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SADC advances the Industrialisation Agenda

by Joseph Ngwawi

THE SOUTHERN African Development Community is considering a series of bold measures to advance the aspirations of Member States as outlined in the Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap as the region moves to ensure that efforts to transform its economy gain traction.

SADC is developing a costed Action Plan for the Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063, which was adopted in April 2015 to allow the region to harness the full potential of its vast and diverse natural resources.

The Action Plan seeks to establish a coherent and synergistic implementation scheme containing strategic options and general policies towards the progressive attainment of time-bound targets set out in the strategy and roadmap.

Senior officials from SADC Member States met in Gaborone in May to discuss the Action Plan with private sector, regional think tanks and International Cooperating Partners.

The plan will focus on the first 15 years of the strategy timeframe, and aims to create an enabling environment for sustaining industrial development as a driver of economic transformation; and establish an enduring alliance for industrialisation consisting of the public and private sectors as well as strategic partners.

The SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap was developed as an inclusive long-term modernisation and economic transformation scheme that should enable substantial and sustained economic development to raise living standards.

It is anchored on three interdependent strategic pillars:

- ❖ *industrialisation* as champion of economic transformation;
- ❖ enhanced *competitiveness*; and,
- ❖ deeper regional *integration*.

A number of strategic interventions for each of these pillars are proposed in the Action Plan.



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SADC advances the Industrialisation Agenda

With regard to Industrialisation, major interventions proposed include an improved policy environment for industrial development, increased volume and efficiency of public and private sector investments in the SADC economy, creation of regional value chains and participation in related global processes, as well as increased value addition for agricultural and non-agricultural products and services.

In the area of an improved operating environment, there are plans to develop and operationalise a Protocol on Industry by 2020, which should lead to the development of industrialisation policies and strategies at national level.

Where Member States already have such policies and strategies, these should be reviewed and aligned to the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap.

Member States will be required to develop national Industrial Upgrading and Modernization Programmes (IUMPs) by 2018 and implement these by 2020.

These should be in line with the SADC IUMP, which provides the basis for a sector-specific approach to industrialisation in the region, focusing on upgrading existing manufacturing capacities, modernising productive facilities, reinforcing the institutional support infrastructure, and strengthening regional capacity for research and innovation.

There is also a target to progressively increase the share of gross domestic investment to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to 25 percent by 2020 and to 30 percent by 2025.

To achieve these targets, there are plans to develop a SADC Investment Promotion Framework as well as a SADC Regional Action Programme on Investment to accompany it.

To encourage the creation of regional value chains and participation in global processes, the region has identified five priority areas where the value chains can be established and for which regional strategies should be developed by 2020.

These are in the areas of agro-processing, minerals beneficiation, consumer goods, capital goods, and services (*See the table on Value Chain Potential Clusters*).

A detailed value chain study is proposed for specific products or services in the priority areas.

As part of the process of promoting value chain participation, there are plans to develop model legislation and regulations for intra-SADC agro-processing, minerals beneficiation and other manufacturing activities and services.

Reduction or removal of structural impediments to industrialisation is another target being pursued by SADC. In this regard, there is need to improve power generation capacity and facilitate an increase in the development and use of renewable sources of energy as well as ensure adequate water supply.

There is also need to reduce delays at ports and border posts and shorten duration of movement of goods across borders in the SADC region. This will involve harmonization of border-crossing procedures in SADC by 2020.

The Action Plan also proposes an active role for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the SADC industrialisation agenda.

SMEs are an important variable in the SADC development agenda, representing 90 percent of all businesses and accounting for more than 50 percent of employment.

Almost all SADC Member States have policies to nurture and develop SMEs while dedicating institutional capacity to champion these programmes.

An intervention being proposed is the development of a framework for establishing and supporting regional industrial clusters to promote SMEs

development. Specific activities under this intervention include studies to identify the potential, type and location for regional industrial clusters involving SMEs and the development of master plans for establishing the regional clusters including technology upgrading.

Among the initiatives proposed is the concept of a "Factory SADC" under which the region will strive to achieve increased production and use of SADC raw materials for downstream processing in agro-industries and other manufacturing industries.

The thinking is that a SADC Raw Materials Initiative/Strategy should be developed and implemented by 2020 to ensure that Member States cooperate on access to raw materials and use for value addition.

Interventions under the Competitiveness pillar are aimed at strengthening of both the macroeconomic and microeconomic environments in the region.

Initiatives proposed include development of industrial investment programmes to support SMEs by 2018; training for skills, entrepreneurial and managerial development; and centres of specialization for priority sectors.

The regional Integration pillar aims to widen the economic space for development and create incentives for industry to expand, thus providing opportunities for economies of scale, clustering and economic linkages.

Specific interventions under this pillar include full implementation of the SADC Free Trade Area to cover all Member States; a common external tariff by 2025; gradual phase-down and abolition of rules of origin by 2025; liberalization of exchange controls to allow free movement of capital within SADC by 2030; and ratification of the SADC Protocol on Trade in Services for implementation by 2020. □

Value Chain Potential Clusters

Value Chain	SADC Member States
1. Agro-Processing Cluster	
Livestock – beef, dairy, poultry	Botswana, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Soya	South Africa, Zimbabwe
Sugar	Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Forestry – wood products	Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Fisheries	Angola, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa
2. Minerals and Beneficiation Cluster	
Diamonds	Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Copper	DRC, Zambia
Platinum	South Africa, Zimbabwe
Iron/Steel	Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Soda Ash	Botswana
Oil and Gas	Angola, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania
3. Manufacturing of Consumer Goods Cluster	
Leather Goods and Footwear	Lesotho, Zambia, South Africa
Clothing and Textiles	Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zimbabwe
Pharmaceuticals	South Africa, Zimbabwe
Leather Goods	Botswana, Zambia
Fertilizer	Mozambique, South Africa
4. Capital Goods Equipment and Machinery	
Automobiles	South Africa, Lesotho, Mozambique, Zimbabwe
Mining machinery	South Africa, Zambia
5. Services Cluster	
	Botswana, Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Source: Costed Action Plan for SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap (Compiled from National Reports)

Towards alternative funding for regional development

A MAJOR decision from the 35th SADC Summit held in Botswana in August 2015 was the need for southern Africa to take full charge of its regional development agenda by embracing new and innovative financing mechanisms, recognizing that the current situation where most SADC initiatives are funded by development partners is not ideal and sustainable.

Only 9.2 percent of regional projects are funded by SADC Member States, according to the SADC Secretariat, while the balance of 90.8 percent comes from International Cooperating Partners. This compromises the ownership and sustainability of regional development.

To this end, the 35th SADC Summit “directed Council to finalise ongoing work on alternative sources of funding and report to the next Ordinary Summit” scheduled for August in Swaziland.

SADC has made significant progress in exploring alternative financing modalities to support self-sufficiency and financial independence with the Secretariat now in the process of developing a SADC Resource Mobilisation Framework (Alternative Sources of Funding SADC Regional Programmes).

A number of consultants will be engaged for seven different but related assignments to determine how

fiscal space could be created to enable SADC Member States to finance regional activities, programmes and projects.

The assignments will focus on various issues, including how to curb Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs); the creation of a regional lottery system; harnessing the resources from a proposed philanthropy network and database of private sector companies; development of a sharing formula for import and export levies; and introduction of regional transport and tourism levies.

For example, the study on curbing IFFs will analyse illicit cross-border financial flows as a measure to boost resource mobilisation in the region.

It is estimated that Africa lost more than US\$1.8 trillion to IFFs between 1970 and 2008, and continues to lose resources valued at up to US\$150 billion annually through IFFs or “illicit capital flight”, mainly through tax evasion, and mispricing of goods and services by multinational companies, according to a recent study commissioned by the African Union.

This means that resources that are intended to develop Africa are being used elsewhere to improve the economies of the United States and other countries in Europe and Asia.

The consultants will assess how much of the income lost to IFFs “will be curbed from this option and how much of the resources can be mobilised using innovative financial instruments.”

Another possibility is the creation of a regional lottery system, whose proceeds can go towards financing regional programmes and projects. The study will determine the indicative levels of income that member states can generate from this option, as well as the

financial burden of a regional lottery option on the lottery industry at the national level, and the shape of a coordinating mechanism and a regional regulatory framework.

Lotteries are an innovative financing mechanism that has been used successfully to fund regional programmes in South East Asia, where pooled revenues are distributed equally to different countries.

A separate consultancy on the viability of using a tourism levy to finance regional programmes is expected to explore how the tourism sector could be an alternative measure to finance regional programmes.

The levy is expected to be applied on tourism-related activities, including hotel accommodation and other charges.

A similar initiative by the African Union (AU) proposes to levy taxes on plane tickets, hotels and text messages as alternative sources of financing for the AU. It is hoped that these measures will raise about US\$600 million a year, and over five years, it is expected that the AU will be able to pay most of its costs using its own funds.

According to the SADC Secretariat, the consultancy for the development of the SADC Resource Mobilisation Framework is expected to be undertaken over two months, and is expected to allow SADC to take charge of the regional development agenda by exploiting its vast natural resources, which range from minerals to wildlife and watercourses.

SADC estimates that the region will require approximately US\$260 million to fund its projects, including coordination of activities, studies, capacity-building initiatives and consensus meetings. sardc.net □

Advancing the Industrialisation Agenda

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Institutional architecture needed to administer the Industrialisation Agenda

THE ACTION Plan for the Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063 proposes an institutional architecture to administer the industrialisation agenda.

The proposed Industrial Sector Management Committee will consist of representatives of Member States, private sector associations or designated bodies, regional technical and financial think-tanks and other industry-related stakeholders.

While operating independently, the Committee will be a broad-based technical organ on industrialisation issues to support the Ministerial Task Force on Regional Economic Integration, working with the SADC Secretariat. The Committee will have the following responsibilities:

- Provide technical input on strategic intervention areas for industrialisation;
- Ensure inclusiveness of actions and equity of economic impact;
- Provide a vibrant platform for dialogue between participating organs and act as intermediary among regional industrial operators;
- Facilitate harmonisation of the rules and regulations affecting industrialisation;
- Create space for leveraging the direct and indirect contribution of the private sector and the centres of excellence to speed up the industrialisation and regional integration processes; and
- Produce regular progress reports with recommendations to the Ministerial Task Force.

Above the Ministerial Task Force will be the Council of Ministers, which reports to the Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government. □



Expectant mood as Zambians prepare for general elections

by Joseph Ngwawi and Patson Phiri

POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS, banners and rallies have stolen the limelight in Zambia as the country heads towards general elections set for 11 August.

Media coverage has been focused on campaigns for the presidential, parliamentary and local government elections that started on 16 May.

A total of nine candidates will contest the presidential elections, according to the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ).

Front-runners are the incumbent president, Edgar Lungu of the Patriotic Front (PF); and Hakainde Hichilema, leader of the main opposition United Party for National Development.

Other presidential candidates include former Finance Minister Edith Nawakwi of the Forum for Democracy and Development, who is the only female candidate; Tilyenji Kaunda of the United National Independence Party; and former justice minister Wynter Kabimba who now heads the Rainbow Party.

According to the new Zambian Constitutional amendment adopted in January, the winning candidate should secure at least 50 percent-plus-one vote unlike previously when the president was elected using a majority system in which the candidate with the highest number of votes was elected, even if they scored less than 50 percent of the valid votes cast.

The constitutional changes also introduced running mates for the vice-presidency. In the past, a vice-president was appointed by the president.

Elections for running mates will allow the vice-president to become president in the event of the incumbent being incapacitated. This will enable the vice-president to assume power for the remainder of the incumbent's tenure.

Such a development avoids the need for early elections as was the case in 2015 following the death of President Michael Sata in October 2014. Early elections were also held in October 2008 after President Levy Mwanawasa died in June of the same year.

The winning candidate will become Zambia's seventh

president since independence from colonial rule more than 50 years ago, on 24 October 1964. He/she will serve a five-year term, as will those elected in parliamentary and local government elections.

According to information from the ECZ, a total of 650 candidates from 13 parties will contest for 156 parliamentary seats, with 90 of the aspirants being women – 13.8 percent of those vying for seats in the National Assembly of Zambia.

This does not augur well for the representation of women in the Zambian parliament. A total of 113 women contested in the last parliamentary elections in 2011, with only 17 being elected. This accounted for only 11 percent of the constituency seats in parliament.

Presidential appointments increased the number of women in parliament to 23, raising the proportion to just over 14 percent, among the lowest in the SADC region.

Among the 650 parliamentary candidates for the 2016 elections are 109 who are contesting as independents.

The Democratic Assembly is not fielding any parliamen-

tary candidates although it is contesting presidential elections, while six parties – Alliance for Democracy and Development, Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD), National Restoration Party, National Revolution Party and United Democratic Front – have only parliamentary candidates and are not contesting the presidency.

The campaign period was preceded by a voter registration and verification exercise that ended on 25 May.

According to preliminary voter registration figures released by ECZ, more than six million people will be eligible to cast their votes in August.

Previous general elections were held in 2011 and saw the PF winning 61 of the 150 parliamentary seats while its presidential candidate, Michael Sata, was elected President after gaining almost 42 percent of the vote, against 35.4 percent for the nearest rival, Rupiah Banda of the former ruling MMD and 18.2 percent for Hichilema.

The 2016 general elections will be held concurrently with a referendum to decide on whether the constitution should be amended to enhance the Bill of Rights as well as repeal and replace Article 79 that deals with issues that need to be put to a referendum.

Under Article 79, only the Bill of Rights and the Article itself require the holding of a referendum in order to amend them. The proposal is to broaden the issues requiring referenda, to include changes to the electoral system, presidential terms, election of the vice president, and appointments of cabinet ministers and provincial ministers. sardc.net



South Africa announces date for local government polls

3 AUGUST has been declared as the date for local government elections in South Africa.

According to South African constitution, the councils of metropolitan and local municipalities are elected by a system of proportional representation, while the councils of district municipalities are partly elected by proportional representation and partly appointed by the councils of the constituent local municipalities.

Therefore at local government or municipal elections, voters have three ballot papers, one each for ward councillor, party for the council of the local municipality, and party for the council of the district municipality. □

Photo: Kizito Sikuka, SARDC

Safeguarding African heritage for sustainable development

by Kizito Sikuka

FROM CAPE to Cairo or Yaoundé to Mogadishu, Africa has some of the most outstanding natural and cultural heritage sites that offer a variety of options for socio-economic growth, including tourism and infrastructure development.

For example, between Zambia and Zimbabwe, there is the majestic Victoria Falls located on the Zambezi River.

In Egypt, the Great Pyramids stand tall, while the United Republic of Tanzania boasts of the Mount Kilimanjaro and Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

According to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), which oversees the protection of world heritage sites, a total of 89 African sites are currently inscribed on the World Heritage List – affirming the richness of the continent and its potential to drive its own developmental agenda.

However, the challenge facing the continent is how to strike a balance between maximizing the use of these sites to promote socio-economic development, while at the same time preserving them for future generations.

Tanzanian Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa told a recent International Conference on Safeguarding

African World Heritage as a Driver of Sustainable Development held in Arusha that it is time Africa finds innovative ways of managing the competing environmental, social and economic dimensions of development.

He said it is sad to note that some of the poorest countries in Africa are “extremely rich in natural resources” such as oil, gas and minerals yet continue to face various challenges to exploit these resources.

Some of the challenges include limited technologies and the fact that a number of these resources are located in areas of cultural significance, which under international laws are protected from destruction.

“As Africa, we are and will continue to do our best to protect and conserve our heritage,” he said, adding that similar efforts should, however, be channelled towards finding “a balance between conservation and development,” so that the continent is able to use its resources to eradicate poverty and promote socio-economic development.

For example, he said, one way of dealing with resources found in protected areas is to come up with “innovative” ways of extracting them for the benefit of Africa, with minimum destruction to the environment.

“What if there is an appropriate technology that would allow exploitation without

necessarily impairing the outstanding universal values for such sites,” he said.

“If these resources are appropriately exploited, they will generate revenue to alleviate poverty among our people and at the same time foster conservation. The bottom line here is how to strike a balance for a win-win situation.”

Majaliwa urged stakeholders to continue working together to protect African heritage sites for present and future generations.

This is due to the fact that some sites on the continent are under threat from a combination of factors, including armed conflicts, uncontrolled movement of people, poaching, weak management and climate change.

UNESCO estimates that about 33 percent of the sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger are located in Africa.

“We need to all cooperate if we want to preserve African heritage for present and future generations,” Majaliwa said.

Director of the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO, Dr Mechthild Röessler concurred, saying protection of African heritage is critical to sustainable development.

She said it was also important to actively involve local communities in the formulation and implementation of decisions aimed at safeguarding heritage, as “the communities are the real custodians of the heritage sites.”

The International Conference on Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver of Sustainable Development that was held on 31 May-3 June issued the Ngorongoro Declaration that calls for more efforts to safeguard African heritage for sustainable development.

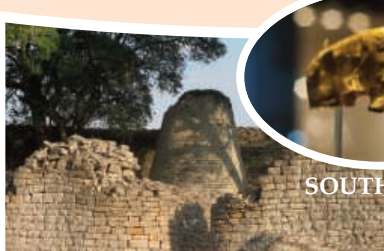
“We call upon the African Union and its Regional Economic Communities to promote sustainable development while guaranteeing the conservation of African Natural and Cultural Heritage in line with the AU visionary Agenda 2063,” reads part of the declaration.

The declaration urged the active inclusion of “women and youth in the conservation and management of natural and cultural heritage.”

There is also the need for Africa to develop and implement policies that prevent and resolve conflicts as well as restore peace, security and social cohesion within and outside their borders using heritage values.

Another critical issue is increasing public awareness on the benefits of safeguarding African heritage as well as harnessing indigenous knowledge on preserving heritage.

The objective of the conference was to explore methods to strengthen sustainable development through environmental sustainability, and inclusive social and economic development, while also fostering peace and security. *sardc.net* □





"Accelerating Energy Delivery and Access to Water Resources in the SADC Region – A Collective Approach"

Access to water, energy key to SADC regional integration

by Kizito Sikuka

THE AVAILABILITY of adequate water and energy supplies is critical in advancing regional development and integration in southern Africa.

This is the key message of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministerial Workshop on Water and Energy held on 20 June in Gaborone.

The SADC Chairperson, President Seretse Khama Ian Khama of Botswana said limited access to water and energy has the capacity to render the integration agenda of SADC meaningless, hence the region should collectively work together in addressing challenges facing the two sectors.

According to the SADC Secretariat, access to electricity in the region is estimated at less than 40 percent in most member states, while 60 percent have access to safe drinking water.

"These figures indicate that the SADC region has to muster greater political will in order to improve access to safe water and affordable clean energy," President Khama said.

He warned that "if the status of the energy and water supply services situation in the region does not improve, the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap could remain a pipe dream."

For example, improved access to energy and water could reduce transactions costs of doing business in the region, thereby promoting investment, trade and industry growth.

He said SADC has a number of strategic documents, including the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP), that clearly spell out what is needed to improve the water and energy sector.

The challenge, therefore, is for countries to fully implement all agreed regional projects, programmes and activities within the stipulated timeframes so that the benefits of belonging to a regional community are enjoyed by SADC citizens.

"We should endeavour to do more and compel action on the plans that are so well set out and articulated in the regional strategic framework documents," he said.

The RIDMP Energy Sector Plan, for example, has identified 73 power projects that will increase generation capacity from the current 56,000 Megawatts (MW) and ensure that the projected demand of 96,000MW is surpassed by 2027.

The Water Sector Plan likewise contains a total of 34 infrastructure projects aimed at improving access to water in the region.

President Khama said it is equally important for the region to come up with innovative approaches to forge closer collaboration between the water and energy sectors as well as that of agriculture since these are inextricably linked, and any uncoordinated development in one area has the capacity to negatively impact on others.

"It is also important that we broaden our discussions to the existing energy, water and

food nexus. Invariably, the interlinkages in the energy, water and food sectors cannot be overemphasised, and require efficient management of demand and supply to ensure proper correlation," he said.

He said the recent decrease in water availability caused by low rainfall in the 2015/16 agricultural season had an adverse impact on the production of food and energy in southern Africa.

According to a concept paper produced for the SADC Energy and Water Ministers Workshop, the declining water levels in Lake Kariba, between Zambia and Zimbabwe, resulted in low hydropower generation activities as water capacity was only 12 percent by 1 February compared to the 53 percent recorded at the same time the previous year. Lake Kariba is one of the main sources of electricity in the SADC region.

In October 2015, the United Republic of Tanzania was also forced to switch off its hydropower plants due to low water levels in the country's dams. As a result of the low water levels, hydroelectricity generation had fallen to 20 percent of capacity.

Tanzania has since converted some of its hydroelectricity plants to natural gas.

The SADC Executive Secretary, Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax said it is time for the region to develop concrete and practical solutions to address water and energy challenges.

"Energy and water play a vital role in regional economic

growth, and access to the same has a direct impact on the quality of lives of our people," she said, adding that the two "are fundamental enablers to economic development, and thus for industrialisation, which SADC has frontloaded, a major focus of the region."

Running under the theme, "Accelerating Energy Delivery and Access to Water Resources in the SADC Region – A Collective Approach," the SADC Ministerial Workshop on Water and Energy is one of the three regional meetings convened by President Khama and aimed at finding innovative ways of managing the competing environmental, social and economic dimensions of development in southern Africa.

Various stakeholders, including energy and water ministers, representatives of national energy and water regulators and utilities, International Cooperating Partners, SADC energy and water thematic group members and implementing partners, research institutions and independent power producers, participated in the workshop.

A similar meeting on food security and poverty eradication was convened in May, while another one on illegal trade in wildlife is scheduled for July.

The action plans from the ministerial workshops will be tabled for consideration at the forthcoming SADC Council of Ministers and Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government in Swaziland in August for adoption. sardc.net □



Mainstreaming Gender in the SADC Energy Sector

MOST WOMEN and girls in the SADC region spend their time on basic tasks that are time-consuming, non-remunerative and highly laborious, such as collecting biomass fuels, without access to modern energy services.

This further exacerbates gender inequalities as many women, especially in rural and peri-urban areas, are unable to access wage employment, education or business opportunities due to these responsibilities, and this also limits options for social and political interaction outside the household.

In all SADC Member States, women and girls are largely responsible for household and community activities including energy provision, and thus are the primary energy producers and end users at household level.

The limited participation of women in designing home energy systems, resource access, and decision-making at national and regional levels is a major challenge within the gender and energy nexus.

The regional trend at the critical decision-making level is more inclined towards men, with women occupying less than 10 percent of most governance structures in this regard.

The major energy source in the SADC region is traditional fuels such as firewood and animal and crop residue, which accounts for 74 percent of energy requirements for cooking, crop drying and brick making in rural communities (SARDC et al, 2012).

Women in urban areas have also been affected by the demand-side electricity management policies such as load shedding. These measures have had negative impacts on family activities and on business.

Accessibility and Social Dimensions

Women are disproportionately affected by challenges associated with access to modern sources of energy compared to men. This has affected development processes including energy as sustainable development cannot be achieved without full and equal rights for half of the population, both in law and practice.

There is need for the region to develop mechanisms focused on addressing inequalities in the energy sector as well as to expand the role of women in developing as well as implementing energy solutions.

Energy production, procurement, transportation and distribution further perpetuates gender imbalances, especially for women living in rural areas. The primary source of energy for rural people in most SADC Member States is biomass which may be sourced more than five kilometres away from homesteads.

This has a negative impact on women, not only in travelling long distances on foot but women normally carry heavy loads of firewood on their heads, which can compromise physical health and wellbe-



ing. In some situations where collecting firewood is restricted through formal regulations, women are more vulnerable to sexual harassment or fines for illegal firewood collection.

The physical safety of women is compromised as violent crimes can also be perpetrated even in daylight where resources are scarce and women are obliged to collect fuel from remote and isolated areas (ENERGIA/DfID, 2006).

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) has estimated that illnesses from indoor pollution result in more deaths of women and children annually than HIV and AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and malnutrition combined (IISD, 2013).

Existing Legal and Policy Framework

Energy has been recognized globally as the missing Millennium Development Goal but is included as Goal No. 7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



At regional level, the SADC Treaty seeks gender parity and SADC's development blueprint, the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), identifies gender and energy as a critical area of regional development and integration.

The existing SADC energy policy framework is comprehensive and places emphasis on the availability of sufficient, reliable and least costly energy services. This addresses the broader SADC objectives, which include investment attraction and promoting competitiveness and trade as a means for eradicating poverty, aligned with the environmentally sustainable use of energy resources.

The main policy instruments concerning energy in the SADC region are:

- ❖ SADC Protocol on Energy (1998),
- ❖ SADC Energy Cooperation Policy and Strategy (1996),
- ❖ SADC Energy Action Plan (1997) and (2000), and
- ❖ SADC Regional Energy Access Strategy and Action Plan (2010).

The Protocol acknowledges the important roles of women and men in the implementation of energy programmes and urges Member States to "ensure that the development and use of energy takes cognisance of the gender realities of the region."

Under Guidelines for Cooperation, the Protocol also recognises that the gender dimension is one of the key socio-economic issues that the region's energy policy should address. This is in addition to the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development and the SADC Treaty that directly seek to facilitate the empowerment of women and positively influence gender-balanced interests.

The promotion of community participation in policy formulation and implementation with special attention on the gender dimension is highlighted in the SADC Energy Protocol.

Other issues are: energy trade -- integrated resource planning -- energy efficiency and conservation -- demand-side management -- energy pricing -- involvement of private sector and other non-state actors -- energy competition -- training and capacity building -- investment and funding -- and, the environment.

The policy framework is supportive and responsive to SADC's strategic priorities that are targeted to industrialisation, the promotion of economic and social infrastructure, agriculture, human resources development, gender mainstreaming and improvement of social welfare.

Energy plays a pivotal role in the development agenda of any region, the SADC region included. Access to affordable, reliable and modern energy is critical in addressing development challenges such as poverty, gender inequalities and food security.

Key Goals and Targets for Energy and Gender

**UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
An intergovernmental initiative through the UN
with 17 goals and 169 targets to 2030**

Goals

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. *Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. *Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all*
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Revised SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) to 2020

- Increase access and affordability for infrastructure and services
- Electricity generation and transmission expansion plan implemented
- Gender mainstreaming capacity in the region developed and strengthened
- SADC progress monitored towards the achievement of gender parity at all levels
- At least 50 percent women in decision-making positions in the public sector by 2015, or affirmative action in place to accelerate the attainment of this target.

African Union Agenda 2063

- Inclusive growth and sustainable development
- Access to affordable and decent energy
- Capable institutions and transformative leadership
- People-driven development, relying on the potential of African people, especially women and youth
- All citizens of Africa actively involved in decision-making
- Full gender parity, with women occupying at least 50 percent of elected public office at all levels and half of managerial positions in the public and the private sectors.

Adapted from UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2015), SADC (2015) and African Union Commission (2015)

Gender Composition of Energy Sector Governance in SADC

	Men	Women	Total
Ministers responsible for energy	13	2	15
Heads of power utilities	15	0	15
Heads of regulatory institutions	10	2	12 ^a
Heads of regional power organizations (SAPP ^b , RERA ^c)	2	0	2

a) Of the 15 SADC Member States, only Botswana, DRC and Mauritius are without energy/electricity regulators.

b) The Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) was established in 1995 to coordinate the planning, generation, transmission and marketing of electricity on behalf of the 12 interconnected SADC Member State utilities.

c) The Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa (RERA) was established in 2002 to facilitate the harmonization of regulatory policies, legislation, standards and practices and to be a platform for effective cooperation among energy regulators within the SADC region. 10 of the 12 countries with energy/electricity regulators are members of RERA.

Source Author compilation

Energy Access and Capacity – Selected Indicators

- ◆ 290 million of 915 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa have access to energy and the number of people without access is rising.
- ◆ At least 25 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa are in a state of power crisis.
- ◆ Only five percent of rural areas in the SADC region have access to electricity.
- ◆ SADC has experienced electricity shortage since 2007.
- ◆ SADC has experienced an upwards trend in renewable capacity of 26 percent between 2000-2014.
- ◆ Renewables account for 23.5 percent of total generation capacity in SADC.

Adapted from UNDP (2012), SADC (2012), REN21 et al (2015)

Challenges with Policy Framework

While the SADC energy sector policy framework is quite comprehensive and addresses the broader regional objectives and strategic priorities, the programmes fall short of the stated regional objectives.

Gender inequalities in decision-making positions in the energy sector across southern Africa make it reasonable to conclude that the present structures and processes within the sector have not addressed the inequalities and subsequently energy-related challenges faced by women.

The regional policy framework aims to address challenges in the energy sector but its successes depend on the implementing agents such as power utilities in Member States and regional energy institutions. The current status suggests that the region has not been improving the structure of governance in the energy sector.

One of the targets set by the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, which was adopted in 2008 but was ratified and entered into force in 2013, is that by 2015 the region should have reached 50/50 gender representation in decision-making positions. This target has not been reached in the top leadership in energy institutions at national and regional levels. (See Table on composition of energy sector governance)



Selected Experiences of SADC Member States

Member States have undertaken a number of initiatives to promote gender equality in the energy sector, with varying outcomes.

One such initiative was a gender audit of the Botswana energy sector undertaken by the Botswana Technology Centre (BTC) in consultation with the Energy Affairs Division of the Ministry of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources and other stakeholders (UNDP, 2012; Wright et al, 2009).

The results of the audit showed that, although there is a common understanding of the different roles of women and men in Botswana, the knowledge of the relationship between gender, energy and poverty was still limited.

This indicates that existing energy policies and programmes are gender blind, which means they do not address gender disparities. Women are often excluded from consultations during

the development of energy policies and programmes.

Based on the outcome of the audit and subsequent training initiatives, awareness about the importance of the gender-energy nexus has increased within the Botswana government and the Botswana Power Corporation (BPC). BPC recently started a gender mainstreaming programme for rural electrification.

The audit also led to a pilot project for collecting gender-disaggregated data and strengthening gender expertise in the country's energy sector.

To promote the participation of women in the energy sector, Zimbabwe established the Gender and Energy Network of Zimbabwe, an initiative to engender energy access issues and empower women on issues of energy. Chaired by the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Gender and Community Development and the Ministry of Energy and Power Development, the network seeks to achieve the goals through raising awareness on the relationship between gender and energy, and advocating for policy reforms.

Zambia has made progress on sensitising gender issues in the energy sector. The Revised National Energy Policy (RNEP) promised to provide more gender balance in the sector's "energy planning, management and utilisation to ease the burden of poverty on all vulnerable groups, especially women at household, community and national level" (RNEP, 2008).

The country has also undertaken a critical gender analysis through the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Development which culminated in the Zambia Gender and Energy Mainstreaming Strategy (2011-2013). The Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation Limited (ZESCO) is implementing the Increased Access to Electricity Service (IAES) Project which has enabled women to play a more effective role as economic agents using rights-based development approaches that focus on increasing the economic opportunities of women and the freedom to work in security and dignity (ESMAP, 2014).

The Case for Mainstreaming Gender in Energy

"Gender mainstreaming is much more than a women's issue; it is the basis for establishing a level of equality between women and men that can help stimulate economic growth, create higher-level jobs, support communities, raise productivity and reduce poverty." UNIDO (2014)

Mainstreaming gender in the energy sector means creating space for equal opportunities for women and men to reach full potential and contribute towards the sustainable development of the energy sector.

Increasing participation by women should be a top priority for reforming the energy sector. Increasing the number of women in decision-making positions can extend gender context sensitivity in finding solutions to problems affecting the sector. The energy sector is dominated by men in decision-making positions and has done little to address challenges faced by women.

Efforts to mainstream gender in the energy sector can have many other benefits. Many women have limited access to modern sources of energy yet this can be addressed by increasing the uptake of renewable energies, which in most cases are locally sourced.



This can result in improved standards of living and economic empowerment, as well as expanding opportunities through promoting alternative renewable energy resources, particularly to those groups with little access to modern grid-based energy.

Women play a critical role in energy provision and consumption within households and possess valuable knowledge relevant to sustainable energy solutions.

Women can draw on the natural circles of family, friends and community for customers, which has proved to be an effective way of distributing renewable energy technologies to rural households. Thus, renewable energy projects can enhance the economic autonomy and social status of women, including an earned income and opportunities to participate in and drive sustainable development of communities (UNIDO, 2014).

As women bear the burden of manual work of gathering firewood in most parts of southern Africa, the focus on initiatives aimed at improving institutional structures is a case for improving the development of the region.

Way Forward

Gender equality is one of the critical pathways for a successful transition to sustainable energy for all by 2030 (UN DESA, 2015). There is need to increase efforts to promote an inclusive energy policy planning and implementation. Barriers, such as lack of training and education, and social norms that view modern energy technology businesses as “work for men” limit the opportunities for women to engage in sustainable energy entrepreneurship.

Policy makers and other stakeholders should work together to develop policies and programmes that address the gender-energy-development paradigm and expand the role of women in developing and implementing energy solutions. Thus women as the major end-users in the household can buy into reformed energy services forged through equal partnership collaboration with men in line with gender parity goals.

There is need to mainstream gender in energy programming and policy, not just to ensure that these are good social interventions but to promote efficiency. Incorporating gender perspectives into energy projects, policy and planning is critical in ensuring the effectiveness of all development activities that involve energy use.

As women are the primary energy end-users in households and communities in most SADC countries, involving women in the various steps of the energy value chain can expand both the scale and quality of sustainable energy initiatives. Involving women in the design of sustainable energy solutions can help to ensure that interventions are tailored to meet the needs of women as well as men.

Involving women in the distribution and marketing of renewable energy technologies and products can help to encourage the use of these services by providing other women with



comfortable spaces within which to learn about technologies and discuss particular concerns.

There is also need to promote access to cheap, renewable energy technologies across southern Africa to ensure easy availability to all. This would require adopting programmes to provide incentives to the private sector and research institutions to produce basic technologies that can be accessed more cheaply by the majority of the people in the region.

Although there is cost-saving over time, the solar home systems are not cheap to install; a typical home system in the region is cited by Madamombe (2015) to cost between US\$500 and US\$1,000. Greater effort could be put into involving women in the design and production of locally appropriate energy technologies to encourage more investment in renewable energy.

The use of innovative financing schemes, such as fee-for-service arrangements, is one way to overcome these high upfront costs. Installing solar panels to power multiple houses at once can help to cut costs. Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland and Zambia have developed solar markets, in many cases with special funds to support consumer credit.

Policy Considerations

SADC Member States should:

- ❖ Develop and strengthen energy policies that focus on improving rural and peri-urban energy systems in order to reduce the workload women have in sourcing biomass;
- ❖ Target increasing the number of women in decision-making positions and actively engage women in problem-solving processes;
- ❖ Enhance the development and utilisation of modern renewable energy sources and technologies;
- ❖ Increase energy education and build gender-balanced capacity in energy planning, implementation and monitoring;
- ❖ Establish efficient energy production, procurement, transportation, distribution and end-user systems in an environmentally sound manner and with due regard to gender issues;
- ❖ Reform the energy sector and facilitate investment and expansion of services to promote adoption of more efficient and sustainable use of biomass;
- ❖ Mainstream gender in all energy programmes at the national and regional levels.

Conclusion

Addressing gender-related challenges in the energy sector is key to addressing the energy poverty that southern Africa is currently facing, hence the gender issues should also be prioritised in the sectoral development discourse and programmes. Mainstreaming gender in energy should be supported by appropriate policies and structures that take into account gender realities in southern Africa. Policy formulation and strengthening the existing policies is essential with consultations from women and men so that all have equal opportunities to sustainably contribute to the development of the region. □

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Development partners back industrialisation agenda

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS have begun a process to align their support to the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap and the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP).

Alignment of support to the two regional planning documents will ensure the smooth implementation of agreed activities and programmes, thereby promoting socio-economic development and deeper integration.

The two regional documents were adopted by a SADC Extra-Ordinary Summit held in April 2015 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

The SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap aims at accelerating the growing momentum for strengthening the comparative and competitive advantages of the economies of the region, and is anchored on three pillars, industrialisation, competitiveness and regional integration. The strategy covers the period 2015-2063.

The Revised RISDP is a five-year plan that guides the implementation of all SADC programmes from 2015 until 2020.

The plan has four priority areas:

- ❖ Industrial development and market integration;
- ❖ Infrastructure in support of regional integration;
- ❖ Peace and Security cooperation as a prerequisite for regional integration; and,
- ❖ Special programmes of regional dimension.

Various development partners that recently met the SADC Executive Secretary, Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax backed the SADC industrialization agenda and Revised RISDP.

For example, Mexico has a unique technology of processing and preserving agricultural products – particularly maize which is the staple food in most SADC Member States. Mexico,

through its Ambassador in South Africa Maurice Escanero, has pledged to assist the region in developing its agricultural sector.

Agriculture is the backbone of most economies in southern Africa. According to the SADC Secretariat, agriculture contributes between four and 27 percent of the Gross Domestic Product of the region, and about 20 percent of total export earnings.

In addition, more than 70 percent of the SADC population of 277 million is dependent on agriculture for livelihoods.

Therefore, investment in the sector has the potential to contribute significantly to regional socio-economic development.

Cuba has committed to strengthen cooperation with SADC in the area of health. The Caribbean island has one of the best health systems in the world.

Cuban Ambassador to Botswana, Juan Carlos Arencibia Corrales, told Dr Tax in mid-April that there is need “to



re-examine the cooperation between Cuba and SADC as enshrined in the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the two parties in June 2004.”

Corrales said Cuba was interested in collaborating with SADC, and the two should now work on identifying “concrete initiatives and actions to link Cuba’s health sector achievements and expertise to the implementation of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap, especially in the development of the pharmaceutical sector.”

The head of France’s Regional Economic Service for Southern Africa, Serge Boscher, told

the SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for Regional Integration, Dr. Theminkosi Mhlongo, that institutions such as the French Development Agency will be encouraged to engage closely with SADC to support the industrialisation agenda.

SADC’s traditional partners, including Germany and Britain, have said support to SADC will continue in sectors such as water management, natural resources management, peace and security, capacity building, infrastructure, agriculture, trade, and regional integration.

These thematic sectors are critical towards the successful implementation of the SADC industrialisation agenda. □

SADC, AfDB cooperation to focus on industrialisation

THE AFRICAN Development Bank and SADC have agreed to work together on implementation of the regional industrialisation agenda aimed at boosting socio-economic development and regional integration.

Meeting on the margins on the AfDB annual meeting held in late May in Lusaka, Zambia, the SADC Executive Secretary, Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, and AfDB President, Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina, agreed that cooperation would be on a programmatic approach, focusing on industrialisation as the region’s major priority.

Specific attention would be given to projects that will address binding constraints, notably in infrastructure (energy, information communication technology, transportation, water); and in areas that will enhance competitiveness and facilitate industrialisation; specifically in agro-processing and downstream processing, mineral beneficiation, and in national, regional and global value chains.

It was also agreed that regional programmes to be supported will be in line with the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063, and the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Masterplan (RIDMP).

The RIDMP is the sub-region’s strategy for the development of integrated regional infrastructure to meet projected demand by 2027.

Under this ambitious infrastructure plan approved in 2012, SADC aims to develop cross-border infrastructure in the six priority areas of energy, transport, tourism, water, information communication technology, and meteorology.

For the energy sector, SADC has, for example, identified 73 power generation projects to increase generation from the current 56,000 Megawatts (MW) and ensure that the projected demand of 96,000MW is surpassed by 2027. □



AU Commission SADC candidate pledges to drive continental integration agenda

SOUTHERN AFRICA is determined to retain the African Union Commission chair following the resignation of the incumbent, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, who has served only one term but has been very successful in advancing the continental integration agenda.

SADC has endorsed the Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister from Botswana, Pelenomi Venson-Moitoi, as its candidate to contest elections to choose a new chairperson, following the announcement by Dr. Dlamini-Zuma that she will not seek re-election when her first term of office comes to an end in June.

Dlamini-Zuma, who was a SADC-sponsored candidate when she became the first southern African and the first woman to head the AU Commission in 2012, is expected to return home to active politics in South Africa.

As per the AU Constitution, a chairperson can serve for two four-year terms. Normal practice is that the position rotates between the various regions of Africa but that is not certain.

Meeting in Gaborone in late March, SADC ministers of foreign affairs said the region is determined to retain the AU Commission chair and agreed that Venson-Moitoi would be the SADC-sponsored candidate.

The ministers who met are from the 10 SADC Member States that make up the AU Southern African region – Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The other five SADC Member States belong to other regions of the AU. These are the Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and the United Republic of Tanzania. The AU is divided into five regions -- central, east, north, south, and west.

The SADC ministers have since mandated the SADC Secretariat with support from Botswana and SADC diplomatic missions accredited in Ethiopia to formulate a strategy and develop an effective campaign in support of their candidate.

Venson-Moitoi is a respected and skilled administrator who has served in various capacities in the government of Botswana, including as Minister of Works, Transport and Communications, as well as Minister of Trade, Industry, Wildlife and Tourism.

A former journalist, she has also served as Minister of Communications, Science, and Technology, and Minister of Education.

Venson-Moitoi was selected as the sole SADC-sponsored candidate ahead of two other candidates, from Malawi and South Africa.

Elections for the AU Commission chairperson are set for July at the 27th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AU scheduled for Kigali, Rwanda.

Venson-Moitoi will face stiff competition from two other candidates. These are Dr. Specioza Naigaga Wandira Kazibwe from Uganda, who is representing the east African region, and Agapito Mba

Mokuy from Equatorial Guinea, who is representing the central African region.

Kazibwe is a member of the AU's Panel of the Wise, a former UN special representative and former executive vice-president of Uganda. Mokuy is also Equatorial Guinea's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

Venson-Moitoi has expressed confidence in winning the elections and promises to vigorously push forward Africa's continental integration agenda.

"I am convinced that together we can build a stronger, more coherent and more effective and results-oriented AU, and present it as a high-performance organisation," she told journalists at a recent press conference to announce her nomination as the SADC candidate for the post.

"As chairperson of the Commission, I will provide the necessary guidance for programme formulation and prioritization, driving the formulation of the strategic plan of the organisation."

The AU Commission chairperson is responsible for the operations and delivery of the AU agenda aimed at advancing greater continental integration for a more prosperous Africa.

The AU Commission comprises the chairperson, deputy chairperson and eight commissioners responsible for peace and security; political affairs; trade and industry; infrastructure and energy; social affairs; rural economy and agriculture; human resources, science and technology; and economic affairs.

In the last AU elections, Dr. Dlamini-Zuma defeated Jean Ping from Gabon in a closely contested poll that saw several rounds of voting failing to provide an ultimate winner.

Dr. Dlamini-Zuma became the first southern African, and first woman, to head the AU Commission since the formation of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) – predecessor to the AU – in 1963.

Other regions in Africa have previously had their candidates occupying the top AU post. □

AFRICAN LEADERS meet in July to chart the continent's development agenda, including deliberation on the implementation modalities of how to promote gender empowerment.

The 27th African Union (AU) Summit running under the theme "2016: African Year of Human Rights with particular focus on the Rights of Women" is scheduled for 10-18 July in Kigali, Rwanda.

A major issue for deliberation will be the implementation plan of Agenda 2063 – a continental framework adopted by the AU in 2013 to enable Africa to fully exploit its resources for the benefit of its people and develop into an integrated, prosperous continent.

The leaders are also expected to discuss the economic and political situation in the continent. □



Swaziland prepares for 36th SADC Summit

by Sibongile Sukati

KINGDOM of Swaziland is intensifying preparations for the annual regional summit where southern African countries will review progress towards deepening integration and promoting socio-economic development.

The 36th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government is scheduled for Mbabane, Swaziland in August.

His Majesty King Mswati III of Swaziland, currently the deputy chairperson of SADC, will assume leadership of the regional organization from President Seretse Khama Ian Khama of Botswana at the Summit.

King Mswati III said the country is ready to host this important meeting that gives shape and focus to the regional integration agenda of southern Africa.

"This is a responsibility that we receive with both hands and we are very honoured to host the event," King Mswati III said during a ceremony to commemorate his birthday held in late April, adding that "the country shall play a meaningful role in pursuing the aspirations of SADC."

The longstanding vision of SADC is a united, prosperous and integrated region.

Significant progress has been made to achieve these goals, including the attainment of the SADC Free Trade Area (FTA) in 2008, which allows consumers in the region to get products at lower prices due to increased production, while producers benefit from trade in goods originating within the region.

With regard to peace and security, SADC has succeeded in consolidating regional stability through various measures, including mediation

in conflicts in Lesotho and Madagascar.

Swaziland is yet to set the theme for the 2016 Summit. The previous two summits have focused on the topical issue of industrialisation.

Botswana ensured that the industrialisation momentum was maintained last year when the country hosted the 35th SADC Summit under the theme, "Accelerating Industrialisation of SADC Economies, Through Transformation of Natural Endowment and Improved Human Capital."

This theme continued the trajectory of the 34th Summit hosted by Zimbabwe in 2014, which focused on "Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development through Beneficiation and Value Addition."

According to the Swazi Finance Minister Martin Dlamini, a total of E50 million (about US\$3.5 million) has been set aside to ensure that

the 2016 SADC Summit is a success.

The country has set up a SADC Summit Resource Mobilization Team to coordinate some of the activities including an International Trade Fair as well as the annual *Umhlanga* ceremony, commonly known as the Reed Dance.

The SADC Secretariat launched its preparations for the 36th SADC Summit in Swaziland in September last year.

As part of the preparations, SADC Executive Secretary Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax paid courtesy calls on King Mswati III as well as to Prime Minister Sibusiso Barnabas Dlamini.

Dr. Tax urged the media to promote and publicize SADC by informing the citizens of the various benefits of belonging to a shared community in southern Africa.

Benefits of belonging to a shared SADC include the

sharing of surplus energy by countries to meet local demand.

Another benefit is the elimination of trade barriers to promote the smooth movement of goods and services across the region.

Prior to the actual Heads of State and Government Summit set for August there will be meetings of senior officials, followed by the Council of Ministers.

According to the last SADC Council of Ministers meeting held in late March, the summit is expected to deliberate on a wide range of issues, including implementation of the region's operational plans.

Council identified priority areas for implementation during the year. These include key milestones on industrialisation, trade, infrastructure development, as well as peace and security. □

Structure of SADC governance

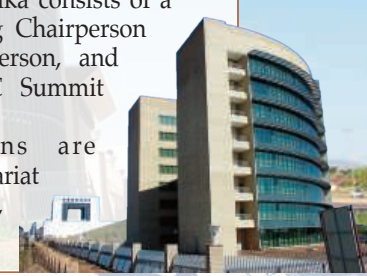
THE SADC SUMMIT of Heads of State and Government is responsible for the overall policy direction and control of functions of the Community as the supreme policy-making institution of SADC. Political and policy decisions on regional development and integration are taken by the SADC Summit or Troika, or by the SADC Summit Troika of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

Summit is made up of SADC Heads of States or Government of the 15 Member States and is managed on a Troika system that comprises the current SADC Summit Chairperson, the incoming Chairperson (as the Deputy), and the immediate previous Chairperson. The Summit vests authority in this group of three leaders to take decisions on behalf of SADC that are ordinarily taken by Summit, as well as providing policy

direction to SADC institutions between the regular SADC Summits. The Summit meets once a year in August/September.

The Summit Troika of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation is also managed on a Troika basis and is responsible for maintaining peace and security in the SADC region. It is mandated to steer and provide Member States with direction regarding matters that may threaten peace, security and stability in the region. The Organ Troika consists of a Chairperson, incoming Chairperson and outgoing Chairperson, and reports to the SADC Summit Chairperson.

SADC operations are centralised at the Secretariat based in Gaborone, Botswana. □



Media essential in combating human trafficking

by Kizito Sikuka

“...not her real name...”

This is a common line in most media reports on human trafficking. The idea to withhold the name is one of the strategies used by the media to protect the victims of human trafficking from being known by the public so that their dignity is maintained.

However, what can the media do to prevent human trafficking from ever happening or even spiralling out of control?

This is the main question media practitioners from southern Africa who attended a regional workshop in Botswana on Trafficking in Persons (TIP) were trying to answer.

The Head of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Gender Unit, Dr. Joseph Pitso said TIP is a complex, broad and crosscutting issue that requires the support and involvement of all stakeholders in order to successfully combat it.

In this regard, the media has an important role to play, not only in educating the public about trafficking but also mobilizing mass support towards preventing it from happening.

“The media is undoubtedly one of the key partners in combating trafficking in persons, as you are the mouthpiece and the eye in our communities,” he said.

“It is, therefore, important that the media is able to clearly define trafficking in persons versus smuggling of migrants, and report factual information, always cognisant of basic human rights and victim sensitivity.”

According to a United Nations Protocol (2000) popularly known as the Palermo Protocol, TIP refers to the recruitment,

transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons by means of threats or use of force for purposes of exploitation.

A distinction is made between TIP and smuggling, although there are linkages between the two.

Human smuggling refers to the illegal movement of an individual into a country in which she/he is not a national or a permanent resident. The smuggled individual is assisted for a fee by criminal syndicates to cross into another country.

Smuggling ends with the arrival of the migrants in the country of destination whereas trafficking involves the ongoing exploitation of the victims to generate illicit profit for the traffickers. Smuggling is always cross-border whereas trafficking need not be.

Dr. Pitso urged the media to keep abreast with issues of TIP so that they are able to clearly articulate the issues to the public.

TIP has affected a number of people in SADC, with victims, mostly women and children, subjected to sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or even the removal of body organs.

The modus operandi used by syndicates includes false newspaper advertisements for jobs in major towns or other countries.

In other cases, young children are kidnapped and sold to work in factories or shops; young men are forced to work in labour markets such as agriculture and textile industries for little or no pay; and babies or very young children are stolen or bought for illegal adoption.

“Therefore, as media practitioners, the importance of understanding the crime of trafficking in persons, in addition to understanding respec-

tive national laws as well as national responses, cannot be overemphasised,” Pitso said.

Deputy Secretary for Safety and Security in the Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security in Botswana, Ikwatlaeng Bagopi said efforts to combat TIP could remain elusive if people are not aware of the various forms of TIP and various measures to prevent it.

“The role of the media in communicating trafficking in persons cannot be overemphasised. The media is a key resource in preventing and combating trafficking in persons, hence it was very important to organise and capacitate the media in reporting on trafficking in persons,” he said.

Bagopi called on SADC countries to implement all agreed national, regional and international commitment towards combating TIP in the region.

A total of 13 of the 15 SADC Member States have specific legislation that addresses the issue of human trafficking. These are Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Africa, Seychelles, Swaziland, the United Republic Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The remaining two – the Democratic Republic of Congo and Namibia – are in the process of enacting specific legislations, even though they have various pieces of legislations to prosecute cases of TIP.

At the regional level, SADC has crafted a 10-year strategic plan of action on combating TIP, especially women and children. The regional strategic plan runs from 2009 to 2019.

Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to Botswana and SADC, Ambassador Alexander Baum said it



was also important for SADC to cooperate with other regional blocs to combat TIP since the crime is a global issue.

“Trafficking is a cross-border issue that needs a regional and global response,” he said, adding that regional cooperation is critical in fighting TIP since all countries are either sources, transit routes or destinations for victims.

“There is also need for SADC to collaborate with the EU to address this modern-day slavery.”

SADC Programme Officer responsible for research, information and documentation under the programme that deals with TIP issues, Mukundi Mutasa capped it all when he said “our appeal to media is to raise awareness on trafficking so that we prevent human trafficking from ever happening or even spiralling out of control.”

The SADC Regional Training of Trainers for Media Practitioners on TIP workshop from 15-17 June was organized by SADC to capacitate the media on reporting TIP. sardc.net □

June - August 2016

June 15-17, Botswana	SADC Regional Training of Trainers for Media Practitioners on Trafficking in Persons The TIP workshop aims at raising awareness among the media on the nature of the crime of trafficking in persons, the different forms that it takes and the ongoing international, regional and national responses.
20, Botswana	SADC Energy-Water Ministerial Workshop The meeting brings together ministers responsible for energy and water issues in the SADC region with private sector, research institutions and other non-state actors to facilitate the exchange of ideas and forge practical and sustainable solutions to energy and water challenges in the region.
20-23, Botswana	SADC Ministers Responsible for Gender/Women Affairs Ministers will meet to discuss the SADC regional gender programme and share progress made by Member States in implementation of gender commitments, as well as reviewing proposals for revision of the Protocol on Gender and Development and its Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework.
21, Botswana	SADC Water Ministers Meeting SADC Water Ministers meet annually to review progress in the implementation of the SADC Water Programme, which is a framework for action to achieve sustainable use of water resources through the development of water infrastructure on the basis of sound water governance and integrated water resources management.
21, Botswana	SADC Energy Ministers Meeting SADC Energy Ministers meet annually to discuss efforts to address the energy situation in the region, including renewable energy sources. SADC has had challenges in meeting energy requirements for more than a decade due to a generating capacity that does not meet the growth in demand, forcing most countries to implement Demand Side Management such as load shedding.
July 10-18, Rwanda	27th African Union Summit African Heads of State and Government will meet for their annual Summit and will select a new chairperson for the AU Commission to replace Dr. N. Dlamini-Zuma who is stepping down. The SADC candidate for this post is the Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister from Botswana, Pelonomi Venson-Moitoi.
14, Tanzania	18th RERA Executive Meeting Energy regulators from SADC Member States will meet to discuss harmonisation of regulatory policies, legislation, standards and best practices. RERA is an association of electricity and energy regulators which provides a platform for cooperation among regulators within the SADC region.
August 3, South Africa	Local Government Elections Municipal elections in South Africa will be held to elect councillors for the next five years. South Africa's local government is made up of eight metropolitan municipalities, 44 district municipalities, and 207 local municipalities.
11, Zambia	General Elections Zambians will go to the polls to choose a new leadership for the next five years, including President, Members of Parliament and local councillors. According to a Constitutional amendment adopted in January, the winning candidate for President should secure at least 50 percent-plus-one vote, unlike previously when the candidate with the highest number of votes was elected, even if they scored less than 50 percent of the valid votes cast.
22-31, Swaziland	36th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government SADC leaders will meet on 30-31 August for their annual Summit to discuss issues aimed at promoting regional integration and development. The Summit is preceded by meetings of senior officials from 22-24 August and Council of Ministers on 26-27 August. King Mswati III of Swaziland will assume leadership of SADC from President Seretse Khama Ian Khama of Botswana. The theme of the Summit is "Resource Mobilisation for Investment in Sustainable Energy Infrastructure for an Inclusive SADC Industrialisation for the Prosperity of the Region".
21-27, Swaziland	SADC Industrialisation Week This is a week-long exhibition aligned to the SADC Summit in Swaziland. The SADC Secretariat will work with the private sector and strategic partners to showcase and popularize existing and potential value chains for industrialisation.
23-26, DRC	47th SAPP Management Committee The meeting is held annually to bring together leaders of power utilities and government representatives in the 12 member states of the Southern African Power Pool to discuss key management issues related to the regional electricity grid and regional power supply.

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Southern African Development Community

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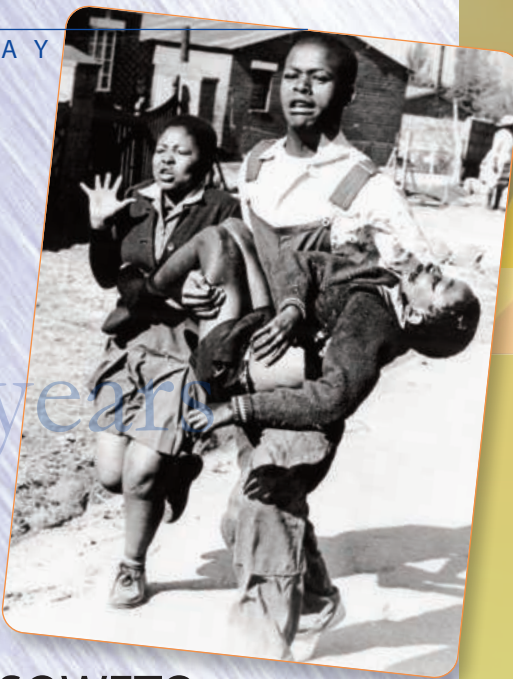
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40 year



40 YEARS REMEMBERING SOWETO



FORTY YEARS ago on 16 June 1976 an incident happened in South Africa that changed the face of the struggle for political freedom and emancipation from the racist apartheid system.

On that fateful day a protest by black African schoolchildren in the Johannesburg suburb of South West Town (Soweto) against the apartheid government and the imposition of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction ended when police fired live ammunition at them. The apartheid authorities put the death toll at 95 but others said that many times that number of people died, mainly students.

The incident grabbed international headlines and galvanised the resolve of the majority black population to fight for freedom. Many young people left the country to join the African National Congress (ANC) in exile, to continue their studies or go for military training.

The picture of Mbuyisa Makhubo carrying the body of his 13-year-old friend, Hector Petersen, became an iconic image symbolising the struggle of the youth of South Africa – and the beginning of the end of apartheid.

The photograph, taken by Sam Nzima of *The World* newspaper, appeared in newspapers and on television channels all over the world, sparking outrage and a new awareness which hardened opposition within and outside South Africa to the brutality of the apartheid authorities.

On that day, more than 20,000 Soweto schoolchildren staged a peaceful protest against the imposition of Afrikaans as the language of instruction for black pupils and against the discrimination they suffered under the inferior “Bantu education” curriculum.

The Bantu education system, which had been enforced for black South Africans since 1953, was characterised by separate schools and universities, poor facilities, overcrowded classrooms and inadequately trained teachers.

The courage of the Soweto students in June 1976 is today commemorated by a national holiday in South Africa, Youth Day, which honours all the young people who lost their lives in the struggle against apartheid and Bantu education.

Forty years on, South Africa recognises the courage of the youth who helped to bring an end to apartheid.

The 16 June student uprising epitomises the role played by young people in the struggle to unshackle southern Africa from colonial rule. The youth were at the forefront in the struggle for independence in all countries in southern Africa, before and after Soweto.

To mark this year’s celebrations, various events were held across South Africa with the main celebrations set for Orlando Stadium in Soweto where the uprising happened on that fateful day in 1976. Other key activities to be held in the month of June include educating young people about their history and heritage.

The theme for this year’s Youth Day celebrations is “Youth Moving South Africa Forward”.

Seychelles @40

JUNE IS a special month in the history of Seychelles, a 115-island archipelago in the Indian Ocean. It is the month that the country gained independence from colonial rule on 29 June 1976.

The month also witnessed the historic adoption of the current Constitution on 18 June 1993, which saw the introduction of the multiparty system of government. To celebrate these achievements, Seychelles in 1993 combined the two events and has commemorated them on 18 June as National Day. However, starting last year in 2015, National Day was moved to its original date of 29 June.

June 18 is now marked as Constitution Day to celebrate the adoption of the current constitution in 1993. On this day, thousands of people attend celebratory events that include parades, a flower show, music, and a presidential speech.



PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN SADC

June – August 2016

5 June	Liberation Day	Seychelles
14 June	Freedom Day	Malawi
16 June	Youth Day	South Africa
18 June	Constitution Day	Seychelles
25 June	Independence Day	Mozambique
26 June	Independence Day	Madagascar
29 June	Independence Day	Seychelles
30 June	Independence Day	DRC
1 July	Sir Seretse Khama Day	Botswana
4 July	Heroes Day	Zambia
5 July	Unity Day	Zambia
6 July	Independence Day	Malawi
	Eid Ul-Fitr*	Malawi, Mauritius, Tanzania
7 July	Saba Saba Industry Day	Tanzania
17 July	King’s Birthday	Lesotho
18 July	President’s Day	Botswana
19 July	Public Holiday	Botswana
22 July	Birthday of Late King Sobhuza	Swaziland
1 August	Parents’ Day	DRC
	Farmer’s Day	Zambia
3 August	Public Holiday	South Africa
8 August	Nane Nane Peasant Day	Tanzania
	Heroes Day	Zimbabwe
9 August	National Women’s Day	South Africa
	Defence forces Day	Zimbabwe
15 August	Assumption Day	Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles
17 August	SADC Day**	All
26 August	Heroes’ Day	Namibia
29 August	Umlanga Reed Dance	Swaziland

*Exact date depends on sighting of the new moon

**SADC Day is not a public holiday but a commemoration of signing the SADC Treaty on 17 August 1992