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SADC meets on Lesotho



The SADC Double Troika (From left to right): SADC Executive Secretary - Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, SADC Chairperson - His Excellency President Jacob Zuma of the Republic of South Africa, Honourable Nosiviwe Noluthando Mapisa-Nqakula - Minister of Defence and Military Veterans for South Africa and Honourable Georges Rebelo Chikoti - Minister of External Relations for Angola

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WORLD TOURISM DAY - 27 SEPTEMBER 2017 - THEME "SUSTAINABLE TOURISM - A TOOL TO DEVELOPMENT"

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WILD LIFE UP CLOSE



SADC to deploy a Contingent Force to support Lesotho

By Barbara Lopi

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) will deploy a Contingent Force to support the Kingdom of Lesotho following the brutal assassination of Lt Gen Khoantle Motšomotšo, Commander of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) on 5th September 2017.

The Double Troika Summit of the Heads of State and Government of SADC which was convened on 15th September 2017 in South Africa following recent political and security developments in the mountain Kingdom strongly condemned the assassination and approved the deployment of a Contingent Force.

The Summit received a report



Meeting in session

of the Ministerial Fact Finding Mission comprised of representatives from the Organ Troika; Angola, Zambia and Tanzania, as well as South Africa, which was dispatched to the

Kingdom following the assassinations, and noted the volatile security situation and its implications for the political stability of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

The SADC Double Troika Summit also urged the Kingdom to expedite investigations into the assassinations.

In a Communique released at the end of the Summit, the Double Troika Heads of State and Government and their representatives, noted that there was an urgent need to assist the Kingdom in restoring law and order, and a peaceful environment conducive to among others, the implementation of SADC decisions specifically, Security Sector and Constitutional Reforms, as well as the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry.

Summit maintained the terms of reference and composition of the Oversight

Committee as approved by the 37th SADC Ordinary Summit, and in the interim, approved an expanded mandate and composition of a total of 34 members of the Oversight Committee to include military, security, intelligence and civilian experts to be deployed to Lesotho immediately for a period of one month.

Summit commended the Government of Angola, the Chairperson of the Organ on Politics Defence and Security Cooperation, H.E Eduardo Dos Santos for his prompt action, and generosity in facilitating the fact finding mission to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Summit thanked the Chairperson of SADC, H.E. Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa for hosting the Double Troika Summit and for the warm hospitality extended to all delegations.



H.E. President Zuma



People of Lesotho PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.EXPEDIA.COM

Communiqué of the Double Troika Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government on Lesotho

- The Double Troika Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) was held at OR Tambo Building, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) in Pretoria, in the Republic of South Africa on 15th September 2017.

- The Double Troika Summit was attended by the following Double Troika Heads of State and Government or their representatives:

South Africa: H.E. President Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma

Swaziland: H.M. King Mswati III

Namibia: Rt. Hon. Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Prime Minister

Angola: H.E. Hon. Georges Rebelo Chikoti, Minister of External Relations and Special Envoy

Zambia: Hon. Davis Chama (MP), Minister of Defence

United Republic of Tanzania: H. E Sylvester. M Ambokile, High Commissioner of the United Republic of Tanzania to the Republic of South Africa

- The Right Honourable Dr. Motsoahae Thomas Thabane Prime Minister of Kingdom of Lesotho was also invited. The Double Troika Summit was also attended by the SADC Facilitator to the Kingdom of Lesotho, Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, H.E Cyril Ramaphosa and the Executive Secretary of SADC, H.E. Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax.

- Summit was convened following the assassination of Lieutenant General (Lt Gen) Khoantle Motšomotšo, Commander of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) on 5th September 2017. Upon the assassination, the Chairperson of the Organ on Politics Defence and Security Cooperation, His Excellency José Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola, immediately sent a Ministerial Fact Finding Mission to the Kingdom of Lesotho to assess the circumstances surrounding the assassination of Lt Gen Motšomotšo.

- Summit strongly condemned the brutal assassination of Lt Gen Motšomotšo, and expressed condolences to the family of the late LDF Commander, Government and people of the Kingdom of Lesotho for the assassination of Lt Gen Motšomotšo and urged the Kingdom to expedite investigations into the assassinations of Brig Mahao and Lt. Gen Motšomotšo, the Chief of the LDF.

- Summit received a report of the Ministerial Fact Finding Mission and noted the volatile security situation and its implications for the political stability of the Kingdom of Lesotho. Summit also noted an urgent need to assist the Kingdom of Lesotho in restoring law and order, and a peaceful environment conducive to among others, the implementation of SADC decisions specifically, Security Sector and Constitutional Reforms, as

well as the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry.

- Summit approved the deployment of a Contingent Force comprising military, security, intelligence and civilian experts to support the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho, and directed the Chiefs of Defence and Security to assess the requirements, determine the appropriate size of the Contingent Force, and to prepare the modalities for the deployment.

- Maintained the terms of reference and composition of the Oversight Committee as approved by the 37th SADC Ordinary Summit.

- In the interim, Summit approved an expanded mandate and composition of a total of 34 members of the Oversight Committee to include military, security, intelligence and civilian experts to be deployed to Lesotho immediately for a period of one month.

- Summit commended the Government of Angola, the Chairperson of the Organ on Politics Defence and Security Cooperation, H.E José Eduardo Dos Santos for his prompt action, and generosity in facilitating the fact finding mission to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

- Summit thanked the Chairperson of SADC, H.E. Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa for hosting the Double Troika Summit and for the warm hospitality extended to all delegations.

- Done at Pretoria, Republic of South Africa, 15th September 2017



Inauguration Ceremony of President Lourenço at the Augostinho Neto Memorial, Luanda, Angola

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANA/DIRCO

Angola's new president inaugurated

New Angolan President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço was inaugurated in the Angolan capital Luanda on 26th September 2017.

During his inauguration, President Lourenço pledged to rebuild Angola's economy which has been devastated by falling oil prices, and fight corruption.

President Lourenço told thousands of supporters in Luanda he would also tackle gaping inequality in Africa's second largest oil producer. In a 45-minute speech, President Lourenço said he would strive to bring in reforms covering gender equality, the freedom of the press, private enterprise and public health.



H. E. President Lourenço

His inauguration was attended by the SADC Chairperson, President Jacob Zuma of South Africa, and other heads of state and governments from SADC Member States and other African countries.

The 63-year-old President, took over from Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who had ruled Angola for 38 years. The ruling Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) won last month's elections, securing the majority of the vote. The People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola has governed since Angola's hard-fought independence from Portugal in 1975, with Dos Santos taking power in 1979.



takes place in August this year, is 'Partnering with the private sector in developing industry and regional value-chains'. This will focus on promoting private sector involvement in the region's prioritised industrialisation agenda.

The World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report (2014-2015) shows that the lack of access to finance and to human capital, and underinvestment in Infrastructure, are among the main inhibitors of growth in SADC countries. With the exception of South Africa, lack of access to finance remains the most endemic issue. What is the root of the problem and how can you open up better access to finance through SADC?

The availability and appropriateness of financial products and services (access to finance) in the SADC region remains a major challenge, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The SADC Strategy on Financial inclusion and SME's access to finance was developed to complement Member States' Financial Inclusion Strategies for purposes of integrating and supporting Member States. Financial inclusion, if properly implemented, has the potential to address the challenge.

The root problem of lack of access to finance in the region is mainly due to low formal employment prospects, high costs of formal financial products, stringent process and requirements to access financial products as well as proximity, low financial literacy levels and trust issues with financial institutions.

To address this challenge, SADC continues to assist Member States to develop programmes that will assist its citizens to access financing. One flagship programme in the region is the Making Access Possible programme (MAP). MAP is a multi-country initiative to support financial inclusion through a process of evidence-based analysis feeding into a financial inclusion roadmap jointly implemented by a range of local stakeholders. It is ongoing in seven countries namely Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

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The power of inclusion:

Dr Tax, SADC Executive Secretary

One of the core objectives of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is to enhance the quality of life of people in southern Africa through regional integration. What role can the private sector play in achieving this?

The private sector is considered a critical partner and stakeholder in SADC's regional integration agenda, and in the region's efforts to enhance the quality of life of its people. The role of the private sector is pivotal in a number of sectors, including driving industrialisation and

infrastructure finance through Public-Private Partnerships (PPP). This is critical as it enables the region to mobilise the necessary resources for its socio-economic development in order to improve the quality of lives of its people. As an engine of growth the role of the private sector is also vital in the area of job creation in order to address the wide spread problem of unemployment in the region, and ultimately to address the problem of poverty. To underscore the importance of the private sector, the theme for the 37th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government which

The power of inclusion

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Regarding infrastructure financing, the SADC region has, for the most part, relied on multilateral and bilateral institutions to fund regional infrastructure projects.

The persistent problem of accessing capital resources for infrastructure development is primarily the lack of well-conceived and properly prepared projects. To address this challenge, SADC has established the Project Preparation and Development Facility (PPDF) through which projects are prepared and made bankable in readiness for financing and investment. SADC has also finalised an agreement to establish a SADC Regional Development Fund, which will prioritise infrastructure development and industrialisation windows.

A regional approach to infrastructure development as embodied in the SADC Regional Development Fund (RDF) and the PPDF will go a long way to alleviate the problem of

access to funding. Not only would the RDF access resources on international capital markets but, through co-funding with and direct lines of credit to investors in infrastructure, but would also assist in reducing the associated individual country risks and crowd in much needed private sector participation in infrastructure. Through enhancing project preparation and development, in order to bring projects to bankability and develop a project pipeline for take-up by investors, it is expected that in the long term, the SADC region would address the challenge of underinvestment in infrastructure.

The SADC Regional Development Fund is on the whole a means of (i) funding some of the region's social and economic infrastructure needs; (ii) supporting adjustment measures in less developed Member States; and (iii) supporting the region's integration process in general. SADC Member States are already benefiting for project identification and appraisal from the resources of two major facilities,

namely the PPDF and Infrastructure Investment Program for South Africa (IIPSA).

Given the limit to public sector funding for infrastructure development, private sector funding becomes critical to bridge the gap. This therefore calls for enhancement of private sector involvement and finance by creating first an enabling and conducive environment. There is also need for the deployment of instruments for efficient leverage; risk mitigation; mobilisation and catalysation of private finance, i.e. blending both public and private funds to bridge the infrastructure gap.

Are development finance institutions doing enough to help investors drive money into southern Africa's highest-risk countries, particularly Angola, Zimbabwe and Malawi, all of which according to the World Bank rank lowest in the ease of doing business scale?

The region's development finance institutions are not adequately resourced to deal with the ever increasing needs of the

region, which ultimately results in Member States seeking finance from multilateral organisations such as the African Development Bank and the World Bank. In order to attract investors, Member States should continue to vigorously implement economic and structural reforms, adopt prudent fiscal and monetary policies, and take measures to improve their ease of doing business. The DFIs can play a significant role in the development and stimulation of capital markets, particularly through domestic bond issuance for financing much needed development projects that are aligned to national development plans in the respective SADC member countries.

In addition, DFIs should play a stronger subsidiary institution of SADC is testimony to SADC recognising the importance of the DFIs. National DFIs under the umbrella of the SADC DFI Network, coupled with the ongoing implementation of the Protocol on Finance and Investment, whose goal is the liberalisation of the investment and financial sectors across the region, will see development finance institutions play an increasing role in financing infrastructure development in SADC.

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*SADC Secretariat Head quarters
in Gaborone, Botswana*



The power of inclusion

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Many southern African national currencies are significantly depreciated against the US dollar. How is this affecting the scope for more projects to be financed through local capital markets in the region?

This would depend on the projects to be financed—if they are local projects and they are financed with the local currency—imports will become more expensive and affect projects that use imported inputs. The impact would be on inflation, which is likely to spike and the project becomes more expensive.

Taking into account the success of mobile payment companies in other African countries such as Kenya and Nigeria, what is technology doing to improve people's lives and integrate SADC countries?

Mobile payments is one of the critical pillars of financial inclusion. SADC recognises the importance and role that technology plays in the provision of services, especially in the mobile-to-mobile space. The SADC business model caters for transfers to be initiated either by customers of mobile network operators or banks and the funds to be available to customers of mobile network operators or banks.

The proposed business models and the technical solutions are still at a pilot stage. The SADC Secretariat in collaboration with key stakeholders has also initiated and completed a regulatory framework by

developing mobile money guidelines. Member States have adopted the guidelines to regulate their operations.

Tax revenues are a valuable resource for development in Africa, and both Botswana and Zimbabwe have experienced some benefits from foreign tax inspection programmes in the last 18 months. Angola, however, is severely under-performing in tax collection. What can be done to ensure all SADC member countries, not just

mining regulations to ensure that the mining sector contributes its due share to fiscal revenue. There is also a need to foster financial inclusion and tackle the underground economy (informal sector) which hinders progress in a number of areas, including revenue collection and bank lending/credit allocation; and represents an opportunity cost for the governments in revenue mobilisation.

evenly among member states?

The only answer to the above scenario is through transformation of SADC Member States economies, through industrialisation of the region. That is why SADC has adopted an Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063 aimed at developing and transforming the industrial sector of the region including development of regional and global value chains, and clusters.

You are the first woman to enter the position of executive secretary for SADC secretariat. You now plan to mainstream gender in all SADC programmes. How do you propose to do this, especially where sourcing human capital is such a fundamental challenge for southern African businesses?

SADC has always been committed to placing gender equality firmly on the SADC Programme of Action and Community Building. Since I joined SADC, the institution has leveraged existing regional instruments, including, among others, the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, the SADC Gender Policy, and the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development, and international agreements such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Beijing Declaration and its Platform of Action, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the

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SADC has adopted an Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063 aimed at developing and transforming the industrial sector of the region including development of regional and global value chains, and clusters

some, capture adequate tax revenues for development?

There is a need for Member States overhaul their tax administrations and revenue collection processes. There is also a need to foster financial inclusion. Those Member States with large mining sectors should review their

South Africa is the dominant destination for all inbound and outbound trade with the SADC's remaining member countries. What is being done to alleviate these countries' collective dependency on trade with South Africa, and how can trading be distributed more

STATEMENT BY SADC DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, DR THEMBINKOSI MHLONGO ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD TOURISM DAY



27th of September is the World Tourism Day. Since 1980, when the Statutes of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) entered into force, the day has been commemorated globally with the purpose of fostering awareness among the international community of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political and economic value.

This year's theme; "Sustainable Tourism - A tool to Development", reinforces SADC's resolve to use tourism as a vehicle for sustainable development. The 1998 Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Tourism Development advocates for the promotion of environmentally and socially sustainable tourism development and calls on Member States to promote the tourism industry for the improvement of people's livelihoods.

SADC is cognisant that, if harnessed and carefully developed, tourism can be a powerful catalyst for inclusive economic growth. Some of the tourist attractions are found in the most remote areas with limited access to essential services, supporting infrastructure and employment opportunities. Tourism development and associated investment create employment thereby contributing to poverty reduction in these areas.

SADC recognises that the growth of the tourism sector has concomitant effect on the growth of other sectors of the economy such as, accommodation, information, communication and technology (ICT), conservation, agriculture, manufacturing, energy and water. Due to the interconnectedness with these sectors, the tourism

sector creates demand for goods and services and in the process, catalyse the holistic development of the economy. For instance, in many tourist destinations in southern Africa, small scale business operators find ready markets for their local products such as agricultural produce and curios, while also generating employment opportunities for unskilled and semi-skilled community members, thereby promoting inclusive growth.

The SADC region is uniquely positioned to take advantage of these distinctive factors to promote its goals of economic development and Regional Integration, and ultimately poverty reduction for its citizens. The Region has unique natural features and diversity of tourism appeals ranging from rich wild fauna and flora, scenic terrestrial, aquatic ecosystems, the robust cultural heritage, historic sites, vibrant cities and sporting events. These features, couple with the peace and stability the Region enjoys, make Southern Africa one of the most attractive holiday destinations for tourists from the across the globe.

Though a lot of work lies ahead, it is pleasing to note that SADC Member States continue to step up efforts to improve the tourism sector by, among other things, improving the quality of service, safety standards and physical infrastructure as a means of attracting local and international tourists and tourism investment into the region. Let us make use of resources available to us, such as the Regional Tourism Organization of Southern Africa (RETOSA), to improve the competitiveness of the tourism industry in the region and to promote and market southern Africa as single but multi-faceted tourist destination. By collaborative improvement of the product offer and joint delivery and marketing to trade and consumers, we will increase Southern Africa's visibility in the global tourism market, thereby increase number of visitors and investors to the region with resultant benefits to individual Member States.

As we commemorate the World Tourism Day, I encourage tourists to explore the beauty of the untapped natural resources and rich culture of the SADC Region in a responsible manner. I also encourage SADC Citizens to be the ambassadors of tourist attractions and products the region offers.

Let us work together in making Tourism a catalyst for positive change and a tool for attaining all the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental), each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as SADC development priorities as stipulated in the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan.



TCCA participants posing for a photo

SADC TCCA meets and draws roadmap to implement SADCQF

The SADC Technical Committee on Certification and Accreditation (TCCA) held its meeting on 19-20 September 2017 in Johannesburg, South Africa to, among other things review progress on the implementation of the decisions of the TCCA meeting held on 19th and 20th April 2017. At the end of the meeting, TCCA members developed a roadmap for

implementation of SADC Qualifications Framework (SADCQF) from September 2017 to May 2018. They also resolved that the SADC Secretariat should communicate and engage with non-participating Member States to ensure their involvement in the work of TCCA

The Chairperson of the TCCA, Mr. Joe Samuels emphasised the need to

fast-track implementation of the four areas of the SADCQF namely; Development and alignment of the National Qualifications Frameworks to the SADCQF; Quality Assurance; Verifications; and Advocacy and Communication.

The TCCA meeting was attended by Chief Executive Officers and Directors of national institutions responsible for Certification

and Accreditation of education and skills training from Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and the SADC Secretariat. Representatives from United Nations Educational Cultural and Scientific Organisation (UNESCO) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) also attended the meeting. The TCCA is a group of experts from the 15 SADC Member States and is supported by the SADC Secretariat.

It is mandated by the SADC Ministers of Education to oversee the implementation of SADCQF which plays a key role in setting the regional standard for comparing qualifications obtained in SADC, thereby enabling easier movement of learners and workers across the SADC region and internationally.

SADC Anti-Corruption Sub-Committee meets



Group picture of committee members

Kingdom of Swaziland convened their meeting on 20 – 22 September 2017 at the SADC Head Quarters in Gaborone, Republic of Botswana, to develop a Draft 5 Years SADC Anti-Corruption Strategic and Action Plan. When briefing the Task Team, Adv. Maemo Machethe from the SADC Secretariat's Directorate of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Affairs, reminded the Task Team that operationalisation of the SADC Protocol against Corruption remains key and strategic for the region. Adv. Machethe also highlighted that corruption is by its nature endemic and will continue to negatively affect national and regional development agenda if left to erode the public and private Institutions.

He emphasised that the SACC Task Team meeting to develop a Draft 5 Years SADC Anti-Corruption Strategic and Action Plan, was pursuant to the

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The SADC Anti-Corruption Sub-Committee (SACC) Task Team

comprising the Republic of Botswana, United Republic of Tanzania and the



South African Government through the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS) and Department of Communications (DOC) will be hosting the SADC meeting of Ministers responsible for Communications and ICTs from 04 – 07 September 2017 at the Fairmont Zimbalu Resort, Ballito, Kingdom of KwaZulu-Natal PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.DTPS.GOV.ZA

Meeting of SADC Ministers Responsible for Communications and ICT

By *Dr. George Ah-Thew*

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministers responsible for Communications and Information, Communications & Telecommunication (ICT) met on the 7th September 2017 in KwaZulu Natal Province, in South Africa to review progress and provide guidance on the implementation of the SADC ICT Programme.

The Meeting was held under the theme: “The Fourth Industrial Revolution is here, it’s time for us and this is our opportunity” and was officially opened by South African Minister of Communications, Hon. Ayanda Dlodlo.

The Ministers deliberated on several issues of importance in the Information, Communication and Telecommunication (ICT) sector; reviewed programmes and projects, and made decisions on how to overcome challenges in order to smoothen of programmes and projects.

Speaking on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the SADC Secretariat, the Acting Director of Infrastructure and Services Directorate, Mr. Phera Ramoeli

said the region needed to capitalise on the opportunities of the Fourth Industrial Revolution for the betterment of SADC Citizens by adapting to this changing environment.

On ICT Infrastructure, Services and Internet for all SADC Citizens by 2020, the Ministers agreed that the National Broadband Plans in the region should be aligned to the SADC 2020 broadband Targets in order to bridge the gaps and achieve these targets. The Member States need to undertake a gap analysis of the national and cross border broadband infrastructure and services to ensure that the gaps are closed and agreed targets are achieved by 2020.

Members States reemphasised the agreed standing policy that all SADC-to-SADC Internet traffic, voice and data should remain within SADC at the national level and regional level through the National and Regional Internet and Mobile Roaming Exchange Points. Member States were also requested to domesticate the approved Interconnection Policy Framework and Interconnection Reference Offer.

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SADC Anti-Corruption Sub-Committee meets

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directive of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, which mandated the Task Team to develop the Anti-Corruption Strategic and Action Plan, in order to strengthen the fight against the scourge of corruption and implement the SADC Protocol against Corruption.

In conclusion, the SACC Task Team developed a Draft 5 Years SADC Anti-Corruption Strategic and Action Plan which will be subjected to consultations by the SADC Member States.

Once finalised and approved, the SADC Anti-Corruption Strategic and Action Plan will be implemented through a collaborative effort by the SADC Member States as part of operationalising the SADC Protocol against Corruption.



Ministers responsible for Communications and ICT posing for a group photo

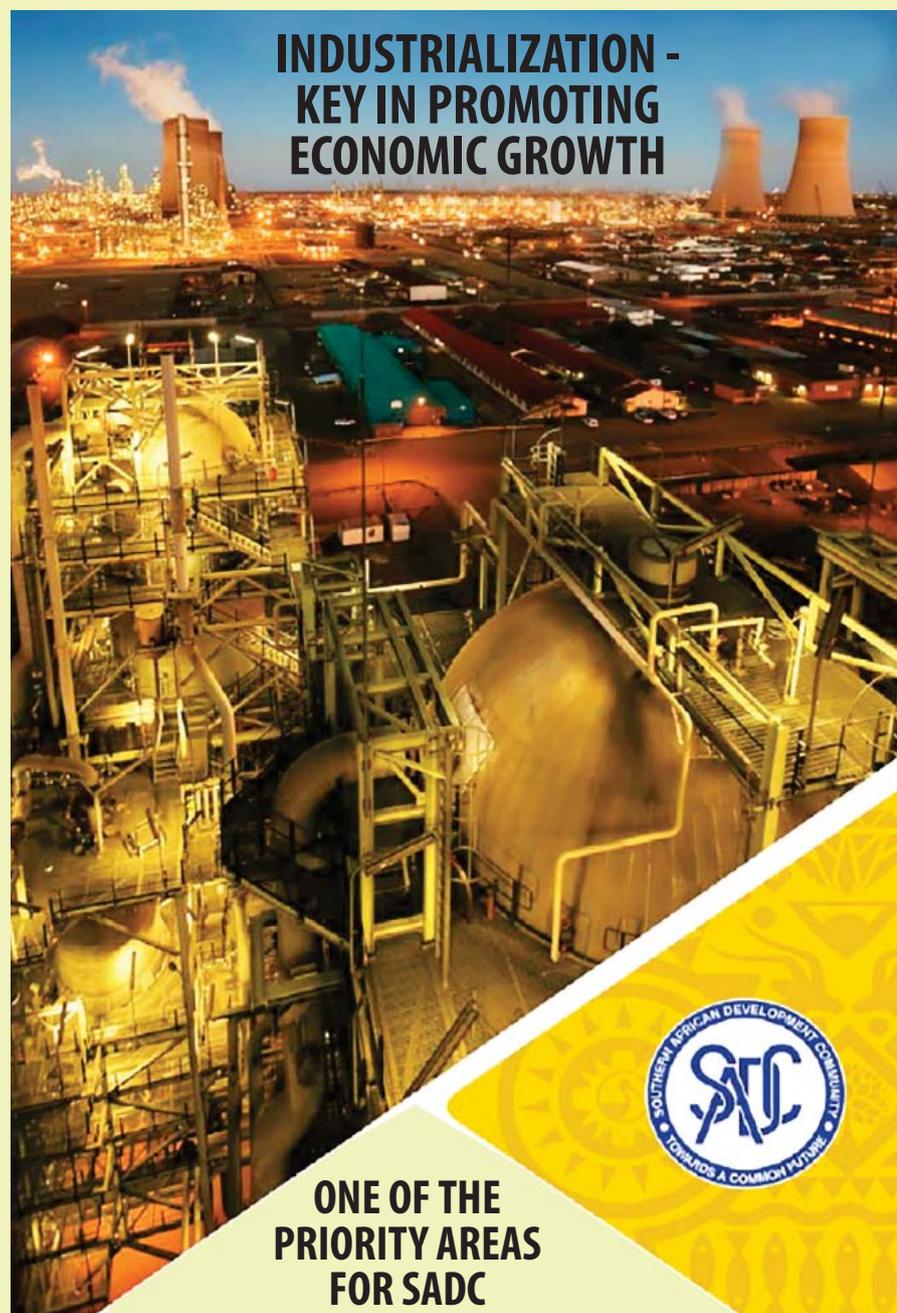
Communications and ICT

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On the SADC Home and Away Roaming (SHAR) project which started in 2007, the Ministers commended the countries which piloted the regional roaming initiative which led to lower roaming costs and urged the few remaining countries to follow the implementation of the regional initiative. The roaming cost model will be implemented within a year from today and the roam like home by SADC Citizens will be a reality much earlier before the target date of 31st December 2020.

Ministers noted the progress on e-commerce and the implementation of e-Commerce Payment Gateways and directed the SADC to liaise with the relevant stakeholders including Trade and Bankers Association and the Committee of Central Bank Governors in SADC (CCBG) to establish E-commerce Payment Gateways systems. E-Commerce provides an opportunity to SADC Citizens to shop online and have their goods delivered at home. On Cyber Security, the Ministers noted that all SADC Member States now have either transposed the SADC Harmonised Cyber Security Model Laws or have a cyber-security legal framework in place. Some are also developing their National Cyber Security Strategies.

Member States were urged to accelerate the domestication of all the SADC Harmonised Model Laws and to complete the process by December 2019. On the issues of local content that speak to the regional issues, and telling regional stories, the Ministers urged the secretariat to speed up the progress towards the establishment of the SADC TV Bouquet.



INDUSTRIALIZATION - KEY IN PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH



**ONE OF THE
PRIORITY AREAS
FOR SADC**

SADC broadcasters urged to promote the region's cultural identity

By Barbara Lopi

South Africa's Minister of Communication Hon. Ayanda Dlodlo has urged broadcasters in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region to produce more local stories that promote the cultural identity and heritage of the Member States in the region. The Minister was speaking during the opening remarks to the annual Broadcasting Forum jointly organized by SADC and the Southern African Broadcasting Association (SABA) which took place from 25-29 September, 2017, at the Gateway Conference Centre in Windhoek, Namibia.

Minister Dlodlo stressed that the sourcing of local content should not be left in hands of broadcasters only but should be a responsibility of every stakeholder, including government and private sector.

Close to 200 leaders in Information Communication Technology (ICT) and broadcasting are participating in the forum whose theme is 'Strategies for Stimulating Local Content Production and Creating an Enabling Environment for Sustainable Telling of Africa's Story.'

The Permanent Secretary in the Namibian Ministry of ICT, Hon. Mbeuta Ua-Ndjarakana urged the forum to come up with strategies to promote the creation of local content and how governments and other stakeholders can get involved in supporting creation of local broadcast



High table



Minister Dlodlo

content.

Mr. Stanley Similo, the director-general of the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation, said Digital Terrestrial Television broadcasting has put financial burden on the broadcasters, making it difficult to achieve universal coverage.

Similo, who is also president of SABA, urged governments in the region to re-look at the funding strategies and models towards access to information and to make sure that broadcasters deliver services that are affordable and connect marginalised communities.

Speaking on behalf of the SADC Secretariat, Ms Cecilia Mamelodi-Onyadile, the Senior Programme Officer for Communications and ICT expressed hope that the forum will formulate institutional mechanisms to address the stimulation of local content creation.

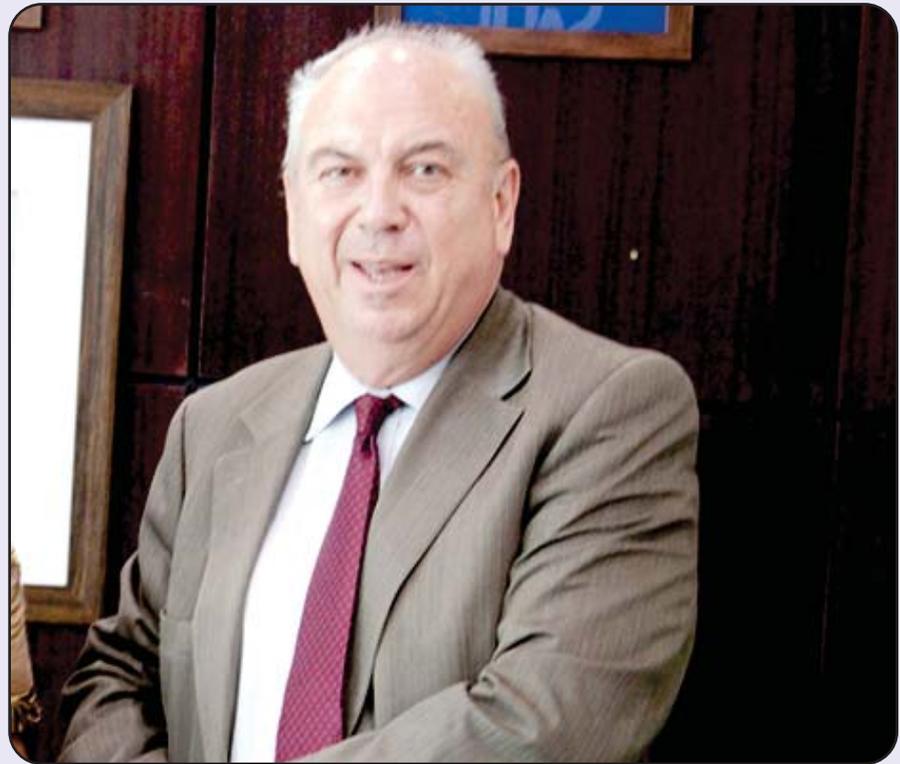
Germany Ambassador presents Letters of Credence to SADC Executive Secretary

By Peter Mabaka

The new Federal Republic of Germany Ambassador to Botswana and Observer to SADC, His Excellency Ralf Breth presented his Letters of Credence to the Executive Secretary of the SADC Secretariat, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax on 11th September 2017.

Ambassador Breth indicated that during his tenure, he will endeavor to strengthen the long standing development cooperation that exists between the Federal Republic of Germany and the SADC Region. He indicated that since the 1990's the Federal Republic of Germany has made available to SADC an estimated total amount of 400 million euros, in addition to bilateral development cooperation with eight SADC Member States.

Dr. Tax congratulated Ambassador Breth on his appointment and welcomed him to SADC and Botswana. She wished him well in his new assignment. She applauded the work done by his predecessor, Ambassador Rolf Ulrich, saying that during his tenure, SADC achieved a number of milestones, citing the priorities agreed during the Government to Government negotiations held in June 2017 in Berlin and the recent launch of the second



Ambassador Breth

volume of the SADC Success Stories as an example. She looked forward to the continued partnership and cooperation.

The two Parties agreed to focus on areas of cooperation agreed during the SADC-Germany negotiations covering: regional economic integration;

transboundary water and natural resource management; climate change resilience; and strengthening national-regional linkages in the SADC region. The Ambassador was accompanied by Ms. Katja Notle, Counsellor at the German Embassy in Botswana.

The power of inclusion

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Rights of Women in Africa, and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to promote gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment in the region. The region has undertaken a review and alignment of the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development with the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and targets, African Union Agenda 2063 and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

The adoption and subsequent signing of the Revised Protocol will ascertain that all Member States commit towards enhanced gender mainstreaming. We are also vigorously using the gender barometer to measure progress in achieving gender equality in our Member States through

the SADC Gender and Development Index. Findings from the Barometer help Member States to assess the extent of gender balance and in decision making where to target additional efforts.

SADC is also in the process of developing the Regional Multidimensional Women's Economic Empowerment Programme. It is hoped that the programme will facilitate the implementation of regional and international instruments in promoting gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women.

The 2016 Barometer features the first ever Southern Africa Gender Attitude Survey and indicates that, much as we have policies, laws and budgets on gender, long-term and lasting change depends on changes in attitudes that continue to systematically undermine the gains we are making. (www.devfinance.net)

SADC Executive Secretary receives Letters of Credence from Ecuador Ambassador

By Peter Mabaka

Her Excellency Ms. Maria Soledad Cordova de Valencia, Ambassador of Ecuador based in the Republic of South Africa on 11 September, 2017, presented her Letters of Credence to the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax. The two discussed potential areas of co-operation between the Government of Ecuador and the SADC Region.

Ambassador Cordova de Valencia said the Government of Ecuador is seeking to strengthen South cooperation, particularly in four main areas of cooperation namely; Industrialization, Tourism, Mining and Agriculture. She highlighted that her government has made significant strides in the areas of Health, Education and Infrastructure, adding that the Government of Ecuador is willing to share its experiences with the SADC Region.

She cited the proposal to operationalise the SADC University of Transformation in the Kingdom of Swaziland as one of the SADC initiatives that could be of interest to the Government of Ecuador.

On her part, the SADC Executive Secretary Her Excellency Dr. Tax welcomed the Ecuador Ambassador and congratulated her for her appointment. She thanked the Government of Ecuador for showing interest to cooperate with the SADC region in areas of mutual interest. Dr. Tax pointed out



Ambassador Cordova (left) and Dr. Tax

that SADC has prioritized four main areas namely: Industrialization and market integration; infrastructure development; peace and security; and programmes of regional integration importance. These are in line

with proposed areas of cooperation between SADC and Ecuador.

The two Parties agreed to further engage and concretize areas of cooperation for the mutual

benefit of the peoples of both the SADC Region and Ecuador. The Ambassador was accompanied by Ms. Marcela Rivadeneira, First Secretary at the Embassy of Ecuador in South Africa.



Namibian High Commissioner H.E Mbapeua Muvangua (left) met with the SADC Executive Secretary Dr. Tax at the SADC Secretariat Head Office in Gaborone, Botswana on the 11th of September 2017 to initiate preparations for hosting the 38th SADC Summit to be held in Windhoek, Namibia in August 2018

Russia and SADC to sign two MOUs on cooperation

By Letso S. Mpho

The Ambassador of the Government of the Russian Federation to the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency Mr. Victor Sibilev, met the SADC Executive Secretary Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax at the SADC Secretariat Head office in Gaborone on the 5th September 2017.

The parties discussed the signing arrangement for two Memoranda of Understanding, which are guided by the common aspiration of the people of SADC and Russian Federation to strengthen friendship and mutual understanding to develop comprehensive, equitable and fruitful cooperation.

The SADC and the Government of Russia Federation are working on signing the two Memoranda of Understanding, on Basic principles of Relations and Cooperation as well as in the area of Military and Technical Cooperation, to facilitate cooperation between the two parties.

The Memorandum of Understanding on Basic principles of Relations and Cooperation focuses on cooperation on political, industrial development, trade, economic, humanitarian, scientific, technical, social, and cultural aspects, while the Military and Technical Cooperation is aimed at strengthening cooperation in the military technological and technical areas particularly in the fields joint military production,

research and development and technology transfer as well as in military training and supply of various related equipment.

Ambassador Sibilev thanked the Executive Secretary for her commitment in fostering the relationship and cultivation of historical and cultural affinities that exist between the people of SADC Region and the Russia Federation.

He indicated that the Government of the Russian Federation was ready to sign the Memorandum of Agreement on Basic principles of Relations and Cooperation which will lay a foundation for thematic groups to convene meetings and develop frameworks on cooperation.

Dr. Tax welcomed the Ambassador and thanked him and the Government of Russian Federation for showing interest in strengthening cooperation with SADC, and reaffirming commitment to the contribution and improvement of the economic well-being, and standard of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice as well as peace and security of the citizens of the region.



Ambassador Sibilev



(From left to right) Ambassador Sibilev, Dr. Tax and Mr. Mubita Luwabelwa who is the Director for Policy, Planning and Resource Mobilisation at the SADC Secretariat



People of Lesotho PHOTO COURTESY WWW.PINTEREST.COM

SADC conducts technical assessment of security situation in Lesotho

By Ernest Kantchentche

Pursuant to the Double Troika Summit (DTS) directive of 15 September 2017, a SADC Technical Assessment Team was deployed to the Kingdom of Lesotho to assess the security situation in the Kingdom, and determine the requirements and prepare modalities for deploying a multidimensional SADC Contingent Force by 1st November, 2017.

The Double Troika Summit decision was made following the assassination of Lieutenant General (Lt Gen) Khoantle Motšomotšo, Commander of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) which jeopardized the implementation of SADC decisions and further destabilized the security situation in the Kingdom.

The SADC Technical Assessment Team held the consultative meetings at the Mojalefa Lephole Convention Centre in Maseru from 25 to 27 September 2017. The TAM met with various stakeholders which included Government officials and non-state actors. The stakeholders included Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Defence and National Security, the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF), the Lesotho National Security Service (NSS), Lesotho Mounted Police Service, the

Christian Council of Lesotho (CCL), the Lesotho Council of NGOs (LCNGOs), and representatives of opposition political parties.

The consultative meetings were officially opened by Honourable Habofanoeh Lehana, Minister of Local Government and Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. He was accompanied by Hon. Sentje Lebono, Minister of Defence and National Security and other senior officials of the Government of Lesotho. In his remarks, Honourable Lehana expressed gratitude for the assistance that SADC continues to provide the Kingdom of Lesotho in times of need.

He described the SADC intervention as timely following the successful conduct of the Ministerial Fact Finding Mission of the Organ Troika on 8 September 2017 which culminated into the holding of the Double Troika Summit on 15 September 2017 and the deployment of the SADC Technical Assessment Team to Lesotho on 24 September 2017. He therefore pledged the commitment of the Government of Lesotho to the implementation of the decisions of the SADC Summit. He however expressed remorse that Lesotho continued to be on top of the SADC Agenda, under countries in the region that are in

conflict. The SADC Double Troika Plus the Republic of Botswana Technical Assessment Mission was co-chaired by Lt Gen Américo Valente (Republic of Angola), representing the Chairperson of the Organ and Brig Gen Elvis Phale (Republic of South Africa, representing the Chairperson of SADC). The mission comprised of Senior Military, Police and State Security and civilian Officers from the Republics of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and the SADC Secretariat. The Republic of Botswana participated in the TAM in her capacity as Chair of the Defence Intelligence Standing Committee.

At the end of the Mission, the SADC Technical Assessment Team prepared a detailed report with recommendations on the requirements and modalities for the deployment of a multidimensional SADC Contingent Force comprising the Military, Police and Civilian Components. The SADC Technical Assessment Team also prepared the draft Concept of Operation (CONOPS), Rules of Engagement (ROE) and Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) for consideration of the Defence Sub Committee which is scheduled to hold its meeting in Luanda, Republic of Angola on 3rd – 5th October 2017.

SADC attends meeting for Aquaculture and Inland fisheries for African and Caribbean and Pacific (ACP)



The official opening ceremony of the 5th Meeting of ACP Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture, 18-21 September 2017, Melia Hotel and Conference Centre, Nassau, The Bahamas

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

SADC Secretariat participated and supported SADC Member States at the 5th Meeting of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture held from 18-21 September 2017 in Nassau, the Bahamas.

The purpose of the 5th meeting of ACP Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture was to catalyse the implementation of concrete actions and enhance the collaborative efforts for the attainment of the relevant targets of the sustainable development goals (SDGs), especially SDG 14 (conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development).

The Meeting of Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture was officially opened by the Prime Minister

of the Bahamas Dr. The Hon. Hubert A. Minnis at the Melia Hotel Conference Centre in Nassau, The Bahamas. More than 150 delegates from at least 60 fish-exporting countries and regions gathered to strategise on how to enhance the role of fisheries and aquaculture in their national socio-economic development.

The ACP Secretary General H.E. Dr. Patrick Gomes, indicated that the ACP Group remains determined to play a catalytic role to enhance the sustainable flow of benefits from the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for development of its member countries. He also indicated the importance of enhancing capacity building activities, deepening of policy analysis and continuously exploring ways to secure funding from partner organization for this purpose.

The meeting of the Ministers was preceded by the meeting

of Senior government officials from the ACP Group. The SADC region was represented by 14 Member States (Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe). The meeting assessed implementation of the ACP Strategic Plan of Action for Fisheries and Aquaculture, and discussed joint approaches to boost these sectors in a sustainable manner. The ACP Strategic Plan of Action for Fisheries and Aquaculture, which was adopted by ACP Ministers in June 2012 in Nadi, Fiji, has five strategic priority areas for action, viz; effective management for sustainable fisheries; promoting optimal returns from fisheries trade; supporting food security in ACP countries; developing aquaculture; and

maintaining the environment. This action plan (2012-2020), is well aligned with the SADC Fisheries Programme which is implementing the SADC Protocol on Fisheries.

This is the reason why SADC benefited from the ACP FISH II Programme where the first phase of the SADC Action Plan to Combat Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing was implemented until 2013. This enabled SADC Secretariat to consolidate the outcomes of the first phase and propose the new phase which involves establishment of the SADC Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance Coordination Centre, which was recently approved by the SADC Council at its meeting in August 2017 in Pretoria, South Africa.

A report on the state of play of implementation of the ACP Strategic Plan of Action and its roadmap showed a general trend of continued improvement for fisheries governance in ACP countries. However, access to data and knowledge, the capacity to analyse this data, the management of fishing rights, as well as tools to control fishing activities all need improvement.

In terms of trade, the report cited developments in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) as well as the ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements which have helped in integrating ACP states into the world

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Aquaculture and Inland fisheries for African and Caribbean and Pacific (ACP)

from page 17

economy, and work is ongoing to boost the value-added of fish products. But challenges remain, especially in getting local products to meet international standards for trade (including Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures), as well as combating Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing.

The report also noted that aquaculture is one of the actions where South-South cooperation is remarkable, and should be strengthened. Most ACP countries that were surveyed in the report have a national plan for aquaculture development, although some require technical support to move forward. Meanwhile, fish and aquaculture production is increasingly taken into account in ACP countries' food security strategies.

On maintaining the environment, several key issues were identified for improvement. This includes the slow implementation of the 'ecosystems approach' to fisheries management, which is still in its initial stages for most ACP countries, as well as persistent problems in managing land-sea interactions, interfering with coastal management. A more holistic approach is also needed to incorporate the effects of climate change on fisheries into national plans on climate change.

ACP Assistant Secretary General for Sustainable



Economic Development and Trade Mr. Viwanou Gnassounou urged strong cooperation and consensus amongst ACP countries in tackling the challenges raised. He also indicated the role that regional organizations as well as development partners can play in helping countries to successfully implement their national fisheries and aquaculture programmes.

SADC Secretariat, represented by Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo, gave a plenary presentation on "Perspectives on Aquaculture Development in the SADC region", to steer discussions on unlocking the full potential of aquaculture

in the context of aquatic and ocean-based economy (blue economy/blue growth). This led to development of various recommendations which were approved by the ACP Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

In the effort to stimulate development of the 'blue economy' – which engages a large range of marine-related activities, in environmentally sustainable ways – Ministers agreed to allocate €40 million from the Intra-ACP envelope of the European Development Fund (EDF) to the ACP Blue Growth Initiative. Launched during the meeting, the Blue Growth Initiative is aligned to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and seeks to boost productivity and competitiveness of fisheries and aquaculture value chains.

SADC Secretariat coordinated development of a common position for SADC Member States on areas of priority for the Southern African region which should be considered under the new ACP Blue Growth Initiative, and these include focus on:

- Strengthening Regional Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) systems in the SADC region, especially for inland water bodies;
- Strengthening fisheries management in shared/transboundary water bodies of the SADC region, especially for inland fisheries and aquaculture; and

- Strengthening fisheries and aquaculture education, training, and research and development in the SADC region.

In a final declaration adopted by the meeting, Ministers also detailed accelerated measures to be taken in order to combat Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing, promote effective fisheries management, support small scale fisheries, address the issue of fisheries subsidies at the WTO, and strengthen aquaculture production.

Ministers pledged their commitment to the ACP Strategic Plan of Action for Fisheries and Aquaculture, which helps countries to coordinate and cooperate on joint actions. They highlighted the need for stronger partnerships, more funding opportunities, as well as South-South and Triangular Cooperation to catalyse progress.

Ministers also emphasised the urgent need to intensify efforts to mobilise financial resources, accelerate technology transfer and build human and institutional capacity in ACP countries to achieve these measures. The declaration called on development partners and the ACP Secretariat to give priority attention to this issue.

Finally, it was agreed that the 6th ACP Meeting of Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture be held in Apia, Samoa in 2019.

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Apart from the nine (9) founding Member States which are Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe that created SADCC in 1980; which was later transformed to SADC in 1992, the subsequent Member States joined SADC as follows;

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Namibia | 1990 |
| South Africa | 1994 |
| Mauritius | 1995 |
| Seychelles | 1998 |
| Democratic Republic of Congo | 1998 |
| Madagascar | 2005, and |
| Comoros | August 2017 |



SADC SECRETARIAT

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat is the principal executive institution of SADC, responsible for strategic planning, co-ordination and management of SADC programmes. It is also responsible for the implementation of decisions of SADC policy and institutions such as the Summit, the Troikas and Council of Ministers. It is headed by an Executive Secretary and has its headquarters in Gaborone, Botswana.

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

One region, 16 nations, working towards a common future

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| MEMBER STATE | DATE | HOLIDAY |
|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Botswana | 30 September | Botswana Day |
| Botswana | 01 October | Public Holiday |
| Lesotho | 04 October | Independence day |
| Malawi | 15 October | Mother's Day |
| Mauritius | 30 October | Divali |
| Mozambique | 04 October | Peace and Reconciliation Day |
| UR Tanzania | 14 October | The Mwalimu Nyerere Day |
| Zambia | 18 October | Prayer and fasting Day |
| | October | Independence Day |

Happy 51st Independence: Republic of Botswana :30 SEPTEMBER

The SADC Secretariat, on behalf of the SADC family extends its sincere congratulations to the President of the Republic of Botswana, His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama and the Citizens of Botswana on the occasion of the 51st anniversary of Independence of the Republic of Botswana.

May the peace and harmony continue to prevail and may the country continue to grow and prosper.

PULA!

Member States information

Angola is a country in Southern Africa. It is the seventh-largest country in Africa, and is bordered by Namibia to the south, the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the north and east, Zambia to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to west.



Republic of Angola

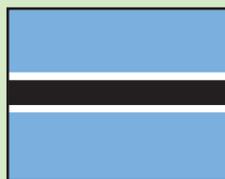
The exclave province of Cabinda has borders with the Republic of the Congo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The capital and largest city of Angola is Luanda. Although its territory has been inhabited since the Paleolithic Era, modern Angola originates in Portuguese colonization, which began with, and was for centuries limited to, coastal settlements and trading posts established beginning in the 16th century. In the

19th century, European settlers slowly and hesitantly began to establish themselves in the interior. As a Portuguese colony, Angola did not encompass its present borders until the early 20th century, following resistance by groups such as the Cuamato, the Kwanyama and the Mbunda.

Independence was achieved in 1975 after the protracted liberation war. That same year, Angola descended into an intense civil war that lasted until 2002. It has since become a relatively stable unitary presidential republic.

(source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angola>)

Botswana Day is the national day of the Republic of Botswana celebrated on September 30. It commemorates the independence of Botswana from the United Kingdom in 1966. In the 19th century, hostilities broke out between several tribes that laid claims to the territory of present-day Botswana.



Republic of Botswana

The tensions escalated when the Boer settlers arrived from the Transvaal. Eventually, a group of Batswana leaders asked the British government for protection. In 1885, the Bechuanaland Protectorate was officially established. In 1961, Seretse Khama founded the Bechuanaland Democratic Party that struggled for the protectorate's independence. Three years later, Bechuanaland was granted democratic-self-government. The first general

elections were held in 1965, following the adoption of the constitution. On September 30, 1966, Botswana officially became an independent republic within the Commonwealth with Seretse Khama as its first President. Botswana Independence Day is the country's main national holiday. It is widely celebrated throughout the country with official speeches, ceremonies, parades, street parties, concerts, and other festive events and activities. The main celebration is

held in the capital city of Gaborone. This year is a special celebration as the country will be celebrating its 50 years of independence.

(source: <http://www.historytoday.com/stephen-chan/50-year-s-botswana>)

SOBHUZA I, popularly known as Somhloa (Father of Mysteries), left the Swazi Nation a great legacy in the form of a prophecy that influenced greatly the basis of Swazi life and philosophy.



Kingdom of Swaziland

One night, shortly before his death, Sobhuza had a vision. In the morning he called his councilors and told them he had dreamed that white skinned people with hair like the tails of cattle would arrive in his country, bringing with them two things: UMCULU and INDILINGA. When translated, these words respectively mean a scroll or book and

a round piece of metal or money. The book was taken to represent the Bible, and Sobhuza advised his people to accept this but to try and avoid money. He warned them that they must never harm these white people, for if they spilt a drop of the white man's blood their country would be destroyed and they would disappear as a Nation. He died in 1836.

(Source: <http://bahai.uga.edu/News/020898.html>)

Happy 51st Independence: Kingdom of Lesotho :04 OCTOBER

The SADC Secretariat, on behalf of the SADC family extends its sincere congratulations to His Majesty, King Letsie III, Dr. Thomas Thabane, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Citizens of Lesotho on the occasion of the 51st Anniversary of the Independence of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

May the peace, security and prosperity prevail in the Mountain Kingdom.

KHOTSO, PULA, NALA!