Elections in SADC

Members of the community registering to vote in South Africa  (Story on page 3)
ABOUT SADC. VISION. MISSION. VALUES

HISTORY
The Southern African Development Coordinating Conference (SADCC) was formed to advance the cause of national political liberation in Southern Africa, and to reduce dependence particularly on the then apartheid era South Africa; through effective coordination of utilisation of the specific characteristics and strengths of each country and its resources. SADCC objectives went beyond just dependence reduction to embrace basic development and regional integration. SADC Member States are; Angola, Botswana, Union of Comoros, DR Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

TREATY
SADCC, established on 1 April 1980 was the precursor of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The SADCC was transformed into the SADC on 17 August 1992 in Windhoek, Namibia where the SADC Treaty was adopted, redefining the basis of cooperation among Member States from a loose association into a legally binding arrangement.

STRATEGIC PLANS
The Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ (SIPO) remain the guiding frameworks for SADC Regional Integration, providing SADC Member States, SADC Secretariat and other SADC Institutions with consistent and comprehensive programmes of long-term economic and social policies.

SADC COMMON AGENDA
The SADC Common Agenda refers to a set of key principles and values that guide the Regional Integration agenda. The SADC Common Agenda is spelled out in Article 5 of the Treaty (as amended, 2009), as well as in the Review of Operations of SADC Institutions and consists of the policies and strategies of the organisation.
By Peter Mabaka & Jocelyne Lukundula

The people of South Africa casted their votes for National and Provincial elections on 8 May 2019. According to the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), a total of 26,736,803 registered to vote in the elections. From this number 14,706,799 were females while 12,030,004 were males.

The National Assembly election was won by the ruling African National Congress (ANC), under the leadership of President Cyril Ramaphosa with 230 seats, followed by Mmusi Maimane led Democratic Alliance (DA) with 84 seats, while Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), under the stewardship of Julius Malema was in third place with 44 seats. The remaining 44 seats were won by different political parties, to complete a total of 400 seats in the National Assembly.

The SADC Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) to South Africa was led by the Representative of the Chair of Organ, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia the Honourable Joseph Malanji, accompanied by SADC Executive Secretary Dr. Lawrence Stergomena Tax Malawi will hold its tripartite elections on 21st May 2019.

The SEOM was launched on 11th May 2019 by the Head of the SEOM, Hon. Malanji, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia and the Director of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs at SADC Secretariat, Mr. Jorge Cardoso, representing the SADC Executive Secretary. SADC SEOM will launch its mission in Madagascar on 24th May as the country will hold its National Assembly Elections on 27th May 2019.
By Barbara Lopi

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation in the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, held a Press briefing on 8th May 2019 at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam, to announce the commencement of preparations for the 39th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government.

Speaking during the Press briefing which was attended by the SADC Secretariat Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs, Ambassador Joseph Nourrice, the Foreign Affairs Minister, said it was an honour for the United Republic of Tanzania to have another chance to host the SADC Summit. The United Republic of Tanzania last hosted the SADC Summit 16 years ago, in 2003, under the Chairpersonship of former President Benjamin Mkapa.

The 39th SADC Summit is scheduled to be held from 17-18 August 2019 during which, President Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli will become the Chairperson, taking over from Dr Hage Geingob, the President of the Republic of Namibia, who is the current Chairperson since last August 2018. The Press briefing also marked the launch of a three-month national awareness on SADC, its programmes and milestones to enable the citizens of the United Republic of Tanzania appreciate the role played by the regional organization in connecting people and facilitating regional integration, peace and security cooperation, as the country prepare to assume the Chairship.

The Press briefing was also attended by the Permanent Secretary in the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation in the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr Faraji Mnyepe, the SADC National Contact Person for the United Republic of Tanzania Ms Agnes Richard Kayola, and a delegation from the SADC Secretariat.

The 39th SADC Summit will be preceded by a series of meetings including the SADC Industrialisation Week from 22 – 26 July 2019, the SADC Council of Ministers and a Public Lecture between 6 – 16 August 2019.
Preparations for SADC’s Vision 2063 progresses

By Barbara Lopi & Peter Mabaka

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), is in the process of formulating SADC’s Development Vision 2063 and the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030 as a roadmap of the priority interventions for the first 10 years of implementing the Vision.

SADC’s current key strategic documents, the RISDP and the Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ (SIPO) both expire at the end of 2020, hence the need to develop a long-term Vision for the region. The anticipated Vision is aimed at defining the long-term strategic intent or vision of the organization, realigning the priorities of regional cooperation, taking into account existing and emerging dynamics in the regional, continental and global arenas.

SADC’s Development Vision will identify where the region wants to be by 2063 and provide the regional body with direction, motivation, and guidelines for formulating successive medium-term development strategies, as well as justification and quantification of resources. Furthermore, the SADC’s Development Vision will outline the necessary conditions that should be realized towards the attainment of the vision, set the long-term indicative targets, as well as a logical and coherent implementation programme of the main activities, with reasonable, feasible and agreeable time frame that takes into account resource constraints.

During its meeting in Windhoek, Namibia in August 2018, the SADC Council directed the Secretariat to align the SADC Vision to the African Union Agenda 2063 since the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) are building blocks of the African Union.

The Interim Report on the formulation of the Vision 2063, and RISDP 2020-2030, based on the review of RISDP and the SIPO will be presented to Council in August 2019, and the drafts of the Vision 2063 and RISDP 2020-2030 in March 2020. The consultancy for the formulation of SADC’s Development Vision 2063, and the RISDP 2020-2030 is currently in progress. The consulting firm, Daima Associates Limited, led by Professor Samuel Wangwe, paid a courtesy call to the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, on the 2nd of April 2019 during their mission to update the Secretariat on the progress of their work.

During the meeting with the SADC Executive Secretary, Prof. Wangwe highlighted that their assignment of reviewing both revised RISDP and SIPO was progressing well as they started off with fruitful discussions with SADC Directorates and Units. He further noted that the Inception Report that was presented at a meeting of Senior Officials held in Johannesburg, South Africa in February 2019, was well received, with a number of comments and suggestions that were provided having been taken on board, including the need for the consultant to visit all 16 Member States. Prof. Wangwe promised to deliver the first draft of their work to the SADC Secretariat by May 2019, while the Final Report will be delivered by mid-July 2019. The SADC Executive Secretary, cordially welcomed Prof. Wangwe and his entourage to the SADC Secretariat. She stated that the review of the two SADC strategic documents is combined, in order to ensure that the interrelatedness of the RISDP and SIPO is maintained throughout the review process. The focus of the SIPO is to facilitate peace, political stability and security, in order to enable the region to realise its socio-economic development objectives and regional integration through the RISDP.

Dr. Tax indicated that the outcome of the review will shape the direction of SADC for the remaining period, and beyond 2020, as the revised RISDP and SIPO are coming to an end in 2020. She further emphasised the importance of completing the assignment well in time for presentation to the SADC Council of Ministers in August 2019. She pledged her support to the consultants for a successful completion of the exercise.

Professor Samuel Wangwe was accompanied by Professor Mohammed Bakari and Dr. Samuel Nyantahe, while the SADC Executive Secretary was accompanied by the Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs, Amb. Joseph Nourrice.

SADC Secretariat Monthly Newsletter Issue 4, April 2019
SADC, EU Jointly launch €15 million Support to Peace and Security in the SADC Region (SPSS) Programme

By Innocent Mbuyundu

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the European Union (EU) Delegation to Botswana and SADC on 5th April, 2019 jointly launched the Support to Peace and Security in the SADC Region (SPSS) Programme in Gaborone, Botswana.

The SPSS Programme is funded under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) for a duration 3.5 years to the tune of €15 million and it is designed to strengthen the capacity of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs to promote peace, security and democracy across the SADC Region in line with the SADC Treaty and the Politics Defence and Security Cooperation of 2001.

The Programme builds on the gains made by the Regional Political Cooperation (RPC) programme launched in 2012 under the 10th EDF which has contributed significantly to strengthening SADC’s capacities to enhance democratic institutions, conflict prevention and management mechanisms. The launch was presided over by Head of Delegation of the European Union to Botswana and SADC, His Excellency Ambassador Jan Sadek and SADC Director of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs, Mr Jorge Cardoso, representing the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax. Mr Cardoso expressed gratitude to the European Union for the long standing cooperation with SADC in the area of Peace and Security.

He noted that the support from the EU through the RPC Programme enabled SADC to develop a specialised pool of mediators to the tune of 395 across the region and more than 1000 election observers, of whom more than 120 have been exposed to modern information, communication and technology (ICT) tools of assessing the electoral cycle. The ‘Support to Peace and Security in the SADC region’ Programme builds upon the lessons learnt, challenges encountered, and indeed, opportunities identified under its predecessor, the RPC Programme, in aiming to strengthen SADC’s capacity to meet the benchmarks in our Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ (SIPO) as revised,” said Mr Jorge Cardoso.


There cannot be sustainable development without security, stability and peace. And there will be no real and lasting peace without truly sustainable development and poverty reduction. The links between security and development are clear, and addressing them is a political imperative for the European Union,” H.E. Ambassador Sadek noted.

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Malawi and Tanzania agree to construct
One Stop Border Post

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Governments of Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania have agreed to commence the construction of the One Stop Border Post (OSBP) at the Songwe-Kasumulu border post with immediate effect to boost trade ties between the two countries. The agreement is contained in the Communiqué issued following the two-day State Visit by His Excellency Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, President of the United Republic of Tanzania to the Republic of Malawi where he held discussions with His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi in Lilongwe.

The two leaders underscored the need to further deepen the cooperation between Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania in various areas including Transport, Communication, Tourism, Culture, Investment and Social Affairs. During their meeting, H.E. Prof. Mutharika, reiterated his Government’s anticipation of the astute leadership of Tanzania in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), as H.E. Dr. John Magufuli assumes the Chairpersonship of SADC from August 2019 and pledged Malawi’s unwavering support to Tanzania’s Chairmanship of SADC.

Malawi is one of the three SADC Member States which include Mozambique and Zimbabwe that were affected by devastating flood disaster induced by Cyclone Idai in March this year and H.E. Prof. Mutharika, extended Malawi’s appreciation to H.E. Dr Magufuli for Tanzania’s immediate response to the appeal for Emergency Relief Assistance. On the same note, H.E. President Dr. Magufuli, expressed his condolences to the Malawi leader and the People of Malawi for the loss of life and property during the disaster. Malawi and Tanzania have a long standing bilateral and diplomatic relationship that is anchored on similar cultures, language, practices; and a common ancestral heritage.

Six former heads of states from SADC celebrate Kenneth Kaunda’s 95th Birthday

By Barbara Lopi

Six former Heads of States from SADC Members States traveled to Lusaka, Zambia to join in the celebrations of the 95th birthday of Zambian’s first President Dr Kenneth Kaunda on 28th April 2019. Dr Kaunda who served as the first President of the Republic of Zambia from 1964 to 1991 is seen as a symbol of dedication to the complete decolonisation of Africa. Together with former Presidents Mwalimu Julius Nyerere of the United Republic of Tanzania and Sir Seretse Khama of Botswana, Dr Kaunda founded the Frontline States that were later joined by Angola and Mozambique in 1979.

The former President of the Republic of Mozambique, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, led the delegation comprising the former President of the Republic of Malawi, Bakili Muluzi; former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Ali Hassan Mwinyi; former President of the Republic of Botswana, Festus Gontebanye Mogae; former President of the Republic of Namibia, Hifkipunye Lucas Pohamba; and former President of the Republic of Zambia, Rupiah Bwezani Banda.

The gesture by the former Presidents is a symbolic recognition of Dr Kaunda’s contributions to the liberation of Southern Africa, which is in line with SADC’s programme of promoting the region’s liberation history.

In August 2018, the SADC Summit set 23rd March as the date for the commemoration of the Southern Africa Liberation Day to remember freedom fighters who played a pivotal role in the struggle for liberation of Southern African States, and approved the inclusion of Southern African Liberation struggle in SADC Member States curriculum.
By Innocent Mbvundula

The Outgoing High Commissioner of the Republic of Zambia to Botswana and SADC, His Excellency Brigadier General Patrick R. Tembo (retired) on 18th April, 2019, bade farewell to the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax.

Dr Tax thanked the Outgoing Zambian High Commissioner for his contribution and commitment to the SADC regional integration and development agenda through the SADC Committee of Ambassadors and High Commissioners. She noted that, as a result of the commitment of the outgoing Zambian High Commissioner and other members, the SADC Committee of Ambassadors and High Commissioners was revitalised and continues to meet regularly, thereby serving as an effective line of interface between the SADC Secretariat and Member States. The Executive Secretary extended best wishes to Brig. Gen. Tembo in his future endeavours and expressed hope that he will continue to advance the SADC regional agenda in support of Zambia’s role as the Chair of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

On his side, Brig. Gen. Tembo (retired) expressed gratitude to the SADC Secretariat, under the leadership of Dr. Tax, for the good working relationship that exists between the Zambian High Commission and the SADC Secretariat. Brig. Gen. Tembo informed the Executive Secretary that, during his four-year tenure as Zambia’s High Commissioner to Botswana and SADC, he came to appreciate the efforts and challenges of the SADC Secretariat in enhancing regional cooperation and integration in various areas, such as Trade, Infrastructure Development, Energy and Social and Human Development. The Outgoing High Commissioner assured the Executive Secretary of Zambia’s continued support and cooperation in the implementation of SADC goals and objectives as well as the strategies to achieve regional integration.

The Zambian Ambassador was accompanied by the First Secretary for Press and Public Relations at the Zambian High Commission, Mr Kasabo Kalusa, while the SADC Executive Secretary was joined in the meeting by the Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs, Ambassador Joseph Nourrice and Acting Director of the Organ, Ms. Kealeboga Moruti.

SADC, EU Jointly launch €15 million Support Programme

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The EU Head of Delegation added; “If a region is not peaceful and stable, and its citizens do not feel secure, it will not be able to sustain its development and reap the benefits of integration”.

The launch was attended a cross section of people which included, Ambassador of the United States of America to Botswana, H.E. Craig Cloud, Ambassador of France to Botswana, H.E. Mr Pierre Voillery, the United Nations Resident Coordinator for Botswana, Ms Jacinta Barrins, Officer in Charge of UN Women Botswana, Ms. Lydia Maphoko-Ditsa, representatives from the Government of Botswana, representatives of SADC High Commissioners and Ambassadors, representatives of various UN agencies, election bodies, SADC Secretariat staff, Non-Governmental Organisations and the Media.
SADC’s implementation of aquatic animal health programmes commended

Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) has commended the SADC region for leading the way on the African continent in the development and implementation of the aquatic animal health programmes to support sustainable aquaculture production.

During the fourth Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health in Santiago, Chile, held from 2-4 April 2019 which was convened by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the FAO and AU-IBAR reported that most regions of the continent are using the SADC model to develop their regional frameworks.

The SADC region has developed a Regional Aquatic Animal Health Strategy that provides Member States with a framework to improve governance of aquatic animal health services through strengthening of institutional capacities and development of policies and programmes that comply to the standards of World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

The OIE Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa has raised funds to work with SADC Secretariat and FAO in the SADC region to raise awareness on anti-microbial resistance (AMR) in aquatic animal production, and capacitate Member States on management and promotion of prudent use of anti-microbials. SADC Secretariat will also work with AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE to continue implementing the SADC Aquatic Animal Health Programme. During the conference which was attended by about 300 delegates who included the OIE National Delegates, Aquatic Focal Points, national government representatives, representatives from OIE Reference Centres, international and national private sectors representatives, and international and regional organizations, the SADC Secretariat shared its strategies on addressing Aquatic Animal Health.

The conference was convened under the theme “Collaboration, sustainability: our future”, with the objective to highlight the critical contribution of aquatic animal health programmes to improving aquaculture productivity and sustainability, and consequently the availability of high quality protein to feed the world.

The conference noted that there is a very high proportion of aquatic animals that are traded internationally, accounting for 10% of total global agricultural exports. Because of the rapid growth in aquaculture worldwide and the disease risks associated with the increasingly globalised trade in live aquatic animals and their products, OIE activities and standards in the field of aquatic animal health and the sanitary safety of global trade are important and relevant to all regions of the world. Effective implementation of OIE standards will contribute to ensuring a sustainable sector that can provide a key source of high quality animal protein for the growing human population.

The SADC region recently developed harmonized regional standards for farmed fish, in an effort to ensure that traded fish and fish products from aquaculture meets aquatic animal health and sanitary safety requirements and standards to promote inter-regional, intra-regional and international trade. The conference recognized aquaculture as the fastest-growing food-animal production sector in the world, with nearly 50% of the global supply of aquatic animals for human consumption now derived from aquaculture.
Implications of Distant Water Fishing Fleets in the SADC region

By Dr Motsiki Hlatshwayo & Dr Amanda Shaver

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is collaborating with the Stimson Centre, based in Washington, United States of America (USA), to conduct a study to develop a holistic understanding of the motivations and implications of distant water fishing (DWF) fleets.

The project seeks to understand the multifaceted impact of DWF fleets on local populations, including their threat to food, economic, and maritime security. The study will spotlight the impact of these fleets in two SADC coastal States, Mozambique and the Seychelles.

The DWF fleets have roamed the ocean for centuries. The South West Indian Ocean (SWIO) remains the most attractive destination of DWF fleets, as shown in the picture generated through Automatic Information System (AIS) by the FISH-i Africa project.

Globalization and innovation have enabled these fleets to become more efficient in their operations. Industry improvements including at-sea processors and trans-shipment have enabled DWF vessels to remain at sea for longer periods of time, helping to catch more fish farther from home, while also distorting the supply chain. Moreover, the lack of publicly available information about DWF fleets, from access agreements and vessel ownership to vessel operations and catch and landing data, make it exceedingly difficult to develop an accurate picture of DWF operations.

However, incremental changes are transforming the monitoring and enforcement of the industry. Technological improvements such as vessel tracking systems and other monitoring capabilities have helped to enhance oversight of DWF fleets. Recent international policies to track seafood across the supply chain and the implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) provide the foundation for limiting illegally caught fish from entering markets. Regional cooperation and collaboration and improvements in the capacity of countries to monitor and control fisheries access by DWF fleets is also critical, as recently demonstrated by SADC efforts towards the establishment of a Regional Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance Coordination Centre (MCSCC) in Mozambique. These efforts have the potential to increase transparency and shine a brighter light on the operations of DWF fleets over time. Despite these improvements, major gaps in understanding DWF fleets remain. Research continues to reveal that many vessels act with impunity – both on the high seas and in other countries’ waters or exclusive economic zones (EEZs).

The FISH-i Africa project operating under the SADC MCSCC has recently discovered that some of the DWF vessels engage in illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, fly flags-of-convenience, operate front companies, utilize forced labour, and even traffic in illicit commodities like drugs. Criminal DWF fleets working in foreign EEZs pose a steep threat to economies as they strip jobs away from locals and directly undermine the food security of communities. Moreover, the fleets that engage in IUU fishing jeopardize fisheries management, threatening marine ecosystems. Lawless DWF fleets often challenge food and economic security, contributing to economic and social discontent and instability in countries where reliance on fisheries is high.

The implications of DWF fleets on the SADC region are significant. They pose a threat to food security, economic stability, and maritime security, requiring urgent action to ensure sustainable and fair use of marine resources.
Implications of Distant Water Fishing Fleets in the SADC region

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To deter such practices and incentivize more sustainable and compliant behaviours by DWF fleets, it is important to understand their motivations and the impact of fleet operations. An updated examination of DWF fleets is long overdue as many of the former top global fleets have significantly reduced their footprint while new flag states have stepped into this role.

The South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC), collaborating with SADC and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) have developed Guidelines for Minimum Terms and Conditions (MTCs) for foreign fishing access to the EEZs of the SWIO countries.

The study will provide necessary information, which will help with the implementation of the MTCs in order to establish a durable and equitable framework for cooperation with DWF fleets, mainly the tuna fleets. While understanding the impact of DWF fleets is critically important, uncovering the motivating factors is equally pressing.

Distant water fishing fleets are driven by more than a business calculation, but also by local interests, geopolitical positioning, and the level of fisheries management and enforcement in a target country.

implementation of aquatic animal health programmes

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Recent projections indicate that to satisfy the growing global demand for aquatic food, by the year 2030, global aquatic food production will have to double, with the majority coming from aquaculture. Hence, the SADC region has prioritized aquaculture development to be implemented through the SADC Regional Aquaculture Strategy and Action Plan.

The conference highlighted the challenges that aquatic animal diseases are posing to aquaculture production across the world. Aquatic animal diseases outbreaks continue to cause significant losses in aquaculture production and are having a major detrimental impact on national economies in some countries and regions. The SADC aquaculture sector is diverse, with about 87% of food fish coming from freshwater operations (tilapia, common carp, rainbow trout), and 13% from marine operations (6% from prawns, 5% from bivalves and gastropods, and 2% from marine finfish). This diversity and trade activity that involves import of juvenile and ovum stages and export of mature fish and their products, poses a serious threat to introduction of pathogens in the region. In recent years, SADC region was severely affected by outbreaks of two major OIE-listed diseases, the Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome (EUS) and the White Spot Disease (WSD).

The EUS continues to cause challenges in countries like South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, threatening the development of the tilapia farming in those countries, whereas WSD has already brought down shrimp farming in Mozambique, and continue to cause serious challenges in Madagascar. Recently a new disease, viral hemorrhagic septicemia commonly known as Tilapia Lake Virus (TLV) has been reported in some parts of the continent, and the virus is posing serious threats to tilapia farming in the SADC region.

These disease outbreaks threaten to limit the sustainability of this rapidly expanding sector unless the governance of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services is strengthened so that effective aquatic animal health policies and programmes complying with OIE standards are implemented to prevent or control these disease outbreaks.
EU-supported RPC programme ends with remarkable results

By Innocent Mbvundula

Regional Political Cooperation (RPC) programme which was coordinated by the Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) with financial support from the European Union under the 10th European Development Fund came to an end, having registered remarkable results of contributing to the promotion of Peace and Security in the SADC Region.

Funded to the tune of 17.6 million Euros for a period of five (5) years, the RPC programme was aimed at strengthening the SADC Secretariat’s capacity to support the SADC Secretariat Organ in achieving the specific objectives set out in the Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation and in related regional legislation. In his presentation at the launch of the Support to Peace and Security in the SADC region (SPSS) Programme, which is the successor to the RPC programme, the Programme Coordinator in the Directorate of Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs, Dr Kondwani Chirambo highlighted that the RPC programme registered remarkable progress in promoting peace and security, as a basis for economic growth and poverty reduction in the SADC Region.

He indicated that, through the SADC Mediation Support Unit established under the RPC programme, 395 Civil Society experts from SADC Member States were trained in mediation skills and practice and further to this, the Unit supported a total of 29 High-level mediation Missions to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kingdom of Lesotho and Republic of Madagascar, thus resulting in peaceful and successful elections in the DRC and Madagascar.

Dr Chirambo noted that the SADC Mediation Support Unit enabled peer exchanges and collaboration between SADC Electoral Advisory Council (SEAC), the Electoral Commissions Forum of SADC Countries, the SADC Parliamentary Forum, Electoral experts, Think Tanks and civil societies, in the execution of established Organ mandates in the area of elections and electoral assistance in the SADC region. In support of the Disaster Risk Reduction in the SADC Region, the RPC enabled SADC to put in place the Regional Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy and Fund (DPRSF) which is designed to ensure that the region is ready to respond more effectively to disasters and enhance resilience to disasters. Dr Chirambo further highlighted that, prior to the RPC programme, only six (6) SADC Member States had specific legislation addressing Trafficking in Persons (TIP), however, as a direct result of the RPC’s strategic interventions, nine (9) Member States enacted specific legislation on Trafficking in Persons.

In the same vein, RPC Programme established an Inventory on Trafficking in Persons Legislation, Strategies and Policies which supports the implementation of the 10 Year SADC Strategic Plan of Action on Combating Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (2009–2019), approved by the Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs in July 2017.

The SPSS programme to be implemented from 2018 to 2022 builds on the work of the RPC and seeks to strengthen national and regional infrastructure for peace. The Programme will leverage the skills, tools and strategic policy documents developed under RPC.
SADC Secretariat holds a workshop to Review the Conduct of Exercise UMODZI

By Jocelyne Lukundula & Eliet Magogo

The final phase of Exercise UMODZI, the After Action Review (AAR), was conducted from 8 to 10 April 2019 in Gaborone, Botswana. The workshop was attended by participants from SADC Member States and the Exercise Core Planning Team (CPT) that included the Regional Peace Training Centre (RPTC) and SADC Standby Force Planning Element (PLANELM).

Exercise UMODZI was conducted from 01 October to 16 October 2018 at the Malawi Armed Forces College (MAFCO) in Salima, Malawi. This Exercise was conducted to further enhance SADC Stand by Force, post Full Operational Capability (FoC) that was obtained after the conduct of Exercise Amani Africa II in Lohatl, Republic of South Africa (RSA).

The aim of Exercise UMODZI was to Practice and Exercise SADC SF Multidimensional Headquarters on the Planning and Conduct of integrated Mission planning in Peace Support Operations in preparations to take up the African Standby Force Roster that began in January 2019 to 30th June 2019 and beyond.

The objective of the Exercise UMODZI AAR workshop was to review and document the lessons learnt and identified during the planning and conduct of the exercise with the view of identifying successes, challenges and propose recommendations on how to improve the conduct of future SADC Standby Force (SADC SF) exercises.

The AAR was centred on the aim and objectives of the exercise. It covered presentations and plenary discussions which focused on the following areas:

- Pre Exercise activities;
- Exercise play/conduct;
- Real Life Support;
- Communication Support; and
- Evaluation report.

On the basis of this review, participants noted that the SADC SF Command Post Exercise (CPX) was successfully conducted in line with its objectives. As such, it demonstrated that the SADC SF needs to be further enhanced through the Maputo Five Year Work Plan on the ASF (2016-2020). Further, in line with the Organ 5 Year Work Plan, the AAR recommended that the SADC SF should undertake a Field Training Exercise (FTX) in 2021 as part of the enhancement of its post Full Operational Capability.

It was further noted that, the exercise managed to attract adequate participation from member states and representation of all the Peace Support Operation (PSO) components namely civilian, police and military. In addition, the SADC RPTC was encouraged to conduct training packages for the member states to enhance capacity in PSO training and on the other hand, member states to continue conducting in country Multidimensional PSO training including participation of civilian rostered personnel.

Exercise UMODZI was attended by 12 Member States including Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
SADC collaborates with AUC to support Member States in developing National Agriculture Investment Plans

By Panduleni Elago

The SADC Secretariat is collaborating with the African Union (AU) Commission, the African Union Development Agency and other Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to support the continental states in ensuring that their national agricultural strategic and development plans are aligned to the Malabo Commitments.

Ahead of the second Biennial Review (BR) Report which is due at the end August 2019 on the implementation of the June 2014 Malabo Declaration on Agriculture Transformation in Africa, with the support of AU, the SADC Secretariat joined a consultative mission to Maseru, Lesotho, on 24 - 26 April 2019 to assess the support required to help the Government of Lesotho on the alignment of Lesotho Integrated Plan for Agricultural Development (LIPAD) to the 2014 African Union (AU) Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods.

The mission met with high level officials under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security of the Government of Lesotho as well as development partners supporting the agriculture sector; non-state stakeholders, farmers’ organizations, private sector and policy research centres.

Under the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) of 2003 (Maputo Declaration) and 2014 (Malabo Declarations), there remains a number of commitments to be achieved, including the target of 6 percent annual growth in agricultural Gross Domestic Products (GDP), and the allocation of at least 10 percent of public expenditures to the agricultural sector by each country. Additionally, the Malabo Declaration has seven commitments, namely:

- Re-committing to the Principles and Values of the CAADP Process;
- Enhancing investment finance in agriculture;
- Ending Hunger in Africa by 2025;
- Reducing poverty by half, by 2025, through inclusive agricultural growth and transformation;
- Boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services;
- Enhancing resilience of livelihoods and production systems to climate variability and other related risks; and
- Strengthening mutual accountability to actions and results; that all Member States are expected to report on, biannually.

To better inform the commitments and targets as mentioned above, AU had put in place reporting mechanisms in 2017, and the first Biennial Report on the Implementation of the June 2014 Malabo Declaration was submitted in January 2018.

From the 16 SADC Member States, seven countries were on track, while the remaining eight were off-track to meet the above commitments. The SADC and AU support will help the Lesotho Government in aligning its national agricultural development plans to the Malabo Declaration, to enable the Kingdom be on track during the reporting on all the seven commitments in the next biannual report. The Government of Lesotho seeks to take an approach where its national agriculture food security investment plan (NAIP) would be the single agriculture (investment) plan that all stakeholders will rally behind and that it will inform its Ministerial Strategic Plans and subsequent Annual Action Plans of line ministries under CAADP. Such an approach has seen countries such as Rwanda, transforming its agricultural sector in a short timeframe.

The SADC Secretariat remains committed in supporting Members States in meeting the seven commitments set out in the Malabo Declaration and calls upon Member States to ensure that their national agricultural plans further align where applicable, to SADC Regional Agricultural Investment Plan (2017 – 2022).

Acceleration of the implementation of the National Agricultural Investment Plans to achieve the Malabo Goals and Targets requires high levels of leadership, ownership and commitment at national level, as per commitment seven of the Malabo Declaration.
How SADC is facilitating to improve investment and the business environment in the region

Attracting investment is central to the development and integration agenda of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Barbara Lopi (BL) interviewed Mário Lironel (ML), Senior Programme Officer for Investment and Finance in the SADC Directorate for Finance, Investment and Customs on what the SADC Secretariat is doing to facilitate improved investment and business environment in the region.

BL: Member States of SADC acknowledge that creating a favourable investment climate is central to expanding and diversifying their economies, creating new labour skills, developing infrastructure and enhancing their participation in regional and global value chains. What is SADC doing to improve the investment and business environment in the region.

ML: To improve the investment and business environment in the region, SADC is implementing the Regional Action Programme on Investment (RAPI). The Programme has largely three components: the first component relates to developing and harmonizing the relevant policies and frameworks for attracting and promotion of both domestic investment and FDI. The second one relates to investment promotion initiatives in the region, while the third part relates to developing relevant platforms for sharing information which is relevant to investors. The last area relates to developing a platform for peer learning and best practices as they relate to investment.

However, support to Member States of SADC in improving the investment climate at national and regional level was mainly provided through three mechanisms: fostering policy dialogue, measuring progress, and policy analysis in support of this dialogue. Co-operation with relevant stakeholders also reinforced this support. The approach that the RAPI has developed has earned recognition in the region as well as from donors and international bodies such as the UNCTAD, whose 2016 World Investment Report featured the work conducted by SADC as one of the key pillars supporting reforms in the region.

BL: What progress has been made in the area of investment promotion?

ML: Notable progress has been made in the area of investment including the development of an Investment Policy Framework (IPF) to guide Member States in developing their National Action Plans for Investment (NAPI). The IPF was developed in collaboration with the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and financial support from the European Union. Through the IPF, SADC has helped Member States to meet their growth challenge by placing transparent and accountable institutions, market access and competition, inclusiveness, and economic integration at the centre of the region’s strategy for attracting sustainable private investment. For example, three Member States; Botswana, Malawi and Zambia have developed National Action Plans for Investment to facilitate implementation of the SADC Investment Policy Framework.

The SADC Regional Investment Policy Framework identifies five policy action areas to help Members States to improve business and investment climate: (i) Promoting a coherent and transparent investment environment; (ii) Ensuring market access and competition; (iii) Providing security and protection of investor’s rights; (iv) Ensuring responsible and inclusive investment for development; and (v) Promoting regional and international integration. This regional guidance has become a reference instrument for investment-related reforms among SADC Member States.

In addition to the regional IPF, an important area of engagement with Member States to improve business environment has been the work on investments in Regional Global Value Chain (RGVCs) in the region, where the RAPI has helped Member States to identify opportunities to attract investments into supply chains.

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(RGVCs) in the region, where the RAPI has helped Member States to identify opportunities to attract investments into supply chains that can help advance the industrialization process of the region and promote sustainable development.

Further, SADC has developed a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) Template to assist Member States in the negotiation of investment treaties. Although, the SADC Model BIT is not intended to be (and is not) a legally binding document, it provides advice to governments that they may consider in any future negotiations they enter into relating to an investment treaty.

BL: What other mechanisms has SADC put in place to facilitate investment in the region?

ML: One of the factors investors consider in making their investment decisions is the tax regime of a country. As such Member States are cooperating in harmonizing the Tax regime in the region, mainly in three areas: tax agreements; indirect taxes; and tax incentives. SADC has developed the SADC Model Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) to assist Member States in the negotiation of tax avoidance agreements which are critical for investment and businesses. The network of double taxation avoidance agreements in the region has increased from 52 in August 2015 to 59 by December 2018.

To enhance sharing of information among authorities on tax issues, SADC has developed an Agreement on Assistance in Tax Matters (AATM). To date a total of 11 Member States have signed the Agreement (Botswana, DRC, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia) and five Member States have ratified the Agreement (Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mauritius and South Africa). Three guidelines to enhance cooperation in taxation and related matters have been developed and are under implementation. These are Guidelines on Value Added Tax; Excise Tax; and Tax Incentives. To support investors in accessing information, SADC has developed an investment portal which is linked to Member States investment portals. Further, SADC has developed an FDI Strategy to support the mobilization of FDI into the region.

Finally, the SADC Secretariat is finalizing the formulation of the Support to Improving the Investment and Business Environment (SIBE) Programme for the SADC region valued EUR 14 Million, which will be provided under the 11th European Development Fund.

The programme formulation is in the final stages and is likely to be launched in the third quarter of 2019. In the investment area, the programme will contribute to the removal of barriers to investment and creation of a conducive environment for doing business through alignment and harmonization; support the domestica-
IMPORTANT NOTICE

Infringement of the SADC Trademarks

It has come our attention that there are organisations that are using the name “Southern African Development Community” or the acronym “SADC” to identify their organisation, products, services or their causes.

The SADC Secretariat wishes to inform the general public that the name “Southern African Development Community”; the acronym “SADC”; and the SADC logo are registered and protected trademarks for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat, hence the use of these trademarks without prior authorization from the SADC Secretariat infringes Intellectual Property Rights that we are enjoying.

We, therefore, urge the general public to desist from using these registered and protected trademarks, as they can only be exclusively used by the Southern African Development Community, a regional body comprising 16 Member States, namely; Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

For more information or advice, please contact the Communication and Public Relations Unit at the SADC Secretariat, Gaborone, Botswana on prinfo@sadc.int or telephone +267 364 1863

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Angola Solidarity stories

The Hashim Mbita publication which has 9 volumes has summarized inspiring stories of liberation personalities in various former frontline states. The stories aspire to drive the solidarity spirit which drove the foundation of the SADC we want.

The volume 2 highlights the personal stories from Angola. One of them is the story of Coutinhoh, Rosa.

Rosa Coutinhoh was an Admiral in the Portuguese Navy. He joined the navy in 1994, when he was 18 years old and his first trip with “Sagres” was to Luanda, Angola as a naval cadet. He was the first Portuguese Admiral at the hand of FNLA. For some time, he was also a Portuguese high Commissioner in Angola.

Admiral Rosal Coutinhoh mentioned that he was not there on the 4th of April 1961 when armed struggle for the liberation of Angola started. But he felt there was need to start the decolonisation process in Angola. When he went to Angola he did not know MPLA. He always fought for Angola not to be taken by Zaire. He recognised MPLA as the political force which fought for the liberation of Angola, and as a Marxist party he felt it was not fair that MPLA was marginalised later on.

On the type of independence to Angola, he said it had to be true independence. It had to be independence where all the Angolan people could feel totally independent from the colonial regime, including the Portuguese themselves living there. He was always concerned with foreign political interference from countries like South Africa and other countries.

During the period he stayed in Angola, September 1974 left a deep mark on him as president of the governing council and the pleasant thing he recalls is the fact that he avoided the genocide of the black population in muceques. He also defended that Cabinda, should have been given independence at the same time. He left Angola on 27 January, his wishes were for Angola to reconstruction which was going to take a bit longer but it was necessary.

Compile by: Liwakala Mudengi
Each 7 April is Karume Day in Tanzania to remember the legacy of Abeid Karume, the first president of Zanzibar and the first Vice President of Tanzania. The date of this holiday is the day on which Karume was assassinated in 1972. When the island of Zanzibar gained independence from the British Empire in 1963, it was initially a constitutional monarchy with a sultan. The sultanate was overthrown, however, in 1964, ending five centuries of Arab domination of Zanzibar. It was a quick, but bloody, revolution in which thousands of ethnic Arabs and Indians were massacred.

Abeid Amani Karume was on the African continent during the revolution but was soon called back to Zanzibar to take part in the government. Soon, however, a power struggle developed, which ultimately led to Karume banning his opponent John Okello from Zanzibar and taking charge himself as president. Soon thereafter, Karume led Zanzibar into union with Tanganyika to form the new united republic of “Tanzania”.

He was gunned down by four gunmen on 7 April, 1972, in Zanzibar. Today, he is remembered every 7 April in the national holiday called “The Sheikh Abeid Amani Karume Day”.

Source: https://publicholidays.africa/tanzania/karume-day/

In Angola, 4th April, is celebrated as Peace and Reconciliation Day. It commemorates the signing of the agreement between the Angolan government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. In Portuguese, it is commonly known as União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola in Portuguese. The agreement ended decades of civil war in Angola. Angola became independent from Portugal on November 11, 1975, after the coup in Lisbon that ended the dictatorial regime in Portugal. This action started a process of democratization in Angola and encouraged the push for independence in other colonies of Portugal.

April 4 is for the Angolan people a day of hope in the reconstruction of the country and consolidation of the peace process between the political parties. Organized cultural and sporting events are held across the country to celebrate this day. Also in Luanda, capital of Angola, there are organized official events with the participation of the government and politicians. There are also religious services offered on this day for peace and harmony among people in Angola.

Source: http://aglobalworld.com/holidays-around-the-world/peace-reconciliation-day-angola/

Many Mozambicans also resented Portugal’s policies towards indigenous people, which resulted in discrimination, traditional lifestyle turning difficult for many Africans, and limited access to Portuguese-style education and skilled employment. Mozambique succeeded in achieving independence on June 25, 1975, after a civil resistance movement known as the Carnation Revolution backed by portions of the military in Portugal overthrew the military dictatorship, thus ending 470 years of Portuguese colonial rule in the East African region.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mozambican_War_of_Independence

The Mozambican War of Independence was an armed conflict between the guerrilla forces of the Mozambique Liberation Front or FRELIMO (Frente de Libertação de Moçambique), and Portugal. The war officially started on September 25, 1964, and ended with a ceasefire on September 8, 1974, resulting in a negotiated independence in 1975. Portugal’s wars against independence guerrilla fighters in its 400-year-old African territories began in 1961 with Angola. In Mozambique, the conflict erupted in 1964 as a result of unrest and frustration amongst many indigenous Mozambican populations, who perceived foreign rule to be a form of exploitation and mistreatment, which served only to further Portuguese economic interests in the region.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mozambican_War_of_Independence

In the United Republic of Tanzania, the 7 April is also a significant day, known as Karume Day, to commemorate the legacy of Abeid Karume, the first president of Zanzibar and the first Vice President of Tanzania. It’s a day to honor the memory of an influential figure who played a crucial role in Tanzania’s political history.

Abeid Karume was assassinated on 7 April 1972 during a military coup in Tanzania. His death was a major loss for Tanzania, as he was a significant leader in the nation’s early stages of independence and national development. Karume’s contribution to Tanzania’s growth and development can be seen in the celebrations held on this day, where various events and ceremonies are organized to remember his contributions.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abeid_Amani_Karume

In Angola, the 4th of April is celebrated as Peace and Reconciliation Day. This day commemorates the signing of the agreement between the Angolan government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. It is a day to remember the end of several decades of civil war in Angola.

The agreement was signed on April 4, 1973, following years of conflict, and it was a significant milestone in Angola’s journey towards peace and unity. The day is marked with various activities, including cultural shows, sports events, and religious services, promoting peace and harmony among Angolans.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peace_and_Reconciliation_Day_Angola
ENERGY

The SADC Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan (REEESAP) was developed to guide the development of regional renewable energy and energy efficiency programmes until 2030. In 2018, the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE) was inaugurated to advise SADC Member States on how to make the sustainable energy transformation feasible and viable and to provide a platform for domestic and international partnerships, while also serving as a hub for knowledge and technical expertise.