SADC for lasting peace & security

H.E João Manuel G. Lourenço, President of Angola and Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (centre), SADC Executive Secretary, H.E Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax (5th from right) and other dignitaries during the official opening of the 20th Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) meeting in Luanda, Angola. Story on page 3 & 4

3rd ANNUAL SADC INDUSTRIALISATION WEEK
PROMOTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

30 July 2018 - 1 August 2018
Safari Court Hotel & Conference Centre
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA
ABOUT SADC. VISION. MISSION. VALUES

HISTORY
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
The Southern African Development Coordinating Conference (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 SECRETARIAT VISION
A reputable, efficient and responsive enabler of regional integration and sustainable development.

MISSION
To provide strategic expertise and coordinate the harmonization of policies and strategies to accelerate regional integration and sustainable investment.

VALUES
- Quality
- Professionalism
- Integrity
- Commitment and passion
- Team spirit
- Mutual respect and trust
- Courtesy
- Equality of opportunity
- Transparency and frankness

SADC OBJECTIVES
The main objectives of SADC are to achieve development, peace and security, and economic growth, to alleviate poverty, enhance the standard and quality of life of the peoples of Southern Africa, and support the socially disadvantaged through regional integration, built on democratic principles and equitable and sustainable development.

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.

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SADC convenes 20th Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) meeting in Luanda, Angola

Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security related portfolios from the Southern African Development Community (SADC), convened in Luanda, Republic of Angola for their 20th Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (MCO) meeting on 22nd June 2018. The MCO is the pan ultimate policy structure in the Organ and is convened once a year to discuss the political and security situation in the region as well as to formulate strategies for the security concerns of the region.

In his Key Note address at the opening ceremony of the meeting, the Guest of Honour, His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of Angola and Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, underscored the contribution of the MCO to finding lasting solutions to the security challenges of the region. He noted the efforts made by the Kingdom of Lesotho in implementing SADC decisions on the need for constitutional, parliamentary, judicial and public sector and security reforms necessary to stabilize the country. The Guest of Honour commended the various stakeholders in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) for the progress made in implementing the December 2016 Saint Sylvestre Agreement, observing that this will ease tensions in the country and strengthen mutual trust among all parties. He commended the DRC for the progress made in ensuring the credibility of the December 2018 elections. He further encouraged all the stakeholders in the DRC to remain committed to maintaining a peaceful environment in the country and thanked the Government of the DRC for availing the premises hosting the SADC Liaison Office.

On Madagascar, His Excellency President Lourenço applauded the outcome of the negotiations between the main political stakeholders, the appointment of a consensus Prime Minister and cabinet with the mandate to create enabling conditions for the elections scheduled for November and December 2018. He further announced that the Republic of Angola had granted visa exemptions to twelve SADC Member States which bears testimony to their belief that migration is a key factor in the strengthening of socio cultural exchanges and trade relations among countries. The Guest of Honor ended his remarks by appreciating the sustained efforts of SADC member States to hold periodic and regular elections. He commended the Republics of Zimbabwe, Madagascar, the DRC and the Kingdom of Eswatini whose elections are scheduled for this year for ensuring that the election preparations are done in compliance with the Revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections.

In her remarks, the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, observed that since the last MCO meeting, the SADC region has remained generally peaceful and stable, safe for a few challenges in some Member States. Dr Tax further expressed her delight at President Lourenço’s presence, which she said bears testimony to his pragmatic leadership and commitment to ensuring sustained peace and political stability in the region. The Executive Secretary informed the meeting that SADC will be deploying SADC Electoral Observation Missions to all Member States who will be holding their elections in 2018. The Executive Secretary appreciated the efforts of the SADC Special Envoy to Madagascar, H.E Joaquim Chissano as complemented by the United Nations and the African Union Special Envoys in de-escalating tensions in the country.

Peace keepers
Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO)

She appraised the meeting on the joint UN-SADC operations in the DRC and gave a progress report of the SADC Preventive Mission in the Kingdom of Lesotho (SAPMIL) activities aimed at fostering peace and stability in the country.

In this regard, she announced that an MoU had been signed between SADC and the UNDP in Lesotho to support the national multi-stakeholder dialogue and ongoing reforms in the country. H.E Dr. Tax announced the appointment by President Ramaphosa of former Deputy Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa, Dikgang Ernest Moseneke, as the Leader of the Mediation Team for SADC Facilitation in the Kingdom of Lesotho, who together with his team, would assist in the implementation of SADC decisions and the Lesotho Reforms process.

The Executive Secretary informed the meeting that bush clearing and fencing of the SADC Standby Force Regional Logistics Depot (RLD) was progressing well and that once constructed, the RLD will greatly enhance the region’s capacity to deploy Peace Support Operations. The Executive Secretary thanked the Chair of the Organ for the leadership, dedication and commitment that the Republic of Angola had displayed during her tenure.

Among others, the MCO meeting received a comprehensive report on progress made in the implementation of decisions made at the last MCO meeting held in the United Republic of Tanzania in July 2017.

The Ministers deliberated on the modalities of commemorating Southern Africa Liberation Day; the development of a Mechanism in Honour of the Founders of SADC; the Review of the Criteria for the admission of new members to SADC; the modalities for financing the construction of the Regional Logistics Depot (RLD) and the neutralization of negative forces in the context of United Nations Security Council (UNSCR) 2098(2013) and subsequent resolutions up to the most recent one, UNSCR 2409 (2018) whose mandate expires in March 2019. Having considered the report of the UN – SADC Joint Task Force on further strengthening the FIB, the ministers decided to continue joint work with the UN in this regard, including holding a follow-up meeting at the highest level, on the margins of the next United Nations General Assembly in September 2018.

The Ministers noted the regional elections calendar for 2018 and urged all the Member states to abide by the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2015) reiterating SADC’s commitment and support to electoral observation. The MCO also noted the decision of the Double Troika Summit (DTS) held on 24 April 2018, in Luanda, Angola, to extend the mandate of the SADC Preventive Mission in Lesotho (SAPMIL) for a period of six months from 21 May – 21 November 2018.

In this regard, the meeting endorsed the recommendation of the Joint Chiefs of Defence, Intelligence, Police and Civilian Heads on the composition of the SAPMIL and capacity building requirements in support of the Defence and Security structures in Lesotho. Among other key reports and policy documents, the ministers considered, reviewed and approved the list of the Insecurity and Conflict Indicators for the regional early warning system as well as the SADC Anti-Corruption 5 Year Strategic and Action Plan.

Also in attendance were the Head of the SAPMIL Ambassador Bertino Matias Matondo and Ambassador Pedro Felix Kissoka from the SADC Liaison office in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The meeting also received the report on the Annual Regional Security Assessment and approved the draft Regional Early Warning System Operating Guidelines. The 2018 MCO meeting was attended by Ministers and Senior Officials from the Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

This year’s MCO meeting was the last meeting organised and chaired by the Republic of Angola in her capacity as the SADC Chair of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation. The incoming Chair of the Organ is the Republic of Zambia.
By Pontsho Ponolope & Pandulemi Elago

The SADC focal points persons responsible for Food and Nutrition Security, met in Johannesburg, South Africa on 20-22 June 2018, to constitute and formalise the Steering Committee on Food and Nutrition Security that will oversee the implementation of the SADC Regional Food and Nutrition Security Strategy 2015 – 2025.

The meeting was jointly planned and convened by the Directorates of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) and Social and Human Development (SHD). The meeting was officially opened by Ms Lebo Lebese the Chief Director, International Health Liaison Unit of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of South Africa. The meeting was chaired by the Director of Food Security in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Republic of South Africa, and attended by 14 SADC Member States comprising, Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Also in attendance, were invited partner organisations, such as United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), UN World Food Programme (WFP), UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Ms Lebese noted that the implementation of the Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (2015-2025) will need to be coordinated by a functional steering committee which should ensure that Member States work collectively towards its implementation. She reiterated the importance of the steering committee in providing both technical guidance and leadership on issues of Food and Nutrition Security in the region.

The Chief Director noted the high levels of chronic malnutrition in the region and raised the importance of involving the society in tackling some of the cultural beliefs that influence infant and young child feeding practices. She reminded the participants of the decision by the Ministers of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries around youth involvement in Agriculture. Member States were also urged to take note of the recent World Health Assembly resolution which urges Member States to tackle nutrition, by adopting a life cycle approach. She acknowledged the important role played by International Cooperating Partners in the implementation of the Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (2015-2025).

On his part, the Director of FANR at the SADC Secretariat, Mr. Domingos Gove provided an overview of the objectives of the meeting, and emphasized the importance of the steering committee in realizing the commitment set in the Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (2015-2025). He highlighted that Food and nutrition is an important aspect of human development hence it is one of the key priority areas for the SADC Secretariat. The Member States were reminded that the Strategy should not be seen as an isolated document, as it responds to the Revised SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) as well as the Regional Agriculture Investment
A call for collaboration of partners implementing the SADC LEAP Strategy

Moses Chakanga & Tawanda Gotosa

The coordination meeting of institutions and partners that are supporting and implementing actions towards combating wildlife crime in the region was held on 15th June 2018, at Cresta Lodge, in Gaborone, Botswana.

The objectives of the meeting were to: (i) identify key players and their roles in the implementation of the SADC Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching (LEAP) Strategy; (ii) identify strategic areas of collaboration; (iii) initiate the process of establishing a forum for collaboration, information exchange and communication amongst agencies involved in activities of combating wildlife crime in the region; and (iv) deliberate on modalities and mechanisms for coordination and reporting on progress.

SADC Secretariat is coordinating the implementation of the LEAP Strategy whose overall objective is to significantly reduce the level of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife fauna and flora and enhance law enforcement capacity in the SADC Region.

The Strategy provides a framework for concerted action and cross-border collaboration by Member States and International Cooperating Partners (ICPs) for minimizing wildlife crime and illegal trade, enforcing the law more effectively, promoting sustainable trade and use of natural resources, and reducing the root causes and enablers of wildlife crime.

Since the approval of the SADC LEAP Strategy in 2015 and subsequent decisions on its implementation, several organizations have been mobilizing resources and implementing actions towards combating wildlife crime in the region in support of LEAP implementation. In view of the uncoordinated efforts motivated by the shared commitments in decreasing illegal wildlife trade, SADC Secretariat identified the need engage with different implementers in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration to forge strategic partnerships and reinforce joint alignment to the regional priorities as stipulated in the SADC Protocol on Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement as well as the SADC LEAP Strategy.

Delivering his welcome remarks on behalf of SADC Executive Secretary, SADC Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Director, Domingos Gove, stressed the importance of collaboration among various partners towards the implementation of SADC programmes. He informed the meeting that the responsibility for coordinating the implementation of the SADC LEAP strategy is shared by two Directorates as indicated below:

- The wildlife crime and law enforcement component of the LEAP strategy is coordinated by the Directorate of the Organ for Peace, Defence and Security Affairs (the Organ); and
- The conservation and sustainable management of wildlife components of the LEAP Strategy are coordinated by the Directorate of Food Agriculture and Natural Resources.

SADC Senior Programme Officer for Natural Resources Management (SPO-NRM), Ms. Deborah Kahatano, gave an overview of the SADC LEAP Strategy, implementation modalities and milestones achieved since the strategy was approved. She also presented in detail the Regional Plan for Coordination of implementation of the SADC LEAP Strategy that was approved by the SADC Council of Ministers in August 2017.

The plan contains five key result areas on enhancing legislation on wildlife and law enforcement; integration of people and nature in natural resources management; ensuring sustained trade in and use of natural resources; improvement and strengthening of field level protection of wildlife resources;

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Zambian truck driver foresees better days after completion of Kazungula Bridge project

By Innocent Mbutundula

Hopes are high for one, Mr Chummy Mwaanga, a 36-year old Zambian truck driver from Zimba area in southern part of Zambia as he awaits the completion of the 923-meter long Kazungula Bridge Project which is co-funded by the Governments of Botswana and Zambia to the tune of US$161 Million.

Mr Mwaanga is one of the regular users of the Kazungula Bridge. For four years, he has been using the bridge to transport salt from Sua Pan in Botswana into Zambia.

To him and others, crossing the border has not always been an easy undertaking. Long queues of trucks and slow processes have been characteristic of his on-the-road experience. In the absence of a functional bridge, using the pontoons is the only means available to cross to the other end.

Narrating his experiences to journalists from Botswana, Namibia and Zambia who were conducted on the visit of the Kazungula Bridge, facilitated by the SADC Secretariat with support from the German development agency Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Mr Mwaanga said, sometimes it takes over ten days to cross the border. “We depend on the pontoons to cross, and if one of the pontoons is not working, it becomes a challenge, and when that happens, we know that we are going stay at the border longer than usual,” said Mr Mwaanga.

He said prolonged stay in transit is not good for the business. “We can only make one trip in a month, meaning that we incur more costs than we would if the time we spend in transit was reduced,” he said. Today, as he watches the progress being made on the Kazungula Bridge, Mr Mwaanga foresees better days ahead. The completion of the Kazungula Bridge Project will mean reduced number of days in transit.

According to the Deputy Team Leader for the supervising Consultants Mr Michael Lear, once the bridge project is completed, the Kazungula Bridge Project will significantly reduce the transit time for freight and passengers thereby reducing time-based trade and transport costs.

Mr Lear said, as part of the project, construction of two One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) is underway on both sides of Botswana and Zambia as one way of improving border management operations. Once the One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) are operational, travelers will undergo all immigration, customs and other border formalities promptly.

“With the One Stop Border Post on both sides, travelers from either side of Botswana and Zambia will drive straight across the river to undergo immigration formalities on the other side, instead of going through two border posts,” said Mr Lear, adding that each Border Post will have officials from both Botswana and Zambia, thereby reducing transit time from three days to less than half a day.

The completion of the Kazungula Bridge Project is expected to help boost regional economy by increasing the global competitiveness of goods from Botswana and Zambia, due to the increased traffic along the North-South Corridor.
Collaboration of partners implementing the SADC LEAP Strategy

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and coordination and technical support to SADC Secretariat. Each key result area is further broken down into outcomes, targeted outputs, key actions, status and partner for its implementation.

The meeting invited Partners to review and consider the coordination plan as well as comment on which areas of plan’s activities they would like to offer support. In addition, the partners were also invited to make presentations on their activities related to combating illegal wildlife trade in the region to promote information exchange.

The meeting was attended by high level officials representing organizations operating within the SADC Region, namely, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); USAID; US Embassy Gaborone; Conservation International (CI); IUCN-BIOPMA; PPF; British High Commission, Gaborone; CITES MIKE Programme; Space for Giants, Gaborone; GIZ and TRAFFIC.

Mr. Reinhard Woytek, Programme Director for the SADC/GIZ Transboundary Use and Protection of Natural Resources (TUPNR) Programme, facilitated the meeting. The TUPNR Programme also supported the development of the SADC LEAP Strategy.

Food and Nutrition Security

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Plan (RAIP) which aim for regional integration, to address issues of food insecurity and malnutrition amongst its priorities. The Meeting validated and finalized the Terms of Reference for the Food and Nutrition Security Steering committee and culminated with the launch of the Steering committee, which will meet annually to deliberate on progress made towards implementation of the Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (2015-2025).

The European Union committed EURO 1.8 million under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) programmed under the Operationalisation of the Regional Agricultural Policy to support some components of the Food and Nutrition Security Strategy over a period of three years (2018 – 2020).

Furthermore, technical support will be provided under the partnership between UNICEF and the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation to address issues around early childhood and maternal nutrition welcomed the commitment by FAO and NFP to support components of the strategy.

The next Steering committee meeting will be held in 2019, before then the food and nutrition security focal point persons will be working to operationalise the Food and Nutrition Security Strategy for the advancement of regional development and towards reducing food insecurity and malnutrition in the region.
SADC can highlight progress through media

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Deputy Minister of Communications of the Republic of South Africa, Hon. Ms. Pinky Kekana has said the media are the window through which the SADC region can highlight the positive developments the region has made since SADC was founded in the 1980s. Hon. Ms. Kekana was speaking at the opening ceremony of the 23rd annual meeting of the SADC Regional Adjudication Committee (RAC) which took place on 24-29 June, 2018 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The Deputy Minister said there is a resolve for a new dawn on the African continent, in particular, in southern Africa. The Deputy Minister said SADC has made progress on many fronts in unlocking regional economic opportunities and, through the Industrialization Strategy, building resilient infrastructure, that can promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster the much-needed innovation. On this note, Hon Ms. Kekana called on the media to use their power to help reinforce universal values such as gender equality, dignity and the promotion of social progress, and to amplify the voices of the minorities and voiceless in the region.

Turning to the SADC Media Awards, the Deputy Minister said it was pleasing to note that, among the key issues that adjudicators look at in selecting the winning media entries, is the promotion and strengthening of SADC Regional Integration. She added that the awards are the one of the best ways to recognize and reward those who assist in making sure that ordinary people, including SADC stakeholders and audiences, are informed and made aware of the positive strides that SADC is making.

Speaking earlier, Head of Communication and Public Relations at the SADC Secretariat, Ms. Barbara Lopi thanked the Deputy Minister of Communications for gracing the opening of the RAC meeting, saying the gesture signifies the value that the Government of South Africa attaches to the SADC Media Awards and to the promotion of journalism excellence in the SADC region. Ms. Lopi reported that, following the approval by Council of Ministers in August 2017, the winners of the 2018 SADC Media Awards will receive an increased prize money worth US$2500, up from US$2000 per category, with an introduction of second prize winners of US$1000 in each of the four competition categories namely; photo, print, television and radio.

Established by the SADC Council of Ministers in August, 1996, the SADC Regional Adjudication Committee meets annually to adjudicate on media awards entries submitted by journalists from SADC Member States through their National Adjudication Committees (NAC).
SADC Secretariat takes part in Understanding Risk forum in Mexico

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), through the Senior Officer-Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Unit, Mr Clement Kalonga on 14-18 May, 2018 participated at the 2018 Understanding Risk (UR) Forum, which took place in Mexico City, Mexico.

UR forum is an open and global community of over 7000 experts and practitioners in the field of risk assessment and risk communication. The forum is organized every two years to take stock of innovation in the field of disaster risk management, particularly the understanding of risk. It brings together representatives from government agencies, private sector, multilateral organizations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), research institutions, academia and civil society from more than 100 countries.

The 2018 UR Forum provided a unique opportunity to highlight new initiatives, build partnerships, and foster advances in the field, building on the success of the first four UR Forums held in 2010 in Washington DC, 2012 in Cape Town, 2014 in London and 2016 in Venice.

According to Mr Kalonga, UR experts and practitioners are interested and active in the creation, communication and use of disaster risk information to share and the UR community members share knowledge and experience, collaborate, and discuss innovation and best practices in risk assessment. Mr Kalonga said the forum was critical to the SADC Regional DRR Programme which is aligned to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction whose first priority focuses on “Understanding Disaster Risk”.

“This priority entails that disaster risk management should be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions of vulnerability, capacity, exposure of persons and assets, hazard characteristics and the environment,” said Mr Kalonga, adding that, such knowledge can be used for risk assessment, prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response.

He added that the SADC Regional Preparedness and Response Strategy, approved by the SADC Council of Ministers in August 2017 has a priority area for action on understanding risk and disaster information systems which covers risk assessments, disaster management information systems and early warning; and early action systems.

Understanding Risk is an initiative of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), part of the World Bank Group. It is a preeminent platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and innovation in identifying and assessing disaster risk.

Apart from the SADC Secretariat, the 2018 UR forum was also attended by a number of SADC Member States notably; Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique and Seychelles most of which shared their country experiences in various sessions.
The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministers responsible for Gender and Women's Affairs have been called upon to step up their efforts towards achieving gender equality and women empowerment in the region.

The Minister of Women in the Office of the Presidency, Republic of South Africa who is also the Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers responsible for Gender and Women Affairs, Honourable Bathabile Dlamini and the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, made the call on 5th July, 2018 at the opening of the meeting of the committee of Ministers responsible for Gender and Women Affairs held in Johannesburg, South Africa.

In her remarks H.E. Dr Tax said SADC places gender firmly on the SADC Regional Integration Programme of Action and Agenda, and recognises Gender as an important cross-cutting issue and enabler of regional integration. She said, because of its importance, Gender issues are enshrined in strategic SADC instruments and is operationalised through the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development.

The SADC Executive Secretary commended Member States for the continued progress towards women empowerment, citing the improvement in the representation of women in political and decision-making positions at various levels of governance, including the main institutions of State namely; the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary. H.E. Dr Tax, however, said the SADC region needs to step up efforts towards gender equality and women empowerment, noting that women representation in decision making bodies falls short of the 50:50 target. She added that, according to the Gender Barometer 2017, the SADC region is less than two thirds, where it needs to be, to achieve gender equality by 2030. On her part, Honourable Bathabile Dlamini said time has come for SADC Member States to reverse the structural inequalities that have historically excluded women from the development processes of the region.

The Minister urged the Ministers responsible for Gender and Women Affairs to work extra hard to implement the commitments and decisions that ensure women empowerment and gender equality in the SADC region. "We must guarantee policies that provide access to land, water, technology and financing to mention just but a few and women's access to social protection, security, health, education and decent work, along with a life free of gender-based violence," she said. Honourable Dlamini expressed concern over incidences of Gender Based Violence, including Trafficking in Persons (TIP) that are prevalent in the region. On this note, the Honourable Minister called for new innovative and targeted public security response to protect and ensure the security of citizens, particularly women and children.

The Revised SADC Protocol on Gender and Development which was adopted in 2013 provides for the empowerment of women, elimination of discrimination, and the promotion of gender equality and equity through gender-responsive legislation, policies, programmes and projects. Annually, the SADC Secretariat prepares an annual SADC Gender and Development Monitor, a regional progress report on the implementation of the Protocol which is consolidated based on the national reports from all Member States.
Joint Meeting of SADC Ministers of Energy and Water held

By Jocelyne Lukundula

The joint Meeting of SADC Ministers Responsible for Energy, and Water was held at Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa on 27th June 2018. The main objectives of the meeting were, among others, to:

• review progress in the implementation of the decisions of Ministers at their last meetings;
• consider Progress in the implementation of the energy and water Programmes and Projects; and
• deliberate on and give guidance on the security of Energy and Water supply to ensure food security and economic and industrial development in the SADC Region as per the request of the current Chairperson of the Summit.

Emerging issues in the Energy sector such as the promotion of natural gas and its contribution in the regional energy mix also formed part of the discussions. The meeting also discussed the signing of Intergovernmental Memoranda of Understanding (IGMOUs) for regional interconnector projects that are important for enhancing regional integration. The outcomes of the discussions will be presented to the coming Council and Summit meetings to inform and contribute to the current Summit theme of “Partnering with the Private Sector in Developing Industry and Regional Value Chains”.

The Secretariat presented progress that has been registered in the implementation of specific interventions in both Energy and Water. The meeting was opened by the Minister of Energy, of the Republic of South Africa, Honourable Mr. Jeff Radebe. Hon. Radebe stressed on the importance of Water and Energy as critical resources that are reciprocally and mutually linked. He further stated that in the Region, both energy and water are strategic resources that are fundamental to the economic development, industrialisation and creation of the much needed jobs in a region characterised by high levels of unemployment especially among the youth. He further urged SADC Member States to intensify efforts to stimulate national energy efficiency planning and to provide strong technical support across the value chain, especially in rolling out various energy efficiency programmes.

Delivering his remarks, the Deputy Executive Secretary for Regional Integration, Dr. Thembinkosi Mhlongo stated that SADC has just completed the Short Term Action Plan implementation of the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP). Dr. Mhlongo recalled some of the very strategic and important regional development imperatives, such as the Regional Industrialisation Strategy and its Road Map, the Regional Agricultural Policy with its associated Regional Agricultural Investment Plan, that were adopted in the last few years, to which the Water and Energy sectors in particular need to contribute meaningfully to ensure the success of these initiatives.

He further promoted the Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus as an approach that promises to address these important considerations. “This approach will avoid to face the situation that the Region went through in the past with the drought that resulted in a food security crisis”, he added. Ministers held a workshop on 26th June 2018 on Regional Gas Infrastructure and Market Development, in the margins of this meeting, and deliberated on several issues related to gas exploitation in the Region. The workshop provided a perspective on the potential of gas in the Region.

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Ministers for ET-STI meet to discuss implementation of sectoral programmes and initiatives

By Anneline Morgan & Letso Mpho

The SADC Ministers responsible for Education and Training, Science, Technology and Innovation (ET-STI) convened for their Joint Meeting on the 21-22 June 2018 at Zimbali resort, Durban, Republic of South Africa where twelve Member States were in attendance namely: Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The meeting of the Ministers was preceded by the Joint Meeting of Senior Officials responsible for Education and Training and Science, Technology and Innovation from 18-20 June 2018. On the 20 June 2018 a Ministerial Policy Dialogue was held under the theme: “Digitization and Industry 4.0: Implications for STI and Skills Development”.

The Joint Meeting of Senior Officials reviewed progress and implementation of new and on-going programmes and initiatives in the related sectors in relation to education and training and science, technology and innovation for consideration by the Ministers meeting. The Ministers considered key policy and strategic instruments of cooperation on regional integration in the areas of education and training, and science, technology and innovation (STI). The role of education and skills development and science, technology and innovation is key in contributing to the advancement of the SADC Industrialization Agenda through building the necessary skills and capacities and investments in research, development and innovation for modern, knowledge economies. The following policies and programmes were considered by the Ministers:

- Draft Framework and Guidelines on establishment and strengthening of Centres of Excellence and Centres of specialization,
- Proposed establishment on SADC University of Transformation,
- Draft SADC Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) Framework and Guidelines,
- Draft SADC Innovation and Technology Transfer Framework and Action Plan,
- Signing of Charter on Women in Science, Engineering and Technology,
- Draft Framework for Professional Teacher Standards and Competencies,
- Draft Common Nomenclature on Vocational Education and Training in the Region,
- Draft Revised Technical and Vocational Education and Training Strategic Framework.

In her opening remarks, the Minister of Higher Education and Training for the Republic of South Africa, and Chairperson of the Joint meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Education and Training and Science, Technology and Innovation, Honourable Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor stated that in its efforts to implement the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan 2015-2020 and the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2016-2063, the SADC region needs to focus on value-added industrialisation in the context of the current economic and policy conditions prevailing in SADC Member States.

Minister Pandor also underlined that the SADC region aims to move up the value-chain from producing and exporting basic manufactured and semi-finished goods, to producing final consumer and industrial goods. She also thanks SADC Member States for supporting South Africa’s nomination to the United Nations Security Council.

The SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for Regional Integration, Dr. Themkinkosi Mhlongo said that the Joint Meeting of Ministers of Education and Training, Science, Technology and Innovation attests to the importance that the region attaches to the values and ideals of SADC goals most importantly the policy frameworks that guide work including the revised RISDP and the SADC Industrialisation Strategy.

Minister Pandor (front row centre), Dr. Mhlongo (front row, 8th from left) with Ministers and senior officials
The Director of the International Labour Office (ILO) for East and Southern Africa, Dr. Joni Musabayana also addressed the Ministers, and underscored that technological innovation, globalization, climate change, shifts in the organization of work through platform-based economies, digital technologies and artificial intelligence are rapidly transforming the world of work, therefore, investments in skills development and training systems are more important than ever.

He also emphasised the need for the Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, and Labour sectors to engage in a joint dialogue to address current emerging policy issues such as the Future of Work and its implications for the economy. In efforts towards bridging a gender gap in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in the SADC region, Angola, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa & Tanzania signed the SADC Charter on Women in Science, Engineering & Technology (WISETO). The Charter promotes women in science, engineering and technology in the SADC Region with the aim of enhancing their full participation in the socio-economic development of their respective countries through the application of scientific knowledge and technological innovation. The Ministers considered key policy and strategic documents aimed towards the contribution of the industrialization of the region, and the work to be undertaken over the next years towards the implementation of the regional frameworks that will culminate in fuller and better regional integration.
By Innocent Mbvundula

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) says, with 75% of the region’s population under the age of 35, youth empowerment is an essential factor to drive industrialization and accelerate economic development.

The Senior Program Officer for Industrialization and Competitiveness in the Directorate of Industrial Development and Trade (IDT) at the SADC Secretariat, Dr Johansein Rutaihwa said this as SADC gears for the third SADC Industrialisation Week to be held in Windhoek, Namibia on 30 July-1st August, 2018 under the theme; Promoting Infrastructure and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development.

Dr Rutaihwa said the theme for this year’s SADC Industrialization Week takes cognisant of the huge economic potential that the youth present to the SADC region which can be exploited to drive industrialisation and growth of the regional economy. He said, owing to their capacity and drive to absorb and creatively adapt technological knowledge and innovation, the youth can bring innovative solutions to improve production and marketing efficiency; manage industrial development processes and provide entrepreneurial skills to spur regional value chains which are key to the SADC Industrialization. He called on SADC Member States to harness the demographic dividend of the region by exploring new opportunities for the youth to become innovators, entrepreneurs and industrialists, noting that, if empowered and given space, the youth can be instrumental in the implementation of the regional value chains, which have been identified as part of the operationalisation of the SADC Industrialisation strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063.

The SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap which was approved in April 2015 recognizes the role of the youth. The Strategy calls for active participation of the youth through improved access to finance, skills development and support programmes for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

In the same vein, it urges the public and private sectors to increase their efforts to support youth innovation and entrepreneurship and create quality job opportunities for school-leavers and unemployed youth.

SADC aims to increase medium-and-high-technology production in MVA

By Johansein Rutaihwa

The SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063 targets to increase the share of medium-and-high-technology production in total Manufacturing Value Added (MVA) from less than 15 percent at present to 30 percent by 2030 and 50 percent by 2050. Value added is the net output of a sector after adding up all outputs and subtracting intermediate inputs and it is calculated without making deductions for depreciation of fabricated assets or depletion and degradation of natural resources.

The Strategy is being implemented in phases and is anchored on three interdependent and mutually supportive strategic pillars – industrialisation as a champion of economic transformation; enhancing competitiveness; and deeper regional integration. It sets out three potential growth paths – agro-processing, mineral beneficiation and pharmaceuticals. The intensity of industrialization is the key measurement for regional capacity for competitiveness in
SADC Secretariat bids Farewell to EU Head of Delegation

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), on 13 June, 2018 bade farewell to the outgoing Head of European Union (EU) Delegation to Botswana and Representative to SADC, His Excellency Ambassador Alexander Baum with a call to consolidate the gains made under the leadership of the outgoing Ambassador.

In her remarks, the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax thanked H.E. Ambassador Baum for his stewardship which, she said, strengthened the long standing partnership and collaboration between SADC and EU. H.E. Dr Tax further said the SADC Secretariat will work with the successor to Ambassador Baum in promoting and strengthening regional cooperation and integration. On his part, H.E. Ambassador Baum said he will be leaving for Europe with fond memories of his time in the SADC region, having previously served as Head of EU Delegation to Malawi before coming to Botswana. H.E. Ambassador Baum said he will be leaving for Europe with fond memories of his time in the SADC region, having previously served as Head of EU Delegation to Malawi before coming to Botswana. H.E. Ambassador Baum said he will be leaving for Europe with fond memories of his time in the SADC region, having previously served as Head of EU Delegation to Malawi before coming to Botswana.

Under the leadership of H.E. Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, the Executive Secretary of SADC, and H.E Ambassador Baum, SADC and the EU collaboratively undertook a number of programmes, including the successful implementation of the 10th Cycle of the European Development Fund (10th EDF), and the programming of 11th EDF, finalisation of Pillar Assessment and, strengthening of the SADC-ICP Dialogue Platform. Programmes implemented during the 10th EDF and to be implemented under 11th EDF cuts across a number of sectors, specifically trade facilitation, promotion and development of value chains, infrastructure development, agriculture, consolidation of democracy, and peace and security.

The SADC Secretariat also bade farewell to the Outgoing EU Delegation Head of Cooperation in Botswana, Mr. Jocelin Cornet, and the outgoing Counsellor for Development Cooperation at the German Embassy, Ms. Jana Schlegel.

SADC aims to increase medium-and-high-technology production in MVA

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m e d i u m - a n d - h i g h - t e c h n o l o g y manufacturing and exports. It is measured by the arithmetic average of the share of Manufacturing Value Added (MVA) in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the share of medium and high technology activities (MHT) in MVA. The former captures the role of manufacturing in the economy and the latter the technological complexity of manufacturing. The latter variable also adds positive weight to complex activities on the grounds that these are desirable for competitive performance: a more complex structure denotes industrial maturity, flexibility and the ability to move into faster growing activities.

In the SADC region from 2010 to 2017 it is only the high-technology exports which have grown, at 2.9%, while the rest, in resource based, low and medium tech sectors, had decreased. The medium-and-high-technology sectors have been growing slower than the region’s average of manufactured exports, resulting in a slight contraction of their share.

There is therefore the need to increase the manufacturing base; diversify production and exports; and develop the capacities to build competitive medium and high-tech sectors. Increasing the medium and high-tech exports without increasing the national production of medium and high-tech sectors means that very little value is added to the medium and high-tech products which are exported. Hence, profits would not be seen in the country and other benefits such as positive spill-overs in terms of skills and technology would not be felt.
By Liwakala Mudengi

http://amlibsrv.sadc.int:81/Main.aspx

The SADC Secretariat library has embarked on digitalisation journey of its resources for purposes of preserving and facilitating easy access to vital information. Currently, SADC Summit and Council records have been uploaded online and can be accessed through the online catalogue on the link (http://amlibsrv.sadc.int:81/Main.aspx). Users can also have access to some historical and family photos attached to the records of those particular events. This article will briefly highlight the following: preservation and accessibility. These concepts are the core elements behind digitisation journey of the SADC Secretariat Library.

The emphasis is also made to the Secretariat staff and Member States to make efforts in depositing program and research reports in electronic format and hard copies to the library staff in order to build a strong and relevant library which will be accessed everywhere in the world once the digitisation is complete. Preservation information resources are key in any organisation to ensure business continuity and avoiding re-inventing the wheel as a result of information loss. Preserved information also assists the organisation to maintain its organisational culture by ensuring that practices and procedures are documented, coded and managed, to ensure that those who join the organisation will easily find trace on how business was conducted and pick it from there. In doing so, the Library drives knowledge management which enhances competence and guarantees good returns from staff.

Accessibility- the Secretariat library serves as a hub of information for staff and Researchers. Researcher will have interest in knowing the Secretariat programs through organisational publications and research reports etc. Not all researchers will be able to physically access SADC house and talk to experts or browse through the Library but through access to electronic resources, they will be able to surf and retrieve information at their disposal and convenience. The digitalised library also serves a purpose of publicising SADC Secretariat programs to those who are far away but have interests in knowing and understanding programs undertaken by the Secretariat in different sectors. As mentioned earlier, due to the mandate of institution; huge amounts of very important progress and research reports are produced from different sectors implementing and finding solutions to challenges the region faces. These reports need to be easily accessed.

In conclusion, it is important to note that the legacy of the SADC Secretariat can only be made strong if institutional memory is strengthened. It is in this regard that the SADC Secretariat library is emphasising the importance of availing information to it so that it is managed properly and is accessible easily. Staff and Member States are urged to engage and travel with Library staff, Mr Liwakala Mudengi at lmudengi@sadc.int or Ms Anne Kulemeka at akulemeka@sadc.int on this exciting digital journey.

SADC Secretariat Library embarks on a digital journey

Joint Meeting of SADC Ministers of Energy and Water held

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Ministers signed a statement of intent on cooperation in the development of regional gas market and infrastructure in which they among others, reaffirm their shared commitment to:

• improve access to reliable, affordable and safe energy to alleviate poverty, encourage economic development and improve quality of life in the SADC region and;
• establish a Region wide gas master plan in line with the principles of the Energy Protocol, as well as the overarching objectives of SADC Industrialization Strategy Framework.

The meeting was attended by Angola, Botswana, Kingdom of Eswatini Kingdom of Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
First of all, as Secretary to the SADC Administrative Tribunal, what is your background, and what does your job entail.

NJ: I earned my law degree in 1987 and carried on with a Masters in International Law. Little did I know that I would be working in so many countries and different jurisdictions. I have worked as a lawyer (Mauritius), Public Prosecutor (Mauritius), District Court Magistrate (Mauritius), Supreme and Constitutional Court Judge (Seychelles), Immigration Counsel (Canada), Vice-Chairperson of the Tax Appeal Tribunal (Mauritius) and Assistant Registrar of the COMESA Court of Justice (Sudan). My job is essentially to discharge the duties under SADCAT Rules of Procedure, transmit all documents and make all notifications required, establish and maintain a Registry of all cases. I am also responsible to plan and administer all budgeting, financial and related activities of SADCAT.

BL: You joined the SADC Secretariat as the Secretary to the SADC Administrative Tribunal in January 2018. Please explain the genesis of SADCAT, and its functions.

NJ: SADC Administrative Tribunal was established to resolve labour disputes between SADC Secretariat or any of its institutions, as an employer, and the employee. This includes a dispute either relating to the contract of employment or to the terms of appointment of such a staff member. As a Tribunal, it is independent and is headed by an elected Judge President assisted by a Secretariat. SADCAT has a pool of seven Judges from different Member States and has two levels of administration of justice. There is the First Instance and the Appeals Panel. At first instance, there can be a bench of one or three Judges depending on the complexity of the case. However, at Appeals level there can only be a bench of three Judges. As I have been asked this question a few times, let me make it crystal clear that any Judge who sits on a first instance panel cannot sit on the appeals panel in the same case.

BL: How does one approach SADCAT?

NJ: It is interesting to note that a party can represent his or her case before SADCAT at first instance or even on appeal in person. In addition, he/ she may either designate Counsel or a third party to assist including a SADC Staff Association member. Moreover, in the case of passing away of an employee, a representative or successor may institute a case.

BL: Is there a time limit to file a case?

NJ: As with most Courts and Tribunals, there is a need for finality in any dispute. Hence, this is taken care of by a limitation provision. For SADCAT, an application should be filed within 90 days from the act or omission complained of.
Importance and mandate of the SADC Administrative Tribunal (SADCAT): Interview with the SADCAT Secretary, Hon. Juddoo

“SADCAT is an independent and impartial institution. If an issue cannot be resolved internally (within SADC Secretariat or SADC Institution and the employee) then SADCAT can be the final resort for both the employer and employee”

BL: I recall Member States asking what law SADCAT will apply.

NJ: Good question, as there is a need for some clarity on this issue. SADCAT will apply the internal rules of SADC Secretariat, SADC HR policies and will also commensurate all with “generally recognized principles of administrative law concerning the resolution of employment disputes of staff in international organizations”.

BL: Which language has to be used when one files a case or appears before SADCAT?

NJ: A party can file a case or appear before the Tribunal in any one of the official languages of SADC.

BL: What message do you have to the staff of the Secretariat?

NJ: SADCAT is an independent and impartial institution. If an issue cannot be resolved internally (within SADC Secretariat or SADC Institution and the employee) then SADCAT can be the final resort for both the employer and employee. Should anyone require a copy of the SADCAT Rules, they can make a request by email. However, bear in mind that SADCAT does not provide legal advice to any party and we can only assist once a case is filed to ensure that it proceeds to hearing and judgment in compliance with the SADCAT Statute and Rules.

BL: How many cases have SADCAT dealt with?

NJ: We are a newly created institution and we are already handling one important case. As this case has reached appeal stage, I am not able to comment any further for now.

BL: Where is SADCAT operating from and what are the hours of official opening and closing time?

NJ: SADCAT Registry is operating from ITower (CB Gaborone, 25th Floor). However, in days to come we are moving to our new Courtroom and offices on 1st floor on the same building. The Registry is open from 08h00 to 12h00 and from 14h00 to 16h00 on every day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday.

BL: Lastly, what benefit can you bring to us from your local and international court experience and how do you find Gaborone?

NJ: My local and international experience with Courts and Tribunal is, I believe, useful to SADCAT. SADCAT being a newly created institution is well equipped with an experienced Secretary (or in legal terminology Registrar). Since my arrival to Gaborone in January 2018, I have been supported in the discharge of my duties and responsibilities by colleagues and each person has been most helpful and welcoming. As for Gaborone or Botswana, I look forward to discovering more of the amazing landscape, about the incredible wildlife and more importantly its proud people and culture.
The following SADCC/SADC milestones 1980 – 1989 were achieved at the following SADCC/SADC Summits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; Place</th>
<th>Established/Launched/Approved/Endorsed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st April 1980 Lusaka Zambia</td>
<td>Leaders or representatives of 9 independent countries of Southern Africa sign a declaration: “Southern Africa: Toward Economic Liberation” of their strategy for a closer integration of their economies thereby creating the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). Government of Botswana requested to examine need for institutional mechanism for overall coordination of SADCC programmes.</td>
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<td>20th July 1981 Salisbury Zimbabwe</td>
<td>The following SADC Institutions endorsed: • Summit • Council • Commissions • Standing Committee of Officials • Secretariat</td>
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<td>22 July 1982 Gaborone Botswana</td>
<td>SADCC’s newly appointed Executive Secretary, Mr Frederick Arthur Blumeris introduced to the Summit.</td>
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<td>6th July 1984 Gaborone Botswana</td>
<td>Dr Simba Makoni appointed SADCC Executive Secretary.</td>
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<td>22nd August 1986 Luanda Angola</td>
<td>Mwalimu Julius Nyerere former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, presented with the Seretse Khama SADCC Medal in recognition of outstanding contribution to the creation and development of SADCC and to the struggle of economic liberation in Southern Africa. Mwalimu Nyerere being the first person to be so honoured by SADCC. Approved the establishment of Intra SADCC Trade Promotion Programme. Noted the creation of new sector in the Programme of Action of Industry &amp; Trade under the coordination of the United Republic of Tanzania.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th July 1987 Lusaka Zambia</td>
<td>Seretse Khama SADCC Medal posthumously presented to late President of Mozambique Samora Moises Machel in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the creation and development of SADCC, and to the struggle for economic liberation in Southern Africa. Dr Simba Makoni appointed as Executive Secretary for second 3-year term.</td>
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<td>25th August 1989 Harare Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Summit instructs Council of ministers to formalise SADCC and give it an appropriate legal status, taking into account the need to replace the SADCC Memorandum of Understanding with an Agreement, Charter or Treaty to be prepared in readiness for signature during the 1990 Summit. Summit calls upon international community to increase pressure on, including sanctions against South Africa to encourage meaningful measures to end apartheid, &amp; begin negotiations without pre-conditions.</td>
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<td>1990 – 1999</td>
<td>To be covered in the next issue</td>
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Compiled By Anne Kulemeka
Source: SADC Summit Communiques
The Republic of Namibia is proud to host the

3rd ANNUAL SADC INDUSTRIALISATION WEEK
PROMOTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The SADC Industrialisation Week is an annual public-private engagement platform aimed at fostering new opportunities for intra-African trade and investment in the region. The event is hosted as a precursor to the SADC Heads of States and Government Summit and its outputs are reported to the annual SADC Ministers Meeting.
38th SADC Summit
9 - 18 AUGUST 2018 WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

THEME: Promoting Infrastructure Development And Youth Empowerment For Sustainable Development

THÈME: Promouvoir le développement des infrastructures et l’autonomisation des jeunes en vue du développement durable

LEMA: Promovendo o desenvolvimento de infra-estruturas e o potenciamento da juventude em prol do desenvolvimento sustentável
The Seychelles consist of an archipelago of about 100 islands in the Indian Ocean northeast of Madagascar. The Seychelles were uninhabited when the British East India Company arrived on the archipelago in 1609. Thereafter, they became a favorite pirate haven. The French claimed the islands in 1756 and administered them as part of the colony of Mauritius. The British gained control of the islands through the Treaty of Paris (1814) and changed the islands’ name from the French Séchelles to the Anglicized Seychelles.

In 1908, the Parliament of Belgium, in spite of unwillingness in the beginning, bent over to global demands (particularly that from Great Britain) and occupied the Congo Free State in the form of a Belgian settlement from the King. Subsequently, it was known as the Belgian Congo and was governed by the nominated administration of Belgium. In 1959, a fierce black-autonomist revolt compelled majority of the European settlers to depart the Belgian Congo. The nation achieved independence from Belgium in 1960, and in 1966, the name of Léopoldville was changed to Kinshasa and the name was derived from a rural community of the 19th century.

Source: https://www.mapsofworld.com/democratic-republic-of-congo/independence-day.html

Democratic Republic of the Congo Independence Day is a national holiday, which is celebrated to commemorate the country’s liberation from Belgium in 1960. The day is observed on June 30 every year. The people of Democratic Republic of the Congo think of it as the most important occasion in their life. Democratic Republic of the Congo was a colony of Belgium from 1908 to 1960. Independence Day is celebrated on June 30 and it is observed to pay tribute to the people who sacrificed their lives for the cause of the independence of their country. The Republic of Zaire is the previous name of the present Democratic Republic of the Congo or République démocratique du Congo (in French language). The country was also known in other names such as Belgian Congo, the Congo Free State, Congo-Kinshasa, and Congo-Léopoldville.

In 1908, the Parliament of Belgium, in spite of unwillingness in the beginning, bent over to global demands (particularly that from Great Britain) and occupied the Congo Free State in the form of a Belgian settlement from the King. Subsequently, it was known as the Belgian Congo and was governed by the nominated administration of Belgium. In 1959, a fierce black-autonomist revolt compelled majority of the European settlers to depart the Belgian Congo. The nation achieved independence from Belgium in 1960, and in 1966, the name of Léopoldville was changed to Kinshasa and the name was derived from a rural community of the 19th century.

Source: https://www.mapsofworld.com/democratic-republic-of-congo/independence-day.html

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Republican of Mozambique

June 25. This holiday celebrates the day when Mozambique gained its independence from Portugal in 1975. The first Europeans set foot on the territory of Mozambique in 1498, when the Portuguese sailors from the voyage of Vasco Da Gama arrived to the country.

The Portuguese trading posts started to appear in about 1500, displacing the Arabic commercial and military hegemony. After World War II the colonies of Portugal were not granted independence and they were declared to be overseas territory.

Many other African countries one by one gained independence from their protectorates. This wave led to the Mozambican War of Independence that lasted from 1964 to 1974.

Source: https://anydayguide.com/calendar/2147

Republican of Seychelles

The Seychelles consist of an archipelago of about 100 islands in the Indian Ocean northeast of Madagascar. The Seychelles were uninhabited when the British East India Company arrived on the archipelago in 1609. Thereafter, they became a favorite pirate haven. The French claimed the islands in 1756 and administered them as part of the colony of Mauritius. The British gained control of the islands through the Treaty of Paris (1814) and changed the islands’ name from the French Séchelles to the Anglicized Seychelles.

The islands became self-governing in 1975 and independent on June 29, 1976. They have remained a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. Their first president, James Mancham, was overthrown in 1977 by the prime minister, France-Albert René. At first René created a Socialist state with a one-party system, but later he reintroduced a multiparty system as well as various reforms. While the islands spent years under European rule, the population was mainly of African origin, with immigration also from sub-continental Asia, Madagascar and other island nations of the Indian Ocean. The result is a creole culture which mixes the best bits from a global range of influences that have somehow combined on the archipelago. There are some, steeping and granite-based, which rise dramatically out of the sea and afford spectacular views to the energetic traveller willing to forego a day on the sun lounger, while the coral islands are largely for observers of wildlife and flora.

Source: https://www.infoplease.com/country/seychelles

Source: https://www.infoplease.com/country/seychelles
Traffic in persons (TIP) is a heinous crime that poses a public security concern in southern Africa, and remains a priority that requires multi-stakeholder efforts and concerted efforts. Member States are committed to preventing and combating TIP through implementing regional frameworks such as the 10 Year SADC Strategic Plan of Action on Combating Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (2009-2019), which was also revised in 2016.

**Public Security**

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<tr>
<th>HOLIDAY</th>
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<th>MEMBER STATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sir Seretse Khama Day</td>
<td>01 July</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
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<td>Public Holiday</td>
<td>02 July</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heroes’ Day</td>
<td>02 July</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
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<td>Unity Day</td>
<td>03 July</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
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<td>Independence Day</td>
<td>06 July</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
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<td>Saba Saba</td>
<td>07 July</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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<tr>
<td>President’s Day</td>
<td>16 July</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
<td>17 July</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King’s Birthday</td>
<td>17 July</td>
<td>Lesotho</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
<td>22 July</td>
<td>Swaziland</td>
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