

# THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY TODAY



SADC Today, Vol. 11 No. 2 October 2008

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### SADC Leadership 2008/9

**THE SADC Summit** in August 2008 elected South Africa as chair of SADC for the coming year while the DRC was elected deputy. Thus DRC, South Africa and Zambia, the immediate past chair, make up the SADC Troika. The next SADC Summit will be hosted by the DRC in 2009.

Summit also elected King Mswati III of Swaziland as chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation while Mozambican President Armando Guebuza will deputise. The Organ Troika is now made up of the immediate past chair, Angola, along with Swaziland and Mozambique.



SADC COMESA EAC

## SADC COMESA EAC Joint summit to tackle overlapping membership

by Munetsi Madakufamba

**THE CHALLENGE** of overlapping membership among African regions comes under scrutiny in October as leaders of three trade blocs meet to find common ground on trade, customs and infrastructure development.

Uganda hosts the joint summit of SADC, the Common Market of East and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the East African Community (EAC) on 20 October.

Membership overlaps exist SADC, COMESA and EAC, and all three organisations plan to create customs unions, a situation that presents technical challenges as a country cannot belong to more than one customs union.

Eight SADC members -- the Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe -- also belong to COMESA, while Angola is a member of the Economic Community of Central African States and the United

Republic of Tanzania belongs to the East African Community.

With Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland being members of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), only one out of the 15 SADC Member States is a member of a single Regional Economic Community -- and that is Mozambique.

Yet SADC, COMESA and EAC either plan to create customs unions or have already declared one.

Since all SACU members belong to SADC, it does not present much of a technical problem as the SACU arrangement automatically falls away with the creation of a SADC Customs Union.

However, real problems exist between SADC countries' membership to either COMESA or the EAC. The tripartite summit will address some of these challenges and possibly recommend a framework that would allow for the creation of a bigger FTA and Customs Union.

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# SADC COMESA EAC Joint summit to tackle overlapping membership

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SADC began this process with the launch of a Free Trade Area (FTA) at the 28th Summit held in South Africa in August, marking a major achievement in its 28-year history.

Formed in 1980 and transformed in 1992 to the present Southern African Development Community, SADC has embarked on several ambitious regional integration projects, in areas such as trade, infrastructure, food security, human and social development, as well as politics, defence and security, all intended to bring about economic prosperity, peace and security to its 250 million citizens.

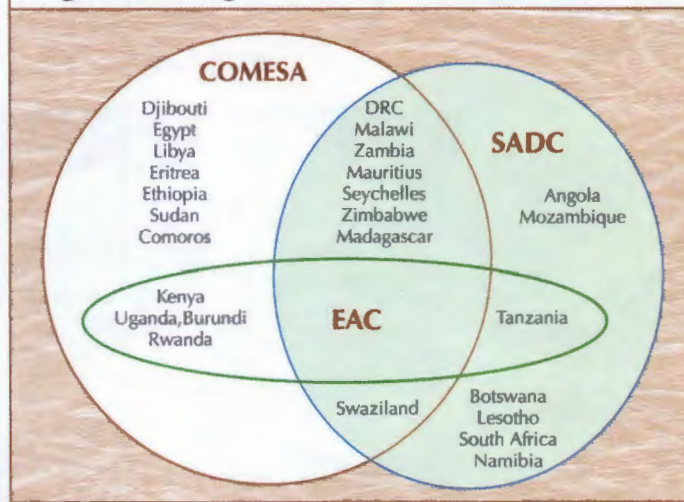
Trade has been singled out as the intervention with the greatest potential to address southern Africa's biggest challenge - poverty.

SADC plans include the launch of the FTA as the initial step in the trade integration trajectory, moving incrementally to establish a Customs Union in 2010, a Common Market by 2015 and a Monetary Union by 2016. A regional central bank and a common currency are expected in 2018.

Thus by launching the FTA on SADC Day, 17 August, southern African leaders demonstrated their will to deliver a better life to the millions of citizens as acknowledged by the host, South African President Thabo Mbeki who took over the rotating SADC chair at the two-day Summit in Johannesburg.

"The challenge facing our region during this era is to do extraordinary things so as to build the Free Trade Area and consolidate its gains for the mutual benefit of the region's economies and development," Mbeki said.

Regional trading blocs in east and southern Africa



A key challenge facing the region is infrastructure development. Better road and rail networks are necessary to facilitate the cross-border flow of goods and services. Current road and rail networks do not adequately support effective intra-regional trade.

An Infrastructure Master Plan is being developed to address this shortcoming.

While the FTA directly addresses the question of tariffs insofar as it allows for 85 percent of traded goods to be duty free, Member States still need to tackle the challenge of non-tariff barriers such as restrictive entry border requirements which are counter to the spirit of free trade.

Other challenges are on the supply side of trade where the private sector would be called upon to improve productivity if they are to remain competitive in the regional market.

Such competition, while it may have negative implications on employment in smaller and weaker economies, is likely to bring in cheaper alternatives, from the consumer's point of view.

The FTA was established through the SADC Trade Pro-

toloc whose implementation began in the year 2000.

To date, 11 out of 15 SADC Member States are applying the protocol meaning that as many as 170 million people in those countries will immediately benefit from the new economic dispensation.

Malawi is expected to come on board once current constitutional challenges affecting the budgeting process are over. Angola and the DRC have asked for more time before they join the FTA, and Seychelles, which rejoined SADC at the Summit, will be expected to begin formalities soon to become a member of the FTA.

Member States are expected to harmonise their national trade policies with all the provisions of the Trade Protocol if the FTA is to be successfully implemented.

The 19-member COMESA, which launched its FTA in 2004, plans to declare a customs union by December this year. The EAC declared its customs union in 2005.

In any case, regional economic communities are building blocks of the envisaged African Economic Community (AEC).

If the three sub-regions, spanning from Cape to Cairo, can find common ground regarding trade arrangements, that would constitute a major breakthrough insofar as the African Union is seeking a smooth and faster route towards the AEC.

Not only do Member States face problems with multiple memberships when it comes to trade, but a plethora of challenges in other areas.

In the case of SADC, COMESA and the EAC, overlaps exist in other areas such as infrastructure as well as challenges arising from time and financial obligations as regards membership contributions, attendance at meetings as well as implementation of several other regional integration programmes.

Thus the tripartite summit will seek to find a joint approach to implement regional telecommunications networks based on the COMESA Comtel Project, the SADC Regional Information Infrastructure Project as well as a harmonized approach to the implementation of the NEPAD Broadband East African Submarine Cable (EASSY) Project. The latter will facilitate connectivity with North Africa, the Oceanic Islands and the rest of the world.

The three sub-regions are expected to discuss how best to accelerate the implementation of inter-connector projects under the auspices of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) and the East African Power Pool.

A Tripartite Task Force involving the three trade blocs has been holding meetings for more than a year in preparation for the joint summit. □

## Key Decisions

# 28th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government

THE SUMMIT of Heads of State and Government, the ultimate policy-making institution of SADC, convened in Johannesburg on 16-17 August to review the socio-economic and political situation in the region. According to the final communiqué, the leaders discussed a wide range of issues affecting the region and made some key decisions.

### SADC Free Trade Area

The Summit launched the SADC Free Trade Area (FTA), which is the first milestone in the regional economic integration agenda. The leaders recognised that free trade in the region will create a larger market, releasing potential for trade, economic development and employment creation.

Regional leaders called for the acceleration of interventions to further deepen the regional integration agenda through the development of a programme of co-operation aimed at expanding regional production capacity.

This entails the provision and rehabilitation of regional infrastructure to facilitate effi-

cient movement of goods and people in a more open regional economy.

### Economic development

Summit noted the positive economic performance recorded by most SADC Member States in 2007 and called for concerted efforts to sustain this progress. Economic growth was indicated by growth in real GDP, which remained strong for most Member States. SADC leaders also noted that the region's debt position has improved substantially, largely due to a number of Member States benefiting from the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative.

### Power supply

Summit welcomed the initiatives currently underway to mitigate the negative consequences of the critical shortages and high prices of energy confronted by the region. In this respect, the leaders received a report on the projections by the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP), which predicted that power deficits would persist until 2012.

During this period, projects aimed at providing additional power to the region amounting to 6,550MW will be implemented and commissioned at a cost of US\$5 billion.

### Political developments

Summit recognised that the region has managed to consolidate peace and democracy in SADC.

With regard to the ongoing challenges in Zimbabwe, the Extraordinary Summit of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation held during the course of the SADC Summit, among other issues:

- ♦ Recalled the Resolutions adopted in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania on 29 March 2007 and in Sharm El Sheik, Egypt on 30 June - 1 July 2008 on the framework of dealing with the political situation in Zimbabwe, which called upon the parties to form an all-inclusive government;
- ♦ Commended the parties for their commitment to the dialogue in implementing the SADC and AU resolutions on resolving the political situation in Zimbabwe;
- ♦ Encouraged and appealed to the parties to sign any outstanding agreements and conclude the negotiations as a matter of urgency to restore political stability in Zimbabwe;
- ♦ Recognised that while negotiations are continuing, it may be necessary to convene Parliament to give effect to the will of the people as expressed in the parliamentary elections held on 29 March 2008; and
- ♦ Expressed commitment to support the parties as they implement the agreement.

The leaders also noted the progress in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) since the signing of the peace agreement in January 2008, the developments in Lesotho's political impasse, and the challenges in Malawi regarding different interpretations of the Constitution.

### Membership

Seychelles has been re-admitted into the SADC family bringing the total number of Member States to 15. The Indian Ocean archipelago had withdrawn from SADC in 2004 citing difficulties in fulfilling financial obligations.

### Protocols signed

Leaders attending the Summit signed five legal documents:

- ♦ Agreement Amending the SADC Treaty
- ♦ Protocol on Gender and Development
- ♦ Protocol on Science, Technology and Innovation
- ♦ Agreement Amending Article 20 of the Protocol on Trade
- ♦ Agreement Amending Article 6 of the Protocol on the Tribunal and the Rules of Procedure Thereof.

### COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Summit

The Summit noted with appreciation progress on the preparations for the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Summit to be held on 20 October 2008 saying it is an important vehicle for harmonisation of the regional integration programmes and also constitutes an important framework for broader continental integration. □

## Angola to join SADC Free Trade Area in 2010

ANGOLA IS set to join the SADC Free Trade Area (FTA) in 2010, according to the country's planning minister, Ana Dias Lourenço.

"For reasons we all know, our country will not join the Free Trade Area this year... as we are not yet in a position to do so," she told journalists at the 28<sup>th</sup> SADC Summit.

"The country experienced a long war; it is going through a reconstruction phase, a re-launch of internal production and we consider that we are not in a position to join the Free Trade Area as yet," the minister said. "In due time, when all conditions that we consider as important are in place to set this step, we will do so." □

# Let us be inspired by Frontline States legacy - Mbeki

SOUTH AFRICAN President Thabo Mbeki turned back the hands of time when he assumed the leadership of SADC on behalf of his country at the 28th Summit in Johannesburg, reminding his colleagues that, although the region faces numerous challenges, none are insurmountable if Member States draw on the inspiring legacy of the Frontline States.

Mbeki took over the rotating SADC chair from Zambia, held by the late President Levy Mwanawasa, and he called for political unity and cohesion in the region.

"SADC inherited the proud record of the Frontline States under the leadership that never wavered in their resolve

to ensure that none but ourselves would continue to be our own liberators. This leadership was consistent and courageous despite some of the most horrific human suffering and huge military and economic damage visited on the Frontline States," Mbeki said.

SADC was formed in 1980 in Lusaka, Zambia, with nine majority-ruled states – Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and the soon-to-be independent Zimbabwe.

The SADC chairperson said these "states were united in their noble determination to end colonialism and apartheid

so that all the people of this region could be free to determine their own destiny."

He added, "In recent times, however, we have had numerous challenges that have tested the very cohesion that acted as a potent weapon against those forces that have an interest in our perpetual weakness and marginalisation."

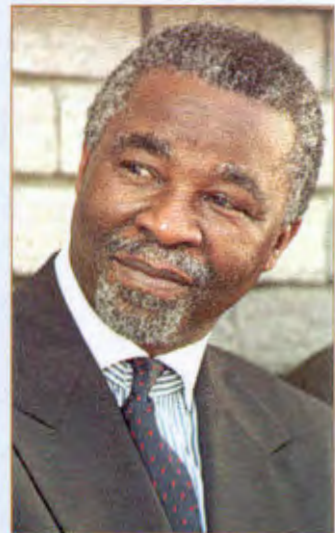
Using the example of the Zimbabwe inter-party talks that were ongoing at the time of the Summit, Mbeki said, "We must over this weekend draw on the inspiring legacy of the Frontline States to help put Zimbabwe on the right road to its recovery and the resumption of its role as a major driver of the process of the upliftment of our region."

Mbeki said Africans should be united and fearless in promoting the interests of the continent.

Apart from the problems in Zimbabwe, there are pockets of instability in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where rebels have engaged in skirmishes with government troops. There are also differences over the electoral process in Lesotho while there is a raging constitutional row in Malawi.

Turning to the economic front, Mbeki said, "We need extraordinary efforts to turn the resources boom into permanent economic development, ensuring that today's yields become the harvests for all seasons."

In reference to the newly launched SADC Free Trade Area, Mbeki said, "Let us implement the necessary protocols and programmes that will take us further towards economic integration. ...



Thabo Mbeki

"The challenge facing our region during this era is to do extraordinary things so as to build the Free Trade Area and consolidate its gains for the mutual benefit of the region's economies and development."

Speaking at the same Summit, the SADC Executive Secretary, Tomaz Augusto Salomão, called on the region's leaders to prepare to address the next challenges.

"As we now have addressed the issue of tariffs, our next step should be to focus on addressing non-tariff barriers which mainly present themselves in the form of unnecessary bureaucratic processes, complicated procedures and rules as well as the generally poor state of infrastructure in the region. These contribute immensely to the costs of doing business."

The Summit communiqué called for the "acceleration of interventions to further deepen the regional integration agenda through the development of a programme of cooperation aimed at expanding regional production capacity which entails provision and rehabilitation of regional infrastructure to facilitate efficient movement of goods and people in a more open economy." □

## Seychelles rejoins SADC

SEYCHELLES IS made up of as many as 115 islands with a total land area of 444 sq km. Growth has been led by the tourist sector, which employs about 30 percent of the labour force and provides more than 70 percent of

the country's foreign exchange earnings. In recent years, the government has encouraged foreign investment in order to upgrade hotels and other services.

According to the national Statistics Office in 2007, the islands state had a population of 87,000 people, with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of US\$0.71 billion and an economic growth rate of 5.27 percent. Main exports include seafood, refined petroleum and chemicals.

The fishing industry is also very important, contributing 13 percent of GDP.

Government has moved to reduce dependence on tourism by promoting the development of farming, fishing, and small-scale manufacturing.

Since independence in 1976, the per capita income has expanded seven-fold to US\$8,500. □



Seychelles, made up of about 115 islands such as the one shown above, rejoined SADC at the August Summit.

# Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum

## Normal rainfall season forecast

by Egline Tauya

**WEATHER EXPERTS** in southern Africa have forecast normal rainfall in major parts of the region for the 2008/09 agricultural season.

The rainfall outlook for southern Africa was prepared by climate scientists from national meteorological and hydrological services within the SADC region, as well as the SADC Drought Monitoring Centre, and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society.

According to the 12th Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-12), which met in South Africa recently, the coming rainfall season has been divided into two parts, October-December 2008 and January-March 2009.

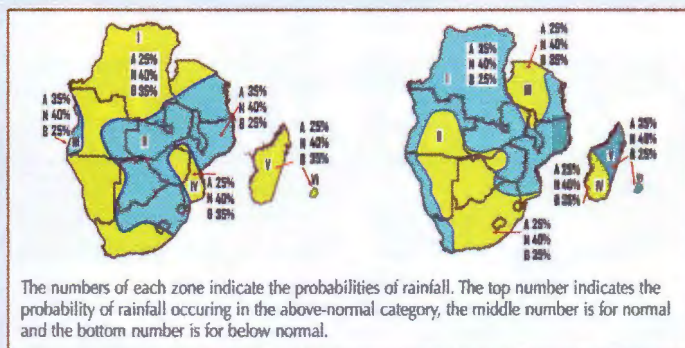
The Forum has forecast normal to above normal rainfall in most parts of southern Africa during the first half of the season, October-December.

This covers western coastal South Africa, Namibia, western coastal and northern Angola, DRC, greater part of Zambia, much of Zimbabwe, eastern tip of Botswana, north-eastern tip of South Africa, major parts of Mozambique, central and southern part of Malawi, the eastern parts of Tanzania, northern part of Madagascar and Mauritius.

However, parts of Namibia, south-western and extreme north-eastern Zambia, western Zimbabwe, bulk of Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, northern part of Malawi, greater part of Angola, bulk of Tanzania, and southern half of Madagascar have an increased chance of receiving normal to below-normal rainfall during the same period.

In the second half of the season January to March 2009, most parts of SADC will receive normal to below-normal rainfall.

This covers northern Tanzania, bulk of DRC, northern and



central Angola, and Namibia, western flank of Botswana, southern half of South Africa and southern half of Lesotho.

Also forecast to have normal to below-normal rainfall are eastern half of Zimbabwe, central and southern Mozambique, Madagascar and Mauritius.

However, greater parts of the central and eastern half of the region and the western parts of Angola have an increased chance of receiving normal to above-normal rainfall.

In developing the outlook, the scientists took into account

principal factors such as the sea-surface temperatures in the Indian, Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

They noted that the current state of the equatorial Pacific Ocean is in a neutral state and projections point towards the likelihood of neutral El Niño-Southern Oscillation conditions during the next couple of months.

The SARCOF process starts with the pre-SARCOF capacity-building training workshop which lasts for six weeks, followed by the SARCOF meet-

ing itself and then the SARCOF mid-season correction meeting.

These activities are carried out at the SADC regional level. In addition, workshops are held by national meteorological and hydrological services at country level. The pre-SARCOF capacity-building workshop is intended to strengthen the technical ability of forecasters in seasonal weather forecasting.

The SARCOF forecasts are based on a combination of statistical methods, numerical weather prediction models and expert judgment. The seasonal forecasts generated through the SARCOF process have become an important planning tool for many communities across southern Africa.

Based on the forecasts, decisions are made in user sectors as how to plan activities and practices as well as allocate resources for the coming rainy season. □

## Malawi's President Mutharika wins food security policy award

by Jabulani Sithole

**MALAWIAN PRESIDENT** Bingu wa Mutharika has received the inaugural regional award for his agricultural policy interventions that have transformed Malawi from a food deficit nation into a net maize exporter.

The award by the Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) is intended to encourage regional countries to be self-reliant in food production.

Due to a number of pro-active policies in the last two years, Malawi has moved from a food net-importer to a regional exporter, achieving a high rate of agricultural production and food security at national level but also at household levels.

During the 2005/2006-crop season, the country re-

alised a food surplus of over 500,000 metric tons. In the 2006/2007 season, the food surplus increased to 1.3 million metric tons over and above the national food requirements.

Speaking at the award ceremony in Blantyre, the FANRPAN chief executive officer, Lindiwe Sibanda said the award was established to honour individuals or organisations that made effective evident contributions towards food security and poverty alleviation in southern Africa against the backdrop of the current global food shortages.

"Malawi's food policies are a demonstration that regional countries have the capacity to be food secure if they apply the right policies.

"President wa Mutharika has implemented effective policies in support of Malawi's Agricultural Input Subsidy Programme and other institutional arrangements," said Sibanda.

Mutharika came into office in 2004 and immediately declared his intention to turn Malawi into a "hunger free nation."

He then went on to overhaul the country's development policies and programmes and utilised policies to transform Malawi's economy based on, among others, the prioritisation of agriculture and food security to increase self-sufficiency, prioritisation of irrigation and water development to reduce dependence on rain-fed agriculture. □

# SADC capable of solving own challenges

THE SIGNING of a power-sharing deal between Zimbabwe's main political parties has demonstrated SADC and Africa's ability to find African solutions to African problems.

SADC appointed the South African President Thabo Mbeki in March 2007 to mediate in the inter-party talks and the 11th Session of the African Union (AU) Summit this year endorsed him as the chief mediator and pledged to support his role.

"The agreement is a testimony that SADC is capable of solving its problems. It is a peace-loving region that is guided by the principles of dialogue," Mbeki said. "We need to continue with the same spirit so that the region remains an oasis of peace for future generations."

Mbeki stepped down as president a few days later but remains the Zimbabwe mediator. South Africa is the current chair of SADC.

AU chairperson and Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete said the agreement between Zimbabwe's main political par-

ties is a victory for the people of the region, which signals the beginning of a new era of reconciliation among the people of Zimbabwe.

"This is a dawn of a new era for Zimbabwe, a great day for

SADC, Africa and the world. It has attracted the attention of many, even those beyond. All are touched and elated by this occasion," Kikwete said.

He paid tribute to the signatories for their patriotism and

## Swazi polls "peaceful, transparent, credible"

THE SADC Election Observer Mission (SEOM) described the 19 September parliamentary elections in Swaziland as "peaceful, transparent and credible".

The SEOM mission, headed by Mozambique's Minister for Diplomatic Affairs, Francisco Madeira, said that in SADC's view the elections reflected the will of the people of the Kingdom of Swaziland.

"The Mission is therefore, pleased to congratulate the People of the Kingdom of Swaziland for the lesson of civility, good behaviour, mutual tolerance and, above all, for the tremendous efforts to reach the perfection as they embark on their gradual and challenging

road for the entrenchment of democracy," Madeira said.

The SEOM praised the new Constitution (enacted 2005) and other laws and regulations governing the electoral process in Swaziland, saying these fully comply with SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections.

The campaign was characterised by an open interaction between the candidates and the electorate, unlike the classic rally model, thus indicating a high level of mutual acknowledgement, the SEOM said.

SADC sent a 30-member observer mission which was deployed a week before the elections and covered all provinces. □

statesmanship while applauding the leader of a smaller third group, Arthur Mutambara, for bringing "balance" to the negotiations.

King Mswati of Swaziland, the chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, said the agreement provides adequate proof that SADC structures are effective in dealing with the region's challenges.

"This day makes a day where the region celebrates the power of peace and dialogue. It's the greatest milestone achieved through dialogue and it is a great achievement for Zimbabwe, SADC and the continent," he said.

The ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) and formations of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) signed a SADC-brokered power-sharing deal on 15 September at a ceremony attended by regional leaders and international diplomats in the capital, Harare. (See full text of agreement on pages 11-14)

Throughout the negotiating process, SADC and the AU expressed their full support to the parties and the mediator, and the two institutions also agreed to act as guarantors.

In terms of the agreement, President Robert Mugabe of ZANU-PF remains Head of State; Morgan Tsvangirai of MDC-Tsvangirai (MDC-T) becomes Prime Minister, while Arthur Mutambara of MDC-Mutambara (MDC-M) becomes the Deputy Prime Minister.

The resultant cabinet comprises 15 ministers from ZANU-PF, 13 from the MDC-T and three from MDC-M.

The SADC-brokered deal was concluded on 11 September after more than a year of negotiations. □

## Angola's MPLA sweeps parliamentary elections

ANGOLA'S RULING party has won 191 seats in the 220-member Angolan parliament, according to the final results of the legislative elections held on 5-6 September.

The Angola National Electoral Commission said the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) won 81.64 percent of the votes with 5,266,216 million votes, while the main opposition party, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), garnered 10.39 percent of the votes representing 16 seats in the national assembly.

The rest of the seats went to the Social Renovation Party (PRS) with eight representatives, the Angola National Freedom Front (FNLA) with three, and the New Democratic Coalition (NDC) with two.

In the previous legislature, the ruling party controlled 129 seats against 70 for Unita and six for PRS.

The SADC Electoral Observer Mission (SEOM), like most observer missions, gave the Angola poll a favourable report. In a preliminary statement, SEOM congratulated the "people of Angola for a peaceful, free, transparent, credible,

and professionally managed elections which reflect the will of the people."

The current parliament will have a four-year life span, while next year Angola will hold presidential elections.

Angola last went to the polls in 1992. The elections were, however, aborted after the first round of voting when Jonas Savimbi, the late leader of Unita, alleged that there had been widespread vote rigging. This led to the resumption of what was already a protracted civil war, which ended in 2002 following the death of Savimbi. □



# ENERGY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA



## SAPP committee assesses power projects

by Richard Nyamantindi

A STEERING committee of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) met in late August to assess progress in the implementation of power projects in the SADC region.

The meeting in Harare was a follow-up to the mid-year status report presented to the 28th SADC Heads of State and Government Summit on 16-17 August.

The report had highlighted that the electricity supply-demand situation in the region continues to be unstable and warned that this is likely to impact on the SADC regional integration agenda, which depends on the availability of energy and infrastructure services.

In view of this, the SADC Secretariat in conjunction with the SAPP Coordinating Centre established a review committee that will closely monitor the situation to ensure that short-term rehabilitation and generation projects are on track to complement power supply in the region.

"It was the first meeting of the steering committee and it

looked at the implementation of power projects in the SADC region," said SAPP Co-ordination Centre Manager, Lawrence Musaba. "We looked at where we are, how many projects have been implemented and those that have not been implemented since 2005."

The committee attributed the slow progress in energy development to financial constraints arising from low tariffs, inappropriate national policies and lack of political will.

Musaba said the structure of the electricity industry in the region has a bearing on the development of the sector in some countries.

"In some countries, the private sector is not allowed to invest in the industry, making it difficult to attract investment."

"National policy and political will are some of the factors that affect the implementation of projects," he said.

The lack of a national and regional policy has in particu-

lar affected hydropower-generating plants in Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Mozambique, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe that have potential to alleviate the electricity shortages in the region.

The current challenge for the region is to be able to meet the ever-increasing power demand, noting that the installed capacity and the available capacity are not increasing at the same rate.

The installed capacity of the SAPP as of April 2008 was 55,032MW while dependable capacity is 47,000MW indicating a deficit of about 8,000MW without giving cognisance to the requisite 10 percent reserve margin.

A new generation plant was commissioned in South Africa (1,050MW) and another plant that had been temporarily put out of operation was brought to service (2 x 190MW) at Camden.

In Swaziland, 20MW of new plant was commissioned in December 2007. In Angola

2x130MW units were commissioned at Capanda in March and July 2007, respectively.

Angola, Tanzania and Malawi are still non-operating members of SAPP meaning that they are not yet connected to the SAPP grid and thus do not enjoy the benefits of energy trading in the region.

SAPP was created with the primary objective of providing reliable and economical electricity supply to consumers consistent with reasonable utilisation of natural resources and the effect on the environment.

In February this year, the SADC Ministerial Taskforce on the Implementation of Power Sector Projects met in Botswana and adopted a road map to accelerate the region's recovery from the power shortages emanating from high demand.

The taskforce noted that an enabling environment was indispensable in accelerating private sector participation and additional investment in the power sector. □

# Four SADC countries sign up to new power

by Richard Nyamanhindi

FOUR SADC countries have signed a memorandum of understanding to develop an electricity transmission interconnector, which will result in an increase in power trading among the participating utilities.

The project, which is called Zizabona -- representing Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Namibia, the four participating countries -- will provide an alternative power transmission route and help decongest the existing central transmission corridor that currently passes through Zimbabwe.

The countries' respective utility companies will finance parts of the project that fall within their national boundaries.

These are the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA), Zambia Electricity Supply Company (ZESCO), Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) and Namibia Power Company (NamPower).

The project will result in an increase in electricity trade



New transmission projects such as Zizabona are expected to ease congestion in existing central corridors in the region.

among the four participating utilities, Musaba said.

"The central corridor has been overloaded since the beginning of this year resulting in the SAPP grid operating as three separate islands and so the Zizabona interconnector project will provide an alternative transmission route that will help decongest the existing central transmission corridor which passes through Zimbabwe."

The project came as a result of recommendations made by the Central Transmission Corridor Company, established by

SAPP Member States last year to look at the problems of decongesting the central transmission corridor, as well as enhancing infrastructure and transmission capabilities in the region.

The project is to be implemented in two phases. The first phase is expected to be commissioned by December 2009 and the second in 2012.

The first phase of the project has already begun and will cover the construction of a 120-km 330kV line from Hwange Power Station to Victoria Falls where a switching station will be built on the Zimbabwe side.

The line will extend to a substation at Livingstone in Zambia.

ZESA and ZESCO will finance this first phase and the two utilities have already established a special purpose vehicle for funding the project.

The second phase which will be financed under a special company to be called Zizabona Pvt Ltd, and this will involve the construction of a 300-km 330kV line from Livingstone to Katima Mulilo in Namibia, through Pandamatenga in Botswana.

According to SAPP, utility companies in participating countries have already set up working groups to prepare for the start of the project, as they will be responsible for financing the project.

"Technical studies have already been done and financial and economic evaluation is already in progress," Musaba said.

## Angola to assume OPEC presidency in 2009

ANGOLA IS to chair the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) from 1 January 2009, Angolan oil minister, Desidério Costa has said.

"This is an announcement that will help us plan our country's political and economic future and it will also enable us to do what we intend; that is establishing Angola in its right place," said Costa.

The Angolan oil minister added that the news arrived at a special moment for Angola, just after the holding of a successful parliamentary election on 5 September, the first since the end of the 27-year civil war in 2002.

Angola became a full OPEC member during the organisation's 143rd extraordinary meeting held in December 2006 in Nigeria. □

## Namibia gets more electricity from Zimbabwe

THE POWER purchase agreement signed between Namibia and Zimbabwe continues to bring more power to Namibia, with 40 megawatts (MW) more flowing in, an increase from 80MW to 120MW since August. National power utility, NamPower, confirmed that the agreement is on course and that Zimbabwe, through the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA), has since August increased its export to Namibia by 40MW from the previous 80MW.

Under the deal signed between the two countries, Namibia will receive 150MW for a minimum of five years as part of a power purchase agreement with ZESA's parent

company, the Zimbabwe Electricity and Transmission Company (ZETCO).

The US\$40 million paid by Namibia would be used to refurbish and expand Hwange Power Station.

The four generators at Hwange are capable of generating a total of 480MW, but have operated irregularly as the station struggles to cope with frequent equipment breakdowns and coal shortages.

The first 40MW from ZESA started flowing into Namibia on 3 January this year, with the additional 40MW being imported from June and the latest by end of August.

The remaining 30MW that will fulfil the agreed quantity

for a period of five years will start flowing in before end of year, NamPower said.

NamPower Corporate Affairs and Marketing Manager, John Kaimu, said the increase in power supply from Zimbabwe has come at the right time as Namibia is experiencing a drop in the generation capacity from its dependable Ruacana Hydro-Power Station.

Being a seasonal power station, during September the generation capacity of the station goes down as the water level or flow in the Kunene River also drops.

During this period, NamPower collects water in its dams for hours before releasing it to run the turbines. □

# interconnector project

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

Musaba highlighted that the project is going to come online much faster than the WESTCOR project because of the commitment of the Member States involved.

The WESTCOR transmission interconnector project, which aims at transmitting 3500MW from Inga 3 in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to the south has been on the cards for more than a decade now and involves, Angola, Botswana, DRC, Namibia and South Africa.

The Zizabona project will also make it possible for NamPower to import power directly from Hwange in Zimbabwe.

Currently electricity from the Hwange Power Station is being routed to Namibia through South Africa until the NamPower's Caprivi Link Interconnector is operational.

According to NamPower spokesperson, John Kaimu, the Zizabona project will be important for Namibia because it will

complete the link and create a corridor for power import and export to the four countries.

"Zizabona will create the alternative route that is very important for power imports from neighbouring countries," said Kaimu.

Zizabona is expected to run concurrently with the rehabilita-

tion of Hwange Power Station, which began in 2007.

Southern Africa has seven major transmission interconnector projects, which are supposed to be commissioned by 2009 to enable the smooth trading of additional generating capacity, which is expected to become available by 2009. □

## Zambia-Zimbabwe power interconnector disconnected

**ZAMBIA ELECTRICITY** Supply Company (ZESCO) has disconnected the Zambia-Zimbabwe power interconnector to protect the local power system from external disturbances following the blackouts experienced in early September.

ZESCO acting Director for Generation and Transmission, Christopher Mubemba said that

following the decision to discontinue with the interconnector, the company would also increase load shedding in Zambia.

This is the second time that ZESCO is disconnecting from Zimbabwe following similar blackouts experienced early this year.

Mubemba said the disconnection of the interconnector entailed that Zambia was required to carry the full power reserves of about 150MW to avoid a nationwide blackout and it was for this reason that the company had to increase load shedding.

He explained that when inter-connected the required reserve was half, as the remaining half came from the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) to cushion in times of an emergency.

SAPP Centre Co-ordination Manager, Lawrence Musaba

confirmed the disconnection saying the move to temporarily discontinue the interconnector between the two countries was aimed at facilitating investigations to establish the exact cause of the problem.

SAPP explained that on 6 September, there were disturbances which led to two turbines at Kariba North Bank power station tripping, resulting in a loss of 360MW and a cut of power supply to Eastern, Northern and parts of Southern and Lusaka provinces.

On 7 September, there was another system disturbance but there was no loss of transmission distribution lines or loads.

However, there was a loss of generators at Kariba North Bank and Victoria Falls. He said that preliminary investigations indicate that the power outage was caused by system disturbances external to the Zambian power system.

Musaba said SAPP and ZESCO would continue to monitor the situation with the view of reconnecting with Zimbabwe once the situation improved and that a detailed review would be carried out soon.

The disconnection comes after the SAPP grid was restored last month after spending the last five months operating as three separate islands owing to technical faults on the main interconnectors. □



Regular inspection of interconnectors remains vital for preventing power transmission disturbances.

## Mozambique woos investors for hydro energy production

**MOZAMBUIQUE HAS** invited foreign investors to build hydropower projects in 100 locations with a total estimated hydroelectric potential of up to 14,000 megawatts (MW), according to the national director of New and Renewable Energy, Antonio Saide.

The director highlighted that vast hydro potential has been identified in the central provinces of Manica and Tete

as well as the northernmost province of Niassa.

"We have identified between 12,000MW and 14,000MW of hydroelectric potential in 100 locations in the provinces of Manica, Tete and Niassa... We are inviting foreign investors to come and explore these areas," he said.

Mozambique produces 2,075MW of electricity, mainly at its Cahora Bassa Hydroelectric (HCB) plant in Tete province,

which plans to increase output in the next few years.

HCB, which suffered from lack of investment, currently provides 60 percent of its power to South Africa's Eskom and 35 percent to Zimbabwe's power utility ZESA.

Saide said the mini-hydroelectric projects offered solutions to the problem of electricity supply, which has not yet reached the whole of Mozambique. □

# Dump fossil fuels for renewables: Africa urged

RURAL AREAS on the continent will remain without electricity for a long time to come due to political underpinnings of the oil multinationals and Bretton Woods institutions, says an African Development Bank 2008 report.

According to AfDB, oil companies and the so-called Independent Power Producers are at the centre of some of the current energy problems in the region.

The report argues that a year's worth of global fossil fuels subsidies could comfortably pay off Africa's entire international debt while a year's worth of World Bank's spending on fossil fuel projects, if redirected to small-scale solar installations in Africa, would provide 10 million people with electricity.

AfDB says that less than 70 percent of the money that developed countries use in subsidising fossil fuels every year is enough to electrify non-electrified Africa.

"The lack of access to reliable and clean energy supplies is a major barrier to improving human well-being around the globe — there are an estimated 1.6 billion people living in the rural areas of developing countries who lack access to electricity — but so is dependence on fossil fuels," says the report.

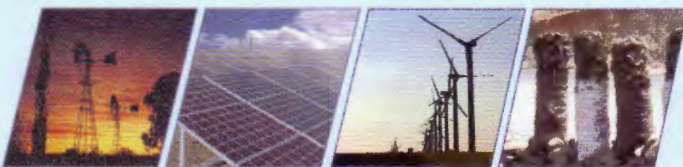
The 36-page report cautions that global warming is real and poverty eradication coupled with the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will become hot air unless the world changes its focus from fossil fuels (mostly oil) to renewables.

"Relying on fossil fuels to promote human development will be ultimately self defeating in economic terms because the economic costs of global warming are set to spiral and will affect the poorest and most vulnerable countries worst," the report warns.

"Reliance by poor countries on fossil fuels imports or fossil

fuel industries leaves them vulnerable to a range of problems including economic shocks due to price volatility, major health problems from pollution, inefficiency due to economic distortions from fossil fuel subsidies, and corruption and social instability stemming from competition for access to natural resources," it argues.

In Africa as in the most developing countries the focus on renewables has been largely neglected and is less popularised. Indeed clean energy alternatives, such as biogas, solar power, bagasse, geothermal and



Renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power have been recommended as an alternative to fossil fuels.

## Namibia switches on to solar power

THE INCREASE in electricity tariffs and soaring fuel prices experienced in southern Africa and beyond has compelled many Namibians to rethink their energy sources.

"The Ministry of Mines and Energy has embarked on a five-year renewable energy master plan, which started in 2005," Joseph litha, the ministry's permanent secretary said recently.

Assisted by the United Nations Development Programme, the government is increasing public awareness on the use of solar energy and biogas.

The government is running a programme to remove the barriers that still exist in promoting the use of renewable energy from the wind, the sun and waste to produce biogas for cooking and heating.

Solar cooking stoves are already produced in northern

wind power are ignored especially, "if you package a renewables initiative around an environmental aim."

According to Stephen Karekezi, the director of African Energy Policy Research Network (AFREPREN), a Nairobi-based energy policy think tank, "If you demonstrate how renewable energy can help economic development and address poverty I think it will receive a much more positive response."

In 2004 during the Bonn International Conference for Renewable Energies, it was observed that, "Renewable energy

flows are very large in comparison with humankind's use of energy. Therefore, in principle, all our energy needs, both now and into the future, can be met by energy from renewable sources." □

## Scientists propose solar tower to boost Namibia electricity

A HUGE solar energy tower has been proposed to boost the electricity grid in Namibia.

At one-and-a-half kilometres high and 280 metres wide — bigger than two soccer fields back-to-back — the tower could provide electricity for the whole of the Namibian capital, Windhoek.

But neither a date nor a site for the proposed tower has been confirmed, though it is expected to be close to Windhoek, says the ministry of energy in Namibia.

The operation of a solar tower involves heating air inside a vast transparent tent, several kilometres in diameter, at the base of the tower. This hot air rises inside a tall concrete chimney, driving wind turbines linked to generators.

The tent can also be used to grow crops.

The proposed tower is about three times larger than anything similar on earth and though its running costs would be low, construction would cost at least US\$900 million.

The solar chimney power plants can also produce power at night. The water used for crops is heated during sunny weather and this heat is released back into the air during the night or during cloudy weather to keep the turbines going. No extra water is required — an important issue for a desert country such as Namibia. □

# AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION-PATRIOTIC FRONT (ZANU-PF) AND THE TWO MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE (MDC) FORMATIONS, ON RESOLVING THE CHALLENGES FACING ZIMBABWE

## PREAMBLE

We, the Parties to this Agreement:

**CONCERNED** about the recent challenges that we have faced as a country and the multiple threats to the well-being of our people and, therefore, determined to resolve these permanently.

**CONSIDERING** our shared determination to uphold, defend and sustain Zimbabwe's sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity, as a respected member of the international community, a nation where all citizens respect and, therefore, enjoy equal protection of the law and have equal opportunity to compete and prosper in all spheres of life.

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the sacrifices made by thousands of Zimbabwe's gallant sons and daughters in the fight against colonialism and racial discrimination and determined to accept, cherish and recognise the significance of the Liberation Struggle as the foundation of our sovereign independence, freedoms and human rights.

**DEDICATING** ourselves to putting an end to the polarisation, divisions, conflict and intolerance that has characterised Zimbabwean politics and society in recent times.

**COMMITTING** ourselves to putting our people and our country first by arresting the fall in living standards and reversing the decline of our economy.

**EMPHASISING** our shared commitment to re-orient our attitudes towards respect for the Constitution and all national laws, the rule of law, observance of Zimbabwe's national institutions, symbols and national events.

**RESPECTING** the rights of all Zimbabweans regardless of political affiliation to benefit from and participate in all national programmes and events freely without let or hindrance.

**RECOGNISING**, accepting and acknowledging that the values of justice, fairness, openness, tolerance, equality, non-discrimination and respect of all persons without regard to race, class, gender, ethnicity, language, religion, political opinion, place of origin or birth are the bedrock of our democracy and good governance.

**DETERMINED** to build a society free of violence, fear, intimidation, hatred, patronage, corruption and founded on justice, fairness, openness, transparency, dignity and equality.

**RECOGNISING** and accepting that the Land Question has been at the core of the contestation in Zimbabwe and acknowledging the centrality of issues relating to the rule of law, respect for human rights, democracy and governance.

**COMMITTED** to act in a manner that demonstrates loyalty to Zimbabwe, patriotism and commitment to Zimbabwe's national purpose, core values, interests and aspirations.

**DETERMINED** to act in a manner that demonstrates respect for the democratic values of justice, fairness, openness, tolerance, equality, respect of all persons and human rights.

**SUBMITTING** ourselves to the mandate of the Extraordinary Summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, on 29th March 2007 and endorsed in Lusaka on 12th April 2008 and in the AU Summit held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt from 30th June to 1 July 2008.

**RECOGNISING** the centrality and importance of African institutions in dealing with African problems, we agreed to seek solutions to our differences, challenges and problems through dialogue.

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that pursuant to the Dar es Salaam SADC resolution, the Parties negotiated and agreed on a draft Constitution, initialled by the Parties on 30 September 2007, and further agreed and co-sponsored the enactment of the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment Number 18 Act, amendments to the Electoral Act, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission Act, Public Order and Security Act, Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act and Broadcasting Services Act.

**APPRECIATING** the historical obligation and need to reach a solution that will allow us to put Zimbabwe first and give the people a genuine chance of rebuilding and reconstructing their livelihoods.

**PURSUANT** to the common desire of working together, the Parties agreed to and executed a Memorandum of Understanding on 21 July 2008, attached hereto as Annexure "A".

## NOW THEREFORE AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

### ARTICLE I

#### DEFINITIONS

##### 1. Definitions

The "Agreement" shall mean this written Agreement signed by the representatives of ZANU-PF and the MDC, in its two formations ("the Parties") in fulfilment of the material mandate handed down by the SADC Extraordinary Summit on 29th March 2007 and endorsed by SADC in Lusaka, Zambia and adopted by the African Union Summit in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

The "Parties" shall mean ZANU-PF, the two MDC formations led by Morgan Tsvangirai and Arthur Mutambara respectively.

The "Government" or "New Government" means the new Government to be set up in terms of this Agreement.

### ARTICLE II

#### DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT

##### 2. Declaration of Commitment

The Parties hereby declare and agree to work together to create a genuine, viable, permanent, sustainable and nationally acceptable solution to the Zimbabwe situation and in particular to implement the following agreement with the aims of resolving once and for all the current political and economic situations and charting a new political direction for the country.

### ARTICLE III

#### RESTORATION OF ECONOMIC STABILITY AND GROWTH

##### 3. Economic recovery

###### 3.1 The Parties agree:

(a) to give priority to the restoration of economic stability and growth in Zimbabwe. The Government will lead the process of developing and implementing an economic recovery strategy and plan. To that end, the parties are committed to working together on a full and comprehensive economic programme to resuscitate Zimbabwe's economy, which will urgently

address the issues of production, food security, poverty and unemployment and the challenges of high inflation, interest rates and the exchange rate.

(b) to create conditions that would ensure that the 2008/2009 agricultural season is productive.

(c) to establish a National Economic Council, composed of representatives of the Parties and of the following sectors:

(i) Manufacturing; (ii) Agriculture; (iii) Mining; (iv) Tourism; (v) Commerce; (vi) Financial;

(vii) Labour; (viii) Academia; and (ix) Other relevant sectors.

(d) that the terms of reference of the Council shall include giving advice to Government, formulating economic plans and programmes for approval by government and such other functions as are assigned to the Council by the Government.

(e) to endorse the SADC resolution on the economy.

### ARTICLE IV

#### SANCTIONS AND MEASURES

##### 4. Sanctions and Measures

**4.1 Recognising** and acknowledging that some sections of the international community have since 2000 imposed various sanctions and measures against Zimbabwe, which have included targeted sanctions.

**4.2 The Parties** note the present economic and political isolation of Zimbabwe by the United Kingdom, European Union, United States of America and other sections of the International Community over and around issues of disputed elections, governance and differences over the land reform programme.

**4.3 Noting** and acknowledging the following sanctions and measures imposed on Zimbabwe:-

(a) enactment of the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economic Recovery Act by the United States of America Congress which outlaws Zimbabwe's right to access credit from International Financial Institutions in which the United States Government is represented or has a stake;

(b) suspension of Zimbabwe's voting and related rights, suspension of balance of payment support, declaration of ineligibility to borrow Fund resources and suspension of technical assistance to Zimbabwe by the International Monetary Fund;

(c) suspension of grants and infrastructural development support to Zimbabwe by The World Bank; and

(d) imposition of targeted travel bans against current Government and some business leaders.

**4.4 Noting** that this international isolation has over the years created a negative international perception of Zimbabwe and thereby resulting in the further isolation of the country by the non-availing of lines of credit to Zimbabwe by some sections of the international community.

**4.5 Recognising** the consequent contribution of this isolation to the further decline of the economy.

**4.6 Desirous and committed** to bringing to an end the fall in the standards of living of our people, the Parties hereby agree:-

(a) to endorse the SADC resolution on sanctions concerning Zimbabwe;

(b) that all forms of measures and sanctions against Zimbabwe be lifted in order to facilitate a sustainable solution to the challenges that are currently facing Zimbabwe; and

(c) commit themselves to working together in re-engaging the international community with a view to bringing to an end the country's international isolation.

### ARTICLE V

#### LAND QUESTION

##### 5. Land Question

**5.1 Recognising** that colonial racist land ownership patterns established during the colonial conquest of Zimbabwe and largely maintained in the post independence period were not only unsustainable, but against the national interest, equity and justice.

**5.2 Noting** that in addition to the primary objective of the liberation struggle to win one man one vote democracy and justice, the land question, namely the need for the redistribution of land to the majority indigenous people of Zimbabwe was at the core of the liberation struggle.

**5.3 Accepting** the inevitability and desirability of a comprehensive land reform programme in Zimbabwe that redresses the issues of historical imbalances and injustices in order to address the issues of equity, productivity, and justice.

**5.4 While differing** on the methodology of acquisition and redistribution the parties acknowledge that compulsory acquisition and redistribution of land has taken place under a land reform programme undertaken since 2000.

**5.5 Accepting** the irreversibility of the said land acquisitions and redistribution.

**5.6 Noting that** in the current Constitution of Zimbabwe and further in the Draft Constitution agreed to by the parties the primary obligation of compensating former land owners for land acquired rests on the former colonial power.

**5.7 Further recognising** the need to ensure that all land is used productively in the interests of all the people of Zimbabwe.

**5.8 Recognising** the need for women's access and control over land in their own right as equal citizens.

**5.9 The Parties** hereby agree to:

(a) conduct a comprehensive, transparent and non-partisan land audit, during the tenure of the Seventh Parliament of Zimbabwe, for the purpose of establishing accountability and eliminating multiple farm ownerships.

(b) ensure that all Zimbabweans who are eligible to be allocated land and who apply for it shall be considered for allocation of land irrespective of race, gender, religion, ethnicity or political affiliation;

(c) ensure security of tenure to all land holders;

(d) call upon the United Kingdom government to accept the primary responsibility to pay compensation for land acquired from former land owners for resettlement;

(e) work together to secure international support and finance for the land reform programme in terms of compensation for the former land owners and support for new farmers; and

(f) work together for the restoration of full productivity on all agricultural land.

## ARTICLE VI CONSTITUTION

### 6. Constitution

**Acknowledging** that it is the fundamental right and duty of the Zimbabwean people to make a constitution by themselves and for themselves;

**Aware** that the process of making this constitution must be owned and driven by the people and must be inclusive and democratic;

**Recognising** that the current Constitution of Zimbabwe made at the Lancaster House Conference, London (1979) was primarily to transfer power from the colonial authority to the people of Zimbabwe;

**Acknowledging** the draft Constitution that the Parties signed and agreed to in Kariba on the 30th of September 2007, annexed hereto as Annexure "B";

**Determined** to create conditions for our people to write a constitution for themselves; and **Mindful** of the need to ensure that the new Constitution deepens our democratic values and principles and the protection of the equality of all citizens, particularly the enhancement of full citizenship and equality of women.

6.1 The Parties hereby agree:

- (a) that they shall set up a Select Committee of Parliament composed of representatives of the Parties whose terms of reference shall be as follows:
  - (i) to set up such subcommittees chaired by a member of Parliament and composed of members of Parliament and representatives of Civil Society as may be necessary to assist the Select Committee in performing its mandate herein;
  - (ii) to hold such public hearings and such consultations as it may deem necessary in the process of public consultation over the making of a new constitution for Zimbabwe;
  - (iii) to convene an All Stakeholders Conference to consult stakeholders on their representation in the sub-committees referred to above and such related matters as may assist the committee in its work;
  - (iv) to table its draft Constitution to a 2nd All Stakeholders Conference; and
  - (v) to report to Parliament on its recommendations over the content of a New Constitution for Zimbabwe.
- (b) that the draft Constitution recommended by the Select Committee shall be submitted to a referendum;
- (c) that, in implementing the above, the following time frames shall apply:
  - (i) the Select Committee shall be set up within two months of inception of a new government;
  - (ii) the convening of the first All Stakeholders Conference shall be within 3 months of the date of the appointment of the Select Committee;
  - (iii) the public consultation process shall be completed no later than 4 months of the date of the first All Stakeholders Conference;
  - (iv) the draft Constitution shall be tabled within 3 months of completion of the public consultation process to a second All Stakeholders Conference;
  - (v) the draft Constitution and the accompanying Report shall be tabled before Parliament within 1 month of the second All Stakeholders Conference;
  - (vi) the draft Constitution and the accompanying Report shall be debated in Parliament and the debate concluded within one month;
  - (vii) the draft Constitution emerging from Parliament shall be gazetted before the holding of a referendum;
  - (viii) a referendum on the new draft Constitution shall be held within 3 months of the conclusion of the debate;
  - (ix) in the event of the draft Constitution being approved in the referendum it shall be gazetted within 1 month of the date of the referendum; and
  - (x) the draft Constitution shall be introduced in Parliament no later than 1 month after the expiration of the period of 30 days from the date of its gazetting.

## ARTICLE VII PROMOTION OF EQUALITY, NATIONAL HEALING, COHESION AND UNITY

### 7. Equality, National Healing, Cohesion and Unity

7.1 The Parties hereby agree that the new Government:

- a) will ensure equal treatment of all regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, place of origin and will work towards equal access to development for all;
- b) will ensure equal and fair development of all regions of the country and in particular to correct historical imbalances in the development of regions;
- c) shall give consideration to the setting up of a mechanism to properly advise on what measures might be necessary and practicable to achieve national healing, cohesion and unity in respect of victims of pre and post independence political conflicts; and
- d) will strive to create an environment of tolerance and respect among Zimbabweans and that all citizens are treated with dignity and decency irrespective of age, gender, race, ethnicity, place of origin or political affiliation.
- e) will formulate policies and put measures in place to attract the return and repatriation of all Zimbabweans in the Diaspora and in particular will work towards the return of all skilled personnel.

## ARTICLE VIII RESPECT FOR NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND EVENTS

### 8. Respect for National Institutions and Events

8.1 In the interests of forging a common vision for our country, the Parties hereby agree:-

- (a) on the necessity of all Zimbabweans regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, political affiliation and religion to respect and observe Zimbabwe's national institutions, symbols, national programmes and events; and
- (b) that all Zimbabweans regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, political affiliation and religion have the right to benefit from and participate in all national programmes and events without let or hindrance.

## ARTICLE IX EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE 9. External Interference

9.1 The Parties reaffirm the principle of the United Nations Charter on non-interference in the internal affairs of member countries.

9.2 The Parties hereby agree:-

- (a) that the responsibility of effecting change of government in Zimbabwe vests exclusively on and is the sole prerogative of the people of Zimbabwe through peaceful, democratic and constitutional means;
- (b) to reject any unlawful, violent, undemocratic and unconstitutional means of changing governments; and
- (c) that no outsiders have a right to call or campaign for regime change in Zimbabwe.

## ARTICLE X FREE POLITICAL ACTIVITY

### 10. Free political activity

Recognising that the right to canvass and freely mobilise for political support is the cornerstone of any multi-party democratic system, the Parties have agreed that there should be free political activity throughout Zimbabwe within the ambit of the law in which all political parties are able to propagate their views and canvass for support, free of harassment and intimidation.

## ARTICLE XI RULE OF LAW, RESPECT FOR THE CONSTITUTION AND OTHER LAWS

### 11. Rule of law, respect for the Constitution and other laws

11.1 The Parties hereby agree that it is the duty of all political parties and individuals to:

- (a) respect and uphold the Constitution and other laws of the land;
- (b) adhere to the principles of the Rule of Law.

## ARTICLE XII FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

### 12. Freedoms of Assembly and Association

12.1 Recognising the importance of the freedoms of assembly and association in a multiparty democracy and noting that public meetings have to be conducted in a free, peaceful and democratic manner in accordance with the law, the Parties have agreed:-

- (a) to work together in a manner which guarantees the full implementation and realisation of the right to freedom of association and assembly; and
- (b) that the Government shall undertake training programmes, workshops and meetings for the police and other enforcement agencies directed at the appreciation of the right of freedom of assembly and association and the proper interpretation, understanding and application of the provisions of security legislation.

## ARTICLE XIII STATE ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS

### 13. State organs and institutions

13.1 State organs and institutions do not belong to any political party and should be impartial in the discharge of their duties.

13.2 For the purposes of ensuring that all state organs and institutions perform their duties ethically and professionally in conformity with the principles and requirements of a multiparty democratic system in which all parties are treated equally, the Parties have agreed that the following steps be taken:-

- (a) that there be inclusion in the training curriculum of members of the uniformed forces of the subjects on human rights, international humanitarian law and statute law so that there is greater understanding and full appreciation of their roles and duties in a multi-party democratic system;
- (b) ensuring that all state organs and institutions strictly observe the principles of the Rule of Law and remain non-partisan and impartial;
- (c) laws and regulations governing state organs and institutions are strictly adhered to and those violating them be penalised without fear or favour; and
- (d) recruitment policies and practices be conducted in a manner that ensures that no political or other form of favouritism is practised.

## ARTICLE XIV TRADITIONAL LEADERS

### 14. Traditional Leaders

14.1 **Recognising and acknowledging** that traditional leaders are community leaders with equal responsibilities and obligations to all members of their communities regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, race, religion and political affiliation, the Parties hereby agree to:-

- (a) commit themselves to ensuring the political neutrality of traditional leaders; and
- (b) call upon traditional leaders not to engage in partisan political activities at national level as well as in their communities.

## ARTICLE XV NATIONAL YOUTH TRAINING PROGRAMME

### 15. National Youth Training Programme

**Recognising** the desirability of a national youth training programme which inculcates the values of patriotism, discipline, tolerance, non-violence, openness, democracy, equality, justice and respect.

**Determined** to ensure that the National Youth Training Programme raises awareness of the HIV and AIDS pandemic, engenders a spirit of community service, skills development and a commitment to the development of Zimbabwe

15.1 The Parties hereby agree that:-

- (a) all youths regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion and political affiliation are eligible to participate in national youth training programmes;
- (b) the National Youth Training Programme must be run in a non-partisan manner and shall not include partisan political material advancing the cause of any political party; and
- (c) while recognising that youths undergoing training at national youth training centres have a right to hold political opinions, they shall not, during the period of their training, collectively and as part of a scheme of the training centre be used or deployed for partisan political work.

## ARTICLE XVI HUMANITARIAN AND FOOD ASSISTANCE

### 16. Humanitarian and food assistance

16.1 In times of need, every Zimbabwean regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, political affiliation and religion is entitled to request and receive humanitarian and food assistance from the State.

16.2 It is the primary responsibility of the State to ensure that every Zimbabwean who needs humanitarian and food assistance receives it.

16.3 Non-Governmental Organisations involved in giving humanitarian and food assistance shall do so without discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, political affiliation and religion and in doing so, shall not promote or advance the interests of any political party or cause.

16.4 In this regard the Parties hereby agree:

- (a) that in the fulfilment of its obligations above, the Government and all State Institutions and quasi State Institutions shall render humanitarian and food assistance without discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, political affiliation or religion;
- (b) that humanitarian interventions rendered by Non-Governmental Organisations, shall be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, political affiliation and religion.
- (c) that all displaced persons shall be entitled to humanitarian and food assistance to enable them to return and settle in their original homes and that social welfare organisations shall be allowed to render such assistance as might be required.
- (d) that all NGO's rendering humanitarian and food assistance must operate within the confines of the laws of Zimbabwe.

## ARTICLE XVII LEGISLATIVE AGENDA PRIORITIES

### 17. Legislative agenda

17.1 The Parties hereby agree that:

- (a) the legislative agenda will be prioritised in order to reflect the letter and spirit of this agreement;
- (b) the Government will discuss and agree on further legislative measures which may become necessary to implement the Government's agreed policies and in particular, with a view to entrenching democratic values and practices.

## ARTICLE XVIII SECURITY OF PERSONS AND PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE

### 18. Security of persons and prevention of violence

18.1 **Noting** the easy resort to violence by political parties, State actors, Non-State actors and others in order to resolve political differences and achieve political ends.

18.2 **Gravely concerned** by the displacement of scores of people after the election of March 29, 2008 as a result of politically motivated violence.

18.3 **Recognising** that violence dehumanises and engenders feelings of hatred and polarisation within the country.

18.4 **Further recognising** that violence undermines our collective independence as a people and our capacity to exercise our free will in making political choices.

18.5 The Parties hereby agree:

- (a) to promote the values and practices of tolerance, respect, non-violence and dialogue as means of resolving political differences;
- (b) to renounce and desist from the promotion and use of violence, under whatever name called, as a means of attaining political ends;
- (c) that the Government shall apply the laws of the country fully and impartially in bringing all perpetrators of politically motivated violence to book;
- (d) that all political parties, other organisations and their leaders shall commit themselves to do everything to stop and prevent all forms of political violence, including by non-State actors and shall consistently appeal to their members to desist from violence;
- (e) to take all measures necessary to ensure that the structures and institutions they control are not engaged in the perpetration of violence.
- (f) that all civil society organisations of whatever description whether affiliated to a political party or not shall not promote or advocate for or use violence or any other form of intimidation or coercion to canvass or mobilise for or oppose any political party or to achieve any political end;
- (g) to work together to ensure the security of all persons and property;
- (h) to work together to ensure the safety of any displaced persons, their safe return home and their enjoyment of the full protection of the law.
- (i) to refrain from using abusive language that may incite hostility, political intolerance and ethnic hatred or unfairly undermine each other.
- (j) that while having due regard to the Constitution of Zimbabwe and the principles of the rule of law, the prosecuting authorities will expedite the determination as to whether or not there is sufficient evidence to warrant the prosecution or keeping on remand of all persons accused of politically related offences arising out of or connected with the March and June 2008 elections.

## ARTICLE XIX FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND COMMUNICATION

### 19. Freedom of Expression and Communication

**Recognising** the importance of the right to freedom of expression and the role of the media in a multi-party democracy.

**Noting** that while the provisions of the Broadcasting Services Act permit the issuance of licences, no licences other than to the public broadcaster have been issued.

**Aware** of the emergence of foreign-based radio stations broadcasting into Zimbabwe, some of which are funded by foreign governments.

**Concerned** that the failure to issue licences under the Broadcasting Services Act to alternative broadcasters might have given rise to external radio stations broadcasting into Zimbabwe.

**Further concerned** that foreign government funded external radio stations broadcasting into Zimbabwe are not in Zimbabwe's national interest.

**Desirous** of ensuring the opening up of the airwaves and ensuring the operation of as many media houses as possible.

19.1 The Parties hereby agree:-

- (a) that the government shall ensure the immediate processing by the appropriate authorities of all applications for re-registration and registration in terms of both the Broadcasting Services Act as well as the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act;
- (b) all Zimbabwean nationals including those currently working for or running external radio stations be encouraged to make applications for broadcasting licences, in Zimbabwe, in terms of the law;
- (c) that in recognition of the open media environment anticipated by this Agreement, the Parties hereby:-
  - (i) call upon the governments that are hosting and/or funding external radio stations broadcasting into Zimbabwe to cease such hosting and funding; and
  - (ii) encourage the Zimbabweans running or working for external radio stations broadcasting into Zimbabwe to return to Zimbabwe; and
- (d) that steps be taken to ensure that the public media provides balanced and fair coverage to all political parties for their legitimate political activities.
- (e) that the public and private media shall refrain from using abusive language that may incite hostility, political intolerance and ethnic hatred or that unfairly undermines political parties and other organisations. To this end, the inclusive government shall ensure that appropriate measures are taken to achieve this objective.

## ARTICLE XX FRAMEWORK FOR A NEW GOVERNMENT

### 20. Framework for a new Government

**Acknowledging** that we have an obligation to establish a framework of working together in an inclusive government;

**Accepting** that the formation of such a government will have to be approached with great sensitivity, flexibility and willingness to compromise;

**Recognising** that the formation of such a Government would demonstrate the respect of the Parties for the deeply felt and immediate hopes and aspirations of the millions of our people.

**Determined** to carry out sustained work to create the conditions for returning our country to stability and prosperity;

**Acknowledging** the need for gender parity, particularly the need to appoint women to strategic Cabinet posts;

20.1 The Parties hereby agree that:

#### 20.1.1 Executive Powers and Authority

The Executive Authority of the Inclusive Government shall vest in, and be shared among the President, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, as provided for in this Constitution and legislation. The President of the Republic shall exercise executive authority subject to the Constitution and the law.

The Prime Minister of the Republic shall exercise executive authority subject to the Constitution and the law.

The Cabinet of the Republic shall exercise executive authority subject to the Constitution and the law.

In the exercise of executive authority, the President, Vice Presidents, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Ministers, Ministers and Deputy Ministers must have regard to the principles and spirit underlying the formation of the Inclusive Government and accordingly act in a manner that seeks to promote cohesion both inside and outside government.

#### 20.1.2 The Cabinet

- (a) shall have the responsibility to evaluate and adopt all government policies and the consequential programmes;
  - (b) shall, subject to approval by Parliament, allocate the financial resources for the implementation of such policies and programmes;
  - (c) shall have the responsibility to prepare and present to Parliament, all such legislation and other instruments as may be necessary to implement the policies and programmes of the National Executive;
  - (d) shall, except where the Constitution requires ratification by Parliament, or action by the President, approve all international agreements;
  - (e) shall ensure that the state organs, including the Ministries and Departments, have sufficient financial and other resources and appropriate operational capacity to carry out their functions effectively; and
  - (f) shall take decisions by consensus, and take collective responsibility for all Cabinet decisions, including those originally initiated individually by any member of Cabinet.
- (g) The President and the Prime Minister will agree on the allocation of Ministries between them for the purpose of day-to-day supervision.

#### 20.1.3 The President

- (a) chairs Cabinet;
- (b) exercises executive authority;
- (c) shall exercise his/her powers subject to the provisions of the Constitution;
- (d) can, subject to the Constitution, declare war and make peace;
- (e) can, subject to the Constitution, proclaim and terminate martial law;
- (f) confers honours and precedence, on the advice of Cabinet;
- (g) grants pardons, respites, substitutes less severe punishment and suspends or remits sentences, on the advice of Cabinet;
- (h) chairs the National Security Council;
- (i) formally appoints the Vice Presidents;
- (j) shall, pursuant to this Agreement, appoint the Prime Minister pending the enactment of the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment no.19 as agreed by the Parties;
- (k) formally appoints Deputy Prime Ministers, Ministers and Deputy Ministers in accordance with this agreement;
- (l) after consultation with the Vice Presidents, the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Ministers, allocates Ministerial portfolios in accordance with this Agreement;

- (m) accredits, receives and recognizes diplomatic agents and consular officers;
- (n) appoints independent Constitutional Commissions in terms of the Constitution;
- (o) appoints service/executive Commissions in terms of the Constitution and in consultation with the Prime Minister;
- (p) in consultation with the Prime Minister, makes key appointments the President is required to make under and in terms of the Constitution or any Act of Parliament;
- (q) may, acting in consultation with the Prime Minister, dissolve Parliament;
- (r) must be kept fully informed by the Prime Minister on the general conduct of the government business and;
- (s) shall be furnished with such information as he/she may request in respect of any particular matter relating to the government, and may advise the Prime Minister and Cabinet in this regard.

#### 20.1.4 The Prime Minister

- (a) chairs the Council of Ministers and is the Deputy Chairperson of Cabinet;
- (b) exercises executive authority;
- (c) shall oversee the formulation of government policies by the Cabinet;
- (d) shall ensure that the policies so formulated are implemented by the entirety of government;
- (e) shall ensure that the Ministers develop appropriate implementation plans to give effect to the policies decided by Cabinet: in this regard, the Ministers will report to the Prime Minister on all issues relating to the implementation of such policies and plans;
- (f) shall ensure that the legislation necessary to enable the government to carry out its functions is in place: in this regard, he/she shall have the responsibility to discharge the functions of the Leader of Government Business in Parliament;
- (g) shall be a member of the National Security Council;
- (h) may be assigned such additional functions as are necessary further to enhance the work of the Inclusive Government;
- (i) shall, to ensure the effective execution of these tasks, be assisted by Deputy Prime Ministers; and
- (j) shall report regularly to the President and Parliament.

#### 20.1.5 Council of Ministers

To ensure that the Prime Minister properly discharges his responsibility to oversee the implementation of the work of government, there shall be a Council of Ministers consisting of all the Cabinet Ministers, chaired by the Prime Minister, whose functions shall be:

- (a) to assess the implementation of Cabinet decisions;
- (b) to assist the Prime Minister to attend to matters of coordination in the government;
- (c) to enable the Prime Minister to receive briefings from the Cabinet Committees;
- (d) to make progress reports to Cabinet on matters of implementation of Cabinet decisions;
- (e) to receive and consider reports from the Committee responsible for the periodic review mechanism; and
- (f) to make progress reports to Cabinet on matters related to the periodic review mechanism.

#### 20.1.6 Composition of the Executive

- (1) There shall be a President, which Office shall continue to be occupied by President Robert Gabriel Mugabe.
- (2) There shall be two (2) Vice Presidents, who will be nominated by the President and/or Zanu-PF.
- (3) There shall be a Prime Minister, which Office shall be occupied by Mr Morgan Tsvangirai.
- (4) There shall be two (2) Deputy Prime Ministers, one (1) from MDC-T and one (1) from the MDC-M.
- (5) There shall be thirty-one (31) Ministers, with fifteen (15) nominated by ZANU PF, thirteen (13) by MDC-T and three (3) by MDC-M. Of the 31 Ministers, three (3) one each per Party, may be appointed from outside the members of Parliament. The three (3) Ministers so appointed shall become members of the House of Assembly and shall have the right to sit, speak and debate in Parliament, but shall not be entitled to vote.
- (6) There shall be fifteen (15) Deputy Ministers, with (eight) 8 nominated by ZANU PF, six (6) by MDC-T and one (1) by MDC-M.
- (7) Ministers and Deputy Ministers may be relieved of their duties only after consultation among the leaders of all the political parties participating in the Inclusive Government.

#### 20.1.7 Senate

- (a) The President shall, in his discretion, appoint five (5) persons to the existing positions of Presidential senatorial appointments.
- (b) There shall be created an additional nine (9) appointed senatorial posts, which shall be filled by persons appointed by the President, of whom, 3 will be nominated by ZANU-PF, 3 by MDC-T and 3 by MDC-M.

#### 20.1.8 Filling of vacancies

- (a) In the event of any vacancy arising in respect of posts referred to in clauses 20.1.6 and 20.1.7(b) above, such vacancy shall be filled by a nominee of the Party which held that position prior to the vacancy arising.

### ARTICLE XXI ELECTORAL VACANCIES

#### 21. Electoral Vacancies

Aware of the divisive and often times confrontational nature of elections and by elections; Noting the need to allow this agreement to take root amongst the parties and people of Zimbabwe; and

Cognisant of the need to give our people some breathing space and a healing period;

21.1 The Parties hereby agree that for a period of 12 months from the date of signing of this agreement, should any electoral vacancy arise in respect of a local authority or parliamentary seat, for whatever reason, only the party holding that seat prior to the vacancy occurring shall be entitled to nominate and field a candidate to fill the seat subject to that party complying with the rules governing its internal democracy.

### ARTICLE XXII IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS

#### 22. Implementation mechanisms

22.1 To ensure full and proper implementation of the letter and spirit of this Agreement, the Parties hereby constitute a Joint Monitoring and Implementation

Committee ("JOMIC") to be composed of four senior members from ZANU-PF and four senior members from each of the two MDC Formations. Gender consideration must be taken into account in relation to the composition of JOMIC.

22.2 The committee shall be co-chaired by persons from the Parties.

22.3 The committee shall have the following functions:-

- (a) to assess the implementation in letter and spirit of this Agreement;
- (b) to assess the implementation of this Agreement from time to time and consider steps which might need to be taken to ensure the speedy and full implementation of this Agreement in its entirety;
- (c) to receive reports and complaints in respect of any issue related to the implementation, enforcement and execution of this Agreement;
- (d) to serve as catalyst in creating and promoting an atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding between the parties; and
- (e) to promote continuing dialogue between the Parties.

22.4 JOMIC shall be the principal body dealing with the issues of compliance and monitoring of this Agreement and to that end, the Parties hereby undertake to channel all complaints, grievances, concerns and issues relating to compliance with this Agreement through JOMIC and to refrain from any conduct which might undermine the spirit of cooperation necessary for the fulfilment of this Agreement.

22.5 The new Government shall ensure that steps are taken to make the security forces conversant with the Constitution of Zimbabwe and other laws of Zimbabwe including laws relating to public order and security.

22.6 The implementation of this agreement shall be guaranteed and underwritten by the Facilitator, SADC and the AU.

22.7 The Parties and the new Government shall seek the support and assistance of SADC and the AU in mobilizing the international community to support the new Government's economic recovery plans and programmes together with the lifting of sanctions taken against Zimbabwe and some of its leaders.

22.8 The Parties agree that they shall cause Parliament to amend any legislation to the extent necessary to bring this agreement into full force.

### ARTICLE XXIII PERIODIC REVIEW MECHANISM

#### 23. Periodic review mechanism

23.1 Having regard to the Objectives and Priorities of the New Government as set out in this Agreement, the Parties hereby agree that:

- (a) they shall constitute a committee composed of 2 representatives each to review on an annual basis progress on the implementation and achievement of the priorities and objectives set out in this Agreement, namely: Economic (restoration of economic stability and growth, sanctions, land question) Political (new constitution, promotion of equality, national healing and cohesion and unity, external interference, free political activity, rule of law, state organs and institutions, legislative agenda and priorities) Security (security of persons and prevention of violence) and Communication (media and external radio stations); and
- (b) the committee shall make recommendations to the Parties and the new government on any matters relating to this Agreement, more particularly on measures and programmes that may be necessary to take and make to realise full implementation of this Agreement.
- (c) this Agreement and the relationship agreed to hereunder will be reviewed at the conclusion of the constitution-making process.

23.2 The Parties will continually review the effectiveness and any other matter relating to the functioning of the Inclusive Government established by the Constitution in consultation with the Guarantors.

### ARTICLE XXIV INTERIM CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

#### 24. Interim Constitutional amendments

The Parties hereby agree:

- 24.1 that the constitutional amendments which are necessary for the implementation of this agreement shall be passed by parliament and assented to by the President as Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment Act No 19. The Parties undertake to unconditionally support the enactment of the said Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment No 19;
- 24.2 to include in Constitutional Amendment No 19 the provisions contained in Chapters 4 and 13, and section 121 of the draft Constitution that the Parties executed at Kariba on 30 September 2007 (Kariba draft).

### ARTICLE XXV COMMENCEMENT

#### 25. Commencement

This Agreement shall enter into force upon its signature by the Parties.

In WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties have signed this Agreement in the English language, in six identical copies, all texts being equally authentic:

DONE AT HARARE, ON THIS..... DAY OF ..... 2008

ROBERT G MUGABE  
PRESIDENT, ZANU-PF

MORGAN R TSVANGIRAI  
PRESIDENT, MDC

In WITNESS THEREOF the Facilitator:

ARTHUR G O MUTAMBARA  
PRESIDENT, MDC

THABO MBEKI  
SADC FACILITATOR



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SADC TODAY is published six times a year by the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) for the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Botswana, as a reliable, knowledge source on the Southern African Development Community. The contents consider the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) as integral to the region's development.

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SADC Today is supported by the  
Southern Africa Trust



SADC TODAY is published in English, Portuguese and French and is available electronically at [www.sadc.int](http://www.sadc.int) [www.sardc.net](http://www.sardc.net).

**DESIGN & LAYOUT**

Tonely Ngwenya

**PHOTOS & ILLUSTRATIONS**

p4 SARDC; p8 SARDC; p9 Eskom; p10 Eskom, NamPower, SARDC

**ORIGINATION & PRINT**

DS Print Media, Johannesburg

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Thanks to the following airlines for assisting with distribution of SADC Today:  
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Air Mauritius, TAAG Angolan Airlines, Zambian Airways and Air Zimbabwe

**EVENTS DIARY 2008**

6-8, USA

**U.S-Africa infrastructure conference**

This will be the third annual US-Africa Infrastructure Conference. This year's conference will focus on Information Communication Technologies (ICTs), Transportation, Energy, and Security, providing a forum to explore new business opportunities by identifying specific growth areas and projects, and to obtain information on infrastructure development throughout Africa.

20, Uganda

**Tripartite Summit of the SADC-COMESA-EAC**

The meeting will be used as an important platform for the harmonisation of the regional integration programmes and also to constitute an institutional framework for broader continental integration. The meeting is expected to address the issue of overlapping membership in the region.

30, Zambia

**Presidential election**

A presidential election will be held in Zambia following the death of President Levy Patrick Mwanawasa. According to Zambia's constitution an election must be held within 90 days of the post of president falling vacant. Four candidates have presented themselves for nomination; the acting President Rupiah Banda, Michael Sata, Hakainde Hichilema and Godfrey Miyanda.

November

12-13, Tanzania

**Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa Annual Conference**

The fifth annual conference of RERA will bring together regulators, industry leaders, policy makers, utility customers, investors and other stakeholders in the SADC region and elsewhere to exchange information on pertinent developments affecting electricity supply and demand. The theme will be "Regulatory Challenges in Harnessing Africa's Energy Potentials For Sustainable Power Supply".

25 -10 Dec SADC

**16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence**

The campaign offers an opportunity for advocating women's rights and the quest to end gender inequality and gender violence. The event will be celebrated this year with the theme "Human Rights for Women – Human Rights for all: Universal Declaration for Human Rights 60 years after."

December

1, Global

**World Aids Day**

On 1 December every year, the SADC region commemorates World AIDS Day with the rest of the world. The theme this year is "Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise."

# 40 years

22 October 1959  
14 October 1999

## Julius Nyerere: He "carried the torch that liberated Africa"



ON 22 October 1959, almost 50 years ago, when most of Africa was still under colonial rule, a visionary young African leader made a commitment on behalf of his people:

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

This was the commitment by Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere when he addressed the Tanganyika Legislative Assembly, before independence, in a speech that came to be known as "A Candle on Kilimanjaro".

When Nyerere made that speech, almost all of Africa was still under colonial rule, except for nine countries (Ethiopia, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia).

Today there are 54 independent countries in Africa.

Political pressure for independence had begun and the "wind of change" was gathering strength, but most of the southern African political parties and liberation movements that later fought and won majority rule were still banned or had not yet been constituted.

True to his principles and his vision, it was said when he died 40 years later on 14 October 1999, that he "carried the torch that liberated Africa". That day is commemorated in Tanzania as Mwalimu Nyerere Day, which marks the climax of the Uhuru Torch Race.

Those who spoke at his funeral echoed the themes of Mwalimu's commitment and legacy of integrity, unity, dignity and equality.

"He is our father, and we are his children," said Joaquim Chissano, then President of Mozambique and Chairperson of SADC, thanking the Tanzanian people led by Mwalimu for what they did to liberate southern Africa.

"All Tanzanians accepted sacrifices for this. ... Mwalimu was not only able to think and launch slogans on freedom and unity but he could install them into the hearts of citizens."

He said the unity of the people of the region was cemented when Mwalimu said, "Uhuru na Umoja: Freedom and Unity, for Tanzania and all of Africa."

We do not have real liberation yet, he said, "we still have to go ahead. Mwalimu taught us how to move together... by beginning SADC... to meet the challenges. ..."

"Today we are building a strong region, but we still have weak economies. Tanzania could have had a strong economy today if it did not accept sacrifices in building the future of the region."

The presidency of the European Union at that time was held by Finland, and its President, Martti Ahtisaari, a friend and former ambassador to Tanzania and later UN Commissioner for Namibia, came personally to bid farewell.

Mwalimu dedicated his life to the ideals of human dignity and common humanity, Ahtisaari said. He was a "tireless mediator and peace-builder... who promoted peace and stability in Africa and was an advocate of good governance worldwide."

Ahtisaari spoke for everyone when he said at the end of his statement: "Asante sana, Mwalimu. Thank-you, Mwalimu."

THE UHURU Torch was first lit on top of Mt Kilimanjaro (5,890m) on 9 December 1961 by Alex Nyirenda when he planted the flag on Tanganyika's independence day, symbolically to shine over the country and across borders. The Uhuru Torch is one of the national symbols of Tanzania. It is a kerosene torch that symbolizes freedom, hope and development. At Butiama, Nyerere's birthplace and his final resting place, a rock kopje next to his house holds a place of honour for the torch when it arrives.

The Uhuru Torch Race starts from different places every year. The 2008 Uhuru Torch was lit in Msonga Village, Coast Region on 29 March and will be extinguished in Tanga Region on 14 October. Significant funds are raised from private sector for community development projects through the Uhuru Torch Race, which is a development catalyst and a symbol of community self-reliance.

### Public Holidays in SADC October - December 2008

1 October	Public Holiday	Botswana
1 October	Eid ul Fitr*	Mauritius, Tanzania
4 October	Independence Day	Lesotho
4 October	Reconciliation Day/Peace Day	Mozambique
13 October	Mothers Day	Malawi
14 October	Mwalimu Nyerere Day and climax of the Uhuru Torch Race	Tanzania
21 October	Divali	Mauritius
24 October	Independence Day	Zambia
30 October	Public Holiday (Presidential Election)	Zambia
1 November	All Saints Day	Madagascar
2 November	All Saints Day	Angola
2 November	Arrival of Indentured Labour	Mauritius
11 November	Independence Day	Angola
9 December	Independence Day	Tanzania
10 December	International Human Rights	Namibia
16 December	Day of Reconciliation	South Africa
22 December	National Unity Day	Zimbabwe
25 December	Christmas Day	All SADC
26 December	Boxing Day	Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Malawi, Zimbabwe
26 December	Family Day	Namibia
26 December	Day of Goodwill	South Africa

\* Depends on visibility of the moon