





## VISION 2050 and RISDP 2020-30 Compass for SADC strategic direction



by Joseph Ngwawi

**SADC HAS** begun the process of formulating a new 30-year vision that will provide strategic direction for the region until 2050 and outline a phased approach to implementation of regional programmes and activities.

The process of formulating the proposed SADC Vision 2050 and the accompanying Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030 is the culmination of a long and intensive process that began in earnest in June 2012.

The decision to develop the SADC Vision 2050 was approved during an extraordinary Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Government held in June 2012 in Luanda, Angola.

The summit decided that the Vision 2050 should be predicated upon the existing SADC vision, which is that “of a common future in a regional community that will ensure economic well-being, improvement of the standards of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice, and peace and security for the people of Southern Africa”.

The summit made proposals for strengthening SADC foundations by taking into account the importance of emerging regional and international issues. This was expected to summarize the SADC development ques-

tion within a longer-term framework, ensuring that adequate measures could be put in place to mitigate against prevailing and emerging risks and challenges.

In August 2012, the summit that convened in Maputo further discussed the elaboration of the long-term vision.

The Maputo summit introduced measures to engender a consultative process that would iron out issues that could inform the regeneration of the vision and mission of the region as well as the associated principles underpinning SADC.

The summit appointed a technical task team comprising of senior experts from the region, to coordinate the technical, logistical and organisational aspects of development of the vision.

When the SADC Council of Ministers convened in Zimbabwe in August 2014, it was noted that the Revised RISDP 2015-2020 contained a roadmap for the development of a long-term vision, which marries the purposes and objectives of the RISDP and the SIPO in an interrelated and complementary manner.

In this regard, an attempt was made to ensure that the Revised RISDP 2015-2020 is an integrated strategy that captures developmental as well as peace and security elements.

POLICY	3
SUMMIT	4-5
INTEGRATION	6
ENERGY	7-10
GENDER	11
CLIMATE CHANGE	12-13
ELECTIONS	14
EVENTS	15
HISTORY TODAY	16

## Compass for SADC strategic direction



The revised RISDP 2015-2020 was approved in March 2016, and took into account Council's position that the Secretariat ought to frontload industrialisation as the vehicle through which economic growth and socio-economic development of SADC would be achieved.

The Council of Ministers further directed the Secretariat in August 2018 to align the SADC Vision 2050 to the African Union Agenda 2063 and resolved that the Strategic Plan 2020-2030 should be termed the RISDP 2020-2030.

In February 2019 the Secretariat commissioned consultants to review the RISDP 2015-2020, as well as the SIPO.

The review found that much progress had been made in the implementation of the RISDP, although this was uneven within the different areas.

It was noted that there had been progress in developing the Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap and in market integration to some extent.

However, on the whole, progress had been limited by a lack of tangible projects being implemented by Member States to realise the strategic objectives; inadequate infrastructure; and low funding for regional development projects.

From the peace and security perspective, there has been great progress that has been observed in the areas of political governance, observation of elections, and the establishment of the SADC Electoral Advisory Council.

The review made a number of recommendations, which included the need to expedite the ratification of protocols; improvement in the implementation of decisions and development of enforcement mechanisms, as well as the development of an appropriate institutional framework for SADC, the engagement of non-state actors, alternative resource mobilisation, and the promotion of greater intra-regional trade through value-added products.

The review culminated in the commissioning of another group of consultants in June 2019 to develop the SADC Vision 2050 and the RISDP 2020-2030.

In addition to being guided by the findings of the RISDP mid-term review, the formulation of SADC Vision 2050 and the accompanying RISDP 2020-2030 is also guided by the conclusions of the Ministerial Retreat on the SADC We Want that was held in March 2017 in Eswatini.

The retreat highlighted a number of challenges that are hampering the attainment of the SADC Vision, including the lack of prioritization.

The retreat called for "a more effective means to achieve these objectives, and to ensure that there is an equitable distribution of SADC regional integration benefits, and investments across Member States".

The overall objective of the assignment by the consultants is to formulate SADC Vision 2050 and a RISDP 2020-2030 as a

roadmap of the priority interventions for the first 10 years of implementing the vision.

The key tasks being undertaken by the consultants include:

- A review of implementation of existing protocols; policies and strategies and establishing the progress made against set targets, achievements, and identify constraints and challenges that need to be addressed in Vision 2050;
- Undertaking an environmental scan or situation analysis of the SADC protocols, policies and strategies to provide a broad-based view of the existing situation. The environmental scan will also provide the social, economic, political, security, technological, legislative context in which the community functions or will function in future;
- Review of the long-term visions and development strategies/plans of Member States and draw comparisons and similarities, and make recommendations on the alignment of especially those priorities with a strong regional bearing and the timeframes for their operationalization;
- Generating a set of sectoral strategic objectives and priorities taking into consideration developments in the various sectors;
- Drawing up a matrix indicating the priority pillars, required resources, and timeframe for implementation of the RISDP 2020-2030;
- Developing a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework that will include a set of key performance indicators and targets at each of the pillars of integration and sectoral priorities; and
- Making proposals on the institutional framework and capacity for the effective implementation of the proposed strategic interventions necessary to realize the development vision and design a compliance mechanism for all stakeholders. □

### SADC Vision 2050 Timeline

Date	Key Activity/Output
June 2012	Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government approves the development of the SADC Vision 2050. Matter was referred to Member States for further consultations and contributions
August 2012	Input from the consultation process submitted to Council of Ministers and 32nd SADC Summit for consideration
2013	Mid-term review of RISDP
August 2014	Council discusses draft Revised RISDP 2015-2020 and SIPO
April 2015	Revised RISDP 2015-2020 approved
March 2017	Ministerial Retreat deliberates SADC long-term vision and related matters
August 2018	Council of Ministers directs the Secretariat to align the SADC Vision 2050 to the African Union Agenda 2063 and resolved that the Strategic Plan 2020-2030 should be termed the RISDP 2020-2030
February 2019	The Secretariat commissions consultants to review the RISDP 2015-2020 as well as the SIPO
June 2019	Consultants commissioned to develop the SADC Vision 2050 and the RISDP 2020-2030
November 2019	SADC Secretariat convenes workshop on SADC Vision 2050 and RISDP 2020-30 for non-state actors
March 2020	Draft SADC Vision 2050 and RISDP 2020-30 presented to Council of Ministers
August 2020	SADC Vision 2050 and RISDP 2020-30 presented to 40th SADC Summit for approval

## SADC health ministers approve nutrition scorecard

**SADC MINISTERS** responsible for health and for HIV and AIDS have approved a tool for monitoring and tracking implementation of commitments by Member States to achieve a decline in malnutrition in the region.

The SADC Accountability Scorecard for Nutrition is a tool to measure progress on targets made by the region to improve the nutritional status of the citizens of the various countries.

The scorecard provides a snapshot of the status of key nutrition indicators, including continental and global targets, specific interventions, sensitive interventions, policy and legal provisions, nutrition financing, and socio-economic impacts.

It requires, among other things, that SADC Member States increase budgetary allocations for multi-sectoral nutrition plans as well as the empowerment of women and adolescent girls and the provision of nutritional support at the most critical time of a child's life – during pregnancy and early childhood.

SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax noted that although notable progress is being recorded in improving the health status of SADC citizens, the region continues to have a large proportion of children suffering from malnutrition.

She said the problem of malnutrition should be viewed from three perspectives, encompassing over-nutrition, under-nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies.

"If not urgently addressed, this has the potential to under-

mine our collective efforts to meet the strategic objectives outlined in the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan and the SADC Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (2015-2025)," Dr Tax said.

She noted that if not addressed decisively, malnutrition "will slow economic transformation efforts in the region, with resources originally earmarked for economic development, being diverted to address the effects of malnutrition."

The scorecard is expected to enable SADC Member States to act strategically and deliberately in implementing policies and investing in nutrition programmes that tackle malnutrition.

It is in line with the Continental Nutrition Accountability Scorecard jointly launched by the African Union (AU) Commission, the African Development Bank and global partners in January to raise awareness and reinforce commitments by African governments to help end malnutrition.

The continental tool was launched by King Letsie III of Lesotho and AfDB President, Dr Akinwumi Adesina who is the AU Champion for Nutrition, on the sidelines of the 32nd AU Summit in Ethiopia. Africa has high levels of malnutrition, and suffers slow progress to reverse the situation in comparison to the rest of the world.

United Nations data indicate the number of stunted children in Africa increased sharply from 50.6 million in 2000 to 58.7 million in 2017.

Poor nutrition is responsible for stunting children's growth, harming children's educational development and future economic prospects.

A growing body of evidence recognizes that malnutrition and economic development are closely interlinked.

During the same meeting the ministers noted the significant progress in addressing major diseases of public health concern, a situation that has led to a decline in the incidence and mortality and morbidity from diseases such as AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis (TB).

In the spirit of leaving no one behind, the ministers committed to the acceleration of universal health coverage in the SADC region as a way of achieving United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, not only related to health and well-being, but also to ending poverty in all its forms.

They called on Member States to continue implementing the "Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Tuberculosis", which reaffirmed commitment to end the tuberculosis epidemic globally by 2030 by scaling up of TB care and prevention services.

In the same vein, the ministers urged SADC Member States to implement the Continental Accountability Framework for Action to End Tuberculosis and to increase domestic funding initiatives for TB.

The ministers noted the progress made in the opera-

tionalization of the SADC Pooled Procurement Services (SPSS) and urged Member States to encourage their procuring entities to utilise the SADC pooled procurement services for procuring health commodities.

SPSS was operationalised in October 2018 when the SADC Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Medical Store Department of the United Republic of Tanzania, which was selected by Member States to coordinate and manage the SPSS.

The implementation of the SPSS is expected to strengthen the capacity of Member States to effectively prevent and treat diseases that are of major public health concern in the region and will improve the "sustainable availability of and access to affordable, quality, safe efficacious essential medicines".

A regional meeting was held in March 2019 to build consensus among Member States on the overall operations of the SPSS and Draft Regional Guidelines for SPSS Operations have been developed.

The ministers called for intensified efforts in HIV prevention and social mobilization, access to treatment and support, impact mitigation of HIV and AIDS, resource mobilization, and strengthening institutional monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

The ministers committed to scale up Health Emergency Preparedness and response to outbreaks such as Ebola and measles. □



# 2019 – Consolidating regional solidarity



**THE YEAR** 2019 will go down in history as the year southern Africa took a united stand against a biased global political system that militates against developing countries and punishes those which dare to challenge the hegemony.

The region challenged the continued imposition of economic sanctions on one of its own, Zimbabwe.

SADC Chairperson, President John Magufuli of the United Republic of Tanzania said the illegal sanctions “have not only affected the people of Zimbabwe and their government but our entire region.”

In this regard, the 39th SADC Summit held in August in Dar es Salaam called for the immediate lifting of the sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe, and declared 25 October as the day on which SADC Member States “can collectively voice their disapproval of the sanctions through various activities and platforms until the sanctions are lifted.”

Indeed on 25 October, SADC Member States spoke with one voice and held various activities denouncing and calling for the removal of the sanctions that have hurt ordinary citizens and caused economic challenges for the country.

Zimbabwe has grappled with economic and banking sanctions since 2002 when the United States and its western allies imposed an embargo on the country in response to the manner in which the land reform programme was carried out and

the leading role played by Zimbabwe in the intervention in Democratic Republic of Congo in 1998 in support of the government.

These sanctions were imposed by the US Congress under the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economy Recovery Act of 2001 and have been renewed at intervals, but were not approved by the United Nations Security Council.

However, the impact of the banking sanctions has been felt by much more than the targeted officials and companies, having a negative impact on the credit rating of Zimbabwe and serious trickledown effects on the economy and, by extension, the SADC region.

Another show of solidarity was when SADC Member States sent out a strong message to the global community declaring that the time has come for the people of Western Sahara to attain their right to freedom and self-determination.

The declaration was made at a SADC Solidarity Conference with the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic held in Pretoria, South Africa in March.

The solidarity conference signified the growing call for global unity to ensure the right to freedom and self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

Western Sahara remains the only territory in Africa under colonial occupation and oppression, and the country has been under Moroccan occupation despite several declarations by re-

gional, continental and international bodies such as the United Nations for Western Sahara to take charge of its internal processes.

On the security front, the SADC Standby Force successfully assumed its Africa Standby Force (ASF) roster duties on 1 January 2019 for six months up to the end of June 2019.

The assumption of the ASF Standby Roster 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.

In this regard, the SADC Standby Force was the AU torch-bearer for implementing peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts for the period January-June 2019, including post-conflict disarmament and demobilization.

The ASF, which became fully operational in 2016, is an important tool of the African peace and security architecture for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in the continent.

Throughout the year, SADC remained seized with the political situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho and Madagascar.

The SADC region successfully deployed SADC Electoral Observation Missions (SEOMs) to observe elections in seven Member States that held elections in 2019 – Botswana, Union of Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and South

Africa. The purpose of the SEOM is to enhance the credibility of electoral processes in southern Africa as well as deepening democracy in the region.

With regard to economic development, 2019 saw SADC continuing with its efforts to strengthen the implementation of activities set out in the industrial development strategy and the regional development blueprint.

The SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063 provides a framework for major economic and technological transformations in southern Africa.

To support its implementation, the region in August approved the SADC Protocol on Industry, which aims to improve the policy environment for industrial development.

The protocol becomes a stand-alone and binding legal instrument that will entrench and give legal effect to the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap and its related Cost-Action Plan and will ensure adequate coordination, monitoring and evaluation of implementation.

The year also witnessed a review of the regional blueprint – the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) – as the region took stock of its integration agenda.

The review was meant to inform the process of recalibrating cooperation and the regional integration strategy for SADC when the current development blueprint ends in 2020.



In July, SADC joined the rest of Africa in launching the free trade agreement that will change the global economic landscape and boost intra-regional trade across the continent.

Commonly known as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the enlarged market seeks to promote the smooth movement of goods and services across the continent.

The creation of an integrated market in Africa is one of the initiatives to rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonization and apartheid that has seen African countries trading more with the outside world than among themselves.

According to the African Union, the AfCFTA when fully operational is expected to increase African intra-regional trade from the present 10 percent to about 40 percent.

With respect to gender development, SADC Gender ministers approved a programme aimed at promoting equal participation of women and men in policy-making processes.

The Regional Multi-Dimensional Women's Economic Empowerment

Programme was approved in May, and is expected to contribute towards the development of gender-responsive policies that are effective and equitable to advance socio-economic development in the region.

On the cultural front, the 39th SADC Summit adopted *KiSwahili* as the fourth official language of the regional organisation alongside English, French and Portuguese in honour of former Tanzania President Julius Nyerere's contribution to advancing regional integration.

*KiSwahili* will be adopted first as a language for oral communication, before eventually being adopted for written official communication within SADC.

Nyerere had to bear the greatest burden of freeing Africa by accommodating liberation fighters in his country and providing them with logistical and military support.

Nyerere was among the leaders instrumental in the establishment of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) – precursor to SADC – in Zambia in April 1980.

With regard to agriculture, climate change and disaster management, the region was affected by the occurrence of extreme weather events.

Between January and April, the region faced a number of weather-related phenomena such as Tropical Cyclones Desmond, Enawo, Idai and Kenneth, which caused extensive flooding in countries such as the Union of Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Cyclone Idai was one of the worst tropical storms to ever affect Africa and the southern hemisphere and it left a trail of destruction, including extensive damage to key infrastructure such as roads, bridges, schools and clinics.

To address the impact, contingency funds amounting to US\$500,000 were released by SADC towards emergency relief efforts to complement efforts by Member States, national and international partners, while a regional floods appeal was launched to raise US\$323 million to support victims with immediate needs and resilience building actions.

In terms of agriculture production, a Synthesis Report on the State of Food and Nutrition Security and Vulnerability in Southern Africa released in July estimated that the region has a cereal deficit of more than 5.4 million tonnes this year following subdued rainfall during the 2018/19 season.

To minimize the situation, SADC Member States put in place measures to avert hunger, including assisting affected populations with food supplies as well as providing emergency livestock supplementary feeding to save cattle, goats, sheep and other animals.

The year ended on a sad note with the death of an African icon, former Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe in September.

As SADC chairperson from August 2014 to August 2015, Mugabe was instrumental in the development of the regional strategy to promote industrialization.

Mugabe was one of the Founding Fathers of SADC, together with leaders of Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia. □



## Strengthening regional integration SADC Dialogue Facility

by Joseph Ngwawi

**DUE TO** the intricate nature of regional integration and the inherent inter-linkages between and among the various Regional Economic Communities (RECs) that make up the African Union (AU), SADC plans to embark on a programme to share experiences with other RECs from Africa and the rest of the world.

The proposed SADC Dialogue Facility aims to contribute to the implementation of the SADC regional integration agenda by ensuring that both the quality of regional policies and their execution benefit from the experiences of others.

It has been noted that while SADC regularly engages with peer institutions, such cooperation rarely considers experiences of other regional integration processes in the world.

It is recognised that peer learning across different regional integration processes could contribute considerably to strengthening SADC's capacity to identify solutions to its own regional integration challenges.

The programme will, therefore, support peer-to-peer exchanges for sharing of regional integration best practices between SADC and other African RECs as well as those from other parts of the world such as the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Southern Common Market (commonly known by its Spanish acronym MERCOSUR) and the European Union (EU).

Such exchanges are expected to take many forms, including policy dialogues,

triangular cooperation, study tours, and subject matter expert support.

The programme will strengthen the use of policy dialogues that are built on multi-stakeholder partnerships to generate evidence and make recommendations towards policy reform and effective implementation.

This is in line with one of the recommendations by the Ministerial Retreat on the SADC We Want held in March 2017. The recommendation called for the need for inclusive development and sustained dialogue.

In addition, this is in line with Goal 17 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which calls for the strengthening of the

means of implementation and revitalisation of the global partnership for sustainable development.

It is envisaged that the dialogues supported under this programme would be scaled up leading to sustainable and longer-term SADC capacity for regional integration through evidence-based and results-oriented policy development and implementation in the priority areas of the SADC Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (2015-2020) and the Revised Strategic Indicative Plan of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (2016-2020).

It is also envisaged that the dialogues will further

strengthen cooperation in broader areas of common interest, including those of the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) such as the effects of climate change, climate resilience, gender equality and youth empowerment.

The RIP is the framework for implementation of the cooperation agreement between SADC and the EU.

In addition, the dialogues are expected to strengthen the capacity of SADC in the areas of research and innovation, economic diversification, job and wealth creation, institutional reforms and alignment of strategic priorities. □

### SIPO II

**THE MAIN** objective of the Revised Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation 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.

The SIPO is, therefore, not an end in itself but rather an enabling instrument for the implementation of other regional documents, including the Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation as well as the Revised RISDP and the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap.

SIPO is divided into five sectors, namely Political Sector; Defence Sector; State Security Sector; Public Security Sector; and Police Sector. □

**THE REVISED** Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2015-2020 was endorsed by the SADC Extraordinary Summit in April 2015 in Harare, Zimbabwe, as the new blueprint that will guide the implementation of SADC programmes over the next five years. The Revised RISDP has four main priority areas:

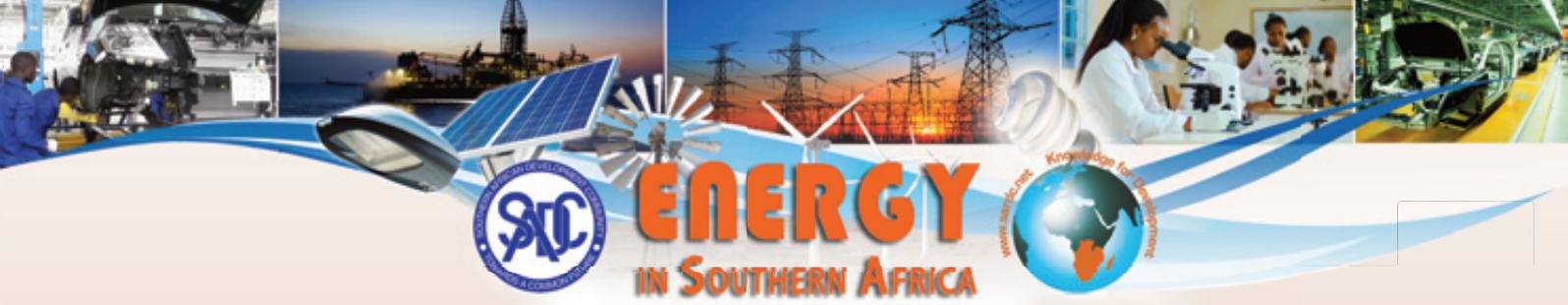
- Priority A: Industrial Development and Market Integration
- Priority B: Infrastructure in support of regional integration
- Priority C: Peace and Security Cooperation as a prerequisite for regional integration, and
- Priority D: Special Programmes of regional dimension.

Before the revision, the RISDP was developed and approved by Summit in 2003 for a 15-year period, but was effectively implemented from 2005, thus giving an implementation timeframe of 2005-2020.

The RISDP is built on the premise that good political, economic and corporate governance are prerequisites for sustainable socio-economic development, and that SADC's objectives for poverty eradication and deeper levels of integration will not be realised if these are not in place.

Since its approval in 2003, the RISDP has guided SADC and its partners in planning the implementation of the cooperation and integration agenda.

With one year to go before implementation of the current phase of RISDP comes to an end, SADC has begun the process of formulating a new development blueprint, a process that could benefit immensely from peer learning. □



## Energy and SADC Industrialization

Energy security is inextricably linked to industrialization, but along with other regions of Africa, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has some of the lowest rates of access to electricity (SADC and SARDC, 2016). Intermittent power shortages have been experienced across the region for more than a decade, and if not permanently addressed, could hinder the regional push towards higher industrial production (EPF and SAIIA, 2015).

Industrial development has been placed at the core of the developmental integration agenda of SADC, and Member States acknowledge that industrial development is central to the diversification of their economies; the development of productive capacity; and the creation of employment in order to reduce poverty and set their economies on a more sustainable path. Efficient and affordable energy is a crucial enabler for economic activity as well as for efforts to attain sustainable development.

The importance role of energy in the SADC region has never been more accentuated than now, given the SADC decision to front-load industrial development in its economic integration agenda. Energy is a critical area of the infrastructure pillar of the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and considerable preparatory work has been done in this area to develop enabling policies, systems and processes that will greatly facilitate project preparation as well as help to attract private sector investments and further promote public-private partnerships.

This Policy Brief looks at the importance of energy in the implementation of the SADC industrialization strategy. It analyses the nexus between the availability of reliable and affordable energy and the current industrialization drive by the region. It highlights the initiatives being undertaken by the region to improve energy infrastructure in support of industrialization, and outlines some policy options that SADC could adopt in order to ensure increased investment in new energy infrastructure, which together with improved management, performance and additional spending on maintenance, is a prerequisite for industrial development.

### SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap

The approval of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063 during an Extraordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government held in Harare, Zimbabwe in April 2015, represented a huge step towards economic liberation in the region and was

expected to ensure that Member States harness the full potential of their vast and diverse natural resources. The strategy aims to provide the framework for major economic and technological transformations at the national and regional levels within the context of deepening regional integration.

The long-term transformation of the SADC economies requires focused qualitative and quantitative shifts in industrial structure and its enabling environment, and the interdependence with other sectors to maximize the direct and indirect value addition in the industrial sector broadly defined to include related support services (SADC, 2015).

The industrialization strategy is being implemented in three phases spanning 2015 to 2063:

- Phase I — 2015-2020
- Phase II — 2021-2050
- Phase III — 2051-2063

The first phase covers the remaining period of the RISDP until 2020. The second phase, spans 30 years, constitutes a period of “heavy lifting development” and establishing strong momentum for competitiveness (SADC, 2015). This will involve efforts to ensure that all Member States have established some level of industrial development. The final phase, covering 13 years, builds up on the momentum towards convergence with the African Union’s long-term Agenda 2063.

The SADC industrialization strategy is anchored on three interdependent strategic pillars:

- ❖ **Industrialization** as a champion of economic transformation;
- ❖ enhanced **Competitiveness**; and
- ❖ deeper **Regional Integration**.

Various strategic interventions are proposed under each of these pillars. Interventions proposed under the Industrialization pillar include the creation of an improved policy environment for industrial development, 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, as well as increased value addition for agricultural and non-agricultural products and services. The 39<sup>th</sup> SADC Summit held in Tanzania in August 2019 approved a Protocol on Industry, which aims to improve the policy environment for industrial development and support implementation. Once operational, the protocol will become a binding legal instrument that will give legal effect to the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap and its related Costed Action Plan.

The reduction or removal of structural impediments to industrialization is another target being pursued by SADC under the Industrialization pillar. In this regard, there is need to improve the power generation capacity and facilitate an increase in the development and use of renewable sources of energy as well as to ensure adequate water supply.

Interventions under the Competitiveness pillar are aimed at strengthening of both the macroeconomic and microeconomic environments in the region. Initiatives proposed include the development of industrial investment programmes to support small-to-medium enterprises by 2018; training for skills, entrepreneurial and managerial development; and centres of specialization for priority sectors. The SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE), which began operations in 2016 and is hosted by Namibia, is one such centre of specialization.

The Regional Integration pillar aims to widen the economic space for development and create incentives for industry to expand, thus providing opportunities for economies of scale, clustering and economic linkages. Specific interventions under this pillar include full implementation of the SADC Free Trade Area to cover all Member States; a common external tariff by 2025; gradual phase-down and abolition of rules of origin by 2025; liberalization of exchange controls to allow free movement of capital within SADC by 2030; and ratification of the SADC Protocol on Trade in Services for implementation by 2020.

These interventions are outlined in a Costed Action Plan of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap that was approved by an Extraordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government held in the Kingdom of Eswatini in March 2017.

### Regional Initiatives

Various initiatives are being pursued by the region to ensure that the energy sector responds to the demands of the industrialization agenda.

- **Electricity generation and transmission**

The SADC region has been making efforts to increase its electricity generation capacity in response to the

demands of its industrialization programme. In 2018/19, the region commissioned a total of 4,175 megawatts (MW) of power from public utilities and independent power producers, as shown in the Pie Chart.

The target is to commission 4,883MW in 2019/20. This will result in more than 25,000MW commissioned in the last 10 years.

To promote the development of the least-cost power generation and power trading, the region has been making progress in linking its various national generating plants through interconnectors and transmission systems (SARDC, 2018). To date, nine power utilities on the southern African mainland are interconnected, except Angola, Malawi and Tanzania. Some degree of integration of power networks has been accomplished, involving Botswana, DRC, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

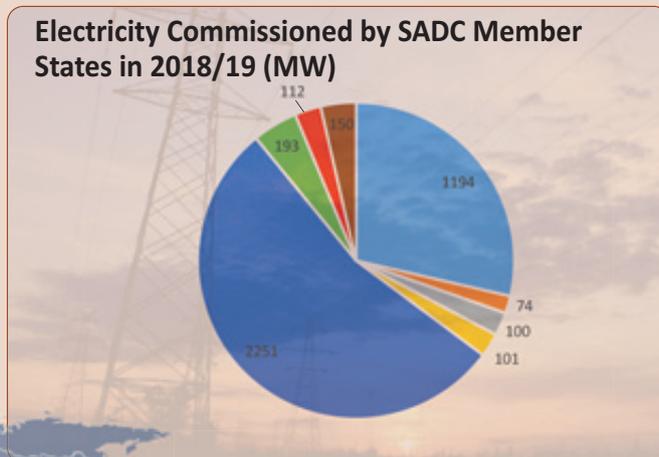
This interconnectivity has facilitated the establishment of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) as a trading platform, enabling Member States with power shortfalls to purchase electricity from those with surplus within the regional energy security framework. To illustrate the importance that SADC attaches to energy development as an enabler for rapid industrialization, the region identified the revision of the SAPP Plan as one of the priority interventions needed to address constraints to industrialization. Institutional re-organization and strengthening has also allowed the region to work collectively towards creating an environment that is conducive to make SADC an attractive investment destination for energy projects.

There are, however, still challenges as most SAPP member utilities are struggling to move towards adoption of cost-reflective tariffs to levels that justify private capital injections while at the same time ensuring that low-income households continue to access electricity at affordable charges. According to a report presented by the Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa (RERA) during the SADC Energy Thematic Group (ETG) meeting held in April 2019 in Gaborone, Botswana, cost-reflective tariffs are moving targets and only Madagascar, Mauritius and Namibia had achieved or were close to achieving the target, as shown in the graph.

The tariffs for Zimbabwe were increased in October 2019 to US\$10.38 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) as part of efforts by the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA) to improve the security of supply.

- **Oil and gas**

In addition to efforts to improve the availability of electricity in southern Africa, the 37th SADC Summit held in Pretoria, South Africa in August 2017 agreed to establish a regional natural gas committee to promote the inclusion of gas in the regional energy mix and in the promotion of industrial development in the region. In June 2018, SADC Ministers responsible for Energy



### Electricity Tariffs in SADC Member States, April 2019



Source: RERA presentation to SADC ETG Meeting, April 2019

agreed to develop a Regional Gas Master Plan that will guide the exploitation of the vast natural gas resources that exist in the region. This should help to ensure sustainable gas exploitation in countries such as Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe where gas reserves have been determined.

The formation of a regional gas committee is an important step for the SADC region, given that the region has witnessed significant findings of natural gas in a number of countries, notably Mozambique and Tanzania. In Mozambique, the gas-to-power industry is gaining momentum as evidenced by the South African oil and gas company Sasol's planned development of a 400MW gas-to-power plant in Inhambane Province. This comes on the back of clear indications of a very healthy supply of gas in Mozambique. The United Republic of Tanzania has moved rapidly to overcome its energy deficit by developing its gas resources for use by the public and private sectors. South Africa will soon start pursuing the exploration of shale gas resources in the Karoo basin.

- **Promotion of industrial energy efficiency**

The past few years have witnessed a regional drive towards the promotion of industrial energy efficiency. SACREEE has developed the SADC Industrial Energy Efficiency Programme (SIEEP), which will inform the formulation of a policy environment that promotes industrial energy efficiency in the region. In creating policies, SIEEP will assist Member States to articulate standards, regulations, incentives, tariff structures and mechanisms such as net-metering for self-generation. SIEEP can assist Member States to develop legislations that will ensure industrial energy efficiency is adopted to ensure security of energy supply in the region.

### Policy Considerations

Current plans for hydropower network connectivity and proposed new generation and transmission projects should be fast-tracked, including regional joint-

ventures. In this regard, there is an urgent need to accelerate the design and implementation of an appropriate institutional framework for the early development of the Inga Dam project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) which has enormous potential for the supply of low-cost electricity to the SADC region.

The current Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP) should be fast-tracked and aligned to meet the needs of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap as well as to ensure

that the use of existing infrastructure capacity is optimized. Adequate measures should be put in place to ensure that implementation of the RIDMP does not lag behind. Such measures could include a coordinated mechanism to track implementation of priority energy projects.

A strategy for leveraging the RIDMP should be developed to catalyse industrial development and reduce current high costs of doing business, including those related to non-tariff barriers and local procurement of inputs for energy infrastructure development. In addition, there should be an infrastructure support programme developed specially for industrialization. Such a programme would ensure that there is a constant pipeline of financial resources to support the development of energy infrastructure and, therefore, industrialization.

It has been noted that the poor quality and inefficiency of existing energy (and other) infrastructure in the SADC region is largely due to the neglect of standards in asset procurement and operation and inadequate maintenance and management. It will be critical, therefore, for the region to ensure there is regular maintenance of existing energy infrastructure. New funding should include adequate provision for repair, maintenance, rehabilitation, reconstruction and asset replacement costs. Member States' national budgets should include increased allocations for operational and maintenance expenditure.

On a related note, Member States should increase public investment in energy provision both for domestic use and export to regional partners through the Southern African Power Pool. Attention should be paid to the reliability, efficiency and cost effectiveness of energy supply. Simultaneously, governments should step up the involvement of independent power producers to ease the burden on government investment and spending.

Alternative sources of energy should be exploited with a particular focus on renewables while considering the competitive advantage of the existing natural energy resources and variable

geometry of Member States. The region should take advantage of its status as a “treasure trove” of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar by building its electricity generation capacity.

Similarly, to ensure a sustainable regional industrial energy efficiency programme, Member States are encouraged to develop clear energy efficiency policies and strategies for their implementation. The policies should have targets for the industrial sector. Legally binding directives setting targets to be met by the SADC region and Member States should be considered. Voluntary or mandatory approaches can be adopted working in partnership with the regional standards bodies, such as SADC Cooperation in Standardisation (SADCSTAN) and the involvement of the private sector.

Focus should also go towards the development of the oil and gas sector, given the reserves that have been identified in the region lately. This would call for the fast-tracking and adequate resourcing of the proposed Inter-State Gas Committee. Similar attention should be paid to harnessing the benefits derived from the massive oil reserves that reside in the region.

SADC should exploit the enormous potential offered by its ocean resources under the Blue Economy Initiative in order to catalyse industrialization and economic transformation. The opportunities under the Blue Economy Initiative include, among others, re-

newable energy, fishing, shipping, oil and mineral exploration. In this regards, the Blue Economy Initiative should be mainstreamed in developing the infrastructure required to accelerate industrialization.

To close financing gaps, action will be needed across the policy spectrum. Governments will need substantial funding for infrastructure development of energy and soft infrastructure as well as funding for human capital development and access to technology. Almost certainly this will require greater private sector participation, with potentially far-reaching implications in respect of public-private projects and the commercialization or privatization of infrastructure industries.

A well-resourced Regional Development Fund is a pre-requisite for accelerated regional industrialization. The planned SADC Development Fund should be urgently operationalized as a regional development bank with the capacity to attract international funding.

Finally, there is need to strengthen efforts to tap into domestic sources of funding. Possible sources include taxes, the domestic banking sector, private equity funds, public-private partnerships, sovereign wealth funds, remittances, and pension funds. Mechanisms could be put in place to access funding for energy infrastructure development from these domestic sources.

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THIS POLICY BRIEF is produced by SARDC through the project on Communicating Energy in Southern Africa supported by the Austrian Development Agency/Austrian Development Cooperation. Responsibility for the content of this brief lies entirely with the authors. The information and analysis do not reflect the official opinion of the Austrian Development Agency/Austrian Development Cooperation.



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50:50

# SADC striving for 50:50

by Nyarai Kampilipili

**THE EQUAL** representation of women and men in politics and decision making seemed to be an impossible target a few decades ago, and unattainable.

Fast forward to 2019. South Africa attained the 50:50 target in Cabinet after President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a cabinet of 28 ministers comprising of 14 women and 14 men. In the South African Parliament, about 45 percent of the members are women.

This edition of *Southern Africa Today* reviews the progress towards 50:50 representation made by three of the SADC Member States that held elections recently – Botswana, Mauritius and Mozambique.

## Steady progress towards equal representation in Mozambique



**MOZAMBIQUE** is one of the leading countries in the region that has maintained a high representation of women in parliament. This is largely due to the introduction of a gender quota by the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) in 1992, which has been applied since the 1994 elections.

At that time, the quota system initially ensured that at least 30 percent of candidates for the National Assembly and local government positions were women. It was later reviewed and raised to 35 percent in 1999 and then to 40 percent for the 2004 elections. The participation of women in elections is promoted through a Proportional Representation

(PR) system in which the number of candidates is calculated proportionally in accordance with the votes obtained.

Each registered political party submits a list of candidates to the National Electoral Commission (CNE) in advance of the election, and the CNE determines the number of seats for each party based on the election results. The parties rank their candidates with the most preferred making the top list.

As a result of the quota system, the number of women in parliament has been increasing since 1994 when the first multi-party elections were held.

Representation of women in the Mozambican parliament following the 1994 elections stood at 24.4 percent, and rose to 32.8 percent in 2004 and 39.6 percent in 2014.

There were no women candidates for the Presidency, but 256 women successfully registered for legislative elections and 988 for provincial assembly elections, including five women candidates for governor positions.

Of the 250 seats, women surpassed the 40 percent target and now account for 44 percent representation in parliament.

## Is 50:50 an attainable target for Botswana and Mauritius by 2030?



**BOTSWANA** signed the revised SADC Protocol on Gender and Development which calls for equal representation of women and men in politics and decision-making positions, but has not been performing well in advancing this representation.



In 1995, women representation in parliament was 8.5 percent, rising to nine percent in 1997 and 11.3 percent in 2006 before declining to 9.5 percent in 2015.

The trend continued in 2019 when the number of women in parliament dropped from six in 2015 to three following elections held on 23 October, representing just 4.7 percent of the 63 members of parliament.

The low number of women contesting the elections was a concern for the SADC Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) which noted that the situation requires national reflection to address the gender imbalance in politics.

A major reason that could be a contributing factor to the low number of women in politics and decision-making positions is that Botswana does not have a quota set for representation of women in the National Assembly and Local Government.

Mauritius is one of the few countries in SADC that continues to have few women in politics and decision-making positions, and is one of the two SADC Member States, together with the Union of Comoros, that are not party to the Revised SADC Protocol on Gender and Development.

Mauritius has not signed the Protocol because it is not in line with the civil code of the country, which allows children below the age of 18 but above

16 to marry with parental consent.

In 2012, representation of women in parliament was 18.6 percent going down to 11.6 in 2015.

In the 7 November parliamentary elections, only 148 of the 810 aspiring candidates were women and of these, only nine won seats in the parliament, representing 14.5 percent of the 62 contested seats.

In a preliminary statement, the African Union Election Observation Mission said the number of women candidates (18 percent) was worrisome and required interventions to increase the participation of women in politics.

## 27 November elections in Namibia



**THE ELECTORAL** Commission of Namibia (ECN) says that a total of 1,358,468 voters were registered for the elections on 27 November, of which 717,809 were women and 640,659 men. For the presidential election, there were 11 candidates of which one was a woman. Esther Muinjangué is the first woman to stand as a presidential candidate in Namibia. With regard to elections for the National Assembly, a total of 1,059 candidates were registered, of which 44.5 percent were women. See election story on page 14. □



## Cyclic weather patterns a threat to southern Africa

by Admire Ndhlovu

**THE SADC** region is facing a recurrent drought and flood challenge due to cyclic weather patterns, made worse by climate variability and change. The cyclic weather patterns result from the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO), a naturally occurring phenomenon that involves fluctuating ocean temperatures in the equatorial Pacific Ocean.

El Niño is a term for the warming phase of the ENSO, while the cooling phase, which has global climate impacts opposite to those of El Niño, is referred to as La Niña. El Niño and La Niña can make extreme weather events such as droughts, floods and storms more likely, as they influence temperature and rainfall patterns.

Strong El Niño events occurred in the years 1957-58, 1965-66, 1972-73, 1982-83, 1987-88, 1991-92, 1997-98, and 2015-16. The latter is the strongest on record.

Strong La Niña events were experienced in 1973-74, 1975-76, 1988-89, 1999-2000, and 2010-11.

In the SADC region, an El Niño event is characterised by droughts while La Niña is associated by wet conditions and floods.

An analysis of El Niño cyclic events between 1950 and the present shows that they are increasing in intensity.

The impacts of these cyclic weather patterns are made worse by changing global climate. Irrespective of El Niño events, there is a long-term trend towards the warming of the Earth's climate because of rising heat-trapping greenhouse gas emissions from human and industrial activities.

A new report titled "The Global Climate" has identified

significant changes in climate since 2015.

The report, published by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) ahead of the United Nations Climate Summit held in New York in September, revealed that there have been significant changes in climate over the past five years, including dramatic rises in temperature and the sea level and the occurrence and intensity of extreme weather events such as droughts and floods.

According to the report, the period 2015-2019 is the warmest on record, with the year 2016 being the warmest year on record globally. Temperatures during the period are said to have been over 1°C higher than the pre-industrial period.

Occurrence of an El Niño under an increasingly warming environment as a result of climate change has serious impacts on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water supply, energy and tourism.

The El Niño-induced drought during the 2015/16 season impacted on the energy sector and left an estimated 40 million people food insecure, with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and Zimbabwe declaring a state of national disaster.

The sensitivity of agriculture to climate-induced water stress is likely to deepen the existing challenges of declining agricultural outputs, declining economic productivity, poverty and food insecurity, with smallholder farmers particularly affected.

The region is particularly vulnerable due to its heavy dependence on rain-fed agriculture and climate-sensitive resources.

The increase in temperatures usually results in a rise in evaporation losses from reser-

voirs that support urban, rural, industrial and agricultural water needs in the region. For example in 2007, evaporation led to extremely low water levels in most dams in Zimbabwe, resulting in many of them being decommissioned.

Declining water levels in Lake Kariba between Zambia and Zimbabwe continues to be a major concern resulting in low hydropower generation.

Lake Kariba is designed to have minimum levels of between 475.5 and 488.5 metres for hydropower generation.

As of 18 November the lake level was 477.2m, slightly above the minimum threshold required for power generation. This was equivalent to about 12 percent of usable storage and was much lower than the 483.8m recorded on the same day, the previous year.

In October 2015, the United Republic of Tanzania was forced to switch off all its hydropower plants due to low water levels in the major dams.

As a result of the low water levels, hydro-electricity generation fell to 20 percent of capacity, making it difficult for the dams to operate.

Tanzania, which has significant gas reserves, has since converted its infrastructure in key areas to use mainly natural gas.

Increase in intensity of La Niña occurrences, coupled with acceleration of rising sea levels pose a great concern to countries with extensive low-lying coastal areas such as Mozambique.

According to the WMO report, over the period 2014-2019 the rate of global mean sea level rise amounted to five millimetres per year, substantially faster than the average rate since 1993 of 3.2 mm/year.

More than 60 percent of the Mozambican population lives in low-lying coastal areas. As such, the rise in sea level poses

great risk to their infrastructure, coastal agriculture, key ecosystems and fisheries. The country is already prone to tropical storms from the Mozambique Channel.

In light of the increasing intensity of El Niño and La Niña as well as impacts of climate change, the establishment of vibrant disaster-risk strategies is a priority for southern Africa.

In order to prepare for future hazards, the 39th SADC Summit called on Member States to implement comprehensive multi-year response plans to tackle the recurrent droughts and food insecurity challenges.

In November, SADC and the European Union launched an Intra African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) Programme to strengthen capacity of SADC Member States to undertake climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions.

The programme, which is an integral part of the implementation of SADC regional integration agenda, will support SADC governments, regional organisations, private and public sector to strengthen the capacity of Member States to undertake regional and national adaptation and mitigation actions in response to the challenges posed by climate change and climate variability.

In addition, it will assist in the design of pilot projects on adaptation in several Member States.

The SADC Secretariat is, in collaboration with Member States, developing a strategy for effective coordination of disaster responses.

The proposed SADC Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy will ensure that mechanisms are put in place and adequate resources are available for the effective management of disasters. □



## Occurrence of extreme events in southern Africa

2018/19	<p>Between January and April, southern Africa was affected by tropical cyclones Desmond, Idai and Kenneth. Cyclone Idai, which was recorded as one of the worst tropical storms to affect Africa and the southern hemisphere claimed hundreds of lives and left a trail of destruction in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. More than 800,000 hectares of cropland as well as crops and seed stocks were destroyed, while about 3.3 million people were left in need of immediate humanitarian assistance.</p> <p>Southern Africa experienced drought and suffered a cereal deficit of more than 5.4 million tonnes. The decline in cereal output resulted in an estimated 41.2 million food insecure people in 13 SADC Member States.</p>
2016/17	<p>Food security generally improved in the region while some countries experienced floods caused by Cyclones Dineo and Enawo. Cyclone Dineo resulted in an estimated loss of more than 29,000 hectares of crops in Mozambique while Cyclone Enawo severely affected Madagascar, leaving more than 50 people dead and almost 329,000 people homeless. Cases of fall armyworm outbreak were also reported for the first time in southern Africa.</p>
2015/16	<p>The SADC region experienced severe drought leaving an estimated 40 million people food insecure, with Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland and Zimbabwe declaring a state of national disaster. The El Niño-induced drought during the 2015/16 season was described as the worst in 35 years.</p>
2014/15	<p>Tens of thousands of people in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe were severely affected by floods caused by Tropical Storm Chedza which started in December 2014 and continued throughout February 2015. Malawi was hard hit by floods. More than 150,000 people in Mozambique were affected and about 6,000 in Zimbabwe.</p>
2012/13	<p>Southern Africa had a relatively higher output of cereals and other crops in the 2012/13 season despite disruptions caused by erratic rains and flooding. The season was generally characterised by below average rainfall in much of the southern and western regions, with average to above-average rainfall in the northern and eastern areas.</p>
2008/09	<p>The region experienced flooding, affecting and displacing thousands of people in Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia.</p>
2007	<p>Cyclone Favio-induced floods affected Mozambique and parts of Zimbabwe.</p>
2005/06	<p>Parts of southern Africa received very heavy rains resulting in flooding that caused considerable infrastructural damage, destroying schools, crops, telecommunications and roads.</p>
2004/05	<p>Most parts of the region received below normal rainfall during the agricultural season. Several countries in southern Africa declared state of natural disasters.</p>
2001-03	<p>Severe Drought in the SADC Region.</p>
1999/00	<p>Cyclone Eline hit the region and widespread floods devastated large parts of the Limpopo basin (southern and central Mozambique, southern-eastern Mozambique, parts of South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe). In Mozambique alone it affected 2 million people with 650,000 forced to abandon their homes.</p>
1994/95	<p>Many countries in the SADC were hit by a severe drought, surpassing the impact of the 1991 – 1992 droughts.</p>
1991/92	<p>Worst drought in living memory at the time was experienced in southern Africa, excluding Namibia.</p>
1986/87	<p>Drought conditions returned to the region.</p>
1983	<p>This year saw a particularly severe drought for the entire African continent.</p>
1982	<p>Most of sub-tropical Africa experienced drought.</p>
1981/82	<p>Severe drought occurred in most parts of southern Africa.</p>
1974-80	<p>This period was relatively moist over much of southern Africa.</p>
1967-73	<p>This six-year period was dry across the entire region. Some records show a severe drought in 1967.</p>



## Four elections

**FOUR SADC** Member States held national elections in October and November – Mozambique, Botswana, Mauritius, and Namibia. The elections were observed by a number of local, regional and international organizations, including the SADC Electoral Observation Missions (SEOMs) and the African Union.

### Constitutional Council upholds election results in Mozambique

**THE CONSTITUTIONAL** Council validated the results of the 15 October national election, which was won by the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) and its presidential candidate Filipe Nyusi.

The main opposition party had challenged the results announced by the National Elections Commission (CNE), but the Constitutional Court said in its 11 November ruling, that there was not sufficient evidence of electoral fraud. The Constitutional Council has the final say on electoral disputes.

According to the CNE, President Filipe Nyusi won a new five-year term after he secured 73 percent of the votes cast, against 21 percent by Ossufo Momade of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo).

Leader of the Mozambique Democratic Movement (MDM), Daviz Simango won four percent of the valid votes, the same as Mario Albino of the Action Party of the United Movement for Integral Salvation.

Under the Mozambican electoral law, the president is directly elected after winning 50 percent plus one of the valid votes cast.

In the 250-member House of Assembly, Frelimo won 71 percent of the seats, while Renamo and the MDM garnered 22 percent and four percent, respectively.

Parliamentarians in Mozambique are elected through a system of proportional representation by party list based on the provinces.

This was the first time that elections for provincial governors were held following a change to legislation on provincial assemblies made earlier this year.

In the provincial assembly elections, Frelimo won all 10 provinces, with majorities rang-

ing from 60 percent in Nampula to 95 percent in Gaza. The candidate who heads the list of the winning party in each province automatically becomes the provincial governor under the new legislation.

President Nyusi, who will be inaugurated in January 2020, ex-

### Masisi's BDP wins mandate in Botswana

**THE BOTSWANA** Democratic Party (BDP) won the 23 October general elections, securing a mandate to continue leading the country.

Botswana uses a single constituency electoral system of First-Past-The-Post for the election of Members of Parliament. Elected members of parliament then act as an electoral college to vote for the President.

The Parliament of Botswana has 63 seats, of which 57 are filled through direct election. There are four seats reserved for the majority party in Parliament, while the President and Attorney-General are ex-officio members.

The majority of seats as set out by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) of Botswana is 29 out of the 57 available seats in the National Assembly.

According to the final results announced by the IEC, the BDP secured 38 seats or 67 percent of the total, which is more than the majority seats of 29 required to form the next government.

The main opposition Umbrella for Democratic Change led by Duma Boko, garnered 15 seats, while the Botswana Patriotic Front led by Biggie Butale managed to get three seats, with the remaining seat going to the Alliance for Progressives.

In his victory message, Mokgweetsi Masisi, who was sworn-in as the President of Botswana on 1 November, said there is little time to celebrate as focus should

tended an olive branch to the opposition, saying he is ready to work with all like-minded Mozambicans to develop the country.

"I want to express my respect to the opposition parties... We must work together to develop our country." □

now be placed on implementing initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable development.

"Elections are not simply about the numbers, but they also signal hope, change, progress and a better life. True to our word, we will continue to roll out our manifesto with immediate effect. You can rest assured knowing that you have chosen a government of execution and accountability." □

### SWAPO wins elections in Namibia

**THE SOUTH** West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) Party won a majority in the general elections held on 27 November, with presidential candidate Hage Geingob winning 56 percent of the vote.

Namibia uses a majority system for presidential elections in which the candidate with more than 50 percent of the votes is declared the winner.

Geingob will be sworn in for his second and last term as President in March next year.

His closest rival, Panduleni Itula, a SWAPO Party member who ran for the presidency as an independent, got 29 percent while McHenry Venaani of the main opposition party, the Popular Democratic Movement (PDM), formerly the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), could only manage five percent.

### Ruling party gets another mandate in Mauritius

**CONTRARY TO** tradition, Mauritius has voted for the ruling coalition to continue steering the development of the country for the next five years.

Since 1991, no political party or coalition has obtained a second term after an election nor won a majority to form a government.

However, final results announced by the electoral commission after the 7 November elections said the Morisian Alliance led by Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth won 42 of 70 seats in parliament, while the National Alliance led by Navin Ramgoolam got 17 seats, with the Mauritian Militant Movement represented by former Prime Minister Paul Berenger getting nine seats.

Mauritius has a 70-member unicameral Assembly in which 62 MPs are elected directly by popular vote in a system of block voting where each voter casts three ballots for three candidates from each of the 21 constituencies, including the offshore island of Rodrigues. The remaining eight MPs are selected from a list of "best losers". □

In elections for the 104-member National Assembly, the SWAPO Party got 63 seats, while PDM secured 16 seats and the Landless People's Movement got four seats.

Five other parties got two seats each in parliament – the All People's Party, the Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters, National Unity Democratic Organisation, Republican Party of Namibia, and the United Democratic Front. The Christian Democratic Voice, the Rally for Democracy and Progress, and the South West Africa National Union got one seat each.

Namibia uses the Proportional Representation (PR) system for legislative elections. Under the PR system, each political party submits a list of candidates and then the parties receive seats proportional to their overall share of the national vote. □

## October – December 2019

**SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY** 

SADC TODAY Vol. 22 No 1 DECEMBER 2019

**SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY** is produced as a reference source of activities and opportunities in the Southern African Development Community, and a guide for decision-makers at all levels of national and regional development.

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**SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY** is supported by the Austrian Development Agency, in support of the SADC Energy Thematic Group of International Cooperating Partners, which is co-chaired by Austria.

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**SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY** welcomes contributions from individuals and organizations within the SADC region in form of articles, photographs, news items and comments, and also relevant articles from outside the region. The publishers reserve the right to select or reject items, and to edit to fit the space available. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official positions or opinions of SADC or SARDC.

**SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY** is published in English, Portuguese and French, and is available electronically at [www.sardc.net](http://www.sardc.net) Knowledge for Development, linked to [www.sadc.int](http://www.sadc.int)

**DESIGN & LAYOUT**  
Tonely Ngwenya, Anisha Madanhi

**PHOTOS AND ILLUSTRATIONS**  
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P4-5 pbs.twimg.com, 1.blogspot.com, newziana.co.zw, marivapost.com; P6 total.com, genderlinks.org.za; P7 image.ourclipart.com; P10 i0.wp.com; P11 gcs.thesouthafrican.com, s3.reutersmedia.net, newsday.co.zw; P12-13 newswirelive; P14 cms.oz.com, assets.bwbxio, wtop.com, sadcnews.org; P16 pbs.twimg.com, tsnapps.go.tz

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This document was produced in the context of a project funded by the Austrian Development Agency/the Austrian Development Cooperation. The responsibility of the content of this publication lies entirely with the author; the information and views expressed do not reflect the official opinion of the Austrian Development Agency/the Austrian Development Cooperation.

**December**  
25 Nov-10 Dec,  
Global

**16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence**

The annual worldwide campaign to oppose violence against women and children aims to raise awareness of the negative impact that violence and abuse have on women and children, and to end abuse, takes place every year at this time. The theme this year is "Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands against Rape!"

1, Global

**World Aids Day**

The commemoration of World Aids Day is an opportunity to recognize the essential role of communities in the AIDS response at the international, national and local levels. The theme for this year is "Communities make the difference."

2-4, Egypt

**African Economic Conference**

The conference provides an opportunity for researchers, policymakers and development practitioners to debate and build knowledge on solutions for continental integration. Theme: "Jobs, Entrepreneurship and Capacity Development for African Youths."

2-13, Spain

**UNFCCC COP 25**

The 25th Session of the Conference of Parties (COP 25) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change will bring together global leaders to continue negotiations towards a global consensus on addressing the impact of climate change.

6, Gaborone

**NAM representative to visit SADC**

The Venezuelan Ambassador to Namibia is expected to visit the SADC Secretariat to present letters of credence to the Executive Secretary and to thank SADC for supporting his country during its leadership of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) since 2016. NAM is a forum of 120 countries, the second largest grouping of States after the United Nations, with ideals of promoting national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and security, and hopes to strengthen collaboration with SADC in the areas of peace, sustainable development, and promotion of human rights.

10-17, Namibia

**SADC PF Plenary Assembly**

The 46th Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum meets in Swakopmund on the theme of "the role of Parliaments in the unfolding of Universal Health Coverage by 2030." The biannual Plenary, which brings together the Speakers of Parliament from 14 SADC Member States will also focus on gender-based violence and other pertinent issues. Madagascar is expected to become the 15th member of the SADC PF at this Plenary session.

**January 2020**  
13-16, UAE

**World Future Energy Summit**

Stakeholders will discuss ways to harness clean energy and promote innovation in the energy sector.

19, Comoros

**Assembly of the Union Elections in Comoros**

The Union of Comoros has set 19 January 2020 as the date for elections to the Comorian Assembly of Union. The 33 Assembly seats are divided into 24 seats directly elected in single-member constituencies using a two-round system, and nine seats elected by the Island assemblies, which elect three members each.

21-24, Switzerland

**50th World Economic Forum**

The meeting will bring together more than 3,000 participants, including world leaders, businesspersons and researchers to discuss the global economic agenda under the theme "Stakeholders for a Cohesive and Sustainable World".

30-31, Ethiopia

**33rd Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly**

African Heads of State and Government will gather for the 33rd Assembly of the African Union, which will be preceded as usual by ministerial and technical meetings. The AU theme for 2020 is "Securing predictable and sustainable financing for peace in Africa."

**February**  
2, Global

**World Wetlands Day**

Government agencies, non-government organisations and community groups have celebrated World Wetlands Day since 1997 with actions to raise public awareness of wetland values and benefits, and to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

## 9 December 1961 Tanganyika independence

**THIS YEAR** marks the 58th national independence anniversary of the United Republic of Tanzania, then known as Tanganyika, a proud territory and home to people of many rich cultures. But it was the riches from the mineral resources under the soil that beckoned when the European powers met at the Berlin conference of 1885 and allocated this area to Germany as part of German East Africa that included Rwanda, Burundi and mainland Tanganyika. During World War I in Europe, Britain first blockaded and then invaded the territory, eventually taking over the administration under League of Nations mandate. After the second war in Europe, WWII, ended in 1945, Tanganyika was placed under Trusteeship of the United Nations.

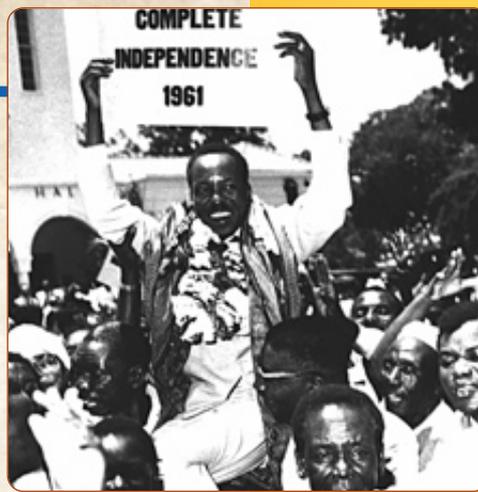
The Tanganyika African National Union (TANU) was formed in 1954 by the people of Tanganyika to push for independence, under the leadership of Julius Kambage Nyerere who became the founding President. The first article of the TANU Constitution says, "All human beings are equal, and Africa is one."

Julius Nyerere, known as *Baba wa Taifa* (Father of the Nation), united the country by advocating for peaceful change, social equality, and racial and ethnic harmony. Tanganyika became a republic after one year, on 9 December 1962, uniting more than 120 ethnic groups from mainland Tanganyika. Zanzibar gained independence the following year on 10 December 1963, and united with the mainland to become the United Republic of Tanzania. Nyerere, who was fondly addressed as *Mwalimu* (Teacher), stood for freedom and unity – *uhuru na umoja* in the lyrical language of *KiSwahili*, itself a language of unity as it grew from the roots of several other languages.

As the visionary leader of the first country in eastern and southern Africa to regain its independence and sovereignty, Nyerere pledged that national freedom would remain incomplete and meaningless while the rest of the continent was not free. He and the people of Tanganyika dedicated the next 33 years to the liberation of their neighbours, providing moral and material support, and refuge until the last country, South Africa, was liberated from apartheid rule. Nyerere was a founder of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in 1963, and hosted the OAU Liberation Committee in Dar es Salaam until its mission was accomplished in 1994.

In his first television interview after independence in 1961, *Mwalimu* was very optimistic of a liberated and united Africa, he echoed, "I think it's going to be a future of a common sentiment, a sentiment which has been built up during this whole period of struggle and pre-struggle and I can see Africa myself speaking as a continent with a greater unity, greater uniformity than any other continent in the world."

This year Tanzania in its capacity as the chair of Southern African Development Community continues to embrace Unity, Peace and Prosperity, as it spearheads regional integration. The National Day of independence gives a reflection of the achievements of Tanzania, and its role in the realisation of liberation across the region, first political independence and then economic integration within the African Union. □



Founding President Julius Kambage Nyerere



Brig. Alex Nyirenda with Tanganyika's flag and the Uhuru torch at the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro. (Photos courtesy of Tanzania Information Services)

**ON THE** eve of 9 December 1961, a team of climbers led by Brig. Alex Nyirenda planted the Uhuru torch (*Mwenge wa Uhuru* in *KiSwahili*, literally the "Torch of Freedom") and Tanganyika's new 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 until all countries in southern Africa were free of colonial rule.

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN SADC

December 2019 – February 2020

8 December	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Seychelles
9 December	Immaculate Conception Holiday	Seychelles
9 December	Independence Day	Tanzania
10 December	International Human Rights Day	Namibia
	Day of Reconciliation	South Africa
22 December	National Unity Day	Zimbabwe
23 December	Public Holiday	Zimbabwe
25 December	Christmas Day	All SADC countries except Botswana, Malawi, Zambia
	Family Day	Angola, Mozambique
26 December	Boxing Day	Lesotho, Eswatini, Tanzania, Zimbabwe
	Family Day	Namibia
	Day of Goodwill	South Africa
28 December	Incwala Day (start of Incwala festival)	Eswatini (TBC)
1 January	New Year's Day	SADC
2 January	New Year Holiday	Botswana, Mauritius
4 January	Martyrs Day	DRC
12 January	Zanzibar Revolution Day	Tanzania
15 January	John Chilembwe Day	Malawi
16 January	Heroes Day (Laurent Kabila)	DRC
17 January	Heroes Day (Patrice Lumumba)	DRC
25 January	Chinese Spring Festival	Mauritius
1 February	Abolition of Slavery	Mauritius
3 February	Heroes Day	Mozambique
4 February	National Armed Struggle Day	Angola
8 February	Thaiphoosam Cavadee	Mauritius
21 February	Maha Shivaratrie	Mauritius
	Robert G Mugabe National Youth Day	Zimbabwe

## Angola, DRC liberation roots



**JANUARY 4** is a special date in the liberation history of Angola and DRC, commemorated as the Martyrs Day every year in memory of the people who fought for independence in various ways. On this date in 1961, an uprising by cotton workers in Angola, demanding better working conditions and salaries, claimed about 40,000 lives. This marked the beginning of a new and revolutionary phase which the colonizers tried to suppress with extreme retribution.

Known as the "Independence Martyrs Day", the same date is commemorated for the mass action of 1959 which marked the end of Belgian colonialism in the Congo and the beginning of a new revolutionary phase of the radicalisation. The Kinshasa revolt was spontaneous, with the people in urban areas taking their own initiative to make the slogan "immediate independence" a reality and it became a non-negotiable demand of the national independence movement.

These two events changed the course of Congolese and Angolan history. □