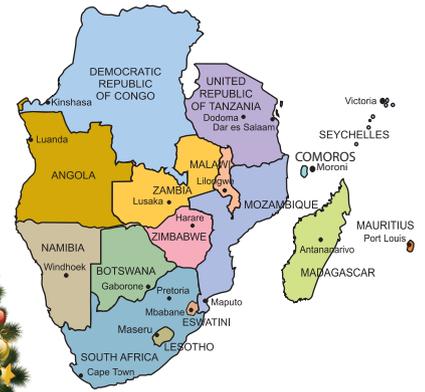




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SADC Chair expresses solidarity to DRC



President of the Republic of Namibia and Chairperson of SADC, His Excellency Dr Hage G. Geingob issued a statement expressing solidarity to the (Democratic Republic of Congo) DRC (Story on page 4)

WORLD AIDS DAY - 01 DECEMBER 2018 - "KNOW YOUR STATUS"



WORLD AIDS DAY

"KNOW YOUR STATUS"



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SADC SECRETARIAT VISION

A reputable, efficient and responsive enabler of regional integration and sustainable development.

MISSION

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

VALUES

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

SADC OBJECTIVES

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

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 FLAG



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.

ABOUT THE INSIDE SADC NEWSLETTER

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Letso S. Mpho

Season's Greetings

*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. Stergomona L. Tax
SADC Executive Secretary**



www.sadc.int





Head of SADC Election Observation Mission (SEOM) Hon. Mr Justice Ernest Sakala SADC (left) and H.E Dr. Tax during the launch of the SADC Election Observation Mission in DRC on 10th December 2018

SADC expresses solidarity with the people of the DRC, ahead of December 23 elections

#DR Congo Elections 2018

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has expressed solidarity with the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo as they prepare to hold Presidential, Legislative and Provincial Elections on the 23rd of December 2018.

In a statement issued by President of the Republic of Namibia and Chairperson of SADC, His Excellency Dr Hage G. Geingob, SADC noted the concerted efforts made by the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) to prepare the logistics for holding successful elections within the mandated time frames.

H.E. President Dr. Geingob said the elections represent a major milestone in the history of the DRC and are instrumental in establishing sustainable peace and political stability. He then called on all political players to uphold the freedom of expression, assembly and unhindered campaigning which are the

hallmarks of the democratic exercise of the will of the people the election period. The SADC Chairperson urged all stakeholders, particularly leaders of political parties, civil society, media and

law enforcement authorities, to continue promoting a culture of tolerance and restraint and ensure that the 23rd December elections are not only successful but also peaceful and transparent. He reaffirmed the commitment by the SADC Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) to the 2018 elections in the DRC to continue monitoring closely the electoral process in line with the revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2015).

In a separate statement, the Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu of the Republic of Zambia said the elections are an essential requirement and important mechanism for peace, security and stability in DRC. His Excellency President Lungu called on the various stakeholders to amicably resolve the prevailing political challenges and ensure that peace and stability are immediately restored.

The SADC Observation Mission to the DRC elections was officially launched on 10th December, 2018 with a total of 94 members, of which 73 are field observers drawn from 8 SADC Member States, namely Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. SEOM is scheduled to issue its interim statement on 26th December, 2018 at its headquarters based in Kinshasa.



Head of Mission to the 2018 Elections in the DR Congo and his delegation pose for a photo after meeting with National Episcopal Conference of Congo (CENCO) as part of a series of stakeholder engagements which includes meeting with government officials, presidential candidates, faith leaders, civil society, local observers, media, political parties and other electoral and political stakeholders



**STATEMENT BY THE SADC CHAIRPERSON, HIS EXCELLENCY DR. HAGE G. GEINGOB,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA - 14th December, 2018**

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) expresses solidarity with the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo in their endeavour to hold Presidential, Legislative and Provincial Elections on the 23rd of December 2018.

SADC notes the concerted efforts made by the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) to prepare the logistics for holding successful elections within the mandated time frames.

SADC notes with great concern the destruction of electoral materials after the occurrence of a fire on 13th December 2018 at one of the central warehouses of CENI in Kinshasa.

SADC is further concerned about the loss of life and destruction of property in the recent incidents of violence in Kalemie, Lubumbashi and Mbuji-Mayi.

SADC calls on all political players to uphold the freedom of expression, assembly and unhindered campaigning which are the hallmarks of the democratic exercise of the will of the people during this period. SADC, in line with its revised Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections, strongly urges all stakeholders, particularly leaders of political parties, civil society, media and law enforcement authorities, to continue promoting a culture of tolerance and restraint and ensure that the 23rd December elections are not only successful but also peaceful and transparent.

SADC wishes to further emphasise that the forthcoming elections represent a major milestone in the history of the DRC and are instrumental in establishing sustainable peace and political stability.

SADC further wishes to inform all stakeholders that the SADC Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) will continue to closely follow the electoral process and will report its observations to the relevant SADC political Organ in line with the revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2015).

**Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia, and Chairperson of SADC
14th December, 2018.**

.....
**DÉCLARATION DU PRÉSIDENT DE LA SADC SON EXCELLENCE DR HAGE G. GEINGOB,
PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE NAMIBIE - 14 DÉCEMBRE 2018**

La Communauté de développement de l'Afrique australe (SADC) exprime sa solidarité avec le peuple de la République démocratique du Congo dans les efforts qu'il déploie pour que les élections présidentielle, législatives et provinciales du 23 décembre 2018 se déroulent de manière pacifique et réussie.

La SADC prend note des efforts concertés déployés par la Commission électorale nationale indépendante (CENI) pour préparer la logistique nécessaire au bon déroulement des élections dans les délais prescrits.

La SADC note avec préoccupation la destruction par le feu de matériel électoral le 13 décembre 2018, dans un des entrepôts centraux de la CENI, à Kinshasa.

La SADC est en outre préoccupée par les pertes en vies humaines et les destructions de biens causées par les récents incidents isolés de violence à Kalemie, Lubumbashi et Mbuji-Mayi.

La SADC exhorte vivement toutes les parties prenantes, en particulier les dirigeants des partis politiques, la société civile, les médias et les forces de l'ordre, à continuer de promouvoir une culture de tolérance et de retenue et à travailler ensemble et à coopérer pour faire en sorte que les élections du 23 décembre soient non seulement couronnées de succès mais aussi pacifiques et tranquilles.

La SADC tient en outre à souligner que les prochaines élections constituent un jalon important dans l'histoire de la RDC et qu'elles contribueront à l'instauration d'une paix durable et d'une stabilité politique.

La SADC souhaite en outre informer toutes les parties prenantes que la Mission d'observation électorale de la SADC (SEOM) continue d'observer les phases préélectorale et électorale et qu'elle restera sur le terrain, conformément aux Principes et directives révisés de la SADC régissant les élections démocratiques (2015).

**S.E Dr. Hage G. Geingob, Président de la République de Namibie et Président de la SADC
14 décembre 2018**

SADC is set for Observation in the second round of the Presidential Election in Madagascar

#MadagascarElections2018

By Jocelyne Lukundula

SADC Elections Observers Mission (SEOM) is back to Madagascar to observe the run-off for the presidential election scheduled to take place on 19th December 2018. The mission established its Head Quarters at Colbert Hotel and is composed of 51 members to cover 10 out of the 22 Regions in the country (the same covered in the first round).

SADC Director Organ on Politics and Cooperation Affairs, Mr. Jorge Cardoso welcomed the participants on behalf of SADC Executive Secretary Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax and commended Member States for the commitment in upholding good governance and democracy by sending observers to the second round of the Presidential Election in Madagascar. Director Cardoso recalled that as a region SADC has deployed simultaneously in Madagascar and in the DRC and thanked the observers for making a personal sacrifice in a moment when families prepare for the festive season.

In his remarks, the SEOM Head of Mission (HoM), Dr. Katele Kalumba, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Zambia, reminded the observers on their role as well as their obligations and rights as per the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections whilst they are members of the observation team. He specifically requested observers to comply with the cardinal principles enshrined in the code of conduct by observing impartiality; respect the culture and laws of the country as well as reporting with high quality and evidence based information.

Earlier, all observers went through a pre-deployment refresher course facilitated by the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA). The HoM is supported by Organ Troila Member States, Angola and Zimbabwe, as well as members of the SADC Electoral Advisory Council (SADC). H.E Joaquim Chissano, former President of Mozambique and Special Envoy to Madagascar will also join the mission on 17th December. SEOM will release its preliminary statement on the 21st December 2018, at the Colbert Hotel.



From left to right; Former President Joaquin Chissano and SADC Special Envoy for Madagascar, Dr. Katele Kalumba and H.E. Dr. Tax



From left to right; Dr. Katele Kalumba and H.E. Dr. Tax consulting



SEOM Head of Mission to Madagascar Elections, Dr. K. Kalumba briefing the media after paying a courtesy call on Minister of Foreign Affairs for Madagascar, H.E. A. M. Dovon



**JOINT STATEMENT BY INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSIONS TO THE RUN-OFF OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN MADAGASCAR AND MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
18 DECEMBER 2018**

We, the Heads of International Election Observation Missions to the 2018 Presidential Run-off Election to the Republic of Madagascar, and members of the International Community:

1. affirm that the election is an expression of the democratic will and aspirations of the Malagasy people;
2. have observed that the electoral campaign which covered the period 4-17 December 2018, has been largely peaceful, and that the candidates, their supporters and the population in general have exhibited a commendable degree of political tolerance and maturity;
3. acknowledge the commitment of the Government of the Republic of Madagascar that enabled the successful conduct of the first round of the Presidential Election, as well as the preparations for the second round of the election;
4. also acknowledge the professionalism displayed by the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) and the High Constitutional Court (HCC) in managing and monitoring the electoral process;

On the eve of the presidential election run-off, we appeal to both candidates to:

- a. preserve social peace and national cohesion in the best interests of the country;
- b. exercise restraint and urge their supporters to refrain from taking any actions that undermine the electoral process;
- c. to accept the official outcome of the election, and in case of contestation, to resort to competent authorities.

We, the Heads of International Election Observation Missions and members of the International Community, reiterate our support for the Malagasy people and that we are at their full disposal to accompany them in completing the ongoing electoral process and in consolidating democracy.

.....

DECLARATION CONJOINTE DES MISSIONS D'OBSERVATION ELECTORALE POUR LE SECOND TOUR DE L'ELECTION PRESIDENTIELLE A MADAGASCAR ET DES MEMBRES DE LA COMMUNAUTE INTERNATIONALE - 18 DECEMBRE 2018

Nous, Chefs de missions d'observation électorale internationales pour le second tour de l'élection présidentielle à Madagascar et membres de la Communauté internationale :

1. affirmons que l'élection est une expression de la volonté démocratique et une aspiration du peuple Malagasy;
2. observons que la campagne électorale, qui s'est déroulée du 4 au 17 décembre 2018, a été, en grande partie, pacifique et que les candidats, leurs partisans et la population ont fait preuve, en général, d'un degré louable de tolérance et de maturité politique;
3. saluons l'implication du Gouvernement de la République de Madagascar qui a contribué au bon déroulement du premier tour de l'élection présidentielle ainsi qu'à la préparation du second tour du scrutin;
4. reconnaissons le professionnalisme de la Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante (CENI) et de la Haute Cour Constitutionnelle (HCC) dans la gestion et le contrôle du processus électoral.

A la veille du second tour de l'élection présidentielle, nous appelons les deux candidats :

- a. à préserver la paix sociale et la cohésion nationale dans l'intérêt supérieur du pays;
- b. à faire preuve de retenue et à exhorter leurs partisans à s'abstenir de toute action susceptible de compromettre le processus électoral;
- c. à accepter les résultats officiels de l'élection, et, en cas de contestation, à recourir aux instances compétentes.

Nous, les Chefs de missions d'observation électorale et membres de la Communauté Internationale, réitérons notre soutien au peuple malagasy et notre pleine disponibilité à l'accompagner dans le parachèvement du processus électoral en cours et dans la consolidation de la démocratie.

SADC ES pays courtesy call on Tanzanian Minister of Foreign Affairs



H.E Dr. Tax (left) and Hon. Dr Mahiga

By Barbara Lopi

The Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation for the United Republic of Tanzania Hon. Dr Augustine Mahiga at his office in Dar es Salaam

on 12th December 2018. The United Republic of Tanzania (URT) is the incoming Chair of SADC, while the Republic of Namibia is the current Chair, and the Republic of South Africa is the outgoing chair.

As the incoming Chair of SADC, the URT will be hosting the 39th SADC Summit in

August 2019, hence the SADC Executive Secretary and a team of Secretariat staff were in the country to engage on guidelines and preparations for hosting the SADC Council of Ministers, the Summit and other SADC technical meetings.

During the meeting, Hon.

Mahiga expressed the URT's commitment to the SADC regional agenda and assured the SADC Secretariat that a National Committee will be established soon to spearhead preparations for the SADC Council, the Summit, the industrialization week and other side events aimed at enhancing awareness of SADC programmes.

Dr Tax thanked the URT for the acceptance to host the SADC Summit in 2019, adding that the gesture was a demonstration of the commitment by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania to deepen regional integration and ensure the sustainable socio-economic development of the region.

The SADC Technical team, held several meetings with the office of the SADC National Contact Point (NCP) in the URT where they presented the minimum standards for hosting SADC Meetings among others.

FESTIVE SEASON SHUTDOWN



Our offices are closed from December 21st 2018 for the festive season. We will reopen on January 7th 2019. 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 2019. Thank you.

Informamos que os nossos escritórios estarão fechados a partir , dia 21 de Dezembro de 2018, para a época festiva. Reabriremos na, dia 7 de Janeiro de 2019. Em caso de emergência, durante as horas de expediente, queira ligar para o número: +267 3611063. Depois das horas de expediente, queira ligar para os números: +267 75517567 ou +267 71307002. Desejamos-lhe uma época festiva repousante e um ano novo de 2019 bastante próspero. Muito Obrigado.

Durant la période des fêtes de fin d'année, nos bureaux sont fermés à partir 21 Décembre 2018 et rouvriront le 7 Janvier 2019. En cas d'urgence, veuillez appeler le numéro suivant: +267 3611063. Après les heures de travail, veuillez appeler les numéros suivants : +267 75517567 le +267 71307002. Nous vous souhaitons un joyeux Noël et une bonne et heureuse année 2019. Merci.



Group photo of delegates

SADC hosts the Regional Disaster Preparedness Planning to develop strategies for El Niño impacts

By **Letso S. Mpho**

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat hosted the 2018/19 Seasonal Preparedness Planning Workshop in Windhoek, Namibia on 17-19 December 2018.

The workshop is in line with the SADC Regional Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Framework which provides for seasonal disaster preparedness planning at national and regional level to mitigate all forms of disasters in the region which are linked to hydro meteorological factors.

The 2018/19 seasonal disaster preparedness planning is one of the recommendations from the 22nd Annual Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-22) which presented a consensus outlook for the 2018/2019 rainfall season over the SADC region. In particular, the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently in its neutral phase and is projected to continue in the weak warm (El Niño) phase during the period between October 2018 - March 2019 with normal to below-normal rainfall.

The workshop brought

together DRR experts from the SADC region and beyond and successfully fulfilled its specific objectives in reviewing the national and regional disaster contingency plans for the 2018/19 with specific focus on implications of the potential impacts El Niño and management of key outbreaks. Among others, the workshop:

- developed a response monitoring mechanism for tracking seasonal developments for drought and key outbreaks such as Ebola, Cholera and Hepatitis E;
- facilitated sharing of tools, experiences, challenges, best practices and lesson-learnt related to disaster preparedness planning in the SADC region; and
- also conducted regional technical validation of key strategic DRR documents under development in support of the SADC Regional DRR.

The workshop was in response to the provisions of the SADC Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy and Fund (2016 – 2030) which was approved by the SADC Council of Minister in 2017, particularly the Strategy Priority number 2, which calls for dedicated focus on strengthening disaster

preparedness and response capacity.

In his address, the Acting Permanent Secretary from the Office of the Prime Minister in Namibia, Mr Indongo Shivute called upon the SADC Member States to act together on issues of common interests and coming up with a comprehensive and integrated regional approach to Disaster Risk Reduction.

He lamented the El Niño which was anticipated to sweep through the region, saying it will heavily affect some Member States by inducing either drought or floods. He further stated that this was one of the many initiatives which aim to provide SADC and its Member States with opportunities to implement the right decisions and develop strategies and recommendations which mitigate all forms of hardships that occur as a result of the El Niño phenomenon including floods, drought and other natural hazards.

The SADC Director of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR), Mr. Domingos Gove informed the gathering that the overall goal of the 3-day meeting was to

contribute to the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses and communities. He said the projected El Niño conditions with below normal rains and high temperatures painted a threatening picture in terms of rainfall performance and by implication food production.

The workshop was attended by SADC Member States from the National Disaster Management Agencies and those responsible for disease outbreak control as well as those from key sectors for national drought response mechanisms; the Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee (RIASCO) and other regional and international stakeholders responsible for DRR including International Cooperating Partners and International NGOs.

The workshop was supported through the SADC DRR Capacity Enhancement Project with funding from the World Bank under the European Union and ACP Programme on Natural Disaster Risk Reduction.

SADC hosts a Youth Forum in Windhoek, Namibia

#SADCYouthtalks #EngageSADCYouths

By *Letso S. Mpho*

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat in collaboration with the National Youth Council for the Republic of Namibia hosted the SADC Youth Forum in Windhoek, Namibia from 13 - 14 December 2018.

The forum was convened with the technical and financial support from Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSI), and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The purpose of the forum was to facilitate youth consultation and planning on youth development and empowerment and provide recommendations for Ministerial consideration and approval at the upcoming meeting of Ministers Responsible for Youth which will be held in May 2019. The forum was also intended as a platform to accelerate youth development and empowerment through active youth partici-



Group photo of the Minister, senior officials and youth

pation.

The forum is one of the activities to facilitate the operationalization of the theme for 38th SADC Summit "Promoting infrastructure Development and Youth Empowerment for Sustain-

able Development" through which the SADC Heads of State and Governments demonstrated the continued SADC commitment at the highest level to ensure that the youth play a pivotal role in the SADC development processes.

The forum reviewed progress on the implementation of the outcomes of the last SADC youth forum; drew-up regional youth empowerment priority areas to be recommended for consideration during the next meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Youth in May 2019; reviewed the minimum standards for youth participation and leadership and the draft programme framework for youth innovation and entrepreneurship to draw priority actions for enabling youth participation; and discussed how to mainstream youth participation in implementing the SADC Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER) Framework for Orphans & Vulnerable Children (OVC) and Youth



Honourable Uutoni



Ms Simelane

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SADC Protocol on Environment and Sustainable Development - Progress on Ratification

By Sheperd Muchuru

The Republic of Namibia, the current Chair of SADC, deposited the instrument for ratification of the Protocol on Environmental Management for Sustainable Development on 10th of October 2018. The instrument was deposited at the SADC Secretariat, through the Namibian Embassy in Botswana. This brings to two (together with the Kingdom of Eswatini), out of the eleven required Member States to operationalise the Protocol.

The SADC Protocol on Environmental Management for Sustainable Development, was approved by the 34th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Governments, held at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, in August 2014, which laid the foundation on environment for sustainable development in the region. The Protocol has been currently signed by fourteen Member States.

By ratifying the Protocol, the SADC Member States stand to individually and collectively benefit immensely. From the collective, the Member States will use the Protocol as a platform for realising sustainable use and management of the environment in the fight against poverty, improved economic development and to address food insecurity.

The Protocol provides a more effective and harmonised regional approach to environmental management for sustainable development. The delay in ratifying this instrument continues to deprive Member States of the opportunities for addressing environmental concerns while simultaneously enabling economic development. The SADC Secretariat remains available to provide support to Member States to facilitate the ratification of the Protocol.



Some of the delegates attending the Youth Forum

SADC hosts a Youth Forum

from page 10

The Minister of Sports, Youth & National Service for the Republic of Namibia, Honourable Erastus A. Uutoni delivered the official address and underscored the importance of youth participation in policy formulation and programmes on issues that affect the lives of young people in the entire SADC region.

He said that the region boasts an active young population where two-thirds of its citizens are below the age of 35 years, thereby presenting a window of opportunity for the fortunes for the region to be drastically transformed into greater economic growth, prosperity, and self-determination that is unparalleled.

The SADC Director of Social and Human Development, Ms Duduzile Simelane said that youth development and empowerment is at the core of the SADC's Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (2015-2020) as an explicit targeted output – under the Social and Human Development. She underscored that youth development and empowerment is closely related to SADC's strategic objective to enhance

human capabilities and utilisation, to reduce vulnerability, eradicate human poverty and to attain the well-being of the SADC citizens.

The forum is an official structure of SADC which was institutionalized during the Meeting of Ministers responsible for youth in 2014, in Malawi. It aims to provide the opportunity and space for youth to voice and develop resolutions and recommendations on priority issues to be considered by the SADC Ministers Responsible for Youth, as well as SADC Council of Ministers and subsequently the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government.

The forum was attended by youths drawn from the National Youth Coordinating Bodies; Councils; and agencies in Member States, and representatives of regional civil society youth coordinating bodies including the Pan African Youth Union and experts from the United Nation agencies.

Delegates were encouraged to fully participate and join the conversations on social media on Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development on; #SADCYouthtalks #EngageSADCYouths



Delegates posing for a group photo

SADC facilitates capacity building on catch documentation schemes focusing on the EU IUU Regulation

By Dr Motseki Hlatshwayo & Panduleni Elago

The SADC Secretariat, in cooperation with World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and Stop Illegal Fishing (SIF), held a two-day capacity building workshop in Swakopmund, Namibia on the 19th and 20th November 2018.

The aim of the workshop was to address some of the identified fisheries governance shortcomings of Member States that export seafood to the European Union (EU). Representatives from 14 SADC

Member States, as well as representatives from the Namibian Fisheries Observer Agency (FOA) and the Confederation of Namibian Fishing Associations attended the workshop.

The workshop was held with funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) to WWF, under the four year project entitled "Sustainable Fisheries – Supporting Livelihoods, Equity, and Ecosystems in South Western Indian Ocean (SWIO) Communities" and the FAO, which forms part of a partnership between SADC and WWF.

Increasing demands from consumers and retailers for traceability of fish products, alongside the introduction of catch documentation schemes (CDS) to deter illegal fishing and to prevent illegally caught fish entering markets, such as the EU and United States (US), have placed new requirements on states to verify the legality of fish caught along the value chain.

A well-designed and duly implemented CDS detects all laundering attempts. However, the CDS supporting tools and mechanisms that need to be in place in the different

countries along the supply chain are complex, and success relies on national competent authorities being able to detect the origin of fraud within national supply chains, which are often not covered by CDS.

It was noted during the workshop that the "Voluntary Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes" which were adopted by the FAO Committee on Fisheries in July 2018, if implemented by Member States, can prevent trade in products from illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing while minimizing technical barriers to trade. SADC and its partner organizations were encouraged to support cooperation and transparency within the region, which are critical in the fight against illegal fishing.

The unilateral CDS, called a catch certification system (CCS) put in place by the EU in 2010, covers most wild-caught marine finfish traded into the EU market, and requires products to be covered by catch certificates validated under the scheme by flag State authorities. The workshop focused on EU requirements and the steps needed to ensure compliance.

This workshop also provided a valuable opportunity for the countries of Southern Africa to understand the importance of CDSs and the EU CCS for accessing international markets and for ensuring compliance. By considering roles and minimal requirements of flag, coastal, port, processing and end-market States, countries will be able to prioritise national actions and partnerships needed to improve on fish trade.

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EU IUU Regulation

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Mr Francisco Blaha, an international expert in CDS, led workshop sessions on the role of States to determine the legality of the catch, the EU catch certification scheme, the validation of catch certificates and necessary operational procedures. He indicated that CDS is not a forensic tool, such as a genetic test applied to a sample, to establish whether a consignment actually contains the claimed species of fish. However, he mentioned that a well-designed CDS will help to forestall laundering because automated accounting routines can trigger an alarm, or can deny the issuing of a certificate when mass-balance integrity rules are breached.

Following a series of interactive presentations on CDS in general, and implementation of the EU IUU Regulation, participating Member States described the challenges they faced in implementing CDSs, which included, poor inter-agency cooperation, limited financial resources, and limited institutional and human capacity. The workshop formed recommendations for the SADC regional processes and for the European Commission, as part of ongoing efforts to improve implementation of the EU CCS.



Fishing is on the rise in the SADC region as seen here in Maputo, Mozambique

PHOTO COURTESY OF CNN TRAVEL

SADC convenes workshop to monitor implementation of protocol on Fisheries

By Panduleni Elago & Motseki Hlatshwayo

The SADC Secretariat convened a workshop in Swakopmund, Namibia, from the 21 to 22 November 2018 to review the draft Monitoring Tool developed with the technical assistance from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), on monitoring of the implementation of the SADC Protocol on Fisheries.

The year 2018 marks 15 years since the SADC Protocol on Fisheries entered into force in 2003 and 21 November is also the World Fisheries Day. This was therefore an opportunity time to reflect on the protocol while commemorating the World Fisheries Day. The workshop was attended by 14 of the 16 SADC Member States, and Partners, FAO, World

Wildlife Foundation (WWF) and Stop Illegal Fishing (SIF). The Protocol covers 31 Articles with nine thematic areas, namely Protocol Arrangements and Responsibilities, Management of Resources, Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU), Artisanal, Subsistence and Small Scale commercial fisheries, Aquaculture, Management and Protection of the Aquatic Environment, Human Resources Development, Trade and Investment and Science and Technology. The developed draft Monitoring Tool presented 46 Indicators across the 9 nine thematic themes, which Member States deliberated on through group sessions and made amendments where necessary.

By the end of the two-day workshop, the participants provided input to the technical team for further review before presentation to the next SADC Fisheries Technical Committee in 2019. Once the monitoring tool is recommended by the Ministers responsible for Fisheries and Aquaculture in 2019, it will be implemented immediately.

Both the SADC Secretariat and FAO further committed to jointly develop a larger programme to assist and ultimately result in the domestication of the SADC Protocol on Fisheries by its Member States. In assisting SADC Member States, the Secretariat and FAO will seek to strengthen its collaboration and, also seek to cooperate and align activities with other cooperating partners. The development of the Tool was through a Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) that exist between the SADC Secretariat and FAO to support the SADC Secretariat in the implementation of the SADC Fisheries Programme. The Protocol is aligned to instruments developed by the FAO, in particular to the FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF)



Delegates posing for a group photo



Group photo of delegates

SADC TFCA network met in October 2018 at the Southern African Wildlife College

By **Deborah Kahatano**

The SADC Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) Network was established in 2013 to support the implementation of the SADC TFCA Programme through learning, information exchange and knowledge management.

The Network has about 300 members including National Governments, NGOs, Private Sector, donors, Academia and is guided and led by a Steering Committee (SC) comprising TFCA Focal Points from all SADC Member States and SADC Secretariat.

Since its establishment, the network has made direct contribution to the implementation of SADC TFCA Programme. Examples include development of TFCA Guidelines, Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for SADC TFCAs and showcasing TFCAs in global tourism and conservation platforms namely the annual international tourism show in Berlin, Germany, the World Parks Congress, 2014 in Sydney, Australia, and at the 17th meeting of Conference of Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), 2016, in Johannesburg, South Africa.

From the 16th – 18th October 2018, the SADC TFCA Network came together for its annual meeting. This gathering was held at the Southern African Wildlife College, close to Hoedspruit, within the Great

Limpopo Transfrontier Park. This resulted in an apt working environment, immersed in the African Bush and field experience for all participants. The objectives of the meeting were to:

- Report on progress made in the implementation of the SADC TFCA Programme;
- Receive updates on the activities and work plans of the Communities of Practice (CoPs)
- Create an understanding of SADC TFCA training needs, offers and gap to create the future professionals in TFCA management; and
- Prepare recommendations to be tabled at the Technical Committee on Wildlife.

The outcomes of the meeting included the following:

- A shared understanding of progress made in the implementation of the SADC TFCA Programme by individual TFCAs;
- Identification of opportunities for enhanced cooperation among TFCAs and TFCA stakeholders;
- A roadmap to roll out implementation of the SADC TFCA Monitoring and Evaluation Framework that was approved by Ministers responsible for Environment and Natural Resources in November 2017;
- A proposal to host the SADC TFCA Summit 2020 to commemorate 20 years since the establishment of the first TFCA, the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park between Botswana and South Africa;
- Agreement to show-case the contribution on SADC TFCAs in achieving the Aichi

Biodiversity Targets at the 14th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity; and

- Update on current ICP landscape in the region and the existence of international funds, which could be accessed by TFCAs.

The meeting of the SADC TFCA Network also paid tribute to the departed members of the SADC TFCA family namely:

- Honourable Edna Bommo Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa;
- Mr. Ernest Otladisa Mokganedi, Director responsible for TFCAs, Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa; and
- Mrs. Anna Titus, a ranger of the /Ai/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park and front desk officer for the Desert Knights Tour, Namibia. Desert Knights is one of prominent cross-border tourism products in TFCAs.

The SADC TFCA family will always remember and cherish their leadership and contribution to the achievements of the SADC TFCA Programme.

The meeting was attended by 59 participants from 10 SADC Member States, including Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, as well as Conservation Organization, several regional training and academic institutions and ICPs.

SADC Agricultural Development Fund (ADF) Sensitization Stakeholders Workshop in South Africa

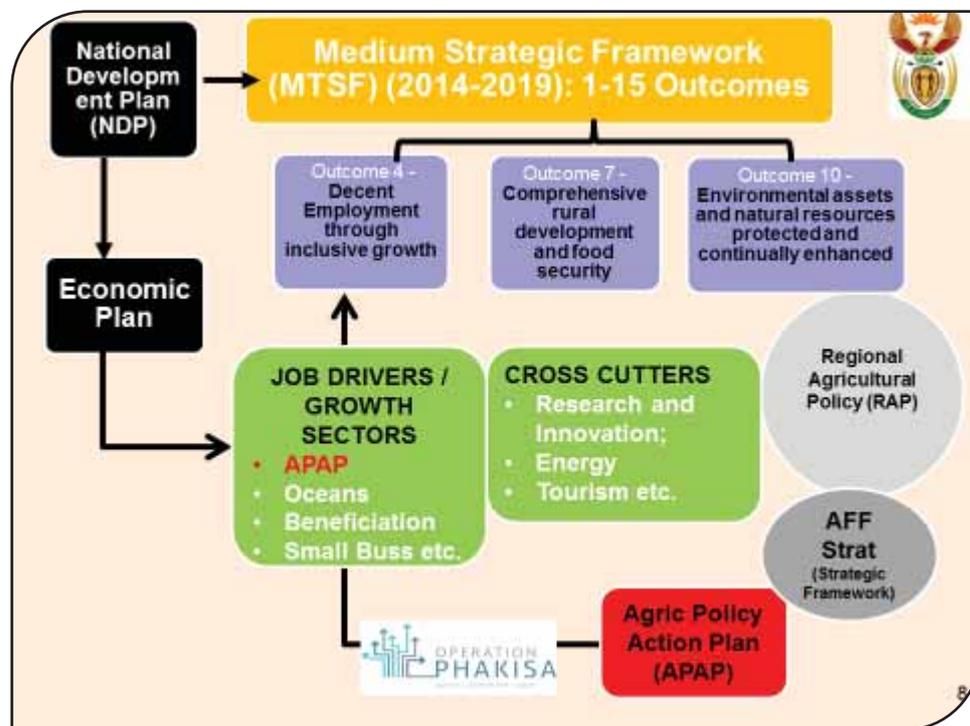
By Martin T. Muchero

Ahead of the operationalisation of the SADC Agricultural Development Fund (ADF), stakeholders in the agriculture sector of South Africa met in Cape Town on 26th November 2018 to consult on the draft operational guidelines for the ADF.

The meeting was held as a precursor to the two-day (27th - 28th November 2018) African Agri Investment Indaba and Agri Trade Congress Africa 2018 organised by the African Agri Council of South Africa.

The workshop was held to sensitise key stakeholders in the Agriculture sector in South Africa to the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy (RAP) and the Regional Agricultural Investment Plan (RAIP). Furthermore, the workshop aimed to sensitise key stakeholders and to consult with them on the Agricultural Development Fund (ADF) Operational Guidelines and prepare them on how to access the ADF funds when the facility becomes operational.

Mr Martin Muchero, the SADC RAP Coordinator facilitated the sensitization and responded to questions and issues raised by workshop participants. South Africa became the fifth SADC Member State to be sensitised on the ADF Operational Guidelines. Earlier in May 2017, Malawi, Tanzania and Madagascar were taken through a similar process, while Zimbabwe was sensitised in April 2018. In the next few months, more SADC countries will be sensitised to this process.



Flowchart

The official opening address was by Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo representing the Director-General of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) of South Africa. Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo, who also has been seconded to the SADC Secretariat as lead in Fisheries and Aquaculture, elaborated on the importance of the Agricultural Development Fund which was approved for establishment by the SADC Council in August 2017 in Pretoria, South Africa. The ADF was designed as a financing instrument to provide stimulus in the form of incentives and investment in the SADC Agriculture Sector to leverage on public and private sector financing into agriculture.

Effectively, the ADF is intended to accelerate the implementation of the SADC

Regional Agricultural Investment Plan (2017 – 2022) at the Member States level.

During the workshop, Ms. Rowena Joemat, the Director for Policy Planning in DAFF also outlined South Africa's own National Development Plan (NDP) as a crucial component of South Africa's Medium Term Strategic Framework (2014 – 2019) for the attainment of, among other outcomes, employment through inclusive growth; rural development and food security; and protection of environmental assets and natural resources.

Using Operation Phakisa as a methodology and tool of planning and implementation management in South Africa, the outcomes of the Agriculture, Land and Rural Development Phakisa informed South Africa's Agricultural Policy

Action Plan (APAP) which contributes as one of the job and growth drivers for South Africa. Ms. Rowena Joemat also outlined the close alignment between South Africa's APAP and the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy as shown below.

As a way forward, the meeting adopted to form an ADF Country Working Group that will liaise and work with the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) Directorate of the SADC Secretariat to further these consultations and get South Africa fully ready to access the ADF when it becomes operational. The Secretariat wishes to thank the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) of South Africa for organising such a well-attended workshop on the SADC Agricultural Development Fund.

SADC Member States participate in 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence Campaign

By Kealeboga K. Dambuzo

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Member States joined the global community to raise their voices against gender based violence (GBV) during the 16 Days of Activism against GBV Campaign. This global Campaign runs from the 25 November to the 10 December of every year. For 2018, this Campaign was implemented under the global theme Orange Your World: #HearMeToo. The SADC Member States commemorated the 16 Days Campaign through localized themes and different activities involving stakeholders and the community. Key messages from some Members States are as follows:

education, women, and men and whether single or married.

- it is critical during the 16 Days Campaign against violence, to note the adverse and destructive impact that Gender Based Violence, particularly violence against women and girls presents in our society.
- Gender Based Violence remains veiled in a culture of silence. It has found occupancy in our homes. There is therefore a need for concerted effort to eliminate GBV and to move towards a culture of shunning silence but speaking out; #HearMeToo.
- there is need to unequivocally raise a strong unison voice that violence against women and children is wrong and that those who perpetuate it should be fully held accountable for their actions.

Malawi launched the 16 Days Campaign against GBV at the College of Medicine under the local theme: "End Gender Based Violence in the World of Work and Tertiary Institutions". In addition, Malawi also launched a joint government and civil society National Campaign called "Ndiulula: I Won't Be Silent" to encourage victims of violence in work places to report. The campaign is designed to help employees and institutions to unite in breaking the silence on violence against women and girls in the world of work.

Key message from the Minister of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare Hon. Cecilia Chazama were that:

- Gender Based Violence is counterproductive and retrogressive to the development of any country. It undermines the country's productivity due to increased insecurity and loss of income?
- Cooperation and collaboration should be strengthened to curb incidences of sexual harassment, rape and defilement perpetuated against women and girls.

NAMIBIA

Namibia launched the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence through a press conference under the theme "End Gender-Based Violence in the World of Work" linked to the UN Women theme "Orange the World, #HearMeToo". Namibia used this Campaign to bring to the forefront the voices of women and girls who have survived violence and those who are defending women's rights.

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BOTSWANA



Botswana commemorated this Campaign day under the theme: "#HearMeToo; End Violence Against Women and Children". His Excellency the President of Botswana Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi highlighted Botswana's commitment to various gender instruments among which is SADC Protocol on Gender and Development. Botswana has adopted the National Policy on Gender and Development which prioritises amongst others, Access to Justice, Protection of Human Rights and Freedom from Violence.

Key message from H.E President Masisi were that:

- violence has no respect for geographical borders, social status, religion,

MALAWI





Delegates posing for a group photo

Phase 1 SADC ICT Observatory and Broadband Indicators Workshop convened

By Dr. George Ah-Thew

The SADC Secretariat in collaboration with the Communications Regulators' Association of Southern Africa (CRASA) convened the Phase 1 SADC ICT Observatory and Broadband Indicators Workshop from the 10 to 14 December 2018 at the SADC Secretariat, in Gaborone, Botswana. The workshop was attended by 32 delegates from eight SADC Member States and some invited participants from the African Union Youth Club (AUYC). The main objectives of Phase I SADC Observatory and Broadband Indicators Workshop were to:

- Build capacity on the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and SADC ICT Observatory Data Collection Frameworks;
- Build capacity of ICT Indices and step-by-step calculation exercise;
- Develop the Term of Reference (TOR) for the SADC ICT Observatory National Focal Point Persons;
- Establish the status of data collection and validation in Member States;
- Establish a harmonised coordination and cooperation network of ICT data providers;
- Develop the Multi-purpose Annual Survey Forms for Household, Business, Government and etc;
- Build capacity on ITU work on Big Data

for Measuring the Information Society, and CRASA's Broadband Indicator Database.

Mr. Cecil Masiga delivered the Key Note Address on behalf of the Deputy Permanent Secretary responsible for ICT from the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MTC) of Botswana. SADC Member States have implemented several ICT initiatives, such as; the e-SADC Strategic Framework, E-Commerce Strategy and Action Plan and Digital SADC 2027 which all together forms the SADC ICT Programme.

The SADC ICT Observatory was the response when all these initiatives called for the Monitoring and Evaluation progress of the SADC ICT Programme. Apart from ICT Indicators for the SADC Region, the Observatory was to also contribute to sustainable policy formulation and evaluation, analysis of patterns and trends in ICT policy and strategy implications amongst other objectives.

SADC Member States have been measured by the ITU, World Economic Forum (WEF) and etc, sometimes correctly and sometimes wrongly. It is imperative that we provided quality data lest we find the wrong picture painted by ourselves. SADC Member States need to reflect on

their achievements first as individual Members and then as a regional block. Only then, knowing where we are and where we want to go, will we set ourselves noble targets. Mr. Masiga reminded the workshop that broadband connectivity is a key driver today in improving our service delivery, e-Government, medical services and education. To transform our economies, more and more deployment of broadband will be required.

Dr. George Ah-Thew, the SADC Acting Senior Programme Officer ICT said the SADC ICT Observatory will become a vital policy intelligence tool to support the strategic planning and innovation of the SADC sub-region through the diffusion and usage of ICT in building the Information and Knowledge Society. The observatory will facilitate the collection and dissemination of ICT Indicators. It will be central and up-to-date point of reference and will serve the pivotal role of M&E of the implementation of SADC ICT Programme with reliable, accurate and up-to-date data.

The SADC Secretariat plans to generate and publish: Regional Reports, Country Reports, Thematic Reports and SADC Facts and Figures.

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16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence

SEYCHELLES



from page 16

Key message from the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, Hon. Doreen Sioka were that:

Actions of sexual harassment and sexual advances are very real in public and

private sectors and require more effort, including reporting culprits so they face the law.

- There should be adequate institutional policies that are responding to sexual harassment and the depth of GBV in the

world of work.

SEYCHELLES

The Ministry of Family Affairs launched the 16 Days of Activism against GBV under a local theme of: "Orange Seychelles: Say NO to Gender-Based Violence".

Key message from the Minister of Family Affairs Hon. Mitcy Larue were that:

- families cannot prosper in violence. Relationships cannot last when there is a lack of respect. It is our society that suffers when there is abuse and gender-based violence
- the country cannot and should not allow the impunity, silence and stigma that surround gender-based violence to continue. We must continue to speak out, to educate our children, to support the victims and send a clear message to the perpetrators that this vile act will no longer be tolerated.

SADC ICT Observatory and Broadband Indicators

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The SADC ICT Observatory will improve Government spending effectiveness and leads to cost reductions and better high level ICT policy making decisions.

In August 2016, the SADC Secretariat in collaboration with UNECA engaged a Consultancy Firm (InnoLead) to develop Phase 1 - A Strategy, Structure and Implementation Plan for the development of the SADC ICT Observatory and this was approved by SADC ICT Ministers in their meeting in September 2017 in Durban, South Africa. Mr. Brian Mwansa, representing the Executive Secretary of CRASA indicated that the collection and analysis of ICT Statistics was an important part of CRASA's mandate. He however reminded the participants that a considerable amount of the data submitted by CRASA Members for this purpose cannot be collected without the assistance of other stakeholders. He therefore emphasised the importance of collaboration at the National level, among the National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) and the relevant institutions such as the NSOs in

order to ensure that accurate and comprehensive statistics are compiled and submitted in a timely manner.

Ms. Chali Tumelo, the ITU Representative for Southern Africa delivered several capacity building presentations. All Member States present delivered presentations on their national framework for the collection, management and dissemination of official ICT statistics as well as the type of Management Information System (MIS) they are using. However, Kingdom of Eswatini, Botswana and Malawi delivered detailed case study presentations on ICT data collection and reporting at the international level, supply-side and demand-side ICT data collection, respectively.

The SADC Secretariat introduced the SADC ICT Observatory Project from concept to approval stage and elaborated on the 88 Core and 28 Extended ICT Indicators, the role of the National Focal Point Persons, the SADC Data Collection Framework and timing, the database and web portal concept and the approved Way Forward.

While CRASA focused on their list of 81 Indicators which included postal and broadband, in view that CRASA has been tasked to prepare the report on progress on the SADC ICT Ministers Broadband targets which are based on the definition of broadband of 1 Mbps minimum link. CRASA also covered the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), M&E, Benchmarking and Reporting.

With the introduction of the ITU Manual for Measuring ICT Access/Use by Household and Individuals and Core List of ICT Indicators by the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development, by the ITU, the participants then developed the SADC Model Household Survey for ICT Indicators, SADC Model Survey for ICT in Government, Business, Research and Innovation, Education and Skills and ICT Sector and Trade in ICT Goods. In addition, participants of the workshop finalized their draft TOR, capturing their main responsibilities and developed a Roadmap of Activities until the next capacity building workshop.

southern
africa society
for disaster
reduction



Participants during the conference

SADC participation at Southern Africa Society for Disaster Reduction

By **Clement Kalonga**

The current global Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Framework, focuses on reducing risks to disasters which is a shift from traditional disaster management mostly disaster response associated with its predecessor frameworks.

It is in this context that the African Centre for Disaster Studies (ACDS) in partnership with the Durban University of Technology in collaboration SADC Secretariat, the South Africa National Disaster Management Centre, The World Bank; the United Nations Development Programme; eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality and the Kwazulu Natal Provincial Disaster Management Centre hosted this year's 4th Biennial Conference of the Southern African Society for Disaster Reduction. The conference was held at the Coastlands Umhlanga Hotel and Conference Centre in Durban from 17 - 19 October, 2018 under the theme 'STOP disaster risk creation in the SADC region'.

The conference was attended by DRR practitioners, in particular National Disaster Management Agencies (NDMAs) and related government departments involved in DRR work, academicians, researchers and civil society actors from SADC Member States. The high-level

platform at the conference brought together decision-makers including industry leaders, entrepreneurs, practitioners, scientists, national and local government officials, academia, civil society organisations and other stakeholder groups, to discuss the DRR initiatives in the SADC region towards reduction of the impact of disasters on sustainable development.

Drawing from the overall theme: "STOP Disaster Risk Creation in SADC", the conference had sub themes within the field of disaster risk reduction and socio-ecological resilience which informed presentations on Public Health and Education, Environmental Management, Hazard Governance, Socio-Ecological Resilience, Media and Communications, Climatology, Natural Resource Management and DRR, Eco-Based DRR, Transboundary Disaster Risk Management, Climate Smart Agriculture, Urban Risk and Development, Community Resilience, Intergovernmental relations, and Risk Creation as trans-disciplinary issue.

To ensure implementation of agreed actions, the conference adopted a number of resolutions that emerged from the discussions. Academic and Research institutions were requested among

others, to include a focus on disaster risk creation in curriculum and teaching at undergraduate and graduate level; actively engage in research to better understand the disaster risk creators and seek transdisciplinary cooperation to ensure a comprehensive understanding of disaster risk creation in all its facets.

The SADC Secretariat and Member States were among others, requested to seek out and change policies, laws and practices which create disaster risks; explore the political and administration relations for effective DRR; prioritize and support policies and projects that foster community driven approaches to DRR within the SADC Region and establish monitoring and evaluations mechanism for assessing political commitment to DRR throughout the region.

The conference increased knowledge sharing and acknowledged the need to develop partnership and collaboration in dealing with disasters in the SADC region. The conference also resolved that disasters are not natural; the importance lies in identifying the root causes of vulnerability due to the fact that if there's no vulnerability community then there are no disasters. This means SADC as a region should be able to identify problems and establish solutions for the region.



Delegates during the meeting

Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum 2018

By Dr. George Ah-Thew

The Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum 2018 (SAIGF-18) was convened from the 28 to 29 November 2018 in Durban, South Africa under the main theme “Inclusive and Secure Internet”. The event was organised by the SAIGF Multi-Stakeholder Coordinating Team (MCT), of which the SADC Secretariat is the permanent ex-officio Chair and Secretariat. The MCT consists of members from various stakeholder groups, which includes the Inter-Governmental, Government, Civil society, Private Sector, Technical Community, Academia and Youth.

The SAIGF-18 keynote address was delivered by the Deputy Director General Ms. Nonkqubela Jordan-Dyani of the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS) of South Africa while Councilor Madlala of the City of Durban welcomed participants to the forum. Dr. George Ah-Thew, the Acting Senior Programme Officer ICT and Chair of SAIGF delivered his remarks on behalf of the SADC Director of Infrastructure and urged delegates to work towards bridging the digital divide within the region.

He said from the current world population of 7.7 billion, about 4.08 billion people are using the Internet today, which translated to a Internet User penetration of 53%, meaning that more than half of the world’s population have access to the Internet. He added that the SADC has a challenge of ensuring that its population, of which the Youth account for 76% is connected to the internet and urged the SAIGF to come up with innovations to help the Governments in the region to bridge the digital divide. He added that the increase in connectivity unfortunately also translates to increase of cybercrime.

“The theme for the SAIGF-18 is “Inclusive and Secure Internet” which is fitting as SADC continues to build capacity to strengthen the trust of users online. We want the Internet and computer networks to be safe for SADC Citizens”, Dr Ah-Thew noted.

The SAIGF-18 was attended by 101 participants from fifteen SADC Member States, as well as the SADC ICT Implementing Agency, the Communications Regulators’ Association of Southern Africa (CRASA) and the Southern Africa Telecommunications Association (SATA) were also present.

The SAIGF-18 kicked off with Thematic Workshops which provided hands-on capacity building presentations from Experts on the Future of the Internet, Role of Standards in the Connected Communities and Smart Cities and Protecting Children online.

The workshops were followed by presentations of the SAIGF Multi-stakeholder Model, Highlights of Africa IGF 2018 and 13th Global IGF, status of National IGF in SADC Member States. Participants of the SAIGF-18 made several recommendations which included:

- promoting participation of the youth sector group in the steering committees of National IGFs;
- Strengthening gender mainstreaming on IG issues;
- Promoting the establishment of Computer Incidence Response Teams (CIRTs) in all SADC Member States and create awareness and capacity building on their activities;
- Promoting the use of new technologies of the 4th Industrial Revolution such as block chain, Digital Object Architecture (DOA), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT)
- Promoting access to Internet in the rural and under-served areas;
- Promoting capacity building

and skills development programme to support SADC’s Internet and digital economy;

- Promoting digital safety skills among children, parents, teachers and caregivers;
- Promoting the awareness and establishment of national reporting mechanisms, such as helplines and hotlines, to provide the means to report incidences of child abuse or exploitation; and
- Promoting investment in skills and individuals to pursue careers in the field of Cyber Security.

The SADC ICT Ministers at their meeting on 16th June 2011, requested the SADC Secretariat to establish the Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF) to facilitate representation of the views of the Southern African region at the Global IGF, and to contribute towards the establishment of a coordinated and coherent framework for dealing with Internet Governance (IG) issues in the Southern Africa region.

The SAIGF was launched in September 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa by SADC Secretariat, Southern African NGO Network (SANGONet), Association for Progressive Communications (APC) and New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).



PUBLIC OUTREACH SONG FOR SADC

Call for entries to a competition to produce
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For more information visit:

<https://www.sadc.int/awards/outreach-song/>

**DEADLINE:
22 FEBRUARY 2019**

2019



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The following SADCC/SADC milestones 2012– 2014 were achieved at the following SADCC/SADC Summits:



32nd SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in Maputo, Mozambique in 2012

Date & Place	Milestones Achieved
Ordinary summit, 17 – 18 August 2012 Maputo, Mozambique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summit adopts the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan Vision 2027 for implementation over a 15 year period 2013 – 2027.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summit commends Malawi for the ascendance to the presidency of the first woman in the SADC Region.
Extraordinary Summit, 8 December 2012, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summits decides to deploy the SADC Standby Force as a block in the Eastern DRC under the auspices of the Neutral International Force (NIF).
Ordinary Summit, 17 – 18 August 2013, Lilongwe, Malawi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summit appoints H.E. Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax from the United Republic of Tanzania to the position of SADC Executive Secretary; she becomes the first woman to hold the position of Executive Secretary of SADC.
Ordinary Summit 17 – 18 August 2014, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summit launches the SADC Hashim Mbita Project publications outlining the history of the national liberation struggles of Southern Africa.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summit directs that industrialization takes centre stage in SADC’s regional integration agenda and mandates Ministerial Task Force on Regional Economic Integration to develop a strategy and roadmap for industrialization in the region.

Compiled by Anne Kulemeka

MEMBER STATES INFORMATION

REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE



National Unity Day is a public holiday in Zimbabwe celebrated on December 22. It commemorates the unity accord between the country's two political parties, the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) and the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU).

ZAPU was founded on 1961 as the successor of the National Democratic Party that had been banned by the Rhodesian government. Its main aim was the fight for the national liberation of Zimbabwe. ZANU was formed two years later, when some ZAPU members decided to split from the party. Since Zimbabwe finally gained full independence in 1980, the two parties have often clashed over major political

decisions. These clashes sometimes resulted in violent fights. Finally, in 1987 the leaders of ZAPU and ZANU decided to put an end to their confrontation and merge the parties.

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/>

SADC MEMBER STATES

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was drafted between January 1947 and December 1948. It aimed to form a basis for human rights all over the world and represented a significant change of direction from events during World War II and the continuing colonialism that was rife in the world at the time.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is considered as the most translated document in modern history. It is available in more than 360 languages and new translations are still being added. The UN General Assembly adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the Palais de Chaillot in Paris, France, on the December 10, 1948.

All states and interested organizations were invited to mark December 10 as Human Rights Day at a UN meeting on December 4, 1950. It was first observed on December 10 that year and has been observed each year on the same date. Each year Human Rights Day has a theme. Some of these themes have focused on people knowing their human rights or the importance of human rights education.



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

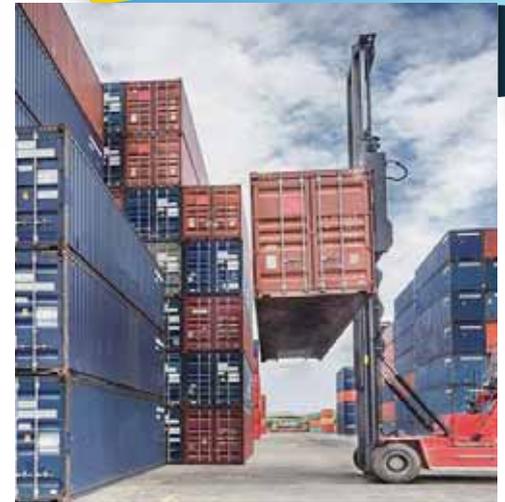
government. Prior to its formation, the ANC had largely approached the fight against apartheid through passive resistance, but after the Sharpeville Massacre in 1960, where peaceful protestors were indiscriminately shot by police, passive resistance was no longer seen as an effective approach in bringing 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.

South Africa's first non-racial and democratic government was tasked with promoting reconciliation and national unity. One way in which it aimed to do this symbolically was to acknowledge the significance of the 16 December in both the Afrikaner and liberation struggle traditions and to rename this day as the Day of Reconciliation. On 16 December 1995, the Day of Reconciliation was celebrated as a public holiday in South Africa for the first time.

Source: <https://www.sahistory.org.za/dated-event/day-reconciliation-celebrated-public-holiday-sa-first-time>

INTERNATIONAL COMMEMORATION DAYS

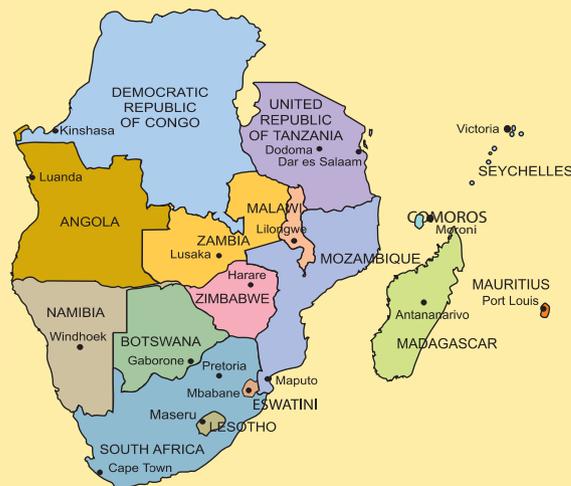
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



TRADE

Trade remains at the heart of the SADC regional economic integration agenda. The SADC Free Trade Area (FTA) was launched in 2008 and current focus is on consolidating its implementation, particularly in addressing non-tariff barriers to trade in goods and services. With the support of the European Union, a Trade Related Facility was established to facilitate effective implementation of Member States' commitments under the Protocol on Trade and implementation of activities that maximise benefits under the SADC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement.

MEMBER STATES HOLIDAYS



MONTH OF DECEMBER 2018

HOLIDAY	DATE	MEMBER STATE
Immaculate Conception	08	Seychelles
Independence Day	09	Tanzania
Namibia Women's Day	10	Namibia
Day of Reconciliation	16	South Africa
National Unity Day	22	Zimbabwe
Christmas Day	25	All SADC Countries
Boxing Day	26	Botswana/Lesotho/Malawi/Swaziland/Tanzania/Zimbabwe
Family Day	26	Namibia
Day of Goodwill	26	South Africa
Last day of the year	31	Angola