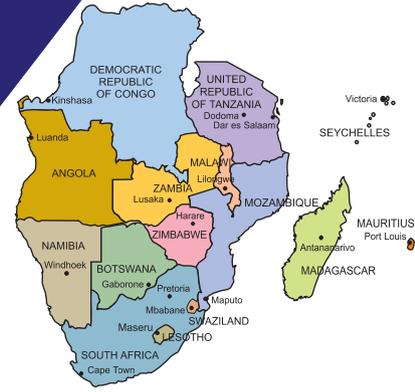




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SOUTH AFRICA TO HOST SADC SUMMIT



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PEACE AND STABILITY REMAIN SADC PRIORITY

Energy on SADC agenda



The Chairperson of SADC, His Majesty King Mswati III (center) flanked by His Excellency the Right Honourable Dr. Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini (left) and the SADC Executive Secretary Her Excellency, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax during the closing ceremony of the Energy Investment Forum in Ezulwini, Swaziland **Stories on page 2 to 5**

37th SADC Summit

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Partnering with the Private Sector in Developing Industry and Regional Value Chains

9 - 20 AUGUST 2017, PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA





Family photo during the Investment Forum closing ceremony

Investment Forum supports energy and water projects

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Chairperson of SADC, His Majesty King Mswati III of the Kingdom of Swaziland has hailed the fruitful discussions and outcomes of the Energy Investment Forum held at Ezulwini, Swaziland on 12-13 July 2017, saying it demonstrates the commitment of stakeholders to sustainable development and economic growth of the SADC region and mankind. His Majesty King Mswati III commended participants and delegates for advancing bankable energy and water infrastructure projects and for coming up with actions to eliminate barriers to the timely implementation of the infrastructure projects in the Region.

The King said the Energy Investment Forum will assist the SADC region in realising its long-term solutions that support the Region's commitment of transforming into an industrial hub.

He said access to potable water and energy remains a challenge in the SADC region, hence the need to invest in energy and water infrastructure in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed by United Nations General Assembly in September 2015, citing SDG 6 on access to safe water, SDG 7 on energy and SDG 9 on

infrastructure development for industrialisation. "Reliable energy supply and availability of clean water are central to economic growth, industrialisation and well-being of the people," said the SADC Chairperson. The King said it was disturbing to note that of the 292 million SADC citizens, about 192 million live without electricity and only 60 percent have access to safe drinking water with only 40 percent having access to adequate sanitation facilities.

He called for timely implementation of the identified energy and water projects in order to facilitate industrialisation and development of other sectors of the economy, and ultimately, the enhancement of people's livelihoods. His Majesty King Mswati III appealed to development partners to support the priority projects on energy and water infrastructure presented at the Forum, saying the support of development Partners will go a long way in the realisation of SADC Goal of access to electricity and water services for all by 2027.

The Executive Secretary of SADC Her Excellency, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax thanked the Chairperson of SADC, His Majesty King Mswati III, for his

vision and leadership in proposing the theme for the 36th SADC Summit "Resource Mobilisation for Investment in Sustainable Energy Infrastructure for an Inclusive SADC Industrialisation and for the Prosperity of the Region". Dr Tax said limited access to electricity in the SADC region presents serious negative implications for productivity and the aspirations of the region to industrialise, saying lack of electricity as a driver of industrialisation negatively affects productive labour, skills and education. "Most children learn in the dark and have reduced hours to study; on health especially for women and children as life-saving vaccines cannot be preserved and birth attendants deliver infants in the dark increasing the risk of complications," said Dr Tax,

Dr Tax added; "In the 21st Century, women are still cooking with fuel wood and charcoal, spending many hours collecting wood and other biomass, thus denying them the valuable time for other productive activities. This happens when Africa and indeed the SADC Region has abundant supply of solar, hydropower, wind and geothermal potential, as well as significant amounts of natural gas and in some countries, coal deposits."

The Energy Investment Forum was attended by project developers, SADC Member States Governments, Development Finance Institutions, International Cooperating Partners, Private Sector and other stakeholders.

Swaziland Prime Minister calls for adequate resources for the energy sectors

By Innocent Mboundula

The Prime Minister of Swaziland, His Excellency the Right Honourable Dr. Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini has opened the 36th Joint Meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Energy and Water, Ezulwini, Swaziland with a call for faster industrialisation as a key to economic development of the SADC Region.

The meeting was aimed at mobilising resources for the energy sector in the region to accelerate industrialization and, ultimately uplift the welfare of SADC citizens.

His Excellency the Right Honourable Dr. Dlamini said investment is needed in Energy and Water infrastructure, noting that the development of the region will not be fully realised without substantial development in Energy and Water Sectors.

“Our existing infrastructures for both power and water do not yet even meet a large proportion of the basic social needs of our respective peoples, let alone satisfying the massive energy and water needs of an industrialised economy of the present day” said the Right Honourable Dr. Dlamini. He added: “That time has arrived, and the objective of the mandate is clear to us all – for more rapid and inclusive industrialization in our region, we need a very substantial amount of new investment in our energy and water infrastructures. Access to electricity in some of our member states is below 20%,”



Family photo



Dr. Tax (left) and Dr. Dlamini at the top table

while only 60% of SADC’s population has access to safe drinking water.” He mentioned. He called on Member States to be committed to facilitate, accelerate and remove barriers that affect the timely signing of Power Purchase Agreements. The SADC Executive Secretary Her Excellency, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax underscored the important role of energy in the social and economic development. “Energy plays a pivotal role in economic growth and development. Energy and

other forms of resources, such as water, are fundamental enablers for industrialisation and improvement in the quality of lives of our people,” said Dr Tax, adding that Energy plays a vital role in the delivery of services in other essential sectors of the economy such as health, food production, education and transport. During the Extraordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government in March 2017, Ministers were motivated and mandated to convene a High-Level Ministerial

Resource Mobilisation Workshop and Regional Investment Conference on Regional Energy Projects. The workshop and investment conference will be held on 12-13 July, 2017 at Royal Swazi Hotel, Ezulwini. The meeting was attended by SADC Ministers responsible for Energy and Water, National and Regional Development Finance Institutions, Senior Executives from the Multi-Lateral Development Banks, International Cooperating Partners, Private Sector and other key strategic partners, including key energy and water sector stakeholders.

SADC, investors to forge greater collaboration on energy infrastructure in the region

The Southern African Development Community (SADC), its development partners and energy investors have agreed to forge closer partnerships to assist in the SADC

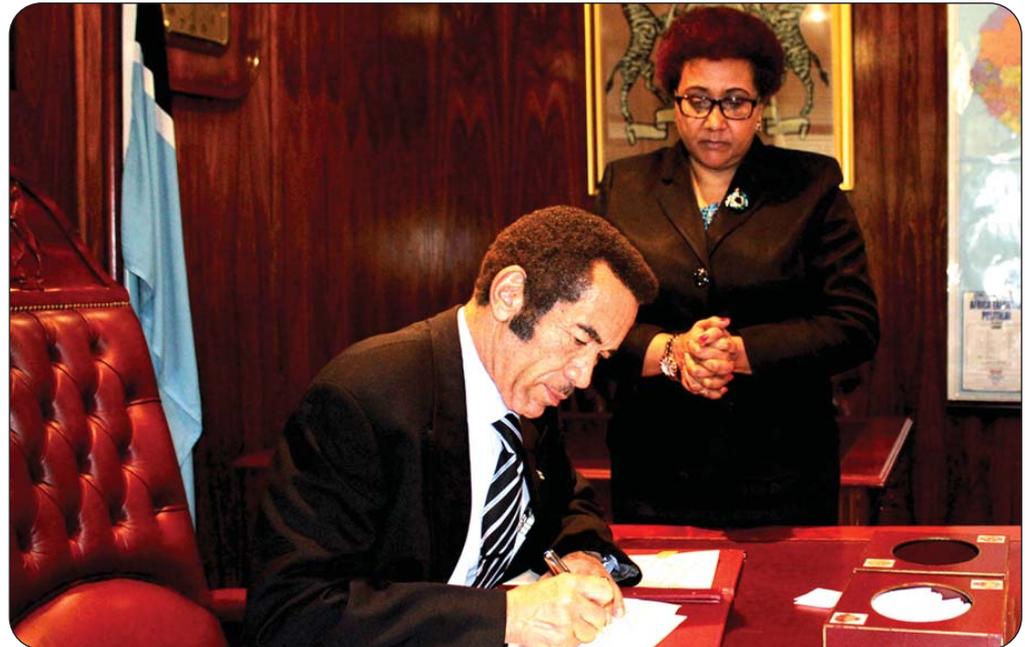
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President Khama signs SADC legal instruments

The President of Botswana, His Excellency, Lieutenant General Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama on 24th July, 2017 signed five SADC legal instruments. The signing ceremony took place at the Office of the President in Gaborone, Botswana and was witnessed by the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, the SADC National Contact Point, Dr. T. Nyamadzabo and other Government and SADC officials. The signed instruments are as follows:

Agreement amending Annex 1 to the Protocol on Finance and Investment: The amendment addresses concerns with regard to some of the provisions which were seen to have unintended consequences on SADC Member States with the aim of balancing investor protection, and development policy space for State Parties.

Annex 13 of the Protocol on Finance and Investment on Cooperation in Financial Matters, which establishes a legal framework for



President Khama signing the instruments while the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax looks on

co-operation and co-ordination between Central Banks in collaboration with relevant financial markets regulators on financial markets in SADC Member States in order to develop strategies to strengthen and deepen financial markets in the region, ensure a coordinated approach to financial market

development and achieve convergence and harmonisation of financial markets regulation in SADC, in line with international best practices.

Agreement amending Article 3(1) (c) of the Trade Protocol: The amendment removes the possibility for a Member State to be granted

grace period for removal of Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs). The retention of NTBs would undermine Article 6 of the Protocol which requires Member States to adopt policies and implement measures to eliminate all existing forms of NTBs and refrain from imposing any new ones.

Agreement amending the Protocol against Corruption, which establishes the SADC Anti-Corruption Committee to oversee the implementation of the Protocol.

Agreement amending the Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, which integrates the SADC Anti-Corruption Committee into the SADC Organ structures to coordinate regional activities on cooperation in the fight against corruption under the Inter-State Defence and Security Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Co-operation.

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Industrialisation drive through support to sustainable energy and water infrastructure projects. The Investors Forum held in Ezulwini agreed to map all energy and water initiatives, their challenges and all available financial instruments. The forum also stressed the importance the SADC Regional Development Fund and called on SADC to fast track the operationalization of the Fund which will have a dedicated regional infrastructure support window to reduce dependence on foreign aid.

On the role of SADC Member States to attract investment in the energy and water sectors, the forum agreed on the need for Member States to, among other things, move to cost reflective tariffs, ensure predictable policy environment, clear governance arrangements and political commitment; and develop coherent integrated plans and strategies that take into account national and regional needs and develop robust monitoring mechanisms for the projects. For Member States that are not connected to the regional power grid, the Forum called on them to improve interconnection and power trade to increase reliability of supply and enable them deal with power supply shocks through the implementation of planned Interconnector Energy Projects. As a way forward, SADC will facilitate another meeting with development partners and investors to devise effective ways of accessing and utilizing the available funding.



SADC flags

PICTURE COUTERSY OF AFRICAGEOGRAPHIC

South Africa to host SADC Summit

By Letso S. Mpho

SADC will host its 37th SADC Ordinary Summit for Heads of State and Government in Pretoria, South Africa from 19—20 August 2017. The Summit is usually presided by a series of meetings such as the Standing Committee of Senior Officials and the SADC Council of Ministers.

The theme for this year's Summit is "*Partnering with the Private Sector in developing Industry and Regional Value Chains*". The preoccupation of the region at present is regional economic integration.

The theme therefore addresses this key priority as well as two key issues to help move the industrialization programme in the region being;

- The first around "*Partnering with the Private Sector*", is focused on the need to build up the region's capabilities both inside and outside government to support industry; and
- The second component of the theme around "*developing Industry and Regional Value Chains*",

complements the first, with a focus to attract private sector players into the prioritized value chains.

The Summit will also review the political and security situation in the region; and update on the implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2015-2020). The SADC Summit is responsible for the overall policy direction and control of functions of the community, ultimately making it the policy-making institution of SADC. It is made up of all SADC Heads of State and Government.

The Summit usually meets once a year around August in a member State at which a new Chairperson and Deputy are elected. SADC is a home to a population of almost 258 million, and its vision is that of a common future for all its Member States. SADC comprises fifteen (15) Member States which are: Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Projects Presented in Swaziland at the Investment Forum for energy and water

REGIONAL PROJECTS PRESENTED BY DBSA

- Angola - Namibia Interconnector
- Botswana - South Africa Interconnector
- Mozambique - Zimbabwe - South Africa Interconnector
- 2nd Alaska - Sherwood (400)330kV Transmission line (Zimbabwe)
- ZIZABONA - SAPP- PAU
- Batoka Hydro Electric Power Scheme - ZRA
- Songwe River Basin Project – AfDB
- Mozambique Backbone STE – EDM, Mozambique
- Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya (ZTK) Power Interconnection - SAPP
- Malawi - Mozambique Transmission- EDM, Mozambique

GREEN ENERGY PROJECTS:

- Swaziland Electricity Company Solar PV projects
- Sustainable Swaziland
- Wunder Solar II, Photovoltaic Power Plant

HYDRO POWER PROJECTS

- Lesotho Highlands Phase II Hydropower (Lesotho/South Africa) - Water Commissioner /LHDA/TCTA
- Luapula River Hydropower Projects Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) / SAPP

WATER PROJECTS:

- Lomahasha/Namaacha Cross-Border Water Supply Project SADC Water Fund
- Chirundu Cross-Border Water Supply and Sanitation Project German Development Cooperation (GIZ)
- Island States Water Projects (Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles). SADC Secretariat



STATEMENT BY SADC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS 2017

Today, 30th July 2017, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) joins the rest of the world in calling for an end to trafficking in persons. The World Day against Trafficking in Persons was adopted in December 2013 by the United Nations

General Assembly, through Resolution A/RES/68/192, and is commemorated every year. This year's global theme — "Let's act now to protect and assist trafficking victims" — provides an opportunity to raise awareness on the crime and on the situation of victims of trafficking in persons. SADC acknowledges that the crime of trafficking in persons poses public security concerns worldwide, and the SADC region is not spared from the effects of this heinous crime that is largely of a transnational nature. It is important to collectively address this challenge vigorously.

The [Baseline Report on Trafficking in Persons](#) in the SADC Region, published in 2016, emphasises that the impacts of trafficking in persons are far-reaching affecting individuals, communities and the wider region, thereby depreciating the socio-economic fabric of the region's citizens as well as impacting negatively on SADC's peace and security agenda.

In view of the public security concerns posed by trafficking in persons in the SADC region and beyond,

SADC condemns the crime and encourages Member States and strategic partners to strengthen their interventions and cooperation to end trafficking in persons, guided by global, regional and national legislative frameworks, and effective programmes.

SADC responses to the crime are guided by the 10 Year SADC Strategic Plan of Action on Combating Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (2009-2019). This strategic framework, underscores a holistic approach covering Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnerships, and identifies 'victim support and witness protection' as a key priority, which resonates well with this year's theme.

Victim protection and assistance can only be achieved through cooperation between governments and relevant strategic partners. The majority of SADC Member States have developed strategic frameworks and action plans on trafficking in persons that also emphasise the need to cooperate in order to provide victims of trafficking in persons with the appropriate protection and assistance. We encourage the rest of the Member States to do the same.

SADC remains committed to addressing the crime of trafficking in persons.

Ministers of Justice and Attorneys-General meet to discuss legal instruments



Family photo of the top table and Ministers

The Committee of SADC Ministers of Justice/Attorneys-General was convened in Ezulwini, Kingdom of Swaziland, on 27 – 28 July 2017, to consider a plethora of Legal Instruments.

The meeting attended by the Republics of Botswana; Malawi; Mauritius; Mozambique; Namibia; South Africa; Zambia and Zimbabwe; the United Republic of Tanzania and the Kingdoms of Lesotho and Swaziland, was officially opened by Dr. B. Sibusiso Dlamini, the Right Honourable Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Swaziland.

The Right Honourable Prime Minister welcomed all

Ministers to the Kingdom of Swaziland and also reminded them that, the measure of success in meetings is a visible consensus, combined with evidence of delivery, or commitment to imminent delivery in the identified key result areas.

In this regard the Right Honourable Prime Minister, emphasised that, cooperation framework of SADC relies on the existence of legal instruments that capture all dimensions of an international working partnership.

In her opening remarks to the Committee, the SADC Executive Secretary: Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, remarked that, the region is

experiencing a number of challenges such as: Money laundering and financing of terrorism; and Child Abduction.

In order to address some of the cited challenges, she highlighted that a number of Legal Instruments which include the Draft Amendments to the Protocols on Extradition and on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters; Coordination of the SADC Common Legal Position in International Fora will be presented to the Ministers for consideration. The Executive Secretary concluded her remarks by thanking the government of Swaziland for her continued support and guidance, since her assumption of

Chairmanship.

The Committee of Ministers of Justice/Attorneys-General endorsed among others the following: the Draft Agreement Amending the Protocol on Extradition; Draft Agreement Amending the Protocol on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters; Draft Amendment to Article V (1) of the SADCAT Statute; Draft Charter for the Establishment of the Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance Coordination Centre (MCSSC); Draft Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants and Charter Establishing the SADC seed Centre and Draft SADC Charter on Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Organisation.

37ème Sommet de la SADC

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Nouer des partenariats avec le secteur privé afin de développer l'industrie et les chaînes de valeur régionales

9 – 20 AOÛT 2017, PRETORIA, AFRIQUE DU SUD





H.E. Sukati (white attire) and Dr. Tax (yellow attire) with Ambassadors

Ambassadors briefed on the upcoming Summit of Heads of State and Government

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat, briefed the SADC Committee of Ambassadors and High Commissioners accredited to Botswana and the SADC Secretariat on the preparations for the 37th Summit of Heads of State and Government. The Secretariat hosted the dinner on the 25 July 2017 in Gaborone, Botswana.

The Committee noted the agenda to be presented and progress made in the implementation of previous Council and Summit decisions, including an Overview of the Political and Economic Developments in the Region; Status on the implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Plan (RISDP); Status on the implementation of the Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap; and Follow up on the

outcomes of the Ministerial Retreat – “The SADC We Want”. The 37th Summit of Heads of State and Government and its preceding meetings will be held from 9th to 20th August, 2017 in Pretoria, Republic of South Africa. During the briefing the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomona Tax said preparations for the Summit are on course and will, per tradition, be preceded by three key meetings, namely; the Senior Officials’ meeting, the Council of Ministers meeting, and the Organ Troika meeting.

“As a Secretariat, we look forward to the meetings being of a resounding success and that they will significantly contribute to the goal of achieving the SADC Common Agenda of Regional Integration and Poverty Reduction,” said Dr Tax. In her remarks, Chairperson of the SADC Committee of

Ambassadors and High Commissioners, Her Excellency, Ms. Dumisile Sukati, High Commissioner Designate of the Kingdom of Swaziland, commended the SADC Secretariat for organizing the briefing meeting, and for the progress made in the preparation for the upcoming Council and Summit.

The SADC Committee of Ambassadors and High Commissioners was established by Council of Ministers on the 25th February 2005 to, among other things, enhance interactions and consultations between Member States and the Secretariat, and to share information on matters related to the implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Strategic Plan for the Organ (SIPO), and to follow up on SADC Decisions.

Public Security Sub-Committee Meeting held

The SADC Public Security Sub Committee (PSSC) was convened in Dar Es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania from 14 – 16 June 2017. The PSSC is an Annual Statutory meeting convened to reflect on progress achieved in the implementation of public security programmes for 2016/2017 financial year. The following Member States were in attendance: Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The PSSC was officially opened by Ambassador Simba Yahya: Acting Permanent Secretary from the Ministry of Home Affairs, United Republic of Tanzania.

The SADC Secretariat was led by Mr. Jorge Cardoso: Director of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs, who reminded the Member States present that, public security remains more relevant today and critical, and forms part of Governments multi-sectoral approach to address transnational organised cross border crime, which have become more complex and sophisticated. Director Cardoso also alluded to the fact that visibility of public security in SADC will enhance attraction of investor confidence, and will also go a long way in contributing towards sustainable regional growth.

The PSSC considered strategic matters to be recommended to the Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation for consideration. In this regards, the PSSC considered the status of signature and ratification of the SADC Protocol on Facilitation of Movement of Persons. The PSSC observed that the SADC Protocol on Facilitation of Movement of Persons remains relevant and critical for the region, particularly for regional integration and development.

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Meeting in progress

Peace and stability remain SADC priority

The Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics Defence and Security Cooperation (MCO) met on 20th and 21st July 2017 in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking during the meeting, Hon Dr. Mahinga hailed the peace, security and political stability that the region continues to enjoy and the commendable milestones that the region has recorded in the political sphere including the work by the SADC Oversight Committee on the Kingdom of Lesotho aimed at facilitating the realization of lasting peace and political stability in the Kingdom of Lesotho, the development of mechanism to honour the Founding Fathers of SADC, and the preparedness for the construction of a Statue of His Excellency, Julius Kambarage Nyerere, the former President of the United Republic of Tanzania at the African Union Commission.

During the meeting the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax underscored that, peace, security and stability remain essential catalysts for regional economic integration and development, and as such are on top of the SADC Agenda. She noted that although the Region remained peaceful and stable, it cannot afford to be complacent, as sustainable peace, security and political stability require continued efforts and vigilance.

The meeting was officially opened by the Honourable Dr. Augustine Mahiga, Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chairperson of the Organ on Politics Defence and Security Cooperation. The MCO meeting is a statutory meeting held annually to consider the status of the implementation of SADC decisions and programmes of the Organ.

The meeting among others, reviewed progress on the Political and Security Situation in the Region; the development of the SADC Regional Counterterrorism Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy and Action Plan; the Public Security Sector, the Protocol on the Implementation of the Free Movement of People in the SADC Region, and progress on the African Union Institutional Reforms. The meeting was attended by 14 SADC Member States.


Fishing activities in Southern Africa
PICTURE COUTERSY OF JAMES-MCWILLIAMS

Partnership on fisheries sector bears fruits

By Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo (SADC Secretariat)¹ and Dr. Manuel Castiano (WWF) ²

The fisheries sector in SADC countries, comprising marine and inland capture fisheries and aquaculture, generates a variety of benefits, including nutrition and food security, livelihoods, employment, exports and foreign currency and conservation and biodiversity values that are of global significance. In order to optimize benefits from the fisheries and aquaculture SADC Heads of State in 2001 endorsed the SADC Protocol on Fisheries.

The Protocol aims to promote responsible and sustainable use of the living aquatic resources and aquatic ecosystems of interest to State Parties, in order to (i) promote and enhance food security and human health, (ii) safeguard the livelihood of fishing communities, (iii) generate economic opportunities from nationals in the region, (iv) ensure that future generations benefit from these renewable resources; and (v) alleviate poverty with the ultimate objective of its eradication. Implementation of the Protocol will contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Goal 14. However, the fisheries sector continues to face a myriad of challenges, which include:

- **Overfishing:** Overfishing is an issue for the fisheries sector worldwide, including from the SADC region. Globally 29% of the world fish stocks are over-exploited; 61% fully fished; and only 10% under-fished (FAO, 2016). All SADC countries have overfished stocks that need to be better managed. Overfishing threatens livelihoods and food security of local communities; and national and regional economies;
- **Negative Ecosystem Impacts:** Negative ecosystem impacts can result from fishing with destructive gear such as

explosives, poisons, heavy bottom trawls and small meshed nets. Also from by-catch, when most of it discarded dead, or when endangered, threatened and protected species (ETP) are killed. These affect the ecosystem's balanced animal communities, its habitat (such as coral reefs, mangroves, sea grass beds and sea bottom substrate) and its biodiversity. By-catch includes important non-targeted commercial fish stocks, juveniles of the targeted stocks and endangered, threatened and protected (ETP) species (including marine turtles, marine mammals, sea bird, sharks, etc.). Discards have socio-economic dimensions affecting food security and livelihoods of the local fishing communities;

- **Degradation of critical coastal habitats:** The degradation of critical coastal habitats such as mangrove, sea-grass beds and estuaries from natural and anthropogenic factors, affecting reproduction and nursery grounds, and consequently the recruitment of relevant fish stocks;
- **Climate Change:** The impacts from climate change on regional habitats, species and community needs are still not fully understood, but it is clear that significant changes in local weather patterns, runoff and sea level rise will threaten critical marine ecosystems including key breeding, nursery and feeding grounds for fish, affecting recruitment, abundance and occurrence; and most importantly
- **Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing:** A main contributor to overfishing and marine ecosystem damage. it is estimated that IUU fishing cost up to US\$1.5 to 2 billion/year for Sub-Saharan Africa countries. In the SADC region, IUU is estimated to be around US\$400 million/year threatening fish stocks, distorting markets, undermining governance

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Partnership on fisheries sector bears fruits

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structures, and imposing considerable costs on the economies of developing countries, including the livelihoods of coastal fishing communities. Existing international/regional instruments addressing IUU fishing have not been effective due to a lack of political will among the affected countries and a lack of human, technical and financial resources to enforce existing legislation. Dynamite fishing, use of nets with small mesh size, and fishing in critical/prohibited/protected habitats are common in coastal fisheries, while in offshore fisheries, violation of fishing zones and underreporting by the industrial fishing fleets are the common features.

The challenges above have to be addressed not only nationally, but equally through strengthened regional collaboration and partnerships with relevant stakeholders, so as to be able to produce mitigating ecological and socio-economic impacts. It is the belief of the SADC leaders that if Member States can implement the Protocol on Fisheries successfully, these challenges will be adequately addressed.

In 2014, SADC Secretariat and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) entered into an agreement and one of the pillars is for WWF to support implementation of the SADC Protocol on Fisheries. To this end, WWF has been supporting Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) programmes in the



Panelists during the launch of the Transparency Report (Left to Right)- Mr. Per Erik Bergh (Stop Illegal Fishing), Dr. Manuel Castiano (WWF), Mr. Calvin Gerry (Seychelles Fishing Authority) and Mr. Jude Talma (IOC-SmartFish Project)

SADC region as well as sustainable management of shared, transboundary and migratory fisheries resources in the region. The four key areas that are currently in focus are:

- Establishment of the Regional Fisheries MCS Coordination Centre in Mozambique: where there has been tremendous progress in the last two years and processes are at an advanced stage, including resources that have been mobilized to support the Centre.
- Support to the SADC Member States towards ratification of the FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PMSA): where SADC has the majority of coastal states on the continent which have either ratified or acceded to the PMSA, and these includes, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles and South Africa.
- Support to regional fisheries bodies (RFBs) in the SADC region: where the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission

(SWIOFC) was supported in the development and finalization of the Minimum Terms and Conditions (MTCs) for fishing access by foreign fleets; as well as the development of a Fisheries Accord for the SWIO sub-region.

- Technical Support to SADC Member States and Secretariat: where support for participation in technical meetings/workshops in the region was made available since 2015/16. Support was also provided for the development of key technical or policy documents, these includes project document and development of financial model for the SADC MCS Centre and development and implementation of guidelines for the management of by-catch and discards.

In addition, WWF and SADC Secretariat are supporting SADC Member States in improving management of fisheries resources through transparency efforts. Transparency in the governance and management of fisheries is increasingly recognised as a critical

“success factor” for achieving sustainable livelihoods and food security in coastal and rural fishing communities around the world. Transparency is needed, in the first instance, to combat the serious problem of illegal fishing. It is needed to ensure the availability and reliability of data for effective governance and science-based fisheries management. And, increasingly, it is needed to help ensure market access for seafood products being sold into international markets where demand for “fisheries origin” information/traceability is a growing reality.

During the 5th meeting of the SADC Task Force on IUU Fishing held in Johannesburg, South Africa during July 2017, WWF, supported by SADC Secretariat, launched a report of the study titled “Transparency in Industrial and Semi-Industrial Fisheries Management in Coastal East Africa (CEA) and the South-west Indian Ocean (SWIO)”.

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Group photo

Public Security Sub-Committee

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Member States that have not signed and/or ratified the protocol were urged to expedite the signing and ratification process. The PSSC also discussed Bilateral Visa Exemption Agreements within the region, and noted that 12 of the SADC Member States namely: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Swaziland, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe have all

exempted each other from visa requirements. The PSSC also noted progress achieved by Angola towards finalising Bilateral Visa Exemption Agreements with most of the SADC Member States.

The PSSC further discussed free movement of persons in Africa, as envisaged in the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063, which calls for free movement of persons and the establishment of continental institutions

leading to full economic integration by 2030. As part of the continental agenda, the PSSC considered a Desk Research on Implementation of the AU Migration Policy Framework within the region.

The Desk research conducted by Adv. Maemo Machethe highlights that: SADC has made significant progress in the implementation of the AU Migration Policy Framework. However, the research also recommends among others, the need to develop a SADC Comprehensive Migration Policy and a Regional Internally Displaced Person Policy.

The PSSC further discussed piloting of the UNIVISA and acknowledged that the SADC UNIVISA is strategically important and therefore its implementation modalities should be finalised. In conclusion, the PSSC discussed the SADC Common Position on implementation of free movement of persons in Africa, harmonisation of operating hours at Ports of Entries and the need to introduce Coordinated Border Management. The PSSC further urged Member States to implement the Regional Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching (LEAP) Strategy and align their National Policies with the LEAP Strategy.

Partnership on fisheries sector bears fruits

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The study was aimed at assessing and helping to improve the transparency of national systems for MCS in marine fisheries. This study follow-up from the first phase analysis done in 2014 which established baseline data about fisheries management information, information sharing, and transparency in select countries. This phase 2 study expands on the initial phase, and refocuses the analysis on eight (8) CEA/SWIO countries, viz. Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa and Tanzania.

The results of the second phase show that in general, despite strong policies for collection of relevant data and

sharing of data with partners/stakeholders, effective transparency in fisheries governance is still lacking. Only a small fraction of the information (with exception of catch data) is shared to the public domain. Among the key gaps identified, those related directly with monitoring of vessel movements, on board activities, and in port practices have significant implications for the effective enforcement an MCS measures that are fundamental to good governance. These gaps significantly raise the risk of illegal fishing activities. Moreover, if current global trends continue, these gaps will have negative impacts on the value of CEA/SWIO fish products on the international markets.

On the other hand, regional initiatives, such as FISH-I Africa, SADC MCS Coordination Centre SWIOFish1 and SmartFish, are encouraging transparency and cooperation between regions and countries through the pooling of MCS resources. Trends in regional information sharing and mutual government-to-government transparency are positive and gathering momentum.

End Notes

1 Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo is the Technical Advisor for Fisheries in the Directorate Food Agriculture Natural Resources of the SADC Secretariat, based in Gaborone, Botswana.

2 Dr. Manuel Castiano is the Regional Coordinator for Fisheries in the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Programme of WWF, based in Maputo, Mozambique.

Angolan delegation visits SADC HQ

A delegation from the Republic of Angola, led by the Contact Point responsible for matters relating to the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, Ambassador Sandro de Oliveira, visited the Secretariat, 27 July 2017, to hold consultations with the Directorate of the Organ, in preparation for their tenure at the helm of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation. The Republic of Angola will assume the Chair of the Organ from August 2017 to August 2018.

Among others, the meeting discussed how to effectively implement the decisions of relevant structures and facilitate the promotion of peace, security and stability in the region. Additionally, the meeting discussed the Minimum Standards for hosting of SADC technical and policy meetings; and the tentative Calendar of



Angolan delegates with SADC Secretariat officials

Events/Activities for the period August 2017 to August 2018.

As such, it was prudent that the delegation would engage the Secretariat to ensure that an effective and efficient

mechanism is established to coordinate the implementation of Organ priorities during the tenure of the Republic of Angola as Chair of the Organ.

Among the resolutions of the

meeting was that during the tenure of Angola, there will be joint monitoring of implementation of MCO decisions, and those of the Council and Summit that are relevant to the Organ sectors.

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9 - 20 DE AGOSTO DE 2017, PRETÓRIA, ÁFRICA DO SUL



Group photo of participants

Botswana Civilian Experts urged to join SADC Standby Force Civilian Roster

“It is common course that, when most people think of Peace Support Operations (PSOs), they think of the military and at times police personnel. However, while it is true that security personnel play an important role in most peace operations, and that security is a necessary part of peace operations, it is equally important during peace support operations to also manage the political, social and economic aspects of a peace process.

The political and socio-economic aspects of the peace process are thus managed by the civilians, and therefore, over the years there has been a transformation from military to civilian-led multidimensional Peace Support Operations.” This was stated by the Chief of Staff of the SADC Standby Force Planning Element (SADC SF PLANELM), Brig.

Michael Mukokomani while addressing a group of civilian experts in Botswana during a SADC SF Civilian Component awareness raising workshop held at the Cresta Lodge, Gaborone, Botswana from 11 to 12 July 2017.

This workshop was organized by the SADC Secretariat/ SADC SF PLANELM to raise awareness among civilian experts in the Republic of Botswana on the role of civilians in Peace Support Operations and to encourage participants to apply to become members of the SADC SF Civilian Roster. This is done in order to ensure the full operationalization of the Civilian Component and the availability of civilian experts to the SADC Standby Force capacity. The SADC SF Civilian Roster is a component of an

integrated Civilian Roster of the African Standby Force (ASF) known as the African Standby Capacity (ASC) which was developed by the Africa Union (AU) in collaboration with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Mechanisms (RMs). The ASC is a recruitment tool to enable rapid deployment of civilian experts to Peace Support Operations once the missions are mandated, either by the SADC Summit or the African Union.

The Roster is being populated with civilian experts from different professions which are most relevant to a multi-dimensional PSO, such as Civil Affairs, Political Affairs, Legal Affairs, Public Information, Human Rights, Gender, and Humanitarian relief liaison to name a few. At the workshop, participants had an insight of

the role of civilians in Peace Support Operations; and the opportunity to appreciate the benefits of joining the ASC/ SADC Standby Force Roster. Presentations and discussions at the workshops centered on issues pertaining to the Concept of a Standby Force with emphasis on the civilian capability; PSO structures at the Strategic, Mission and Operational Levels; Rostering Processes; and Rostering and Training Linkage. A demonstration on how to apply online for the ASC Roster membership was also conducted in order to deal with challenges which applicants normally face when they attempt to apply.

Participants were accordingly inducted on how to access the African Standby Capacity website/database (<https://database.africanstandbycapacity.org>) and apply for membership of the civilian roster for both the SADC Standby Force and the African Standby Force. The Workshop drew participants from different Government Ministries, Institutions and Non-State Actors such as the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation and the Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organizations (BOCONGO). At the end of the workshop, more than fifteen (15) civilian experts expressed interest and committed themselves to apply for the Roster membership. The SADC Standby Force was established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the SADC Heads of States and Government in Lusaka, Zambia in 2007. The Force is a multi-dimensional entity comprising the military, police and civilian components.

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SADC underscores vital role of regional media in promoting Industrialization agenda

By Peter Mabaka

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat says the media have an important role to play in ensuring that SADC Industrialization issues were popularized in the region and beyond. SADC's Acting Director for Industrial Development and Trade Dr. Lomkhosi Mkhonta –Gama said this at the opening of the one-day Media Awareness Workshop which took place in Johannesburg, South Africa, ahead of the 2nd SADC Industrialization Week which begins on July 31 –August 4, 2017.

The Media Workshop was meant to enhance awareness of the priorities of the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDIP) and the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Road Map amongst the media across the region. "We consider the media as a critical stakeholder in disseminating news on



Group photo of delegates and media persons

SADC's business. Therefore, this awareness workshop is meant also to open and cement a communication channel between the SADC Secretariat and the media of the SADC region as well as to elucidate the role the media can play in communicating SADC Industrialization issues." said Dr Mkhonta-Gama.

She added that there was need for the media to fully understand the Industrialization Strategy

and Road Map for them to report objectively and also to become keen advocates of the intended plans and aspirations of the region. On this note, Mkhonta-Gama said the SADC Secretariat cannot ably fulfil its agenda of informing the people of the region on the regional agenda without cooperating and working hand in hand with members of the media from the region.

The SADC Industrialization Strategy and Road Map

2015-2063 which was approved by the leaders of SADC in 2015 was developed as an inclusive, long term modernization scheme that will result in major economic and technological transformation of the region. The workshop was attended by journalists from eleven SADC Member States and was supported by the Southern Africa Trust and (SAT) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Prior to 2001 SADC Member States were given the responsibility of coordinating one or two sectors of the SADC Programme of Action as per their experience and expertise in a particular sector. The Sectors were distributed as follows:

Country	Sector of Coordination
Angola	Energy
Botswana	Agriculture Research, Livestock Production, Animal Disease Control
Lesotho	Environment, Land Management and Water
Malawi	Inland Fisheries, Forestry and Wildlife
Mauritius	Tourism
Mozambique	Transport and Communication, Culture, Information and Sports
Namibia	Legal
South Africa	Finance and Investment, Marine Fisheries and Health
Swaziland	Human Resources Development
Tanzania	Industry and Trade
Zambia	Mining, Employment and Labour
Zimbabwe	Food Security

After the restructuring of 2001, these Sector Coordinating Units were transformed into Directorates at the SADC Secretariat.

Regional Workshop on GBV conducted

The SADC Secretariat and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), on 21 and 22 June 2017, jointly convened the Regional Workshop on Gender Based Violence (GBV), in Gaborone, Republic of Botswana.

“Gender-based violence has no space in our societies, nor does it have any place in human nature,” said Adv Abraham Keetshabe, the Director of Public Prosecutions from the Republic of Botswana during the official opening.

This was supported by the Director of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs, Mr Jorge Cardoso, who highlighted that the Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) noted the increasing prevalence of GBV in the region, and the need for urgency in responding to GBV. In view of this, the MCO, in 2016, took a decision for an in-depth comprehensive analysis on GBV to be conducted.

“As we prioritise our vulnerable communities comprising children, women and the elderly, we should not lose focus, that men also become victims, particularly, the boy child. The Ministerial Committee of the Organ held on 5 August 2016 in Maputo, Republic of Mozambique, noted the prevalence of gender based violence in the Region and the urgent need to conduct a comprehensive analysis on gender based violence. In this regard the MCO directed the Secretariat to conduct a comprehensive analysis on this matter”, said Director Cardoso.

In the same light, Ms Zhuldyz Akisheva, the



Group photo of delegates

UNODC Regional Representative for Southern Africa, noted that GBV is deep-rooted and its effects remain with GBV victims, mainly women and girls, for a lifetime, and in some cases are passed from generation to generation. Ms Akisheva said that while GBV laws are in place in most of the countries in SADC, their enforcement remains a challenge. As such, it is critical for different actors to work together in a coordinated manner to effectively address GBV.

The workshop was guided by the following objectives:

- To provide an opportunity for policy makers and high level officials representing the criminal justice and law enforcement sectors to discuss gaps and challenges and share good practices in addressing GBV and violence against women (VAW);
- To introduce Member States to the relevant policy documents and tools for implementing multi-sectoral services to address GBV and VAW with a focus on the

criminal justice system;

- To conduct a stakeholder capacity gap analysis in combating GBV and VAW; and
 - To discuss and identify elements of a draft regional strategy on GBV and VAW.
- The workshop, attended by delegates from Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, emphasised the need for cooperation in fighting GBV, particularly through information sharing and strengthening mutual legal assistance in criminal matters in line with regional and national frameworks. Cooperation and urgency are critical especially as GBV “is an evil and anti-social conduct whose pace has shockingly spiralled out of control,” said Adv. Keetshabe, adding that SADC Member States should “continue to work together towards the achievement of better results.”

When closing the Joint

Regional Workshop, Adv. Maemo Peter Machethe from the Public Security Sector of the Directorate of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs, reminded the delegates to the meeting, the oath of office they took to uphold and execute the law fearlessly. “As Prosecutors and Investigators in the Region, entrusted with the responsibility to investigate and prosecute gender based violence, the hope and dignity of our vulnerable people is in your hands”, emphasised Adv. Machethe.

Gender based violence is a serious violation of human rights and deprives victims their right to privacy, human dignity, and to a large extent the right to life, as some cases result in murder of victims. “I appeal to your conscious and remind you, that your responsibility is a calling to serve, safeguard and restore the dignity and protection of our vulnerable citizens in the Region”, concluded Adv. Machethe.

SADC Finance Sub-Committee meeting held in Botswana

The Finance Sub-Committee of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) held its meeting in Gaborone, Botswana from 19 to 21 July 2017. The Finance Sub-Committee is a technical advisory committee that meets to clear documents for the Finance Committee for approval by the Council of Ministers.

The meeting was attended by six out of seven members of the Finance Sub-Committee, namely Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and was chaired by Democratic Republic of Congo.

The meeting received and reviewed the Secretariat's 2016/17 Annual Performance Report and Expenditures; the 2017/18 Adjustment Budget; and Progress on Implementation of the on-going Reforms at the Secretariat, among others.

The meeting made recommendations to be considered by the Finance Committee and subsequent submission for approval by Council in August 2017.



Botswana Civilian Experts

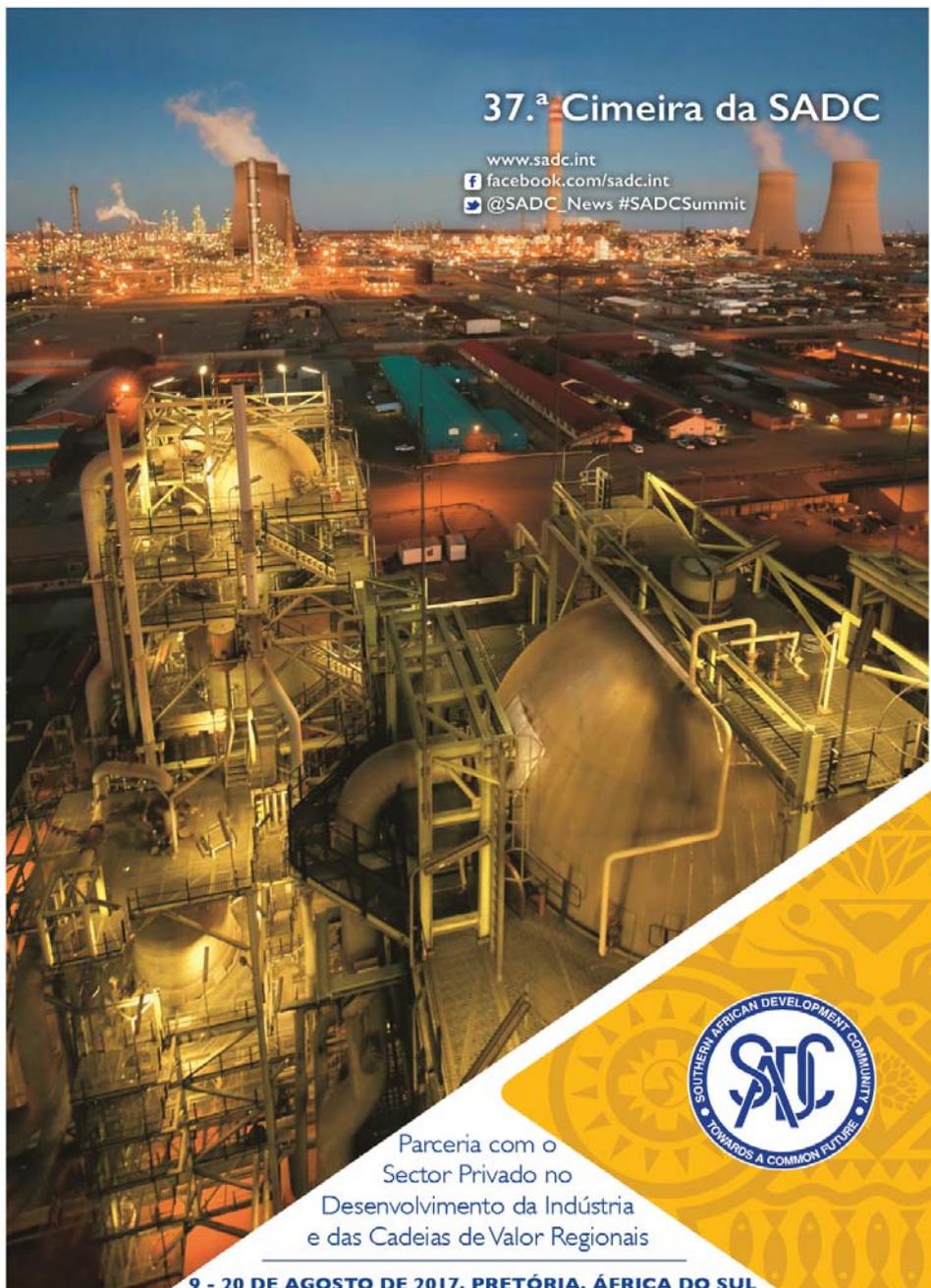
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Its main function is to participate in Peace Support missions as envisaged in Article 13 of the Protocol Establishing the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU) under the Framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and African Standby Force.

In July 2016 the regional Standby Forces including the SADC SF were declared to have attained Full Operational Capability (FOC) status. Subsequent to this declaration, the SADC Secretariat

has been taking concerted efforts to ensure that all components of the SADC SF namely the Military, Police and Civilian are ready for deployment when the need to deploy arises.

This workshop is therefore among a series of workshops that the SADC Secretariat is intending to conduct in all SADC Member States in 2017 in order to strengthen and ensure readiness of the Civilian Component of the SADC SF. So far, the Secretariat has conducted similar workshops in the Republic of Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania.



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Parceria com o Sector Privado no Desenvolvimento da Indústria e das Cadeias de Valor Regionais



9 - 20 DE AGOSTO DE 2017, PRETÓRIA, ÁFRICA DO SUL

19TH MEETING OF THE SADC MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE OF THE ORGAN (MCO)

Julius Nyerere International Convention Center (JNICC)

DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA 17TH - 21ST JULY 2017


From left to right: Mr Jorge Cardoso, Director of Directorate on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs, Dr. Tax, Dr. Mahiga and senior official from Tanzania

SADC hosts the 19th Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO)

The 19th Meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation was held from 17 to 21 July 2017 at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania.

The MCO meeting was attended by Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Public Security and State Security from SADC Member States as well as their senior officials. Retired Judge Frederick Werema, the Chairperson of the SADC Oversight Committee on the Kingdom of Lesotho was also in attendance. The MCO convenes its meetings at least once a year in compliance with Article 5 of the Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation to coordinate the work of the Organ and its structures.

The meeting was officially opened and presided over by the Honourable Dr. Augustine Mahiga, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chairperson of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation. In his opening remarks Hon. Mahiga highlighted the progress achieved since the last MCO meeting

which was held in August 2016.

He observed that there has been relative peace and stability in the region, accompanied by a number of commendable milestones in the political sphere which include the work of the SADC Oversight Committee on the Kingdom of Lesotho. The Oversight Committee is aimed at facilitating the realization of lasting peace and political stability in the Kingdom of Lesotho.

In her remarks, the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax indicated that in the year under review, the Republics of Zambia and Seychelles successfully held their Presidential and Parliamentary elections, and also congratulated the Rt. Honourable Thomas Motsoahae Thabane for being elected Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho, the coalition government and Basotho people for the conduct of peaceful and credible elections.

The Executive Secretary highlighted examples of the progress made by the SADC Secretariat in executing MCO decisions. She observed that, during the year, a number of strategic policy documents were developed and

reviewed, these include the SADC Reference Manual on Election Observation; the SADC Conflict Prevention Strategy for election-related conflicts; and the SADC Mediation, Conflict Prevention and Preventative Diplomacy Structure Inception Guidelines. The Executive Secretary indicated that these instruments are critical for the deepening and consolidation of the democratic principles, which underpin good governance in electoral processes in the region. The documents were presented to the 19th MCO for consideration and approval.

Some of the key issues discussed during the meeting included the proposed Regional Logistics Depot which will support the operations of the SADC Standby Force as part of the African Standby Roster; Progress on the SADC Protocol Against Corruption in particular recommendations of the SADC Anti-Corruption Subcommittee inaugural meeting; Implementation of the UNIVISA initiative, aimed at facilitating the free movement of persons and goods in the region which is one of the tenets of regional integration and economic development; the Mechanism for honouring the Founding Fathers of SADC; Proposal for the Commemoration of Southern Africa Liberation Day and Applications by the Union of Comoros and the Republic of Burundi for membership of SADC, to mention but a few examples.

SADC Secretariat ES highlights the role of Regional Integration

By Barbara Lopi

The Executive Secretary of the SADC Secretariat, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax has emphasised the importance of regional integration as a strategy for peace and economic development in the southern African region.

“Regional integration is not only critical and important but is a necessary tool and strategy for development. Regional integration, in simple words, is about cooperation and economies of scale”, Dr Tax said in a message to be published in the second edition of SADC Success Stories publication which will be launched on 14th August in the margins of the 37th SADC Summit, in Pretoria, South Africa. The SADC Success Stories Edition is one of the communication tools to reach out to SADC citizens and enhance awareness about the positive impacts of the SADC protocols, agreements, policies and strategies.

SADC Member States have agreed to co-operate by pooling their resources together and implement transboundary projects with greater impact, and more benefit for their citizens, and the SADC Success Stories Vol. 2 highlight achievements in the infrastructure, trade and industrialisation, climate change, finance, peace and security, water management, agriculture and transfrontier conservation sectors. The first edition of the “SADC Success Stories”, launched in 2015, reached over one million SADC citizens through the print brochure, videos and social media. Through this second edition, we hope to inform more SADC citizens about the benefits of the SADC development and integration agenda and the importance of Member States rallying around a common agenda. The stories in the publication reflect SADC at a time when regional integration is already adding incalculable value to the lives of all citizens. Click on this link: <https://youtu.be/IDqYV5MdZsI> for a promotional video on the SADC Success Stories Vol.2.



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**Republic of
Madagascar**



**Republic of
Mauritius**



**Republic of
Seychelles**

Celebrated every year on August 15 in Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven, before her body could begin to decay—a foretaste of our own bodily resurrection at the end of time. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin’s passing into

eternal life.

source:

<https://www.thoughtco.com/assumption-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-542464>

Heroes' Day in Namibia August 26 is Heroes' Day in Namibia. This public holiday is known within the United Nations as Namibia Day, but Namibians themselves oppose this name of the holiday.



**Republic of
Namibia**

Celebration of Heroes' Day was established to commemorate the first battle at Omugulugwombashe training camp that took place on August 26, 1966. In 1966 the UN General Assembly revoked South Africa's mandate to govern South-West African territory. The Namibians opposed this decision and refused to recognize the resolution. Then South West Africa People's Organization

started preparation for armed resistance. Several training camps were built, one of them was Omugulugwombashe.

It was built in 1966 and was not prepared to start training; however, 17 soldiers were brought to the camp. On August 26 the helicopters of the South African Defense Force attacked the camp at Omugulugwombashe. This event was the first armed battle of the war.

source: <https://anydayguide.com/calendar/1402>

The second Monday in August is Heroes' Day in Zimbabwe. This day commemorates sons and daughters of Zimbabwe, who died, protecting their country in the liberation war against British rule.



**Republic of
Zimbabwe**

Observation of Heroes' Day used to be a solemn celebration; however, nowadays this day is more official and restrained, than earlier. The main event is held in the capital of Zimbabwe, Harare, where fallen heroes of the struggle for

independence are buried.

People lay wreaths to the graves of their relatives. President of Zimbabwe visits the ceremony of wreath laying and talks to each family of the dead heroes. Similar ceremonies are held in other cities of Zimbabwe, but they are attended by local authorities.

source: <https://anydayguide.com/calendar/2336>

Member States holidays



MEMBER STATE	DATE	HOLIDAY
DR Congo	01 August	Fallen Heroes Day
Madagascar	15 August	Assumption Day
Mauritius	15 August	Assumption Day
	26 August	Ganesh Chaturthi
Namibia	26 August	Heroes' Day
Seychelles	15 August	Assumption Day
South Africa	09 August	National Women's Day
Tanzania	08 August	Peasants' Day
Zambia	03 August	Farmer's Day
Zimbabwe	10 August	Heroes Day
	09 August	Defence Forces' Day