



39th SADC Summit Towards Inclusive, Sustainable Industrial Development



LEADERS FROM southern Africa are meeting for their annual summit in August to chart the development agenda of the region. Running under the theme *"A Conducive Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, Increased Intra-Regional Trade and Job Creation"*, the summit will deliberate on a wide range of issues, including reviewing progress made towards achieving the longstanding vision of a united, prosperous and integrated region. This edition of Southern Africa Today looks at some of the major issues expected to be discussed by the 39th SADC Summit scheduled for Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania on 17-18 August.

Taking stock of industrialization agenda

One of the major highlights will be a progress report on the implementation of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063, which was adopted in 2015 to unlock the industrial potential of the region.

Industrialization is a top priority for southern Africa, and since 2014 all SADC summits have focused on how the region can attain industrial development.

In this regard, the 39th SADC Summit will receive a progress report on how Member States are implementing various measures to accelerate economic growth through industrial development.

As per the theme of the 39th SADC Summit, Member States will between August 2019 and August 2020 focus on creating a conducive environment to allow the private sector and other citizens of the region to actively participate in and fully benefit from measures aimed at advancing the industrialization agenda.

In a bid to enhance the level of industrial development, both nationally and regionally, and in pursuit of ensuring the attainment of unified goals and cohesion among Member States' industrialization policies and strategies, SADC is developing a Protocol on Industry, which is set to be completed by August 2019.

The protocol will be a binding instrument that will entrench and give legal effect to the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap and will ensure adequate coordination, monitoring and evaluation of implementation.

The proposed protocol is expected to strengthen the level of industrial development in the region and facilitate the harmonization of policies and strategies in Member States.

Where Member States already have such policies and strategies in place, these should be reviewed and aligned to the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap.

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Food security situation

Summit is expected to approve measures to address food insecurity after a poor harvest during the 2018/19 agricultural season.

The SADC region has a cereal deficit of more than 5.4 million tonnes this year following subdued rainfall during the just-ended season, according to a *Synthesis Report on the State of Food and Nutrition Security and Vulnerability in Southern Africa*.

The report indicates that an estimated 41.2 million people are food-insecure in 13 SADC Member States this year.

Summit is expected to approve strategies for addressing the food security, including assisting affected populations with food supplies as well as providing emergency livestock supplementary feeding to save livestock, and importing grain to supplement their reduced yields.

Infrastructure development

Another key issue for discussion is progress towards implementation of the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP).

Approved in 2012, the RIDMP is the strategy for the development of integrated regional infrastructure in southern Africa at an estimated cost of more than US\$500 billion to meet projected demand by 2027.

Implementation of the RIDMP is being done in three phases, covering the Short Term Action Plan (STAP) 2012-2017, the Medium Term Action Plan that runs up to 2022, and the Long Term Action Plan to be implemented up to 2027.

Preliminary findings of a study commissioned by the SADC Secretariat show that the implementation of most STAP projects is behind schedule.

Post-2020 SADC agenda

SADC has begun the process of formulating a new development vision to succeed the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) that was approved in 2015 and runs until 2020.

The review process is expected to lead to the development of a framework for the post-2020 regional strategy that takes into account SADC Principles and Common Principles as well as global and continental processes such as the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

With one year left until the 2020 SADC Summit (the 40th), the 39th Summit is expected to review progress towards the development of the post-2020 SADC Agenda.

In this regard, a progress report is set to be presented to the heads of state and government for deliberation.

Gender empowerment

Gender equality and empowerment are firmly rooted in the SADC Declaration and Treaty that established the shared community of SADC.

Member States fully realize that the equality and empowerment of both women and men is crucial for the attainment of sustainable development.

Significant progress has been made towards gender equality in the region, but more needs to be done.

In this regard, the Summit is expected to explore ways of intensifying its efforts to promote gender equality and ensure that both women and men play an active role in advancing regional integration.

Strengthening peace and security

On the political front, the leaders are expected to discuss the peace and security situation in the region.

The region has generally enjoyed stability despite some pockets of volatility in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Kingdom of Lesotho and Madagascar.

Summit is expected to take stock of interventions undertaken by the region to promote peace and stability in these and other Member States.

To ensure there is a strong linkage between early warning and early action, SADC has established the Regional Early Warning Centre and the region successfully deployed many strategic teams which have had a positive impact.

Most recent was the SADC Preventive Mission in Lesotho, which was deployed in November 2017 to stabilize the fragile and unpredictable political and security situation in the country, and successfully completed its mission in November 2018.

This supported the deployment of the SADC Oversight Committee to the Kingdom of Lesotho and the team supporting the SADC Facilitator to assist in the national dialogue and the roadmap for reforms.

Sustainable financing of regional integration

Another issue that remains high on the agenda for the Summit is the need for SADC to put in place sustainable financing models to drive forward its regional agenda.

It is estimated that only around 10 percent of regional projects are funded by SADC Member States while the balance comes from international cooperating partners. This situation has compromised the sustainability of regional programmes.

The Secretariat was directed by the 38th SADC Summit to finalize the draft SADC Regional Resources Mobilization Framework, which determines how fiscal space can be created to enable Member States to finance regional activities, programmes and projects.

A progress report on the draft SADC Regional Resources Mobilization Framework is, therefore, expected to be presented to the leaders for discussion.

Continental Free Trade Area

Summit is expected to discuss how Member States can fully benefit from the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) that entered into force in July.

AfCFTA is an enlarged market that brings together all the 55 AU member states, covering a market of more than 1.2 billion people and a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of more than US\$3.4 trillion.

The AfCFTA will build on the existence of other FTAs in the continent such as the SADC FTA and the pending "Grand" FTA involving the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community and SADC.

Establishment of the AfCFTA is one of the flagship projects or initiatives under Agenda 2063 – The Africa We Want, which is a continental vision and strategic framework adopted by the AU in 2013 to optimize the use of the continent's resources for the benefit of all Africans. □



Legal instrument to regulate Univisa implementation

SADC HAS begun the process of developing a legal instrument that aims to regulate the implementation of a single tourism visa for the region.

Commonly known as the SADC Tourism Univisa, the single visa system will allow tourists and travellers to the region to move smoothly across borders and between member states, as well as encourage tourists to visit more than one country in SADC.

Currently, travellers to SADC are expected to apply for a visa each time they intend to visit any country in the region, a situation most travellers say is costly and a barrier to movement within the region.

In this regard, a single visa system for travellers to the SADC region makes economic sense as it saves time, money, bureaucratic hassles and makes travel easier.

To ensure the success and smooth implementation of the SADC Tourism Univisa, the Secretariat is crafting a legal instrument to regulate the implementation of the Univisa and ensure that all security vulnerabilities and threats are addressed in preparation for the launch of the Univisa.

In fact, one of the major challenges that has delayed the launch of the SADC Tourism Univisa is the security vulnerabilities and threats posed by such a single visa system including administrative and coordination issues such as policy

agreement, procedures and requirements for issuing the visa to travellers and tourists.

For example, some SADC Member States argue that if the Univisa system is not properly and legally constituted, its implementation could pose serious safety and security challenges such as an influx of illegal immigrants in some countries.

Furthermore, tourists could choose to visit one or a few destinations in SADC, hence the need to come up with a fair and equitable revenue sharing system among all the SADC Member States.

Therefore, the development of a legal instrument that seeks to regulate the smooth implementation of a single tourism visa for the region will ensure the success of the SADC Tourism Univisa.

While the region prepares for the SADC Tourism Univisa, a pilot system known as Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) Visa, which covers visitors from other regions to Zambia and Zimbabwe was successfully launched in November 2014.

The implementation of the KAZA Univisa was originally set to be rolled out in four different stages.

The pilot phase involved Zambia and Zimbabwe, with the next step expected to cover three other countries -- Angola, Botswana and Namibia, who together make up the five members of the KAZA Trans Frontier Conservation Area.

The KAZA TFCA covers an area of about 444,000 square kilometres, and consists of 36 national parks, game reserves, community conservancies and game management areas.

The conservation area boasts of numerous tourist attractions such as the Victoria Falls between Zambia and Zimbabwe, San rock paintings in Botswana and the absorbing wildlife population in the region.

This high concentration of attractions creates an entirely new assortment of tourism opportunities in southern Africa, presenting new opportunities for socio-economic development in

SADC, resulting in deeper integration among Member States.

Once all the KAZA countries are part of the KAZA Univisa, more SADC Member States (Eswatini, Mozambique and South Africa) are expected to join the Univisa system.

Thereafter, the fourth and last stage should see all the other remaining SADC countries – the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Seychelles and the United Republic of Tanzania – joining the visa system, thereby adopting a Univisa in the SADC region. □

SADC to disband RETOSA

AS PART of its efforts to revamp the tourism sector in the region, SADC has approved plans to disband the Regional Tourism Organization of Southern Africa.

This is in line with the provisions in the Charter establishing RETOSA, and the SADC Council has since directed the Secretariat to develop a feasible mechanism that will ensure that the objectives of regional tourism programme are fulfilled and submit a report to Council at its meeting in August ahead of the 39th SADC Heads of State and Government Summit scheduled for Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania.

Following the disbanding of RETOSA and its Board, the Committee of SADC Senior Officials responsible for Tourism was tasked to exercise the powers of the RETOSA Board to ensure that it is able to wind up all the activities, programmes and projects of RETOSA.

Established in 1997 as a SADC subsidiary, RETOSA was tasked with a mandate to encourage and assist in the development of tourism in the region and market southern Africa as a single, multi-faceted tourist destination.

However, most of the targets were not met due to various challenges including lack of capacity and limited resources. □



Subdued SADC food security situation in 2018/19 season

by Kizito Sikuka

A REGIONAL food security assessment indicates that southern Africa has a cereal deficit of more than 5.4 million tonnes this year following a subdued 2018/19 farming season.

Based on the 11 SADC Member States that provided cereal balance sheets for the 2018/19 harvest year, the assessment says the region produced about 37.5 million tonnes of cereals compared to 42.9 million tonnes in 2017/18.

This is according to a “Synthesis Report on the State of Food and Nutrition Security and Vulnerability in Southern Africa” approved by the programme steering committee of the SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (RVAA) that met on 5 July in Windhoek, Namibia.

The countries that provided cereal balance sheets for the 2018/19 season are Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The report revealed that cereal production in South Africa, which usually accounts for the largest proportion of regional output, decreased by 19 percent from 18.7 million tonnes during 2017/18 season to 15.1 million tonnes during the season just ended.

Zambia, which during the past few years has significantly contributed to regional cereal output, suffered a 14.7 percent decline in production from 2.6 million tonnes in 2017/18 to 2.2 million tonnes in 2018/19.

The largest drop in output was, however, in Botswana where cereal production is estimated to have declined by 92 percent during the 2018/19 season, while Namibia and Lesotho experienced 53 percent and 50 percent decreases, respectively.

The least affected countries were Angola and Tanzania, which recorded decreases of 1 percent and 4 percent, respectively.

Maize accounts for 80 percent of cereal production in southern Africa. Other important cereals are wheat, sorghum, millets and rice.

According to the regional food security assessment report, the decline in cereal production indicates that “an estimated 41.2 million people in 13 SADC Member States are food-insecure this year.”

The 13 countries are Angola, Botswana, DRC, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The remaining three SADC Member States – Mauritius, the Union of Comoros and Seychelles – did not provide figures on their food security and vulnerability assessments, meaning that

the number of food-insecure people in the region could be higher.

The SADC region has a population of more than 327 million.

“When comparing the 11 Member States that provided data last year and this year, food insecurity increased by 28 percent,” reads part of the synthesis report, adding that the figure is “7.4 percent higher than it was during the severe El Niño-induced drought of 2016/17.”

To address the situation, SADC Member States are putting in place measures to support food security, such as assisting affected populations with food supplies and providing emergency supplementary feeding for livestock.

“Namibia is responding to the drought by distributing food relief and agricultural inputs, as well as the provision of water to the affected population,” Namibian Deputy Director for Policy, Disaster Risk Management Directorate, Anastasia Amunyela, said at the SADC RVAA meeting.

Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe are importing grain to supplement their reduced yields.

The plight of the three countries was worsened by the impact of Cyclone Idai that hit the region in March. Cyclone Idai, which has been recorded as one of the worst tropical storms to affect Africa and the southern

hemisphere, hit parts of Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe in March 2019, and was accompanied by heavy rain, wind and storms that destroyed a large hectare of crop in the three countries.

Other contributing factors that worsened the low harvest in most SADC Member States include the Fall Armyworm infestation. In this regard, the affected countries are actively monitoring and responding to the pest outbreak as well as to livestock and crops diseases.

The Synthesis Report on the State of Food and Nutrition Security and Vulnerability urges SADC Member States to move towards crop and dietary diversity in the medium to long term, through the growing and consumption of diversified diets, including indigenous foods.

This includes species diversification in livestock production, especially small ruminants that are adapted to harsh weather conditions.

There is also need to improve irrigation as well as rainwater harvesting to allow the region to farm all year round and not depend only on climatic conditions.

The potential for irrigating land in the SADC region is vast as the region is hugely endowed with watercourses such as the Congo, Zambezi and Limpopo rivers.

However, the SADC region should improve its



transportation network so that agricultural produce can move smoothly from one place to another.

It is also necessary to invest in storage facilities to allow farmers to store their harvest for use in poor seasons.

According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, post-harvest crop losses in SADC are estimated to be as high as 40 percent.

The “Synthesis Report on the State of Food and Nutrition Security and Vulnerability in Southern Africa” is expected to be presented to the SADC Council of Ministers and ultimately to the 39th Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government scheduled for 17-18 August in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The agricultural sector is regarded as an engine for socio-economic development in most SADC Member States, hence the drive towards deeper cooperation and collaboration to boost production and address food insecurity.

The synthesis report which consolidated the results of the vulnerability assessments of Member States, was presented at the annual dissemination meeting of the RVAA Programme held in Windhoek, Namibia, in July.

The objective of the SADC RVAA programme meeting was to discuss and consolidate the results of the 2019 vulnerability assessments and analyses done by Member States.

The SADC RVAA Programme was established in 2005 to strengthen the capacity of Member States to undertake and utilize vulnerability assessments to inform policy formulation and emergency interventions that can lead to a reduction in vulnerability in the region.

The first phase of the SADC RVAA Programme, which ran from 2005-2011, sought to inform broader approaches to tackling food insecurity, including safety nets and social protection.

The second phase covered the period 2012-2016 and focused on expanding the scope

of the programme to include urban areas and chronic poverty issues such as gender, HIV and AIDS, and climate change, as well as influencing policies and programmes.

The current phase of the SADC RVAA Programme, which spans the period 2017-2021, seeks to consolidate gains from the previous phases, while at the same time broadening the programme to cover chronic vulnerability, contributing to climate resilient livelihoods and addressing the challenges of institutionalization and capacity development of national committees.

Since its establishment, the SADC RVAA Programme has made significant progress in providing timely and credible information that has influenced policy, and its products are now a vital reference point for decision-makers in addressing food and nutrition security issues.

One of the major goals of the SADC RVAA Programme is the timely provision of credible vulnerability information, while building capacities to meet the ever-increasing information needs of governments and partners for developmental programming and emergency response. sardc.net

Cereal Balance Sheet and Production

	2019/20 Marketing Year Cereal Balance Sheet			Cereal Production		
	Required	Available	Deficit / surplus	2018	2019	
	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	% change from 2018 to 2019
Angola	4,879	3,748	-1,132	3,609	3,570	-1.07
Botswana	300	37.756	-262	66	5.4	-91.83
DR Congo					3,200	
Eswatini	167.88	96.77	-71	112	95.3	-14.99
Lesotho	375.07	87.83	-287	75	37.5	-50.27
Madagascar						
Malawi				3,027	2,700	-10.81
Mozambique				3,174		
Namibia	351.2	200.5	-151	153	71.5	-53.24
South Africa	15,524	19,607	4,083	18,701	15,137	-19.06
Tanzania	8,754	9,007	253	9,386	9,008	-4.03
Zambia	5,225	4,337	-888	2,598	2,217	-14.66
Zimbabwe	2,204	1,443	-761	1,994	1,443	-27.64
SADC	37,780	38,565	784	42,895	37,485	



Strengthening disaster preparedness, response

by Kumbirai Nhongo

SADC IS fast-tracking the establishment of a regional mechanism to strengthen disaster response and preparedness in the aftermath of two tropical cyclones that left trails of destruction and affected livelihoods in parts of the region.

Cyclone Idai hit central and southern Mozambique, southern Malawi and eastern Zimbabwe in March, causing severe flooding and destroying infrastructure and large tracts of crop land in the three Member States.

An estimated three million people in the three Member States were affected by Cyclone Idai, which has been recorded as one of the worst tropical storms to ever affect Africa and the southern hemisphere.

The cyclone claimed hundreds of lives and left a trail of destruction in the three countries, including key infrastructure such as roads, bridges, schools and clinics. Before the region could recover from the impact of the tropical storm, northern Mozambique and the Comoros were hit by Cyclone Kenneth, which also left a trail of destruction.

According to SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, the effects of Cyclones Idai and Kenneth “point to an urgent need to strengthen our preparedness and respond in a coordinated and timely manner.”

“In this regard, the region has taken the lessons learnt from the devastating impacts of these cyclones seriously and measures to

operationalize the SADC Disaster Preparedness and Response Mechanism are ongoing,” Dr Tax said during the 21st Meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation held in Lusaka, Zambia on 19 July.

She said proposed measures “include the operationalization of the SADC Disaster Preparedness and Response Fund, which goes hand-in-hand with a resource mobilization strategy and sustainability plan.”

The proposed SADC Disaster Preparedness and Response Fund is expected to create a pool of resources from which the region can rapidly mobilise funds in the event that the Member States experience a natural disaster or emergency situation.

The regional fund is intended to complement the budgets of Member State for disaster preparedness and response as national governments remain the first-line responders to local emergency situations.

The fund is expected to be functional by the end of 2019; the modalities of how it will work are still being developed.

Taking adequate measures to prevent, reduce and respond to the impact of disasters has become a critical issue for southern Africa following an increase in the number of natural hazards affecting the region.

Natural hazards such as droughts, floods, cyclones and occasional earthquakes occur in southern Africa and the impacts continue to

threaten livelihoods and socio-economic development.

To address increasing vulnerability, the region has approved the SADC Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy 2016-2030.

The strategy was adopted by ministers responsible for Disaster Risk Management in November 2016 and aims to strengthen the preparedness and response mechanism for early warning as well as recovery from disasters in the region by 2030.

To strengthen disaster preparedness and response planning, Dr Tax revealed that there are plans to establish the SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Operations Centre (SHOC).

SHOC is expected to coordinate regional preparedness and responses to disasters.

Furthermore, SADC plans to develop and operationalize a regional database to record

losses from disasters through the operationalization of a Regional Disaster Risk Information Management System.

Other measures include the development of Standard Operating Procedures for relief and recovery operations; the creation of a Regional Emergency Roster under which Member States will contribute human resources to the regional humanitarian efforts; and the mapping of disaster-prone areas and available resources.

“These tools will be complimented with the activation of SADC Contingency Operations Plan for early warning under the SADC Standby Force,” Dr Tax said.

The Secretariat is mapping the entire disaster management value chain, with a view to putting in place a comprehensive and well-coordinated response mechanism, she added. □

Overwhelming response for cyclone victims

THERE HAS been an overwhelming response to the Regional Humanitarian Appeal launched by SADC in April, with more than US\$204 million raised by mid-July.

SADC launched an international appeal for US\$323 million to support victims to cope with the impact of Cyclone Idai that affected parts of Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe in March.

SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax said through the regional appeal, “combined with National Humanitarian Appeals, an amount of USD204 million has been raised for the affected countries.”

“Let me thank SADC governments and citizens in Diaspora as well as national, regional and international organizations and partners that provided, and continue to provide, support to the affected Member States and communities,” Dr Tax said during the 21st Meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation held in Lusaka, Zambia on 19 July □

SADC, AfDB partner to strengthen capacity for infrastructure development

by Kumbirai Nhongo

THE SADC Secretariat has partnered with the African Development Bank to strengthen the capacity of Member States in project preparation to improve resource mobilisation efforts for regional infrastructure development.

As part of efforts to fast-track the implementation of the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP), the Secretariat and the AfDB convened a workshop in June to build the capacity of officials from the 16 SADC Member States to develop detailed project fiches.

A project fiche is a document that provides information to potential funders, investors and other stakeholders about a particular project, including the location, estimated cost, implementation status, potential risks and funding gaps.

The SADC Director for Infrastructure, Mapolao Mokoena said the partnership with AfDB is pivotal in supporting the drive by the region to accelerate the implementation of infrastructure projects, given the prevailing infrastructure deficit in southern Africa.

She said project fiches supplied by Member States have helped inform the development of a list of priority projects that will direct ongoing regional infrastructure development initiatives.

The RIDMP identifies a number of priority projects within six sectoral clusters – transport, energy, water, information communication technology, meteorology and tourism.

The implementation of the RIDMP is being done in three phases, covering the Short Term Action Plan (STAP) 2012-2017, the Medium Term Action Plan that runs up to 2022, and the Long Term Action Plan to be implemented up to 2027.

Preliminary findings of a study commissioned by the SADC Secretariat and conducted by the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) on the implementation of Short Term Action Plan show that most infrastructure projects are behind schedule.

The draft report of the assessment was presented to Member States and other stakeholders for validation during a workshop held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 17-21 June.

The target under the Short Term Action Plan was to implement 98 regional infrastructure projects valued at a combined US\$64.3 billion.

However, findings from the report show that the region is behind schedule, with a mere five percent of the targeted projects having been fully implemented.

The study points to the slow pace of implementation of SADC infrastructure projects, a situation that has the adverse effect of widening the infrastructure gap in the region.

The assessment attributes this stagnation partly to the fact that SADC Member States face a skills-and-capacity challenge in the preparation of bankable project proposals that can attract funding for infrastructure projects.

The study found that about 70 percent of the projects

planned for the short-term phase of the regional infrastructure plan had not secured the required financial resources, mostly due to the lack of capacity to package bankable proposals.

The training of Member State officials on the development of detailed project fiches, which was conducted by AfDB is expected to strengthen the capacity of the region to fast-track implementation of RIDMP projects.

It is envisaged that as the pipeline of bankable projects increases, the SADC region will be better placed to attract funding for its priority infrastructure projects.

When developing project fiches, Member States were advised to prioritise infrastructure projects that yield the desired economic and social benefits in the most efficient manner, given the limited resources available.

A major challenge highlighted during the workshop was a conflict in priorities between regional and national

projects, with Member States usually opting for those that have a greater domestic impact in preference to those of a transboundary nature.

However, a preferred project pipeline should address both national as well as regional strategic priorities.

It was agreed that Member States should accelerate the alignment of regional projects with strategic national priorities.

Mokoena said the SADC Secretariat, in partnership with the AfDB, had prioritised 62 regional projects for implementation in the next phase of the regional infrastructure plan.

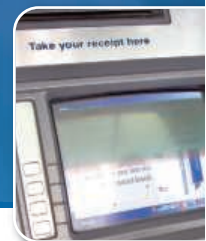
This number is expected to rise as a critical mass for preparing bankable projects is created within the region.

The RIDMP workshop was attended by officials and experts from SADC Member States, the Development Bank of Southern Africa and representatives from various international cooperating partners. □

THE SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP) is the agreed regional strategy for the development of integrated regional infrastructure in southern Africa, at an estimated cost of US\$500 billion to meet projected demand to 2027.

The historic decision to approve the RIDMP in 2012 at the SADC Summit held in Maputo, Mozambique, was informed by the perspective that infrastructure development and maintenance is an enabler for accelerated regional integration, economic development, industrialization and trade.

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



SADC regional integration agenda on course... but n

by Kizito Sikuka

SADC HAS made significant progress towards achieving its vision of a united, prosperous and integrated region.

This was said by SADC Chairperson, President Hage Geingob of Namibia while presenting a report on the status of regional integration in SADC to the inaugural African Union (AU)-Regional Economic Communities (RECs) Co-ordination Meeting held on 7-8 July in Niamey, Niger.

"Our review of the status of integration in SADC reveals that implementation has progressed well, notwithstanding some challenges," President Geingob said.

He said some of the major milestones recorded by SADC include the launch of a Free Trade Area (FTA) in August 2008.

The SADC FTA, which covers 12 Member States, has led to an increase in intra-regional trade in SADC to above 22 percent of the collective Gross Domestic Product, compared to the pre-FTA era high of around 16 percent.

Furthermore, the launch of the SADC FTA has allowed consumers in the region to get better products at lower prices due to increased production, while producers are benefiting from tariff-free trade for all goods originating within the region.

The main aim of the SADC FTA is to promote the smooth movement of goods and services across borders, as well as to encourage Member States to harmonize trade policies to promote equal competition and increased trade.

Another achievement for SADC is the establishment of a regional payment system to settle cross-border transactions faster without having to rely on intermediary banks from outside the region.

Commonly known as the SADC Real Time Gross Settlement System, the system was established in July 2013 and piloted in four countries – Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa.

The system is now operational in 14 SADC Member States and only Madagascar and the Union of Comoros are not participating.

"The SADC cross-border Real Time Gross Settlement System has improved efficiency and reduced transaction costs," President Geingob said.



He said the system has "performed impressively with 81 banks participating, and over 1.2 million transactions settled by end of 2018, representing ZAR5.21 trillion (about US\$373.5 billion) worth of SADC's intra-regional trade."

On the energy front, the establishment of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) has provided a platform for power utilities within the region to share electricity across borders, thereby allowing countries to manage their energy surpluses and deficits.

All mainland SADC Member States, with the exception of Angola, Malawi and Tanzania, are interconnected to the regional grid through SAPP, allowing them to trade electricity.

The island states of Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles are not yet members of SAPP.

The region has witnessed significant investment in renewable and non-renewable energy sources, a development that has seen a number of power generation and transmission projects being implemented during the past decade.

Such investment has led to increased generation capacity in the region, which has faced power deficits since 2007.

With regard to peace and security, the region has remained largely stable and continues to put in place measures to promote and strengthen its stability.

For example, as part of the Good Governance and Democracy Tenets, SADC Member States have been encouraged to adhere to the Revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections, which provide a normative peer review framework to measure adherence to standardized universal best practices in relation to the conduct of elections and, ultimately, the prevention of election-related conflicts.

In this regard, since the adoption of the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections, the region has successfully deployed the SADC Electoral Observation Missions (SEOMs) to observe elections in Member States.





more needs to be done

In 2018 and 2019 alone, SEOMs have so far been deployed to the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Madagascar, Malawi, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The deployment of the SEOMs, supported by the SADC Electoral Advisory Council, has, by and large, contributed to the enhanced credibility of electoral processes in Member States and towards deepening democracy in the region.

President Geingob, who will hand over the SADC chair to his counterpart, President John Pombe Joseph Magufuli of the United Republic of Tanzania at the 39th SADC Summit set for 17-18 August in Dar es Salaam, said the SADC Standby Force has strengthened capacity for collective defence and rapid response to security threats in the region and in Africa.

Established in 2007, the SADC Standby Force successfully assumed Africa Standby Force (ASF) roster duties from 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2019.

The assumption of the ASF standby roster duties entailed that the SADC Standby Force had the primary responsibility of being the first responder to conflict situations on the continent by providing a rapid deployment capability.

The ASF is an important tool of the African peace and security architecture for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in the continent.

The ASF became fully operational in 2016 and is based on standby arrangements among Africa's five sub-regions – North Africa, East Africa, Central Africa, West Africa and Southern Africa. The regions agreed to lead the ASF on a six-monthly rotational basis.

On mainstreaming of gender in peace and security, SADC has developed a regional framework that will serve as a guide on mainstreaming gender into the regional peace and security systems and processes.

President Geingob said despite these achievements, various challenges continue to hinder the ability of SADC to make the benefits of belonging to a shared community in southern Africa enjoyable by all its citizens.

"Some plans and commitments are either unrealistic or are not fully owned by Member States. This negatively affects implementation of the plans and the ultimate realisation of the set milestones. We, therefore, need to ensure that the plans are realistic, and all Member States are fully consulted and subscribe to them," he said.

Another challenge is the multiple and overlapping membership of various RECs by SADC Member States.

A number of SADC Member States belong to more than one REC, a situation that has led to conflicts of loyalty and

confusion of commitment, thereby hindering progress of integration in Africa.

However, the issue of overlapping membership is being addressed by the operationalisation of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Free Trade Area, and the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area whose operational phase was officially launched on 7 July.

Another obstacle to stronger regional integration is limited participation in regional programmes by non-state actors, including the private sector, civil society and the media.

"We need to effectively bring on board the private sector as a critical partner to regional integration," Geingob said, adding that "lack of prioritisation and implementation of plans and activities that promote regional integration" is another challenge that should be tackled if SADC wants to achieve deeper integration.

He said that to address these challenges the region has also "pursued a developmental approach to integration that focuses on sectoral cooperation."

This developmental approach is premised on four interdependent priority areas, which are aligned to the African Union Agenda 2063. These priority areas are:

- Industrial Development and Market Integration;
- Infrastructure Development in Support of Regional Integration;
- Peace and Security Cooperation; and
- Special Programmes of a Regional Dimension.

The inaugural AU-REC Coordination Meeting sought to enable RECs in Africa to take a critical look at the progress made in implementing and meeting the objectives of their integration agendas, as well as provide an opportunity to take stock of the synergies between the activities of the RECs and the AU agenda and programmes.

The AU is made up of eight RECs. These are the Arab Maghreb Union, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Community of Sahel-Saharan States, East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and SADC.

The RECs are the essential building blocks of the proposed African Economic Community (AEC) envisaged to be in place by 2028.

The overall objective of the AEC is to promote cooperation and development in all aspects of human activity, with a view to raising the standard of life of Africa's people, maintaining economic stability and establishing a close and peaceful relationship among member states. sardc.net



Regional protocol on trafficking in persons

by Nyarai Kampilipili

A REGIONAL protocol on trafficking in persons is being developed by the Secretariat to curb the vice which is on the increase in SADC.

Trafficking In Persons (TIP) is among the world's fastest growing organized crimes and SADC is intensifying efforts to respond to it.

TIP usually involves the illegal movement of an individual into a country for purposes of exploitation.

Traffickers thrive on the vulnerabilities created by a number of factors including poverty, conflict and post conflict instabilities, gender inequality, unemployment, economic instability and a general lack of opportunities.

Victims, mostly women and children, are often enticed to leave their homes with false promises of jobs but are later subjected to sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or even the removal of body organs.

The modus operandi used by syndicates includes false newspaper advertisements for jobs in towns or other countries.

In other cases, young children are kidnapped and sold to work in factories, plantations or sweet shops; young men are forced to work in labour markets such as agriculture and textile industries for little or no pay; and babies or very young children are stolen or bought for illegal adoption.

To tackle these challenges, SADC countries are strengthening their legal frameworks to combat TIP and ensure that citizens do not fall prey to such criminal activities.

As such, the SADC Secretariat is developing a regional

protocol that specifically deals with the issues of TIP.

The call to develop the TIP protocol was made by the SADC Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation at their meeting held in July 2017 in Dar es Salaam, the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Secretariat said in May during the SADC Senior Officials and Gender Ministers meeting held in Windhoek, Namibia that the process to craft a regional protocol on TIP is now at an advanced stage.

The protocol will be accompanied by guidelines on Monitoring and Reporting on TIP, which will be used to measure implementation of the protocol.

Since the inception of a programme on combatting TIP by SADC in 2013, a number of achievements have been realised.

The milestones include assistance to SADC Member States to develop their national action plans, as well as victims' identification guidelines, implementing regulations and standard operating procedures referral mechanisms.

Capacity to respond to TIP also improved through the training of law enforcement officers, as well as the media and criminal justice practitioners.

A total of 14 SADC countries have taken measures to address the issue of trafficking

in persons, and have set up anti-trafficking structures which help in supporting victims of trafficking.

These are Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

A recent publication by SADC on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Persons: Lessons from the SADC region highlights efforts by Member States in strengthening victim support and protection through food assistance, clothing, shelter, safe housing, counselling, psychological support, and medical aid and if necessary, hospitalisation. □

SADC to launch publication on women economic empowerment

THE SADC Gender and Development Monitor 2018 -- now in its seventh edition -- will be launched on the margins of the 39th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government scheduled for August in Dar es Salaam, the United Republic of Tanzania.

The publication presents an account of progress made towards implementation of regional commitments to achieve gender equality and equity in line with the revised SADC Protocol on Gender and Development focusing on economic empowerment and Gender Responsive Budgeting.

According to the publication, SADC Member States have made considerable progress in enacting national laws and policies for economic advancement of women and men in the region.

However, there is a general discord that still exists between statutory and customary law, which is a drawback towards progress.

The publication also shows that women, relative to men, are largely engaged in unpaid care work and the multiple roles that women play are largely unrecognized by law, a burden which should be shared.

Some of the policy options proffered by the publication include the need for SADC Member States to consider mainstreaming effective Gender Responsive Budgeting in all socio-economic activities, programmes and projects.

The SADC Gender and Development Monitor 2018 was produced by the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) on behalf of the SADC Secretariat through information provided by Member States through the Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework.



New SADC PF chief ready to advance regional integration

by Thenjiwe Ngwenya

THE APPOINTMENT

of Boemo Sekgoma as the first woman to head the SADC Parliamentary Forum signals another step towards equal representation of women and men in political and other decision-making positions in southern Africa.

Sekgoma was named as the SADC Parliamentary Forum (PF) Secretary General at the 45th Session of the Plenary Assembly held in Maputo, Mozambique in July.

Prior to her appointment, she was the Acting Secretary General since June 2018, following the departure of Esau Chiviya, who had served the Forum from July 2009.

"I am determined to continue serving the institutional organs of the Forum," she said, adding that "I am committed to making SADC a better place through parliamentary development." One of her major tasks at the helm of the SADC PF is to oversee its transformation into a regional parliament.

This follows high-level support by leaders at the 38th SADC Summit held in Namibia in August 2018 to advance the establishment of a regional parliament as an integral institution to drive forward the regional integration agenda.

The SADC Council of Ministers, which met in March 2019, created a Task Force to undertake an analysis of the structure, functions and the governing legal



framework of the proposed regional parliament and to present its findings for consideration when the Council meets again in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, in August ahead of the 39th SADC Summit.

Running under the theme "A Conducive Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, Increased Intra-Regional Trade and Job Creation", the 39th SADC Summit will deliberate on a wide range of issues, including reviewing progress made towards achieving the longstanding vision of a united, prosperous and integrated region.

The proposed establishment of the SADC Regional Parliament will provide a representative institution for the SADC citizenry, thereby serving as a valid interlocutor for the needs and desires of the general public.

The Executive is already the main driver of regional integration through inter-governmental institutions at senior officials, ministerial or heads of state and governmental levels.

The Judiciary was represented through the now suspended but soon to be reconstituted SADC Tribunal whose primary role is expected to be that of ensuring compliance and resolution of disputes related to the interpretation and application of the SADC Treaty and subsidiary legal instruments.

A missing link would, therefore, be that of the Legislature whose central role would be to spearhead the domestication of regional policy and legal obligations outlined in the SADC Treaty and various sectoral protocols.

Transformation of the SADC PF into a Regional Parliament has been on the table since 2004, but the process and plans were not clearly defined until last year.

The forum is an autonomous institution of SADC established in 1997 as a regional inter-parliamentary body made up of 14 national parliaments, representing more than 3,500 parliamentarians in southern Africa.

The member parliaments are Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

However, the forum has not been able to fully contribute to policy making that is important for regional integration because its formal role on SADC matters has not been fully recognized, nor does its work directly feed into the agenda of the intergovernmental body.

This has seen the national parliaments embarking on a process over the years to forge a working relationship with the SADC Secretariat to create space for parliamen-

tarians to participate more formally in regional integration processes.

In this regard, its transformation into a regional parliament will help to bridge the gap between citizens of southern Africa and regional integration processes.

The Plenary Assembly of the SADC PF is the highest decision-making body of the Forum, which comprises of Speakers or Presiding Officers and Parliamentarians who have been appointed by their national institutions to participate at Forum level.

The newly elected SADC PF leadership, meeting for their 45th Session of the Plenary Assembly held in Maputo, Mozambique in July, agreed that transformation into a regional parliament remains a top priority for the forum.

SADC PF President, Veronica Macamo Dlhovo, who is the Speaker of the Mozambican National Assembly, said the forum will soon convene an urgent meeting to discuss how the transformation into a regional parliament would become a reality.

The 45th Session of the Plenary Assembly, which was officially opened by the President of Mozambique, Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, ran under the theme "Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation: The Role of Parliaments, Towards the Implementation of the Paris Declaration and the Katowice Road Map". sardc.net





Pressure mounts for removal of ban on ivory trade

ELEPHANT SUMMITS held in Botswana and Zimbabwe in recent months have agreed to seek the removal of the ban on trade in ivory to allow communities to benefit from the resources.

This was one of the outcomes of the African Union-United Nations Wildlife Economy Summit held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe in June. In May, the Kasane Elephant Summit made a similar appeal from five SADC Member States – Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Despite several such appeals and consensus among most countries in the region to lift the ban on trade in ivory, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has maintained the restrictions.

CITES, which is an international agreement that aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival, argues that the ban is still necessary to protect the elephants and other wildlife such as rhinos from extinction.

This restriction is, however, a setback for SADC Member States as the ban on ivory trade has seriously eroded the revenue base for wildlife conservation and can lead to increased cases of poaching as communities are not benefitting from ivory trade proceeds.

Speaking at the AU-UN Wildlife Economy Summit, the Zimbabwean President Emerson Mnangagwa said while southern Africa remains guided by the principles of sustainable utilisation of wildlife, the region continues to call for free trade in hunting products to create a balance between conservation and sustainable utilisation of wildlife resources by local communities.

"We are gravely concerned by the one-size-fits-all approach, where banning of trade is creeping into the CITES decision-making processes," he said.

Countries in southern Africa argue that the move to maintain and reinforce the global ban in ivory trade has resulted in a boom of the elephant population, which has now grown far above the carrying capacity of forests in the region.

For example, the elephant population in Zimbabwe is approaching 100,000, which is nearly three times its sustainable carrying capacity.

In other SADC Member States such as Namibia and South Africa, the elephant population stands at over 22,500 and about 20,000, respectively.

According to CITES, southern Africa has the largest number of elephants in Africa at about 350,000, which is double that for East Africa where there are an estimated 166,500 ele-

phants, mostly in the United Republic of Tanzania, also part of SADC.

Although elephant populations in southern Africa are in Appendix II, meaning that commercial trade in species is allowed, countries from the region have not benefitted from the successful sustainable conservation programmes that they have embarked upon during the past few decades.

The elephant populations of Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe were transferred from Appendix I to II in 1997, while those in South Africa were transferred in 2000.

Appendix I lists species that are threatened with extinction, while those in Appendix II are not necessarily threatened and commercial trading is allowed under certain conditions.

In 1989, CITES banned the international commercial ivory trade but later permitted Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe to sell some stocks of their ivory to Japan, totalling over 150 tonnes in 1997 and 2002.

The decision was made in recognition of the fact that some southern African elephant populations are healthy and well managed.

Other sales in these countries took place in 1999 and 2008 and earned some US\$20 million for elephant conservation and community development pro-

grammes in and around the elephant range areas.

However, since 2008, there has been a nine-year moratorium or temporary prohibition in sale of ivory, which was supposed to end in 2017 but no stockpiles have been sold until now.

According to a declaration released after the Wildlife Economy Summit, local communities are the "front line of defence in protecting natural resources and combatting illegal wildlife trade," hence should be allowed to benefit from their resources.

Deputy Executive Director for the UN Environment Programme, Joyce Msuya, said the participation of local communities at the summit is a positive step in the shift towards a sustainable wildlife economy for Africa.

"When communities living closest to wildlife have a clear role and stake in managing nature, they have a stronger incentive to conserve it," she said.

Southern Africa is expected to make further appeals on the removal of the ivory trade ban at the upcoming 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES scheduled for August in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Wildlife Economy Summit, which was held under the theme "Communities for Conservation, Harnessing Conservation Tourism and Supporting Governments," is the first of its kind on the African continent. ▢





SADC, Interpol agreement ready for signature

SADC AND the International Police Organisation have finalised a revised agreement to strengthen cooperation between the two organisations in areas of law enforcement and criminal justice.

The SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, said the revised agreement is now ready for signature.

"The Agreement will assist in creating an ideal platform for collaboration between SADC and Interpol, and support to law enforcement in fighting transnational organised crime," she said.

The revised agreement is expected to establish a framework for operational police cooperation between SADC and Interpol, and to determine the secretariat functions that can be provided, on behalf of SADC, to the Southern African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) by Interpol through its regional bureau in Harare.

Under the existing agreement, which was signed in

2011, the Interpol Regional Bureau has been assisting in the coordination of SARPCCO joint operations and investigations, and other activities aimed at the prevention and combating of crime.

SARPCCO is the primary force in southern Africa for the prevention and fighting of cross-border crime. It was formed in 1995 in Zimbabwe

and has firmly established itself as a benchmark for international police cooperation and is supported by the Interpol Regional Bureau in Harare, which coordinates its activities and programmes.

Priority crimes that are handled by SARPCCO include terrorism; motor vehicle theft; drugs and counterfeit pharmaceuticals;

economic and commercial crimes; firearms and explosives; trafficking in gold, diamonds and other precious stones and metals; crimes against women and children; illegal immigrants and stolen and lost travel documents; wildlife crime and endangered species; and trafficking in human beings.

Combating terrorism in SADC

SADC HAS developed measures to address the emerging threats of terrorism, which threaten to undermine the peace and stability in the region.

The SADC Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy and an Action Plan was presented to the 21st Ministerial Committee of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation held in Lusaka, Zambia on 19 July for consideration.

The strategy and action plan are expected to be for-

warded to the SADC Council of Ministers and ultimately to the 39th Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government scheduled for 17-18 August in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania for final endorsement.

The SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, said terrorism is a matter of great concern in the SADC region, hence it requires joint effort to address the challenge.

"The gravity of terrorism, and the sophistication and crossborder nature of transnational organised crime require

joint efforts, and strong collaboration between Member States and other partners," she said.

"It is very critical that we continue to collaborate, in addressing these alarming threats.

It is only through joint and concerted efforts that the region will be able to effectively address these threats."

Terrorism usually refers to the use of intentionally indiscriminate violence as a means to create terror among masses of people or fear to achieve a religious or political aim.

Peace, security key to regional integration

SOUTHERN AFRICA should cherish the peace that prevails in most parts of the region because without stability there is no economic development and integration.

The SADC Chairperson of the Ministerial Committee of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, Hon. Joseph Malanji said this at the 21st meeting of the ministerial committee held in Lusaka, Zambia on 19 July.

Malanji, who is the Zambian Minister of Foreign Af-

fairs, said the region should be commended for establishing the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation to promote peace and security in SADC.

"I need not overemphasise the importance we all attach to peace and security both in our respective countries and in the region," he said.

"They are essential components needed to create an enabling environment for Member States to develop common policies and strategies at fostering economic and social

development within the SADC region." The SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, concurred, saying that during the 2018/19 period, the Organ has so far observed elections in a total of six SADC Member States.

The six Member States are the Union of Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kingdom of Eswatini, Madagascar, Malawi and South Africa.

"For the DRC, the historic and peaceful transfer of power was celebrated in and outside

the region, as it marked a new era for economic prosperity, peace, and political stability in the DRC," Dr Tax said.

She said by December 2019, four other SADC Member States – Botswana, Mauritius, Mozambique and Namibia – are expected to go to the polls.

"We count on the goodwill of SADC Member States to send electoral observers as per SADC guiding principles, this will enable the region to remain on its democracy consolidation trajectory," she said.

Nyerere – “Knowledge is Power”

JULIUS NYERERE, who was affectionately addressed as *Mwalimu* (Teacher), recognized the key role of knowledge as a strategic resource for freedom and development.

As Chairman of the Front Line States, he motivated for the establishment of the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC), and became the Founding Patron.

SARDC was established in 1985, the year he retired as President of the United Republic of Tanzania. The challenge to be addressed was the collection and distribution of information across borders, and support for regional policy development, following the establishment of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), the forerunner of SADC, in 1980.

The story was told by H.E. Benjamin Mkapa, the former President of the United Republic of Tanzania (1995-2005), who as *Mwalimu's* foreign minister was a key adviser on the establishment and early development of SARDC, which has grown to become a widely respected regional policy institute and think tank.

Speaking at the naming ceremony of the SARDC building in Harare, Zimbabwe, as Julius K. Nyerere House, Mkapa said it is important for SADC and the rest of the African continent to value and be guided by the ideals and principles of Nyerere, who believed that unity, integrity and knowledge are critical for socioeconomic development.

“Towards the end of the 1970s, when it was very clear that we are going to win, we said now the challenge is not just the question of getting freedom, but also using that freedom in order to strengthen our capacity to develop, and we would require the same knowledge, or more knowledge now, to disseminate it more widely

and more deeply so that our people can be inspired to self-develop and our friends can assist us in that development process.

“And that is how the thought and development of the SARDC was conceived,” Mkapa said.

He paid tribute to the Founding Directors of SARDC, including the late David Martin, as a journalist widely respected for his integrity and factual reporting, and “a nationalist beyond borders, a true Africanist,” who used his arsenal of words as a freedom fighter.

Mkapa urged SADC and Member States to give practical support to SARDC as the centre is playing an important role in tracking progress and raising awareness of regional development issues, achievements and challenges.

“I hope SADC Member States can move forward to strengthen the capacity of this centre, but also to drive member states to exchange more information about their development challenges, about their development strategies, (and) about their development paradigms so that we can truly move together in unity towards greater freedom of our people,” he said.

SARDC is a knowledge partner of SADC, with a large repository of regional information, and an MOU first signed in 1995, which was revised and broadened in 2005, and refreshed in 2015.

Naming the SARDC premises as Julius K. Nyerere House was part of a bigger initiative by the SARDC Board to honour the Founding Patron, that included publishing a book titled *Julius Nyerere, Asante Sana, Thank You Mwalimu* that is a compilation of his key statements and perspectives on development issues, and is well illustrated with historical photographs.

The SARDC Executive Director Munetsi Madakufamba said “SARDC shall endeavour to uphold Nyerere’s ideals and principles and carry forward his legacy.”

SARDC is a widely respected development research institution that provides knowledge support to regional policy initiatives such as infrastructure, industrialization, energy development, climate change, water resources, gender and development, and China-Africa relations.

SARDC also runs a regional news service, *Southern African News Features* that provides knowledgeable background articles about regional development issues and events in southern Africa and the African continent, accessible on www.sardc.net as well as the SADC website www.sadc.int

SARDC has a rich historical archive which is being digitized for online access, and is working with UNESCO to produce resource materials on the regional dimensions and linkages of the National Liberation Movements.

————— He taught us that “Knowledge is Power”. —————

Mwalimu Nyerere honoured at a ceremony in Butiama

MWALIMU JULIUS Kambarage Nyerere was an icon and inspiration to the liberation of southern Africa, and a hero in the region, which achieved independence with his support and that of the people of the United Republic of Tanzania.

This was said in Butiama on 29 June 2019 during a ceremony to honour *Mwalimu* Nyerere by the Chairman and Board of the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) in this year of the 20th anniversary of his death.

The SARDC Chairperson, Hon. Professor Peter H. Katjavivi, said that *Mwalimu* inspired and supported a generation of leaders and freedom fighters, and mobilized material, diplomatic and moral support for the independence movement in Southern Africa.

Hon. Katjavivi, who is Speaker of the National Assembly of Namibia and a senior official of the SWAPO party, said *Mwalimu's* inspiration and support was a key factor in his country and others in the region achieving independence.

Hon. Katjavivi spent 27 years in exile during the liberation struggle, starting with his arrival in Tanzania, and later served as Deputy Representative of SWAPO in Tanzania before becoming representative in Europe.

The SARDC Board meeting was held at Mwitongo Lodge in Butiama on 29-30 June.

Board Members were taken on a guided tour of the complex by *Mwalimu's* son Madaraka Nyerere, who is also a member of the Board of SARDC.

Highlights of the tour included the family house with *Mwalimu's* personal library, the museum and the mausoleum where *Mwalimu* Nyerere was laid to rest in October 1999. Hon. Katjavivi laid a wreath on the grave on behalf of the Board, and planted a tree at the site.

SARDC is based at Julius K. Nyerere House in Harare, Zimbabwe, and works throughout the 16 Member States of SADC. Board members are drawn from various countries and disciplines. □





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August – October 2019

August 5-9, Tanzania	SADC Industrialization Week 2019 The event aims to popularize the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap approved in 2015. Now in its fourth year, the annual event comprises a high-level conference to discuss ways of advancing the industrialization agenda as well as an exhibition to allow various stakeholders to engage and network.
7-10, Zimbabwe,	SADC Lawyers' Association Annual General Meeting 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. They will explore the 39th SADC Summit theme and debate how the rule of law and good governance can be strengthened in the SADC region.
8-19, Tanzania	39th 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. Summit Theme – A Conducive Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, Increased Intra-Regional Trade, and Job Creation.
28-30, Angola	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 2019/20 rainfall season.
26-30, DRC	53rd SAPP Management Committee Meetings The meeting brings together leaders of power utilities and government representatives from 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.
September 17-30, New York	74th Session of the UN General Assembly The 74th Session of the UN General Assembly takes place at UN headquarters in New York. The General Assembly agenda includes the General Debate which is the occasion for world leaders to discuss global issues. The General Assembly is the main representative and policy making organ of the United Nations.
24-25, New York	Sustainable Development Goals Summit Heads of State and Government will gather at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to review progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
TBA, Botswana	SADC ETG Meeting The Energy Thematic Group (ETG) is a coordination meeting of SADC and its subsidiary organizations with cooperating partners and experts to review the energy situation in the region.
TBA, Botswana	SADC Water Strategic Reference Group Meeting The SADC Water Strategic Reference Group (WSRG) will meet in Gaborone, Botswana, to discuss pertinent issues affecting the water sector. The WSRG is a forum for stakeholder collaboration in water sector development and conservation in southern Africa.
October 15, Mozambique	Mozambique Elections Mozambique will hold presidential, legislative and provincial elections on 15 October 2019. The last presidential, parliamentary and provincial elections were held in 2014.
TBA, Botswana	Botswana Elections Botswana will go to the polls in October to choose parliamentary and local government representatives in elections that are expected to be closely contested. The date is yet to be announced.

Remembering Nyerere's contribution to SADC regional integration



"Let all of us in our different capacities begin to work, and work together, in a coherent manner, for the unity of Africa, the peace of Africa, and the self-respect of Africa.

The work will be neither easy nor quickly finished. But it can be done. It must be done. It is your duty to do it. Work, plan, campaign, and act for African Unity."

JULIUS KAMBARAGE Nyerere has a special place in the hearts and minds of the people of Africa, and especially southern Africa, as a symbol of freedom.

He fully supported the liberation of the continent from colonial rule, after gaining independence in 1961 in his own country, then called Tanganyika.

The priority of the newly independent nation and its then Prime Minister, was national development, but he saw this as unachievable without the independence of the neighbouring states.

Julius Nyerere was the father of southern African liberation and a founding father of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Mwalimu Nyerere pursued the ideals of liberation, democracy and common humanity into the rest of the continent and, with the leaders of the other few African countries that were independent in 1963, established the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), which later became the African Union.

The main objective was political liberation for the rest of the continent. Their tool for achieving this, the OAU Liberation Committee, was hosted by Tanzania, and most liberation movements were based there at one time or another.

He then set about building the East African Community, and later, the SADC. None of the countries that now make up SADC were independent at that time, the next were Malawi and Zambia in 1964.

Mwalimu means Teacher in KiSwahili, and he taught the people of his country and the continent many things, with emphasis on Freedom and Unity – *Uhuru na Umoja*.

He pursued unity at home by facilitating the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar to become the United Republic of Tanzania.

He hosted the OAU Liberation Committee in the safety of Tanzania to support the remaining decolonisation of the continent, notably supporting those countries that had to take up weapons of liberation in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s.

When he died 20 years ago, it was said at his funeral that -- "He carried the torch that liberated Africa".

He was the first Chairperson of the Front Line States who supported resistance to colonialism on the continent and the end of apartheid in South Africa.

The leaders of Tanzania, Zambia and Botswana formed the Front Line States in 1974 to work together in a united front for common security and for majority rule in neighbouring countries, under the chairmanship of Nyerere, and this was a forerunner of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

The political changes in Namibia and South Africa in 1990 and 1994 following the military confrontation at Quito Quenavale in southern Angola, changed the face and future of the African continent, and completed the work of the OAU Liberation Committee, but socio-economic development remains a vision.

The contribution by the United Republic of Tanzania to the liberation of southern Africa is not well known or quantified, in cash, human lives and delayed development.

Although it was Nyerere's leadership that mobilised an entire nation behind this vision, it was not the achievement of one person as individual Tanzanians in both rural and urban areas contributed a few shillings each in people-to-people support, although they did not have extra themselves.

Born in Butiama on 13 April 1922, in what was then German East Africa, Mwalimu Julius Kambage Nyerere died on 14 October 1999, leaving a region that is free and independent. □



"All human beings are equal, and Africa is one."

Mwalimu Julius Kambage Nyerere

When he drew up the constitution of his liberation political party, the Tanganyika African National Union (TANU), he included that statement in the first article of the party constitution. Before Independence he told the Legislative Council,

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

And on the night of 9 December 1961, a team of climbers planted a torch and a flag on the summit of Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest freestanding mountain in the world, while in Dar es Salaam, the lights went out in the stadium at midnight and in the dark, the British "union jack" flag was lowered and the new flag of independence was raised. The lights went up and the stadium erupted into cheers of "**Uhuru**" ... **Freedom**... that echoed throughout the subcontinent for the next 30 years

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN SADC

August - October 2019

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

* SADC Day is not a public holiday but a commemoration of signing the SADC Treaty on 17 August 1992