion debt written off. But the country will not enjoy the benefits until 2000 as annual debt service will increase.

In 1997, Mozambique paid US\$97 million in debt service and is scheduled to pay US\$124 million this year and US\$149 million next year. In 2000, debt service drops to US\$91 million, before rising again to US\$95 million in 2001.

With debt servicing competing with the social sector for budgetary resources, the arrangement is not likely to be popular with many Mozambicans.

Other countries to benefit from the HIPC programme are Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire and Uganda. However, other needy countries have been sidelined, ostensibly for their ability and willingness to pay or because they don't toe the World Bank/IMF line to the book.

For instance, Tanzania cannot qualify despite its mountainous debt of US\$8 billion serviced at a rate nine times more than what goes to the health sector. Debt service payments falling due in 1997 stood at US\$275 million or 35 per cent of the country's export earnings.

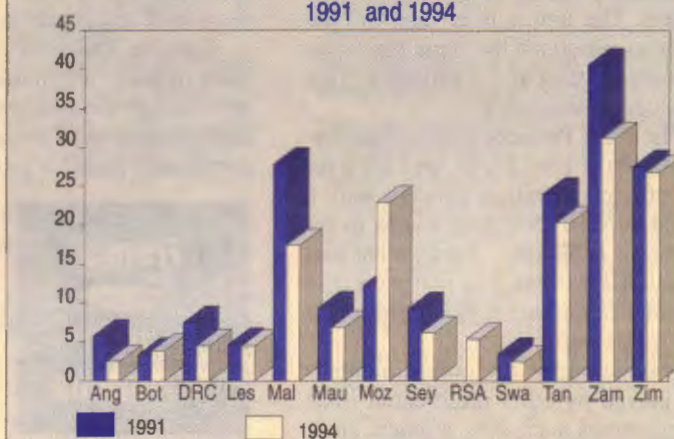
The British based charitable organisation Oxfam notes

in a report entitled *Debt Relief for Tanzania*: "Economic reform programmes have succeeded in raising per capita growth rates in the 1990s, winning praise from the IMF and World Bank. However, there is little evidence of the resulting benefits trickling down to the rural and urban poor."

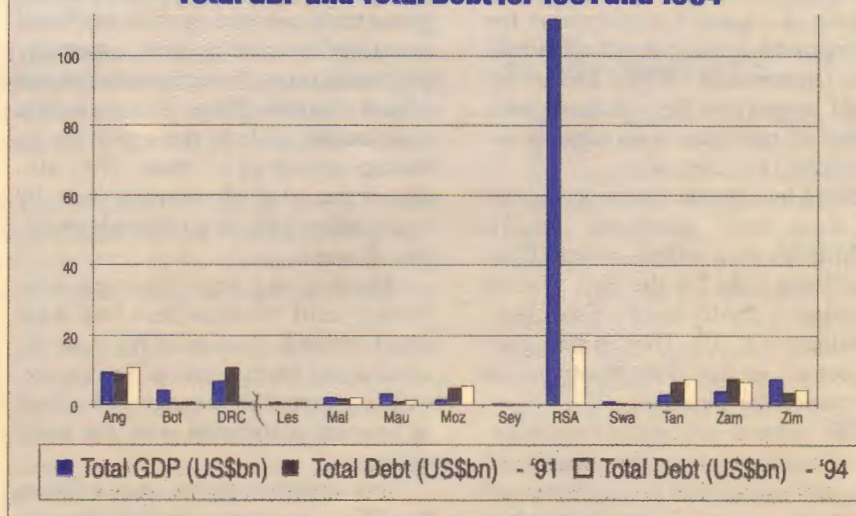
The IMF stipulates that a country should successfully complete two consecutive SAPs before becoming eligible for HIPC aid.

If the international financial community represented by the IMF and the World Bank does not use its power to cancel or reduce Africa's debt, the gulf between the rich and the poor is set to widen and economic reform efforts on the continent are not likely to achieve any meaningful results. □

**SADC Debt Service as % of Exports**  
1991 and 1994



**Total GDP and Total Debt for 1991 and 1994**





# Tanzanians discuss trade protocol

*From a paper entitled SADC Trade Protocol and its Implications for Tanzania presented by D. Mbilima during a sensitisation seminar on the activities of the SADC Trade Portfolio, 26 - 27 March 1998.*

**T**he SADC Trade Protocol contains provisions which set out various ways of facilitating inter-regional trade and removal of non-tariff barriers by simplifying and harmonising customs and trade documents, laws and procedures. ...

Harmonisation of customs and trade documents, laws and procedures is a process between two or more countries where they agree to standardize their customs and trade documents, laws and procedures so that all the countries involved apply similar laws, rules and procedures. The aim is to ensure that the countries introduce the same practices, procedures, rules and documents. This enhances transparency.

The Trade Protocol itself and the formation of the Free Trade Area are a result of a cooperation process which started in April 1980 with a view to accelerating economic development and reduction of extreme external economic dependence through regional collective efforts and self-reliance. ...

We recognise the complimentary role played by other preferential trade arrangements in creating a secure environment conducive to investment and trade expansion especially for the sub-region. It is our fervent wish that such trade preferences will be allowed to continue as a special consideration for development in the context of World Trade Organisation (WTO). Indeed we should appreciate the existence of a number of multilateral agreements involving SADC countries.

These include the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), the East African Commission (EAC) and the Cross Border Initiative (CBI). They in turn give preferential or free trade treatment to their respective members. ...

The general economic prospects, particularly for trade and investment are quite promising both in the short and long perspectives. In most member

states, governments are in the process of privatising state-owned enterprises which confirms our commitment to allow the private sector to play its productive role while the Government concentrates on the creation of an enabling environment conducive to development.

Generally there is an overall decline in trade between Tanzania and its SADC neighbours over the period from 1994 to 1996. This is likely to change for the better given the advantages emanating from the SADC Trade Protocol through for example, elimination of barriers to intra-SADC trade, elimination of non-tariff barriers (NTBs), non-application of any new quantitative restrictions on both imports and exports and through facilitation and harmonisation of trade documentation and procedures.

Equally Tanzania can increase its level of trade with other SADC members through the adoption of policies and implementation of measures within the community aimed at promoting an open

**From a  
paper  
by  
D. Mbilima**

**VIEW  
ON  
TRADE**

cross-border investment regime, thereby enhancing economic development, diversification and industrialisation. ...

The low levels of recorded intra-regional trade can once again be attributed to restrictive trade policies, especially high trade taxes, foreign exchange and import controls. These policies reduce cross-border trade in the region by reducing incentives to trade. They also distort the level of recorded trade by encouraging trade to go through unofficial channels. ...

Equally, any regional integration through tariff variation has a total trade effect which is the sum of the trade diversion and trade creation. In essence, trade creation is the change in the level of imports associated with the tariff change. ...

It is important at this stage to know that FTAs are seen as trading blocs in

## Multi-membership

SADC	COMESA	SACU	EAC	CBI
Angola	●			
Botswana		●		
D.R. Congo	●			
Lesotho		●		
Malawi	●			●
Mauritius	●			●
Mozambique				
Namibia	●	●		●
Seychelles	●			
South Africa		●		
Swaziland	●	●		●
Tanzania	●		●	●
Zambia	●			●
Zimbabwe	●			●

Key:- ● Member

which the benefits of liberalisation extend only to members, with any passing on of these benefits to non-members depending on a negotiated "externally reciprocal exchange of concessions".

The road to recovery and development demands that more rapid advance be made towards greater economic integration at the sub-regional levels if Africa is to be competitively integrated into the global economy. Further, the secret of success lies in the will and ability of member countries of the sub-region to coordinate their approach and harmonise their policies in order to offer market operators a sound and credible environment conducive to growth and economic wellbeing of our peoples.

Governments within the region should establish a liberal economic environment conducive to intra-regional trade. This in particular should entail the liberalisation of the domestic markets, trade and foreign exchange markets.

The increase in the degree of economic liberalisation is necessary for increasing intra-regional trade. This is because it would allow countries to adjust their production and consumption patterns in accordance with comparative advantage. There is need for these countries to become more "open". Countries in the region must endeavour to reduce all forms of trade barriers. □

*The author, Dr D. Mbilima, is a director in charge of SADC and COMESA Desk in the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Tanzania.*





## SACU may admit Zambia

**Z**ambian exporters may soon have access into the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) following a deal between the government and the five-member union.

According to Zambian Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Enoch Kavindele, the southern African country stands to gain more than US\$48 million per year by joining the union which groups Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland. Founded in 1969, SACU provides a common pool of customs, excise and sales duties on the basis of relative volume of trade and production in each member state.

Consultations are underway in the five countries to work out the necessary modalities before Zambia can be allowed to sign the treaty. Sources in Zambia said the process is likely to be finalised before the end of the year. Hopes are high in the southern African state of nine million citizens.

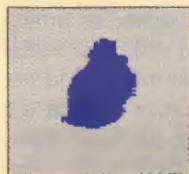
"As far as ZACCI (Zambia Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry) is concerned, we are in full support as this particular pact is opening up a market worth more than US\$250 million. So it is now up to the Zambians to go out there to earn that amount of money, which is begging to be collected

from SACU member countries," says the association's Executive Secretary Gedion Phiri.

Countries outside the customs union cannot supply certain agricultural products to member states, guaranteeing South African farmers a monopoly. Reports say the move to admit Zambia into SACU were expedited to allow South African farmers, who recently moved into Zambia, access into the market.

"White farmers from South Africa have settled in an area known as Mkushi Farm Block, which is one of the most fertile regions in this southern African nation. Meanwhile, they have been unable to send their produce to their native South Africa, or neighbouring Botswana and Namibia because of SACU," writes an *IPS* correspondent in Zambia. □

## Mauritius unveils 1998/99 budget



**M**auritian business leaders welcomed the country's 1998/99 budget announced on 9 June, saying it

was broadly investor-friendly. But they were unhappy with plans to levy a 15 percent corporate tax on Export Processing Zone companies from July 2000, as well as with the lack of detail about the

impact of a pay review which will increase civil service wages.

"The finance minister has given special attention to key sectors for the future of the country, such as training, education, and incentives to small and medium enterprises," said Robert Bigaignon, senior partner at management consultants Price Waterhouse in Port Louis.

In particular, Bigaignon applauded the government's decision to set up an

investment board to streamline procedures to attract foreign direct investment into Mauritius. The move comes in an apparent response to complaints by business leaders that excessive bureaucracy was discouraging foreigners from investing in the country.

Finance Minister Vasant Bunwaree told parliament the government will run a budget deficit of 1.8 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 1998/99, from 3.7 percent in 1997/98.

Joint Economic Council director Raj Makoond said that his organisation welcomed the setting up of a Productivity and Competitiveness Council which will help in measuring Mauritian enterprises' performance against foreign competitors. □(Reuters)

## Mozambique achieves grain target



**F**inal figures from Mozambique's 1997 agricultural marketing campaign show that the target set by the government was met almost exactly, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism, Oldemiro Baloi, told a Maputo press briefing on 5 June 1998.

The total quantity of food crops marketed was 441,000 tonnes. Of this, about 397,000 tonnes was grain and oilseeds, while the rest was cashew nuts. This amounted to over 99 per cent of the target, and was a 10 per cent increase on marketing in 1996. The figures do not include non-food crops, notably cotton.

Baloi said the marketing campaign had got off to a slow start because of difficulties faced by the state marketing board, the Mozambique Cereals Institute (ICM), in arranging sufficient bank credit. The ICM buys only 17-18 per cent of the crops marketed but its presence in the campaign is an important market for private sector traders.

He added that there is no longer a threat of famine in Mozambique and, as a result, the export market has become an important alternative for Mozambican maize producers. In 1997 about 50,000 tonnes of maize was exported, said the minister, while a further 6,000 tonnes was purchased by the UN World Food Programme and other agencies for humanitarian use. The rest of the marketed grain was sold on local markets. Baloi did not believe that much was still in storage. □ (AIM)

## SA economy to grow

**T**he South African economy may grow by 3.8 percent in 1999, up from a projected 2.3 percent this year, boosted by brisk expansion in domestic investment and higher export demand, according to a recent study.

The study, by the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) and the department of trade and industry, said South Africa, which boasts the continent's strongest economy, could hit higher average growth of 5.7 percent per year for 1999 to 2000 if it made deeper structural changes in key sectors. □(Reuters)



*Interview with the Angolan Minister of Petroleum, Albina Assis Africano, who chairs the SADC Sector on Energy.*

**Angola is the only country in the region with a separate ministry on petroleum. Does this indicate the importance your country attaches to this natural resource?**

Petroleum is important not only for Angola, but for Africa and the entire world. So yes, this is why we have a specific ministry for petroleum. Petroleum contributes 55 percent to gross domestic product. Diamonds [which Angola also has in abundance] have not been fully exploited as a result of the war. They have not contributed as much as would have been desired.

**Talking about the war and the current political instability, how has this affected production and exportation of oil?**

I believe that the war did in fact affect petroleum production as from 1993 when the oil fields and the most important terminals were destroyed. The distribution of oil came to a standstill. During this period, we lost 30,000 barrels a day from the onshore production.

With respect to offshore production, I would like to say that this has not been directly affected by military problems, as you know they are beginning to take shape now. This should be strengthened with more efforts to implement the Lusaka Protocol, which will pave the way for peace and total stabilisation in Angola. But peace and stability will only be a dream if UNITA party does not comply with the provisions of the Lusaka Protocol.

**How much oil does Angola export to the SADC region?**

Right now I don't have exact data on export levels to southern Africa. We started exporting petroleum to South Africa, not on a country to country basis, but to companies based in that country, mainly Caltex. From the moment South Africa had its first democratic elections, we established diplomatic and commercial relations with them.

Other countries in southern Africa are free to contact us. We are willing to export to the region. We are also already exporting oil to other companies in the region. Efforts are being made to improve capacity to supply enough oil to the region if required.



Angolan Minister of Petroleum, Engineer Albina Assis Africano.

**What measures has the government of Angola put in place to counter any possible disasters during the production of oil? Have there been any disasters caused for instance by oil spilling in Angola?**

Since Angola has a very large-scale petroleum industry, we are of course aware of the fact that disasters can happen. So we have come up with preventive measures to avert any possible disasters. We have clauses that companies have to comply with.

On the other hand, once the environment policy is agreed on by the SADC Council of Ministers, then Angola will be in a position to incorporate with what it already has. The SADC policy document will reinforce our own legislation.

Very fortunately for Angola, there has never been a serious disaster in the petroleum sector. But, I must say that we have adequate contingent measures in the event of an oil spillage or any such disasters in the sector. This is part of a national contingent plan which can be implemented even at short notice.

**What programmes does your ministry or that of energy have to encourage the use of renewable energy such as solar in rural communities?**

Even though I am not responsible for energy in Angola, I am the minister responsible for energy matters in SADC. I must say that the ministry of energy in Angola has got a department in charge of renewable energy. In terms of solar energy, there are concrete programmes by NGOs in Angola, including solar water pumping for rural communities.

There has been a lot of promotion of solar energy programmes in the SADC region. I wouldn't say we have specific models for the whole region because solar energy projects are specific to the areas where they are being implemented.

**Is Angola connected to the Southern African Electricity Pool?**

Angola is not connected to the southern Africa electricity grid yet. But we do get part of our electricity supply from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). We hope very soon we will be connected, then we can make the DRC more accessible to other countries.

**It is common practice that women are assigned to social service ministries. You are head of a technical ministry. How does it feel like being in such a position?**

Yes, the normal trend in Africa and the rest of the world, with the exception of my country and Scandinavian countries, is for women to be assigned to ministries such as education and other social services. But, I believe this should not be a general rule because women are more and more having the same training and education as their male counterparts and as a result, they should take up the same positions and ministries. With the same academic and professional qualifications, women should be able to head other technical ministries as people trained in that area. In my case for instance, I graduated as a chemical engineer and worked for ten years in the oil industry before becoming minister.

**The SADC Summit last year adopted a Gender and Development Declaration which aims to achieve at least 30 percent target of women in political and decision-making structures by year 2005. Do you think the member states are moving fast enough to achieve this target?**

I believe the countries in southern Africa are prepared to achieve that goal. But much depends on the women themselves because they cannot attain such positions by mere promotion, but because they have the skills and can really do that. It can't be given to you on a plate, you have to compete, and you need to have the qualifications. That way, I believe they can reach such positions as envisaged in the gender declaration. □



# Lesotho: Ruling LCD party wins elections

by Caiphas Chimhete

**L**esotho's ruling party, the Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD), won the country's general elections, held on 23 May this year, by a landslide majority.

The LCD swept to a landslide victory, amassing 78 out of 80 constituencies in the mountainous country of two million people. Twelve political parties and 31 independent candidates took part in the general elections.

More than 800 000 people above the age of 18 registered as voters. But information on the actual number of people who voted was not immediately available.

In February, LCD elected then Deputy Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili to lead the party into the election and he has since been confirmed as prime minister by the parliament. According to the country's constitution, the leader of the majority party in government automatically becomes prime minister.

The election was declared free and fair by the Lesotho Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) and observer missions from the SADC and the Commonwealth.

The World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC), which also supervised the elections, observed that voters in remote, rural and less accessible areas experienced difficulties in meeting the IEC deadlines for voting, counting, tallying and the announcement of the results.

However, in spite of these minor difficulties, the team declared the elections free and fair.

Prime Minister Mosisili took over from ailing 80-year old Ntsu Mokhehle who prior to the elections, had indicated he would not contest.

After casting his vote for the LCD, Mokhehle talked about the period he was in office.

Mokhehle said his greatest contribution to the country since becoming prime minister in 1993 had been to bring peace, democracy and stability to the kingdom.

Talking about his departure from office, Mokhehle said: "It is not nice but I have got to accept it. My leadership was long."

Mokhehle formed the Basutoland Congress Party (BCP) in 1952 and is revered by many Basotho for his resilience during the military unrest that threatened his government.

Last year, Mokhehle resigned from the BCP and formed the LCD, a move which resulted in serious protest by members of political parties, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and churches.

Members of the BCP boycotted debates in the House of Assembly as a result of the formation of the new party.

On several occasions, SADC countries have had to restore order in Lesotho. In 1994, King Letsie, with the backing of the army, dismissed the former government and ministers and nominated members of a provisional council.

The BCP, with the support of the majority of urban workers and the unions, called for a general strike which lasted only a few days after a SADC mission successfully brokered the impasse, reinstating Mokhehle's government.

In April 1995, Lesotho government officials and army officers

from Lesotho, Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe convened a two-day meeting to prevent military intervention and safeguard the constitutionally elected government.

Lesotho, which gained independence from Britain in 1966, last had elections in 1993. □

## In - Mosisili, Out - Mokhehle

Newly elected Prime Minister of Lesotho, former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs, Bethuel Pakalitha Mosisili was recently elected to lead the Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD) succeeding the retiring Prime Minister Dr Ntsu Mokhehle as the party leader.

Mosisili joined the Basutoland Congress Party (BCP) in 1967 while he was a student at the University of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland (UBLS) in Roma, Lesotho where he was an active member of the BCP Youth League.

He was detained under the emergency regulation and incarcerated in the Maximum Security Prison from July 1970 to November 1971. On his release he was restricted to the Mafeteng Reserve for a year.

Mosisili was born at Waterfall in the Qacha's Nek district on 14 March 1945. In 1970, he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree at the UBLS and in 1976 completed a Masters of Arts degree at the University of Wisconsin, USA.

In 1978, Mosisili graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree at the University of South Africa (UNISA) and obtained his Master of Education at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada, in 1982.

Mosisili taught at a number of schools in Lesotho. In 1973 he became assistant lecturer in African languages at the UBLS, lecturer at the University of Lesotho Auguri African languages from 1976 to 1983. He was also senior lecturer at the University of Fort Hare, South Africa, senior lecturer at the University of Transkei and senior lecturer at the University of Zululand.

He was elected as member of parliament for Qacha's Nek Constituency in 1993 and became Minister of Education and Training, Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs later renamed Ministry of Education and Manpower Development. Mosisili was appointed Deputy Prime Minister in February 1995 following the death of Selometsi Baholo in 1994.

He is married with two sons and two daughters. □



## SADC officials discuss strategies on culture

Senior SADC officials convened in Harare, Zimbabwe, in May to map out strategies, policies and priorities for the SADC Sector on Culture, Information and Sports.

The meeting, which is an annual event, was attended by permanent secretaries and ministers responsible for culture, information and sports from SADC countries excluding the Democratic Republic of Congo and Seychelles. Participants reviewed progress made since the last meeting in Lusaka, Zambia.

Member states are expected to harmonise their national laws and policies in line with the strategies and priorities laid out in the policy document once it is finalised and adopted. Laws governing culture, information and

sports differ from country to country and the policy document will seek to harmonise and provide guidelines for purposes of formulating new laws and amending or reviewing existing ones.

Among other issues, the meeting considered establishing a SADC Hall of Fame in line with similar events already operational elsewhere. Ways of improving sporting activities and facilities for marginalised groups such as women and disabled people were explored. At the moment there are no clear cut policies to improve the participation of disadvantaged people in the various sporting disciplines that the region is active in.

Participants also discussed measures to protect copyright and neighbouring rights. Pirating has stifled growth of an otherwise vibrant music industry in

SADC and laws to safeguard copyrights should come as a relief to the many talented artists in the region.

The use of local languages in the different member states was strongly advocated for. Participants agreed that cultural development was hampered by marginalisation of local languages and an aggressive approach to reverse this was necessary.

The SADC Sector on Culture, Information and Sports is key in publicising the work of SADC. Various cultural activities have been undertaken including the music and theatre festivals. SADC Day, 17 August celebrated last year by a handful of SADC countries, is also aimed at educating citizens about the organisation. □

## SPORTS SHORTS

### ● South Africa bows out of France '98

South Africa, the only southern African country which qualified for the 1998 World Cup finals in France, has bowed out of the tournament after managing two draws and a defeat.

Although South Africa and other African representatives (Cameroon, Morocco, Nigeria and Tunisia) are out of the World Cup, a strong case has been made by their respective performances about the undoubted emergence of African football on the world stage.

South Africa's graduation to world class football is a clear sign that football in the region is coming of age as any of the top SADC footballing nations could make it to the next World Cup.

South Africa is so far the second country in southern Africa after Democratic Republic of Congo (former Zaïre), to qualify for the World Cup finals. The DRC played in 1974.

Nigeria was the only African country to proceed to the last 16 teams only to be eliminated 4-1 by Denmark.

The next World Cup tournament will be co-hosted by Japan and South Korea in 2002. Africa, which has never hosted

the tournament, have their chance in 2006 if an election promise by the new FIFA Secretary General Sepp Blatter is anything to go by.

### ● COSAFA games to resume in August

The Confederation of Southern African Football Associations (COSAFA) mini league resumes in August after a two-month break to allow time for the world cup taking place in France. The five teams in the competition are Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The tournament resumes with Zimbabwe at the top of the five-team mini league after two convincing wins over Namibia and Mozambique. The Warriors of Zimbabwe thrashed Namibia 5-2 before accounting for a 2-0 drabbing of the Mambas of Mozambique.

Pre-tournament favourites Zambia are in second place after a 1-0 win over Mozambique and a one all draw against Angola. Namibia, which was also tipped to win the tournament after eliminating South Africa, is second last with one point on the log following their draw with Angola in Luanda. The winners of the tournament will walk away with about R1 million.

### ● South Africa wins youth tourney

South Africa's under 23 soccer team cruised to victory over the Young War-

riors of Zimbabwe in the South African Football Association (Safa)/Sasol foundation youth soccer tournament in Johannesburg early June.

Botswana, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe participated in the tourney and they were chosen on the strength of their teams which took part in a similar competition held early in the year in Botswana. □

## Zimbabwe Tennis Team through to last 16

The Davis Cup team of Tennis Zimbabwe trounced the mighty Australians 3-2 in a world group first round encounter in Mildura in May to advance to the second round where they are scheduled to play against Italy in Florence from 17-19 July.

Entering the tie as underdogs, the Zimbabwean team of brothers Byron and Wayne Black posted a memorable win over Australia's US Open champion Patrick Rafter and the top doubles pair of Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde.

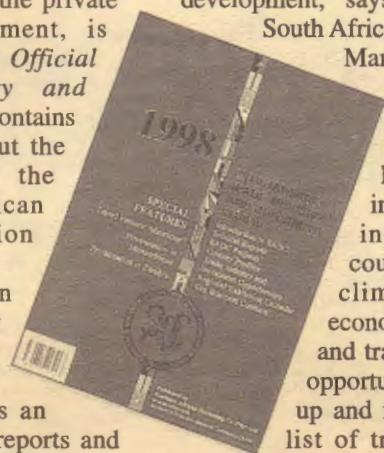
Zimbabwe becomes the only African country to proceed to the quarter finals of this tournament. The team will not go through the preliminary round of the same tournament next year. □



***The 1998 Official SADC Trade, Industry and Investment Review***, published by the Southern African Marketing Company (Pty) Ltd in association with SADC Secretariat, 1998. Review by Munetsi Madakufamba

A case of true smart partnership, a strategic alliance between the private sector and the government, is demonstrated in the *1998 Official SADC Trade, Industry and Investment Review* which contains valuable information about the economic potential of the integrated southern African market of 190 million consumers.

Published by the Southern African Marketing Company (Pty) Ltd in association with the SADC Secretariat in Botswana, the book gives an update of SADC sectoral reports and country profiles with information from the various ministries responsible for industry and trade.



The sectoral reports contain information about some of their accomplishments with special emphasis on projects that involve the private sector and other community stakeholders.

"All governments have understood the necessity to make strategic alliances with the private sector as partners in development," says SADC Chairman, South African President Nelson Mandela, in a foreword to the book.

Country profiles contain key development indicators, including information on a country's geography, climate, macro-economic developments, and trade and investment opportunities. For follow-up and further inquiries, a list of trade contacts and diplomatic missions abroad is given for each country.

This is the second edition following

the first one published in 1997. A new section titled Special Features which aims to provide an in-depth study into key areas regarding economic growth in the region is also included in this edition.

Progress on commercialisation, restructuring and privatisation of state-owned enterprises, which have gathered momentum in the region, is given with focus on Mozambique and Zambia. Mozambique has privatised more than 700 enterprises, while Zambia has shed off more than 400.

The role of the private sector in the advancement of tourism, one of the fastest growing sectors in SADC, is shown in a travel feature on Mauritius. Mauritius coordinates the SADC Sector on Tourism.

To keep abreast with technological advancement, the whole book is now available on internet. □

Available from: Botswana Book Centre, PO Box 91, Gaborone, Botswana.  
Tel: (267) 35 2931, Fax: (267) 37 4315  
Price: BWP89.95

## Recent publications and acquisitions

*1998 Southern Africa Economic Summit, Windhoek, Namibia 17 - 19 May.*

--SADC/World Economic Forum.- 1998

Available from SADC Finance and Investment Sector Coordinating Unit (FISCU) Private Bag X115, Pretoria 0001 South Africa

*Beyond Inequalities: Women in Lesotho*

--Letuka, Puleng; Matashane, Keiso; Morolong, Bantu.- 1997  
Available from Women & Law in Southern Africa (WILSA), Box 2078, Maseru, Lesotho and SARDC, Box 5690, Harare.

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--Gunganah, Bhagiawatty; Ragobar, Satinder; Varma, Oomandra Nath.- 1997  
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*Beyond Inequalities: Women in Namibia*

--Iipinge, Eunice M. and LeBeau, Debbie.- 1997  
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*Beyond Inequalities: Women in South Africa*

--Flood, Tania; Hoosain, Miriam; Primo, Natasha.- 1997  
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*Beyond Inequalities: Women in Tanzania*

--Mukangara, Fenella and Koda, Bertha.- 1997  
Available from TGNP, Dar es Salaam, and SARDC Tanzania, Box 32597, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and SARDC.

*Recent Economic Developments and Statistics for SADC Countries: Committee of Central Bank Governors in SADC.*

--SADC.- 1998

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*SADC Land and Water Management Training and Applied Research Programme: Feasibility Study ACP-RPR 627: Country Report 1998*

--Southern African Centre for Cooperation in Agricultural and Natural Resources Research and Training  
Available from Price Waterhouse, Box 453 Harare, Zimbabwe

*Working Glossary for the 1998 Zimbabwe State of Environment Report*

--Chenje, Munyaradzi (ed.).- 1997

Available from Ministry of Environment and Tourism, P. Bag 7753, Causeway, Harare, Zimbabwe



## SADC diary

1998		Event	Venue
July	28/06 - 03/07	SADC Seminar on Women and Trade	South Africa
	07 - 09	SADC Workshop on Land/Resource Tenure and Decentralisation	South Africa
	14 - 15	Southern African Transport and Communications Commission (SATCC)	Mozambique
	20 - 24	Regional Workshop on the State of Environment Project in the Zambezi River Basin	Zimbabwe
	27 - 31	Mining Sector Meeting	Mozambique
	27	Gender Seminar and Launch of <i>Beyond Inequalities: Women in Mauritius</i>	Mauritius
August	01 - 08	Zimbabwe International Book Fair	Zimbabwe
	09 - 28	Seminar on Preventive Diplomacy and Peace-building in Southern Africa	Zimbabwe
	10 - 15	Environmental Ministers Meeting	South Africa
September	07 - 09	SADC-ELMS Land Husbandry Course	Tanzania
	22 - 24	Capacity Building for Quality Teaching and Learning in further and higher education	South Africa
	28 - 02/10	EU-SADC Conference on Transport	Mozambique

## Public Holidays in SADC for the period July - September

Date	Holiday	Country
1 July	Sir Seretse Khama Day	Botswana
6 July	Republic Day	Malawi
6 July	Maulid	Tanzania
6 July	Heroes Day	Zambia
7 July	Saba Saba Day	Tanzania
7 July	Unity Day	Zambia
17 July	King's Birthday	Lesotho
20 July	President Day	Botswana
21 July	Public Holiday	Botswana
22 July	Public Holiday	Swaziland
3 August	Farmers' Day	Zambia
9 August	National Women's Day	South Africa
11 August	Heroes Day	Zimbabwe
12 August	Defence Forces Day	Zimbabwe
15 August	Blessed Virgin Mary	Mauritius
26 August	Heroes Day	Namibia
27 August	Ganesh Chaturthi	Mauritius
06 Sept	Somhlolo Day	Swaziland
07 Sept	Victory Day	Mozambique
17 Sept	National Heroes Day and Founder of the Nation	Angola
24 Sept	Heritage Day	South Africa
30 Sept	Botswana Day	Botswana

\*SADC Day, 17 August, is now commemorated in some SADC countries.

## Currency Checklist

Country	Currency	(US\$1)
Angola	Kwanza (100 Lewi)	259752.00
Botswana	Pula (100 Thebe)	3.95
DRC	Nouveau Zaire	607.25
Lesotho	Maloti (100 Lisente)	5.45
Malawi	Kwacha (100 Tambala)	25.70
Mauritius	Rupee (100 cents)	23.70
Mozambique	Metical (100 centavos)	11 000.55
Namibia	Dollar (100 cents)	5.45
Seychelles	Rupee	5.25
South Africa	Rand (100 cents)	5.45
Swaziland	Lilangeni (100 cents)	5.45
Tanzania	Shilling (100 cents)	634.99
Zambia	Kwacha (100 Ngwee)	1 899.98
Zimbabwe	Dollar (100 cents)	18.05

Source: Standard Chartered Bank Zimbabwe Ltd, June 1998