SADC dialogues with International Cooperating Partners

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WORLD AIDS DAY - 01 DECEMBER 2019 - “COMMUNITIES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE”

“COMMUNITIES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE”
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.

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The INSIDE SADC newsletter is produced by the Communication & Public Relations Unit (C&PRU) of the SADC Secretariat For more information and feedback contact: prinfo@sadc.int Tel:+267 395 1863
Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Feliz Natal e Próspero Ano Novo!

Nous vous souhaitons joyeux Noël et une nouvelle année prospère!

From: H.E Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax
SADC Executive Secretary
SADC dialogues with International Cooperating Partners

By Feziwe Masebula

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the International Cooperating Partners (ICPs) had a dialogue on 5th December 2019 in Gaborone, Botswana and discussed political, policy and technical issues aimed at enhancing synergies, complementarities, and harmonisation of procedures, with a view to stimulate effective and strengthened cooperation.

The SADC-ICP dialogue is held annually to facilitate mutual engagement between SADC and the ICPs and thereby create a common understanding regarding joint considerations and approaches for the implementation of the region’s strategies and priorities.

The SADC-ICP dialogues are held in the spirit of the Windhoek Declaration on a New Partnership between ICPs and the SADC, which was adopted in Windhoek, Namibia, in April 2006, as well as the SADC-ICP Partnership Statement, adopted in Gaborone, Botswana in February, 2014.

The 2019 dialogue was co-chaired by Mrs. Agnes Richard Kayola, the Acting Director in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation in the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the SADC Chairperson, and the Head of Delegation of the European Union to Botswana and SADC, Ambassador Jan Sadek, on behalf of the ICPs. The dialogue was attended by representatives of the SADC Double Troika Member States; Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, ICPs, representatives of Missions of SADC Member States in Gaborone, as well as the SADC Secretariat led by the SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax and supported by Dr Thembinkosi Mhlongo, Deputy Executive Secretary for Regional Integration, and the SADC Secretariat Directors.

In her opening remarks, Ms Kayola underscored the importance of the SADC-ICP dialogue as it provided a unique platform for engaging with ICPs, as equal development partners, and facilitated strengthening of cooperation. The SADC Chair reiterated SADC’s commitment to the implementation of the revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2015-2020 and thanked ICPs for their continued support.

Our offices are closed from December 21st 2019 for the festive season. We will reopen on January 6th 2020. In case of an emergency, please call: +267 3611063. After hours, please call: +267 75517567 or +267 71307002. We wish you a restful festive season and a prosperous 2020. Thank you.


On the sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe, the SADC Chair expressed SADC’s solidarity with the people of Zimbabwe and urged ICPs to unconditionally lift all sanctions against Zimbabwe, to facilitate socio-economic recovery and transformation.

The ICP Chair commended the continued good working relations between SADC and ICPs, and expressed the ICPs’ commitment to support regional integration and cooperation. Ambassador Sadek emphasized that they recognised the priorities of SADC, and expressed the ICP’s commitment to align their support to the SADC priorities.

SADC shared the preliminary findings of the Mid-term Review of the revised RISDP 2015-2020, and shared experts’ findings as preliminary orientation of the ongoing formulation of the RISDP 2020-2030 and SADC Vision 2050.

The ICPs expressed their commitment towards continued support to SADC, with a view to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development through regional integration, for the benefit of people in the SADC region.

During the meeting, seven thematic groups also appraised SADC and the ICPs on the status of implementation of SADC Priorities, and highlighted achievements, challenges, mitigation measures, and resource gaps in need of ICP support. The thematic groups are:

- Trade, Industry, Finance & Investment
- Peace and Security
- Energy Thematic Group
- ICT Thematic Group
- Water Strategy Reference Group
- Health Equity and Inclusive Development
- Agriculture and Food Security

The dialogue saw the birth of a new thematic group, focusing on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, following the realization of the devastating effects of climate change and the need to accelerate interventions aimed at ensuring environmental sustainability. The operations of the thematic group will reflect linkages with other sectors as climate change issues are cross-cutting in nature.
Regional industrialization summit highlights the potential of SADC to participate in global value chains and shape the future of manufacturing

By Dr Johansein Rutaihwa


The Summit aimed at exploring the untapped potential of Southern Africa to participate in Global Value Chains (GVC) and to shape the future of manufacturing, by among others, highlighting the potential impact of Digital Transformation on Southern Africa’s value chains while disseminating knowledge and best practices for advancing manufacturing with the Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies in order to accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

GMIS Connect Southern Africa addressed some of the most pressing challenges for South African countries’ participation in global production and trade, relating to the impact of new technologies in priority value chain clusters. A series of high-level panel discussions explored how the adoption of the Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies could help local and regional firms integrate into global value chains. Further, the discussions also centred on the need for higher private sector involvement to build efficient value chains. With the share of the private sector in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) above 70 percent in most countries, no regional integration is sustainable without active private participation, according to the African Development Bank Group Southern Africa Economic Outlook 2019.

Speaking at the roadshow, Elsie Meintjies, Chief Technical Advisor for UNIDO, said: “The Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) offers opportunities for public and private sector to connect and strengthen the participation in regional and global priority value chains. Through these events which are held in partnership with SADC, GMIS and other stakeholders, UNIDO is proud to be able to introduce tools that will assist countries and priority industrial sectors in the adoption of innovative enabling technologies forming the platform for evidence-based policymaking and the implementation of inclusive and sustainable industrial development strategies.”

H. E Vincent Meriton, Vice President, of the Republic of Seychelles, said: “we are a young continent. Having a right mix of people, technology and governance structure, Africa can seize the arising opportunities for the public and private sectors. People at the core of development is one of our pillars”

Dr. Johansein Rutaihwa, Senior Programme Officer for Industrialisation and Competitiveness at the SADC Secretariat said: “The region through the Industrialisation Strategy 2015 – 2063, sets a target of increasing industrial employment by 40% in 2030, thus as we are embarking on the 4th Industrial Revolution journey, the region has to position itself to understand that, not only more education is required but rather a different education in order to address mass unemployment.”

Namir Hourani, Managing Director, GMIS Organising Committee, said: “Southern Africa is undergoing great changes in its economy, and developing its manufacturing capabilities is an integral way forward for the region’s future sustainability. GMIS Connect Southern Africa demonstrated the enthusiasm of the public and private sectors to harness Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies that will reinforce both value chains and the manufacturing sector, in turn bolstering economic development.”

Mmantlha Sankoloba, SADC Women in Business (SADC-WIB) Country Head for Botswana said: “For Economic development to be a reality in the region both the public and private sector ought to be hands on, the ‘Public-Private Partnerships’ should not just be a concept on paper, it should be treated as a script and acted out accordingly.” She added that private sector engagement and participation must be embraced by Member States, only then will trade policies address real industry needs.

GMIS Connect Southern Africa is the second GMIS roadshow to be organised on a regional scale with participation from the SADC Member states, following the success of GMIS Connect East Africa in November 2019. The topics discussed at GMIS Southern Africa will contribute to setting the agenda for the next edition of the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit in 2020 which will take place from 20-21 April, alongside Hannover Messe, the world’s largest industrial technology tradeshow, in Germany.

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**SADC reviews Standby Force Planning Element legal documents**

By Letso Shine Mpho

The SADC Secretariat held a workshop in collaboration with SADC Member States to review the SADC Standby Force Planning Element (SADC SF PLANELM) legal documents in Gaborone, Botswana from 2 to 5 December 2019.

The objective of the workshop was to review, amend and validate the three legal instruments being; Memorandum of Understanding; SADC Standby Force Operation Guidelines; and SADC Police Standby Operating Procedures. The workshop was also aimed at providing an avenue to deliberate on key operational issues on these documents and clear them for consideration by the SADC Chiefs of Police Committee during its next sitting in 2020.

In his remarks, the Chief of Staff for the SADC SF PLANELM, Brigadier General, Emmanuel Kaputa underlined the importance of the exercise to recast the legal documents and thanked SADC Member States for their commitment and support to the Secretariat for availing officers with experience in legal services and those conversant with matters pertaining to operations of the standby force.

Brig General Kaputa stated that the SADC Standby Force was established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the SADC Heads of States and Government in Lusaka, Zambia in 2007. The Force is a multi-dimensional entity comprising the military, police and civilian components and its main function is to participate in Peace Support missions as envisaged in Article 13 of the Protocol Establishing the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU) under the Framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and African Standby Force.

He said that the MoU was outdated and needed to encompass holistic operational changes that had been observed over the years. Giving an example, he said that the MoU was still making reference to SADC Brigade as a component associated only to military operations, a notion which was contrary to the idea of a multidisciplinary force comprising of the military, police and civilian components.

He further said the current MoU was giving authority for the force to be deployed only within the SADC region. The SADC Brigade mandate also extends to offering support to regional peace operations under the African Standby Force Policy Framework anywhere in Africa under the auspices of the African Union. According to Article 13 of the Peace and Security Protocol, the Brigade has a responsible to partake in missions relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), which SADC prescribed to.

As for the SADC Standby Force Operation Guidelines and the SADC Police Standby Operating Procedures, Brig General Kaputa said these documents are still drafts and that it was a mammoth task for the workshop to carefully review the documents with a view a lot has since happened since the development phase of these legal instruments. The SADC Police Standby Operating Procedures was drafted in 2009 and has ever since remained a draft making it difficult to guide deployments on Peace Support Operations. The workshop ended on high note and had accomplished its mandate and finalised the documents and were ready for adoption by the Chiefs to pave way for fully legalise and operationalise activities of the SADC Standby Force.

In attendance at the roadshow and participating at the various panel discussions was H.E. Vincent Meriton, Vice President of the Republic of Seychelles, Hon. Soomiluth Bholah, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives of Mauritius, Hon. Sekai Nzenza, Minister of Industry and Commerce of Zimbabwe, Hon. Halebongoe Sets’abi, Minister of Trade and Industry of Lesotho, Mr. Juma Reli, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Industry, Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar and Rivo Rakotondrasanjy, President, Alliance for Industrialization of Madagascar. Fabian Kyrieleis, Counsellor Development Cooperation, Federal Republic of Germany Embassy in Botswana, Ndivhuho Raphulu, Director, National Cleaner Production Centre of South Africa (NCPC-SA), Helen Hai, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador for Industrialization in Africa and CEO of Made in Africa Initiative, and Nardos Bekele-Thom as, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in South Africa.
The year 2019 will go down in history as the year southern Africa took a united stand against a biased global political system that militates against developing countries and punishes those which dare to challenge the hegemony.

The region challenged the continued imposition of economic sanctions on one of its own, Zimbabwe.

SADC Chairperson, President John Magufuli of the United Republic of Tanzania said the illegal sanctions “have not only affected the people of Zimbabwe and their government but our entire region.”

In this regard, the 39th SADC Summit held in August in Dar es Salaam called for the immediate lifting of the sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe, and declared 25 October as the day on which SADC Member States “can collectively voice their disapproval of the sanctions through various activities and platforms until the sanctions are lifted.”

Indeed, on 25 October, SADC Member States spoke with one voice and held various activities denouncing and calling for the removal of the sanctions that have hurt ordinary citizens and caused economic challenges for the country.

Zimbabwe has grappled with economic and banking sanctions since 2002 when the United States and its western allies imposed an embargo on the country in response to the manner in which the land reform programme was carried out and the leading role played by Zimbabwe in the intervention in Democratic Republic of Congo in 1998 in support of the government.

These sanctions were imposed by the US Congress under the Zimbabwe Democracy and Economy Recovery Act of 2001 and have been renewed at intervals, but were not approved by the United Nations Security Council.

However, the impact of the banking sanctions has been felt by much more than the targeted officials and companies, having a negative impact on the credit rating of Zimbabwe and serious trickle-down effects on the economy and, by extension, the SADC region.

Another show of solidarity was when SADC Member States sent out a strong message to the global community declaring that the time has come for the people of Western Sahara to attain their right to freedom and self-determination.

The declaration was made at a SADC Solidarity Conference with the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic held in Pretoria, South Africa in March 2019.

The solidarity conference signified the growing call for global unity to ensure the right to freedom and self-determination of the people of the Western Sahara.

Western Sahara remains the only territory in Africa under colonial occupation and oppression, and the country has been under Moroccan occupation despite several declarations by regional, continental and international bodies such as the United Nations for Western Sahara to take charge of its internal processes.

On the security front, the SADC Standby Force successfully assumed its Africa Standby Force (ASF) roster duties on 1 January 2019 for six months up to the end of June 2019.

The assumption of the ASF Standby Roster entailed that the SADC Standby Force had the primary responsibility of being the first responder to conflict situations on the continent by providing a rapid deployment capability.

In this regard, the SADC Standby Force was the AU torch-bearer for implementing peacekeeping and peace-building efforts for the period January-June 2019, including post-conflict disarmament and demobilization.

The ASF, which became fully operational in 2016, is an important tool of the African peace and security architecture for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in the continent.

Throughout the year, SADC remained seized with the political situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho and Madagascar.

The SADC region successfully deployed SADC Electoral Observation Missions (SEOMs) to observe elections in seven Member States that held elections in 2019 – Botswana, Union of Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa. The purpose of the SECOM is to enhance the credibility of electoral processes in southern Africa as well as deepening democracy in the region.

With regard to economic development, 2019 saw SADC continuing with its efforts to strengthen the implementation of activities set out in the industrial development strategy and the regional development blueprint.
According to the African Union, the AfCFTA with the outside world than among African countries trading more has seen African countries trading more vestiges of colonization and apartheid that to rid the continent of the remaining ed market in Africa is one of the initiatives the continent. The creation of an integrat- movement of goods and services across market seeks to promote the smooth and boost intra-regional trade across the will change the global economic landscape launching the free trade agreement that ends in 2020.

In July, SADC joined the rest of Africa in launching the free trade agreement that will change the global economic landscape and boost intra-regional trade across the continent.

Commonly known as the African Continen- tal Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the enlarged market seeks to promote the smooth movement of goods and services across the continent. The creation of an integrat- ed market in Africa is one of the initiatives to rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonization and apartheid that has seen African countries trading more with the outside world than among themselves.

According to the African Union, the AfCFTA when fully operational is expected to increase African intra-regional trade from the present 10 percent to about 40 percent. With respect to gender development, SADC gender ministers approved a programme aimed at promoting equal participation of women and men in policy-making processes.

The Regional Multi-Dimensional Women's Economic Empowerment Programme was approved in May, and is expected to contribute towards the development of gender-responsive policies that are effective and equitable to advance socio-economic development in the region.

On the cultural front, the 39th SADC Summit adopted KiSwahili as the fourth official language of the regional organisa- tion alongside English, French and Portu- guese in honour of former Tanzania President Julius Nyerere's contribution to advancing regional integration. KiSwahili will be adopted first as a language for oral communication, before eventually being adopted for written official communication within SADC. Nyerere had to bear the greatest burden of freeing Africa by accom- modating liberation fighters in his country and providing them with logistical and military support. Nyerere was among the leaders instrumental in the establishment of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) – precursor to SADC – in Zambia in April 1980.

With regard to agriculture, climate change and disaster management, the region was affected by the occurrence of extreme weather events. Between January and April, the region faced a number of weather-related phenomena such as Tropical Cyclones Desmond, Enawo, Idai and Kenneth, which caused extensive flooding in countries such as the Union of Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Cyclone Idai was one of the worst tropical storms to ever affect Africa and the southern hemisphere and it left a trail of destruction, including extensive damage to key infrastructure such as roads, bridges, schools and clinics.

To address the impact, contingency funds amounting to US$500,000 were released by SADC towards emergency relief efforts to complement efforts by Member States, national and international partners, while a regional floods appeal was launched to raise US$323 million to support victims with immediate needs and resilience building actions.

In terms of agriculture production, a Synthesis Report on the State of Food and Nutrition Security and Vulnerability in Southern Africa released in July estimated that the region has a cereal deficit of more than 5.4 million tonnes this year following subdued rainfall during the 2018/19 season.

To minimize the situation, SADC Member States put in place measures to avert hunger, including assisting affected populations with food supplies as well as providing emergency livestock supple- mentary feeding to save cattle, goats, sheep and other animals.

The year ended on a sad note with the death of an African icon, former Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe in September. As SADC chairperson from August 2014 to August 2015, Mugabe was instrumental in the development of the regional strategy to promote industrialization. Mugabe was one of the Founding Fathers of SADC, together with leaders of Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia.
As part of commemorating the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) the Gender Unit of the SADC Secretariat hosted a Regional Consultative Meeting with GBV Partners in the SADC Region under the theme; Mapping Support for Response to Gender Based Violence in SADC, on 28 to 29 November 2019.

The Regional Consultative GBV Partners’ meeting which was held in Johannesburg, South Africa aimed at disseminating the SADC Gender Based Violence Strategy (2018-2030) to partners to promote its coordinated and effective implementation as well as to promote the optimal utilisation of resources for GBV interventions in the region.

The Meeting offered an opportunity to strengthen regional networks and partnerships for prevention and response to GBV, leveraging on comparative strengths and expert knowledge of the different partners actively engaged in addressing GBV in the Region.

The meeting was convened in recognition of the fact that global, regional, national and community partnerships are critical for the effective response to GBV, and to contribute to learning, sharing of best practices and leveraging on each other’s strengths and resources.

The Regional GBV Partners Meeting was convened as part of implementing Objective 5 of the SADC Regional Strategy on GBV (2018-2030) which promotes efficient and effective management, coordination and partnerships building for the regional and national GBV response. The Strategy also identifies as one of its thematic areas the issue of Coordination, Networking and Partnerships and one of the activities under the Framework of Action is to establish regional partnerships.

While committing to supporting the implementation of the SADC GBV Strategy, the SADC Secretariat and partners agreed to focus on the following priority areas of collaboration:

- Reporting on key global and regional GBV instruments and advocacy on signing and domestication of these instruments by Member States.
- Capacity strengthening of the justice sector for effective response to GBV cases.
- Promoting the role of the education sector on primary prevention of GBV (by promoting positive attitudes and behaviours among learners).
- Response to election-related gender violence.
- Sharing of key information on GBV response in the region, including research and policy papers.
- Strengthening of platforms for sharing of best practices.

The information gathered from the meeting will contribute to a regional report on mapping of the current level and spread of support by partners on GBV interventions within the SADC Region.


The partners took the opportunity to showcase their interventions in addressing GBV in the SADC Region.
SADC joins the regional dialogue on Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls in Southern Africa

By Kealeboga Kelly Dambuza

As part of commemorating the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence (GBV) the SADC Secretariat in collaboration with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID), on 4 to 5 December 2019, hosted a Regional Conference on “Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls in Southern Africa – from Evidence to Action”,

The conference objectives were as follows:

● Platform for sharing new evidence and learning on what works to prevent violence;

● Identifying the gaps in data that need to be addressed for improved violence prevention policies and interventions;

● Promoting regional coalitions and partnerships that support cross-learning and coordinated, scaled up action; and

● Building consensus around priorities for action consistent with those identified through the SADC Regional Gender Based Violence Strategy, and how to progress these.

Officially opening the conference, the Deputy Minister of Social Development of the Republic of South Africa, Ms Hendrietta Ipeleng Bogopane-Zulu, highlighted the need for having a sense of humanity and the need to hold each other accountable in the response to GBV. The Deputy Minister emphasised the need to engage men and boys in the prevention of violence against women and girls, and to not only target women’s programmes. Lastly, she encouraged men to hold each other accountable on the issue of respecting women and girls’ human rights.

In his remarks, the Head of the Gender Unit at the SADC Secretariat, Dr Joseph Pitso, indicated that the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan 2015-2020 (RISDP) and the Strategic Indicative Plan of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (SIPO) II recognise the prevention and reduction of GBV as a catalyst for attaining serene peace and security conducive environment. Dr Pitso informed the delegates that the role of the SADC Secretariat in GBV response entails facilitation, coordination and provision of oversight in ensuring that Member States effectively develop and implement clear and effective national strategies and programs to address GBV.

The SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, revised in 2016, explicitly suggests that SADC’s approach of addressing GBV should go beyond just looking at the act of violence; but to also consider the need to develop evidence-based strategies that encompass education, prevention and victim assistance.

Other key note speakers from the UN Women, European Union, German Cooperation and DFID all emphasised the need to strengthen efforts for prevention of GBV and non-tolerance for GBV by implementing consistent, sustained and multi-partnership GBV prevention programmes that target the root causes of GBV.

The Conference theme on moving from evidence to action on prevention of violence, was responding to the poor, ad-hoc, inconsistent and not sustainable GBV prevention efforts in Southern Africa. The highlight of the Conference was feedback on “What Works to Prevent Violence”, a global program leading research on prevention against women, presented by Professor Rachel Jewkes. Prof. Jewkes highlighted that the following approaches are some that have been identified to work in prevention of gender violence:

● Community activism approaches to shift harmful gender norms, stereotypes and attitudes.

● Parenting programmes to prevent intimate partner violence and child maltreatment.

● Engaging couples and families on transforming gender relations.

● School-based interventions to prevent dating and sexual violence.

● Combined economic and social empowerment programmes targeting women.

The conference brought together about 200 participants from gender ministries, civil society organisations and parliamentarians from the SADC region, key researchers, academia, media, development partners and UN agencies. Regional and international experts on violence prevention participated to share experiences on efficient and effective interventions and approaches to prevent and combat gender-based violence and on effective multi-stakeholder partnerships.

The SADC Secretariat also hosted a side-event on the margins of this Conference on Good Practises by SADC Member States in responding to GBV. The side event popularized the SADC GBV Strategy. Four Member States Botswana, DRC, Lesotho and Zimbabwe presented their good practices ranging from using digital technology for survivors to tell their story and places of safety for victims of violence. Dr Pitso represented SADC in a high level panel discussion on how research findings can be translated into action through policy to address GBV.
SADC develops M&E for the RIXP Project

By Dr. George Ah-Thew

Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) are a critical component of the Internet ecosystem where Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Content Delivery Networks (CDNs) interconnect directly rather than through one or more third-party networks to exchange local traffic with each other. This results in low latency, cost and bandwidth-saving, (less dependence on international links) on Internet access to the Internet Users.

SADC Member States have established at least one National IXP (NIXP) with Madagascar setting theirs up in March 2016. This initiative was facilitated under the African Internet Exchange System (AXIS) Project of the Africa Union Commission (AUC) whose objective is keeping Africa’s Internet traffic local to the continent through the establishment of NIXPs and Regional Internet Exchange Points (RIXPs) in Africa. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eswatini, Madagascar, Namibia, Seychelles and Zimbabwe are among the SADC Member States that benefited from capacity building and technical assistance under the AXIS Project.

In December 2018, the NIXPs of South Africa and Zimbabwe both completed the transformation process to SADC Regional IXPs (RIXPs) which would facilitate keeping traffic destined for SADC remain within the region. Member States have been requested to ensure that their ISPs and NIXPs now connect to the two (2) SADC RIXPs and also establish RIXP facilities (resulting in dual N/RIXPs).

In order to record the status and future plans of NIXPs in Member States, share experience of RIXP transformation, establish a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system for the SADC RIXP Project and build capacity on related issues, the SADC Capacity Building Workshop on RIXP-NIXP Connectivity and M&E for SADC RIXP Project was convened from the 4 to 8 November 2019 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

The event was attended by participants from six SADC Member States, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe as well as SADC Regional ICT Implementing Agency Southern African Telecommunications Association (SATA). Key experts from the region such as the African Network Information Centre (AFRINIC), Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), Internet Society (ISOC) and Packet Clearing House (PCH) were also present.

The keynote speaker, Hon Dr. Jenfan Muswere, Minister of ICT, Postal and Courier Services of Zimbabwe said the AXIS project is a flagship project of the African Regional Action Plan on Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE) which addresses the costly and inefficient way of handling inter-country exchange of Internet traffic (intra-continental traffic) via overseas hubs and creates opportunities for private sector investment in these areas.

Dr. George Ah-Thew, the SADC Senior Programme Officer (SPO) ICT indicated that several Member States had already set up their NIXP before the AXIS Project commenced and that called for the sharing of experience and system design so that SADC may have some sense of harmonization in systems and operational performance.

On related critical components of the Internet backbone, he stated the need to look into the performance of Domain Name System (DNS) Root Servers as well as Country Code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) DNS Servers and identify regions in SADC that are under-served.

Dr. Ah-Thew indicated that the more SADC is connected to the Internet, the more we need to keep abreast with security policies and systems to keep cyber criminals at bay.

Participants had the opportunity to visit the Harare IXP and develop the SADC M&E for IXP Implementation Template. The workshop made the following recommendations:

- Identify partners for support to continue implementing the SADC RIXP Project;
- Facilitate assistance to Comoros, Kingdom of Eswatini and Zambia to setup Root Nameserver Instances;
- Develop a framework to promote the deployment of Route Collectors and Route Collectors and Réseaux IP Européens (RIPE) Atlas Probes at the SADC IXPs as data sources in order to generate data to measure Internet connectivity and reachability and for the SADC M&E for IXP Implementation;
- Convene a SADC IXP Forum on an annual basis for key stakeholders (Policy Makers, National Regulatory Agencies (NRA), ISPs, IXPs, Network Operators and CDNs.

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- Convene a SADC IXP Forum on an annual basis for key stakeholders (Policy Makers, National Regulatory Agencies (NRA), ISPs, IXPs, Network Operators and CDNs.

Participants had the opportunity to visit the Harare IXP and develop the SADC M&E for IXP Implementation Template. The workshop made the following recommendations:

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SADC convenes regional roundtable on STI policy implementation

By Kefilwe Sebokolodi

The Directorate of Industrial Development and Trade (IDT) at the SADC Secretariat from 27-29 November 2019 convened a roundtable meeting to discuss the strengthening of national structures responsible for Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy implementation.

The roundtable was convened in collaboration with the "Strengthening National Regional Linkages" (SNRL) Programme - a partnership between SADC, the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) in Johannesburg, South Africa and was aimed at formulating key policy and programme interventions, for improved implementation of national-regional STI policies and strategies in the SADC Member States and to jointly formulate and validate the SADC regional monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework for the STI Protocol.

In recognition of the importance of STI, SADC Heads of State and Government signed the SADC Protocol on STI in 2008 which entered into force in 2017. The Protocol seeks to foster cooperation and promote the development and transfer of Science, Technology and Innovation within SADC Member States.

About 50 participants from Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Seychelles, Zambia and Zimbabwe attended the regional Roundtable.

Mozambique hosts SADC National Committee Symposium

By Kefilwe Sebokolodi

The Republic of Mozambique through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, SADC National Commission (CONSADC) hosted the SADC National Committee (SNC) Symposium under the theme; Accelerating Regional Integration in the Context of Climate Change, on 1 to 2 October 2019.

The symposium which attended by 200 participants from Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia, was convened in collaboration with the SADC-Strengthening the National-Regional Linkages Programme (SNRL) - a partnership programme between SADC, the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The event was officially opened by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique, Hon. Maria Manuela Dos Santos Lucas. Also present at the meeting were; Permanent Secretary of the Sofala Province, Mr Rui Nanlipa, Institutional Councilor of the Beira Municipal Council Mr. José Moisés Manuel, Former SADC Executive Secretary Mr. Tomaz Salomão and SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs Ambassador Joseph Andre Nourrice.

The symposium was held in the City of Beira, a location of the Beira Corridor Project which demonstrates the region’s key drivers for economic and social development and illustrates the potentials that SADC can achieve through the construction, modernization and expansion of infrastructure.

The symposium created a platform for SNC Secretariats and other SADC structures to share best practices and lessons learnt and subsequently, to develop and design standards for the effective and efficient operations of the SADC National Committees as prescribed in the SADC Treaty.

During the meeting SADC Member States shared their current structure, key challenges hindering operational efficiency of their functioning as prescribed in the treaty for the benefits of SADC Regional Integration. Furthermore, Non-State Actors, who represent crucial partners in the shaping and implementing the regional agenda shared new possible avenues to explore and the challenges faced in achieving successful implementation of Regional Integration for their sector.
Fish farming in Botswana – it is possible

By Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo & Shaft Nengu & Ulf Nermark

On 21 November 2019, the SADC Secretariat and the Government of Botswana attended a farmed-fish harvesting event at Water Farming Botswana in Gaborone. This was in celebration of the World Fisheries Day, which is celebrated on 21 November throughout the world. The theme for this year's World Fisheries Day "social responsibility in the fisheries value chain".

The farmed-fish harvesting event, which was attended by several interested individuals, potential fish farmers and community members, highlighted the importance of developing aquaculture value chains in Botswana, and demonstrated ways in which individual operators can come together to build this exciting industry.

Aquaculture in the SADC region, though still emerging, has seen tremendous growth in a short time. For instance, in 2014, SADC produced about 56,000 metric tons of farmed food fish, which increased to 69,851 metric tons in 2016 and 92,773 metric tons in 2018. 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). The sector also accounts for about 120,000 metric tons of aquatic plants.

Most countries in the SADC region have prioritized aquaculture and are already either having policies and strategies to support the sector, or are developing engaging with the Government of Botswana to look at ways to promote the sector and support its development.

In many countries with suitable soil types, lots of water and suitable climatic conditions, fish farming takes place in large earthen ponds. Optimal temperatures for farming is normally 26 – 30 degrees throughout the year.

In Botswana, there are several months with temperatures way below 20 degrees, even in the northern parts of the country. As the water volume in large fish ponds is very big, it is uneconomical to heat the water and therefore the production during winter will be low. To be able to have fish for sale regularly throughout the year, it will be necessary to either have a large area that some ponds will always have fish of harvest size, or to “overproduce” during the warmer months and keep live fish of market size in ponds for regular harvest throughout the winter.

This will allow farmers to have enough fish of a smaller size that can grow to market size immediately the water temperature increases again. It is only if a smaller water volume is used that the cost for heating can be justified.

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Fish farming is usually divided into two phases; fingerling production and grow-out. The first phase is to breed, hatch the fish eggs and raise fingerlings to a size of about 10-20g each. The grow-out phase will then grow these small fish into the largest possible size in the shortest possible time. Under optimal conditions this can be 350-500g per fish after 6-8 months.

As fish farming is a new agriculture production activity for Botswana, the enabling environment must be developed jointly between the different stakeholders for it to become commercially viable. It needs to cover the whole value chain.

It also needs to be done in a manner that ensures that environmental laws and biodiversity protocols are respected. The Government of Botswana has created a special Aquaculture Division within the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security.

Minister calls for Inclusiveness in Science and Innovation

By Peter Mabaka

The Republic of South Africa hosted the fifth edition of the annual Science Forum South Africa (SFSA) from the 3rd to 6th December 2019 in Pretoria, South Africa, under the theme “Igniting conversations about science for impact”. When delivering his remarks, during the Science Forum, South African Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Honourable Dr Blade Nzimande emphasized on participants at SFSA that science and innovation must be inclusive to all people and not only for big businesses.

Hon. Minister Dr Nzimande highlighted for the past four years, the Forum has become one of Africa’s foremost platforms to interrogate the role science should play in the society, and in the development of countries. He pointed out that the discussions should critically consider how science should be harnessed to ensure that innovation optimally impacts the improvement of the quality of life of all in the society. Dr Nzimande, further said, one of the main objectives of the Forum is to advance the African agenda as demonstrated by the increased contributions of many of Africa’s renowned scientists and thought leaders.

When making a presentation at the Science Forum, Chief Executive Officer of The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Dr Thulani Dlamini opined that for South Africa to achieve and sustainable economic growth, it will need sound strategic investment in science and innovation. For her part, Director of Research at the University College Dublin in the Republic of Ireland, Dr Triona McCormack, explained of how her country succeeded in attracting foreign investment. She explained that investors are investing in her country because of the innovation capacity amongst the youth workforce and the education system. She said Ireland attracts more investment than Brazil, the Russian Federation, India and South Africa, (BRICS) combined.

The fifth forum was for the first time convened in partnership with the Innovation Bridge, one of South Africa’s primary technology showcasing and matchmaking events. The event attracted more than 3000 delegates, amongst them, researchers, scientists, policy makers, students and exhibitors from all over the world. For three days, more than 300 speakers and panelists deliberated on the role of science and innovation in societies.

The forum came to an end on the 6th December, 2019, with the delegates having interrogated various topics, amongst others, on how international cooperation should best be promoted to ensure actual equitable partnerships, from which developing countries could truly benefit.

RIXP Project

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The first meeting in 2020 is to consider interconnection of cross-border networks to IXPs;

- Undertake the case study on ccTLD Market /Governance Models and successful re-delegations in SADC region;

SADC Member States were:

- Encouraged to participate in such capacity building workshops;
- Urged to promote the setting up of their IXPs, Root Server Instances and ccTLD DNS Servers within their borders, preferably at a carrier-neutral Data Centre in order to maintain autonomy and internal connectivity during periods interruption of service on international submarine cables and satellite links;
- Encouraged to ensure their IXPs adopt strategies that attract regional and local carriers to connect locally by implementing global best practices and having governance structures; and
- Urged to utilize their ccTLD resources.
**UNPACKING THE SADC PROTOCOLS:**

By Barbara Lopi

Trade in goods and services constitute a major area of cooperation in support of economic development and poverty eradication in the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Mindful that services can play a crucial part in the transformation and sustainability of an economy, as well as to assist in the creation of employment opportunities, the SADC Heads of States and Governments signed the SADC Protocol on Trade in Services in August 2012.

The Protocol on Trade in Services (PTIS) has six primary objectives as set out in article 2, which can be interpreted into one main objective namely, to level the playing field among SADC members by ensuring that industries and consumers take full advantage of a single regional services market. SADC Members are convinced that this Protocol is a step in the right direction in dealing with the challenges of globalization, hence it is expected that an integrated regional market will generate new opportunities that will strengthen the region’s service capacity, efficiency and competitiveness. The Protocol, also aims to encourage competition and attract more foreign direct investment to the SADC region.

The general obligations of the Protocol are:

- To cover the most favoured nation (MFN) treatment principle. According to this principle a country has to treat all SADC countries the same according to the best treatment it accords any of them.
- To establish the right to regulate services. A country may regulate or introduce new regulations in order to meet national policy objectives provided it does not impair right and obligations arising under the Protocol.
- To provide for guidelines on the treatment of domestic regulation. These have to be administered in a reasonable, objective, transparent and impartial manner.
- To cover the treatment of mutual recognition. Two or more countries can agree to recognise the other’s qualifications, licenses, requirements or other regulations, but have to give others the opportunity to become party to such an agreement if they can show that they conform to such measures.
- To promote transparency of regulations.
- To provide certain general exceptions to the obligations of the Protocol. A country can take measures going against its obligations in cases where it relates to:
  - protection of public morals
  - protection of human, animal or plant life or health
  - prevention of fraud
  - individual privacy
  - avoidance of double taxation

To describe the treatment of subsidies. Subsidies are allowed, but Ministers shall decide on negotiating mechanisms or disciplines to avoid the trade distorting effects of subsidies.

To regulate the treatment of monopolies and exclusive service providers. Where a monopoly supplier of a service competes outside the scope of its monopoly, countries have to ensure that such a supplier does not abuse its monopoly position.

The specific obligations of the Protocol apply in relation to the specific commitments that a country has made and relate to:

- **Market access.** A country undertakes not to adopt or maintain limitations or measures:
  - On the number of service suppliers.
  - On the total value of service transactions or assets.
  - On the total number of service operations.
  - On the total number of natural persons that may be employed.
  - Which restrict or require specific types of legal entities.
  - On the participation of foreign capital (limitation of foreign shareholding) unless such limitations or measures are stipulated in that countries specific commitments.

- **National treatment.** This requires a country to treat foreign service providers the same as it treats its domestic service providers, unless a limitation or condition has been stipulated in that countries specific commitments.

- **Progressive trade liberalization.** This provides for successive rounds of negotiations within 3 years of the completion of the previous round. The first round covered the six priority services sectors i.e. communication, construction, finance, energy, tourism and transport. These negotiations were scheduled to be concluded by March 2015, but were further extended to September 2016. By March 2015, eleven SADC member states submitted offers of which most covered only communication, finance, tourism and transport services.

- **Temporary movement of natural persons.** Countries can apply their laws and regulations regarding entry and stay. This protocol does not extend to persons seeking employment or does not confer the right of access to the labour market of another country.

Other matters relating to Trade in Services Protocol have provisions regulating the following issues:

- **Promotion of trade and investment by SADC Members.**

- **How to treat anticompetitive business practices.**

- **The non-restriction of transfers into and out of the territory of a country.** This would include capital transfers, returns, payments, royalties and proceeds of the sale of investments.

- **Labour market integration agreements.**

- **Denial of benefits of this Protocol to a service supplier of a SADC country where it is established that the service is being provided by an enterprise that is owned or controlled by persons of a non-SADC country.**

- **Applying for a waiver of the obligations of the Protocol in the case of an emergency.**

Through this Protocol, SADC Member States aim to expand services exports by cooperative mechanisms that will produce a dynamic trade sector throughout the SADC region. Trade in Services will assist with the eradication of poverty by establishing better employment possibilities and by providing access to a wider range of services at competitive prices.
1. What is Hypertension?
Hypertension (HTN or HT), also known as high blood pressure (HBP), is a long-term medical condition in which the blood pressure in the arteries is persistently elevated. High blood pressure typically does not cause symptoms.

2. What are the risk factors of Hypertension?
The cause of hypertension is often not known. In many cases, it is the result of an underlying condition. Doctors call high blood pressure that is not due to another condition or disease primary or essential hypertension.

If an underlying condition is the cause of increasing blood pressure, doctors call this secondary hypertension. Primary hypertension can result from multiple factors, including:

- Blood plasma volume
- Hormone activity in people who manage blood volume and pressure using medication
- Environmental factors, such as stress and lack of exercise, unhealthy diet
- Secondary hypertension: specific causes and is a complication of another health problem. Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a common cause of high blood pressure, as the kidneys no longer filter out fluid. This excess fluid leads to hypertension.

Conditions that can lead to hypertension include:

- Diabetes, due to kidney problems and nerve damage
- Kidney disease
- Pheochromocytoma, a rare cancer of an adrenal gland
- Cushing syndrome that corticosteroid drugs can cause
- Congenital adrenal hyperplasia: a disorder of the cortisol-secreting adrenal glands
- Hyperthyroidism, or an overactive thyroid gland
- Hyperparathyroidism, which affects calcium and phosphorous levels
- Pregnancy
- Sleep apnea
- Obesity

3. What are the symptoms of Hypertension?
- Severe headache.
- Fatigue or confusion.
- Vision problems.
- Chest pain.
- Difficulty breathing.
- Irregular heartbeat.
- Blood in the urine.

4. Is high blood pressure dangerous?
Long-term and uncontrolled hypertension can cause complications through atherosclerosis where plaque develops on the walls of blood vessels, causing them to narrow.

This narrowing makes hypertension worse, as the heart must pump harder to circulate the blood. Hypertension-related atherosclerosis can lead to:

- Heart failure and heart attacks
- Aneurysm, or abnormal bulge in the wall of an artery that can burst
- Kidney failure
- Stroke
- Amputation
- Hypertensive retinopathies in the eye, which can lead to blindness

Regular blood pressure monitoring can help people avoid these more severe complications.

5. How do I manage Hypertension?
Lifestyle adjustments are the standard (key to controlling the blood pressure), first-line treatment for hypertension.

We outline some recommendations:

- Regular physical exercise: train at least for 5 days per week for a minimum duration of 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week (30 minutes per day). Suitable activities are walking, swimming, jogging, and cycling.
- Stress reduction: Avoiding or learning to manage stress can help a person control blood pressure. Warm bath, long walk, and meditation can help to relieve stress.
- Medication: People can use specific medications to treat hypertension. Doctors will often recommend a low dose at first. The choice of medication depends on the individual and any underlying medical conditions they may experience.
- Diet: Reduce salt intake, moderate alcohol consumption, eat more fruit and vegetables, and less fat, manage body weight.
SADC Secretariat’s Library role in the digital age

By Liwakala Mudengi

In the ever changing technological world, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Secretariat Library continue to play a key role in the enhancement of delivering the SADC mandate. This is done by ensuring that information management is diligently practiced for posterity purpose and for the purpose of positioning itself to be an information hub in the organization.

The SADC Secretariat Library through its role also provides space where the SADC community can interact with the institution to gain insight of what is happening, in doing that it enhances visibility. In the recent past the Library has hosted the following SADC Chairpersons, High level delegates visiting the secretariat, University student tours, primary and secondary school education school's tours among others. Since April 2019, the library has recorded more than 1000 visits of patrons visiting the library for reference services.

The visitors to the library have had the opportunity to view a pictorial history which entails the journey of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) to SADC since its inception in 1980. This is important to promote the spirit of solidarity which drove the formation of SADC by the frontline state by then.

It is important to note that libraries in general have significantly transformed with the advent of Internet and the ability to provide resources to people who may never visit a physical building, but use resources intensively in their own homes or work places and in a long run this seem to diminish the relevance of a physical library.

However, the SADC Secretariat library gradually continues to migrate towards digital because of the changes that occur in learning and research environment. Digitisation creates easy access of library resources.

The SADC Secretariat also subscribe to few online databases as follows, Fitch country reports for all SADC member’s states, and Emerald with an academic collection on finance and Management.

The SADC Secretariat continues to build a relevant collection of its Library material and would like to further call on staff and outside researchers to always deposit, any publications about SADC or on SADC to the library. The library still counts on the support of its patron in this regard.

Library Staff can be contacted through email: Liwakala is at lmudengi@sadc.int and Kitso at kgosekwang@sadc.int or the Unit’s email at prinfo@sadc.int.

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

the SADC Treaty is the founding document for the establishment of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). In pursuance of the principles of Towards a Southern African Development Community, a declaration was made by the Heads of State or Government of Southern Africa, at Windhoek, Namibia, in August 1992 affirming their commitment to establish a Development Community in the region.

Compiled By Kitso Gosekwang
Provide a common platform and guidance at regional and member state levels for an effective, holistic and coordinated approach to addressing gender-based violence (GBV). The Strategy serves as a guide to stimulating regional actions and interventions for harmonization of GBV response efforts by all SADC Member States.

**KEY THEMATIC AREAS AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY THEMES</th>
<th>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PREVENTION OF GBV:</strong> PREVENTION OF GBV IS A PRIORITY AREA FOR THE REGION</td>
<td>To promote prevention and early identification of gender-based violence through addressing associated social, cultural, traditional, religious, political and economic factors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROTECTION, CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES</td>
<td>To strengthen delivery of effective, accessible and responsive protection, care and support services to those affected by gender-based violence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>To strengthen regional and national capacity to efficiently and effectively respond to gender-based violence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING BEST PRACTICES AND INNOVATION</td>
<td>To improve information and knowledge management, sharing of best practices and innovation on gender-based violence for evidence-based policy and service planning and implementation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COORDINATION, NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIPS</td>
<td>To ensure efficient and effective management, coordination and partnerships building for the regional and national gender-based violence response.</td>
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SUPPORTED BY
It has come to the attention of the SADC Secretariat 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, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, 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

Visit: www.sadc.int
YEAR 2019 IN PHOTOS

Out-going Chairperson of SADC, H.E Dr. Geingob visited the SADC Secretariat head offices

H.E Magufuli (right) assumed the SADC Chairpersonship from H.E Geingob in August 2019

Former President of DRC, H.E Kabila (right) stepped down from power. H.E Tshisekedi (left) won the elections to become President of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

SADC launched US$323million appeal for millions affected by Tropical Cyclone IDAI

SADC spoke with one voice calling for an end to economic sanctions on Zimbabwe

The United Republic of Tanzania successfully hosted the 39th SADC Heads of State and Government on 17 August 2019

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African Union Commission Chairperson, H.E Dr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, (3rd from left) visit the SADC Secretariat
SADC region commemorated the first Southern Africa Liberation Day in Angola on 23rd March

SADC and Germany firmed up future areas of cooperation

SADC Electoral Observation Missions were deployed in seven SADC Member States which held elections in 2019

SADC and EU signed a number of agreements to bolster cooperation

SADC Secretariat developed the SADC mascot in efforts to increase visibility of the SADC brand

SADC Secretariat staff upholding their cultural heritage

SADC mourned the passing of Former President of Zimbabwe, H.E Robert Gabriel Mugabe. H.E Mugabe passed on September 6, 2019. MHSRP
Several Ambassadors, High Commissioners and Heads of diplomatic Institution accredited to the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and presented letters of credence to the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax during the year 2019. They include:

6th September 2019: The Ambassador of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the Republic of Namibia, His Excellency Mr. Omar Berroteran Paredes

3rd December 2019: The Ambassador of Switzerland to Botswana (non-resident) and Permanent Representative to SADC, His Excellency Dr. Nicolas Brühl

19th November 2019: The Ambassador of the Republic of Zimbabwe to Botswana, His Excellency Batiraishe Henry Mukonoweshuro

4th November 2019: The French Ambassador to Botswana and Special Representative of France to SADC, Her Excellency Mrs Laurence Beau

10th October 2019: The Ambassador of the Federal Government of Belgium to South Africa and SADC, His Excellency Mr Didier Vanderhasselt

13th September 2019: The Ambassador of the Netherlands to Pretoria and SADC, His Excellency Mr Han Peters

6th September 2019: The Ambassador of Chile to South Africa, also serving as non-resident Ambassador to Angola, Botswana, Namibia and Mozambique, and Representative of the Republic of Chile to SADC, His Excellency Francisco Berguno Hurtado

6th September 2019: The first Ambassador of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR)/Western Sahara to Botswana and Permanent Representative to SADC, His Excellency Mr Malainin Mohamed.
Several Ambassadors, High Commissioners and heads of diplomatic Institution accredited to the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and presented letters of credence to the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax during the year 2019. They include:

- 28th June 2019: The Ambassador of Ireland to South Africa, and Representative of Ireland to SADC, His Excellency Mr. Liam Mac Gabhann
- 15th May 2019: The Regional Director of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for Southern Africa, Mr. Valentin Tapsoba
- 13th February 2019: The Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Botswana and SADC, Her Excellency Ms. Meltem Büyükkarakaş
- 3rd April 2019: The Ambassador of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay to South Africa, His Excellency, Dr. Cesar Eneas Rodriguez Zavalla
- 15th May 2019: The Israel Ambassador, (non-resident) to Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe and based in Jerusalem, His Excellency Gershon Kedar
- 3rd April 2019: The Ambassador of United States of America to Botswana and designated Plenipotentiary Representative of the USA to SADC, His Excellency Mr Craig L. Cloud
- 13th February 2019: The Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Botswana and SADC, Her Excellency Ms. Meltem Büyükkarakaş
- 29th January 2019: The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to South Africa, Her Excellency Ms Astrid Emilie Helle
- 29th January 2019: The High Commissioner of the Republic of Namibia to the Republic of Botswana, His Excellency Ambassador Mr Asser Kapere
16 December is a day of great significance in South Africa due to two historical events that took place. The first of these was in 1838, when the Battle of Blood River took place between the Voortrekkers and the Zulus. The Voortrekkers, having moved into the interior of South Africa during the Great Trek, were eager to settle on land. The region that they intended to settle on was already inhabited by the Zulu people.

Thus the Voortrekker leader, Piet Retief, was eager to negotiate with the Zulu chief Dingane. Having misunderstood Retief's intentions, Dingane planned an ambush and murdered Retief and his party of 100 people. This act culminated in the Battle of Blood River, in which 470 Voortrekkers, having the advantage of gunpowder, defeated the 10,000 strong Zulu army. This Voortrekker victory was commemorated since then as the Day of the Vow.

The second historical event that took place on 16 December was in 1961, when Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) was formed. This was the military wing of the African National Congress (ANC), which was launched to wage an armed struggle against the apartheid government. Prior to its formation, the ANC had largely approached the fight against apartheid through passive resistance, but after the Sharpeville Massacre in 1960, where peaceful protestors were indiscriminately shot by police, passive resistance was no longer seen as an effective approach in bringing apartheid to an end. MK mostly performed acts of sabotage, but its effectiveness was hampered by organizational problems and the arrest of its leaders in 1963. Despite this, its formation was commemorated every year since 1961.

The Unity Accord was signed on December 22 that same year. National Unity Day was officially established in 1997 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Unity Accord. This national holiday is widely celebrated throughout the country.

Source: http://aglobalworld.com/holidays-around-the-world/national-unity-day-zimbabwe/
TRADE

The SADC Summit of the Heads of State and Government, that was held in August 2019, in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania approved the Protocol on Industry. The Protocol is meant to promote the development of diversified, innovative and globally competitive regional and national industrial bases to enable the Region achieve sustainable and inclusive industrial development.