

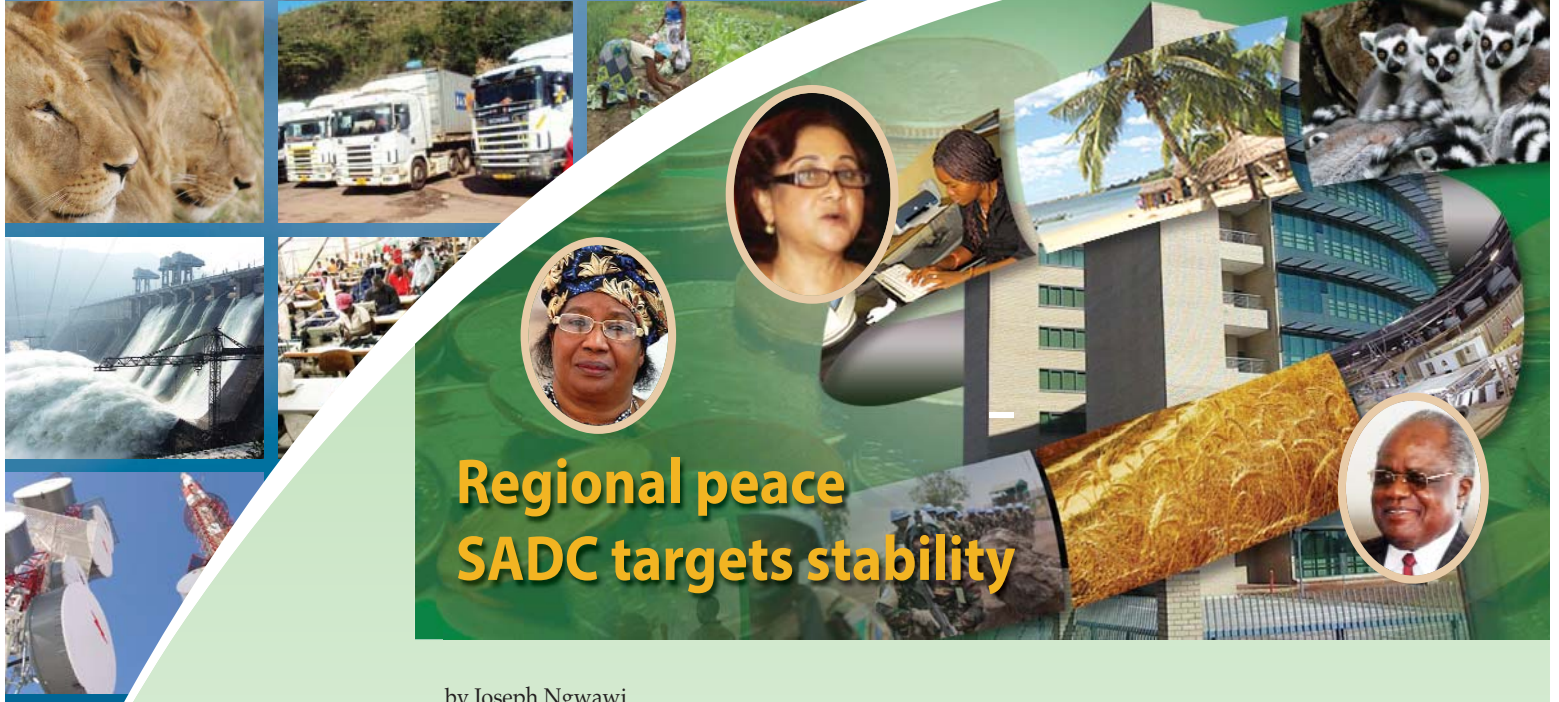
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SOUTHERN AFRICA TODAY



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Regional peace SADC targets stability

by Joseph Ngwawi

THE ANNUAL SADC summit ended in the Malawian capital Lilongwe on 18 August with a unanimous appeal for peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Madagascar while calling for multi-pronged action to fast-track the regional integration agenda.

The 33rd Ordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government called on all Congolese stakeholders to participate in the all-inclusive national consultations in the country to find a lasting political solution.

The summit called for an urgent summit of SADC and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR). DRC is a member to both SADC and ICGLR, and there are currently two parallel processes being undertaken by both bodies to address the political crisis.

DRC slid into political turmoil early last year when anti-government rebels calling themselves the March 23 (M23) movement invaded and captured the city of Goma, causing displacement of people and loss of lives and property.

Summit commended the Kampala Talks between the DRC government and M23 rebels and "noted that the talks have become pro-

tracted and that, at some point, a reasonable deadline should be considered."

The peace negotiations began after leaders from SADC and the ICGLR met in Kampala in November 2012 to seek solutions to the security situation in eastern DRC where M23 rebels have been fighting government forces.

Uganda, which currently holds the ICGLR chair, has hosted the negotiations since December last year. However, the preliminary negotiations have faltered after the two warring sides failed to agree on adoption of rules of procedure and agenda, including issues of ceasefire and general amnesty.

The rebels have threatened to march on Kinshasa, the capital of the vast, mineral-rich country.

Eight SADC Member States have pledged personnel to be deployed in the DRC. These are Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Summit noted with satisfaction the positive developments in Madagascar, especially with regard to the decision by the newly formed Special Electoral Court to withdraw nine candidates from the presidential race.

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Regional peace, SADC targets stability

These candidates include Andry Rajoelina, Lalao Ravalomanana the wife of former President Marc Ravalomanana and former President Didier Ratsiraka, who had ignored a decision by SADC not to participate in the polls.

Rajoelina and former president Marc Ravalomanana – the two main rivals in the Madagascan political landscape – had initially agreed not to stand in the 25 October presidential elections to prevent any repeat of the turmoil that accompanied the 2009 coup.

However, the two have disregarded their agreements, with Rajoelina ignoring a request by SADC not to run in the upcoming elections, but instead filing his nomination papers with the Special Electoral Court.

Ravalomanana has backed his wife, Lalao Ravalomanana, to stand in the forthcoming election.

Madagascar is in a constitutional crisis following the ouster of former President Ravalomanana by Rajoelina in 2009, in a similar method used by Ravalomanana on his predecessor, Ratsiraka, a few years earlier.

“While congratulating the Special Electoral Court for its bold decision, Summit urges the Court to speed up the process of holding elections in the country,” read the Summit communique.

The summit congratulated Zimbabwe for “the holding of free and peaceful harmonized elections,” and reiterated its call for the lifting of all forms of sanctions imposed on the country.

Malawian President Joyce Banda assumed the rotating SADC chair from Mozambican President Armando Guebuza during the summit.

Zimbabwe was elected deputy SADC chair and will

host the next summit in August 2014.

The summit witnessed the appointment of Stergomena Lawrence Tax, permanent secretary of the Ministry of East African Cooperation in Tanzania, as the new SADC Executive Secretary.

She takes over from Tomaz Augusto Salomão of Mozambique who has served two four-year terms.

Banda has set poverty alleviation as the top priority of her tenure as incoming chair of SADC, promising to champion policies and programmes to improve the agricultural and rural sectors.

Noting the linkage between poverty and political stability, she said SADC should redouble efforts to reduce hunger in the region.

Promising to bring SADC “closer to the people”, Banda said she would target ending “the contemporary, deliberate and savage violence of poverty and underdevelopment” during the coming year.

“To win this war ...we must promote inclusive politics. In this, we cannot afford to leave the youth behind. We

cannot afford to leave women behind. We cannot afford to leave the poor to look after the poor,” Banda said in her acceptance speech.

She said agriculture is the backbone of most economies in the region, yet little is being done to support the sector.

“We therefore, need to work harder to help our smallholder and commercial farmers to build, grow and sustain their businesses, to feed ourselves and access new markets beyond our region,” she said, noting that the theme for her tenure is “Agricultural Development and Agro-Industries: Key to Economic Growth and Poverty Eradication.”

Banda promised to push for innovative agricultural policies and programmes in the region such as effective extension services and affordable inputs which have the capacity to promote rural development and boost food security.

She said any policies on agriculture and rural development should be aligned to other regional plans on infrastructure and industrial development as well as gender development.



Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax
New SADC Executive Secretary



Dr Tomaz Augusto Salomão
Former SADC ES

“We sincerely hope that economic policy coordination in the SADC system will be harnessed in order not only to accelerate growth but also to reduce poverty, widen economic opportunities and enhance human development.”

She urged countries to involve all stakeholders, particularly the youth and women in the planning and implementation of regional programmes.

This will involve the revival of SADC National Committees in Member States. The committees, meant to increase the participation of non-state actors in SADC programmes and projects, have not been effective in most countries.

The SADC summit approved a number of decisions that aim to deepen integration and promote socio-economic development.

Southern African leaders expressed commitment to promoting trade and the free movement of persons and goods across the region.

“Summit received a report from the Ministerial Taskforce on Regional Economic Integration outlining progress made on the SADC regional economic integration agenda and reiterated its commitment to the establishment of the Tripartite Free Trade Area,” reads part of the communiqué.

The ministerial task force was mandated by SADC leaders a few years ago to work on a roadmap for the proposed launch of the SADC Customs Union and Tripartite Free Trade Area involving two other regional economic communities.

The proposed Tripartite FTA will cover 26 countries in eastern and southern Africa and will have a combined population of almost 600 million and a total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of about US\$1 trillion. □

SADC on recovery path

SOUTHERN AFRICA continues to recover from the global financial and economic crisis of 2008/09 at a slow but steady pace.

Outgoing SADC Executive Secretary Tomaz Augusto Salomão said the region recorded a growth rate of 4.4 percent in 2012, which is still below the regional target of seven percent per annum.

He observed that this called for radical policy measures by the region and individual Member States aimed at diversifying their economies to mitigate the effects of external shocks and the instability emanating from global markets.

On investment, Salomão revealed that total investment in the region had improved from 25 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2011 to 26 percent of GDP last year.

“However, most of the SADC economies are still reliant on the export of raw materials, hence continuing to be significantly vulnerable to external shocks,” said Salomão during the 33rd Ordinary SADC Summit in Malawi in August. □

SADC approves Industrial Development Policy Framework

IN AN effort to boost socio-economic growth and revive industrialization, SOUTHERN AFRICA has approved an Industrial Development Policy Framework to boost socioeconomic growth and revive industrialization.

The SADC Industrial Development Policy Framework was approved by the SADC Council of Ministers at the 33rd SADC Summit in Lilongwe, Malawi in August.

The policy framework is a product of extensive consultations with the relevant stakeholders, and aims at enhancing productive capacity in the region as well as competitiveness by boosting industrial production.

Industrialization is a critical driver of socio-economic growth and development.

For example, increased industrial production creates job opportunities, improves skills development, and promotes the diversifying of the economy, cushioning Member States against external shocks or instability emanating from the global markets.

"Most of the SADC economies are still reliant on the export of raw materials, hence continuing to be significantly vulnerable to external shocks," the outgoing SADC Executive Secretary Tomaz Salomão said at the SADC Summit.

He noted that this called for policy measures by the region and individual Member States to address such challenges.

"It is in this context that the SADC Council of Ministers approved the SADC Industrial Development Policy Framework as an important

tool to address these challenges in an innovative and programmatic manner," said Salomão.

The approval of the policy framework is crucial for southern Africa in light of the imminence of the Tripartite Free Trade (FTA) agreement involving two other regional economic community, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the East African Community (EAC).

COMESA-EAC-SADC aims to establish an enlarged market covering 26 countries in eastern and southern Africa.

While this development will create an integrated market with a combined population of almost 600 million people and a total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of about US\$1 trillion, less developed nations will be disadvantaged by such an arrangement since they will not be able to compete with the more industrialized economies in the region.

As a result, for southern Africa to fully benefit from such an arrangement there is need for the region to improve the capacity of its industry so that Member States become competitive in the envisaged large market.

The SADC Industrial Development Policy Framework will, therefore, assist Member States to diversify their economies and not only rely on raw materials.

In the long-run, the policy framework seeks to harmonize all national industrialization policies with the regional one in order to promote proper coordination and cooperation.

In addition, the SADC Industrial Development Policy Framework provides for improving standards, technical regulations and quality infrastructure; promoting innovation, technology transfer, and research and development activities; and developing mechanisms for appropriate industrial financing.

It also provides for integrating infrastructure and services into the regional in-

dustrialization strategy; supporting small and medium-sized enterprises; attracting local and foreign direct investment (FDI), south-south cooperation and the promotion of exports.

If fully implemented, the SADC Industrial Development Policy Framework has the capacity to promote socioeconomic development in southern as well as deepen integration among Member States. □

Towards mitigating the impact of HIV and AIDS

SADC LEADERS have made a commitment to intensify mobilisation of domestic resources in fighting against HIV and AIDS.

The leaders made this commitment at a HIV and AIDS Africa Watch meeting held on the sidelines of the 33rd SADC Summit in Lilongwe, Malawi in August.

They noted that the pandemic has claimed many lives in the region, affecting socio-economic development.

According to the UNAIDS 2010 Global Report, out of the total number of people living with HIV worldwide in 2009, 34 percent resided in 10 SADC countries. Most are women.

"The summit noted progress in the implementation of the Maseru Declaration of 2003 on combating HIV and AIDS, in particular, the reduction of new infections and decline in HIV and AIDS deaths," read part of the communique released soon after the summit.

"The summit urges Member States to continue intensifying the mobilisation of domestic resources to ensure sustainable financing for scaling up HIV and AIDS interventions."

Pooling of domestic resources could be useful for southern Africa considering that there is dwindling donor funding for HIV and AIDS from traditional and international partners, as funds are now being channeled to other areas such as climate change.

The AIDS Watch Africa initiative is chaired by the African Union Commission chairperson, Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, and is part of the AU efforts to curb the spread of HIV and AIDS.





Dr Stergomena L Tax – the new SADC chief

THE NEW SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax from the United Republic of Tanzania is no stranger to regional integration - the cornerstone of the development agenda for SADC.

Prior to her appointment as executive secretary by the 33rd SADC Summit held in Malawi in August, Tax has been permanent secretary in the Tanzanian Ministry of East African Cooperation since 2008.

During her tenure, she played a crucial role in strengthening intra-regional trade and cooperation among the five partner states of the East African Community.

These are the same duties that she will be expected to perform in her new role at the SADC Secretariat as southern Africa moves towards deeper regional integration.

“My goal is to continue strengthening regional integration and cooperation that has existed in SADC since its formation,” Tax said, adding that her main focus will be on infrastructure development since “this is critical in expanding the market and the growth of the economies of the member states.”

Tax, who becomes the first woman to assume the post of SADC executive secretary, said women are as capable as their male counterparts to perform any duties.

“Wherever I go I look at myself as a human being, an African and embark on my responsibilities,” she said, adding that “performance is key and not gender.”

True to her assertion, a number of women in southern Africa and the rest of the African continent are performing well in key decision-making positions.



From left, Chief Justice A Msoa, President J Banda, Dr S Tax and Dr N Zuma.

These include the first woman president in southern Africa, Joyce Banda of Malawi, also the first woman to become chairperson of SADC.

Among others are the African Union chairperson, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, and the new head of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, both former cabinet ministers in the South African government.

Tax, who is PhD graduate in International Development from the University of Tsukuba in Japan, says southern Africa and the rest of Africa have a lot to gain from partnerships with other emerging economies.

SADC has cordial relations with emerging economies such as the BRICS group comprising Brazil, Russia, India and China, as well as South Africa, which is also a SADC member state.

With respect to the tripartite arrangement involving the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the East African Community (EAC), she said SADC is committed to establishing an enlarged market covering 26 countries in eastern and southern Africa.

“Since SADC has 15 countries, EAC 5, and COMESA 19, the integration will increase the size of consumerism in the re-

gion, which makes up almost 50 percent of the African continent,” said Tax, who is also a former permanent secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Once operational, the integrated market with a combined population of almost 600 million people and a total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of about US\$1 trillion, will boost regional integration through improved investment flows and enhanced competition, transforming eastern and southern Africa into one of the most lucrative regions on the continent.

On the political situation in the region, Tax says peace and stability are critical ingredients for socio-economic growth in southern Africa.

She said it is pleasing to note that there is general stability in the region.

“The political stalemate in Madagascar has been resolved amicably, Zimbabwe held its elections peacefully and the instability in the Democratic Republic of Congo is improving,” she said.

Tax was elected at the SADC Summit ahead of Peter Sinon who is Seychelles Minister for Investment, Natural Resources and Industry.

She has several years of experience in public service, and served as chief executive officer of the Business Environment Strengthening Programme for Tanzania (BEST) that aimed at reforming the business environment in the country.

The programme, under the President's Office, was designed to improve the regulatory framework for business in Tanzania.

In 2006, Tax was appointed deputy permanent secretary at the Ministry of Economic Planning and Empowerment, before becoming permanent secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

She has also worked in the Ministry of Finance as well as the Economic and Social Research Foundation in Tanzania.

Tax takes over from Tomaz Augusto Salomão of Mozambique who has served two four-year terms as SADC executive secretary. □

SADC to appoint deputy ES by October

SADC IS expected to appoint the new deputy Executive Secretary by October.

The appointment of the deputy ES was postponed at the 33rd SADC Summit held in Malawi in August.

The new deputy will replace Angolan engineer João Caholo who has been with the secretariat for two four-year terms. □



Eng. Caholo



Banda takes over SADC chair

by Joseph Ngwawi

MALAWIAN PRESIDENT Joyce Banda is the new SADC chairperson while Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has been elected deputy chair.

Banda took over from President Armando Guebuza of Mozambique who was at the helm of SADC since August 2012.

Therefore, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Mozambique as the current, next and immediate past chairs, make up the SADC Troika.

In her acceptance speech, Banda said she will use her tenure to champion policies and programmes to improve the agricultural and rural sectors as well as bringing SADC "closer to the people".

"To win this war ...we must promote inclusive politics. In this, we cannot afford to leave the youth behind. We cannot afford to leave women behind. We cannot afford to leave the poor to look after the poor," she said.

She noted that agriculture is the backbone of most economies in the region and would, therefore, receive the greatest attention during her tenure as SADC chair.

The theme of her term of office will be "Agricultural Development and Agro-Industries: Key to Economic Growth and Poverty Eradication."

On bringing SADC to the people, the incoming chair promised to strengthen the national SADC machineries by, among other things, involving all stakeholders, particularly the youth and women in the planning and implementation of regional programmes.

Summit also witnessed the election of a new Troika for

the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, with Namibian President Hifikepunye Pohamba taking over the chair from President Jakaya Kikwete who headed the Organ for the past year.

Lesotho Prime Minister, Tom Thabane was elected deputy chair while Kikwete completes the Troika as immediate past chair.

The Organ Troika is responsible for promoting peace and security in the SADC region. It is mandated to steer and provide Member States with direction regarding matters that threaten peace, security and stability in the region.

The Organ is the political arm of SADC, and provides leadership on defence and security issues, as well as mediation initiatives, and observation of elections

under the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections.

The chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Organ are elected for one-year terms on a rotational basis among the Member States.

The Organ's Ministerial Committee is made up of the ministers responsible for foreign affairs, defence, public security and state security from Member States. It meets at least once a year but can meet more often if necessary.

Establishment of the committee has allowed Member States to undertake regular

consultations on matters of mutual interest.

SADC-initiated dialogue in Lesotho and in Zimbabwe, for example, has yielded positive results in resolution of national political disputes, thus helping to maintain stability in the region.

Similar dialogue is ongoing for Madagascar, which was suspended from membership of SADC following a military takeover in 2009.

The Organ is coordinated at the level of Summit and reports to the SADC chairperson.

The next SADC Ordinary Summit is scheduled for Zimbabwe in August 2014. □

SADC media, school essay winners receive awards

WINNERS OF the 2013 SADC Media Awards were presented with their prizes at the SADC summit in Malawi in August.

The awards were presented in four categories of television, photo journalism, print and radio. The winners were from Malawi, Zambia, Botswana and Mozambique.

Vincent Khonyongwa of the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation won the award for radio broadcasting.

In other categories, Christopher Miti of Zambia Post was awarded best print journalist, Yobe Shonga of Botswana Press Agency got the photo journalism award and Alfredo Simango of Mozambique Television was adjudged the best television reporter in southern Africa.

The winners were presented with their prize money of US\$2,000, certificates and two cellphones each by outgoing SADC chairperson, President Armando Guebuza of Mozambique and the former SADC Executive Secretary, Tomaz Augusto Salomão during the opening session of the 33rd Ordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government.

The winners were selected after adjudicators went through hundreds of entries on developmental cross-border stories published between January and December 2012.

The awards aim to encourage the media to play a leading role in the dissemination of information on SADC and

to recognise the role of journalists in the promotion of regional integration.

There were also presentations for the SADC Secondary Schools Essay Competition won by Tarrens Muradzikwa of Zimbabwe for the second year running.

Oabona Bulang of Botswana won second prize while another Zimbabwean student, Precious Nemutezi, scooped third prize.

The essay competition is an annual event held since 1999. The main objective of the competition is to raise awareness about SADC activities and programmes among the youth in SADC Member States.

It is held nationally, after which the best three national essays compete regionally. □

SADC to finalise proposed regional development fund

by Joseph Ngwawi

SADC IS finalising the modalities of a long-awaited development fund to accelerate the regional integration agenda.

According to a document released ahead of the 33rd Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government taking place in Lilongwe, Malawi, work on the proposed Regional Development Fund has reached an advanced stage despite a few administrative and logistical challenges.

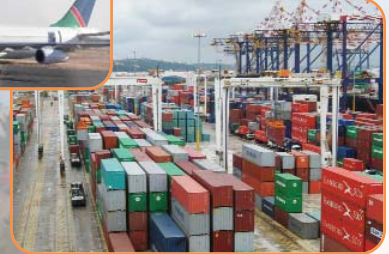
The SADC Regional Development Fund is a financial mechanism intended to mobilize resources from Member States, the private sector and development partners to finance programmes and projects to deepen regional integration.

According to the document, the sticking issues that are delaying implementation of the facility include negotiations on which country would host the Fund as well as staffing issues.

What has been agreed so far is that member states will hold 51 percent of the shares in the facility, against 37 percent for the private sector and 12 percent for International Cooperating Partners (ICPs).

The Fund will have seed capital of US\$1.2 billion, with member states expected to contribute US\$612 million while the private sector will take up US\$444 million of the share capital and US\$144 million will come from ICPs.

Under the proposal, subscription to shares will be made over five years in equal instalments. The first subscription will be due within the first year of the Fund coming into force.



Any shares not subscribed to by the end of the fifth year will be reallocated to other member states on the basis of ability to pay.

"The proposal is to have the first 25 percent of the shares divided equally among member states and members will be obliged to contribute," said Nations Mswoya, spokesperson of the Malawian Ministry of Finance.

The remaining 26 percent will be allocated based on economic ability.

In terms of the administrative structure, the facility will have a board of governors comprising ministers responsible for finance in member states as well as a board of directors tasked with its day-to-day operations.

The board of governors will be the highest decision-making organ for the Fund and will have powers to admit new members, increase or decrease the share capital, amend the statutes governing the facility, as well as appoint directors.

The Fund will have a chief executive officer who will be responsible for the daily running of its operations.

The creation of the facility comes at a time when there

has been concern about the slow pace of implementation of regional programmes and projects, largely due to lack of funds and over-reliance on ICPs for support.

The first priority of the Fund will be infrastructure development and the second priority will be linking infrastructure to overall development.

Progress on the creation of the Regional Development Fund was one of the issues for discussion during the two-day SADC Summit held from 17-18 August.

Other issues included progress in the implementation of a regional infrastructure development programme estimated to cost US\$64 billion over the next five years.

SADC made a strong pitch for its transboundary infrastructure development programme when it hosted its cooperating partners, potential investors and financiers in Mozambique in June.

A chest of 106 cross-border infrastructure projects was showcased during the SADC Infrastructure Investment Conference held in the Mozambican capital Maputo in late June.

The projects, comprising both "hard" and "soft" infrastructure, are contained in the five-year Short-Term Action Plan of the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan approved in August 2012.

The transport sector had the largest number of projects showcased during the conference, with 40 projects valued at about US\$16.3 billion presented to potential investors.

Priority transport infrastructure projects include those targeting the expansion, rehabilitation and modernisation of Durban and Walvis Bay ports; new rail projects and rehabilitation of existing ones; new road links connecting Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo and rehabilitation of others around the region; and introduction of one-stop border posts at Beitbridge between South Africa and Zimbabwe.

A total of 16 energy projects estimated to cost more than US\$12 billion were marketed at the conference, including the flagship ZiZaBoNa transmission line project to be implemented by Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Namibia as well as the proposed Namibia-Angola Interconnector that will connect the latter to the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP). sardc.net □

Food security stable

THE FOOD security situation in southern Africa has remained stable over the past few years owing to good agriculture policies and the generally good rainfall.

According to the latest food security update released by the SADC Food Security Early Warning System, the regional cereal harvest for the 2012/13 season is estimated at 35.11 million metric tonnes.

This represents a marginal 0.2 percent increase from the 35.02 million tonnes harvested during the 2011/12 farming season.

This year's figure is, however, five percent higher than the average regional cereal production recorded for the last five years.

"Compared to the 2012 harvest, all countries, except Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, experienced increases in cereal production," said the food security update.

The region is projected to have a maize surplus of about 326,000 tonnes for the 2013/14 marketing year. Maize is the staple food in most countries in southern Africa.

With regards to other cereals such as sorghum, millet, wheat and rice, the region is facing some deficits due to early season crop failures and bad weather.

"Overall, the region faces an estimated cereal deficit of about 4.01 million for the 2013/14 marketing year," SADC said.

On the other hand, production of non-cereal foods mainly cassava, plantains and sweet potatoes continue to increase as the region diversifies into other crops.

This shift away from what is a clearly drought-vulnerable staple maize crop has helped southern Africa to avert hunger in the face of persistent droughts that have been worsened by the

global financial crisis and the effects of climate change.

The improved yields in southern Africa may be linked to good agricultural policies put in place by member states to boost production and improve food security in the region.

For example, since the adoption of various agricultural commitments such as the Dar es Salaam Declaration on

Agriculture and Food Security in 2004, most SADC Member States continue to record good harvests every year.

These strategies include investing more in improved agricultural inputs such as seeds and fertilizer as well as targeted subsidy programmes that result in farmers accessing agricultural inputs and farm implements at cheaper rates.

Countries such as Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe that have vigorously implemented the input subsidy programmes have seen production rising steadily.

Member states are expected to allocate at least 10 percent of their national budgets to agriculture and rural development to improve food security in the region. □

Normal to above-normal rainfall forecast

CLIMATE EXPERTS in southern Africa have forecast normal to above-normal rainfall in most parts of the region for the 2013/2014 agricultural season.

The 17th Southern Africa Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF 17) that met in Harare, Zimbabwe in August said most parts of the region will receive good rainfall between October 2013 and March 2014.

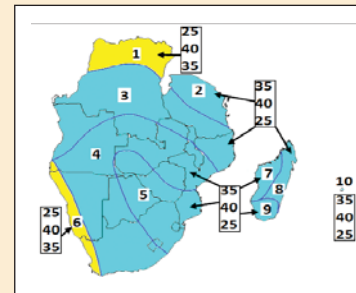
The experts sub-divided the coming rainfall season into four overlapping three-month periods. These are October-November-December (OND), November-December-January (NDJ), and December-January-February (DJF). The other is January-February-March (JFM).

According to predictions, there will be normal to above-normal rainfall in the OND outlook period.

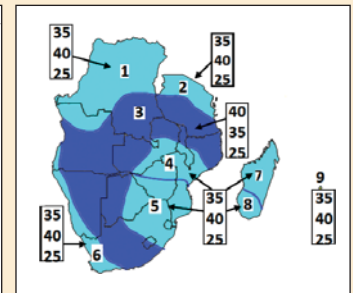
Areas with increased chances of receiving normal to above-normal rainfall include northern, central and southern Mozambique; northern and southern Tanzania; northern and southern Malawi; southern-most and bulk of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); south-western half and northern half of Zimbabwe; extreme south-western, northern-most Zambia.

Similar outlook is forecast for south-eastern and north-western half of Angola; bulk of

Rainfall forecast for October-November-December 2013



Rainfall forecast for January-February-March 2014



Three numbers for each zone indicate probability of rainfall. Top number is probability of rainfall normal-to-above-normal, middle number normal rainfall and bottom number below-normal rainfall.

Namibia; Botswana; northern, central and western South Africa; western parts of Lesotho; Swaziland; western, eastern and southern Madagascar as well as Mauritius.

Normal to below-normal rainfall is forecast for south-western Angola; western coastal areas of Namibia, South Africa and northern DRC.

In the NDJ period, the bulk of the SADC region is likely to receive normal to above-normal rainfall, while the greater part of DRC, northern most and south-western Angola and the western fringes of Namibia and South Africa are likely to receive normal to below-normal rainfall.

The bulk of mainland SADC and the islands states of Madagascar and Mauritius are likely to receive normal to

above-normal rainfall during the DJF period.

However, south-western Angola, most of Namibia, western half of Botswana, most of central and western South Africa and Lesotho are forecast to receive above-normal to normal rainfall while the eastern half of Tanzania is likely to get normal to below-normal rainfall.

For the period January to March 2014, most areas are forecast to have increased chances of normal to above-normal rainfall except for northern Mozambique, most of Angola, Tanzania and Namibia, northern Malawi, northern and western Zambia, southern DRC, western half of Botswana, and central and western South Africa which are expected to get above-normal to normal rainfall. □

THE FUTURE of socio-economic development in SADC lies in part in the ability by the region to find lasting solutions to a shortage of electricity first detected more than a decade ago.

This requires Member States to rise to the challenges of aligning national objectives to the regional common interest as well as setting realistic priorities and targets.

The Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) advised as early as 1999 that demand for power in the SADC region was increasing faster than the growth in generation capacity, warning that the region would face rolling blackouts by 2007 unless immediate action was taken to invest in new generation capacity.

The regional average growth in electricity demand is estimated at about 4.6 percent per annum against a low off-take of projects to boost power generation. This has resulted in load shedding in most SADC countries.

In this issue, *Energy in Southern Africa* looks at what is being done by Member States, SAPP and other bodies involved in the energy sector in SADC to ensure that power generation matches and exceeds demand across the region.

SAPP targets Virtual Power Station

THE SOUTHERN African Power Pool is actively pursuing the concept of a virtual power station as it seeks to augment ongoing efforts to increase electricity generation capacity to beat shortages in the region.

A Virtual Power Station, also known as Virtual Power Plant (VPP), is not a physical power station but makes extensive and sophisticated use of information technology, advanced metering, automated control capabilities, and electricity storage to match short-interval load fluctuations.

The VPP integrates the operation of supply- and-demand-side assets to meet consumer demand for energy services in both the short-and long-term.

The VPP concept also makes use of long-term load reduction achieved through energy efficiency investments, distributed generation, and verified demand response on an equal footing with supply expansion.

SAPP has taken significant steps in establishing a Virtual Power Station, and the various energy efficiency projects and Demand Side Management (DSM) programmes being pursued by the regional power pool are building blocks of this initiative.

Faced with an electricity shortfall of about 8,000 Megawatts (MW), the SAPP has been actively promoting energy efficiency technologies such as the replacement

of incandescent bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) and solar lamps as well as introduction of the solar water heater programme, hot water load control, and the commercial lighting programme.

Switching from traditional light bulbs to CFLs has been an effective programme by SAPP to reduce energy use at home and prevent greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.

Research shows that residential lighting accounts for about 20 percent of the average home electricity bill in the SADC region. However, compared to incandescent bulbs, CFLs have been shown to save up to 80 percent of electricity consumption.

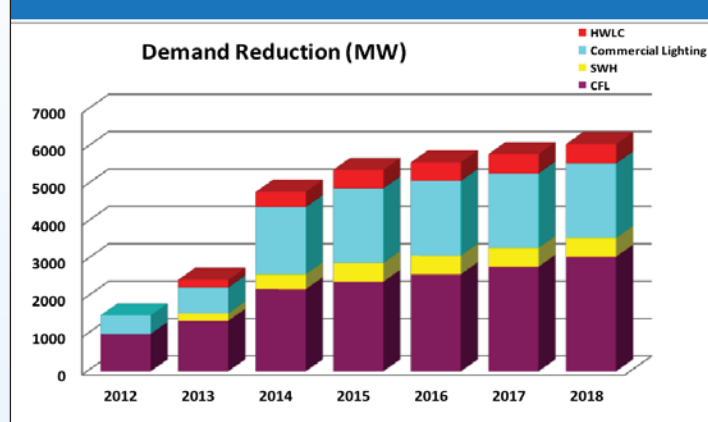
Similarly, the hot water load control programme being pursued by SAPP has enabled consumers to install load-control switches that automatically turn off power during peak periods or when appliances such as geysers have reached maximum demand.

Most SAPP member countries have introduced the CFLs on a large scale. Other forms of energy efficiency and DSM programmes are at various levels of implementation.

According to SAPP figures released to the SADC Energy Thematic Group, the target is to save 2,450MW of power this year using these four energy efficiency and DSM initiatives.



Virtual Power Station - Where is SAPP?



Source: Southern African Power Pool

The power savings are expected to gradually increase to 6,000MW by 2018, by which time the use of incandescent bulbs would be banned in all Member States and a SAPP Energy Efficiency Framework Document would be in place.

A taskforce has been formed to finalise the framework, which is expected to show how the power pool would roll out its energy efficiency programme.

The framework will also define the private sector participation and the role of energy service companies. □

Gas gains popularity in SADC energy mix

ABOUT 30,000 megawatts of electricity will be added to the southern African power grid over the next five years, with gas fast becoming the future of the region's energy matrix.

According to the Southern African Power Pool, a total of 29,375MW of power is expected to come on stream between 2013 and 2018 if all the new generation plants and rehabilitation works are completed on time.

This would increase total installed capacity in southern Africa to more than 80,000MW and ensure energy self-sufficiency in a region that has suf-

fered crippling shortages during the past few years.

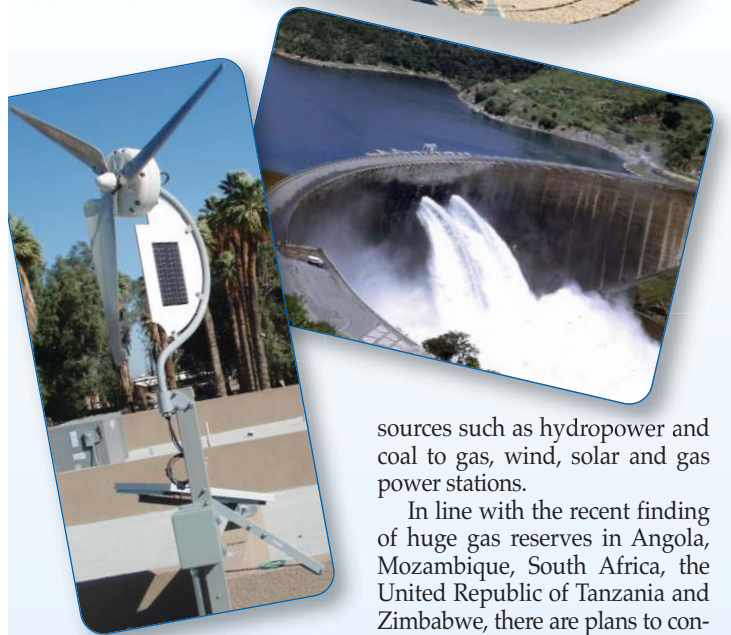
Current installed capacity in the region is estimated at about 57,000MW, of which only 51,000MW is available capacity. Of that amount, just about 49,000MW is available on the interconnected SAPP grid.

According to the plan, South Africa will contribute about 11,862MW of new electricity over the next five years or more than 40 percent of anticipated additional power for the region.

Other significant generation capacity additions are expected to come from the Democratic Repub-



ENERGY AFRICA



lic of Congo, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, which will collectively contribute more than 9,000MW of power to the regional grid.

Hydropower stations are expected to dominate the number of power generation plants planned during the period, with 24 new or rehabilitated plants planned until 2018 compared to 17 coal-fired stations.

At least eight generation and rehabilitation projects are due for commissioning this year, adding a total of 1,210MW of power to the region.

These include the 600MW Morupule B Thermal Station in Botswana, the 50MW independently operated Ndola Energy Power Station in Zambia, and the Inga 1 Hydropower Station in the DRC, which will contribute 55MW when commissioned.

However, a major feature of the new energy matrix is the gradual shift from the traditional energy

sources such as hydropower and coal to gas, wind, solar and gas power stations.

In line with the recent finding of huge gas reserves in Angola, Mozambique, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe, there are plans to construct 16 gas-fired power stations with a capacity of producing more than 4,000MW by 2018.

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

New offshore natural gas finds in the two countries have been touted as a "game changer" for the southern African region. The amount of gas discovered in Mozambique alone is said to be enough to meet an entire year's gas consumption by the US which requires about 30 trillion cubic feet per annum.

At least seven gas-powered stations are planned by state utilities and independent producers in Tanzania between 2013 and 2016, producing a total of 1,080MW.

Other significant gas plants are planned for South Africa (2,050MW), Angola (700MW), Zimbabwe (300MW) and Mozambique (150MW). □

Cost-reflective tariffs target unachievable

SADC MEMBER States are unlikely to meet the 31 December deadline for migrating to cost-reflective electricity tariffs due to challenges in raising local tariffs too fast in relations to consumer income and inflationary impacts.

SADC Energy Ministers adopted the principle of cost-reflective tariffs as far back as 2004 and that decision was reaffirmed in April 2007.

In 2008, meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, the SADC Council of Ministers approved the migration towards full cost recovery within five years, setting a deadline of 31 December 2013. Although significant progress has been made by the Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa (RERA) in developing scenarios to make tariffs more viable, most SADC countries are yet to fully adopt the recommendations as various issues still have to be considered, including affordability to low-income consumers.

"It is observable that no SADC Member State would comply with the SADC Council to reach full cost recovery tariffs by end of 2013," RERA Chairperson Phindile Baleni told the SADC Energy Thematic Group in Botswana in September.

Existing SADC energy tariffs do not provide sufficient profit for new investment and incen-

tive for energy conservation, efficiency and substitution practices by consumers.

According to Baleni, only four SADC Member States have tariffs "that are able to provide the right signals for new investment and efficient use of electricity." These are Madagascar, Seychelles, Swaziland and Zambia.

However, none of these countries are likely to attain cost-reflective tariffs before 2016 due to a number of factors, including the low-income population of the region and the need for strategies that promote energy access and pro-poor tariffs.

A survey conducted by RERA with support from the Southern Africa Global Competitiveness Hub (USAID Trade Hub) in 2009 showed that the region's energy sector is not self-sustaining.

Electricity tariffs within the SADC region range from 2.7 US cents per kilowatt hour to 12.5 USc/kWh.

A delicate balancing act is needed to ensure that any new viable tariffs introduced do not exclude the vulnerable communities or industries in the region.

This calls for regional policies that allow for minimum level of supply while guaranteeing electrification support mechanisms for poorer communities and emerging businesses. □

New generation capacity 2013-2016

Country	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Angola	-	715	550	2415	-	-	3 680
Botswana	600	-	-	-	300	-	900
DRC	55	-	580	-	240	1 620	2 495
Lesotho	-	25	40	110	-	800	975
Malawi	64	-	-	-	300	100	464
Mozambique	-	150	40	300	300	-	790
Namibia	-	60	-	-	800	500	1 360
South Africa	201	3 105	2 543	1 322	3 368	1 323	11 862
Swaziland	-	-	-	-	-	300	300
Tanzania	60	160	500	1 110	500	-	2 330
Zambia	230	315	600	164	-	830	2 139
Zimbabwe	-	-	20	-	1 290	770	2 080
TOTAL	1 210	4 530	4 873	5 421	7 098	6 243	29 375

Source: Southern African Power Pool

Mixed performance in SADC 50:50 gender parity target

by Joseph Ngwawi

SOUTHERN AFRICA has experienced mixed performance in terms of facilitating gender parity in political decision-making positions, and more action is needed if the region is to attain the target of 50:50 representation by 2015.

According to the *SADC Gender Monitor 2013* released during the 33rd summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) held in Malawi in August, performance in promoting participation of women in decision-making structures has been mixed across the region, with some countries doing well and others not.

The publication shows that representation of women in the Lower House of Parliament ranges from more than 40 percent in Seychelles and South Africa to around 10 percent in Botswana and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

It notes a worrying development that some countries that have held elections since 2009 have regressed in terms of representation by women in parliament.

"There is still a lot that needs to be done in terms of promoting the representation and par-

ticipation of women in decision-making structures in the region, including the adoption of deliberate measures such as affirmative action," said Magdeline Mathiba-Madibela, head of the SADC Gender Unit.

According to the report, women are under-represented at all levels of decision-making in the public and private sectors – in cabinets, parliaments, local government leadership, central government, central committees of political parties, private sector boards and management, and non-government sectors, special public service committees and other institutions in SADC member states.

Average representation of women in parliament was 25.8 percent as of mid-2013, marginally up from 20.6 percent in 2005 and 23 percent in 2011, but still short of the 50 percent target agreed under the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development signed in 2008.

With the 2015 deadline approaching for gender parity in decision-making structures, only five SADC countries are significantly close to the target of parity in parliament, having gone above the 30-percent threshold set previously by regional leaders for representation of women.

These are Seychelles at 43.8 percent representation of women as of 2012, South Africa (42.3 percent), Mozambique (39.2 percent), Tanzania (36 percent) and Angola (34.1 percent).



The Head of SADC Gender Unit, Magdeline Mathiba-Madibela with Malawi's Principal Secretary for Gender, Dr Mary Shawa at launch of *SADC Gender Monitor 2013* at SADC Summit in Malawi.

Zimbabwe, which had elections in July 2013, now has 31.5 percent representation in the National Assembly.

The majority of these countries are ranked among the top 20 in the world with the highest number of women in parliament.

According to the report, Seychelles is the second ranked country in Africa after Rwanda and fifth in the Inter-Parliamentary Union global rankings, followed by South Africa in eighth position.

In terms of representation of women in cabinet, only South Africa has surpassed the previous 30-percent target, but more women in the region now hold a wider range of ministerial portfolios such as foreign affairs, home affairs, defence, finance, education, health, and trade and industry.

The publication focuses on Part Three of the Protocol on Gender and Development that focuses on Governance, and specifically on Article 12 on Representation and Article 13 on Participation.

A trend and situational analysis at regional and national levels as well as comparative analysis is used to locate the participation of women in national and local governance structures such as parliaments, cabinet, judiciary,

the security sector and institutions of higher learning.

Gaps and opportunities are identified for the promotion of increased participation leading to equal representation of women in decision-making in both public and private sectors while lessons learned and effective practices are drawn from east and southern Africa as well as from outside Africa.

Gender equality is firmly rooted in SADC's regional integration agenda and member states support the fundamental principle that both women and men must be equally engaged in decision-making at all levels and in all positions of leadership.

Most countries in the region now recognise that gender equality and the empowerment of women are crucial for the attainment of sustainable democracy.

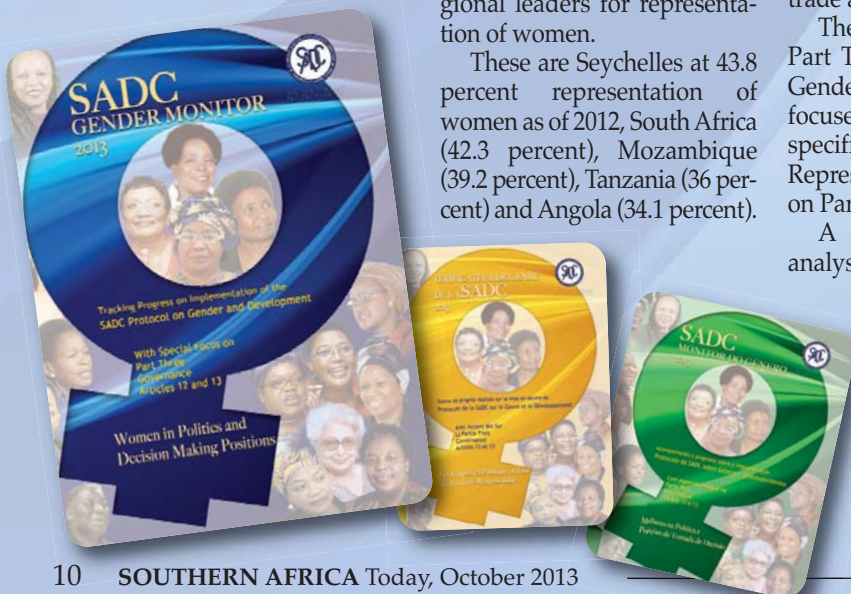
This is reflected in the constitutions of most SADC countries that provide legal frameworks for non-discrimination on the basis of gender differences.

A few countries have also legislated affirmative action and quota systems that guarantee the participation and representation of women in political and other decision-making positions.

However, implementation of these measures remains a challenge.

The report, jointly published by SADC and the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre, cites several challenges faced by countries in terms of promoting gender parity.

The challenges range from patriarchy, cultural and social to economic and political factors that make it difficult for women to climb to the top echelons of political and decision-making positions at all levels. sardc.net □



UNWTO Summit SADC calls for free movement of people

by Kizito Sikuka

A **UNIVERSAL** visa for southern Africa was one of the topical issues for discussion during the global tourism summit jointly hosted by Zambia and Zimbabwe in late August.

Movement toward a UNIVISA for the SADC region got a new impetus during the 20th General Assembly of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) jointly held in Livingstone, Zambia and Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, amid calls to open up borders in the region as a way of boosting tourism.

Such a system would allow tourists and travellers to move smoothly and quickly across borders between Member States, and also encourage them to visit more than one country in the region.

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

SADC chairperson, President Joyce Banda of Malawi, told UNWTO General Assembly that southern Africa could increase its share of the global tourism cake if it puts in place conditions that make it easy to travel in the region.

She said most tourists and travellers to the region continue to face unnecessary barriers, which include complicated visa application processes.

"Visa facilitation has the potential to enhance regional integration, intra-regional trade and easy movement of capital and people between



Presidents Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Michael Sata of Zambia.

countries and regions," she said.

President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and his Zambian counterpart, President Michael Sata, made a commitment to use tourism to drive economic growth and called for SADC countries to open up their borders through the introduction of regional UNIVISA.

In the run-up to the global tourism event, the two countries agreed on an open border system and scrapped visa fees for delegates to the event.

"The current situation where Africa only has a four percent share of global tourism revenue in spite of its

massive natural and cultural tourism resources is a matter of great concern to us," Mugabe said.

He noted that for Africa to increase its portion of the global tourism cake there is need "to evolve strategies that effectively lure tourists to the continent."

"The type of seamless border between Livingstone town and Victoria Falls town that has been put in place for purposes of this conference should become the rule rather than the exception for all adjacent touristic border communities throughout SADC and ultimately throughout Africa."

SADC hails Zambia, Zimbabwe

SADC HAS congratulated Zambia and Zimbabwe for hosting a successful global tourism summit in late August.

Describing it as "a regional achievement", SADC chairperson and Malawian President Joyce Banda said the 20th Session of the UNWTO General Assembly will help to boost tourism in the region.

"The co-hosting of this event by Zimbabwe and Zambia is an honour for SADC," she said, adding that it comes at a right time when "the region has identified tourism as a pillar for economic development and empowerment of our communities."

This was the third time the event has been held in Africa after Egypt and Senegal in 1995 and 2005, respectively. □



President Sata concurred, saying stringent travel conditions were hindering the development of tourism in the region.

"We need to learn from this and remove travel impediments in the region," he said, adding that as a region, "we must look at attracting more tourist arrivals and this can only be done by easing travels."

The SADC UNIVISA system, which has been on the cards for a long time, is expected to be modelled along similar lines to the Schengen visa that allows free movement of travellers across the European Union.

When fully implemented a single visa for SADC has the capacity to considerably improve travel and flow of visitors to and within the region.

Southern Africa has a range of unique attractions, including the Victoria Falls (*Mosi-oa-Tunya*) between Zambia and Zimbabwe, and the San rock paintings in Botswana and other countries, as well as the absorbing wildlife population in the region.

According to a recent UNWTO Tourism Barometer, SADC's market share for tourist receipts to Africa has consistently been above 40 percent, with tourist arrivals and tourist receipts having increased from US\$5.6 billion in 2000 to US\$14.5 billion in 2008.

Other key issues that emerged from the summit, held 24-29 August and attended by more than 2,000 delegates, include the need to coordinate the marketing of attractions in the region, and develop comfortable and reliable transport connections. □



Presidential elections could set Madagascar on the road to recovery

MADAGASCAR WILL hold presidential elections on 25 October, allowing the country a fresh start after more than four years of constitutional crisis.

Interim President Andry Rajoelina and former president Marc Ravalomanana – the two main rivals in the Malagasy political landscape together with Lalao Ravalomanana, the wife of Ravalomanana, and ex-president, Didier Ratsiraka – will not take part in the landmark elections.

This decision was reached by the newly appointed Special Electoral Court to prevent any repeat of the turmoil that accompanied the 2009 coup, when Rajoelina seized power from Ravalomanana with the backing of the military in a similar method to that used by Ravalomanana to oust his predecessor, Ratsiraka.

The decision by the court to withdraw the candidature of these politicians from the elections was welcomed by SADC, African Union and United Nations.

At least 33 candidates will take part in the elections, accord-



Presidential candidates in Madagascar's forthcoming elections include, from left Pierre Rajaonarivelo, Hajo Andrianainarivelo, Hery Rajaonarimampianina and Tabera Randriamanantsoa.

ing to a list issued by the Special Electoral Court.

These include four members of the interim government who are Pierre Rajaonarivelo (Foreign Minister), Hajo Andrianainarivelo (Development and Land Reforms Minister), Hery Rajaonarimampianina (Finance Minister) and Tabera Andriamanantsoa (Public Function Minister).

According to the electoral laws of Madagascar, a run-off should be held at least one month after the polls in the event there is no outright winner during the first round.

The elections, initially set for May, have been postponed three times due to various challenges, including the refusal by the main rivals to stand down.

SADC and the African Union have deployed observer mis-

sions in Madagascar for the presidential election. The SADC Election Observer Mission (SEOM) is headed by Hon. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Namibia.

The new SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, issued a statement on the launch of SEOM, describing the election as a "milestone" and congratulating all political parties who are party to the electoral Roadmap.

The SEOM is guided by the provisions and requirements of the Madagascar Constitution, as well as the SADC Treaty, the SADC Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, and the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections.

Traditionally, SADC observation is undertaken in three phases: the pre-election period, election day, and post-election phases.

The holding of elections in Madagascar is expected to allow the country to forge ahead with its developmental

agenda since the constitutional crisis has affected socio-economic development as well as peace and stability in the island nation. □

Zimbabwe's electoral process hailed

SOUTHERN AFRICAN observers and others have endorsed harmonized elections held in Zimbabwe as free, credible and a true reflection of the will of the people, effectively quashing vote-rigging claims by the opposition regarding the 31 July poll.

"While agreeing that there were issues such as the delay of voters' roll and media polarisation, there were so many other elements that when put together elevated the election to a credible status," said Bernard Membe, head of the SADC Election Observer Mission (SEOM).

Membe, who is the Tanzanian Foreign Minister, called on the Zimbabwean opposition to embrace the results and start preparing for the next elections scheduled for 2018.

This was echoed by other observer missions including the African Union, and later by the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon and many other world leaders.

The opposition Movement for Democratic Change formation led by the ex-Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai has refused to accept the outcome of the elections won by President Robert Mugabe's ZANU PF.

Mugabe gained more than 61 percent of the vote in the presidential election against 34 percent for Tsvangirai.

Mugabe sworn in on 22 August as president for another five-year term at a ceremony attended by several African leaders and envoys from around the world. The new cabinet was announced on 10 September. □



Madagascar's capital, Antananarivo

SADC endorses parliamentary elections in Swaziland

SADC HAS endorsed the parliamentary elections held on 20 September in Swaziland as "orderly and peaceful."

Head of the 24-member SADC Election Observer Mission (SEOM), Dr Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, who is the Namibian Foreign Affairs Minister, called on all candidates to respect the will of the people.

Swaziland's system of government is based on its own

Tinkhundla system of democracy. *Inkhundla* or *Tinkhundla* is a Swazi name for a constituency.

Under this system, candidates in the parliamentary election are shortlisted in their chiefdoms, and a total of 55 parliamentarians are elected through this process.

King Mswati III nominates a further 10, bringing the total number to 65.

Members of the 30-member Senate are also appointed with the King appointing 20, while the remaining 10 are selected by the House of Assembly. The Prime Minister is appointed by the King. Twelve seats in the Senate have been held by women since 2007, a representation of 40 percent.

In all these processes, participation is by an individual, not by political parties. □



SADC calls for withdrawal of Rwandan forces from DRC border

SADC HAS expressed concern at the deployment of Rwandan troops along the common border with the Democratic Republic of Congo, warning that the manoeuvres by Kigali could endanger the fragile political situation in eastern DRC.

The SADC Troika of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation that met in the Namibian capital, Windhoek in September said Rwanda should withdraw its troops from the border with DRC where rebels are fighting the government.

"Summit expressed concern at the deployment of Rwandan

troops along the common border with the DRC and also expressed the hope that Rwanda is not contemplating to invade the DRC for that will complicate the already delicate situation," read part of the communiqué issued after the Troika meeting.

Rwanda deployed hundreds of troops along its border with DRC in late August claiming this was "in response to the deliberate and intensified bombardment of Rwanda territory by the Congolese military."

"We have remained restrained for as long as we can but this provocation can no

longer be tolerated," a Rwandan foreign ministry spokesperson said at the time.

She accused DRC forces of deliberately targeting Rwandan civilians, adding that Kigali had repeatedly urged Kinshasa to stop attacks on its territory "but instead violations have increased in frequency and intensity", necessitating the deployment.

However, the SADC Organ summit called for restraint and urged Rwanda to withdraw its troops from the border area to give peace a chance.

The meeting commended the progress made in the deployment of an international intervention brigade in eastern DRC under the auspices of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and further thanked Malawi, Tanzania and South Africa for deploying their soldiers to the brigade.

The summit praised MONUSCO and the Congolese army for "continuing to exert military pressure on M23 and other negative forces in eastern DRC to ensure that they stop war."

DRC slid into political turmoil early last year when anti-government rebels calling themselves the March 23 (M23) movement invaded and captured the city of Goma, causing displacement of people and loss of lives and property.

Summit appealed to DRC neighbours in the Interna-



tional Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) to "contribute to peace, security and stability" in the country and to increase humanitarian assistance to alleviate suffering in the east of the country.

The SADC Organ welcomed the Declaration of the Kampala Extraordinary Summit of the ICGLR Heads of State and Government on 5 September, especially on the call for the resumption of talks between the DRC government and the M23.

It was resolved that SADC Secretariat urgently consults with the ICGLR Secretariat to prepare for a joint SADC/ICGLR Summit to take place as soon as possible.

The SADC Troika meeting was chaired by President Hifikepunye Pohamba of Namibia and attended by Prime Minister Thomas Thabane of Lesotho and President Jakaya Kikwete of the United Republic of Tanzania, as well as the current SADC chairperson, President Joyce Banda of Malawi.

The meeting was also attended by DRC President Joseph Kabila, SADC Executive Secretary Stergomena Lawrence Tax, and South African Foreign Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane. □

AU lifts sanctions on Madagascar

THE AFRICAN Union has lifted sanctions against Malagasy President Andry Rajoelina and his supporters, imposed three years ago to encourage negotiations after he seized power in a coup.

The ending of sanctions, imposed in March 2010 exactly one year after Rajoelina took power with the help of the army, came as Madagascar moved towards the much-delayed presidential elections scheduled for 25 October.

The elections are designed to end the country's long-running political crisis.

AU Peace and Security Commissioner, Ramtane Lamamra, said in September that the AU was "immediately" lifting the targeted sanctions against a list of 109 individuals, including Rajoelina.

He said the sanctions, which included an asset freeze, were lifted because Madagascar was heading in

the right direction to potentially hold credible elections on October 25.

"There is a complete change of circumstances, because now the electoral process is very much on track and these personalities, including the president himself, have played a most active role," Lamamra said.

Madagascar has been suspended from the AU since 2009, but Lamamra said the country would be reinstated as a member after the October elections if they are deemed credible.

"It will remain suspended until the swearing-in of the new president, who will be elected before the end of this year," he said.

Madagascar is set to hold parliamentary elections on December 20, along with a second presidential round if the October vote does not deliver an outright winner. - Sapa □

China-Africa partnership A major force in global development

by Kizito Sikuka

AS THE global socio-economic situation undergoes some profound and intricate changes, blossoming relations between China and Africa have the potential to redefine global development.

China is an emerging economy, willing to forge strategic partnerships with developing economies, while Africa is one of the world's fastest growing regions, increasingly viewed as the next global growth frontier.

In this regard, the increasing common interest and mutual respect between China and Africa presents both sides with numerous opportunities to accelerate their socio-economic cooperation, thus contributing to global development.

Despite the global financial and economic downturn that has affected the world since 2008, trade between China and Africa has remained impressive and rising.

According to a white paper on China-Africa economic and trade cooperation released in August by the Chinese government, trade between Africa and China has increased rapidly from about US\$10 billion in 2000 to more than US\$198 billion in 2012.

This represents a year-on-year growth of 19.3 percent, and of this, about US\$85 billion consisted of China's exports to Africa, with more than US\$113 billion counted by China's imports from Africa. (see graph)

With respect to foreign direct investment, which has declined for Africa since 2008 as traditional partners such as Europe and the United States have cut their investment in response to the global financial crisis, investment from China into Africa has been increasing.

Between 2009 and 2012 alone, China's direct investment in Africa increased from US\$1.44 billion to US\$2.52 billion, with an annual growth rate of 20.5 percent.

"The rapid growth of China's direct investment in Africa is indicative of Africa's development potential and investment appeal, and also points to the mutually beneficial nature of China-Africa cooperation," reads part of the white paper on China-Africa economic and trade cooperation.

More than 2,000 Chinese enterprises have invested in more than 50 African countries in a broad range of sectors such as agriculture, mining, manufacturing, transport and construction.

Under the China-Africa Development Fund established by the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), China agreed to invest US\$2.385 billion in 61 projects in 30 African countries, and has

so far invested US\$1.806 billion for 53 projects.

"According to preliminary statistics, the agreed upon investment projects will bring US\$10 billion worth of investment to Africa, increase local exports by about US\$2 billion annually, and benefit more than 700,000 people," the white paper says.

Other key areas that have seen improved relations and cooperation include agriculture and infrastructure development.

On agriculture, for example, China has helped set up more

than 15 agricultural demonstration centres across the continent, and is planning to establish another seven.

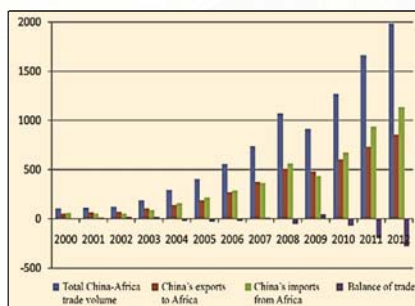
With regard to infrastructure, China has said it will continue to deepen cooperation with Africa in transportation, communications and other infrastructure fields to improve livelihoods; and steadily push forward Sino-African transnational and trans-regional infrastructure construction partnerships.

A number of infrastructure projects in road, rail and ports have been implemented.

China and Africa share cordial relations that date back more than 50 years and Beijing has said "with a spirit of mutual respect and win-win cooperation, China will continue to take concrete measures to build a Sino-African community of shared destinies featuring all-round, diversified and deep cooperation." □



China Africa Trade volume 2000-2012



Unit: US\$ 100 million
Source: White Paper on China-Africa Economic and Trade Cooperation

China-Africa symposium set for October

SCHOLARS FROM Africa and China will meet in October in Zimbabwe to discuss ways in which the two regions can draw lessons from each other.

The China Africa Symposium running under the theme "Fifty Years of China Cooperation: Background, Progress & Significance – African perspectives on China-Africa Relations and the China Development Experience", will be held on 22-25 October in Harare.

Participants are university professors, researchers, officials and policy-makers from Africa and China, and these will include men, women and the youth.

During each session there will be Chinese and African speakers to give perspectives and allow a rich discussion. Some of the topics are:

- China-Africa Relations. Achievements of past 50 years development, and influence


on international relations.

- Experience of China's Development. Policy and governance; economic development including agriculture, industrialisation, trade and infrastructure development; and diplomatic practice.
- Africa's Development Prospects. Perspectives of the relation between China's development and Africa's development; and status quo, current challenges and the future.

The symposium is being co-organized by the Institute for China Africa Studies in Southern Africa (ICASSA) of the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC), and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Zimbabwe. □



Events October – December 2013




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Knowledge for Development

October	
30 September-4 October, Namibia	African Forestry and Wildlife Commission The African Forestry and Wildlife Commission is one of six regional forestry commissions established by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization to provide a policy and technical forum to discuss and address forestry issues on a regional basis.
1-2, Zambia	SADC Multi-Stakeholder Water Dialogue The SADC Multi-Stakeholder Water Dialogue is a region-wide initiative that brings together decision and policy makers across economic and development sectors to engage on the region's development challenges. The 6th Water Dialogue will facilitate a cross-sectoral discussion on the linkages between Water, Energy and Food.
15-17, Zimbabwe	Continental Technical Consultation on Drug-Reduction Measures This is the second continental technical consultation aimed at rolling out the African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013-2017) adopted in 2012.
15-18, Tanzania	Africa Climate Conference 2013 The Africa Climate Conference 2013, convened by the World Climate Research Programme and the African Climate Policy Centre, will bring together stakeholders to identify the state of knowledge on the African climate system, put forward an African agenda for future climate research, and develop a framework for mainstreaming climate change into policy.
22-25, Zimbabwe	China-Africa Symposium The focus of the Symposium is "Fifty Years of China-Africa Cooperation: Background, Progress & Significance – African Perspectives on China-Africa Relations and the China Development Experience". Participants, including scholars, researchers, officials and policy-makers from various African countries and China, will discuss key aspects of the Chinese development experience and possible lessons for Africa. Supported by the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation.
25, Madagascar	Presidential Elections SADC is sending an election observer mission to the long-awaited presidential elections in Madagascar. <i>See page 12.</i>
27-31, Germany	Global Soil Week The 2nd Global Soil Week brings together experts and stakeholders from around the world to discuss the care and management of soil and sustainability of agriculture and food security in a changing climate. Interventions from southern Africa include the Role of Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Sustainable Land Management, by SARDC's environment institute, the I Musokotwane Environment Resource Centre for Southern Africa (IMERCSA).
November	
25, Global	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women The UN General Assembly designated 25 November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and invited governments, international organisations and civil society groups to organise activities to raise public awareness.
25 November-10 December	16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children The 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children is an international campaign. It takes place every year from 25 November to 10 December (International Human Rights Day).
December	
1, Global	World AIDS Day The global theme for World AIDS Day, announced in 2011 and running until 2015, involves three messages: <i>Zero New HIV infections - Zero Discrimination - Zero AIDS-related Deaths</i> . Governments and non-state actors will each year choose one or all of the Zeros that best address their respective situations.

20 years on

Constitution of South Africa

THIS YEAR marks 20 years since the adoption of an interim Constitution that marked the transition to majority rule in South Africa and holding of the first non-racial general elections.

Three years of negotiations led to agreement on an interim Constitution between the apartheid South African government led by the National Party, and the liberation movement, the African National Congress (ANC), plus 18 other parties on 18 November 1993.

The interim Constitution was approved by South Africa's last racially defined Parliament on 22 December 1993 and entered into force on 27 April 1994. It was superseded by the final Constitution on 4 February 1997 as the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

The transitional Constitution provided for an elected Constituent Assembly charged with drafting a permanent constitution within two years.

The Harare Declaration of the Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa of the then Organization of African Unity (OAU) in August 1989 set in motion the democratic transition of South Africa.

The declaration called for equal rights to human dignity and respect in South Africa, regardless of race, colour, sex or creed, and demanded the formation of a political system in which all men and women have the right and duty to participate as equal members of society.

"No individual or group of individuals has any rights to govern others without their consent," the declaration said.

Formal negotiations for a South African transitional Constitution began in December 1991 at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa).

The negotiations broke down a number of times as the parties haggled over various issues, including the process by which such a Constitution would be drawn up and adopted.

The ANC insisted that it should be drawn up by a democratically elected Constituent Assembly, while the governing National Party feared that the rights of minorities would not be protected in such a process, and proposed instead that the Constitution be negotiated by consensus between the parties and then put to a referendum.

The parties agreed on a process whereby a negotiated transitional Constitution would provide for an elected Constitutional Assembly to draw up a permanent Constitution.

Another major point of dispute was the size of the majority that would be required for the assembly to adopt the Constitution, with the National Party insisting on a 75-percent requirement that would effectively give it a veto.

The 1993 Interim Constitution, often described as a "peace treaty" for South Africa, essentially signalled the end of the anti-apartheid conflict and provided the basis for the new Constitution.

With the endorsement of the new Constitution, the leaders of all parties renounced the racist past and embraced a Bill of Rights promising South Africans freedom of speech, movement and political activity and other liberties that in the past were reserved for whites. □



HE Philibert Tsiranana
First President of Madagascar



Madagascar autonomy from France

IT IS 55 years since the historic referendum that ushered in political autonomy for Madagascar after France agreed to allow its "overseas territories" to decide their own fate. In a referendum on 28 September 1958, Madagascar voted for autonomy within the French community, and on 14 October the autonomous Malagasy Republic was proclaimed, with Philibert Tsiranana as head of the provisional government. Tsiranana was elected President of the Republic and was instrumental in obtaining its independence on 26 June 1960. He remained in power until 1972.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN SADC

October-December 2013

4 October	Peace and National Reconciliation Day	Mozambique
4 October	Independence Day	Lesotho
14 October	Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Day	Tanzania
15 October	Mother's Day	Malawi
24 October	Independence Day	Zambia
1 November	All Saints Day	Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles
2 November	Remembrance Day	Angola
11 November	National Independence Day	Angola
1 December	Incwala Day	Swaziland
8 December	Immaculate Conception	Seychelles
9 December	Independence Day	Tanzania
10 December	International Human Rights Day	Namibia
16 December	Day of Reconciliation	South Africa
17 December	Public Holiday	South Africa
22 December	National Unity Day	Zimbabwe
23 December	Public Holiday	Zimbabwe
25 December	Family Day	Angola, Mozambique
	Christmas	All other SADC
26 December	Day of Goodwill	South Africa
	Family Day	Namibia
	Boxing Day	Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zimbabwe