

SOUTHERN AFRICA

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Today



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Promoting Infrastructure Development and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development

38th SADC Summit

THE 38th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government to be held in Windhoek, Namibia on 17-18 August will review progress towards regional integration and socio-economic development. This year's theme builds on the focus of the past four SADC Summits that sought to advance industrial development. The theme also resonates with one of the key pillars of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2015-2020) in which integrated infrastructure networks are regarded as an important enabler of industrialization and market integration. This edition of *Southern Africa Today* looks at key issues expected for discussion during the Summit.

Implement SADC industrialization strategy

An expected highlight of the Summit is the presentation of a progress report on implementation of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063.

The SADC industrialization strategy, adopted in April 2015, seeks to achieve major economic and technological transformation at national and regional levels to accelerate economic growth through industrial development.

A Costed Action Plan for the Strategy covering 2015-2030 was approved in March 2017. The Action Plan details the key actions, with reference to the three pillars of the strategy and the requisite activities, as well as the key enablers needed to unlock the region's industrial potential.

One of the three pillars of the industrialization strategy is Enhancing Infrastructure. The other two pillars are Strengthening Value Chains, and Corridor Development.

Strengthen Infrastructure development

Progress towards implementation of the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP) is pivotal to the socio-economic growth of the region, including the industrialization agenda.

The RIDMP is the region's strategy for the development of integrated regional infrastructure to meet projected demand by 2027, at an estimated cost of US\$500 billion.

The historic decision to approve the RIDMP in 2012 was informed by the perspective that infrastructure development and maintenance is a priority for accelerated regional integration, economic development, industrialization and trade.



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The SADC Secretariat is currently reviewing progress of the first five-year phase 2012-2017, and this is expected to add impetus to the implementation of regional infrastructure projects.

SADC aims to develop cross-border infrastructure in the six priority areas of energy, transport, tourism, water, information communication technology and meteorology.

Power regional integration, industrialization

Energy limitations have presented barriers to socio-economic development, and the solution for the energy deficit is one of the main priorities of infrastructure development that the region must collectively tackle.

SADC has made significant progress in addressing power shortages experienced since 1999 which became more pronounced after 2007, and the region produced surplus electricity generation in 2017 for the first time in a decade as a result of regional cooperation in energy planning.

SADC leaders will seek to deepen a coordinated approach to the provision of energy in the region, as electricity is essential to advance the industrialization agenda which aims to ensure that SADC achieves its longstanding goal of a united, prosperous and integrated region.

Improve food security

Summit is expected to approve strategies for addressing food security in the region, including the need to increase investment in high-impact interventions that address chronic food and nutrition insecurity.

According to a report released in July, the *State of Food and Nutrition Insecurity and Vulnerability in Southern Africa*, the SADC region is estimated to have a cereal surplus of 6.3 million metric tonnes, down from 7.5 MT the previous year.

The number of food insecure people in the 2018/19 consumption year is 29 million, about 14 percent of the population in SADC according to the report, thus reversing the improvement achieved in 2017/18.

Empower youth

As part of the theme for Summit, the leaders will explore ways of harnessing the human capital dividend through youth empowerment. The youth make up the majority of the population in SADC, hence their importance in advancing the regional integration agenda.

As the timespan of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap progresses towards 2063, the youth of today will reap the benefits of the key elements contained in the strategy.

SADC strategies of today will enable the youth to take an active role in promoting development and deepening integration.

Enhance peace and security

Development needs peace and so another important issue for SADC leaders will be how to enhance peace and security as well as consolidate democracy and the rule of law in the region.

SADC is among the most stable and peaceful regions in Africa, however there are pockets of instability that continue to hinder peace and development.

Summit will discuss constitutional reforms in the Kingdom of Lesotho, preparation for general elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the political situation in Madagascar.

Develop resource mobilisation framework

The SADC Resource Mobilisation Framework (Alternative Sources of Funding SADC Regional Programmes) is intended to determine how fiscal space can be created to enable SADC Member States to finance regional programmes, projects and activities.

The six options for innovative sources of financing regional integration in SADC are the introduction of an export and import tax; a tourism levy; a financial transaction tax; a lottery system; philanthropy; and regional events.

It is estimated that SADC can earn in excess of US\$1.2 billion annually from these alternative sources, a development expected to remove the current dependency on external funding.

According to the SADC Secretariat, less than 10 percent of regional projects are funded by SADC Member States while the balance comes from International Cooperating Partners.

The SADC Secretariat was tasked to finalize the draft SADC Regional Resource Mobilisation Framework for submission to the Committee of Ministers of Finance and Investment, and ultimately to the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government.

Finance Transfrontier Conservation Areas

The SADC Secretariat was directed by Council of Ministers in March to prepare a mechanism to guide the implementation modalities of the Regional Financing Facility for SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) to ensure that regional conservation priorities are safeguarded.

There are 18 TFCAs across the SADC region at different stages of development, including the Kavango Zambezi (KAZA) which is the world's largest conservation area and covers parts of five countries – Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Other TFCAs being developed are ZIMOZA (Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Zambia); Selous-Niassa (Mozambique and United Republic of Tanzania); Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools (Zambia and Zimbabwe); and Liuwa Plain-Kameia (Angola and Zambia).

The proposed facility would be a flexible financial response mechanism to provide grants that can support the implementation of conservation and management actions in SADC TFCAs and address urgent needs critical to their success and integrity.

Review recruitment quota system

Summit will receive a report from the human resources and administration committee on the review of regional recruitment for the Secretariat. This was triggered by several challenges, such as failing to fill positions because some Member States had exhausted their allocated quota points.

Reviewing the application of the quota system is intended to ensure that the SADC Secretariat has access to a high quality of human resources from Member States in a fair, effective and objective manner, while observing the principle of equity and representation without compromising delivery.

Reforms at African Union

Summit is expected to present a common position on the African Union (AU) Institutional Reform, in line with an AU Assembly decision in January this year to consult the eight Regional Economic Communities that make up the AU on the need to review the institutional structure.

An effective institutional structure is essential to achieving the AU Agenda 2063 for the Africa We Want, a vision of inclusive economic growth and development.

The SADC Secretariat prepared an analytical paper that was considered by the SADC Council of Ministers in March and is expected to go to Summit for approval.

Some key issues proposed by SADC for AU institutional reform include:

- African leaders to be given sufficient time to consult nationally on strategic issues;
- an urgent and thorough study of the bureaucratic barriers that affect service delivery in the AU Commission and other organs and institutions;
- reduce AU Summits from two to one per year.

Reform of UN Security Council

The United Nations Security Council is tasked with maintaining international peace and security and African countries have been pressing for reform of the Council, arguing that its composition and operations are out of touch with current reality. For example, none of the five permanent members with veto powers is from Africa yet the continent provides the largest membership of the UN. □



Regional approach to anti-poaching

SOUTHERN AFRICA is home to vast wildlife resources which are a critical component for socio-economic development in most SADC Member States.

The SADC region is home to the largest remaining populations of elephants and rhinos.

These resources provide an opportunity to strengthen regional integration and contribute towards sustainable development through environmental awareness, job creation and sustaining the livelihoods of rural communities.

However, this potential has been affected by various challenges, including illegal killing and trade in wild species of fauna and their products.

SADC has put in place various measures to address the challenges, aimed at curbing wildlife poaching.

These include adoption of the Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching (LEAP) Strategy (2016-2021) which was approved in 2015 to:

- control and minimize poaching in the SADC region;
- strengthen communication among relevant law enforcement agencies at national, regional and international levels;
- strengthen capacities of law enforcement agencies, customs and immigration to detect and combat illegal wildlife trade;
- improve dialogue among relevant national, regional and international stakeholders to detect poaching and illegal wildlife trade; and

- establish a Regional Anti-Poaching Monitoring Centre to coordinate and monitor poaching and illegal wildlife trade activities in the SADC region.

The strategy aims to reduce the level of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife fauna and flora and enhance law enforcement capacity in the SADC region by 2021.

To achieve this, priority areas were identified for collaborative action by Member States:

- ❖ Enhance legislation and judicial processes;
- ❖ Minimise wildlife crime and illegal trade;
- ❖ Enhance legislation on wildlife and law enforcement;
- ❖ Integrate people and nature;
- ❖ Ensure sustained trade in and use of natural resources; and
- ❖ Improve and strengthen field-level protection of wildlife resources.

However, the success of the strategy is dependent on a coordinated approach by SADC Member States in prioritizing and integrating activities from the LEAP Strategy into their national plans and mobilizing resources for implementation, as well as establishing and strengthening existing national wildlife crime prevention task forces.

In this regard, the SADC Secretariat is developing a mechanism to assist Member States in implementing the regional anti-poaching strategy.

Once approved, the mechanism will guide Member States in rolling out country-level specific actions of the

LEAP Strategy and is expected to have a clear plan of action to facilitate the implementation of the strategy at national levels.

The proposed SADC Approach to assist Member States in implementing the LEAP Strategy is also expected to be an indicative document of the key actions that countries will independently undertake to implement the strategy.

The proposed mechanism will include:

- an updated logical framework of the LEAP Strategy, with clearly identified activities and responsibilities to be undertaken by the SADC Secretariat and Member States respectively;
- establishment of minimum requirements for prioritization and integration of the

LEAP Strategy into Member States' national plans;

- guidance to Member States in developing budgets for implementation of the LEAP Strategy;
- guidance towards establishment of national wildlife crime prevention task forces in Member States where they do not exist;
- suggestions for potential sources of funding to support implementation of the LEAP Strategy in Member States;
- guidance to Member States in aligning their regulatory and legal frameworks to regional processes in support of combatting cross-border criminal activities; and
- guidance towards enhancing synergies and linkages with all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the LEAP Strategy. □

SADC to establish subsidiary organisation on STEM

SEVEN SADC Member States have signed a charter that seeks to establish a subsidiary organisation that will be tasked with bridging the gender gap in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in the region.

The SADC Charter on Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Organization (WISETO) was signed by Angola, Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania in June during a joint meeting of ministers responsible for

Education and Training, Science, Technology and Innovation, held in Durban, South Africa.

Once operational, WISETO will seek to improve the participation of women in sustainable development through the application of scientific knowledge and technological innovation.

The SADC Secretariat is expected to provide overall strategic policy guidance to WISETO in order to ensure that the agenda and priorities are consistent with the SADC mandate on STEM. □



SADC develops regional strategy on women, peace and security

by Nyarai Kampilipili

THE SADC Regional Strategy on Women, Peace and Security 2018-2022 aims to address challenges experienced by women and children by ensuring that they fully participate in peace and security activities, programmes and projects in the region.

The strategy, to be presented to regional leaders at the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in August in Windhoek, Namibia, was first discussed by senior officials at their meeting in 2017 in Ezulwini, Kingdom of eSwatini and was later presented to the Ministerial Council of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security for approval.

The development of the strategy involved various stakeholders who included gender and security experts from all SADC Member States, and this is intended to provide a framework to guide the mainstreaming of gender issues into peace and security processes and systems.

The strategy and its accompanying action plan are to be implemented from 2018-2022 and member states have been urged to develop national action plans and mobilise resources to implement proposed activities at national level.

Southern Africa is making significant progress towards promoting gender equality and equity in the region. However, there is need to maintain the momentum and push forward the regional gender agenda, particularly in issues to do with peace and security.

This requires intensification of regional efforts to mainstream gender into peace-building and conflict resolution processes if sustainable peace is to be achieved.

Although progress is being made in the development of

strategies that mainstream gender in peace and security matters, the number of women and children who are impacted by conflict remains high.

The number of high-ranking women in the security sector in SADC Member States remains low. Only three SADC Member States had women ministers of defence in the period 2009-2018 -- Botswana, Madagascar and South Africa.

South Africa remains the only country in SADC with a woman Minister of Defence, and she has held the position since 2012.

According to a 2015 UN Women report, women consti-

tute fewer than 10 percent of peace negotiators globally, and only three percent of signatories to peace agreements.

In this regard, there is need to include more women in peace processes so that a broader range of issues can be mainstreamed into the negotiations.

Other key issues discussed by senior officials responsible for gender and women affairs during their annual meeting held in July in Johannesburg, South Africa, included the need to expedite processes to prevent trafficking in persons, and to accelerate efforts towards achieving a more balanced and

equitable representation in politics and decision-making.

Member states that have not signed the Agreement Amending the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development were encouraged to do so.

Ten member states have signed the agreement amending the protocol. These are Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Kingdom of eSwatini, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Namibia and South Africa have indicated that they will sign during the SADC Summit in Namibia. sardc.net □

Disadvantaged youth empowered through tourism

FIVE YOUNG disadvantaged women from the /Ai-/Ais Richtersveld Transfrontier Park were trained by Namibia Wildlife Resorts (NWR) and Peace Parks Foundation (PPF) who have embarked on assisting another group of ten unemployed youth from the Hai-//om San and Ovahimba communities to be trained in hospitality and tracking.

The goal of the training that started earlier this year in South Africa is to empower the previously disadvantaged youth to acquire viable skills that they can use to provide for themselves and their communities.

This forms part of a continuous youth development programme that NWR is facilitating through its mandate from the two countries who are partners in the Transfrontier Conservation Area, to develop tourism in Southern Namibia and Northern South Africa.

The Managing Director, Zelna Hengari, said NWR is "privileged to give back to our surrounding communities"

with the aim of creating "a skilled generation that is knowledgeable about the sector."

The Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service in Namibia runs programmes to empower the youth for active participation to become responsible and self-reliant members of the community.

The Ministry operates five youth development skills training centres around the country, as well as a youth credit scheme, youth health development, juvenile/child justice, environmental education, rural youth development, youth volunteers, youth gender, and a youth exchange programme. □

African women leadership fund launched

THE AFRICAN Union has announced that it will establish an African Women Leadership Fund to strengthen women-owned businesses across the continent.

The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Vera Songwe said the fund is intended to accelerate the growth of women-led businesses in Africa.

"Depending on the resources we raise, and with our target being five hundred million dollars, we will create a network of young women fund managers, train them for

two years and put them out in the market," she said.

The innovative fund seeks to address the fundamental gap in the access of women to finance architecture. As such, it will seek to lower the hurdles of women-owned businesses, promote investment in micro-enterprises and take women's cooperatives to the next level.

The fund focuses on mobilising global capital to build a cadre of African women fund managers who will, in turn, invest in and develop African women-led businesses and micro-businesses. au.int □

SADC Macroeconomic Peer Review Panel says

Mixed performance on macroeconomic convergence

SADC MEMBER States have shown a mixed performance on implementation of the regional macroeconomic convergence targets and in identifying the risks to economic growth as well as policy actions to mitigate challenges, according to a recent report by the SADC Macroeconomic Peer Review Panel (PRP).

The PRP was established by the ministers of finance and investment of SADC Member States and the central bank governors to evaluate and monitor the regional macroeconomic convergence programme, including implementation and results.

The review looks at macroeconomic targets set by Member States in the SADC Protocol on Finance and Investment, which aims to ac-

celerate growth, investment and employment in the region through increased cooperation, coordination and management of macroeconomic, monetary and fiscal policies.

The protocol, which was signed in August 2006 and entered into force in April 2010, seeks to establish and sustain macroeconomic stability as a precondition for sustainable economic growth. The ultimate goal is to create a regional monetary union.

Macroeconomic convergence ultimately means the balancing of Member State economies across SADC. Without such convergence, the integration milestones of Free Trade, Customs Union, a Common Market, Monetary Union and a Single Currency cannot take place.

The macroeconomic convergence targets include keeping inflation rates in Member States at "low and stable levels," as well as "maintaining a prudent fiscal stance based on the avoidance of large budget deficits, monetisation of deficits and high or rising ratios of public and publicly guaranteed debt to Gross Domestic Product (GDP)."

SADC identified the following indicators to assist with the measurement of progress toward macroeconomic convergence:

- Rate of inflation in Member States;
- Ratio of the budget deficit to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Member States;
- Ratio of public and publicly guaranteed debt in relation to GDP in Member States, taking into account

the sustainability of such debt; and

- Balance and structure of the current account of a Member State.

The SADC Secretariat created a Macro-Economic Surveillance and Performance Unit to support implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan in this regard; to plan, facilitate, coordinate and monitor macro-economic policies and programmes with a view to promoting economic liberalisation and development, trade and investment; and to achieve macro-economic convergence in the SADC region.

Member States review the performance of one another annually to assess the status of implementation of the macroeconomic convergence programme in line with the indicators and their targets. Since the launch of PRP in May 2013, all Member States with the exception of Madagascar and Seychelles have been peer reviewed.

According to the PRP report, results of the macroeconomic convergence reviews were mixed, with Member States performing well on some indicators but not so well in other areas. Member States were unable to achieve the regional target of 7 percent growth in terms of GDP, with only the United Republic of Tanzania recording 7.1 percent in 2017, up from 7 percent achieved in 2015 and 2016.

Most Member States recorded single-digit inflation within the regional target range of 3-7 percent, except for Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Malawi and Mozambique. □

Five more countries sign AfCFTA agreement

THE AFRICAN Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is another step closer to reality after the signing of the Consolidated Text by five more countries on 1 July at the 31st African Union Summit held in Nouakchott, Mauritania.

The five countries are Burundi, Lesotho, Namibia, Sierra Leone, and South Africa, bringing the total number of African countries who have signed the agreement to 49 out of the 55 AU member states.

The six countries yet to append their signatures are Botswana, Cape Verde, Eritrea, Guinea Bissau, Nigeria, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia.

The AfCFTA aims to promote the smooth movement of

goods and services across borders, as well as allow member countries to harmonize regional trade policies to promote equal competition and increased trade.

The AfCFTA is expected to increase African intra-regional trade from the current 10 percent to about 40 percent when fully operational.

The AfCFTA also represents a bold statement and significant opportunity for the continent to redress the vulnerabilities of Africa's economies within the global economic order, which has seen the continent trade more with the outside world than within Africa.

This trade structure means that resources that are intended to develop Africa are shipped and traded elsewhere, improv-

ing the economies of other countries in Europe, Asia and the United States.

The current trade imbalances are caused by various factors including the imposition of non-tariff barriers between African countries and the poor infrastructure built during the colonial era to facilitate trade mainly with Europe rather than smooth movement of goods, services and people between African countries.

Another major factor is the lack of a vibrant industrialized sector and the predominance of trade in unprocessed primary resources. □





SADC explores use of natural gas for regional development

by Kumbirai Nhongo

SADC IS exploring ways of harnessing the potential of the massive reserves of natural gas that exist in the region.

Chairperson of the SADC Energy Ministers, Hon. Jeff Radebe told a Ministerial Workshop on the Regional Gas Infrastructure and Market Development that harnessing natural gas would improve the energy situation in the region, and will contribute to the regional energy mix, which is dominated by coal.

Southern Africa has some of the largest deposits of natural gas in the world.

Angola has natural gas reserves estimated at 11 trillion cubic feet (tcf), while Mozambique has more than 180 tcf of gas discovered and there is potential for this to be doubled by 2030.

The United Republic of Tanzania has made significant gas discoveries and currently has more than 57 tcf of proven gas reserves.

In Namibia, there is about 1.3 tcf of proven gas reserves with an estimated potential of 9 tcf.

Development of the Kudu gas project is expected to address some of the energy challenges in Namibia. Gas produced from the Kudu field will be transported through a 170-km pipeline to a power station that will be built and situated at Uubvlei, approximately 25 kilometres north of Oranjemund in southern Namibia.

The National Petroleum Corporation and its partners including Manpowered will be responsible for the drilling of production wells, installation of sub-sea equipment and the floating production system, and gas production, as well as con-

ditioning and transportation of the gas to the power plant.

Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe have unconventional gas reserves in significant quantities in the form of coal-bed methane and shale gas.

To fully realize this potential, there is need for SADC to develop innovative methods of exploring the resource.

"The natural gas reserves within the SADC region present a significant opportunity for industrialization that can boost economic growth, create much needed jobs and attract new investments in the region and increase significantly energy access," Radebe, the South African Energy Minister, told the workshop held in June in Johannesburg.

"This enormous opportunity can only be realised if the region develops the requisite gas processing, transportation and distribution infrastructure to supply the regional market so that SADC will not only limit itself to being a gas exporter."

In this regard, one of the plans being explored by SADC is the possibility of establishing a SADC natural gas industrial complex designed to interconnect the gas production value chain in the region.

This will involve making significant investments to set up gas processing, transportation and distribution infrastructure that would efficiently link gas production centres to local and regional energy markets.

Examples of successful regional gas projects in Africa include the gas pipeline from Mozambique (Temane/Pande) to South Africa (Secunda) as

well as the West African Gas Pipeline, involving Nigeria, Benin, Togo and Ghana.

In addition to developing a natural gas industrial complex, there is need for SADC to put in place viable and vibrant "policy and regulatory frameworks to make the development of this infrastructure a reality as well as attract investment.

"The economic benefits of gas extraction, infrastructure and market development in the SADC region is to stimulate productive activity and contribute positively to gross domestic product (GDP)," Radebe said.

The energy ministers noted that exploitation of the vast reserves of natural gas, shale gas and coal-bed methane that are available in SADC Member States would result in significant job opportunities and contribute billions of dollars to the regional GDP per year.

Natural gas has various potential uses in SADC. It can be used to generate electricity or as chemical feedstock in industrial processes or as fuel for vehicles. Another potential use of gas is in the production of fertilizers.

Therefore, the exploration of natural gas, presents a significant opportunity for SADC to address its energy challenges and move forward the industrialization agenda and deepen integration.

One of the key advantages of gas is that it has a low carbon emission profile, making it a cleaner energy source when compared with other fossil fuels. In addition to this, it is also affordable, secure and reliable. □

SADC Inter-State Petroleum and Gas Sub-Committee

SADC HAS established an Inter-State Petroleum and Gas Sub-Committee to ensure the inclusion and promotion of natural gas into the regional energy mix and facilitation of an increase in universal access to energy as well as industrial development in SADC.

This is in line with a proposal made by the 37th SADC Summit to establish a regional body that should develop a strategy to facilitate the exploitation of the vast natural gas resources in the region.

In May, the SADC Secretariat convened a SADC Energy Electricity and Petroleum Gas Subcommittees meeting to discuss and validate the terms of reference for the Regional Inter-State Petroleum and Gas Committee.

The outcome of the subcommittee was approved by the SADC Energy Ministers in June. The ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to:

- ❖ improve access to reliable, affordable and safe energy to alleviate poverty, encourage economic development and improve quality of life in the SADC region; and,
- ❖ establish a region-wide gas master plan in line with the principles of the SADC Energy Protocol, as well as the objectives of SADC Industrialization Strategy Framework. □



SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap Rolled out in seven Member States, five more by December

THE SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap has been rolled out in seven member states since adoption in April 2015, and this will be expanded to five more countries by December.

The Director for Industrial Development and Trade at the SADC Secretariat, Tapiwa Samanga, said the first seven are Angola, Botswana, Kingdom of eSwatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The target is to reach a total of 12 countries by the end of this year.

Samanga said the roll-out exercise has involved working with various government ministries and departments, as well as with the private sector and civil society.

"Together with these Member States (the first seven), we discussed the key elements of the strategy, discussed the expectations and obligations of each Member State in implementing the strategy.

"We also assisted in working out the National Indicative Public Coordination costs for the roll out of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and its roadmap to ensure effective implementation of the strategy."

He said at the regional level, the SADC Secretariat has so far facilitated two Industrialisation Weeks to popularize the strategy and gain support for its implementation.

The Industrialization Week provides an opportunity for regional governments and the Secretariat to engage and network with the private sector, which is a key player in the industrialization agenda.

The first SADC Industrialization Week was held in August 2016 on the margins of the 36th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in Ezulwini, Kingdom of eSwatini.

The second was held in South Africa in 2017 ahead of the 37th SADC Summit, while the third Industrialization Week is scheduled for Namibia on 30 July-1 August, and will run under the theme "Promoting Industrialisation and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development".

The theme takes into account the need for adequate infrastructure to support industrialisation and the need to engage the youth, who are the majority of the SADC population.

Samanga said the youth are an important stakeholder in the integration agenda as "in 45 years, when the time span of the strategy ends in 2063, the youth of today will be the ones to reap the benefits of the key elements contained in the strategy."

He said all stakeholders should take an active role in popularizing the strategy and ensure that is a success.

On the regional value chains, he said, SADC has identified mining, agro-processing and pharmaceutical sectors as critical sectors for regional industrialisation and integration.

The Secretariat is working on profiling the agro-processing sector, looking into practical details such as high potential products, modes and costs of transport for goods and services, product markets,

prices, production, and trade modalities.

Between April 2018 and March 2019, the SADC Secretariat and Member States are targeting to start the implementation of Regional Value Chain projects covering Leather and associated products, Soya, Aquaculture, Iron and Steel, Copper, Fertilizer and Anti-retroviral (ARV) drugs.

The Secretariat is also facilitating the development of a Protocol on Industry to provide a legal framework for the industrialization process in the region, particularly to support the regional value chains.

Samanga said a service provider has already started working on a draft Protocol on Industry, which is expected to be ready by March 2019. sadc.int □

SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap

THE SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap was approved in April 2015 during an Extraordinary Summit held in Harare, Zimbabwe.

It is an inclusive long-term modernisation and economic transformation scheme that should enable substantial and sustained economic development to raise living standards and achieve the SADC vision of a united, prosperous and integrated region.

The strategy is anchored on three pillars – industrialization, competitiveness, and regional integration. Strategic interventions for each of these pillars are proposed in the action plan. These include:

- ❖ an improved policy environment for industrial development by 2020;
- ❖ increased volume and efficiency of public and private sector investments in the SADC economy;
- ❖ creation of regional value chains and participation in related global processes;
- ❖ increased value addition for agricultural and non-agricultural products and services.

To support implementation, a Costed Action Plan for the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap was adopted during an Extraordinary Summit held in March 2017 in the Kingdom of eSwatini.

The Action Plan seeks to establish a coherent and synergistic implementation scheme containing strategic options and general policies towards the progressive attainment of time-bound targets set out in the strategy and roadmap.

The action plan focuses on the first 15 years of the strategy timeframe. □



Towards a SADC Blue Economy

by Joseph Ngwawi

SADC IS moving towards a strategy to develop a thriving maritime economy and harness the full potential of sea-based activities in an environmentally sustainable manner.

The SADC Secretariat is preparing a discussion document to be used to develop a regional blue economy strategy, and is also planning to commission a study on opportunities and threats to the SADC Blue Economy Initiative.

The SADC Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (2015-2020) and the Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap (2015-2063) both identify the blue economy as a potential area for sustainable growth in the region.

The SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap (2015-2063) requires that the Blue Economy Initiative be mainstreamed in developing infrastructure required to accelerate industrialization.

Some Member States such as South Africa, Seychelles and Mauritius have developed blue economy strategies and institutional mechanisms at national level.

Investment in the development and upgrading of regional ports and maritime corridors is regarded as crucial in facilitating viable shipping networks as enablers for participation in regional and global value chains.

SISR also says that ocean resources should be exploited in a sustainable manner to minimize the negative impact on environment; and that sustainable development of the ocean wealth should be supported by coherent planning, policies and regulatory frameworks.

The blue economy conceptualises oceans as “development spaces” where coordinated planning integrates conservation, sustainable use, oil and mineral wealth extraction and marine transport.

The initiative breaks the mould of the “brown” development model where oceans have been perceived as a means of free resource extraction and waste dumping.

The concept recognizes the productivity of healthy ocean ecosystems as a way of safeguarding sustainable ocean-based economies,

as well as ensuring that Small Island Developing States and other coastal countries benefit from their marine resources.

Ocean and inland waters such as seas, lakes, rivers and reservoirs provide significant benefits to humanity, including:

- ✓ Food and nutrition security from fisheries and aquaculture;
- ✓ Economic and social development from fisheries and aquaculture, marine and coastal tourism, shipping, mining and energy; and
- ✓ Ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration, water filtration, atmospheric and temperature regulation, protection from erosion and extreme weather events.

However, southern Africa has been experiencing a rapid erosion of the asset base of oceans and inland waters due to overfishing, pollution from land-based sources, mangrove deforestation, climate change, and ocean acidification.

As a result, there is need for a paradigm shift in order to realize the full potential of the oceans and inland waters.

This will require that the region embraces a new, responsible and sustainable approach that is more environmentally, socially and economically effective.

This initiative comes at a crucial time when the need for food and resources from the ocean and inland waters is increasing rapidly to meet the needs of the growing population.

The blue economy concept is appropriate for the SADC region since more than half of its 16 Member States are coastal or oceanic countries.

Eight SADC Member States – Angola, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania – are coastal or oceanic states.

SADC is exploring ways to develop the region’s blue economy in order to grow renewable energy options by harnessing sources such as tidal power, ocean currents and ocean thermal energy conversion.

The blue economy development strategy is timely for the SADC region, which has witnessed significant discoveries of large reserves of oil and natural gas in countries such as Mozambique, Namibia and Tanzania in recent years, indicating a huge potential



for exploitation of the resource in the region.

The east coast of Africa has emerged as one of the brightest spots in the global energy landscape, with large natural gas finds in Mozambique and Tanzania.

Exploration has taken place in all SADC Member States although the exact amounts of reserves are unknown for most countries.

New offshore natural gas finds along coastal Mozambique are expected to be a “game changer” for the country and the region.

The country has estimated recoverable natural gas reserves of about 100 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas, enough to meet one year's gas consumption by the United States and other western countries.

Tanzania has 57 tcf proven natural gas reserves from its deep water, offshore region.

The discovery of huge reserves of natural gas has resulted in the formation of the SADC Inter-State Gas Committee. The committee is charged with ensuring the inclusion and promotion of natural gas into the regional energy mix and facilitation of an increase in universal access to energy as well as industrial development in SADC.

In addition to the oil and gas discoveries, there is great potential for exploration of other oceanic resources in other SADC Member States.

For example, Namibia has significant reserves of guano, a highly effective fertiliser made from the excrement of seabirds or bats that contains a high content of nitrogen, phosphate and potassium, three nutrients essential for plant growth.

Exploration of oceanic resources has not been done exhaustively in most SADC Member States and there is a lot more to learn about the undiscovered marine resources.

The blue economy encompasses a range of stakeholders, including traditional and emerging maritime sectors such as fisheries, aquaculture, shipping, offshore oil and gas, bio-prospecting, marine mining as well as the research community, conservationists, policymakers and civil society.

The link between ocean health and human development is explicitly recognised in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the associated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 14, which requires United Nations Member States to “conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.”

These trends are also visible in African policy debates. The former chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, once referred to the blue economy as the maritime dimension of the African Renaissance, while Agenda 2063 of the AU en-

visages the blue economy as a major contributor to continental transformation and growth.

At the centre of this shift is the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy), a comprehensive plan that aims to “foster more wealth creation from Africa's oceans, seas and inland water ways by developing a thriving maritime economy and realising the full potential of sea-based activities in an environmentally sustainable manner.”

The 2050 AIM Strategy makes it clear that Africa's approach to the blue economy includes not only its maritime domain but also the continent's inland water bodies, thereby underscoring the relevance of the blue economy for all African states, including landlocked states.

More recently, the African Charter on Maritime Security, Safety and Development in Africa (also known as the Lomé Charter) was adopted to address key components of the regional blue economy agenda.

The blue economy concept has been debated in various fora and adopted by several institutions such as the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, United Nations Environment, and the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

It featured prominently during Rio+20, whose outcomes have proven to be a strong catalyst for driving new efforts towards the implementation of previous and new commitments on oceans and inland waters to restore, exploit and conserve aquatic resources. □



Transboundary cooperation on infrastructure for water supply and sanitation

by Egline Tauya

A **SOCIO-ECONOMIC** assessment for the Chirundu water supply and sanitation project between Zambia and Zimbabwe will soon begin in pursuit of the goals of regional integration and poverty reduction through water infrastructure.

The assessment is aimed to capacitate the two countries to prepare bankable projects to access finance for water infrastructure.

On completion of the assessment, Zambia and Zimbabwe are expected to have an understanding of the prevailing social and economic conditions on either side of the Zambezi River as they relate to the development of a joint cross border project at Chirundu.

The assessment will enable key stakeholders in water supply and sanitation from either side of the border to be fully involved and have ownership over the formulation of ideas and options for a joint cross border water supply and sanitation taking into consideration the different social groups in the two towns of Chirundu in Zambia and Chirundu in Zimbabwe.

The joint water supply and sanitation project is expected to be a vehicle for transboundary cooperation reducing conflicts through better provision of water infrastructure to the two SADC Member States.

Chirundu is the busiest regional transit transport link in

eastern and southern Africa, carrying 5.8 million tonnes of cross-border traffic extending over three regional economic groups, SADC, Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA,) and East African Community (EAC).

The Beira-Lobito Corridor also passes through Chirundu making the settlement a trade route node and convergence of all corridors in the sub-region including the Kalahari.

The high volume of traffic through the border has brought commercial opportunities to Chirundu, but has also placed the existing water supply and sanitation services under further pressure, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases.

As the population increases in the two towns, it is necessary that the water supply and sanitation system is adequately planned before the settlement densities reach a critical level beyond which creating servitudes will be impossible without property demolitions.

The joint cross border water supply and sanitation project will be part of implementing the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan directed through the SADC Regional Strategic Action Plan on Integrated Water Resources Development and Management Phase IV (2016-2020), which responds to the dictates of the Revised SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourses.

A similar water supply and sanitation project at Mwami Border between Zambia and Malawi, under the auspices of Climate Resilience Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF), seeks to benefit 6,000 public travellers and 1,500 houses at Mwami, Mchinji and Chanida border towns.

Two other projects are already under implementation between Mozambique and the Kingdom of Eswatini in the Lomahasha/Namaacha border towns and on the Tunduma and Nakonde border towns between Tanzania and Zambia.

SADC is thus looking for more projects that can be implemented using the same model, but which have a strong link to the SADC transport corridor initiative and the Regional Industrialisation Strategy and Action Plan.

In line with this agenda, Zambia and Zimbabwe have agreed to conduct a pre-feasibility study and environmental impact assessment for the Chirundu cross-border project with technical support from SADC and the German Development Cooperation with co-financing from the United Kingdom's Department for International Development.

While CRIDF carried a feasibility study for water supply and sanitation in Chirundu in 2016, this was found to be inadequate. The CRIDF study focused only on the urban area of

the Zambian side, leaving the Zimbabwean side and the surrounding area, especially in defining future scenarios.

SADC therefore considers it imperative that a feasibility study be undertaken for a joint project for the entire Chirundu settlement.

The proposed study shall provide further basic information, and shall specify the scope and design of the project as well as develop the terms of reference for the detailed engineering design of the project.

The water service delivery is generally inadequate in Chirundu partly due to water pipe burst often caused by elephants which damage water pipes to access drinking water. Water cuts resulting from power outages are also experienced.

Household, institutional and commercial premises are either connected to a specific tank or a reticulated sewage disposal system while most public places such as bus terminus and market places have Blair toilets.

Residents from informal settlements use basic individual pit latrines and public toilets while a sizeable number resort to open defecation.

Sewage treatment is by waste stabilisation ponds but in both towns the design capacity for the original treatment facilities has long been exceeded leaving partially treated sewage flowing into the Zambezi River. □



Convention on Biological Diversity ...SADC to adopt common position

by Kumbirai Nhongo

SADC IS developing a common position on the use of biological resources for sustainable development.

A common position is critical to address some of the challenges facing the region, including over-exploitation and degradation of the environment, which has, in turn, reduced the quantity and quality of biological resources.

Biological resources are generally defined as any genetic resources, organisms or parts thereof, populations, or any other biotic component of ecosystems that have actual or potential value or use to humanity.

The SADC common position will serve as a guiding framework for the region in all its negotiations on biological resources.

Global negotiations on biological resources will be held during the 14th Conference of Parties (COP14) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) scheduled for Egypt in November.

The Convention adopted two supplementary agreements -- the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, also known as the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS).

A common position to CBD will enable SADC Member States to align policies and strategies for sustainable use of biological resources and sensitise each other on conserving such resources.

All the 16 SADC Member States are signatories to the CBD, which is also commonly known as the Biodiversity Convention, Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on ABS.

In fact, all SADC countries have appointed National Focal Points for the CBD as well as for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and Nagoya Protocol on ABS.

First discussed at the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 1992, the CBD entered into force in December 1993. However, the Convention was only adopted during COP10 held in 2010 in Nagoya, Japan.

The CBD is a legally binding international treaty with three main goals – conservation of biodiversity; sustainable use of biodiversity; fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology.

The Nagoya Protocol on ABS aims to ensure that the

sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources is done in a fair and equitable way.

In this regard, the forthcoming COP 14 of the CBD provides an opportunity for the global community to agree on strategies to mitigate the adverse impact of human activity on plant and animal life, including their ecosystems.

SADC was expected to convene a regional workshop to develop its common position on the three global agreements. This falls under the SADC Programme on Transboundary Use and Protection of Natural Resources that aims to improve the implementation of SADC protocols and strategies for sustainable natural resource management by regional and national actors.

Biodiversity issues are a top priority for SADC. In fact, the region has a rich natural heritage of global significance to the world's climate and biological diversity.

According to the SADC Regional Biodiversity Strategy, more than 40 percent of the region's species are endemic, only found in their existing location.

South Africa ranks as the third most biologically-diverse country in the world, while in Madagascar, the richness of endemic species relative to the land mass area is unparalleled.

Lake Malawi/Nyasa/Niassa and Lake Tanganyika contain very high numbers of freshwater species while the Central Zambezian Miombo woodlands in Zambia and Tanzania are a centre of bird and butterfly diversity.

Botswana has Africa's largest elephant population while Tanzania hosts the largest remaining population of lions.

Biological resources such as plant and animal products, timber, and wildlife tourism also account for a significant proportion of the Gross Domestic Product of SADC and are a source of livelihood for the majority of the citizens of the region.

In spite of this biological wealth, the region continues to face challenges of economic development largely due to difficulties that are frequently experienced in equitably and sustainably harnessing natural resource capital.

To address these challenges, SADC has developed various strategies to ensure that its biological resources fully benefit the people of the region.

The region also recognizes that successful conservation and sustainable use of the biological resources of the region depends on transboundary co-operation between Member States and beyond.

COP14 will be held 10-22 November in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. □



30 July harmonized election Zimbabwe votes

ZIMBABWEANS GO to the polls on 30 July for harmonized elections to choose their president, parliamentarians and councillors.

A total of 23 presidential candidates filed nomination papers to contest the election, the highest number of presidential candidates ever recorded in the country.

The candidates include the incumbent President Emmerson Mnangagwa who is leader of the party in government, the Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (Zanu PF), and Nelson Chamisa of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) Alliance, a coalition of seven opposition political parties.

Among other candidates vying for the presidency are a former deputy Prime Minister, Dr Thokozani Khupe, and a former Vice President, Dr Joyce Mujuru. They are among four women contesting the presidency.

Khupe leads the MDC-Tsvangirai (MDC-T) formation and has been engaged in a legal case over the use of the MDC-T name and symbols following the death of the former leader, Morgan Tsvangirai. Mujuru was deputy to the former President Robert Mugabe for a decade until 2014 and is now leader of the People's Rainbow Coalition.

The election marks the first time that the two main political parties are fielding new presidential candidates.

Zanu PF elected Mnangagwa as party leader, thus becoming Head of State under the Constitution after Mugabe resigned in November 2017, while Chamisa and Khupe took over two parts of the MDC following the death of Tsvangirai in February this year.

If no candidate wins 50 percent plus one in the presidential election, there will be a run-off election on 8 September.

A total of 5,695,706 eligible voters had registered as of 9 July, according to the Zimbabwe Elec-

toral Commission (ZEC). Of these, 3,073,190 or 54 percent are women while 2,622,516 or 46 percent are men.

More than 120 political parties have registered to participate in the elections with over 50 parties fielding parliamentary candidates.

Representatives from 46 countries and 15 regional and international organisations have accepted the invitation to observe the elections, including those

from the Southern African Development Community and the African Union as well as the Commonwealth, European Union, United States, Britain, and the United Nations.

Some regional organisations such as SADC and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (Comesa) began dispatching their missions in May and June to assess the state of preparedness for elections. As per tradition, the elections are observed

in three phases -- pre-election, election-day, and post-election.

In the last elections held five years ago in 2013, Zanu PF won the presidential polls with 61 percent of the vote against 34 percent for MDC-T.

In the parliamentary elections, Zanu PF won 76 percent of the vote and 159 of the 210 elective seats in the National Assembly, more than a two-thirds majority. The MDC-T got 50 seats, and about 24 percent of the vote. □

Zimbabwe elections: Towards gender parity

by Pedzisai Munyoro

THE CONSTITUTION of Zimbabwe stipulates that all measures should be taken to ensure that women and men participate equally in decision-making processes.

A total of 17 legal documents have been passed to advance the gender equality agenda, and the Zimbabwe Gender Commission is tasked to promote gender equality through public education, research, investigations and monitoring.

Despite the progress made in terms of the legal and policy environment, there is still more that needs to be done before the goal of achieving gender equality in decision-making positions. The current electoral process provides some encouraging indicators and some disparities.

A total of 1,648 candidates successfully filed nomination papers for National Assembly elections, and of these, 789 are women (48 percent).

Of the 789 women who filed nomination papers, 247 did so as independent candidates, indicating that political parties are not doing enough to encourage representation of women in political decision-making. Yet women constitute more than half of the population in most

SADC countries, and usually turn out in large numbers on Election Day to vote.

Zanu PF and MDC Alliance will field a total of 296 women candidates in the parliamentary elections -- Zanu PF has 151 women candidates while the MDC Alliance has 145.

Zimbabwe uses a "first past the post" system for parliamentary and local elections where the candidate with the most votes wins. The National Assembly is made up of 210 members elected by this method and an additional 60 seats reserved for women.

The reserved seats comprise six seats each for the 10 administrative provinces in Zimbabwe, with the members elected through a system of Proportional Representation (PR) based on the votes cast for candidates representing parties contesting parliamentary elections in the respective regions.

Under the new Constitution adopted in May 2013, the provision for reserved seats for women will apply for two elections, which means that 2018 is the last time this will apply.

The Senate is made up of 80 members, comprising six representatives elected on a PR basis from each of the 10 provinces as well as two representatives of persons with disabilities.

The other 18 seats go to traditional chiefs, comprising the president and deputy president of the National Council of Chiefs, and two chiefs each from eight provinces, excluding the two metropolitan provinces of Harare and Bulawayo.

Zimbabwe introduced a "zebra-list" system for nomination of senate candidates in the 2013 elections. Under this system, political parties are required to submit lists of candidates showing women and men alternating, with a woman at the top of each list.

The zebra-list system is used for parliamentary and local government elections in other SADC Member States such as Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa, and this system has been successful in improving political participation. Namibia has the highest number of women in parliament in the region at 46.2 percent.

Therefore, political parties need to take the necessary steps to ensure that gender equality and equity is enshrined and firmly rooted at party level. One way of addressing this disparity would be to extend the "zebra-list" system to the nomination of candidates for the National Assembly and local councils. □





Inaugural Peace and Security Thematic Group meeting held at SADC secretariat

THE NEW Peace and Security Thematic Group (PSTG) met for the first time on 25 May 2018 at the SADC headquarters.

The PSTG has three specific objectives:

- ❖ First, to provide a platform for sharing experiences and information on peace and security in the region;
- ❖ Second, to engage the ICPs on matters relating to peace and security and mapping the way forward in addressing areas of concern for consolidating peace and security in the region; and,
- ❖ Third, to facilitate resource mobilization for SADC's peace and security activities in line with the Costed Implementation Plan on Peace and Security (2016 – 2021).

The inaugural meeting was attended by representatives of the SADC Secretariat and subsidiary organisations such as the SADC Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre (RPTC), as well as International Cooperating Partners (ICPs).

The meeting discussed the Terms of Reference of the thematic group; SADC's institutional and policy framework for peace and security; SADC efforts at maintaining peace and security in the region; and areas amenable to ICP funding.

Some ICPs identified areas for which they are interested in providing support.

The Organ on Politics, Defence and Security, commonly known as the Organ, is the formal institution of SADC with the mandate to support the achievement and maintenance of security and the rule of law in the SADC region.

The Organ was established in June 1996 and works closely with other regional institutions

such as the SADC RPTC, the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Co-operation Organization, and the Regional Early Warning Centre.

At the legal and policy level, the Organ operations and functions are regulated by the Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

The Organ has its own strategic plan, the Revised Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ (SIPO II), and is managed on a Troika basis, consisting of a Chairperson, Incoming Chairperson and Outgoing Chairperson, reporting to the SADC Chair.

The main objective of the SIPO is "to create a peaceful and stable political and security environment through which the region will realise its objectives of socio-economic development, poverty eradication, and regional integration."

Other key policy documents that guide peace and security activities in SADC include the Protocol on Control of Firearms and Related Ammunition; Protocol on Extradition; Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons; Protocol on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters; and the Protocol on Combating Illicit Drugs.

The US Embassy in Botswana was appointed to serve as the ICP Co-Chair for a period of one year. The other co-chair is the SADC Directorate of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security.

Delivering his closing remarks, Director Jorge Cardoso expressed his appreciation to the ICPs for attendance at the meeting, which will be convened twice a year reporting to the SADC ICP Dialogue Platform, which is the main mechanism coordinating

cooperation between SADC and partners.

The meeting was attended by diplomats accredited to Botswana, including the European Union, the embassies of Germany, Russia, Japan, Britain and United States, the

German Development Cooperation (GIZ) office, and the International Organisation on Migration; and others based in South Africa including the Norwegian Embassy, and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). □

New SADC mediation team for Lesotho

THE SADC Chair, President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa, has appointed a team to facilitate the restoration of political and security stability in the Kingdom of Lesotho.

The team, comprising three deputy ministers from the South African government, is led by a former deputy Chief Justice of South Africa, Justice Dikgang Moseneke, and will assist Ramaphosa as he continues to support the national dialogue and reform processes in Lesotho.

Ramaphosa said he has confidence in Moseneke's experience and expertise in constitutionalism.

"I take this opportunity to thank Justice Moseneke for availing himself to support us in this important mandate as we continue to assist our brothers and sisters in the Kingdom of Lesotho in their search for a lasting and sustainable solution to their political and security challenges."

The decision to appoint the team is in line with a resolution by the SADC Double Troika Summit held in Luanda, Angola in April this year, which tasked Ramaphosa to continue with the facilitation and recommended that he should appoint a team of high-level personalities to support him.

Ramaphosa was appointed as the SADC facilitator in September 2014 when he was the deputy president of South Africa.

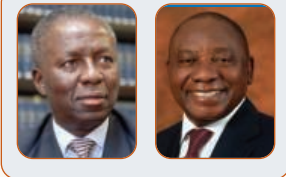
However, since becoming President in February this year, it was recommended that he could establish a team to assist him in addressing the political situation in Lesotho.

His facilitation produced a report with key recommendations on constitutional, security sector, judiciary, and public service and media reform issues, which the Lesotho government committed to undertake to resolve that country's political instability.

SADC endorsed the report, and Maseru was urged to develop a roadmap on the required reforms, which it has done.

The Luanda Double Troika Summit endorsed the plan and urged Lesotho to prioritise the constitutional and security sector reforms, which should be completed by May 2019.

Moseneke's assignment, therefore, is to oversee the process. *Apa News* □





SACU reviews revenue-sharing formula

THE SOUTHERN African Customs Union (SACU) is reviewing its revenue-sharing agreement to support a more equitable allocation of funds which is acceptable to all participating countries.

A well-functioning revenue sharing formula is a key pillar of a successful customs union and this has been an issue of contention for SACU, the oldest customs union in the world.

SACU operates as a customs union of South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and the Kingdom of eSwatini under a renewable agreement, and is governed at present by an agreement negotiated in 2002.

The main provisions are that the tariff regime in force in South Africa applies to the other countries, serving as a common external tariff; and that customs and excise revenue collected in member states is paid into a Common Revenue Pool (CRP) and distributed according to a formula weighted in favour of Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and eSwatini (the BLNS countries).

This weighting is intended to compensate the smaller SACU countries for the price-raising effects of being drawn behind South Africa's protective tariff regime, and for the loss of sovereignty over tariff and trade policy issues.

According to the SACU Agreement of 2002, the revenue-sharing formula uses three components to calculate revenue shares for member states. These are a customs component, an excise component, and a development component.

Using the customs component, revenue is allocated on the basis of the share of each country in intra-SACU imports, while the excise element allocates the funds on the basis of each country's share of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Revenue allocations using the development component are fixed at 15 percent of total excise revenue and distributed according to the inverse of per capita GDP of each country.

Under the present arrangement, South Africa is the custodian of CRP and all customs and excise duties collected in the common customs area are paid into the South African National Revenue Fund.

The revenue is then shared among SACU member states according to the revenue-sharing formula in the agreement. Only the shares for the BLNS countries are calculated, with South Africa receiving the remainder. The BLNS countries have complained over the years that the revenue-sharing formula does not fully compensate them and that there is

a lack of consultation by South Africa of its SACU partners.

Another complaint is that the countries allege that there are various non-tariff barriers preventing their access into the South African market.

South Africa has complained, in turn, that the weighted allocation of excise as well as customs duties to the BLNS has become an increasing burden on the South African fiscus, and that SACU has become unaffordable.

The relationship between South Africa and its SACU partners is further complicated by the former's bilateral trade pact with the European Union. An important feature of the South Africa-EU trade agreement is the implicit asymmetry of trade liberalisation between the EU and the BLNS countries.

Because of the SACU, the South Africa-EU agreement effectively grants the EU free access to the markets of the BLNS countries but does not grant the BLNS countries reciprocal access to the EU markets.

Members of SACU have been engaged in consultations over the past decade regarding irregularities in the revenue-sharing agreement.

In an effort to address these irregularities, the five member states have been negotiating to review the revenue-sharing

agreement to ensure that it is equitable.

According to a communiqué released soon after the SACU Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Gaborone, Botswana in June, the leaders said the review of the revenue-sharing formula should aim at investigating financing mechanisms to support industrial and infrastructure development in the union.

Furthermore, it must ensure that no SACU member state should be worse off under the new arrangement. Therefore, the new formula should be developmental in focus and not simply distributive.

SACU was established in 1910, before most of its member states were independent. The Secretariat is now based in Windhoek, Namibia.

All the five SACU countries are members of SADC, hence the proposed review of the revenue-sharing agreement should provide some important lessons for the regional body when it finally launches its own customs union.

The launch of the SADC Customs Union was initially scheduled for 2010. However, member states asked for more time to allow them to implement the SADC Free Trade Area that was launched in 2008. sardc.net □

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August – October 2018

July
30, Zimbabwe

Harmonized elections in Zimbabwe

Voters will go to the polls to choose their President, Members of Parliament (National Assembly and Senate), and local councillors to serve for the next five years. According to the Constitution of Zimbabwe the election results must be announced within five days after the election.

30 July-1 August,
Namibia

SADC Industrialization Week

The event aims to popularize the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap that was approved in 2015. Now in its third year, the annual event comprises a high-level conference to discuss ways of accelerating the industrialization agenda as well as an exhibition to showcase to allow various stakeholders to engage and network.

August
8-19, Namibia

38th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government

SADC leaders will meet for their annual Summit to discuss issues aimed at advancing regional integration and development. The Summit, set for 17-18 August, is preceded by meetings of senior officials and the Council of Ministers. President Hage Geingob of Namibia will chair SADC for the coming year, taking over from President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa. The Summit theme is "Promoting Infrastructure Development and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development".

16-17,
Mozambique

19th SADC Lawyers Association Annual Conference

Lawyers from SADC Member States will meet to discuss the role of the legal profession in advancing regional economic integration and infrastructure development, and in structuring Public Private Partnerships. The theme is "Promoting inclusive legal policy frameworks for sustainable socio-economic development in SADC".

TBA

Southern African Regional Climate Outlook Forum

Climate experts from SADC Member States will meet to review the regional climate outlook, using indicators of seasonal rainfall to produce a regional forecast for the 2018/19 rainfall season.

26 – 31, Sweden

World Water Week 2018

The World Water Week is an annual focal point for global water issues since 1991. Commemorated in Stockholm, Sweden each year, the World Water Week 2018 has the theme of "Water, ecosystems and human development".

September
3, Tanzania

51st SAPP Management Committee Meetings

The meeting brings together leaders of power utilities and government representatives in the 12 member states of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) to discuss key management issues related to the regional electricity grid and regional power supply.

TBA, eSwatini

Parliamentary elections in Kingdom of eSwatini

The Kingdom of eSwatini will elect parliamentarians through the system of Tinkhundla (or Inkhundla) which means "community" or "constituency". Candidates are shortlisted in their chiefdoms, and a total of 55 parliamentarians are elected through this process. King Mswati III nominates a further 10, bringing the total to 65 members.

18 Sept - 5 Oct,
New York

73rd Session of the UN General Assembly

The General Debate of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 73) takes place at UN headquarters in New York. The General Assembly is preceded by a series of meetings. The General Assembly is the main representative and policy making organ of the United Nations.

October
02 Oct, Zimbabwe

45th SAPP Executive Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee of Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) will discuss the energy situation in the region. The Executive Committee, which acts as the Board of SAPP is comprised of chief executives of enterprises that generate, wholesale and retail power to end-user customers.

10 Oct,
Mozambique

Municipal elections in Mozambique

Mozambique has set 10 October as Election Day for its sixth municipal polls for 53 municipalities in the 11 provinces. The previous municipal elections were held in 2013.

17 August 1992

SADC established at Windhoek Summit

THE HISTORIC Summit establishing the Southern African Development Community was hosted in 1992 in the capital city of the newly independent country of Namibia, which had gained independence just over two years earlier.

SADC was established through the Declaration and Treaty of SADC signed in Windhoek on 17 August 1992, thus replacing the Memorandum of Understanding on the Institutions of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), and transforming a coordination conference into a development community.

SADCC had been formed in Lusaka, Zambia on 1 April 1980, with the adoption of the Lusaka Declaration – *Southern Africa: Towards Economic Liberation*, based on consultations by the Frontline States, which started in 1977 and culminated in meetings in Gaborone, Botswana and Arusha, Tanzania in 1979.

By 1992, the SADCC leaders were ready to take the next step and, hosted by Namibia's founding President Sam Nujoma, the summit was chaired by the President of Botswana, Sir Ketumile Masire. Masire chaired SADC until 1997 when he handed the gavel to the first President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, who held it for two years and thereafter SADC adopted a system of rotation.

At the time of the 1992 Summit in Windhoek, South Africa was not yet free of the apartheid system, nor was it ruled by a democratic choice of the majority as most South Africans were still not allowed to vote, which they did for the first time two years later, on 27 April 1994.

However, in attendance at the 1992 Summit were representatives of the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC). The ANC was represented by its secretary-general, Cyril Ramaphosa, now President of South Africa. The PAC was represented by its president, C. Makwetu.

The 1992 Summit agreed to create a "regional economic community of Southern African states" with consideration to the movement of people within the region; the progressive removal of "all barriers to the flow of capital, goods and services"; and to give priority to arrangements for peace and security in the region.

The leaders discussed the drought, peace talks in Angola, the Mozambique peace agreement signed in Rome a few days earlier, and they reviewed developments in South Africa.

They also called on the international community to "put pressure on South Africa to restore sovereignty over Walvis Bay and the offshore islands to Namibia," which was achieved two years later.

The Summit approved the theme for the 1993 Annual Consultative Conference – *SADC: A Framework and Strategy for Building a Community in Southern Africa*.

SADC now has 16 Member States. □



Mwalimu Nyerere Leadership School

SIX AFRICAN liberation parties from southern Africa are preparing for construction of a leadership college in Tanzania in recognition and appreciation of the role played by the late Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere in their national independence struggles.

The parties are CCM (Tanzania), FRELIMO (Mozambique), MPLA (Angola), ZANU PF (Zimbabwe), SWAPO (Namibia), and ANC (South Africa), and they were represented at the colourful historic function by their secretaries-general.

They will work together to establish the Mwalimu Nyerere Leadership School that will offer training in political ideology and leadership skills with the aim of strengthening unity and cooperation in liberating African economies.

President John Magufuli officiated at the laying of the foundation stone for construction of the college in Kibaha district, Coast region, with the Head of International Liaison of the CPC (China), Song Tao.

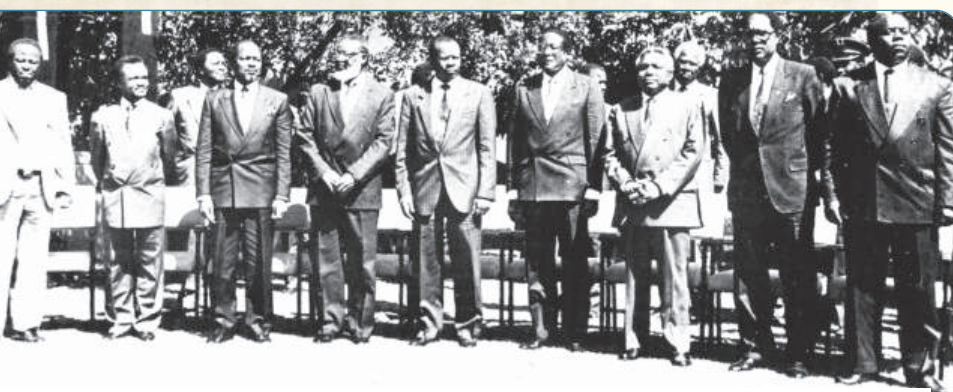
"We need to have the political parties with strong leadership who will obey leadership ethics and be able to bring economic development to the people," Magufuli said.

The project will be carried out with Chinese financial support and built by the China Railway Jianchang Engineering Company (CRJE) over the next two years. □

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN SADC

August-October 2018

1 August	Parents' Day	DRC
6 August	Farmers' Day	Zambia
8 August	Nane Nane Peasant Day	Tanzania
9 August	Women's Day	South Africa
13 August	Heroes' Day	Zimbabwe
14 August	Defence Forces Day	Zimbabwe
15 August	Assumption Day	Madagascar, Seychelles
15 August	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Mauritius
17 August	SADC Day*	All
21 August	Eid al Adha	Tanzania
26 August	Heroes' Day	Namibia
27 August	Public Holiday	Namibia
3 September	Umlhlanga Reed Dance	eSwatini
6 September	Somhlolo Day/Independence Day	eSwatini
7 September	Victory Day	Mozambique
14 September	Ganesh Chaturthi	Mauritius
17 September	National Heroes Day	Angola
24 September	Heritage Day	South Africa
25 September	Armed Forces Day	Mozambique
30 September	Botswana Day	Botswana
1 October	Public Holiday	Botswana
2 October	Public Holiday	Botswana
4 October	Independence Day	Lesotho
4 October	Peace and National Reconciliation Day	Mozambique
14 October	Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Day	Tanzania
15 October	Mothers' Day	Malawi
18 October	National Day of Prayer	Zambia



From second left, H.E. Frederick Chiluba, President of Zambia; H.E. Joaquim Chissano, President of Mozambique; H.E. Dr Sam Nujoma, Founding President of Namibia; H.E. Sir Ketumile Masire, President of Botswana; H.E. Robert Mugabe, Founding President of Zimbabwe; and H.E. Ali Hassan Mwinyi, President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Others who attended were the Prime Minister of Swaziland, Rt. Hon. Obed M. Dlamini, Prime Minister of Angola, Rt. Hon. F. Franca Van Dunem; Hon. A.L. Thoahtane, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development from Lesotho; and Hon. L.J. Chimango, Minister of Finance from Malawi.