



# THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY TODAY



SADC Today, Vol 10 No. 3 October 2007

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## Leadership

**President Levy Mwanawasa** of Zambia was elected the new Chairperson of SADC for 2007/8 and President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa is the deputy Chairperson. South Africa will host the 2008 Summit. Together with the previous Chairperson, Lesotho Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili, they make up the current SADC Troika.

**President José Eduardo dos Santos** of Angola is the new Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, and King Mswati III of Swaziland is deputy Chairperson. They join the outgoing Chairperson, President Jakaya Kikwete of the United Republic of Tanzania, on the Organ Troika.



## SADC Brigade anchors regional peace support operations

by Munetsi Madakufamba

**THE 2007 SADC Summit** held in Lusaka, Zambia will be remembered for the historic launch of the SADC Brigade, a regional multidimensional peace support operations capability established under the framework of the African Standby Force.

The SADC Brigade, launched through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by southern African leaders on 17 August, was established to guarantee peace, security and political stability, which are prerequisites for development.

Consisting of military, police and civilian components, the force will rely on resources pledged by member states on a standby arrangement. Other support mechanisms could be in the form of logistical and medical services.

The persistence of conflict in some parts of Africa has hampered socio-economic development and integration efforts. This has prompted the continent to review its security agenda.

In 2002, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) was transformed into the African Union in conformity with the UN Charter and the ultimate objectives of the OAU Charter. The transformation ushered in, among other structures and mechanisms, the AU Peace and Security

Council, the African Standby Force and the Military Staff Committee.

The policy document for the establishment of the African Standby Force and the Military Staff Committee was adopted by African leaders in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in July 2004. The African

*continued on page 2*

## New impetus to regional infrastructure

**SADC HAS** committed to embark on radical measures to strengthen infrastructure development and speed up the process of implementing its regional integration programme.

At the 27th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Lusaka, Zambia from 16-17 August, southern African leaders expressed concern at the slow pace of implementing goals and targets to achieve regional integration and eradicate poverty.

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# SADC Brigade anchors regional peace support operations

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Standby Force finds its legal backing in Article 4(d) of the Constitutive Act of the AU and Article 13 of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the AU.

Once fully established, the African Standby Force will consist of standby multidisciplinary contingents, with civilian and military components located in their countries of origin and ready for rapid deployment anywhere on the continent at appropriate notice.

The AU framework document calls for the establishment of the force in two phases with Phase I having ended on 30 June 2005 while Phase II will end on 30 June 2010.

Thus establishment of the SADC Brigade, along with standby forces that are to be, or

have already been, established in the other four regions of the continent, is a step towards the African Standby Force that should be in place by 2010.

The SADC Standby Force will, among other duties, perform observations and monitoring missions, peace support missions, and interventions for peace and security restoration in grave circumstances at the request of a member state.

The force will also be used for preventive deployment in order to prevent a dispute or conflict from escalating; an ongoing violent conflict from spreading to neighbouring areas or states; the resurgence of violence after parties to a conflict have reached an agreement.

Other duties will include peace-building, including post-conflict disarmament

and demobilisation and humanitarian assistance to alleviate the suffering of civilian population in conflict areas.

In a departure from peace support operations of yesteryear, the SADC Standby Force embraces a civilian component to perform functions ranging from provision of financial and administrative management to the provision of legal advice and the protection of human rights including women and children.

The force has a Planning Element at the SADC Secretariat in Botswana, which is its only permanent structure. This is composed of regional military, police and civilian staff on secondment from member states on rotation.

The Planning Element operates on a daily basis as a tool of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Co-

operation, taking instructions from the SADC Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff and the Committee of SADC Police Chiefs.

"The SADC Brigade, like all other regional brigades, will be part and parcel of the African Standby Force," said Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa during the launch ceremony in Lusaka.

Mwanawasa added that earmarked capabilities of the troops or personnel will be domiciled in their countries of origin on an "on call" level of alert for the duration of the assignment in line with prescribed times of response.

"In short, this is in fact a permanent standby arrangement," he said.

Member states will be responsible for training their personnel with SADC standardising training objectives at all levels of the brigade to ensure compatibility and interoperability of systems and equipment respectively. Such standards should also be compatible with those already developed by the UN.

The Regional Peace Training Centre located in Zimbabwe and other national peace support training institutions will play a pivotal role in training military commanders, police officers and civilian officials at various levels while at the same time acting as the "clearinghouse" for all peace support operations and training activities in the region.

SADC member states have also agreed to establish the Main Logistics Depot in Botswana to support the operations of the force from a central point.

Discussions between the SADC Secretariat and the government of Botswana are said to be at an advanced stage to enter into an MOU establishing the depot. □

## New impetus to regional infrastructure

*continued from page 1*

To this end, the Summit directed the SADC Secretariat to work out the details of a regional Master Plan for Infrastructure Development in close co-operation with Member States.

The SADC Chairperson, President Levy Mwanawasa of Zambia said regional integration is hampered by inadequate infrastructure in the key sectors of energy, transport, communication, water and tourism.

Electricity generation capacity in SADC at present is only 52,743 MW of which 41,000 MW is secured capacity available for distribution to consumers against demand of 42,000 MW.

The mismatch between demand and supply is a result of a number of factors in-

cluding lack of investment over the last 10 years, growing population as well as expanding industries.

The existing road and rail transport infrastructure in SADC needs rehabilitation to meet the region's current objectives of deeper regional integration. This includes increased intra-regional trade in line with the targets of a Free Trade Area by 2008, Customs Union in 2010 and Common Market by 2015.

In response to the acknowledged urgent need for suitable infrastructure and services as the region moves to strengthen regional integration, the southern African leaders held a



brainstorming session during the Summit, in line with the Summit theme, "Infrastructure Development in Support of Regional Integration."

The leaders noted that Member States lack financial capacity to rehabilitate regional infrastructure and fund new projects, despite the region being well placed to receive long-term investment necessary for infrastructure development given the peaceful environment.

The Summit called for financial support from the private sector and the international community to complement regional efforts. □

# Gender Protocol referred to Member States for more consultations

by Barbara Lopi

**SADC LEADERS** have deferred the signing of the Protocol on Gender and Development to give Member States more time to conclude national consultations.

The draft protocol is now being circulated widely so that consensus can be reached at the national levels, early enough to be considered for signing at the next Summit of Heads of State and Government in 2008.

A communiqué presented at the end of the 27th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in Lusaka on 17 August 2007 read, "...Summit noted progress on the negotiations of the protocol on gender and development and agreed to defer its signature to allow some Member States to conclude their internal consultations."

The new SADC Chairperson, President Levy Mwanawasa of Zambia, said after the Summit that he is hopeful the Protocol will be considered for signing in 2008.

"It came to our attention during Summit that some countries needed to consult before they could sign the protocol. There were some amendments to the document that were added at the last minute," Mwanawasa said.

Member States have been requested to engage further in national consultations with all relevant partners to ensure ownership of the draft by all stakeholders. In addition, the SADC Secretariat plans to hold a strategy meeting on the protocol in November, for senior officials.

Wider dissemination of the draft protocol is pivotal to increasing awareness on the contents of the document and facilitating debate to reach consensus.

It is now critical for the national gender machineries to facilitate in-depth and thorough consultations at national level.

A protocol is the most binding of SADC legal instruments. Once it is signed and comes into operation, the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development will provide a legal and institutional framework for the region to accelerate implemen-

tation of commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment.

Despite some progress, implementation of gender targets in southern Africa still falls short of stated commitments as gaps and obstacles that prevent gender

equality from being a reality still prevail.

This has caused governments to reflect on their commitments in a very practical manner and to request more time to consider the contents of the protocol and the targets. □

## Key elements of Draft Protocol on Gender and Development

**THE DRAFT** SADC Protocol on Gender and Development proposes specific goals and targets to ensure accountability in addressing inequalities in constitutional and legal rights; governance; education and training; productive resources and employment; gender-based violence; health; HIV and AIDS; peace building and conflict resolution; and in the media, information and communication.

Proposed targets in the Draft Protocol currently being circulated to facilitate wider consultations at national level include the following:

- Enshrine gender equality in national constitutions by 2015.
- Review, amend or repeal all discriminatory laws by 2015.
- Abolish the minority status of women by 2010.
- Endeavour to have women holding 50 percent of decision-making positions in the public and private sectors by 2015.
- Ensure that men and women participate equally in decision-making by putting in place policies and strategies that ease the burden of multiple roles played by women.
- Enact laws and promote equal access to primary, secondary, tertiary and vocational education in line with the Protocol on Education and Training by 2015.
- Enact and enforce legislation prohibiting all forms of gender-based violence by 2015.
- Take measures to protect women, men, girls and boys

against HIV and AIDS infection and other sexually transmitted infections contracted as a result of any sexual violation.

- Eradicate harmful traditional norms, practices and religious beliefs that legitimise and exacerbate the persistence and tolerance of gender-based violence.
- Enact and adopt specific legislative provisions by 2010 to prevent human trafficking.
- Introduce a composite index for measuring the reduction in gender-based violence.
- Allocate the necessary resources to ensure the implementation and sustainability of the programmes set out in the Protocol.
- Adopt and implement legislative frameworks, policies, programmes and services to enhance gender sensitive, appropriate and affordable quality health care particularly in maternal health, sexual and reproductive health, in line with the SADC Protocol on Health, by 2015.
- Adopt and implement gender sensitive policies and programmes in prevention, treatment, care and support in accordance with the Maseru Declaration on HIV and AIDS.
- Put in place measures to ensure that women have equal representation and participation in key decision-making positions in conflict resolution and peace building processes by 2015 in accordance with

UN Council Resolution 1325 on peace-building, peace-making and peace-keeping.

- Recognise gender equality as intrinsic to freedom of expression and ensure that all women and men have the right to communicate their views, interests and needs.
- Put in place public education, information, and education and communication strategies to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of women and men, which are based on stereotyped roles for women and men.
- Adopt legislative measures to enforce 50 percent representation of women in decision-making positions in both the public and private media by 2015.
- Increase the number of programmes for, by and about women, on gender specific topics, and that challenge gender stereotypes.
- Ensure access to education and training in information and communication technologies including a commitment to specifically provide opportunities to increase girls' literacy and to ensure participation by girls and women in technology education and training at all levels.
- Ensure the use of information and communication technologies in the health, education, trade, employment and other development arenas for women's empowerment. □



# SADC braces for climate change challenge

by Tigere Chagutah and Mukundi Mutasa

**SADC MEMBER** States are taking bold steps to ease the impact of climate change as evidence points to continued warming and drier conditions across the mainland countries.

Increasingly violent cyclones are forecast to hit the island and coastal states, especially in the Mozambique Channel.

Announcing various measures to address global warming in the region, SADC leaders attending the high-level meeting on climate change at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in September called for urgent global action, and local solutions to the climate menace.

The discussion, which drew more than 100 Heads of State and Government and about 80 Ministers of Foreign Affairs, was the largest-ever gathering on climate change.

Delegates witnessed a bold show of political will to tackle climate change by the region's leadership who stressed the need for action.

They announced various measures being taken by SADC Member States as they prepare to deal with the impacts of climate change, while also noting the challenges of low adaptive capacity.

Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos reiterated his country's commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol - the current global framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2012.

Among measures to reduce emissions, dos Santos told delegates that the oil-rich southern African country plans to cut the burning of gas resulting from oil production.

"My government is committed to the total elimination, by 2010, of such gas by transform-

ing it into liquefied natural gas," dos Santos said.

Botswana indicated that it fully supports the UNFCCC as the Convention provides an appropriate global framework for addressing the challenges of climate change.

"What we need is the political will to mobilise resources to facilitate effective implementation of the Convention," said Mopati Merafhe, Botswana's Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, adding that his government has established "a multi-sectoral national committee on climate change" to advise on relevant issues.

Marco Hausiku, the Foreign Minister of Namibia said climate change is a global issue with serious implications for economic growth, sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Hausiku called upon "the private sector to join hands with governments to develop and apply technologies that can mitigate climate change."

## Climate change and glaciers in Africa

**EVIDENCE OF** climate change is starkly visible in the disappearance of glaciers on mountains near the equator in East Africa.

Glaciers are found on three mountains in Africa - the Rwenzori mountains on the DRC-Uganda border, Mount Kenya in Kenya, and Mt Kilimanjaro in the United Republic of Tanzania.

Retreat of these glaciers began around the 1880s as a result of a decrease in precipitation and an increase in solar radiation from reduced cloudiness. Later in the 20th century, increased temperature became an additional driver, although its relative importance is still debated.

"The international community has to live up to its commitment to provide resources to developing countries to adapt to the effect of climate change," he told the high-level meeting. "Namibia is not happy with the rate at which investments are made in the development of renewable and clean energy sources."

President Levy Mwanawasa of Zambia, who is the current SADC Chairperson, stressed the low adaptive capacity to climate change by developing countries.

"Our early warning systems are inadequate to face the new challenges by climate change. These include weather forecasting, disaster prediction and preparedness," he said.

"The inadequacy in early warning systems makes it difficult for us to plan for our farming. It also undermines our ability to respond timely to crisis situations induced by adverse effects of climate change."

Madagascar's President Marc Ravalomanana implored some industrialised nations who have

been "dragging their feet" to move to enable the creation of an "ecological partnership" with Africa.

"The mission of this partnership would be to find creative solutions to these climate and environmental problems. Priority actions need to be agreed upon. A funding and investment strategy needs to be developed. And a strategy for monitoring progress needs to be formulated," said Ravalomanana.

Over the past decade, Madagascar has experienced an increase in the number of violent cyclones from an average of two to five cyclones a year, to five to eight cyclones a year.

Madagascar's records going back 50 years show that the average temperatures have increased by 0.65 degrees Celsius.

During the same period, the length of the growing period in the rice fields on the Madagascar Highlands has decreased as the number of days without rain has increased by one day per year.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, climate change studies reveal that there has been a general increase in temperature over the last 40 years, and rainfall has been decreasing in most parts of the country during this same period.

With recent research showing that, due to global warming, the

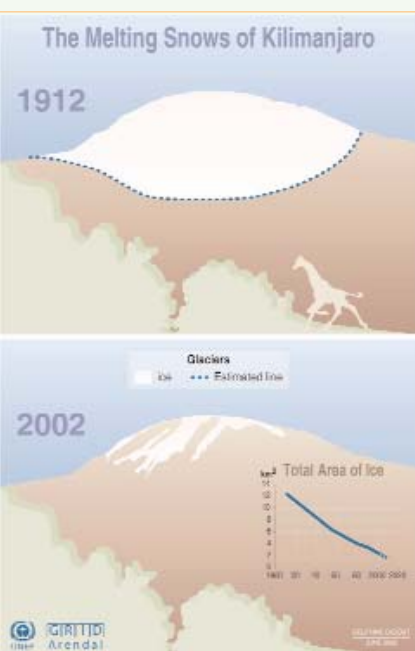


1950s



1999

Glacier at the summit of Mt Kilimanjaro



glaciers at the summit of Mt Kilimanjaro are melting so quickly that they will be gone by 2020, there is concern that human activities may have set in motion irreversible climatic changes.

Studies conducted in Zimbabwe show that the monthly highest daily maximum temperatures for most of the country are on the increase, by about 2 degrees Celsius per century.

Data shows that the length of the cold winter spell is decreasing by about 15 days per century.

"With predictions that agricultural productivity in Zimbabwe could decrease by up to 30 percent this century and marked by severe drought, climate change poses one of the most serious food security challenges of the 21st century in the country," said Francis Nhema, Zimbabwe's Minister of Environment and Tourism and current chair of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

Nhema called for the setting up of a 'Special Adaptation Fund for Africa' in order to build adaptive capacity on the continent.

A number of countries confirmed that they have completed their National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs) on climate change. These include Lesotho, Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia. The NAPAs identify priority

## GEO 4: Climate change reaches a tipping point

**THE GLOBAL Environment Outlook (GEO 4)** acknowledges that climate change has reached a tipping point with widespread impacts on both people and the environment.

According to the report, climate change, including global warming, is well underway with average world temperatures having risen by 0.74°C over the last century. This trend shows that 11 of the warmest years in the last 125 years have occurred since 1990.

The Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change projects an increase in the average global temperature of 1.8 - 4°C by the end of this century.

Climate change impacts are already evident and include changes in water availability, food insecurity, sea-level rise and the melting of ice cover and

snow in the Greenland ice sheet and on mountains such as the Kilimanjaro in Tanzania.

The projected increase in frequency and intensity of heat waves, storms, floods and droughts would affect millions of people across the world. Africa is one of the regions most vulnerable to climate change.

The array of adaptive responses ranges from purely technological such as sea defences to managerial such as modified farm practices, to policy including regulation of greenhouse gas emissions.

Carbon dioxide is the principal greenhouse gas that causes climate change. Ozone depleting substances also cause climate change and are responsible for the hole in the stratospheric ozone layer over the Antarctic which protects people

from harmful ultraviolet radiation. The hole is now the largest ever seen.

Due to decreased emissions of ozone depleting substances, the ozone layer is expected to recover, but not until the period 2060 to 2075. This projection assumes full compliance with the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

The ozone depleting substances have undergone a massive phase out over the last 20 years, with 2004 emissions being 20 percent of the 1990 level.

The GEO 4 report is set for launch in October in 40 cities, including Johannesburg, South Africa and Port Louis, Mauritius, with the main launch at the UN Headquarters in New York. □

areas for which urgent and immediate action is required for the countries to adapt to the effects of climate change.

The New York event was aimed at securing political commitment and building momentum for the UN Climate Change Conference to be held in Bali, Indonesia in December, where negotiations on a new international climate agreement should start.

That meeting will seek to determine future action on mitigation, adaptation, the global carbon market and financing responses to climate change after the expiry of the Kyoto Protocol.

Commenting on proceedings, the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, said, "I sensed something remarkable happening, something transformative - a sea-change, whereby leaders showed themselves willing to put aside blame for the past and pose to themselves more forward-looking questions."

"Our job is to translate the spirit of New York into deeds in Bali," said Mr. Ban. □

## SAEO: Impact on southern Africa

**THE FORTHCOMING Southern Africa Environment Outlook (SAEO)** projects serious climate change impacts in this region, as records from SADC countries show that average temperatures have risen by more than 0.5°C over the past 100 years, and the 1990s were the warmest and driest ever.

With eight of SADC's 14 Member States having a total of more than 15,000 km of coastline, the region would also be affected by a rise in the sea level, estimated to reach 15-95 cm by 2100. Much of the global rise in sea levels will be due to the melting of ice cover in the Greenland ice sheet.

Mountain glaciers around the world also continue to melt. Southern Africa's beacon in this regard is Mt Kilimanjaro in northern Tanzania. The total area covered by snow on Mt Kilimanjaro decreased by six-fold from about 12 sq km in 1900 to two sq km in 2000.

With increasing atmospheric emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and result-

ant climate change, summer rainfall is expected to decrease over subtropical regions of southern Africa, while increasing over tropical regions. A decrease in the winter rainfall region of the southern Cape is also probable.

The anticipated five percent decrease in rainfall due to climate change will affect people and all forms of wildlife, including plants and animals.

The *Southern Africa Environment Outlook* projects crop yields to drop by as much as 10-20 percent in some parts of southern Africa as the region becomes more arid, and predicts the spread of the malaria-carrying *Anopheles* female mosquito to parts of Namibia and South Africa where it has not been found before.

The report cautions that it is not possible to predict with any degree of certainty the exact timing, magnitude and nature of expected climate changes under the effects of global warming. □



# Madagascar elects legislators as economy resurges

by Mukundi Mutasa

**MADAGASCAR WENT** to the polls on 23 September to choose parliamentary representatives as the country's economy registered yet another remarkable improvement in five years.

The elections held in September were to choose 127 national assembly representatives in 119 districts.

The number for parliamentary seats was reduced from the previous 160.

President Marc Ravalomanana's ruling party, I Love Madagascar (TIM), captured all the seats in the capital Antananarivo, as it claimed 106 out of the 127 seats in parliament.

The election was observed by teams from the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and the African Union (AU). South Africa also sent an observer team.

The September elections came a month after SADC leaders met during an ordinary Summit in Lusaka, Zambia, where they expressed satisfaction with a growing culture of multiparty democracy in the region. Most Member States are holding regular elections.

According to the SADC Summit 2007 Communiqué, the leaders noted the peaceful and orderly manner in which the people of the DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar and Zambia exercised their democratic right in the elections.

Madagascar held its presidential elections in December 2006 in which President Ravalomanana was elected, defeating 13 other presidential candidates to retain the position he won in 2002.

It was during these presidential elections that Madagascar first embraced the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing

Democratic Elections since they were adopted in 2004.

Madagascar was formally admitted to SADC at the 25th Summit in Botswana in 2005.

Under the principles and guidelines, SADC member states seek to uphold full participation of all their citizens in their country's political processes.

The guidelines also call on the countries to ensure that their citizenry has equal opportunity to exercise the right to vote and be voted for.

Using the guidelines, a SADC Election Observation Mission is dispatched to observe an election in the region, made up of representatives from government or opposition parties in various Member States and headed by a Minister from the country that chairs the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security, currently Angola.

Since coming to power in 2002, Ravalomanana has embarked on widespread economic and social reforms that stirred the southern African country out of decades of recession.

Speaking during the UN General Assembly in New York on 26 September, Ravalomanana said his country recorded five percent economic growth five years ago, six percent over the last few years, rising to seven percent in 2007.

"Poverty rates are dropping dramatically. In 2002, 80 percent of our population was living in poverty, last year this rate stood at 67 percent," said Ravalomanana.

The parliamentary elections are the third to be held since President Ravalomanana, was given his second mandate in the December 2006 presidential elections.

Madagascar held a constitutional referendum in April 2007 that subsequently led to the national assembly being dissolved close to a year before the time the legislators' term was supposed to expire. The National Assembly was dissolved on 24 July 2007.

The landslide victory in the referendum allowed the government to go ahead with the abolition of the six provinces replacing them with 22 smaller developmental administrative areas.

English was also added as a third official language in Madagascar after the referendum in April. Malagasy and French are the other official languages. □

## 2007 Regional Schools Essay Competition



Diana Kawendu reads her winning essay at the Summit

**SADC CONTINUES** with its programme of involving the youth in regional integration with winners of the 2007 SADC Secondary Schools Essay Competition receiving their prizes during the 27th Summit in August.

The winners of the regional competition were presented with prize money of US\$1500, US\$1000 and US\$750 for first, second and third prizes respectively.

The top prize was won by Diana Kawendu of Zimbabwe.

Diana's winning essay addressed various issues that affect poverty in southern Africa, including HIV and AIDS as well as the colonial legacy. She also discussed the measures being taken by southern African countries to address these challenges.

The prizes were presented by Lesotho Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili, the outgoing Chairperson of SADC.

In its ninth consecutive year running, this year's competition was sponsored by Southern Africa Trust. □

## Mozambique leads the way to visa-free region

**MOZAMBIQUE IS** moving rapidly towards visa-free borders and leading the way to meet SADC targets for easing the movement of people and goods in the region.

Over the past few years, Mozambique has shed visa requirements for neighbouring countries, with the final agreement for Zimbabwe taking effect on 1 November.

Mozambique and Zimbabwe signed a visa waiver agreement for the citizens of both countries in a move seen as "the re-meeting of the two peoples."

The agreement was signed in Maputo by the Minister of the Interior, José Pacheco, and his Zimbabwean counterpart, the Minister of Home Affairs, Kembo Mohadi.

Mozambique has no visa agreements with its immediate neighbours of Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania and Zambia, as

well as the host country of the SADC headquarters, Botswana.

The agreement is in line with the spirit of the SADC Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons, adopted in a watershed decision by the 2005 SADC Summit in Botswana.

The protocol still needs to be ratified by two-thirds of the 14 Member States to come into effect, and countries have been encouraged to sign visa waiver agreements bilaterally.

Certainly the move will benefit small-and-medium-scale businesses. However, another group that the agreement seeks to target is women who account largely for the thriving informal trade in border areas.

The no-visa agreements enable citizens of each country who are holders of valid passports to enter and settle temporarily or transit through the territories of both countries without any hindrance, for a period of 30 days. □



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## EVENTS DIARY 2007

October  
17 Ghana

### African Business Leaders Forum

The forum aims to identify and propose implementation of sustainable solutions to the continent's developmental challenges. The forum will have leaders from both public and private sectors to deliberate on critical issues such as service delivery, infrastructure development and poverty alleviation

25 Mauritius,  
South Africa

### Simultaneous launch of GEO-4

The Global Environment Outlook (GEO) is a UNEP project aimed at providing environmental information for decision-makers, early warning and capacity building at the global and sub-regional levels. Issued every four years, GEO is in its 4th phase. GEO 4 will be simultaneously launched in 40 cities around the world, with the main launch at UN headquarters in New York.

31 Oct-2 Nov Kenya

### Powering Africa: the financial options

Experts in the finance sector will meet with government officials and senior power and gas executives to talk money. What is happening in the financial markets, and how will it impact the expansion of Africa's power sector? These are some of the questions that will be discussed at the meeting in Mombasa.

November  
5-9 Zambia

### SADC Extraordinary Council of Ministers

The Council is responsible for supervising and monitoring the functions and development of SADC and ensuring that policies are properly implemented. Council comprises the ministers for foreign affairs, international cooperation, economic development or planning and finance from Member States. Council is preceded by the Standing Committee of Senior Officials of SADC, which plays an advisory role.

20-21 Egypt

### Africa/Middle East Renewable Energy Summit

The meeting will discuss the economics of renewable energy including markets, government policies, technological issues as well as demand and supply questions.

22-29 Zimbabwe

### The Zambezi Basin-wide Stakeholder Forum

The forum will track progress made in managing water resources in the basin; learn from the basin-wide experiences in water resources management; build alliances and synergies; and promote stakeholder dialogue.

23-25 Uganda

### Commonwealth Heads Of Government Meeting

Under the theme "Transforming Commonwealth Societies to Achieve Political, Economic and Human Development," leaders of the 52-member grouping will meet in Kampala for CHOGM, held every two years.

December  
8 Portugal

### EU-AU Summit

The summit will discuss issues of mutual interest to the two continents with a view to strengthening existing and future cooperation. The summit is expected to adopt a joint EU-AU strategy for cooperation and aimed at building an effective partnership between the two continents.





# MWALIMU JULIUS KAMBARAGE NYERERE 1922-1999

by David Martin

IN OCTOBER 1959, speaking to the Legislative Assembly two years before Tanganyika's independence, Julius Nyerere expressed the essence of his beliefs:

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

Faced with a choice between teaching and politics, Nyerere had chosen the latter, though he remained committed to both. He was nominated to the Tanganyika Legislative Council in July 1957, but resigned in December in protest at Britain's delaying of independence.

In Tanganyika's first elections in 1958, he was elected to Parliament and was returned unopposed in the 1960 general election. He formed the first Tanganyika Council of Ministers and became the first Chief Minister.

In May 1961, Nyerere became Prime Minister, resigning six weeks after independence to bridge the potential gap between government and party.

Tanganyika became independent on 9 December 1961 and a year later when the country became a republic, Nyerere, elected by over 96 per cent of the voters, became its first President. He had offered to delay independence for the sake of unity with Kenya and Uganda, and was deeply committed to the unity of Africa, a reality that is coming to pass after his death.

He was a founding father of the Southern African Development Community, the East African Community and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

While those in the developed world walked, his brisk and sprightly stride implied, as he repeatedly said, that Africa had to run to catch up. Once political freedom was attained, unity and development, coupled with hard work, were essential pre-requisites in nation building.

He was the champion of the liberation of southern Africa becoming the first chairman of the Front Line States. In Tanzania, Africa and the world he was regarded almost with awe.

Such reaction was contrary to that which Nyerere wanted. He was above all a simple man combining this with formidable discipline.

Apart from his simplicity and piercing intellect, one of Nyerere's most endearing traits was his honesty. Today it is no longer fashionable among journalists to take politicians at their word or even imagine in advance what those words might be.

Yet if you applied obvious logic, Nyerere was highly predictable. Once I said on the BBC that he would take the extreme step of leaving the Commonwealth if British Prime Minister Edward Heath resumed arms supplies to South Africa. Some days later Nyerere asked me how I knew that was his decision. To this day I have never been sure whether he was flattered or not at being told he was that obvious.

For the next 24 years Nyerere filled the African and international stage like a colossus, before stepping down as President in 1985 to concentrate on development of the South Centre, of which he was the first chairman.

When he met the astute US Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, for the first time in Dar es Salaam in 1976, the two men began a mental verbal fencing match of mammoth proportions, often using quotations from Shakespeare (several of whose works Nyerere had translated into Swahili setting them in an African context).

Neither man trusted the other. Kissinger wanted the negotiations kept secret. Nyerere wanted transparency, and as Africa correspondent of the London Sunday newspaper, The Observer, I had the benefit of his strategic briefings. That year, thanks to Mwalimu, Africa was the main story on the front page of the newspaper on an unprecedented 16 occasions, as one political fox temporarily outwitted the other.

Nyerere's distinctive grey hair atop a slight but athletic body always stood out from the crowd. When he was in his seventies, young security officers had to run to keep up with him and the sound of his mercurial voice, raised and then whispered, was still resonant and haunting.

I was fascinated by the man who was to become my informal professor, teaching me the principles of African liberation, non-racism, and "thinking South".

South, he said, was not a geographical description but a way of thinking. Nyerere, as his record testifies, recognised the equality of all human beings irrespective of race, ethnicity, gender or religion.

It was a year after my arrival in Dar es Salaam in January 1964 that I met Nyerere for an interview and when I did so it was strictly on his terms.

I learned two things about the man from that meeting. The first was that he was a master media manager, a quality some other contemporary leaders could well emulate. He spoke to journalists on his terms when he had something to say.

At another meeting I recall commenting on the number of African countries who were not paying their dues to the OAU Liberation Committee, which was based on Dar es Salaam. He looked at me, thoughtfully chewing the inner corner of his cheek in the characteristic way he had when concentrating.

Having made his decision, he passed across a file swearing me to secrecy as to its details. It contained Tanzania's budget for that year for the liberation movements fighting colonialism and minority rule in Angola, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa and the Comoro islands.

I was astounded by just how much Tanzanians were paying; a sum well beyond the country's publicised contribution.

Therein lies Nyerere's greatest contribution. All of the countries of the continent, with the exception of Saharawi, are now fully independent. When Nyerere had spoken to the Legislative Assembly in 1959 only nine countries were independent; today the number is 54.

All of southern Africa's liberation movements at one time had their headquarters in Dar es Salaam. In the heady days of the 1960s through to the somewhat calmer 1980s, Tanzania was to be the crossroads of Africa.

Domestically, Nyerere's most enduring legacy must be Tanzania's unity and stability. From over 120 ethnic groups, Nyerere forged a united nation bonded by a single language, Swahili, and he united the sovereign states of Tanganyika and Zanzibar into the single country now called the United Republic of Tanzania. (sardc.net)

*David Martin (1936-2007) was a journalist and photographer who lived in Tanzania for 10 years from 1964 before moving to Zambia and then Zimbabwe, and he talked frequently with Nyerere during the next 35 years.*



"IN HIS 77 years of mortal life, Mwalimu did much for our nation, for the African continent, and for the world. He made us free and contributed to the freedom of others beyond our borders. Like Nkrumah he believed the indignity of one African was the indignity of all Africans; and that as long as there was an African country under colonial domination, the freedom of one African country was meaningless. He mobilised our national will, spirit and resources for the total liberation of Africa. ...

His view of freedom was all-encompassing. It was not restricted to political independence, but extended to a vision of a totally liberated human being - in political, economic, social and cultural terms. ...

I am sure if Mwalimu could speak to us now, he would be exhorting us to pick up his mantle and carry on the struggle against poverty, against injustice, against bigotry. ... He would urge us to move much more quickly to integrate African economies, and promote African unity. He would appeal for collective South-South self-reliance."

*HE Benjamin Mkapa, then President of the United Republic of Tanzania, speaking at the State Funeral for Mwalimu Nyerere, on 21 October 1999 in Dar es Salaam.*

## Public Holidays in SADC for the period October - December 2007

1 October	Public Holiday	Botswana
4 October	Independence Day	Lesotho
4 October	Peace Day	Mozambique
8 October	Mother's Day	Malawi
12 October	Eid - Ul Fitr*	Mauritius, Tanzania
14 October	Mwalimu Nyerere Day and Climax of "The Uhuru Torch Race"	Tanzania
24 October	Independence Day	Zambia
1 November	All Saints Day	Madagascar
2 November	All Saints Day	Angola
2 November	Arrival of Indentured	Mauritius
9 November	Divali	Labourers
11 November	Independence Day	Mauritius
9 December	Independence Day	Angola
10 December	International Human Rights Day	Tanzania
16 December	Day of Reconciliation	Namibia
22 December	National Unity Day	Rights Day
25 December	Christmas Day	South Africa
26 December	Boxing Day	Zimbabwe
26 December	Family Day	Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Malawi, Tanzania
26 December	Day of Goodwill	Mozambique, Namibia
26 December	Public Holiday	South Africa
		Zimbabwe

\* Depends on sighting of the new moon

A shared future within a regional community