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H.E. POHAMBA IS SADC SPECIAL ENVOY TO DRC

SADC discusses Value Chains



The Minister of Trade and Industry of the Republic of South Africa, Honourable Dr. Rob Davies (left) and SADC Executive Secretary - Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax. Minister Davies visited the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Republic of Botswana to discuss ways of moving forward the SADC Industrialization Agenda **Story on page 2**



WORLD STANDARDS DAY - 14 OCTOBER 2017 - THEME "STANDARDS MAKE CITIES SMARTER"

ILLUSTRATIONS COURTESY OF ALLFREE DOWNLOADS

WORLD STANDARDS DAY

Industrialization tops SADC agenda as South Africa's Minister of Trade and Industry visits SADC Secretariat to Operationalize the 37th Summit Theme

The Minister of Trade and Industry of the Republic of South Africa, Honorable Dr. Rob Davies on 31st October 2017, visited the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Republic of Botswana to discuss ways of moving forward the SADC Industrialization Agenda, in line with the SADC theme: "Partnering with private sector in developing industry and regional value chains".

The visit by Hon. Davies comes just few months after the Republic of South Africa assumed the Chairpersonship of the SADC during the 37th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government held in August 2017 in Pretoria, South Africa. During the visit, Hon. Davies was welcomed to SADC House by the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax. Dr Tax said the visit to SADC Secretariat by the Minister and his team was a confirmation of the Republic of South Africa's commitment to work with the Secretariat in ensuring concrete deliverables while operationalizing the 37th SADC Summit theme, and in doing so contribute to the



Meeting in session

SADC Industrialization agenda.

Hon. Davies said that the Government of South Africa was committed to render support to accelerate the rolling out of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2063 within the region. "As the Chair, we would like to avail some of our capacities, skills and institutions at the disposal of the SADC Region to develop regional value chains, Hon. Davies said.

The meeting identified Value Chains in agro-processing, mineral beneficiation, and

pharmaceutical sectors as priorities that the region can focus on during the year. The meeting further, agreed to form interdisciplinary expert technical teams, involving both public and private sector representatives, that would champion the identified priority value chains. The meeting also discussed the need for the formation of a repository of all previous studies on potential bankable projects from each sector as well as providing specific training opportunities to build capacity to support Industrialization in Member States.

They also agreed to have short-term plan with key outputs to be presented to a high-level meeting of Member States for consideration and possible adoption.

The Executive Secretary was accompanied by the Deputy Executive Secretary responsible for Regional Integration, Dr. Theminkosi Mhlongo and SADC Directors in related Directorates. The Deputy Executive Secretary, Dr. Mhlongo will lead the Technical Team from the SADC Secretariat side.

ABOUT THE INSIDE SADC NEWSLETTER

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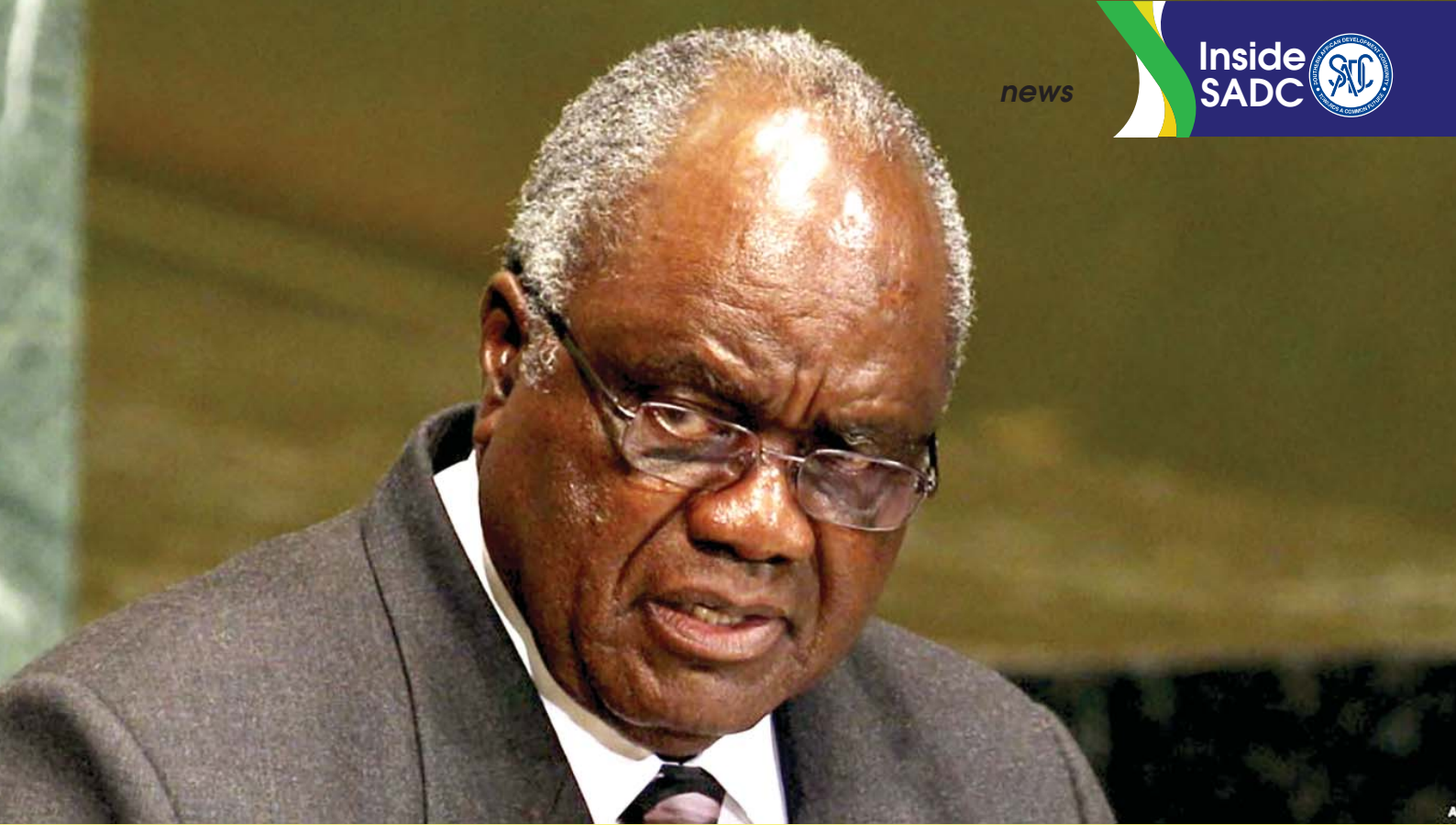
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H.E. Pohamba

Former Namibia's President H.E. Pohamba appointed SADC Special Envoy to DRC

Former President of the Republic of Namibia His Excellency Hifikepunye Lucas Pohamba has been appointed SADC Special Envoy to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The appointment of H.E. Pohamba follows consultations between the SADC Chairperson, His Excellency President Jacob Zuma of the Republic of South Africa and Outgoing SADC Chairperson, His Majesty King Mswati III of the

Kingdom of Swaziland, with the Government of the DRC.

The 37th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Pretoria, South Africa in August 2017 approved the appointment a Special Envoy to the Democratic Republic of Congo in light of the political and security dynamics, particularly in preparation for the elections.

No one should be left behind, says SADC as the World Commemorates International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has called for concerted efforts and inclusion of all actors to end poverty in the Region as the World commemorated the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17th October 2017.

This year's theme, answering the Call of October 17 to end Poverty - A Path Toward Peaceful and Inclusive Societies, serves to remind the world about the importance of the values of dignity, solidarity and voice underscored in the

United Nations Call to Action to end poverty everywhere. In a statement to mark the day which falls on 17th October every year, Dr. Tax said it is worrisome that half of the SADC population lives below poverty line, owing to, among other things, high levels of unemployment and underemployment in the Region.

"As we move forward with the implementation of the Revised SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2015-2020, which is SADC development blue print, alongside the African Union Agenda

2063 and the United Nations Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, attention should be paid to the importance of 'Leaving No One Behind' reads the statement, adding that Member States need to pay special attention to the voices of the most marginalized segments of society, including women, the youth and people living with disabilities.

"They should be at the table when discussing development issues that affect them," adds the statement.

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SADC ES highlights progress of the regional block in an interview with Zim Papers



Dr. Tax (right) during the interview with Ms. Nomsa Nkala of Zim Papers

The Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax on 13th October 2017 granted an interview to a Zimbabwe based media house, the Zim Papers, in which she highlighted the progress SADC has made in promoting regional cooperation and integration.

In an exclusive interview in Our Conversation, a TV programme that features high profile African leaders to discuss a wide range of issues affecting the African continent, Dr Tax said although SADC has a journey to cover, the region is proud of the achievements it has made since the creation of the regional block by its Founding Fathers in the 80's.

Dr Tax called on SADC Member States appropriately prioritize and balance their priorities in order to effectively produce, compete and trade effectively.

Reflecting on the achievements during the four years that she has been heading the SADC Secretariat, Dr Tax said she has been able to capitalize on the peaceful and harmonised environment that exist in the SADC Member States to promote regional integration, specifically, SADC Industrialisation and boosting trade among SADC Member States and effectively utilising opportunities created by SADC Free Trade Area. She promised to continue building on the progress made in order to help reduce the levels of poverty in the

region as espoused in the SADC Treaty.

In addition, she indicated the importance of financing and the progress that has been made in the establishment and operationalization of the SADC Regional Development Fund

Dr Tax also said SADC has operationalized the Project Preparatory and Development Facility which aims at facilitating the preparations of bankable projects, and thus assist SADC to implement the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP), which recognizes infrastructure as the bedrock of Industrialisation and economic development, and the deepening regional integration

On the implementation of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063, the Executive Secretary said a lot of work has been done including the profiling of value chains in the mineral, pharmaceutical and agro-processing sectors, and in the others sectors such as gas and oil work is ongoing.

Asked about being the first woman to head the SADC Secretariat, Dr Tax said it has been a great honour to be entrusted with such an enormous responsibility.

She called on African women and girls to be confident, courageous, hardworking and professional to successfully compete and contribute as they deserve.



2018 MEDIA AWARDS

&

SECONDARY SCHOOL ESSAY COMPETITION



SADC Secretariat launches 2018 SADC Competitions

By Peter Mabaka &
Letso S. Mpho

SADC Media Awards competition

On 20th October 2017, the SADC Secretariat announced the launch of the 2018 SADC Media Awards competition in the four categories namely; Photo, Print, Television and Radio Journalism.

The Secretariat further announced that, following the approval of the SADC Council of Ministers at their meeting in August 2017 in Pretoria, South Africa, the prizes have been increased from USD2000 to USD2500 for the first winners in each category. In addition, the Secretariat says, Council approved the introduction of prizes for runners-up in each category to the tune of USD1000 per category.

The awards materials can be downloaded from the SADC website; <https://www.sadc.int/awa/media-awards>

Secondary School Essay Competition

The Secretariat also launched the Secondary School Essay Competition for 2018. All secondary school going nationals of SADC Member States are eligible to participate in the competition. The topic for the SADC Secondary School Essay Competition for 2018 is "The role of Private Sector in developing Industries and Regional Value Chains." This topic is derived from the theme of the 37th Ordinary SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government which

is; "Partnering with the Private Sector in developing Industry and Regional Value Chains."

Three winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd) will be selected from the submitted entries and will travel to SADC Summit in August 2018 to receive their prize money. The prize money for this competition is; USD1500 for first position, USD1000 for second position while the third prize receives USD750. There are also three national winners selected at Member States level and each receives a prize money of USD333. More information on Essay winners can be solicited from SADC National Contact Points from Member States at; <http://www.sadc.int/member-states/>

South Africa kicks off awareness of SADC Media Awards

The South Africa's Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) on 3rd November 2017, convened a workshop at the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism in Johannesburg to kick off engagement with journalists on the 2018 SADC Media Awards.

At the workshop, journalists were taken through entry requirements for the awards and outcomes of the 2017 media awards. In the 2017 SADC Media Awards, Mr. Mbisi Nkosini Samuel and Mr. Dennis Tshetlthane from South Africa emerged winners in the Television Journalism Category.



South Africa's Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) officials briefing journalists on SADC Media Awards

Minister urges media to write on African issues

*By Rui Fernando Rodrigues Vasco
Director of National Information
Republic of Angola*

The Minister of Mass Media of the Republic of Angola, Aníbal João da Silva Melo, has encouraged public press organs to “urgently increase” African news in their coverage.

Speaking at the official launch of the 2018 SADC Media Awards in Luanda, Angola on the 25th of October 2017, the Angolan Minister recognised efforts made by the media in providing coverage on Africa. The Minister mentioned that coverage on issues affecting Africa is inadequate and that more work was required.

“I am not yet satisfied with the coverage of current African issues. We have to stimulate this”, he stressed, adding that the SADC Media Awards can be an opportunity for Angola to convey more information on the continent.

He recommended that Angolan public media organs should align themselves with this goal and start focussing more on publishing information about the neighbouring countries, without neglecting other relevant information on the rest of the continent.

The SADC Media Awards, he said, may bring about opportunities for strengthening of relations among journalists from Member States, further appealing to the professionals in this area to participate in the competition with humility, modesty and professionalism.

Minister, therefore, encouraged Angolan journalists to submit their best works to the National Adjudication Committee so that the Angolan journalism can be more credible.

http://www.angop.ao/angola/en_us/noticias/sociedade/2017/10/44/Minister-wants-more-information-Africa-issue-s,ccd72269-ebea-4b94-a22a-272d810a122b.html



Minister Melo

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEDRO PARENTE

SADC trains Civilian Staff in Peace Keeping

In recognition of the important role of Civilian staff in Peace Keeping, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) conducted two week course in which 26 Civilian staff from SADC Member States were trained in Peace Keeping operations to countries facing conflicts.

The Civilian Foundation training course, took place at the SADC Regional Training Centre in Harare, Republic of Zimbabwe and participants were drawn from Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The training was conducted in fulfilment of the African Stand by Force (ASF) Policy framework within the African Union peace support operations, which stipulates that personnel should be equipped with the required skills to perform their expected functions when deployed to Peace Keeping missions. In his remarks at the closing ceremony of the training, Commandant at SADC Regional Peace Keeping Centre, Brigadier Bongani Jonas expressed said that the training is a milestone because it has increased the number of trained rostered civilian personnel who are ready to serve Africa.

The participants included lawyers, journalists, engineers, administrators, medicine doctors, procurement, gender, banking and finance professionals, who form the civilian component of the Peace Keeping mission.

2016 SADC Media Awards winner, Mokowe speaks of inner passion for media and development

By Innocent Mbovundula

Ms. Tshoganetso Mokowe is a photo-journalist from the Republic of Botswana, working for the Daily News which is managed by the Office of President for the Government of Botswana. Ms. Mokowe has always been proud to be a photo-journalist, telling stories through the lens of her camera.

In Botswana as in many other countries, the field of photo-journalism is largely dominated by men. But Ms. Mokowe has broken gender barriers to pursue photo journalism as a career and she has been successful in the field. During the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Ezulwini, Kingdom of Swaziland in 2016, Mokowe was one of the four recipients of the SADC Media Awards, having emerged the winner in the Photo-Journalism category for the 2016 SADC Media Awards.

"I was excited to receive the



Ms. Mokowe

award in the first place because it was a recognition of my hard work as a photo-journalist," she proudly says, adding that travelling to Swaziland for the first time and getting the award in front of SADC

Heads of State and Government and other leaders was 'pretty exciting'.

To her, while the awards and meeting King Mswati III of the Kingdom of Swaziland was a memorable experience,

she looks at a bigger picture.

"I definitely believe that I have contributed to regional cooperation and regional integration in the SADC region through my participation and, now I'm trying my level best to change people's perceptions of SADC through the media," she adds.

Ms. Mokowe says as a reformist media practitioner in Botswana, she would like to take advantage of existing opportunities in Southern Africa to develop public sector media in Botswana to play an effective national development role. Her passion about using the media for development occupies her mind every time she gets her camera. "The media is a vital part of communications. While there is global consensus on the important role of the media in national development, there is yet to be consensus on how the media has to play this role," she argues.

The SADC Secretariat on 20th October 2017 launched the 2018 Media Awards whose prizes have been increased from USD2000 to USD2500 in each of the four categories namely Photo, Print, TV and Radio Journalism. In addition, the Secretariat announced the introduction of prizes for runners-up to the tune of USD1000.

For journalists who wish to participate in the 2018 Media Awards, Ms. Mokowe has a simple message; "Go ahead, do it. It is well worth it".



Ms. Mokowe with other 2016 SADC Media winners with SADC leadership during the opening ceremony of the SADC Summit in Swaziland

SADC discusses partnership in promoting health

By Joseph Mthetwa

The Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), H.E. Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax held a consultative meeting to discuss partnerships in promoting health with the World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Director for Africa, Dr. Matshidiso Moeti on 4th October 2017, in Gaborone, Botswana.

During the meeting, the two parties shared ideas on collaborative initiatives to advance health issues in the SADC Region. Dr. Moeti said that the WHO Regional Office for Africa (WHO-AFRO) will continue to collaborate with SADC and provide support towards the identified Priority areas which are directed to moving towards universal health coverage.

This will be done in line with among others, the SADC Protocol on Health, and SADC Priorities as contained in the SADC Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Plan 2005 – 2020 which focusses on Industrialization, Regional Integration and Sustainable Development Goal Number 3 on Health.

The WHO will also provide support in promoting health through the life-course, Control of Communicable Disease; Preparedness, surveillance and response during emergencies by coordinating the health response in support of countries, undertaking risk assessments; identifying priorities and setting strategies; providing critical technical guidance, supplies and financial resources as



Dr. Moeti (left) presenting a token of appreciation to Dr. Tax during the meeting

well as monitoring the health situation.

The Support from WHO will assure the Region's availability of equitable integrated people-centered health services at an affordable price; facilitate access to affordable, safe and effective health technologies; and to strengthen health information systems and evidence-based policy-making in the Region. Dr. Tax said that the courtesy visit by the WHO AFRO Regional Director to the SADC Region was timely as the Region was experiencing an upsurge of Non-communicable diseases which can be countered through consolidated and

strategic Collaborative Partnership and Networking. "We need an integrated approach that will also ensure that the issue of antimicrobial resistance in communicable diseases is addressed through shared alert response with a view to focus on Regional a programme and overarching National Priorities by utilizing the Principle of Subsidiarity", Dr Tax added.

The WHO currently supports countries across the region in mitigating Non-communicable diseases including heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes and chronic lung disease, and mental health conditions which together with violence

and injuries - are collectively responsible for more than 70% of all deaths worldwide and an important area for WHO's leadership since the consequences of these diseases reach beyond the health sector and solutions require more than a system that prevents and treats disease.

In 2004, SADC Secretariat and the WHO-AFRO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which provided for provision of technical assistance to the SADC Secretariat on matters critical to Public Health and engaging where joint action was needed.

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STATEMENT BY SADC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY HER EXCELLENCY DR STERGOMENA LAWRENCE TAX MESSAGE ON WORLD STANDARDS DAY ON 14TH OCTOBER 2017



14th of October, 2017 is World Standards Day. The day was set aside worldwide to honor the first group of twenty-five (25) countries that, in 1946, sat down together in London and agreed that, to make the world interoperate perfectly, standards needed to be set and agreed upon between nations. On this day, the world, among others, recognises and appreciates the work of all the experts that constitute standards-setting technical committees in all the countries.

The theme of this year's World Standards Day is Standards Make Cities Smarter. I cannot agree more with this theme as it rings true for most of the cities of the SADC region. I believe that more still needs to be done to make our cities smarter than they are at the moment.

We also concur with the message from the International Organization for Standardisation (ISO), that sufficient fresh water; universal access to cleaner energy; the ability to travel efficiently from one point to another; a sense of safety and security are the kinds of promises modern cities must fulfil if they are to stay competitive and provide a decent quality of life to their citizens.

Standards setting has become a norm worldwide and most of the SADC Member States have set up various bodies and institutions dedicated to standards setting.

Today, the SADC Secretariat joins all the SADC Member States and the international community in commending all the standards bodies in the world and in the SADC Region, in particular, for the remarkable achievements they have made in ensuring that standards prevail, especially in the region.

It is pleasing to note the significant milestone achieved by the Kingdom of Lesotho towards the realization of a dedicated national standards institution. It is our fervent hope that soon this institution will be commissioned, and facilitate the SADC region a full complement of standards bodies, and ensure that the standards of the region are maintained and matched to the international standards. The presence and operation of standards are never appreciated until they are absent.

If trade forms the backbone of our economies, standards are the nerves that make it all speak to each other. Through the SADC Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Cooperation structures, SADC is ensuring that the people of the SADC Region, in both the public and private domains, are aware of their need to adopt and implement international standards.

As the region embarks on the journey to industrialization, standards setting cannot be detached from the Industrialisation process. For the SADC Region to fully industrialise, the Secretariat is conscious of the fact that standards have to be applied in every step of the way to ensure, among other things, the sustainability of the entire hard and soft infrastructure invested into industrialization. Standards will also be important for the maintenance and interoperability of the systems that will be put in place to realize the targeted outcomes of industrialization.

With standards as an integral part of the activities of the SADC region, especially as it industrializes, it is our strong belief that more and more cities in the SADC region will indeed be smarter.

On this special day, the World Standards Day, the SADC Secretariat wishes to congratulate all the SADC Member States for committing to the international process of standards setting and wish them all a Happy World Standards Day.

SADC Exhibits at the Global Expo in Gaborone

For some people in the Region who did not know much about the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and how its activities affect their daily lives, they had an opportunity to interact with SADC during the Global Expo, an annual trade and investment fair held in the city of Gaborone, Republic of Botswana from 31st October to 3 November 2017.

SADC Secretariat used the Global Expo as an outreach platform to offer an opportunity to international, regional and local investors, private sector executives, government officials, members of the academia, tourists, students and citizens to better understand the work of SADC.

To SADC citizens, the event provided a unique opportunity for understanding how SADC Treaty, protocols, policies, decisions and programmes affect people's daily lives.



SADC staff (right) explaining services to visitors during the Global Expo

SADC discusses partnership in promoting health

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Other components of that MoU include; shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation; translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge; setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation; articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options; providing technical support, catalyzing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity; and monitoring the health situation and assessing SADC Regional

Health Agenda that is ascribed in the SADC Protocol on Health. In line with the exiting MoU between SADC and WHO, and based on the discussion the following were agreed upon:

- Joint planning of Technical Officers from SADC Secretariat and WHO-AFRO in identifying areas of collaboration in Cross Border Communicable Diseases programme, in particular, in the Elimination of Malaria and life-course Control of Communicable disease; Provision of Training in Preparedness,

surveillance and response during emergencies; coordinating the Pooled Procurement of Medicines and Health Commodities;

- Jointly identifying players in the Public, Private, and Non-State Actors, and developing a detailed work plan and monitoring framework; and
- Holding regular joint meetings to assess progress against the work plan and provide guidance.

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

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The Secretariat also calls for the promotion of regular and effective participation of the private sector, civil society and other partners such as the academia and media in the development process. Specifically, the statement calls on the private sector to embrace the ideals contained in the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063 to assist the national governments to eradicate poverty. Since the early 90s, ending poverty and reducing inequalities have been at the core of governments, especially in developing countries.

In September 2015, United Nations Member States adopted a

landmark and ambitious global Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development with 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) whose overarching goal is to end poverty in all its forms, everywhere by the year 2030 through strategies that guarantee the fulfilment of all human rights and ensure no one is left behind.

At the core of SADC policies and programmes as reflected in the SADC Treaty is ending poverty through deeper regional integration and sustainable economic growth and development.



SADC branded attire at display during the SADC meeting at BICC

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ABEL IKILONI



Malawi's Minister of Transport and Public Works, Honourable Jappie Mhangochi

SADC Ministers responsible for Transport and Meteorology meet in Lilongwe, Malawi

The meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Transport and Meteorology Sectors took place from 30th October to 3rd November 2017 at the Bingu International Conference Centre (BICC) in Lilongwe, Republic of Malawi to discuss a wide range of transport-related programmes and initiatives. Some of the key issues discussed at the meeting are as follows;

- The Ministers reviewed progress in Air Transport and Civil Aviation and noted in particular the establishment of the SADC Aviation Safety Organisation (SASO) hosted by the Kingdom of Swaziland and urged Member States who have not yet signed the Charter establishing SASO to sign.
- The Ministers noted that the high ratio of landlocked countries, the long distances to gateway ports, the lack of an integrated and liberalised road transport market in the East and Southern African region pose numerous obstacles and impediments to trade and noted that the Tripartite Transport & Transit Facilitation Programmes (TTTFP) that they approved in 2015 has since been approved by COMESA and the East African Community (EAC).
- Ministers noted that the North South

Corridor Rail Study commenced in February 2017 which will identify and prioritize projects for implementation in the short, medium and long-term necessary for the revitalisation of SADC railways.

- On One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs), Ministers reviewed progress on trade and transport facilitation, and in particular, the developments on Beitbridge, the Kazungula Bridge and Martins Drift /Groblers.
- On Maritime, the Ministers noted the progress in the implementation of the Enhancing Maritime Connectivity Project (EMCP) in the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean, supported by European Union 11th European Development Fund. The overall objective of the program is to increase value of trade within the region.
- On Meteorology, the Ministers urged Member States that have not yet signed the Meteorological Association of Southern Africa (MASA) Constitution to do so as soon as possible in order to ensure operationalization of MASA. They also noted that Member

States are obliged to be compliant with the Quality Management System (QMS) standard for the provision of the aeronautical meteorological services to airlines.

- The Ministers noted progress on the signing of MoUs establishing the Beira and North South Corridors.
- Ministers noted that the 2017 edition of the NEPAD Programme for Infrastructure in Africa (PIDA) Week aimed at highlighting infrastructure development in Africa will be held from 10 -14 December 2017 in Swakopmund, Namibia.

Delegates wearing the SADC branded attire during the meeting



Tripartite Transport & Transit Facilitation Programme launched

By Barbara Lopi

A Tripartite Transport and Transit Facilitation Programme (TTTFP) has been launched to alleviate the numerous transport-related obstacles to trade among member states in the East and Southern African region. The launch took place on 26th October 2017 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, at the first meeting of Tripartite Sectoral Committee of Ministers of Infrastructure.

The meeting was attended by the Committee of Ministers of Infrastructure from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Commission (ECA) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The meeting noted that the high ratio of landlocked countries, the long distances to gateway ports, the lack of an integrated and liberalised road transport market in the East and Southern African region pose numerous obstacles and impediments to trade such as severe delays in moving goods which resulted in increased transport costs.

The TTTFP overall strategic objective is to facilitate the development of a more competitive, integrated and liberalised regional road transport market in the Tripartite region. Its purpose is to develop and implement harmonised road transport policies, laws, regulations and standards for efficient cross border road transport and transit networks, transport and logistics services, systems and procedures in the Tripartite region.

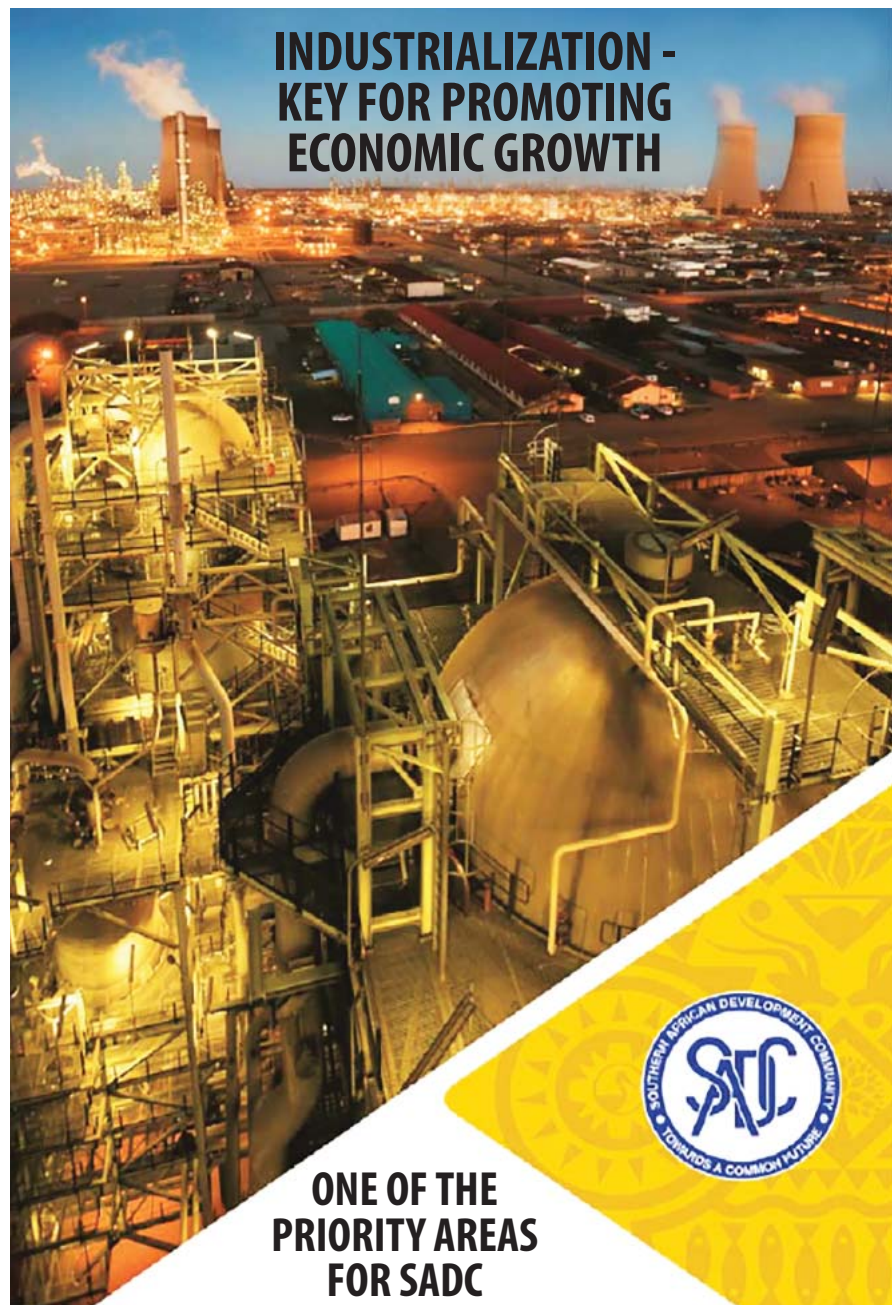
The TTTFP is funded by the European Union under the 11th European Development Fund Infrastructure envelope, and was designed and developed to help each Member State to close the identified gaps by means of technical assistance, training and capacity building to institutions provided through the programme.

The gaps relate to laws, policies, regulations, standards and system regulating cross border transport with respect to vehicles, drivers, professional drivers and operators with respect to enabling legislation, standards, training, testing, facilities, computerised registers and systems, vehicle load management, third party insurance, voluntary compliance, law enforcement, and exchange of information.

The TTTFP programme hinges on the Tripartite states signing and implementing the Vehicle Load Management Memorandum of Understanding (VLM MOU), and the Multilateral Cross Border

Road Transport Agreement (MCBRTA) as the primary legal instruments to drive the harmonisation of related regulations, standards and systems.

The TTTFP will provide the technical assistance for the domestication of a range of laws and standards, such as Vehicle Dimensions and Equipment, Vehicle Load Control, Dangerous Goods, Vehicle Fitness Testing, Driver Training and Testing, and Operator responsibility for quality of operations. The implementation of these measures will enable the Tripartite countries to create a more competitive, integrated and liberalised regional road transport market with fair competition.



**INDUSTRIALIZATION -
KEY FOR PROMOTING
ECONOMIC GROWTH**



**ONE OF THE
PRIORITY AREAS
FOR SADC**



EU Ambassador to Botswana and SADC, His Excellency Mr. Alexander Baum graced the occasion

EPA to improve on trade opportunities between SADC and EU

By Letso S. Mpho

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) together with the European Union (EU) convened a one-day forum in Johannesburg, South Africa on the 16th of October 2017 to sensitise Civil Society on the SADC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).

The EU signed an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) on 10 June 2016 with the SADC EPA Group comprising Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland. The agreement specifically focuses on the sustainable development objectives embedded in the pact.

The European Union (EU) has committed to implementing United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals by partnering with the rest of the world. Trade is viewed as a tool for contributing to



Ms. Malmström (left) and Honourable Davies

sustainable development and the SDGs are therefore reflected in the incorporation of sustainable development provisions in various trade agreements concluded by the EU, including the SADC EPA. Traditionally, these sustainable development provisions include human rights, social and environmental standards. The EU also undertakes

Sustainability Impact Assessments (SIAs) of its trade agreements. This is a tool designed to aid the process of sustainable development through trade negotiations.

The process involves an in-depth analysis of the potential economic, social, human rights and environmental impacts of

on-going trade negotiations. A SIA of the EU EPAs with African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries was undertaken between 2002 and 2006. It was found that the EPAs present new opportunities for ACP countries to trade, improve investment and capital

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EPA to improve on trade opportunities between SADC and EU

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flows, and generate advances in technology (including information technology) to promote economic growth, development and raise the living standards of the people. Realising these potential gains depends on a range of factors, including improved competitiveness, productivity, horizontal diversification, vertical integration, the delivery of basic services, and improved infrastructure. Many of the SIA recommendations are reflected in the SADC-EU EPA. There are three specific sustainability areas and the linkage between the Agreement and cooperation provisions:

- Development cooperation should focus on priority needs for diversification of production and exports towards higher value-added products, with an emphasis on reinforcing economic and industrial sectors impacted by the EPAs, while ensuring the sustainability of new development.

- Development cooperation should focus on technical assistance to collect information and data on trade and sustainability to support sound policy development.

- Development cooperation should focus on capacity building to promote sustainable development in both the private and public sectors, with an emphasis on training, research and development, and a sound regulatory framework.

More recently the EU has adopted a sustainable development package – Sustainable Development: EU sets out its Priorities'. The package sets out a strategic approach for achieving sustainable development in Europe and around the world. The package will be implemented through three communications:

- Communicating on the next steps for a sustainable European Future – expands on how the Commission's 10 political priorities contribute to implementing



(From left to right) Ms. Ward, H.E. Baum and Ms. Sebonego

the UN 2030 Agenda and how the EU will meet the SDGs in the future.

- Communication on a new European Consensus on Development – proposes a shared vision and framework for development cooperation for the EU and its Member States, aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

- Communication on a renewed partnership with ACP countries – proposes building blocks for a new, sustainable phase in EU-ACP relations after the Cotonou Partnership Agreement expires in 2020.

Speaking during the High Level Civil Society, when giving the keynote address, EU Commissioner for Trade, Ms. Cecilia Malmström said that the EU is convinced that trade policy and EPAs are not about abstract growth figures, but people and how people can benefit from trade rules. She added that trade is a vital component in any successful development strategy, and that exports are critical in improving the quality of

lives more especially in developing nations.

The Minister of Trade and Industry for South Africa, Honourable Rob Davies also graced the occasion. He expressed the importance of the partnership with the civil society and private sector. He indicated that EU is South Africa's and Africa's largest trading blocs as well as the largest investor and that the EPA has achieved the recognition of geographical indications for South Africa making it the first trade agreement with such a protocol. For the SADC EPA group, Minister Davis mentioned that Member States have benefited from improved rules of origin, as EPAs are an instrument of development for the region.

Speaking on behalf of the SADC EPA Group Coordinator, Ms. Ontlamente Ward underscored the importance of consultation with key stakeholders, to guide effective implementation of the Agreement.

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(From left) Mr. Mutoya, Dr. Tax and Dr. Theminkosi Mhlongo - SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for Regional Integration

Implementation of the SADC Protocol on Culture, Information and Sport

By Letso S. Mpho

SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax met the General Manager of the African Union Sport Council Region 5 (AUSC Region 5), Mr. Stanley Mutoya at the SADC Headquarters in Gaborone, Botswana on the 23rd of October 2017.

The purpose of the meeting was to establish working relations and collaboration between the SADC Secretariat and the Secretariat of the AUSC Region 5 and to discuss issues related to the implementation of the SADC Protocol on Culture, Information and Sport. The Protocol was deprioritized at regional level, but remains in

force at national level, and Member States were fully responsible for its implementation. The SADC Secretariat therefore offered assistance in linking the AUSC Region 5 with Member States for implementation of the Protocol.

The meeting also provided an opportunity to share information on the Implementation of the SADC Protocol on Culture, Information and Sport specifically on regional priorities, and obligations by Member States, the SADC Secretariat and other participating stakeholders.

Dr. Tax thanked Mr. Mutoya for the good work in the SADC region on the contribution on Culture,

Information and Sport sectors. She mentioned that SADC programmes were best implemented by organisations with competencies such as AUSC through staging of its sports activities which bring citizens of the region together.

She further stated that the Secretariat was willing to work with various organisations which support the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) which provides strategic direction with respect to SADC programmes, projects and activities in line with the SADC Common Agenda.

She also mentioned that following the re-prioritisation of SADC

Programmes in 2007/2008, Culture, Sport and Information was to be implemented by stakeholders through the principle of subsidiarity. This included establishment of institutional arrangements for stakeholders to drive implementation in these sectors.

Mr. Mutoya thanked Dr. Tax for the meeting and mentioned that it was imperative for regional sports development bodies to foster and nurture good working relationships with regional bodies in order to harmonise and ensure advancement of sports initiatives. He also stated that the collaboration will improve sports beneficiation through value addition as well as creating businesses within sport divisions. Mr. Mutoya highlighted achievements made such as setting up a Secretariat and holding regional games every 2 years.

The African Union Sport Council represents 10 SADC Member States as per African Union geographical classification. The AUSC Region5 is the sports arm of the African Union formed in the 1960s, and is based in Yaoundé, Cameroon. AUSC uses sports to achieve Peace, Integration and Unity in Africa i.e. sport as a vehicle of encouraging people to develop and come together, irrespective of colour, economic status, political, class, or gender. AUSC Region's structure is provided for in the SADC Protocol on Culture, Information and Sport.

The AUSC hosts its sports competitions every two years and its next chapter will be held in Gaborone Botswana in December 8 -16, 2018.

Fish farming set to increase in the SADC region

*By Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo
Technical Advisor - Fisheries*

Plans to produce a model means of improving the efficiency of aquaculture production in Southern Africa have moved ahead, following a meeting hosted by SADC in partnership with WorldFish, FAO and the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock in Zambia in Lusaka from 25-29 September 2017.

The SADC-WorldFish-FAO Platform for Genetic Improvement in Aquaculture was arranged to follow up the Cape Town Call to Action that was issued after the 5th meeting of the SADC Working Group on Aquaculture as well as the SADC-WorldFish Aquaculture Policy Dialogue, which took place on the sidelines of the World Aquaculture Conference held in Cape Town during June 2017, and it has brought the call's ideas one step closer to realisation.

The Cape Town Call to Action seeks to popularize and catalyze operationalization and implementation of the recently approved SADC Regional Aquaculture Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2026). The purpose of the SADC Regional Aquaculture Strategy is to provide strategic direction for the rapid and environmentally responsible development of aquaculture in SADC Member States, while simultaneously safeguarding the ecological integrity of aquatic ecosystems, conserving common genetic resources and supporting the maintenance of regional aquatic biosecurity, as outlined in the SADC Regional Aquatic Animal Health Strategy, and to advance the development of cross-border value chains that better enable the utilization of aquatic and human resources within the region.

Most of the fish being produced in Southern African aquaculture are essentially wild strains that have been put into ponds. On average, these perform about 20 percent less efficiently than the top performing strains worldwide.

While a wide variety of species – both



Fish PHOTO COURTESY OF MATCHDESK.COM

marine and freshwater, invertebrates and fish – are currently farmed in Southern Africa, SADC Secretariat and its partners believe that tilapia offers the most widespread options for growth. The SADC-WorldFish-FAO partnership advocates for more producers to adopt improved stocks, such as the Genetically Improved Farmed Tilapia (GIFT) strain, which has been developed by the WorldFish and refined to grow quicker and more efficiently over the last 30 years. Using these strains will help improve aquaculture efficiency and help countries reach their production goals. For example, Tanzania aims to increase its aquaculture output from the current level of 10,000 to 40,000 tonnes per year by 2022. We have explained that adopting the GIFT strain will speed up the process by 20 percent.

In South Africa, the government recently launched a presidential ocean economy initiative called "Operation Phakisa", which is an acronym for "hurry-up" in Sesotho. This program includes an aquaculture development strategy

targeting to produce 20,000 tons of fish, creating over 15,000 new jobs and a fledgling industry. South Africa has a competitive advantage for becoming a key producer of trout and marine species, especially shellfish.

Namibia was the first country in SADC to develop an aquaculture strategy in 2003 and recognize the importance of promoting fish consumption to further grow the industry. Just like South Africa, Namibia has a big advantage for mariculture, especially shellfish. Whilst in Zambia, aquaculture is socially and politically important. The Zambian government is aiming to grow aquaculture production by 46% in the next five years, through implementation of the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project to be implemented from 2017 to 2022. Zambia, together with Tanzania and Zimbabwe have a huge competitive advantage for leading the region in tilapia production.

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Benguela Current Convention pioneers implementation of an integrated, multi-sector, multi-country approach to ocean governance



Chair of the BCC Ministerial Conference, Honourable Bernhard Esau, Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources of Namibia, flanked by BCC Commissioners and officials of the BCC Secretariat

**By Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo
Technical Advisor - Fisheries**

When SADC endorsed the BENguela-Environment-Fisheries-Interaction and Training (BENEFIT) Programme as a SADC programme, little was known at the time that 20 years down the line, the programme will steer the three countries, Angola, Namibia and South Africa, to achieve so much in ocean governance. The BENEFIT programme was a SADC regional marine science and training programme focused on fisheries and marine resources of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME).

The year 2013 marked one of the milestone periods in Southern Africa, as it ushered the world's first multi-lateral Commission based on the Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) approach to ocean governance as Angola, Namibia and South Africa

signed the Benguela Current Convention (BCC). The BCC entered into force in 2015, and arguably this is one of the greatest achievements this region has seen, representing the operational realisation of a vision that was conceptualised over a long period of time regarding the protection, conservation, rehabilitation, enhancement and sustainable utilisation of the BCLME. The three countries were lauded worldwide for pioneering the implementation of an integrated, multi-sector, multi-country approach to ocean governance.

To this end, the BCC has moved ahead of most regional and sub-regional organizations towards implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, which highlights the need to conserve and sustainably use

the oceans, seas and marine resources to benefit present and future generations.

This was demonstrated during the 7th BCC Annual Science and Governance Forum which was held at the Nampower Convention Centre in Windhoek, Namibia from 25-27 October 2017, under the theme "BCLME: One ecosystem, one governance for sustainable development-Unlocking ocean economic potential through multi-sectorial approach to ocean governance".

The programme is also impacting positively on the SADC regional policies and strategies, both the SADC's revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) (2015-2020) and the Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap (2015-2063) identify the Blue- and Green Economies as potential areas for sustainable growth in the region. The SADC

Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap (2015-2063), in particular, requires that:

- The Blue Economy Initiative should be mainstreamed in developing infrastructure required to accelerate industrialization. In particular, investment in the development and upgrading of regional ports and maritime corridors which is crucial in facilitating viable shipping networks as instrumental enablers for participation in regional and global value chains;

- The ocean resources should also be exploited in a sustainable manner in order to minimize the negative impact on environment; and

- The sustainable development and growth of the ocean wealth should be supported by coherent planning, policies and regulatory frameworks.

Experiences and lessons learned shared by the three countries of BCC during the 7th BCC Annual Science and Governance Forum, revealed that not all challenges of ocean use can be resolved by spatial management. MSP is therefore often complemented by other measures such as marine protected areas (MPAs), as supported by the SADC Protocol on Fisheries (2001), voluntary agreements, or temporary restrictions on activities. Integrated coastal zone management and land use planning also need to work hand in hand with MSP

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Fish farming set to increase in the SADC region

from page 16

The meeting of the Regional Genetics Platform was held back-to-back with the launch of the Tilapia Genetic Improvement Project of the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project (ZAEDP), and served as a precursor to the formation of a Community of Practice (or Network) on Aquaculture Genetic Improvement in Africa.

SADC Member States have now realised that increasing Southern African aquaculture production is crucial for helping to feed the region's growing population, as well as generating income. With the right policies and strategies, there is enormous potential to develop fish farming in the SADC region, especially using tilapia – Africa's own indigenous fish which achieve good growth



Participants at the SADC-WorldFish-FAO Platform for Genetic Improvement in Aquaculture, 25-29 September 2017, Lusaka, Zambia

rates under intensive production. This nutritious fish is in high demand in the region and worldwide. With the expansion of the regional fish feed manufacturing industry to produce feed for commercial fish production, a growing base of support services and the establishment of fish producer associations across

different countries, the time is ripe to support and further develop emerging small scale production.

The Lusaka meeting has resulted in an agreement between the 16 members of SADC to harmonise regional mechanisms for growth. Through the S A D C - W o r l d F i s h

partnership agreement that is currently being finalised, WorldFish will help establish the platform and the genetic improvement initiatives and guidance on the requisite science and infrastructure required to deliver efficiencies required to drive aquaculture growth in SADC Member States.

Multi-country approach to ocean governance

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to ensure that land and ocean are managed in a connected way. These lessons will help the SADC Secretariat to better inform the regional blue growth initiative and share these lessons coming from BCC with other SADC countries. The Benguela is particularly productive in terms of fisheries resources, but top

predators such as seabirds and marine mammals are also abundant. Commercial fisheries and the extraction of non-living natural resources such as oil, gas, diamonds and other minerals, are the focus of industrial activities in the region.

This makes the BCLME a perfect platform to demonstrate cooperation

and collaboration in blue economy approaches, as showcased by the current MARISA project of BCC. SADC Secretariat is currently working on the development of the regional blue economy/growth strategy hence the work of BCC as important towards achieving regional objectives.

EPA to improve on trade opportunities

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The Chief Technical Adviser under the SADC EPA Unit, Ms. Boitumelo Sebonego represented the SADC Secretariat. In her speech, Ms. Sebonego thanked the EU for its vast support to the region, following the signing of the contribution agreements with the SADC Secretariat.

She pointed out that the Regional Economic Integration Support (REIS) and the Trade Related Facility (TRF) Programmes which began in 2013 and 2014 respectively are

geared towards assisting the SADC region in implementing its mandate of regional integration in the economic and trade sectors. The forum represented an opportunity to identify crucial issues in the region related to economic development, environmental protection and social development; as well as feeding into the development of mechanisms for ongoing monitoring processes and implementation of the EPA. The forum emphasised the importance of communication, awareness, access to information and capacity building by citizens in EPA Members States towards the success of EPAs.



Ambassadors and Senior Officials displaying the booklet after the launch

Trafficking in Persons Lessons Booklet launched

By Mukundi Mutasa

The SADC Secretariat, on 31 October 2017 in Gaborone, Botswana, launched a booklet on lessons learnt on trafficking in persons across the SADC region. The booklet, titled Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Persons: lessons from the SADC Region, aims to share lessons from SADC Member States in an effort to improve the regional response to the crime.

In her remarks, the Permanent Secretary in Botswana's Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security, Ms Segakweng Tsiane, highlighted that while the lessons learnt booklet is not the ultimate goal, it is important in that it "will serve as a good tool for SADC Member States to further build and improve capacity in response to the crime of human trafficking".

Also speaking during the launch, the Director of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs at SADC Secretariat, Mr Jorge Cardoso, applauded Member States for tirelessly working towards preventing and combating this heinous crime. He reiterated the call made by the Executive Secretary of SADC, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, during the World Day against Trafficking in Persons on 30 July 2017, that it is important for Member States to collectively address the abhorrent

crime of trafficking in persons vigorously. The region's commitment to global, continental and regional legislative frameworks on trafficking in persons is evidenced by all SADC Member States being party to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and to



Mr. Cardoso (left) and Ms. Tsiane launching the booklet

the Convention's supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

In addition, 13 out of the 15 Member States have specific stand-alone legislation criminalising trafficking in persons, while the remaining two are using several pieces of legislation to criminalise this practice. "However, the

critical challenge lies in implementing and enforcing the legislation," Mr Cardoso said. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Office for Southern Africa, representative, Ms Samantha Munodawafa, praised the Member States and the Secretariat for the "strong commitment to the cause of combating trafficking in persons in the SADC Region".

She further said that the UNODC and SADC Secretariat "are very proud to have accompanied Member States on their respective journeys in the fight against trafficking in persons, and are in awe of the many remarkable achievements by Member States, at times with minimal resources".

The lessons learnt booklet was published with support from the European Union through the Regional Political Cooperation (RPC) Programme of the SADC Secretariat, and is available, both in print and on the SADC website, in the three SADC working languages. The launch was attended by officials from the Government of Botswana, the SADC Committee of Ambassadors and High Commissioners, the diplomatic community, international organisations, and members of the media fraternity.

QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

During the 37th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Governments, Summit approved and signed the Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants in the SADC Region. Barbara Lopi asked the SADC's Programme Officer for Crops, Mr. Esaiiah Tjelele to explain the SADC Protocol for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants.

Q: Can you unpack this Protocol for the ordinary person to understand and appreciate it? What is this Protocol all about?

A: The Protocol for Protection of New Varieties of Plants (Plant Breeders' Rights) in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), is a regional legal framework that is critical in the implementation of the Harmonized Seed Regulatory System. The Protocol will protect innovativeness and encourage investments in the seed sector. It gives confidence to Breeders that their plant varieties will not be misused in the region once registered and released. The instrument also confirms the commitment of Member States to ensure availability and access to high quality seeds from reliable sources.

Following approval by Summit, the Protocol is now a living regional legal instrument, ready for all SADC Member States to domesticate into their national frameworks through ratification procedures to render it an operational regional instrument.

The Protocol has three main objectives:

- provide for the establishment of



Mr. Tjelele

an effective system of plant variety protection;

- promote the development of new varieties of plants for the benefit of the region; and

- provide for the granting and protection of breeders' rights.

Q. Give us some background. How did this Protocol come up?

A. The SADC Secretariat, in collaboration with Member States, developed the SADC Harmonized Seed Regulatory System (HSRS) as part of the technical response to improved access to quality inputs or seeds. The HSRS system seeks to combine segregated seed markets into one regional seed market. The HSRS is intended to facilitate the availability of quality seed to farmers and to make it easier for new as well as existing varieties to gain access to SADC markets. The HSRS system also encourages faster and safer movement of seed while also reducing costs related to seed trade.

Q. How is the SADC Harmonized Seed Regulatory System (HSRS) implemented?

A. The HSRS is implemented through a Memorandum of understanding (MOU) that was approved by the Ministers responsible for Agriculture and Food Security in 2009. Through this MOU, SADC Member States are to implement a common regional

variety release and a registration system as well as common quarantine and phytosanitary measures, seed certification and quality assurance systems. The MOU entered into force on 7 July 2013 and currently eleven (11) Member States are party to it. Under Article 8(a) of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the implementation of the Harmonized Seed Regulation System in the SADC Region, Member States noted that the implementation the HSRS requires Member States to have Plant Breeder Rights (PBR) legislation in place at the national level.

Q. How is the SADC Harmonized Seed Regulatory System (HSRS) related to the Protocol?

A. The Protocol outlines obligations, responsibilities and accountability of each Member States. Furthermore, this legal framework is meant to augment and facilitate the implementation of agreed MOU on the implementation of the Harmonized seed regulations in the SADC Region. The value of this Protocol, or the PBR to the Implementation of the SADC Harmonized Seed Regulation is that it provides the establishment of an effective system on how the region will handle intellectual property matters regarding the plant varieties that shall be traded across borders under the MOU.



SADC army

SADC Secretariat continues to raise awareness on the SADC Standby Force Civilian Roster for Peace Support Operations

By Ernest Kantchentche

Subsequent to the attainment of Full Operational Capability (FOC) status of the SADC Standby Force (SADC SF) in July 2016, the SADC Secretariat has been taking concerted efforts to ensure that all components namely the Military, Police and Civilian are ready for deployment. To ensure full operationalization of the Civilian Component, a series of awareness workshops have been conducted in SADC Member States.

These workshops among other things, are organized by the SADC Secretariat/ SADC SF PLANELM to raise awareness among civilian experts in the SADC Region on the role of civilians in Peace Support Operations and also encourage experts to become members of the SADC SF Civilian Roster.

In the week beginning 2 October 2017, the Secretariat conducted awareness workshops in the Republic of South Africa and the Kingdom of Lesotho. The Workshops drew participants from different Government Ministries, Institutions and Non-State Actors.

More than fifty (50) civilian experts expressed interest and committed

themselves to apply for the Roster membership. Additionally, the participants promised to support and assist the SADC SF in creating awareness of the Civilian Component to members of their respective organizations as well as their stakeholders and compatriots.

During the workshop, participants were apprised of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), the African Standby Force (ASF) and the SADC standby Force (SSF) with special emphasis on the Civilian Component. The APSA is a structural framework which was established by the African Union in 2003 in order to harmonize the continental response to African peace and security challenges.

The ASF was established in order to enable the Peace and Security Council of the African Union perform its responsibilities with respect to the deployment of peace support missions and intervention pursuant to Article 4 (h) and (j) of the AU Constitutive Act. The Force is composed of standby multidisciplinary contingents, with military, police and civilian components in their countries of origin and ready for rapid deployment at appropriate notice"

(PSC Protocol Art 13.1). Regional Economic Communities (RECs) / Regional Mechanisms (RMs), of which the SADC SF is one of them, are the building blocks of the APSA and the regional Standby Forces together form the ASF. The SADC SF was established by the SADC Summit through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that was signed on 17 August 2007 in Lusaka, Zambia. Article 3 of the MoU provides for a standby force that consists of military, police and civilian components. The Force's main function is to participate in Peace Support missions as envisaged in Article 13 of the Protocol Establishing the PSC of the AU.

The SADC SF Civilian Roster is being populated with civilian experts from different professions which are most relevant to a multi-dimensional PSO, such as Civil Affairs, Political Affairs, Legal Affairs, Public Information, Human Rights, Gender, and Humanitarian relief liaison to name a few. A comprehensive list of the fields of expertise and the roster membership application forms can be accessed and completed through the African Standby Capacity (ASC) website on <https://database.africanstandbycapacity.org>.

Similar workshops have also been conducted in the Republic of Botswana, Republic of Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Japanese Ambassador to Botswana and SADC bids farewell

By Peter Mabaka

After a successful tour of duty as Ambassador to the Republic of Botswana and Special Representative to the Southern African Development Community (SADC), His Excellency Mr. Masahiro Onishi on 9th October, 2017 bade farewell to the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax at a meeting held at the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Botswana.



Ambassador Onishi (left) and Dr. Tax

Ambassador Onishi formally informed the SADC Executive Secretary that he will be leaving Botswana at the end of October 2017. Ambassador Onishi expressed gratitude to SADC for the good working relationship that he enjoyed during his three-year tenure of office. He assured SADC that the incoming Ambassador will continue to strengthen the relationship that exist between SADC and

Japan, and to deepen collaboration for regional development. On her part, Her Excellency Dr. Tax wished Ambassador Onishi personal good health and success in his future undertakings.

Dr. Tax also expressed gratitude to the Ambassador for strengthening the cooperation between SADC and the Government of

Japan, specifically for facilitating the launch of the SADC Project on Conservation and Sustainable Management of Forest Resources in Southern Africa in 2015, and the energy project profiling programme. The Sustainable Management of Forest Resources in Southern Africa Project is for a period of five years and is supported by the Government of Japan,

through the Japanese International Co-operation Agency (JICA). The project is aimed at enhancing the capacity of SADC Member States in sustainable forest management and conservation. During the visit to the Secretariat, Ambassador Onishi was accompanied by Yu Nakao, Researcher/Advisor from Embassy of Japan in Botswana.

The SADC Executive Secretary received letters of credence from the Republics of Switzerland, Sweden and Mauritius



The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Switzerland to the Republic of South Africa and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to SADC, Her Excellency Ambassador Mrs. Helene Budliger Artieda (left) presented her Letters of Credence to the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax at the SADC Secretariat, on 1st November 2017, in Gaborone, Republic of Botswana.



The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Sweden to the Republic of South Africa and Special Representative of Sweden to SADC, Her Excellency Cecilia Julin (left) on 1st November 2017, presenting her Letters of Credence to the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax at the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Republic of Botswana.



The Mauritius High Commissioner to South Africa and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mauritius to the Southern African Development Community (SADC), H.E. Mr. Prakarmajith Vijaye Lutchmun (left) presented his letter of credence to the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency, Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax at the SADC Head office in Gaborone Botswana on the 31st October 2017.

DID YOU KNOW THAT



SADC Secretariat is facilitating implementation of an HIV and AIDS Cross-Border Initiative “CBI” with the support of a Grant from the Global Fund, in 12 SADC in land Member States, namely: Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The overall objective of the CBI is to reduce HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB) and Malaria related morbidity and mortality and incidence of HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) among mobile populations, especially Sex Workers (SWs), long distance truck drivers (LDTDs), migrant workers and communities around the border.

In order to achieve the objective, through the CBI, basic HIV and AIDS and health services are provided at established wellness clinics specifically targeting high-volume border posts. In total 32 Wellness Clinics have been established to offer the following services

- Behaviour Change Communication
- Voluntary Counselling & Testing
- Sexually Transmitted Infection diagnosis & treatment
- Integrated TB/HIV care and community outreach programs.



The CBI has so far generated some encouraging results including an increase in the percentage of SWs and LDTDs reporting the use of a condom during their last sexual intercourse. There has also been an upward trend in the number of SWs, LDTDs and community members who tested for HIV and know their results.

It is anticipated that by 31 December 2017, at the end of the Global Fund Financial Support, the 32 Wellness Clinics established, will all be handed over to SADC Member States to ensure their sustainability.

By Anne Kulemeka



MEMBER STATE	DATE	HOLIDAY
Angola	All Souls Day	02 November
	Independence Day	11 November
Madagascar	All Saints' Day Arrival of Indentured	01 November
Mauritius	Labourers	02 November
Seychelles	All Saints' Day Arrival of Indentured	01 November



KINGDOM OF LESOTHO

Lesotho Independence Day is celebrated on October 4. This public holiday commemorates the independence of the Kingdom of Lesotho from Great Britain in 1966.

Lesotho (then Basutoland) became a single entity in 1822. It was united by King Moshoeshoe I. In the 1860s, Moshoeshoe fought a series of wars with Boer settlers, who tried to colonize his lands. Having lost a great portion of his territory, Moshoeshoe asked Queen Victoria for help. She agreed to establish British protectorate over Basutoland in 1858. The

colonial era in Lesotho began in 1870, following Moshoeshoe's death. In 1871, Basutoland was annexed to Cape Colony. After the Gun War, it was restored to its status as a protectorate. In 1959, Basutoland was granted its first elected legislature. Six years later, the general elections were held. Finally, on October 4, 1966, Lesotho gained full independence. Independence Day of Lesotho is a national holiday widely celebrated throughout the country.

Source: <https://anydayguide.com/calendar/2550>



REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

Day of Peace and Reconciliation is a Mozambican public holiday celebrated on October 4. It commemorates the end of the civil war that lasted for over fifteen years.

In 1975, Mozambique proclaimed its independence from Portugal. The control of the territory was taken over by the revolutionary Communist party FRELIMO (the Mozambique Liberation Front). In 1977, President Samora Machel established a one-party Marxist state. In response to this, the anti-Communist movement RENAMO (the

Mozambican National Resistance) started a rebellion against Machel's regime that soon developed into a full-fledged civil war. Peace talks began in 1990, four years after the death of Machel in a plane crash. On October 4, 1992, the FRELIMO and the RENAMO signed the Rome General Peace Accords, officially ending the Mozambican Civil War. The anniversary of this event was designated as a public holiday named Day of Peace and Reconciliation.

Source: <https://anydayguide.com/calendar/2551>



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

October 14 is Julius Nyerere Day in Tanzania. This public holiday commemorates the death anniversary of Julius Kambarage Nyerere, the first President of Tanzania who is referred to as the Father of the Nation. Nyerere was born on April 13, 1922 in Tanganyika.

At the age of 25, he received a teaching diploma and started working as a teacher. His political career began in 1953, when Nyerere became president of the Tanganyika African Association. A year later, he transformed the Association into the Tanganyika African National Union and began to struggle for the independence of Tanganyika. He achieved his goal in

1961 and became the first Prime Minister of Tanganyika. In 1964, Tanganyika and Zanzibar united to form Tanzania, and Nyerere became the country's first President.

Nyerere resigned twenty years later, relinquishing power to his hand-picked successor, Ali Hassan Mwinyi. He remained the chairman of the ruling party for five more years. He died of leukemia on October 14, 1999 at the age of 77. Nyerere Day is a national holiday widely celebrated throughout Tanzania.

Source: <https://anydayguide.com/calendar/2601>