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SADC in regional initiatives to avert power deficit

by Joseph Ngwawi

SOUTHERN AFRICA has embarked on a number of short and long-term projects to bolster its power generation capacity by more than 42,000 megawatts (MW) as the region steps up efforts to avert a shortage of electricity in 2007.

The SADC region, with some of Africa's fastest expanding economies, is feared to run out of surplus generation capacity after 2007.

Net regional generation capacity is expected to clock 45,000 MW by 2007 against peak demand of well over 45,000 MW at that time.

The past 10 years have seen demand for power within the region increasing at a rate of about three percent per year but that increase has not attracted a corresponding increment in investment in generation and transmission infrastructure.

As a result, generation surplus capacity has been declining, resulting in warnings that SADC could experience a critical shortage of electricity.

At present, the region has a combined total installed generation of 52,743 MW but the net generation output is around 45,000 MW, according to the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).

To operate optimally, SAPP must ensure it maintains a generation reserve level of 10.2 percent or higher at all times. It is projected that at current demand growth levels, the region could exhaust its reserve capacity by after 2007 and would not be able to meet further increases in demand for power.

This has prompted member states, through SAPP, to embark on a systematic programme to build additional generation capacity by either constructing new power stations or enhancing the performance of existing facilities.

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SADC in regional initiatives to avert power deficit

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SAPP has developed a 20-year generation and transmission expansion plan, which highlights the benefits of coordinated planning and the attendant cost reductions that can be achieved if the projects are carried out jointly as compared to individual implementation.

The coordinated plan will only cost the region US\$8 billion to boost generation capacity while the sum of the individual expansion plans by the respective power utilities is expected to cost US\$11 billion.

A total of 22 short-term projects are at various stages of implementation across the region which, once completed, would boost SADC's power generation capacity by 11,564 MW. The short-term projects are scheduled to be ready between 2005 and 2010.

These include the Capanda hydroelectric power project in Angola, which is expected to add another 260 MW of power to the regional grid on completion in 2007 and the refurbishment of the Inga 1 and 2 coal-powered project in the Democratic Republic of Congo will enhance regional capacity by a further 500 MW in 2007.

There are at least three new projects in South Africa – one coal-powered facility and two gas projects – that will inject an additional 5,600 MW into the regional power network between 2005 and 2010.

Other short-term projects include the second phases of the 110 MW Muela hydroelectric project in Lesotho, due for completion in 2010, and Malawi's Kaphichira hydroelectric project, which will increase the plant's generation capacity by 64 MW.

Namibia's power utility, NamPower,

plans to boost its capacity by 800 MW around 2009 by constructing the Kudu power station, which will be powered by gas.

The Maguga power station in Swaziland, which is due for completion in 2007, will add another 20 MW to the regional grid while four projects in Tanzania scheduled for completion between 2005 and 2007 have a combined capacity of 220 MW. The Tanzanian projects, two each at Ubungo and Kinyerezi, will be powered by gas.

Zambia has earmarked four projects for expansion or refurbishment between 2006 and 2009, an exercise that will boost its generation capacity by 1,290 MW. The Kafue Gorge Lower hydroelectric station, south of Lusaka, is expected to have a capacity of 600 MW when its capacity is expanded at a projected cost of US\$500 million.

The Zambian government plans to export most of the power produced at this plant to Zimbabwe, Botswana and the DRC. The existing plant, known as the Kafue Gorge Upper power plant, currently produces

900 MW. The combined output of the two plants will be 1,500 MW after completion of the World Bank-funded rehabilitation programme.

The governments of Zambia and the DRC have agreed to upgrade their 220-kilovolt (KV) regional interconnection to an improved transmission level to allow other SADC countries to tap Inga's energy supplies.

Zambia's Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) and the DRC's SNEL have made headway in the planned upgrading project that includes construction of a new 220-KV line between Chingola in Zambia and Karavia near the southern DRC city of Lubumbashi.

CEC officials say in addition to the new transmission line, the two countries will also repair the current 220-KV line to significantly raise the amount of hydropower that can be transmitted from DRC to other SADC countries.

The Zambia-Tanzania Interconnection Project involves construction of a 700 km, 330-KV transmission line to supply up

to 200 MW of power at an estimated cost of US\$153 million to both countries.

Namibia's and Botswana's electricity utilities, NamPower and BPC respectively, have agreed to build a cross-border transmission line at a cost of US\$7.7 million.

Refurbishment of the Kariba South and Hwange power stations in Zimbabwe will boost energy output by 960 MW between 2007 and 2008 while a new gas project at Lupani to the west of the country will generate 300 MW of power by 2009.

At least 26 long-term power projects with a total generation capacity of 31,743 MW are on the cards to further boost regional generation capacity. These will build on the increased capacity created by the short-term expansion projects, and are expected to be operational between 2010 and 2027.

The most significant of these is the giant Western Power Corridor (WESTCOR) project initially involving five SADC countries but other member states can join. WESTCOR is a regional project conceived through the combined initiative of the SADC Secretariat and the power utilities of Angola, Botswana, DRC, Namibia and South Africa.

The project seeks to exploit the hydroelectricity energy of the Inga rapids site in the DRC and on completion around 2010, it will add about an extra 3,500 MW to the SAPP grid.

Another major hydroelectric power project, to be known as the Grand Inga Phase One, is planned for the DRC and will increase SADC's generation capacity by 6,000 MW by 2012 when it is expected to be completed.

SAPP Installed and Net Generation Capacity

Country	Utility	Installed Capacity (MW)	Net Capacity (MW)
Angola	ENE	742	590
Botswana	BPC	132	120
Lesotho	LEC	72	70
Malawi	ESCOM	305	261
Mozambique	EDM	307	
	HCB	2 075	2 250
Namibia	NAMPPOWER	393	390
South Africa	ESKOM	42 011	36 207
Swaziland	SEB	51	50
Tanzania	TANESCO	591	480
DRC	SNEL	2 442	1 170
Zambia	ZESCO	1 632	1 630
Zimbabwe	ZESA	1 990	1 825
	TOTAL	52 743	45 043

Source Southern African Power Pool



SADC fast-tracks infrastructure and SDIs

by Joseph Ngwawi

A **ROBUST** regional transport system and a solid infrastructural base hold the key to attracting investment into the SADC region, improving competitiveness and promoting trade.

The region has embarked on a fast-track programme to boost its infrastructure and one of the strategies being pursued is the Spatial Development Initiative (SDI), also known as the development corridor concept.

In its 15-year regional development blueprint, SADC acknowledges that bridging the infrastructure gap has potential for deepening integration through the sharing of the production, management and operations of infrastructure facilities, hubs and development corridors.

This point also came up prominently during the recent familiarisation tour of SADC member states by the Executive Secretary, Tomaz Augusto Salomão.

While touring Angola, Salomão emphasised the importance of developing a solid regional transport network to facilitate cooperation among member states.

He was particularly concerned at the continued lack of development on the Lobito Corridor as a strategic regional transport system as it provides an outlet to the sea for several countries, including the Democratic Republic of Congo and landlocked Zambia.

Salomão noted that development corridors such as Lobito contribute to the industrial and mining development of member states and that "strong economic impacts are envisaged through employment creation, exploitation of mineral resources and increased markets for products."

The SDI is a regional development programme that seeks to generate sustainable economic growth through mobilisation of private investment capital in order to empower local communities.

SDIs often centre on the need to develop and promote cross-border trade, investment, infrastructure development and tourism.

A key SDI is the Maputo Development Corridor where a new highway connecting South Africa and Mozambique is a major component. So is the Mozambique Aluminium Smelter (Mozal) project, which now employs hundreds of people.

Most SDIs intersect South Africa, the largest economy in

the region. South Africa currently has an SDI programme in place, whose sole objective is to focus high-level support in areas where socio-economic conditions require concentrated government assistance and where inherent economic potential exists.

This ensures that investments are fast-tracked and that synergies between the various types of investments are maximised.

More than 130 investment opportunities have been identified along the South African side of the Maputo Development Corridor in the provision of infrastructure, agriculture, mining, energy, chemicals, tourism and manufacturing sectors.

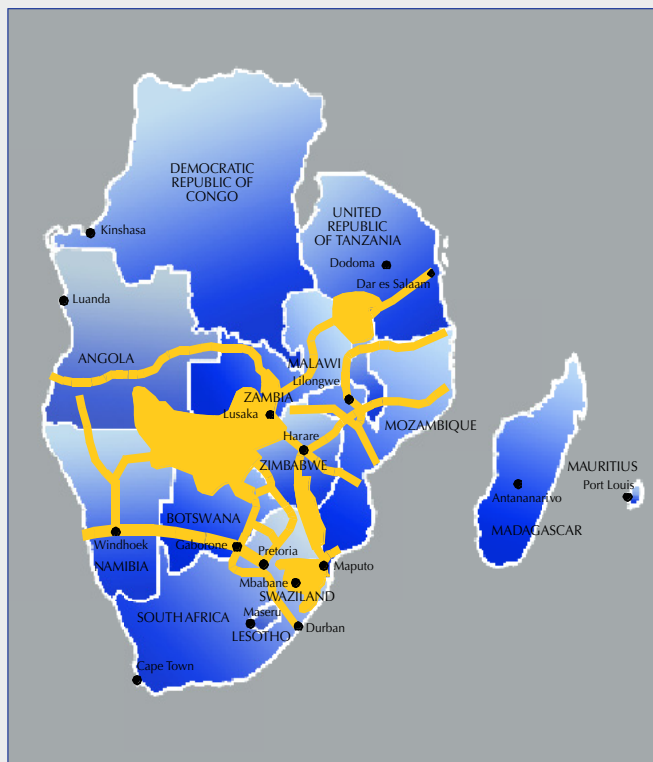
The Trans-Kalahari Highway has emerged as one of the most successful infrastructure developments in the region. The highway creates a hub of business across five countries – Mozambique, Swaziland, South Africa, Botswana and Namibia – providing a strategic coast-to-coast link from Maputo on the Indian Ocean to Walvis Bay on Namibia's Atlantic coast.

Although the Trans-Kalahari Highway stretches 595 km between Gaborone and Windhoek, it creates a transport corridor that straddles approximately 3,000 km from Maputo in Mozambique, through the north of Swaziland, Mpumalanga, Gauteng and Northwest provinces of South Africa, Botswana, and then through Namibia to Walvis Bay.

Another initiative is the Gariep Spatial Development Initiative through the Northern Cape and southern Namibia, and south-western Botswana. Some of the natural resources suited for investment include the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park and the Kudu natural gas field. Other major investments include the Oranjemund power station, worth US\$320 million.

Another is the Okavango Upper Zambezi tourism initiative that involves Botswana, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Zambia and Angola. The project is centred on a core development area of 260 sq km incorporating game parks in the five countries.

This project is driven by a desire to protect the wetland systems in the area. This area is said to have a tourism carrying capacity of 4 million visitors a year.



Infrastructure development is also taking place in the Mtwara, Nacala, North-South, Tazara and the Swaziland/South Africa Tourism and Biodiversity Corridors.

Map Southern African Marketing Co. (Pty) Ltd / SADC Secretariat.

SADC establishes Tribunal

SADC HAS established a 10-person tribunal, a body whose main responsibility will be to assist member states in dispute resolution.

The SADC Tribunal, which will be based in Windhoek, Namibia, will be responsible for resolving conflicts among member-states as well as ensuring adherence to, and proper interpretation of, the SADC Treaty and other subsidiary instruments binding the regional grouping.

It was established under Article 9 of the SADC Treaty as a build-up to the regional integration process and will be an arbiter among member states.

It will provide advisory opinion to the Heads of State and Government Summit, Council of Ministers and other organs of SADC.

Member states that feel aggrieved by another state will be given a hearing if they present their complaint before the tribunal.

Mozambique's Judge President Luis Mondlane was elected as president of the tribunal. Other members are Rigoberto Kambovo (Angola), Onkemetshe Tshosa (Botswana), Isaac Mtambo (Malawi), Aringa Pillay (Mauritius), Petrus Damaseb (Namibia) and Stanley Maphalala (Swaziland).

The United Republic of Tanzania has Frederick Werema while Zambia will be represented by Fredrick Chomba and Zimbabwe by Antonia Guvava.

Judges have already made solemn declarations to perform impartially, independently and conscientiously and to preserve the secrecy of the deliberations in line with Article 5 of the SADC Protocol on Tribunal.

The judges were selected by their national judicial bodies based on credentials required for appointment to the

highest judicial office in their territory.

The tribunal will allow the parties at conflict to summon witnesses for oral testimonies to prove their cases while experts would be summoned to guide the team on technical matters.

It also has powers to impose penalties on witnesses who deliberately fail to appear before it or appear but refuse to testify without valid reasons.

Witnesses will take an oath in line with the laws and guidelines of their countries of residence.

The tribunal guidelines also provide that a member state

shall treat a witness who violates the rules of the tribunal in the same manner as if the offence has been committed before one of its own courts.

"The member states concerned shall prosecute the offender before its competent court at the instance of the Tribunal," say the rules.

Experts and witnesses summoned by the tribunal will be entitled to a refund on their expenses and compensation for actual loss of earnings from the Office of the Registrar of the SADC Tribunal.

The tribunal would preside over matters relating to the interpretation, application or validity

of SADC protocols and all subsidiary instruments adopted within the framework of the SADC community.

The verdict passed by the tribunal would be communicated to the states in conflict or any other parties.

"In terms of Article 15 of the Protocol on Tribunal, the Tribunal will have jurisdiction over disputes between States, and disputes between natural or legal persons and States," reads a statement released by the SADC secretariat.

Namibia will host the Tribunal under an Agreement between the government and the SADC Secretariat.

SADC standardisation policy gets EC support

SADC MEMBER states are set to benefit from harmonisation of standards and quality assurance policies following a Euro 14.1 million injection by the European Commission (EC) into a regional programme that seeks to eliminate technical barriers to trade.

As part of a deal, the EC will make available funds to assist southern African countries enhance trade and investment, protect consumers through improved safety and health standards, and improve the competitiveness of suppliers of products and services.

The EC funds will help in the implementation of the five-year SADC support programme in Standardisation, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology (SQAM).

SQAM seeks, among others, to eliminate technical barriers to trade among member states and between SADC as a bloc and other trading blocs.

The agreement will ensure enhanced EC assistance in implementing the World Trade Organisation's Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), support

to standards bodies in the development of industrial standards, creation of a regional accreditation network, assistance in harmonising laws and regulations, and in creating a favourable environment for greater private sector involvement.

The project will also provide technical assistance and training

to staff in SQAM institutions in SADC member states.

The agreement was signed in Botswana by SADC executive secretary, Tomaz Augusto Salomão in the presence of Anders Henriksson, the EC director for the Horn of Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa, Indian Ocean and Pacific.

US to revive dialogue with SADC

THE UNITED States says it will resuscitate its annual consultative meetings with SADC, almost five years after suspending the meetings to protest the participation of Zimbabwe.

US Assistant Secretary of State, Jendayi Frazer, said recently that her government was ready to resume meetings of the SADC-US Forum, suspended in 2001 after regional leaders objected to American attempts to bar Zimbabwe from taking part.

Acknowledging that the Zimbabwe issue had impeded US dialogue with SADC in the past few years, Frazer announced that the US administration would bring Zimbabwe

into a broader discussion with peers in the region.

The forum is a gathering of SADC ministers and business representatives with their American counterparts. The first SADC-US Forum was held in Botswana in April 1999 and was opened by President Festus Mogae.

The forum seeks to enhance cooperation between the US and SADC on economic and socio-political issues.

On the economic front, discussions focus on ways and means of improving the climate for foreign and domestic investment as well as capacity-building in the SADC region.



Surge in intra-SADC trade

ZIMBABWE SAYS its trade with other SADC member states is increasing amid indications of an upsurge in intra-regional trade.

South Africa remains Zimbabwe's biggest trading partner, accounting for 26 percent and 57 percent of the country's exports and imports respectively, accord-

ing to Zimbabwe's Central Statistical Office.

Exports to South Africa grew by five percent during the first nine months of 2005 while Zambia absorbed 17 percent of Zimbabwe's merchandise exports during the same period.

Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique and Namibia are Zimbab-

we's other major trading partners from the region.

South Africa's exports to SADC member states also grew by more than 17 percent between January and September 2005,

with sales of goods and services to Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe rising by 28 percent, 27 percent and 22 percent, respectively. (*The Herald*)

Botswana wants greater use of its railway line

BOTSWANA SAYS it offers one of the cheapest and fastest routes to the north from South Africa and wants other SADC member states to make greater use of its railway facilities.

A Tswana legislator, Oreeditse Molebatsi recently implored other SADC member states, in the spirit of regional integration, to consider using Botswana Railways when transporting goods to

Zambia and other countries to the north.

Botswana's Minister for Works and Transport, Lesego Motsumi, said some countries had already started using the railway line and hoped more would follow suit.

Most SADC member states import goods or raw materials from South Africa or use South African ports as points of entry for goods imported from outside the region. (*Mmegi*)

Tazama rehabilitates infrastructure

THE TAZAMA pipeline, the fuel lifeline for landlocked Zambia, is being recapitalised and rehabilitated to meet the pumping requirements of Zambia and increase oil exports to the region.

Tazama Pipeline managing director, Largeman Muzelenga said recently that, although the condition of the infrastructure on the pipeline is relatively good and the pumping requirements for the local market and for export can still be met, the company would continue with the recapitalisation and rehabilitation of infrastructure started a few years ago.

The Tazama pipeline is Zambia's main source of fuel, which is pumped from the port of Dar es Salaam to Indeni refinery in Ndola, a cheaper mode of fuel transportation compared to road transport. Indeni is one of very few refineries in Africa located inland.

Zambia also imports refined petroleum products from other countries, notably South Africa.

The Zambian government owns 50 percent of the refinery while TotalFina owns the other 50 percent. Tazama Pipelines has a contract with the refinery, governing the commercial operations. (*The East African*)

Little cheer from WTO talks

by Joseph Ngwawi

THERE WAS little cheer for southern Africa and other developing countries at the conclusion of the sixth round of World Trade Organisation (WTO) talks in Hong Kong in December 2005.

Trade ministers from 149 countries narrowly averted the collapse of the trade talks with a compromise that set in motion four months of intensive negotiations to complete a global treaty that is crucial to the health of the world economy.

Negotiators have to finalize the bulk of a new trade deal by the end of April.

After protracted negotiations, the European Union finally agreed to eliminate export subsidies by the end of 2013. Southern Africa and other developing countries were looking for these to be scrapped earlier.

"The target date of latest 2010, acceptable by all others, would have been the minimum but that was not agreed to by the EU," said the Southern and Eastern African Trade, Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI).

There was also little victory for cotton farmers from developing countries. While export subsidies will be eliminated in 2006, this constitutes only a small portion of the trade distortion.

There was no agreement on trade-distorting domestic subsidies estimated at some US\$3.8 billion or between 80 and 90 percent of total United States support for cotton. Domestic subsidies also make up almost all of the European cotton subsidies.

African cotton farmers had hoped for real commitment from developed countries on

market access, domestic support and export competition. They wanted a plan to help them cope with competition from their counterparts, mainly in the United States, who benefit from government subsidies that drive down global prices.

Other key obstacles to a comprehensive trade agreement include import tariffs on farm produce and the freeing-up of trade in industrial goods.

Least developed countries (LDCs), which are the main target of the Doha round of WTO talks, got less than promised. They asked for quota-free market access to rich countries' markets for all LDC products and countries but the draft agreement was silent on a binding commitment.

There is also an escape clause that countries having dif-

iculties providing such market access can provide access for only 97 percent of products. This escape clause allows developed countries to continue to protect "sensitive products" that are of export advantage to LDCs, such as textiles and clothing, rice, sugar, leather products and fishery products.

The worst deal, according to SEATINI, was in services and non-agricultural market access where negotiations tilted towards the direction demanded by the EU and other developed countries.

The alternative services proposal of more than 100 developing countries was not reflected in the final ministerial declaration and textual changes proposed by developing countries were rejected.

DRC voters favour a new Constitution, elections

THE PEOPLE have spoken in the Democratic Republic of Congo and have said yes to a new Constitution in the referendum held in December.

DRC is now on course for its first democratic elections in more than four decades, set for 29 April.

The final tally of the referendum results released by the country's Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) puts the percentage at 84.31 percent in favour of the new constitution while 15.69 percent voted against.

According to the IEC, about 15.5 million people or 61.97 percent of the 25 million registered voters cast ballots at more than 36,000 polling stations on 18-19 December.

Observers hailed the conduct of the referendum and praised the people of the DRC for their patriotism and massive participation. A total of 5,000 local and 280 international observers witnessed the voting process.

The Electoral Institute of Southern Africa (EISA) said the referendum should be consid-

ered as the first step to the elections, and urged the electoral commission to fine-tune its electoral management skills and increase the capacity of the electoral agents to guarantee even greater success in the forthcoming elections.

The "yes" vote effectively stops a potential leadership vacuum that would have resulted if the new constitution was rejected. The tenure for the current transitional government – a creation of a compromise peace deal reached between former warring parties in 2003 – comes to an end in June.

Previous attempts to hold democratic elections in this vast country of more than 55 million people have faltered.

A new transitional constitution was adopted in April 2003, thanks to an all-inclusive power-sharing accord signed by all political parties in Pretoria on 17 December 2002 and formally ratified by all parties on 2 April 2003.

This accord formed the basis of the current transitional government headed by President Joseph Kabila and four vice presidents drawn from the main opposition parties.

Another positive signal for the forthcoming elections is the re-entry of opposition leader, Etienne Tshisekedi, who has agreed to participate, thus brightening the chances of an inclusive transition after several years of political instability.

Tshisekedi announced on 2 January that he was rejoining the electoral process in order to contribute to the development of his country.

His Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDSP) has for the past two years snubbed the process that led to a historical peace deal signed in 2003.

"The UDSP, faced with its responsibilities before God and history, undertakes to lead the Congolese people, desirous of peace and change, to the final

victory in the coming elections," Tshisekedi declared to reporters in Kinshasa.

Tshisekedi served three terms as prime minister during

the regime of Mobutu Sese Seko before clashing with the former Zairean leader. Mobutu was ousted in 1997 after being at the helm for close to 32 years.



DRC voters said "yes" to a new Constitution and elections.

Tanzania polls "peaceful, free, transparent, credible"

ELECTION OBSERVERS praised the conduct of the 14 December elections in the United Republic of Tanzania, and the voters whom they said turned out in surprisingly large numbers.

The SADC Election Observer Mission (SEOM), headed by Minister John Pandeni from Namibia, said the process was conducted "meticulously and lawfully", the elections were "peaceful, free, transparent, credible and professionally managed" and "reflected the will of the people".

SEOM also praised the "high sense of gender equity and youth representation in the electoral process", and said there was a peaceful atmosphere and a high level of political tolerance.

The African Union said the elections were conducted efficiently, in line with regulations and in a secure environment, and there was good cooperation between polling officials and party agents, building consen-

sus on many decisions. Other major points included the high turnout of voters, especially women, and respect for the secrecy of the ballot.

Baleka Mbete, the Speaker of the National Assembly in South Africa and a member of the Pan-African Parliament, who headed the AU delegation, said that in the areas covered by the AU observers, there were no incidents of "party agents disagreeing with the outcome of the counting and verification of the ballots and number of votes."

"Overall the elections were free and fair," the AU mission said, citing a few small problems that could be rectified in future elections.

SEOM noted that the Constitution should be available to observers in English, that law enforcement agencies should not help to organize voting queues, use of indelible ink should be standardized (dipping or painting the nail), and the voters roll should be released timeously and checked carefully.

Date set for DRC polls

DRC elections for a new president and parliament have been set for 29 April. The registration of voters was closed in November 2005 but the IEC has had to extend the nomination process for candidates to allow Etienne Tshisekedi's UDSP to file papers.

More than 25 million people have registered to vote. Several candidates will contest the presidential seat, including the incumbent, President Joseph Kabila of the People's Party for Reconstruction and Democracy. Other presidential candidates include Tshisekedi and Jean Pierre Bemba of Congo Liberation Movement.

President Kikwete to build on Nyerere values and Mkapa economics

JAKAYA MRISHO Kikwete, the fourth president of the United Republic of Tanzania, has promised continuity of policies and improved living conditions for Tanzanians.

Kikwete was sworn into office on 21 December 2005 after sweeping more than 80 percent of the valid votes cast in elections the previous week. He promised to defend the gains made by his predecessor, especially in the economic sector, and to ensure good governance and the rule of law.

He promised to maintain peace, tranquility, national unity, accomplish the unfinished projects in education and health, promote human rights and combat poverty.

Two major areas of focus will be to confront unemployment by creating new jobs, and to expand agricultural production in the countryside.

Kikwete's message has been consistent, pledging to sustain the previous achievements with "renewed determination, vigour and at a faster pace".

The manifesto of the ruling party, Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM), says, "We should adhere to the call by the Father of the Nation, Mwalimu Nyerere, that we must run while others walk," echoing a famous statement by the founding president.

Asked by local media about the legacy of the first three presidents, Kikwete said the founding president, Mwalimu Nyerere, was "instrumental in building a united, peaceful, stable country; Mzee Ali Hassan Mwinyi spearheaded political and economic reforms; and I credit President [Benjamin] Mkapa for managing macro-economic stability."

Kikwete also credited the incumbent with commendable efforts to stamp out corruption.



"We have got to continue with the efforts, strengthening the Prevention of Corruption Bureau is one of the means of fuelling the anti-corruption drive."

He said he would try to avoid "cronism and recycling" in the appointment of ministers and key officials, and would use a criteria of "patriotism, love for the nation, integrity, hard work and experience."

Kikwete pledged to provide water for every Tanzanian and



to build more schools and health facilities, expand the telecommunications network and improve access to electricity. Road construction and other infrastructure projects started under Mkapa will continue, as will the struggle against HIV and AIDS.

Another of Nyerere's famous slogans of nation building was *uhuru na umoja*, "freedom and unity", and the results of Tanzania's 2005 elections showed why.

Profile of Jakaya Kikwete President of the United Republic of Tanzania

JAKAYA MRISHO Kikwete, 55, has been in public service for more than 30 years, yet he is one of the youngest leaders in east and southern Africa.

The new president is a long-time party cadre who has been in cabinet for 17 years. He served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for the past decade, and was previously the Minister of Finance and Minister of Energy and Minerals.

Kikwete has been a member of the National Executive Committee of CCM since 1982, and a member of the Central Committee of the party for the past nine years. He emerged from the party youth wing and has strong support from the youth in the country.

Born in Msoga village in the historic Bagamoyo district of Coast region on 7 October 1950,

Kikwete belongs to a very small ethnic group, one of more than 120 ethnic groups that make up the United Republic of Tanzania. He holds a BA in economics from the University of Dar es Salaam.

He entered party work at district level, and also served in the Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF), promoted to captain in 1979 and lieutenant-colonel in 1991. He became the chief political instructor of TPDF in 1984 and is now their Commander-in-Chief.

CCM selected its presidential candidate in a carefully considered process that involved the selection of one person from a field of 11, based on qualities such as the ability to promote and protect national unity, peace and stability, and boldness in fighting injustice and oppression.

CCM won almost 90 percent of seats in the *Bunge*

THE TANZANIAN parliament, the *Bunge*, has been increased to 324 members, made up of 232 members elected on 14 December and the remainder appointed.

Of the appointed members of parliament, 75 seats are guaranteed for women, representing 30 percent of the figure for elected seats. The 75 women members are appointed by the National Electoral Commission based on the number of votes won by the parties represented in parliament.

A further 10 members are appointed by the Union president, five seats are occupied by members of the Zanzibar House of Representatives, and there are two seats reserved for the Attorney General and the Speaker of Parliament.

Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) easily won the parliamentary elections with 206 seats. Opposition parties won only seven seats on the mainland, with five going to Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (Chadema) and one each to the Tanzania Labour Party (TLP) and the United Democratic Party (UDP).

Some of the constituency seats were won by women, including most of the 19 CCM women candidates.

The picture was more divided in the semi-autonomous region of Zanzibar, where the southern island of Unguja returned all but one member from CCM while the northern island of Pemba returned a full slate of 18 opposition Civic United Front (CUF) members to the *Bunge*.

The total number of elected seats won by the opposition was 26, and the next leader of the opposition in parliament will come from the island of Pemba, as CUF failed to win a single mainland seat.

Some 70 percent of registered voters turned out at the polls.

Council to approve regional programme for 2006

by Munetsi Madakufamba

SADC POLICY programme for 2006 will be discussed and approved by the regional community's ministers when they meet as council on 23-24 February in Botswana.

The Council, which meets twice a year, is responsible for supervising and monitoring the functions and development of SADC and ensuring that policies are properly implemented.

The SADC Council of Ministers meets in February often to deliberate on institutional matters including the current restructuring of the regional

body's various institutions, as well as approving yearly budgets and strategic plans for implementation by the Botswana-based Secretariat.

The ministers, usually from member state ministries of foreign affairs, international cooperation, economic development, planning or finance, meet again on the eve of Summit in August/September to prepare policy recommendations for heads of state and government.

In Botswana, Council will review progress on a number of decisions taken so far, in

particular the critical institutional reform. The reform process has centralised management at the Secretariat, clustering the 21 country-based sector coordinating units and commissions into four directorates that are now operating from Gaborone.

The directorates are on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (TIFI); Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR); Infrastructure and Services (IS); and Social and Human Development and Special Programmes (SHD).

nalised to facilitate recruitment on a contract basis. The previous Council of Ministers decided on a quota system to ensure balanced representation from member states.

The Council of Ministers is also expected to review the operations of the Integrated Committee of Ministers (ICM). The ICM is part of the new governance structure of SADC established to replace what were previously sectoral committees of ministers. It is composed of two ministers from each member state and attendance at meetings depends on items on the agenda and concerns of member states.

Other issues on the agenda of Council include a report on the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) programme, cooperation with the international community including the European Union which relates to SADC through the Berlin Initiative as well as the Economic Partnership Agreements that are currently being negotiated.

Council will also discuss preparations for the SADC Consultative Conference scheduled for 26-27 April in Windhoek, Namibia.

The conference is aimed at building a new partnership between SADC and its international cooperating partners, mobilise resources for the rollout of regional strategic plans and thus facilitate the implementation of a common agenda for SADC.

The theme of the Consultative Conference is "Partnership for the Implementation of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Strategic Indicative Plan of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security (SIPO)".



The Foundation Stone monument, site of the new SADC Headquarters, Gaborone.

Another directorate has been established to deal with politics, defence and security affairs.

Major challenges have arisen especially with regard to staffing the new structure, as well as construction of new headquarters to accommodate the enlarged team. As of January, a number of positions were yet to be filled.

At its meeting in February 2005, Council extended the transitional arrangement of having both seconded and regionally recruited staff until the end of March 2006 by which time staff are expected to be in place.

Staff secondment was meant to be a temporary measure while proper job descriptions and transfer of functions from member states were being fi-

Salomão tours member states, sets targets for region



Salomão accompanied by Angolan Ministers of Planning and Transport, Ana Dias Lourenço and Andre Luis Brandão respectively, as well as government and private sector officials during a tour of the Port of Lobito. Picture 4. In Lesotho he paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili.

SADC EXECUTIVE secretary, Tomaz Augusto Salomão, has been touring the region to familiarise himself with developments in member states and appraise governments of the priority areas that he wants tackled during his tenure.

Salomão, who assumed office in September 2005, has so far visited Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Lesotho, Namibia, Madagascar, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. He is expected to visit all SADC countries.

He has raised a number of pertinent issues during the visits to the various countries, including the need to develop a robust infrastructure base for the region. He is advocating for the introduction of a regional master-plan on development of roads, bridges, ports, air transport, irrigation and telecommunications infrastructure.

Spatial development initiatives would play a significant role in this area. The region has a number of development corridors at various stages of implementation.

During his visit to Angola, the executive secretary emphasised the strategic importance of outlets to the sea such as the Benguela Corridor (also known as the Lobito Corridor) and called for concerted efforts to re-

suscitate development of the corridor.

Efforts to reopen the Benguela Corridor depend on progress by the Angolan government and other partners on a demining programme aimed at ridding the area of mines planted during the country's civil war. It would also involve the rehabilitation of the railway line and rebuilding of bridges destroyed as well as the main road links to the DRC, Namibia, Zambia and the rest of the region.

Emphasis will also be placed on harnessing the region's skills base through a coordinated regional strategy on skills development. During his visit to

Swaziland and Zimbabwe, Salomão cited human resources development as pivotal to tackling the region's socio-economic problems. He lauded Zimbabwe for its excellent skills base.

HIV and AIDS and sustainable food security also featured prominently during Salomão's tour of the region. The region has finalised a strategic 5-year business plan (2005-2009) for the implementation of the SADC Strategic Framework and Programme of Action for combating HIV and AIDS. The region's responses to the pandemic are guided by the Maseru Declaration on HIV and AIDS signed in 2003 in Lesotho. Sa-

lomão commended Lesotho for championing the declaration.

Sustainable food security is one of SADC's pressing challenges, with the region prone to droughts. One of the key areas being addressed by the region is irrigation development where the plan is to reduce the dependence on rain-fed agriculture and increase budgetary allocations to water management and irrigation.

He also wants to speed up the implementation of the Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons, which seeks to remove barriers on the movement of citizens of the region across borders.

Seychelles will apply to rejoin SADC

SEYCHELLES WILL apply to rejoin SADC this year because the country is increasingly active in international relations, President James Michel has said.

The country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs was recently allocated a budget of US\$1.9 million as part of preparations for the Indian Ocean island's re-entry into SADC.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has a key role to play in defending and promoting Seychelles' interests in an increasingly globalised world. In this context I am pleased to announce

that Seychelles will be rejoining SADC in 2006," said Michel.

The country quit SADC in July 2003, but the pull-out became effective in July 2004. Seychelles Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials said at the time that there was little justification for the money Seychelles was expected to contribute to the regional organisation annually, especially at a time it was undergoing difficulties with the shortage of foreign exchange.

Michel said that with the increased participation in the country's economy by foreign

investors, "the economy has improved."

By the time it pulled out of SADC, Seychelles had incorporated most of the organisation's regulations into its national legislation due to its previous membership.

If Seychelles is readmitted, it would bring to three the number of Indian Ocean islands that are members of SADC. Others are Mauritius and Madagascar, both active members which have dedicated their foreign policy efforts towards southern Africa.

SADC promotes tourism products

SADC IS promoting Transfrontier Conservation Areas and Spatial Development Initiatives (SDIs) as alternative tourism products aimed at marketing the region as a tourist destination.

In this regard, SADC is promoting community-public-private partnerships in tourism development, including participation by small-to-medium enterprises, women and youth.

Tourism-based SDIs are best witnessed in the Lubombo Spatial Development Initiative



King Mswati III breaks the ground to mark the official start of construction work on the Jozini Holiday Resort along the Lubombo Spatial Development Initiative.

where a multi-million dollar hotel facility is taking shape.

The Jozini Holiday Resort, recently launched by King Mswati III of the Kingdom of Swaziland, is being developed on Jozini Dam, jointly shared by South Africa and Swaziland. The Lubombo Corridor also connects Mozambique to these two countries.

Construction is expected to be complete in the next five years, in time for the World Cup soccer tournament that South Africa will host in 2010.

Madagascar and Namibia explore for oil

MADAGASCAR HAS offered another round of licences to private companies to explore possible oil or gas reserves while Namibia has given permission to a Croatian firm to explore for oil on the shores of the Nama basin.

Madagascar is known to have oil and gas reserves, but these are inadequately mapped and there is no major production.

The Office des Mines Nationales et des Industries Stratégiques in Madagascar (OMNIS) – in co-operation with the Norwegian geophysical company TGS-NOPEC – announced recent-

ly the opening of a new licence round over the Morondava Basin, located offshore in western Madagascar.

At present, no oil is produced in Madagascar. The island has only minor gas operations. This is despite rather significant oil discoveries onshore.

Namibia recently entered into a petroleum agreement with a Croatian company, INA Industrija Nafta, which is to start exploration on the shore of the Nama basin in the southern part of the country. Namibia's offshore basins are believed to

be oil rich, but few explorations have been done.

The licence will allow INA to undertake exploration activities for two years.

Malawi lakeshore sand for cellphones

MALAWI'S LAKESHORE sand will soon be mined into a by-product for manufacturing cellphones in Taiwan in a venture estimated to earn the country K9 billion in foreign exchange per year.

Allied Procurement Agency (APA) of Zimbabwe have installed a plant at Chipoka in Salima to extract precious minerals called zircon and rutile that are used to make cellphone and decorate household items.

Samples of the minerals have already been tested and sent to potential Taiwanese buyers who have certified them as suitable material.

About 70 new jobs will be created at commissioning of the project, with the number rising to 3,000 when a bigger plant is installed in future to meet annual production of 12,096 metric tonnes.

Feasibility studies have shown a high concentration of the minerals along the shores of Lake Malawi, particularly in Salima. Indications are that the deposits would last 300 years, according to APA. (*The Nation*)

Zimbabwe in drought-resistant maize trials

ZIMBABWE HAS developed drought- and pest-resistant maize varieties and is undertaking field tests to determine the effectiveness of the new range of seeds.

The maize varieties are the output of the Maize Improvement Project undertaken by the Scientific and Industrial Research and Development Centre (SIRDC).

The project aims to develop and produce maize varieties, which are drought tolerant and resistant to pests through the use of molecular marker-assisted selection.

SIRDC is also researching on mushroom production and has embarked on an indigenous crops project. The mushroom project aims at the development, production and selling of high quality oyster, button and chanterelle spawn mushrooms.

The indigenous project aims to carry out research and develop products from under-utilised indigenous crops.

This project seeks to identify indigenous crop and plant resources that will be converted into high value nutritious food products for local and regional marketing.

Angola introduces e-governance

ANGOLA HAS announced plans to introduce electronic governance this year. The project will entail electronic mapping and registration of the identity of all Angolans using new technologies.

Swiss company WISEKey SA will be responsible for the design, implementation and management of the "Secure Angola Project", a component of the "Action Plan for Electronic Governance", aimed at taking conclusive steps towards a digital society in Angola.

Prime Minister Fernando da Piedade Dias dos Santos said "the emergence of the knowledge society will

demand from all of us new ways of seeing and analysing the world around us and new governance paradigms. This will involve new models and new schemes for interaction between government and citizens, giving another vision and greater effectiveness to citizens' contact with and participation in the social, cultural, educational, academic, economic and political life of the country."

According to the action plan, the project includes mapping the identity of all citizens to enroll all Angolans into a database of digital identities. For this to happen, the government has put special emphasis on the security of electronic communications.

SADC forecasts higher cereal output

SADC EXPECTS a relatively higher output of cereals and other crops for the region during the 2005/06 season compared to previous seasons.

Speaking in Angola, SADC executive secretary Tomaz Augusto Salomão announced that the region was looking forward to an improved harvest of maize and other crops such as cassava during the current season compared to previous seasons.

The region produced around 30.94 million tonnes of cereals in the 2004/05 season and output is expected to be higher during the current rainfall season. Crop forecasts for the season are being compiled.

Southern Africa is also witnessing a cassava and sweet-potato boom as farmers are turning to these drought-resistant tubers.

The past four rainfall seasons since 2001 have all but one been drought years. Only the 2003/04 season had sufficient and well-distributed rains that ensured a good farming season in most parts of the region.

During the 2004/05 season, only South Africa had surplus maize harvests while other SADC member states had to

import to meet national requirements.

About 10 million people in the region are food insecure and in need of food assistance until the next harvest in April after the below normal 2004/05 rainfall season.

Indications so far point to a largely normal season in

2005/06, with reports that most countries in the region have received above-normal rains.

In the face of frequent droughts, the region is investing heavily in irrigation and this has seen the area under irrigation grow from 1.63 million hectares in 1985 to 1.96 million hectares.

SADC governments have undertaken to accelerate the use of irrigation technologies such as treadle and motorised pumps, canalisation and water-saving technologies.

Investment is also being directed into research and production of drought-tolerant seed varieties.

SADC to facilitate easier seed movement

SADC HAS made some strides in harmonising seed regulation systems to facilitate easier movement of seed across borders in the region without compromising quality and plant health.

A meeting of senior government officials on Harmonisation of Seed Regulations held in Maputo from 8-9 December 2005 agreed to adopt a harmonised seed regulation system.

When implemented, the system should improve seed trade among member states, and increase the availability of quality seeds to farmers. This is in line with the Dar-es-Salaam Declaration, which emphasises the need for seed security in order to attain food security.

The meeting noted the need for capacity-building at national and regional levels. The proposed system will require qualified personnel in seed testing and inspections, variety release procedures and aspects of quarantine and plant health.

Adequate seed testing and plant health equipment will be required to meet the relevant regional and international standards.

The meeting stressed the need to have a cost-effective institutional framework which can be implemented within the existing structures at national and regional levels, for the system to be sustainable without unduly burdening the member states and farmers.

To facilitate seed movement across borders, the officials noted the need to involve the ministries of trade and commerce to participate in follow-up discussions, which will prepare final proposals for submission to the SADC Integrated Committee of Ministers.

The SADC Seed Security Network, operating under the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) Directorate, has been mandated to spearhead the process.

The meeting was attended by permanent secretaries from the ministries of agriculture of 12 SADC member states, as well as representatives of seed organisations and international agricultural research centres.

Stakeholder dialogue on IWRM in Zambezi basin

ABOUT 90 stakeholders from the Zambezi river basin states and beyond met in Gaborone in December to discuss strategies for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

The conference sought to facilitate consultations between stakeholders, share information on various basin initiatives, and identify IWRM issues and challenges, as a way of informing strategy formulation for management of the basin's resources.

Speaking at the conference, Felix Monggae of the Kalahari Conservation Society gave a good description of IWRM.

"This entails involvement of all stakeholders, especially communities, in the planning and management processes that focuses on the natural resources of the river's basin with emphasis on the water resources."

Papers presented for discussion included an overview of the Zambezi Action Plan Project 6, Phase II (ZACPRO 6.2) and IWRM strategy formulation, as well as issues and challenges.

Issues included equitable allocation of transboundary water resources, integrated flood management, and mainstreaming gender in IWRM in the Zambezi basin.

ZACPRO 6.2 national steering committees (NSCs) from seven of the eight riparian states gave participants an insight into the IWRM issues and challenges in their countries. Angola, the eighth basin state, was not represented at the conference.

ZACPRO 6.2 is developing an IWRM strategy for the basin and the consultation formed part of the strategy formulation process.

The conference was hosted by ZACPRO 6.2 in collaboration with partners, the World Conservation Union (IUCN) regional office and the Musokotwane Environment Resource Centre of the Southern African Research

and Documentation Centre (SARDC).

The formulation of the IWRM strategy is running parallel to the establishment of the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZamCom), an institution that aims to promote efficient management and sustainable development of water resources in the Zambezi River basin.

Four of the eight basin states have ratified the ZamCom agreement signed in July 2004. It will come into force when two-thirds of the basin states ratify the agreement, and this will pave the way for the establishment of a ZAMCOM secretariat.

SADC makes progress on phase-out of leaded fuel

by Patson Phiri

AT LEAST four SADC countries beat the 1 January deadline to phase out leaded fuel but a lot of work still needs to be done before the dream of having "cleaner" fuels becomes a reality across the region.

Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia and South Africa have stopped using leaded fuel in line with a commitment made by African countries in 2002 to use only unleaded petrol, which is considered less harmful to the environment and human health.

Mauritius was the first member of SADC to phase out leaded fuel in August 2002. The phase-out was preceded by a public awareness campaign launched in April of the same

year to explain the benefits of introducing unleaded petrol.

The move to remove lead from petrol in SADC gained momentum after the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa.

Experts say lead is toxic and exposure to it can result in mental retardation in children, causes high blood pressure and increases the risk of heart attacks as well as strokes. Environmentalists blame the fuel for damage to the environment.

Mozambique and Zimbabwe said they would phase out leaded petrol from March although



Zambia also said it needed more time to phase out the leaded fuel, saying the country's only refinery was unable to produce sufficient quantities of unleaded fuel for national consumption and was still looking at ways that could be improved.

It costs a lot of money to reconfigure equipment at oil refineries to allow them to produce unleaded petrol instead of leaded fuel. Refineries in South Africa are estimated to have spent about R10 billion or US\$1.6 billion to reconfigure their equipment.

There is also the issue of Lead Replacement Petrol which countries must introduce to cater for older vehicles that used to run on leaded fuel.

Tanzania commences manufacture of ARVs

UNITED REPUBLIC of Tanzania has joined the growing number of SADC countries now producing generic anti-retroviral drugs to combat AIDS.

With technical assistance from Thailand, Tanzania Pharmaceutical Industries (TPI) recently launched its ARV drug following a period of clinical trials that started in January 2005.

The competitively priced generic drug will be available only in selected facilities to avoid abuse by people and organisations who might want to take advantage of its low price.

According to TPI, imported ARVs cost about US\$800 per month in Tanzania while the entry of the new drug will bring the cost down to less than \$25 per month per patient. The first phase in the project will be for adults, while children will be covered in the second phase. The plant has the capacity to

manufacture drugs for 100,000 people per month.

SADC countries reaffirmed their commitment to fight the pandemic when they signed the Maseru declaration on HIV and AIDS in 2003 which proposes a multi-sectoral approach that involves partnership with all stakeholders.

Appropriate nutrition and a healthy diet have proved effective in boosting the immune system to hold the HIV virus in check, and clinically tested traditional medicine is also used as an effective immune-booster.

Anti-retroviral medicine can be effective if taken carefully on a long term basis in consultation with a doctor and combined with proper nutrition.

Thus, cost considerations have resulted in the local manufacture. Other SADC countries producing generic ARVs are South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

the former has since stopped importing the commodity.

According to IMOPETRO, the body representing Mozambican fuel importers, Mozambique could not abruptly clean out all tanks containing leaded petrol, since this would have cost a lot of money. Instead the leaded petrol is being diluted with the unleaded variety.

Unleaded petrol will have to be passed through all the tubes and tanks in the distribution system, until the leaded fuel has been thoroughly flushed out. The process would be completed by March.

Firm develops new malarial drug

A NEW MALARIA drug based on an Asian medicinal herb will be introduced to the African market in 2006. The medicine, costing just 1 Euro per adult and 50 cents per child, is described by its producers as a "new single-day cure for malaria".

Developed by a Belgian company that has specialised in malaria medicines since 1997, the drug has been tested at several locations in Africa including DRC. (*Afrol News*)

Namibia mulls aggressive export strategy

A NEW Namibian national export promotion strategy will be in place this year to aggressively position the country's products in the global market.

Trade and industry minister Immanuel Ngatjizeko says "we want to come up with a blueprint that presents a streamlined approach that will guide our activities and respond to the challenges of the new and globalised environment."

Ngatjizeko says he hopes the strategy will build entrepreneurial opportunities, stimulate trade and improve foreign exchange earnings. (*African Business*)

CURRENCY CHECKLIST

Country	Currency	(US \$1)			
Angola	Kwanza (100 lweei)	80.60	Botswana	Pula (100 thebe)	5.35
Lesotho	Maloti (100 lisente)	6.90	Madagascar	Ariary	9,150.00
Mauritius	Rupee (100 cents)	30.58	Mozambique	Metical (100 centavos)	24,374.00
South Africa	Rand (100 cents)	6.09	Swaziland	Lilangeni (100 cents)	6.09
Zambia	Kwacha (100 ngwe)	4,100.00	Zimbabwe	Dollar (100 Cents)	88,701.00
			DRC	Congo Franc	435.00
			Malawi	Kwacha (100 tambala)	124.00
			Namibia	Dollar (100 cents)	6.08
			Tanzania	Shilling (100 cents)	1,149.50

February 2006

Communicating SADC

Roll-out of new communications and promotional strategy

SADC IS streamlining the flow of information about the region and building internal capacity in the member states to effectively communicate regional developments.

Buoyed by the recent approval of its Communications and Promotional Strategy by the Integrated Committee of Ministers and subsequently Council of Ministers, SADC has the daunting challenge of strength-

ening communication channels within and among member states, and encouraging greater interaction between the public and private sector in communicating their achievements.

According to a plan agreed at a meeting of media experts from the region held in Swaziland in November, public relations and media campaigns will be mounted and close collaboration maintained among the

SADC national committees, media coordinators and media practitioners in member states.

One of the challenges is to build capacity of national media coordinators in the 14 member states. The current set-up revolves around a network of SADC national media coordinators whose role is to act as links between the SADC secretariat and the media in the respective countries.

The media coordinators work closely with SADC national committees made up of representatives from the public and private sectors and civic organisations.

The meeting developed an implementation plan in which the media coordinators, media houses, regional partners and the private sector will be expected to play significant roles in the communication of SADC programmes and initiatives.

Represented at the Manzini workshop were the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre, the Southern African Broadcasting Association, the Media Institute of Southern Africa, and the Southern African Editors' Forum. Member states were represented by their media coordinators.

Restrategising for gender-based regional integration

by Nakatiwa Mulikita

NATIONAL GENDER machineries and other stakeholders at a gender consultative conference have agreed to work closely together and have set clear targets to be met by all in the quest to create a gender-sensitive community.

Meeting in Gaborone in December, the participants identified the need to establish dynamic and sustainable partnerships between governments and

other stakeholders as a key challenge to gender equality.

They also identified the need for greater political will to strengthen the institutional capacity of national machineries, as well as resource mobilisation.

SADC Executive Secretary, Tomaz Augusto Salomão, reiterated the region's commitment to strengthening participation by stakeholders such as governments, civil society and development partners at all stages of developing and implementing gender policies.

The SADC Gender Consultative Conference, which took place from 6-9 December 2005 under the theme "Reflecting and Re-strategising for Gender-based Regional Integration", sought ways of mainstreaming gender into all national and regional policies, programmes and activities and the adoption of positive measures to accelerate progress.

More than 100 delegates attended the conference, representing national gender machineries in SADC member states, the SADC Gender Unit, women's groups, civil society groups working on gender issues in the region, and cooperating partners and donors.

The conference agreed on a draft regional implementation framework on gender and de-

velopment, which includes strategies to address some of the challenges facing the region such as HIV and AIDS, drought and food insecurity.

Towards a gender protocol

DELEGATES TO the SADC Gender Consultative Conference called for transformation of the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development into a protocol and have agreed to take the first steps in raising awareness.

National gender machineries plan to work with civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders to raise awareness through national workshops and lobbying of their governments. The national meetings would raise awareness about the proposed motion to transform the declaration into a draft protocol to present to the SADC Council of Ministers in 2007.

The SADC Gender Unit was tasked to convene another meeting of national gender machineries, stakeholders and co-operating partners towards the end of 2006 to take stock of the national level activities to popularise the issue.

A protocol is a legally binding instrument while a declaration is not binding on the parties.

Community interventions for a global crisis

POVERTY ALLEVIATION is one of the key interventions in the fight against HIV and AIDS and SADC countries are taking the fight to the grassroots by enlisting the help of local communities to seek local solutions to a global challenge.

In Swaziland, community groups are now lending support to the fight against the disease by contributing to the nutritional needs of those infected or affected. In one such initiative, a group of community leaders and care-givers is supplying vegetables to people living with the disease and generating extra cash from proceeds of a gardening project established with help from the local traditional leader.

Similar projects exist in other SADC countries where communities fund-raise to assist people living positively with HIV.

Actions and targets

Draft regional implementation framework on gender and development:

Member states to put in place by 2010 constitutional provisions for gender equality including the right to dignity, right to life, integrity and security;
Illiteracy to be eradicated by 2020;
Start a zero tolerance campaign on gender violence which results in no gender violence in schools by 2009;
Gender balance in all decision-making structures by 2015;
Remove all gender stereotyping from the media by 2020;
Establish a Women's Rights Commission under the SADC Secretariat and Gender Unit by 2007.



A pan-African perspective

NEW AFRICAN covers a range of issues relevant to all regions of Africa, and packages its monthly publication with a topical cover and user-friendly design. There is a quick access, illustrated contents page that shows how to find the latest issues "Around Africa" or "The Arts" or in-depth background features. Columns are well written, direct and relevant, and there are unique sections not to be found in other magazines that cover history "Tales from the Archives" and the "Diaspora". Cover stories are dynamic and topical and range from the G8 and Africa, to development issues, to justice and leadership, and African history. *New African* describes itself as "the best-selling pan-African magazine" and aims to present a pan-African perspective.

African Business says it is "Africa's number one business magazine" and is a must-read for anyone doing business on the continent. Recent cover stories focused on the WTO meeting under the headline "Africa battles for trade justice", a recent edition that also carried a Special country report on Botswana. Other recent in-depth cover articles focused on the "investment revolution", the "top 200 African companies" and the US-Africa business summit.

New African and *African Business* were founded in 1966, but have been given a lively makeover and facelift by their current editors, respectively, Baffour Ankomah and Anver Versi. Both magazines are published by IC Publications, icpub@africa-sia.com Website www.africasia.com

2005 Regional Directory SADC Land and Water Management Applied Research Programme

VAST AREAS of southern Africa are arid or semi-arid, difficult circumstances for rain-fed agriculture on which most of the region's population depends. In order to cope with these environmental constraints, a wide range of technologies have been developed over time in the SADC region with enormous human and financial resources. These technologies address challenges such as soil degradation, water-harvesting, tillage and cropping systems, and stress-tolerant crop varieties.

This directory is an attempt to put together available information activities pertaining to land and water management in the SADC region so that stakeholders may have access to this informa-

tion. It provides contacts for key organizations and practitioners in 10 member states which fall within the arid and semi-arid zones, to facilitate access as well as exchange of ideas and technologies. The directory does not cover Angola, DRC, Madagascar and Mauritius.

In the Preface to the directory published by the SADC secretariat, the Director of the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Directorate (FANR), Margaret Nyirenda, says it is "an excellent resource for use by regional stakeholders interested in constraints and opportunities associated with food security in the SADC region and concomitant challenges in land and water management." www.sadc.int

PUBLICATIONS

Development Effectiveness in Africa: Promise and Performance, Applying Mutual Accountability

73pp.
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, UN Economic Commission for Africa, 2005
A report prepared at the request of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee. The report collects the key commitments made by African nations collectively and by OECD countries in the context of relevant international fora and key G8 processes regarding Africa. Available from UNECA, P.O Box 3001 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. E-mail ecainfo@uneca.org. Website www.uneca.org.

State Recognition of Traditional Authority in Mozambique: The Nexus of Community Representation and State Assistance

By Buur, L and Kyed, H.M
Uppsala, Sweden, The Nordic Africa Institute, 2005
31pp.
This discussion paper addresses some fundamental questions pertaining to the 2002 official recognition of traditional leaders as community authorities. After a brief history of the changing role of, and faith in, traditional authorities as a basis for understanding the importance of their recent official recognition, the paper outlines the key objectives of the Decree 15/2000 that officially recognises community authorities. Some of the key concepts underpinning the Decree are then critically assessed. Available in print and electronic format from Uppsala, The Nordic Africa Institute. E-mail nai@nai.uu.se Website www.nai.uu.se

Brothers from the West: Solidarity in the Netherlands with Mozambique 1962 - 2005

71pp.
Maputo, Mozambique, Historical Archive of Mozambique, 2005
A look at Netherlands' support to the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique (FRELIMO) during the liberation struggle from Portuguese colonialism, and after Mozambique's independence in 1975. Available from Arquivo Histórico de Mozambique, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Avenida Filipe Samuel Magaia no. 715, R/C, C. P. 2033, Maputo, Mozambique. E-mail jneves@zebra.uem.mz Website www.ahm.uem.mz

Gender Mainstreaming in SADC: How Far Are We? How Far To Go?

by Rusimbi, J. M
21pp.
Gaborone, Botswana, SADC Secretariat, 2005
The paper was prepared for a Regional Consultative Conference on Gender and Development held in Gaborone 6-9 December 2005. The paper aims at providing a regional overview on the implementation status of gender mainstreaming strategy adopted to achieve gender equality in the SADC countries in the 1990s. In this respect, an attempt is made to highlight the progress achieved so far as well as to expose the existing disparities and impending challenges. Emphasis is placed on identifying key emerging gender issues, as well as opportunities in the light of the current socio-economic and political developments in the region. Available from SADC Secretariat, P. Bag 0095, Gaborone, Botswana. E-mail registry@sadc.int Website www.sadc.int



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EVENTS DIARY 2006

February
20-24 Botswana

SADC Council of Ministers

Ministers from each member state sit in Council, usually from the ministries of foreign affairs, economic development, planning or finance. The Council is responsible for supervising and monitoring the functions and development of SADC, and ensuring that policies are properly implemented, as well as making recommendations to Summit.

TBA Botswana

Water Strategy Reference Group Meeting

Donors and cooperating partners will meet to review progress on implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management and Development. The meeting will be chaired jointly by SADC and UNDP as the partner responsible for coordination of the programme's other donors.

March
1-3 South Africa

ICTs for Civil Society

Organised by the Southern Africa NGO Network, the conference will focus on new information and communications technology (ICT) services and applications relevant to the work of civil society organisations in southern Africa.

8 Global

International Women's Day

This is an occasion to reflect on progress made so far in advancing women's rights, to call for change and celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women who have contributed to the development of women's rights.

14-18 Ghana

Global Summit on HIV and AIDS, Traditional Medicine and Indigenous Knowledge

Attended by medical practitioners and traditional healers, the summit is based on the premise that traditional knowledge should be given prominence in the contemporary education system so that socio-cultural values are preserved and sharing of information is encouraged among knowledge providers.

16-22 Mexico

4th World Water Forum

An initiative of the World Water Council, the forum is aimed at raising awareness on water issues around the world. The international event will enable stakeholder participation and dialogue to influence water policy development at a global level. The theme is "Local Actions for a Global Challenge".

April
2-5 South Africa

World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion

The focus of the 8th conference is how injury and safety information can be translated into the creation of concrete injury prevention policies and practices. Injury and safety researchers, practitioners and decision-makers will attend the conference, with the theme: "Data to Action".

26-27 Namibia

SADC Consultative Conference

The 2006 Consultative Conference is aimed at marketing the plans that provides direction for SADC programmes, the 15-year Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Strategic Indicative Plan of the Organ (SIPO) on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation. Focus of the conference is on mobilisation of resources for implementation of the plans, and the formulation of a new agreement between SADC and International Cooperating Partners (ICPs). The ICPs will have the opportunity to exchange ideas on strategies and common approaches in enhancing development assistance to SADC in the implementation of the RISDP and SIPO. SADC governments and ICPs have been invited to attend at ministerial level, as well as leaders in the non-government sector and the private sector. The theme is "Partnership for the Implementation of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan and the Strategic Indicative Plan of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security".

35 years Lumumba 1961

The Pan-Africanists

by Dudley Thompson

PATRICE LUMUMBA was one of Africa's most promising young leaders. ...he was a moving force behind his country's independence. But his ideas of national self-determination and social equality earned him many powerful enemies and he paid for his bravery with his life.

Lumumba was born on 2 July 1925 in Katakombi, in the Congolese province of Kasai. Educated at a mission school, he was an intelligent child who seemed destined to leave his humble background behind him. After leaving school, he had several jobs working as a nurse's assistant, a postal clerk and a volunteer librarian. All these experiences brought him into direct contact with poor people in the countryside and he gradually learned a great deal about their problems and hopes. ...

The copper wealth may have made a handful of mining companies very wealthy, but it did almost nothing for the real majority of Congolese, who lived in extreme poverty in small villages or in the capital Kinshasa. ... Against this background, the young Lumumba... won a reputation as a confident organizer and an inspiring orator, talking to large crowds about his vision for the future.

This future involved what were essentially modest demands, but they seemed almost revolutionary in colonial Congo. He called for improved salaries for public workers, better conditions for farmers, government investment in housing and education and a new relationship between Belgium and the Congo. ...

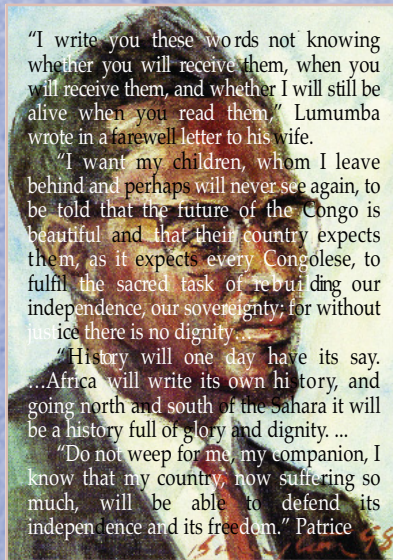
Most importantly, he rejected the old tribal and regional divisions and spoke of a united country. ...

In October 1958, he formed his own political party, the National Congolese Movement (MNC). ...

In the following December, Lumumba addressed the Pan-African Conference in Accra, Ghana.

In 1960, Belgium agreed to Congolese independence after elections had brought the MNC to power as the largest party in a coalition government. Lumumba was named prime minister.

"His speech on independence day, 30 June 1960, sealed his fate. ...He was assassinated on 17 January 1961, age 35.



Portrait of Patrice Lumumba (1925-1961), first Prime Minister of The Congo, by Jamaican artist Barrington Watson. The picture and the article above are from *The Pan-Africanists*, published by Ian Randle Publishers and SARDC, 2000.

John Chilembwe opposed a cross-border war

EVERY YEAR on 15 January, Malawi honours Rev. John Chilembwe, the country's first nationalist who fought against colonialism in the then British Nyasaland Protectorate.

The day was proclaimed a holiday 80 years after Chilembwe's death.

He was killed in retaliation for a revolt he led from 23 January to 3 February 1915, in protest against forced conscription of Malawians by the British, then at war with Germany during the First World War.

People from Nyasaland were being forced to fight against the Germans in neighbouring Tanganyika, then called German East Africa.

According to local historians, Chilembwe was opposed to the conscription because he did not see any immediate benefit for local people in the war.

Chilembwe is considered a national hero in Malawi. Apart from a public holiday in his honour, local bank notes carry his face, and a number of streets and buildings in Blantyre and Lilongwe are named after him.

Born in the 1860s, Chilembwe rose from a house servant of liberal Christian missionary Joseph Booth to a pastor with college education. He is credited with founding the Providence Industry Mission which developed seven vocational schools.

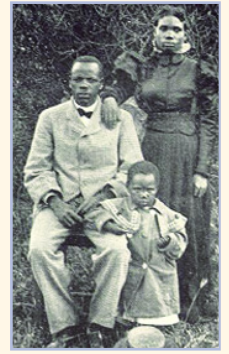
The church, with its headquarters at Mbombwe in Chilembwe's home district of Chiradzulu in the southern region, still stands and has branches in other parts of Malawi.

Chilembwe preached self-reliance, equal rights and nationalism, all considered radical ideas in the early 20th century Africa.

After Malawi gained independence in 1964, a Martyrs Day was declared on 3 March to honour Chilembwe and many others who died in the First World War and the pre-independence struggle. The day is still observed, but Chilembwe also has his own day to be remembered.

He died on or around 4 February 1915 while trying to flee into Portuguese East Africa, now Mozambique.

"We must hunt for his grave and rebury his remains at a heroes' acre. Chilembwe made nationalism and patriotism real and he deserves all the honour," said Akwete Sande, a publisher and ex-diplomat.



Early 20th century family photo, John Chilembwe

Public Holidays in SADC February - April 2006

1 February	Abolition of Slavery	Mauritius
3 February	Heroes' Day	Mozambique
4 February	National Armed Struggle Day	Angola
11 February	Thaiposam Cavadee	Mauritius
26 February	Maha Shivratrie	Mauritius
3 March	Martyrs' Day	Malawi
8 March	International Women's Day	Madagascar, Angola
11 March	Moshoeshoe's Day	Lesotho
12 March	National Day	Mauritius
12 March	Youth Day	Zambia
13 March	Public Holiday	Zambia
21 March	Independence Day	Namibia
21 March	Human Rights Day	South Africa
30 March	Ougadi	Mauritius
29 March	Commemoration of the 1947 Rebellion	Madagascar
4 April	Peace and National Reconciliation Day	Angola
7 April	Women's Day	Mozambique
7 April	Sheik Abed Amani Karume Day	Tanzania
14 April	Good Friday	All except Mauritius, DRC, Mozambique, Madagascar
15 April	Public Holiday	Botswana
15 April	Holy Saturday	Zambia
15 April	Easter Saturday	Zimbabwe
16 April	Easter Day	Namibia
17 April	Easter Monday	All except Mauritius, DRC, Mozambique
17 April	Family Day	South Africa
18 April	Independence Day	Zimbabwe
19 April	King's Birthday	Swaziland
21 April*	Maulid Day	Tanzania
25 April	National Flag Day	Swaziland
26 April	Union Celebrations	Tanzania
27 April	Freedom Day	South Africa

* Depends on visibility of the moon

A shared future within a regional community