



In the spirit of Ubuntu

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UBUNTU | a Nguni word meaning humanity

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UBUNTU DIPLOMACY IN ACTION ISSUE 1



**ON
THE COVER**

**THE UNION
BUILDINGS
IN PRETORIA**

The Union Buildings

The Union Buildings forms the official seat of the South African Government and also houses the offices of the President. The imposing buildings are located in Pretoria, atop Meintjieskop at the northern end of Arcadia, close to historic Church Square and the Voortrekker Monument. The large gardens of the buildings are nestled between Government Avenue, Madiba Street (Vermeulen Street East), Stanza Bopape Street (Church Street, the R104) and Blackwood Street. Fairview Avenue is a closed road where only officials can enter the Union Buildings. Though not in the centre of Pretoria, the Union Buildings occupies the highest point in Pretoria, and constitutes a South African national monument.

The buildings are one of the centres of political life in South Africa. It has become an iconic landmark of Pretoria and South Africa in general, and is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the city and an emblem of democracy. Like an ancient temple adorning over the city it governs, the Union Buildings is a modern-day acropolis.

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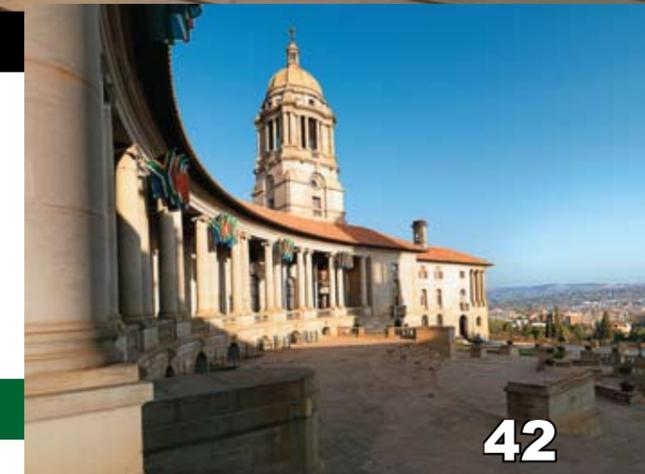
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**international relations
& cooperation**

Department:
International Relations and Cooperation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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The basis of South Africa's foreign policy is embodied in the Freedom Charter of 1955. The Freedom Charter proclaims that there will be peace and friendship, and outlines the following aspects of foreign policy:

- "South Africa shall be a fully independent state which respects the rights and sovereignty of all nations;
- South Africa shall strive to maintain world peace and the settlement of all international disputes by negotiation – not war;
- Peace and friendship amongst all our people shall be secured by upholding the equal rights, opportunities and status of all;
- The right of all peoples of Africa to independence and self-government shall be recognised, and shall be the basis of close cooperation."

"We seek to live in peace with our neighbours and the peoples of the world in conditions of equality, mutual respect and equal advantage." – Oliver Reginald Tambo, 1977, former president of the African National Congress.

South Africa's foreign policy is an extension of our domestic priorities and our value system. As South Africans, we believe in a democratic and open society in which government is based on the will of the people and every citizen is equally protected by the law. We believe in a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights. To implement this vision, our foreign policy is based on four central pillars:

- we give priority to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Africa as a whole
- we work with countries of the developing South to address shared challenges of underdevelopment and promote global equity and social justice
- we work with countries of the developed North to develop a true and effective partnership for a better world
- finally, we play our part to strengthen and transform the multilateral system, to reflect the diversity of our nations, and ensure its centrality in global governance.

While working on the four pillars, Africa remains our top priority. At a multilateral level, we participate actively in SADC and African Union (AU) programmes and activities, promoting African renewal, unity as well as social and economic development.

Our country emerged from conflict to become a peaceful democracy and we are now working for peace on the continent and in the world. We participate in peace and security matters in SADC, such as in Zimbabwe and Madagascar. As part of the AU, our peace efforts include Libiya, Sudan and Cote d' Ivoire; and in the Great Lakes region, participating in peace efforts in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo and other countries.

One of our major accomplishments which enable us to participate more in peace-making, was the re-election of South Africa to a non-permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the 2011 – 12 term. We believe we are playing a constructive role, pursuing the interests of our country and the continent.

Our pressing priority currently is the reform of international institutions, including the UNSC as Africa and Latin America are not represented as permanent members on the council. As South Africa, we believe we can play a critical role as a permanent member of the UNSC, advancing the interests of the continent. The time has come for Africa to be represented at that level in this world body.

Our foreign policy also entails effective economic diplomacy. We work to attract investments and tourism, remove barriers to trade, support the development of larger markets in Africa and expand the markets for South African products. This is linked to our domestic imperative of eradicating inequality, unemployment and poverty. The five domestic priorities are education, health, rural development and land reform, creating decent work and the fight against crime.

South Africa participates in various multilateral forums, including SADC, the AU, the Non-Aligned Movement, G77 plus China, the Commonwealth, the BRICS bloc (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), the India-Brazil-South Africa forum and the UN. Although we have relations with various regions and countries, South Africa's foreign policy is independent and decisions are informed by our national interest – benefits to the South African people and the advancement of our domestic priorities.

In the three years of the third Administration, we have been building on our achievements and lessons learnt on the foreign policy front since 1994 through an approach based on both continuity and change. We have continued to consolidate our strategic advances and areas of strength in our foreign policy and, at the same time, found novel and innovative approaches to improving on our work by tackling new challenges. Eighteen years on since 1994, our country is standing tall in the global family of nations. 🌍

**Minister of International Relations and Cooperation,
Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane**



South Africa

Inspiring new ways

Let's talk SA's foreign policy



THE EDITOR'S NOTE

There are some among us who even before President Jacob Zuma assumed office made it their agenda to speculate about South Africa's waning influence in the world under him. They chose to misunderstand the evolution of our foreign policy, which dates back to 1912, when the African National Congress (ANC) was formed. The idea that our foreign policy under presidents Nelson Mandela and Thabo Mbeki was not informed by ANC policies but their own initiative – which the current president is incapable of advancing – is false and ridiculous. International relations are not conducted on the basis of personal preferences of a particular head of state. It is conducted on the basis of principles, values and national interests. The promotion of human rights and democracy and the pursuit of the African Agenda remain critical.

For the record, after his initial criticism of South Africa joining the BRICS bloc (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa), Jim O'Neill, chairperson of Goldman Sachs Asset Management, has now changed his tune. In an article titled *SA's BRICS Score: Not All Doom and Gloom*, he wrote: "South Africa could more than justify its presence if it helped Africa to fulfil its remarkable potential. I witnessed South Africa's successful hosting of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ tournament and following that, wrote an article suggesting that if Africa explored cross-border synergies, it would be big enough to be regarded as a true BRIC country."

O'Neill said South Africa scored well for the cost of setting up business and for most of macroeconomic stability variables and also does reasonably well in some areas of governance and schooling.

"If South Africa could also help to lead the rest of the continent to reach its own standards where these are high, Africa would be on an accelerated path to greater economic might. By exploring cross-border expansion in trade and infrastructure, as well as improvements in domestic productivity, South Africa will have more than justified its role as a member of BRICS."

President Zuma's 2012 State of the Nation Address is in line with this. President Zuma has been appointed by his peers in the African

Union (AU) to champion infrastructure development. With regard to respect and influence, I don't know of any ad-hoc high-level committee of the AU that has excluded the President.

South Africa's membership of BRICS has three objectives: to advance our national interests; to promote regional integration and related infrastructure programmes; and to partner with key players of the South on issues of global governance reforms. As the host of the next BRICS Summit in March next year, we have a contribution to make to the realisation of the objective of establishing the BRICS Development Bank.

South Africa's current non-permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was endorsed by the AU Summit and was a vote of confidence in the country's ability to represent and advance the continent's aspirations and interests. It is a well-known fact that more than 60% of the UNSC's agenda is on African issues. The reason why South Africa voted for Resolution 1973 has been explained. Those who have bothered to read the resolution will confirm that it did not provide for regime change and indiscriminate bombings of Libya. The three African countries serving on the UNSC then – Nigeria, Gabon and South Africa – voted for the resolution. This was later endorsed by the AU Peace and Security Council. When the abuse of the resolution became apparent and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) carried out the bombings, South Africa stood up to Nato and challenged its violation of international rule of law. Those familiar with the mandate of the UNSC and the Charter of the UN, have confirmed the correctness of South Africa's position.

In a UNSC high-level debate on the need for closer cooperation between the UN and regional organisations, President Zuma brought to the UNSC's attention how the situation in Libya, for example, was a glaring example of the consequences of poor or lack of coordination between the UN and the AU. After that debate, South Africa sponsored a unanimous Resolution 2033 of 2012, focusing on the strategic relationship between the AU and the UN in the maintenance of international peace and security. This resolution is ground-breaking. It is testimony of our consistency, forthrightness and vision of South Africa's foreign policy that elevates the African Agenda.

Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, the Minister responsible for international relations and management of South Africa's foreign policy on behalf of the President, is a seasoned diplomat and international relations practitioner. She has represented the country as a high commissioner in several countries for about 12 years. Minister Nkoana-Mashabane delivered South Africa's inclusion into BRICS, the return to the UNSC, and led from the front to rally support for the new AU Commission Chairperson, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma. The Minister presided over the successful and historical Climate Change Conference (COP17/ CMP7) and not only secured a second commitment period to the Kyoto Protocol, but the Durban Outcome has been hailed the world over as having restored trust in the UN climate change convention processes. So, has South Africa's image improved under President Zuma? The answer is a resounding YES.

Welcome to the first edition of *Ubuntu Diplomacy*. This quarterly publication will guide readers in understanding South Africa's foreign policy and the positions the country takes on the global stage.

Warm regards
Clayson Monyela



international relations & cooperation

Department:
International Relations and Cooperation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



INTERGOVERNMENTAL & PROVINCIAL PROTOCOL

The Directorate: Intergovernmental and Provincial Protocol (DIPP) within the Branch: State Protocol is the custodian for the enhanced coordination of all international engagements of the second and third spheres of government and other provincial state organs.

DIPP serves as the point of entry in DIRCO for the following stakeholders:

- Provinces: premiers, provincial speakers, provincial legislatures, MECs, provincial directors-general, senior officials, provincial portfolio committees, international relations and intergovernmental structures and protocol officers
- Local governments: metropolitan mayors, mayors, councillors, chief executive officers, municipal managers, protocol officers, intergovernmental structures and the South African Local Government Association (Salga)
- National House of Traditional Leaders: traditional monarchs recognised by government, chief executive officers of national and provincial houses of traditional leaders, protocol officers and intergovernmental structures.

The core business of the directorate includes:

- coordinating all outgoing and incoming visits by the second and third spheres of government
- facilitating the signing of memoranda of understanding/twinning arrangements by stakeholders
- facilitating Note Verbal and briefing documents for travelling delegations
- maintaining dynamic lines of communication between provinces and local government with foreign countries
- communicating the 2008 Cabinet-approved guidelines for international visits
- coordinating road shows
- contact visits to provinces to align provinces on South Africa's foreign policy
- providing general protocol advisory services
- protocol advice during provincial funerals
- assisting with the facilitation of payment for second and third spheres of government.

In fulfilling its mandate, the directorate is guided by the guidelines approved by Cabinet in 2008.

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Inspiring new ways

WHY SOUTH AFRICA?

North Beach in Durban in South Africa

In recent years, we have seen how global power and economic relations have continued to transform against the background of increased risks to the international economy. This transformation has increased largely due to developed economies' economic stagnation, the widespread European sovereign debt crises, structural weaknesses in the financial sector and ongoing political crises in many advanced economies.

Because of this decline of the West's traditional political and economic power, emerging markets are on the rise. Groupings such as Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) are changing the way the world understands and relates to itself, and we have now entered the age of a multipolar world where economic and political influence is more widely distributed.

Since the advent of democracy in 1994, South Africa's economy has been undergoing structural transformation, with the implementation of macroeconomic policies aimed at promoting domestic competitiveness, growth and employment.

Key economic reforms have given rise to a high level of macro-economic stability. Taxes have been reduced, tariffs lowered, the fiscal deficit brought under control and exchange controls relaxed.

The benefits that South Africa offers potential investors are firstly, the strength of our financial institutions and our advanced and sophisticated economy. We are well suited to offer investors a platform to take advantage of Africa's expanded market and access to our African and other South-South trade counterparts.

Already, the World Economic Forum (WEF) has rated South Africa first in the world for the strength of our auditing and reporting standards and for the regulation of securities exchanges. The soundness of our banks – rated second in the world – is an important asset in these troublesome days when banks everywhere else are shaky. According to the WEF's *Global Competitiveness Index*, South Africa ranked first in the region for developed financial markets – on par with Switzerland and Canada. With easy access to capital,

sound banking systems, a well-regulated financial sector and securities market, strong intellectual property protection and the accountability of private institutions.

In addition, we are a significant development market and major player on the African continent. This is shown by us leading the free trade agreement (FTA) discussions and developing infrastructure to facilitate better trade across the continent. Our country's private sector has made significant inroads on the continent and should strive to establish a strong foothold in the African market. South Africa is a champion of the African Agenda and is positioning itself as the partner of choice for investment, trade and influence within Africa. Also, our membership of the BRICS group has put us into a whole different league as it has strengthened our relationship with the member countries as a whole, and improved bilateral trade with Brazil, Russian, India and China. We know that our fellow BRICS countries started their upward economic trend based on their huge domestic market; and we are focused on this as well.

As a significant developing market politically and economically, South Africa is a major player on the continental and global economic landscape and an attractive destination for inward investment, trade and business. We continue to position ourselves as a leader on the continent and globally as a prime investment destination. Ranked 11th according to the AT Kearney's *Investment Attractiveness Survey*, South Africa is also ranked as a top 20 priority economy for foreign direct investment by the *World Investment Prospects Survey*, and is the 27th-biggest economy in the world.

The National Planning Commission's New Growth Plan (NGP) offers the certainty that the country has chartered a course towards creating a more competitive, fair and socially cohesive economy. The NGP will create large-scale sustainable jobs in key sectors through a collaborative approach. This will spur trade, innovation and economic growth of up to 7% per year – ensuring South Africa remains at the forefront of fast-growing emerging economies and an attractive investment destination.



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The new headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

A victory for South African diplomacy, a victory for southern Africa and Africa!

Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma was, on the evening of 15 July 2012, voted as the new Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC). The Southern African candidate and one of South Africa's longest serving Cabinet ministers becomes the first woman to lead the powerful AUC.

Dr Dlamini Zuma garnered the required 60% of the votes and was named the new Chairperson of the AUC, the AU's powerful executive arm. In the end, four rounds of voting and 37 votes from 51 countries sealed her position. She defeated Jean Ping of Gabon who was seeking re-election. They went head-to-head at the AU Summit in January 2012 where both failed to garner two thirds of the votes.

Driven by the objective of transforming the AU into an efficient and effective continental body, members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) spent the last six months travelling across the continent, rallying support for Dr Dlamini Zuma. The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, led from the front, mobilising support and lobbying. The region had not yet been afforded the opportunity to occupy the top position of the AUC chairpersonship and a woman has never occupied the position before.

"Now we have the African Union chair Madame Zuma, who will preside over the destiny of this institution," Benin's President and current AU Chairperson, Dr Thomas Boni Yayi, said.

"It means a lot for Africa...for the continent, unity and the empowerment of women – very important," President Jacob Zuma said.

"Those who say it can't be done will always be overtaken by those who are busy doing it...this is a victory for the unity of the continent, its development and growth. Africa is rising", Minister Nkoana-Mashabane said.

Dr Dlamini Zuma boasts extensive experience on AU matters and has demonstrated depth and good understanding of the African continent, as well as an exceptional grasp of the unique dynamics that characterise the AU. She has also, over the years, earned the respect and enjoys a warm rapport with her peers in the AU and the international community at large.

Working as part of the then Organisation of African Unity (OAU) collective, she participated in a number of OAU delegations to promote peace, stability, development and prosperity on the African continent.

Strengthening African unity and advancing the transformation of the continent will be among the things Dr Dlamini Zuma would strive for as the head of the AUC.

"I would like to make a contribution like any African citizen. I would like to make a contribution to our organisation, that's what has motivated me to come back," she told the media in Ethiopia. She highlighted her experience as Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa from 17 June 1999 to 10 May 2009 as among the skills that would work to her advantage.

Prior to the election, Minister Nkoana-Mashabane made it clear that Dr Dlamini Zuma represented the whole subregion and not just South Africa. Her candidature was endorsed by the SADC heads of state in August 2011.

A pledge by Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, 16 January 2012

I have availed myself, at the request of my country, South Africa, and with the support of SADC, to serve our continent as the Chairperson of the AUC. I did so fully conscious of the heavy responsibility that comes with this position. What motivated me and continues to do so to this day, is my conviction that Africa's time is now, not tomorrow.

During the colonial days, Africa was dismissed as a "Dark Continent". In recent years, some referred to us as a "Hopeless Continent". However, through struggle and resilience, we have proven that if anything, our continent is a Rising Giant that is taking its place in global affairs.

The role of the commission is central to the rising of our continent, as the AU is our Pan-African organisation that was established by our forebearers for our unity and integration. When it was still the OAU, our priority was decolonisation. Now as the AU, our priorities are to:

- make poverty history
- eradicate conflicts on our continent
- build sustainable economies and enhance continental interconnectivity through infrastructure to promote intra-Africa trade, among others
- consolidate democracy and good governance in our respective countries
- provide for our people, notably in the spheres of education, health, shelter and job creation
- accelerate our integration in all spheres with regional economic communities as the building blocks

- advance and defend the interests of Africa in global affairs.

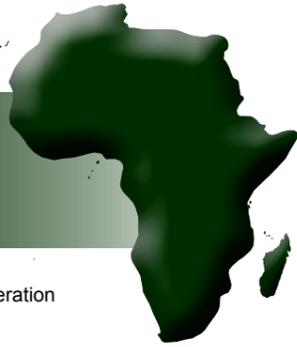
In short, Africa's success in this century lies in enhanced integration, and overcoming the dialectically interrelated challenges of development, democracy, and peace and security.

In the 10 years since its establishment, the AU has shown that it can play its role in driving our continental integration agenda and tackling the triad of development-democracy-peace and security. I have accepted the challenge of leading the commission because I believe that more can be done to make the AU fulfil the mandate given to it by our forebearers. We need to continue to build the commission into a formidable, premier, Pan-African institution that is at the selfless service of this continent. I am ready to play my part in making this possible.

I am ready to lead the commission that builds on the rich Pan-African tradition of consultation and consensus-building. I am ready to lead the commission that will best leverage the partnerships we have built since the days of the anti-colonial struggle, fully cognizant of the central role our people have played in our liberation as a continent. These partnerships include our friends in the world, such as the United Nations and its Security Council whose role is critical to the eradication of conflicts on this continent.

If elected to the position of the Chairperson of the commission, I pledge to spare no effort in building on the work of those African women and men who want to see an AU that is a formidable force striving for a united, free, truly independent and better Africa.

AFRICA IS RISING



By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation



how to deal with skills development, boost African trade and invest in infrastructure development while strengthening the Pan-African agenda. In order to give impetus to the summit resolutions, as well as to ensure that our engagements are aligned with the goals that we have set ourselves to achieving, it is important that we focus our energies on thematic issues such as political cooperation, economic cooperation and social cooperation.

These thematic issues are key not only to our own development but the strategic placement of the African Diaspora in our developmental phase. We must walk with them. Hold them by hand, and together take to greater heights. This is what we dream of, for the future of this continent.

These thematic issues are a result of recommendations of the Technical Committee of Experts Meeting on the African Diaspora, which were endorsed by the 17th Ordinary Session of the AU summit, in Malabo, Equatorial-Guinea, in July 2012, as well as the African Diaspora Ministerial Meeting held in New York in September 2011. The meeting was held as part of the African Diaspora Roadmap, to which the AU Executive Council requested the Republic of South Africa and the AU Commission to continue implementing.

The AU ministers called for all stakeholders to focus on specific projects that were practical and mutually beneficial namely; the Skills Database, Mobilisation of Remittances, establishment of an Investment and Development Fund, the African Development Market Place and the Volunteers Programme. These African Diaspora Legacy projects have been endorsed by the summit.

We have proudly witnessed the African continent rising above expectations in terms of economic growth in recent years. Consistent growth rates of between 5% and 5,3%, have demonstrated an unprecedented trend. Africa's economic growth remained resilient. Even during the Global Financial Crisis, we have managed to stay above expectations.

The Afro-pessimists have once envisioned us as a dark continent, with little hope for development and competitiveness with the rest of the world. Africa has proved them wrong.

In the words of President Jacob Zuma at the Africa Dialogue event recently at Sun City: "We are standing in an incredibly privileged position today, where we can witness Africa's epic comeback. We are all aware of Africa's history. Many of us have even been closely intertwined with Africa's struggles, pain and suffering. But today, we can stand here and proudly watch Africa finally rising. There is no doubt that these are only the first rays of light, glorious Africa is yet to reveal itself".

South Africa is one of the rays of light of this glorious Africa that is revealing itself. We are on course towards creating a better South Africa and contributing to a better and safer Africa and the world. The period we live in today is faced with significant challenges that affect the entire human race. All over the world, our people are concerned about the multiplicity of global crises, ranging from the decline of major economies of the North; an ecological crisis due to climate change; rising food prices; the energy crisis; to the

heinous, mass and random killing of innocent people through acts of terror; and the fact that for the poor of the world we will not meet the millennium development goals. In the midst of all these challenges and uncertainties, we are indeed inspired that the work we do – including our contribution to global politics – plays a part in giving our people hope for a better world.

When our forebearers formed the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) almost 50 years ago, they gave the people of this continent hope in their struggle against colonial rule and in pursuit of the right to self-determination. When our leaders transformed the OAU 10 years ago into the AU, they gave our people more hope in their quest for democracy, development, and a continent free of wars, poverty, ignorance and disease.

South Africa was there when the OAU was formed, represented by the leadership of our national liberation movement. The AU was formed in this country, in the city of Durban, with South Africa as a full member. Africa is the centrepiece of our foreign policy to this day.

It is our considered view that based on the experience of the first 10 years, the AU must do more in:

- focusing on the development of the African continent, including fighting and reducing poverty, inequality and underdevelopment
- eradicating conflicts on our continent by providing African solutions to African problems
- building sustainable economies and enhancing continental interconnectivity through infrastructure to promote, amongst other things, intra-African trade, among others
- consolidating democracy and good governance in our respective countries
- providing for our people in the spheres of education, food security, health, shelter and job creation
- accelerating our integration in all spheres with the regional economic communities as the building blocks
- advancing and defending the interests of Africa in global affairs
- with 2010 – 2020 being declared by the AU as the Decade of Women, developing and implementing clear programmes to ensure the emancipation of this sector of our population.

These priorities inform the contribution that South Africa will continue to make to the programmes and activities of the AU.

Africa is now the most desired destination for investors. It is a continent which has been dubbed the new growth pole. It has become the attraction of large foreign companies, especially in the area of infrastructure development. President Jacob Zuma has been appointed by his peers (the collective leadership of the AU) to champion infrastructure development on the continent. This will give impetus for inter-connectivity of African countries boosting intra-trade. We have also seen the strengthening of ties with institutions of global governance, as well as stronger multilateral engagements to promote the African Agenda. Our cooperation with countries of the South has progressed from strength to strength with our membership in both IBSA (India, Brazil, South Africa) and BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa).

We must therefore find ways and means by which we can ensure that the entire continent derives the necessary benefits from our membership with these mini-laterals. In fact, in all our engagements in the multilateral forums, when we speak, we speak for Africa. We put Africa first. Africa is the centerpiece of our foreign policy.

This year, the oldest liberation movement on the African continent, the African National Congress (ANC), celebrates 100 years of existence since its formation in 1912. The centenary of the ANC demonstrates and epitomises the fact that with a clear vision, with unshakable resolve, and with unity of purpose, the objectives which we as a people set for ourselves are attainable. As the ANC celebrates its centenary, it highlights the legacy of the South African people; in the same light, the legacy of the African Diaspora must be reflected upon and celebrated by all of its people, those on the continent and those in the Diaspora.

The Global African Diaspora Summit was not an event, but a process which we as Africans – at home and abroad – must take to the next level if we are to commit ourselves to harnessing our interests and chart a way forward to ensure that we move from dialogue to implementation and from strategies to concrete results. These should be sufficient to secure significant dividends that would ensure a more stable, safer, and sustainable Africa.

We are encouraged by the commitment of Africans, individually and collectively; be it governments, civil-society organisations, academia, business and organised labour as progressive forces to intensify the quest for peace and security, eradication of poverty and underdevelopment, prosperity and a better Africa in a better world.

As Africa's blueprint for socio-economic development, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) serves as a clear guideline for Africa's engagement with the world, including the Diaspora, for the realisation of the hopes of millions of Africans across the continent.

The Diaspora can play an active role in the realisation of NEPAD priority programmes and projects in the field of science and technology, infrastructure development, agriculture, food security, environment, education, health, information and communications technology, among other things.

This will inevitably move us closer towards regional integration, increased intra-African trade, uniting the African continent and ensuring a more developed African continent.

Furthermore, new and innovative mechanisms of mobilising domestic and Diaspora resources are critical. An injection into the capacity-development programmes is also a necessity and we must leverage on the Diaspora for this.

If we are to achieve some of Africa's ambitious projects, in particular those within NEPAD and the African Diaspora Legacy projects, as outlined by the World Bank, we must leverage on the skills, capability and expertise within the Diaspora. We will certainly be able to reach implementation faster and more efficiently and thereby reaping the fruits thereof, much sooner.

This being the decade of women, issues affecting women, youth, children and vulnerable groups remain key. We must ensure that in our bid to eradicate the scourge of poverty and underdevelopment, we do not forget to address challenges faced by millions of African women. As the saying goes "poverty often wears a feminine face".

The future and destiny of this continent is in our hands; let us build it now. Africa is rising! 

The time for Africa is now – Africa is calling. Africa is rising. When Africa calls, we must place ourselves strategically and find time to reflect, look back and open engagements on issues of development within the context of our socio-economic and political development trajectory. It is our responsibility to stand as one, in unison, to engage on discussions that would later be translated into solutions on how we would want to advance the course of Africa's development, and to position ourselves, the continent, as well as the African Diaspora, in a way that makes us shine. It is our call. It is our choice. It is up to us to choose – whether to submit or fight for a good course.

The 25th of May is known as Africa Day worldwide, and is celebrated annually as a day of Africa's independence from colonialism and oppression, not just in Africa but globally.

This year on Africa Day, South Africa was the focus of the international community as it hosted the Global African Diaspora Summit in partnership with the African Union (AU). The summit brought together various stakeholders from all over the continent and elsewhere, including heads of state and government. The summit helped in creating sustainable partnerships and development for the people of our continent and beyond. It devised strategies on

Complex

South Africa, Africa and the projection of national interests

By Siphamandla Zondi
Director at the Institute for
Global Dialogue (IGD)

The bold assertion in the draft *White Paper on International Relations and Cooperation* and in recent political speeches that South Africa's foreign policy will service national interests is in and of itself unproblematic. Citizens are most likely to support the idealism that underpins our international relations when they can relate with it and its benefits. However, we should avoid the temptation to define these benefits purely in material and commercial terms.

Whatever is intended will ultimately be the actual implementation of this dictum, which will be mediated by factors to do with our domestic context. This context is marked by constant struggles between generally neo-liberal-cum-conservative inclinations in a small, but powerful and increasingly multiracial section of society and broadly progressive impulses born out of the liberation struggle.

The need to use diplomatic relations to attract investments and thus enable South Africa to overcome its major challenges of poverty, unemployment and underdevelopment is an important task of governments and diplomacy is a vital tool used for this. But as a country whose poverty is more structural than conjectural, and whose identity is formed out of a struggle for justice and greater good, this focus of foreign policy cannot be made the primary consideration.

Conservative foreign policy analysts broadly echo the sentiments of economists embedded with major corporations with commercial interests in Africa as a market, publicly criticising idealism in South Africa's foreign policy for failing to ensure a return on investment. They say the country has nothing to show for huge contributions in time, energy and funds to peace-making, peacekeeping, post-conflict reconstruction and democracy

promotion in Africa. Therefore, in their view, South Africa ought to give greater attention to economic diplomacy or economic interests.

The logic is that for millions spent helping the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo or Zimbabwe find a political solution to their crisis, South African businesses ought to gain proportionately substantial commercial deals. They aver that South Africa is being outcompeted by the resource-hungry western countries, China and India in resource-rich countries such as Angola, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. The point being made is that the domestic justification of our foreign policy is in us being able to show in concrete trade and investment figures how the country has benefited from our African Agenda. The dangers of enmeshing diplomatic engagements with commerce, politics and economists are understated.

Thus, the domestic interests-foreign policy link is associated with short-term commercial benefits in the hope of a trickle down to the poor in South Africa. In spite of evidence that companies have hardly shared with broader society the super-profits they have made, the hope that commercial diplomacy is for a greater good abound. The theory that higher economic growth by an untransformed commercial sector will lead to widespread poverty eradication wittingly or unwittingly undergirds this view.

Civil society caught up in this disempowering paradigm of service delivery and growth for growth sake has made the push for showing domestically the material benefits of foreign policy. Xenophobic and supremacist sentiments born out of decades of isolation from the rest of Africa and Afrophobia under apartheid find expression in the lamentation of the country's involvement in finding solutions to African problems.

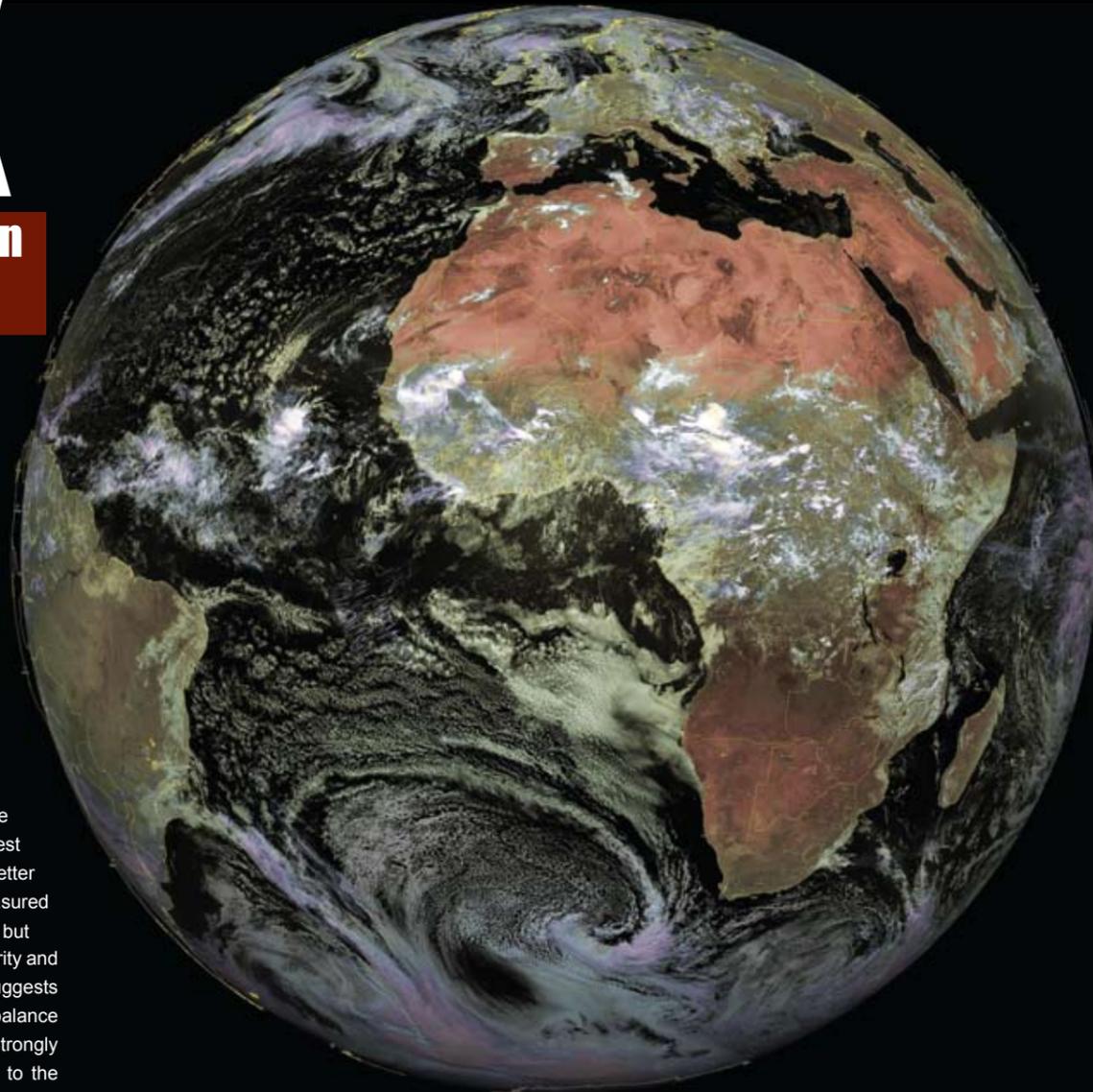
Many progressive-minded thinkers would echo the sentiments of the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation,

Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, dissociating government from a narrow definition of national interests. In a recent speech given in Mpumalanga, she suggested that national interests were derived from the Constitution and so sought to undo the ills of the past and build a prosperous and united society based on the values and principles of democracy, justice, non-racialism, non-sexism and so forth.

Thus, national interests are essentially the national goals best summarised as a better Africa and a better world. The adjective better is not measured merely in terms of material progress, but also in terms of resilience, unity, integrity and other values. Anecdotal evidence suggests that this view, which seeks to find balance between idealism and realism, is not strongly represented in public discourse due to the balance of power in South Africa's public spaces.

The challenge for South Africa is that while in the numerical minority, conservative thinkers almost dominate the domestic public discourses on foreign policy because they have superior access to and control of the means of communication. They thus have a disproportionate influence on the meaning of things we do and say as a country. Alternative patterns of thinking, especially Pan-Africanists, exist in marginal thinking spaces without own means of conversation.

A second component of the domestic constituency of foreign policy is business. The expansion of South African business into the rest of the African continent is only second to diplomatic expansion in scope. This has helped improve percentages in respect of intra-African trade as South Africa became a major investor in Africa. South African businesses have made immense



profits in most cases, although it is difficult to ascertain the extent to which this has benefited the fight against poverty in South Africa. There has also been a reputational risk for South Africa with growing disquiet among African citizens about the labour practices and transformational credentials of South Africa over the past decade. Business has been pushing for stronger economic diplomacy for some time and, of course, they mean state actions to enable them to make quick profits in African markets. This is an impulse about which there is also growing disquiet among observers, civil-society formations and now governments in Africa, suspecting hegemonic ambitions in South Africa's economic diplomacy.

The current nature of international society in the age of globalisation, pervasive neo-liberal paradigms and entrenched interests-driven power politics reinforces

this distortion. This includes the growing evidence that emerging powers are themselves replicating the ills of the western world in respect of crass material interests in their economic diplomacy, especially in Africa.

So, the character of the South African foreign policy constituency and the global environment suggest that emphasis on national interests is a potentially risky move. There is a potential narrowing of the definitions in the manner the Minister warned against because of the balance of power in international relations. This is made all the more pertinent by the fact that today international relations are not the sole preserve of the State; other actors are capable of appropriating the meaning of the dictum that foreign policy services domestic or national interests to give our international relations a mercantilist character. So, while

the State may have an expanded notion of national interests in mind, multinationals, subnational states and neo-liberal sections of society may have much narrower interests in mind. African constituencies, especially citizens, may experience this in the form of exploitative behaviour and repatriation of profits to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. Therefore, ultimately the story is less about what government intends by emphasising domestic linkages, but how this dictum will be used and interpreted in the complex and fluid field of international relations that we should think most carefully about.

It should be noted that even resource hungry and parasitic entities already coach crude self-interests in benign terms like partnership and common interests. South Africa's explanations of its use of the concept may be subject to trust deficit in a climate already soiled by perceptions fuelled by apartheid incursions on the continent, commercial penetration and so-called xenophobic sentiments in South African society.

Thus, to successfully pursue the idea, South Africa will need a seriously thought-through overall strategy on Africa, one that interprets in simple, but rigorous terms South Africa's African Agenda and how it will interface with intended consequences. The strategy would interpret the changing face of African conditions and diplomacy generally, the impact of the change in the balance of power internationally and the multifarious link between the domestic imperatives and continental dynamics. On this basis, then it would build a coherent framework to guide the balance between values and interests in South Africa's international engagements, that is, both at state and non-state levels. The implementation of such would be accompanied by serious public diplomacy (communication, engagement and relationship-building) in and outside South Africa.

Our fight against poverty and unemployment should not rely on the pursuit of short-term economic benefits. Rather, our pursuit of greater good on the continent should help create conditions for a thriving South African society within a prosperous Africa in the long term. Thus, the domestic foreign policy nexus ought to be viewed in a long-term perspective and using a Pan-Africanist outlook for it is no cliché to recognise that our successes are inextricably linked to Africa's prosperity anyway. 🌍

This think piece draws from ongoing research on the concept of complexity in South Africa's foreign policy paradigm.



UNSC

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

2011 – 2012

South Africa's Presidency of the United Nations Security Council

By Baso Sanqu
South African Permanent Representative to the United Nations

On 1 January 2012, just seven days ahead of the momentous centenary celebrations of the African National Congress (ANC) on 8 January, South Africa took its seat as President of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the month of January. This coincidence was once in a lifetime and spurred our spirits as we braced ourselves for the huge responsibility of presiding over this august body. The council's Presidency is a huge responsibility as the President facilitates the work of the council on behalf of its members, and it also provides the opportunity to highlight the Presidency's priorities as they pertain to international peace and security. Indeed, in addition to the daily contributions that South Africa continues to make in the work of the council through myriad diplomatic vehicles, the Presidency was an opportunity to make an important and critical mark in pursuit of our foreign policy objectives.

By a great measure, South Africa's Presidency became a microcosm of advancing the objectives we sought to achieve during our second tenure in the council. Essentially, these objectives are:

- contributing to achieving peace and stability on the continent and in the regions of the world
- continuing to promote the importance of developing effective partnerships between the UN and regional organisations and subregional organisations in maintaining international peace and security
- promoting the African Agenda, including highlighting the continent's priorities in the area of peace and security
- continuing to work together with all the members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the African Union (AU) and the UN in pursuit of effective global governance, rule of law within multilateralism and the reform of the UN system
- and working towards improving the working methods of the UNSC to make it a more legitimate, representative and effective body.

In line with our objective of advancing the African Agenda in the UNSC, and cognisant of the importance of the role of regional

organisations when the council deals with regional conflicts, South Africa pioneered a resolution on enhancing strategic and political coherence between the UN and the AU. Despite positive progress that has been achieved in the AU-UN relationship, the pressing rationale for a resolution was the glaring disconnect between the two organisations in the wake of the Libyan and Ivorian crises as well as differences on the situation in Sudan. In this context, on 12 January, South Africa hosted a high-level summit meeting, which was presided over by President Jacob Zuma, wherein the AU Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) and the chairs of the African regional economic communities (RECs) participated.

The outcome of this meeting was the unanimous adoption of the important Security Council Resolution 2033, whose strategic thrust is the promotion of political and legislative coherence between the UNSC and the AUPSC in dealing with African peace and security challenges. Importantly, the Resolution calls for the UNSC to hold timely consultations and formulate cohesive strategies in coordination with the AUPSC when dealing with conflict situations in Africa.

In advancing the same issue, during our previous term in the council, South Africa spearheaded the adoption of Resolution 1809 in 2008. Resolution 1809 paved the way for greater cooperation between the UN and the AU, including the holding of the annual consultative meetings between the AUPSC and the UNSC to deliberate on issues of peace and security in Africa. Resolution 1809 was also significant as it led to the UN increasing its support to AU-mandated peacekeeping operations. The AU and the UN are also actively working together in key peacekeeping missions and conflict situations, including in the Sudan (UNAMID) and Somalia (AMISOM). This cooperation is the embodiment of the kind of cooperation that both resolutions 1809 and 2033 seek to institutionalise. The AU Commission and the UN Secretariat have also made tremendous strides on many fronts, including long-term capacity-building.

In strengthening the relationship between the UN and the AU, we are guided by the philosophy that regional organisations, by their very geopolitical location and proximity to conflict situations, have a better appreciation of the dynamics obtained in a given conflict in comparison to actors that are far removed from the conflict, including the UNSC. All this does not negate the fact that the UNSC has the primary responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security, including on the African continent.

Full implementation of Resolution 2033 will certainly ensure that both the UNSC and the AUPSC develop a constructive political relationship to avoid denigrating tendencies that led to the undermining of the African positions in dealing with the Libyan and Ivorian crises. More importantly, the political dynamism in this relationship should provide an opportunity for the promotion of the Pan-African narrative within the UNSC. In his speech during the debate, President Zuma reiterated that, "... the strengthening of the strategic relationship between the AU and UN is critical if we are to rid our continent of the scourge of conflicts that has scarred Africa for decades".

In an effort to demonstrate just how the strategic partnership between the UNSC and AUPSC could work, on 11 January, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, presided over a meeting of the council to receive briefings from the UN Secretariat, the AU Commission and the Troop Contributing Countries to AMISOM. The strategic objective of this meeting was for the UNSC and the AUPSC to share views on how to deal with the question of

Somalia. The Minister put it aptly when she said, "this meeting is a practical demonstration of the close cooperation we seek to enhance between the UNSC and the AUPSC in matters related to peace and security in Africa. We are convinced that the Security Council and the AUPSC could benefit significantly from such political engagement, which should assist us in developing a greater strategic approach to developments in Somalia". At the meeting, the members of the UNSC stressed the need for a comprehensive strategy in Somalia to address the political, humanitarian and security challenges. The outcome of this dialogue paved the way for the adoption of Security Council Resolution 2036, enhancing the force strength of AMISOM to 17 731 uniformed personnel as recommended by the AU-UN Joint Assessment Team.

Further, at the initiative of South Africa, the UNSC held an open debate on the promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security in conflict and post-conflict situations on 10 January. A Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2012/1) was unanimously adopted as an outcome of this debate. Among other things, the statement emphasised the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law and that the promotion of the rule of law and justice was an indispensable element for peaceful co-existence. The discussions underscored the inextricable link between the promotion of justice and the attainment of peace in conflict and post-conflict situations. During the debate, a significant number of UN member states also raised the importance of the UN itself adhering to international law. This concern was highlighted in the context of the UNSC's controversial interventions in Libya and

Cote d'Ivoire. This Presidential Statement will also be an important contribution to the General Assembly High-Level Debate on the rule of law at national and international level to be held in September 2012.

In light of the ongoing discussions in the council about the much controversial implementation of Resolution 1973 by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) forces in Libya, and the call by BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) members to hold Nato accountable for abusing Resolution 1973 for its regime change agenda and the loss of civilian lives it was meant to protect, South Africa invited the Libyan Government and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms Navi Pillay, to brief the council on the current developments and the findings of the Commission of Inquiry on human rights abuses in Libya respectively. In her briefing, the High Commissioner recommended that Nato "should disclose information about all such events (killing and injury of civilians) and about remedial actions undertaken". Holding Nato accountable for violating a UNSC resolution would ensure that the mandates of the council were implemented within the ambit of international law and not abused in pursuit of self-interests as evidenced in Libya. In addition, it should be noted that the manner in which Nato implemented Resolution 1973 had the potential to erode the credibility and put to doubt the impartiality of the UN, in particular the UNSC.

On the Middle East, we broke new ground when we facilitated two meetings on Palestine, with one focusing specifically on the humanitarian impact of the illegal settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) and one being a quarterly open debate with non-council members participating. The Deputy Minister of International Relations

and Cooperation, Mr Ebrahim Ebrahim, presided over the Open Debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the question of Palestine. By having two meetings in one month on such a critical issue, we saw the council uncomfortably breaking away from the tradition of having one meeting a month on the situation in the Middle East.

On the last day of our Presidency, 31 January, we convened a meeting on the situation in Syria wherein the council received a briefing from the League of Arab States (LAS) representatives on the outcomes of the Observer Mission. At the same meeting, the LAS requested the council to support its transitional plan on Syria. Council members expressed concern about the deteriorating situation in Syria, called for a peaceful solution and also registered their support for the LAS efforts aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the Syrian crisis. South Africa facilitated the meeting but also – in its national capacity – welcomed the LAS efforts and cautioned against foreign interference in the Syrian crisis. South Africa further stressed the need for the council and the rest of the international community to facilitate a Syrian-led political process that would lead to a peaceful resolution of the current crisis. This meeting once again underscored the impact of the UNSC collaborating more strategically with regional organisations as pronounced in Resolution 2033.

During this critical time and perhaps due to the interminable business of the council, South Africa intensified its public diplomacy efforts. Although the role of the president is to communicate in greater part the work of the council to the media, we were able to communicate our national positions (in response to media questions), including highlighting the historic centenary of the ANC. Being in the Presidency also gave us the opportunity to communicate our positions to other media that we would not have otherwise reached.

South Africa continued the practice of updating non-council members about the work of the council, including the Non-Aligned Movement. We also kept our regional constituencies such as SADC and the African Group informed about developments in the council. Our communication through social media on the various initiatives we undertook, helped inform the technologically savvy – in real time – about our work. Beyond the Presidency, we continue to use all relevant media to inform the South African and other publics about our efforts to contribute to the attainment of a better world for all humanity.

South Africa facilitated 11 public meetings and 13 closed consultations. These meetings and consultations were on issues that serve on the agenda of the council mainly on the resolution of African conflicts, namely: Guinea Bissau; Libya; South Sudan; UN/AU Mission in Darfur; UN Office for West Africa; Cote d'Ivoire; impact of the Libyan crisis in the Sahel region; Cyprus; Iraq; Middle East, including Palestine; Yemen and Syria; Children in Armed Conflict; nuclear non-proliferation; Afghanistan; and the International Court of Justice. The council also adopted two resolutions, one Presidential Statement and eight press statements.

Whereas South Africa's presidency ended on 31 January, the country continues to play an active role in all the structures of the council with a view to making a positive and meaningful contribution towards the achievement of a peaceful and prosperous world. South Africa will continue to prioritise Africa but still play an active part in addressing peace and security challenges elsewhere in the world. When our term ends on 31 December 2012, we hope to come out of the council triumphant and proud of our achievements in this majestic body whose main responsibility is the maintenance of international peace and security.





COP17/CMP7
UNITED NATIONS
 CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2011
 DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

COP17/CMP7 THE DURBAN OUTCOME

By Michelle Greeff
 Director: Publishing and New Media, DIRCO



President Jacob Zuma at the Solar Energy Project launch during COP17/CMP7

DURBAN CONFERENCE DELIVERED BREAKTHROUGH IN

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

After months of preparation and a marathon two weeks of negotiations that ended in the early morning hours of 11 December 2011, the United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference or COP17/CMP7 came to an end at the International Convention Centre in Durban, South Africa.

Parties thanked the COP17/CMP7 President, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, for her leadership in guiding the conference to produce a positive outcome. This included the African Group, which also thanked South Africa for excellent conference logistical arrangements.

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Executive Secretary, Ms Christiana Figueres, said: "In honour of Nelson Mandela: It always seems impossible until it is done. And it is done!" Her words were echoed by Ms Connie Hedegaard of the European Union: "We have a roadmap

that marks a breakthrough for the international fight against climate change." The United States' chief negotiator, Mr Todd Stern, said: "I think in the end it ended up quite well. The first time you will see developing countries agreeing, essentially, to be bound by a legal agreement".

Durban expectations

There were two main tasks that the UN wanted the conference to accomplish. One related to building the institutions that would help support the developing countries' response to climate change. The second pressing task for governments was to answer the question of how they would move forward together to achieve their agreed goal to limit the average global temperature rise to two degrees Celsius, and how to review progress towards that goal between 2013 and 2015. A decision on the future of the Kyoto Protocol was also a central part of

the Durban outcome. The Kyoto Protocol is the only legally binding treaty the world presently has to combat climate change, and it is important that governments safeguard what they had worked on so long to agree and develop, and what has proven effective.

The process

During the first week of the conference, negotiators worked on the technical aspect of the negotiations. The officials were joined by no fewer than 12 heads of state and government, as well as 130 ministers, during the High-Level Segment, which started on 6 December 2011.

At the opening of the COP17/CMP High-level Segment, President Jacob Zuma said:

"We are agreed that this global challenge requires a global solution. However, different positions still prevail on some critical points. It is important that there is common ground on

the elements that will remain critical in reaching any agreement. These are multilateralism, environmental integrity, common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities, equity, and honouring of all international commitments and undertakings made in the climate-change process."

Also addressing the High-level Segment, UN Secretary General, Mr Ban Ki-Moon, warned that the world was in danger. "It is not an exaggeration to say that the future of our planet is at stake. Science is clear – we are at a point of no return, the world is looking at you for leadership". He reminded delegates to be "realistic" about a breakthrough in Durban, citing a difficult financial climate currently facing world countries.

The outcomes in Durban

Highlighting the difficult process of reaching a credible and fair agreement between all 194

parties of the UNFCCC, negotiations continued until the early hours of the morning on 11 December 2011, after the conference was initially scheduled to close on 9 December.

COP17/CMP7 spokesperson, Mr Clayson Monyela, comforted the tired and impatient media guarding the hallways. "All COPs that ever produced results went into overtime. COP17 will be remembered for having exceeded expectations. The deal is in the bag!" Speaking at 5:10 am at the conclusion of the conference, Minister Nkoana-Mashabane thanked all parties for their dedication, hard work and for the spirit of Ubuntu and compromise that prevailed during the conference.

"I applaud you for what you have been able to accomplish here in Durban. You were prepared to show the required political will to move this process forward. It is without any doubt in my mind that we have 'worked together to save tomorrow, today!'"

The Minister said the decisions that had been taken were "truly historical".

Decisions reached at COP17/CMP7

Parties decided to adopt a universal legal instrument on climate change as soon as possible, but not later than 2015 and to be implemented by 2020. Work will begin on this immediately under a new subsidiary body called the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action.

Governments, including 35 industrialised countries, agreed to a second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol from 1 January 2013. To achieve rapid clarity, parties to this second period will turn their economy-wide targets into quantified emission limitation or reduction objectives and submit them for review by 1 May 2012. This is highly significant because the Kyoto Protocol's accounting rules, mechanisms and markets all remain



The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, and UNFCCC Executive Secretary, Ms Christiana Figueres, meeting UN Secretary General, Mr Ban Ki-Moon

in action as effective tools to leverage global climate action and as models to inform future agreements.

A significantly advanced framework for the reporting of emission reductions for both developed and developing countries was also agreed on, taking into consideration the common but differentiated responsibilities of different countries.

In addition to charting the way forward on reducing greenhouse gases in the global context, governments agreed to the full implementation of the package to support developing nations, agreed to in 2010 in Cancun, Mexico (COP16/CMP6). This means that urgent support for the developing world, especially for the poorest and most vulnerable to adapt to climate change, will also be launched on time. The package includes the Green Climate Fund, an Adaptation Committee designed to improve the coordination of adaptation actions on a global scale, and a Technology Mechanism, which are to become fully operational in 2012.

While pledging to make progress in a number of areas, governments acknowledged the urgent concern that the current sum of pledges to cut emissions both from developed and developing countries was not high enough to keep the global average temperature rise below two degrees Celsius. They therefore decided that the UN climate change process should increase ambition to act, which will be based on the science report of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) *Fifth Assessment*

Report and the Global Review from 2013 to 2015.

"While it is clear that these deadlines must be met, countries, citizens and businesses that have been behind the rising global wave of climate action can now push ahead confidently, knowing that Durban has lit up a broader highway to a low-emission, climate-resilient future," the UNFCCC said.

More details of key decisions that emerged from COP17/CMP7 in Durban:

Green Climate Fund

- Countries have already started to pledge to contribute to start-up costs of the fund, meaning it can be made ready in 2012, and at the same time can help developing countries get ready to access the fund, boosting their efforts to establish their own clean energy futures and adapt to existing climate change.
- A Standing Committee is to keep an overview of climate finance in the context of the UNFCCC and to assist the COP. It will comprise 20 members, represented equally between the developed and developing world.
- A focused work programme on long-term finance was agreed on, which will contribute to the scaling up of climate-change finance going forward and will analyse options for the mobilisation of resources from a variety of sources.

Adaptation

- The Adaptation Committee, composed of 16 members, will report to the COP on its efforts to improve the coordination of adaptation actions at a global scale.
- The adaptive capacities of all of the poorest and most vulnerable countries are to be strengthened. National adaptation plans will allow developing countries to assess and reduce their vulnerability to climate change.
- The most vulnerable are to receive better protection against loss and damage caused by extreme weather events related to climate change.

Technology

- The Technology Mechanism will become fully operational in 2012.
- The full terms of reference for the operational arm of the Mechanism – the Climate Technology Centre and Network — are agreed on, along with a clear procedure to select the host.

Support of developing country action

- Governments agreed to a registry to record developing country mitigation actions that seek financial support and to match these with support. The registry will be a flexible, dynamic, web-based platform.



Mr Kofi Annan speaking at the COP17/CMP7 Conference in Durban

Other key decisions

- A forum and work programme on unintended consequences of climate-change actions and policies were established.
- Under the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism, governments adopted procedures to allow carbon-capture and storage projects. These guidelines will be reviewed every five years to ensure environmental integrity.
- Governments agreed to develop a new market-based mechanism to assist developed countries in meeting part of their targets or commitments under the Convention. Details of this will be taken forward in 2012.

Developments post-Durban

Since the historic conference in Durban, ministers and high-level officials from 32

countries met informally in Bonn in early May 2012 and expressed determination to build on the strong momentum of the UN Climate Change Conference in Durban to curb greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the inevitable impacts of climate change.

The two-day informal ministerial meeting focused on what needed to be done in the near future and over the next four years to ensure that key decisions that emerged from the Durban conference were effectively implemented, to bridge the gap between what governments had committed to up to now and what action was required to make the world climate-resilient.

"It is essential that the momentum is maintained, and I see a strong willingness among governments to provide the necessary strong, high-level political leadership. At the same time, all governments share the sense that equity needs to be a central component

of the future climate-change regime," said Minister Nkoana-Mashabane.

She continued: "Let me also remind you that as we build towards the future, we must remain seized with implementing the agreements that have been made on the Green Climate Fund, finance, adaptation, technology and capacity-building. The key focus area must still remain: implementation, implementation and implementation now."

Political guidance is needed in five areas to make progress this year. These are: amending Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol in Doha at the end of the year so that it can continue as of the beginning of 2013; clarifying emission-reduction pledges and accounting arrangements outside of the Kyoto Protocol for the period up to 2020; completing the final steps to operationalise the adaptation and technology institutions to help enhance developing country action; advancing long-term climate finance; and defining the path for a new global climate-change agreement.

Following the informal meeting, the COP17/CMP7 President officially launched the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) at the UNFCCC Inter-Sessional Climate Change meeting in Bonn on 17 May 2012. The ADP will anchor, what has become popularly known as the "Durban Outcome". Although it will focus on post-2020, it also has to address the level of ambition before 2020.

"It is also important that the world acknowledge the fact that the climate-change process must be moved forward and that country parties must now focus on those practices that worked and delivered the desired results. It was encouraging to note at the launch of the ADP that countries are eager to commence with the substantive work under this new Ad Hoc Working Group of the UNFCCC climate-change negotiations," said Minister Nkoana-Mashabane.

Speaking at the recent Rio+20 Conference that took place in Rio de Janeiro at the end of June, President Zuma emphasised the need to move towards climate-friendly developments agreed on at COP17/CMP7. He said green economy policies should be developed in accordance with the principles in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. South Africa has made conscious efforts to move towards a green economy, promising to cut its carbon emissions with 34% by 2020.

The next few months will also lead and inform what will happen at the COP18/CMP8, set to take place in Qatar from 26 November to 7 December 2012.

South Africa An important building BRICK within BRICS

When the leaders of the five BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) countries met this year in March at the fourth summit in Delhi, India, they declared that: “BRICS is a platform for dialogue and cooperation among countries that represent 43% of the world’s population, for the promotion of peace, security and development in a multipolar, interdependent and increasingly complex, globalising world. Coming, as we do, from Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America, the transcontinental dimension of our interaction adds to its value and significance”.

It is from this perspective that we should understand the “BRICS within the global socio-political and economic context”. Since coming into being as a formal entity in June 2009, the BRICS bloc has introduced a new dynamic in global geopolitics.

BRICS is a continuation of the tradition that was firmly established 57 years ago, in April 1955, when countries of Asia and Africa met at the historic Bandung Conference to galvanise their collective muscle in the context of the Cold War and assert themselves in the international system. The Bandung Conference, which led to the formation of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), was a historic watershed in the international relations of developing countries. Amid pressure from the growing Cold War bipolarism, those countries were able to concertedly affirm that they would choose neither the East nor the West, but pursue their own path and strategy under the guidance of the “Bandung Principles” of Afro-Asian solidarity. South Africa was at the Bandung Conference, represented through the African National Congress, whose centenary we celebrate this year.

The present context of international relations and cooperation between Asian, African and Latin American countries – collectively known as countries of the South – remains critical, and has become more important than ever before.

When South Africa joined BRICS in 2010, it was once again an affirmation of what this country has achieved in creating a better Africa in a better world.

At the BRICS Summit held at Sanya, China, in April 2011, the five leaders declared that: “It is the overarching objective and strong shared desire for peace, security, development and cooperation that brought together BRICS

countries with a total population of nearly three billion from different continents. BRICS aims at contributing significantly to the development of humanity and establishing a more equitable and fair world”.

BRICS has since its inception had a positive effect on the international system; as:

- BRICS countries have individually emerged to challenge traditional economic powerhouses. China has recently been ranked as the second-biggest economy in the world, overtaking many economies;
- BRICS countries coordinate their positions and actions in international organisations as we saw in the United Nations Security Council.
- In the midst of the current global economic crisis, many countries in the world are looking up to BRICS member states for a way out.

The world we live in today has changed significantly since the end of the Cold War, thanks to the new group of economically influential countries such as Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, which are on the ascendancy, re-mapping the contours of political and economic power in the global system.

We are at the brink of a world envisaged in the Freedom Charter. We are far more aware today of the importance of global interdependence than any time in history. And it is evident that forging fruitful partnerships and a stronger global governance template requires cooperation between the developed and developing countries.

The BRICS’ economic power base includes 43% of the global population, their combined nominal gross domestic product (GDP) is estimated at US\$13,7 trillion and between 20% and 25% of global GDP, as well as combined foreign reserves estimated at US\$4 trillion. BRICS accounted for approximately 11% of global annual foreign direct investment (FDI) flows in 2012 (US\$465 billion) and 17% of world trade.

Leading academics participated in the BRICS Academic Forum earlier this year in New Delhi. They poignantly reflected that while there had been a proliferation of global multilateral conferences, there had also been a proliferation of a different kind of forum that is plurilateral in nature. They commented that “these forums should not be perceived

BRICS



By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation



as fragmenting the multilateral system and could create valuable opportunities to form consensus among smaller, like-minded groups on specific issues, which can again cascade into the broader multilateral forums”.

Indeed, the view of the BRICS is that, as articulated in one of its summit communiqués, “the global economy remains vulnerable, with a negative impact on the everyday lives of people all over the world, affecting jobs, trade, development and the environment”.

In asserting itself in the world as part of the agenda to transform power relations in the global system, the BRICS leaders recently jointly pledged additional funding of US\$75 billion to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), for the so-called “firewall fund”. China will provide US\$43 billion, Brazil, India and Russia US\$10 billion each and South Africa US\$2 billion.

This pledge by the BRICS countries is in line with our vision to transform institutions of global governance. It has been a tradition, and indeed a norm, that decisions in international financial institutions are made and influenced by countries with strong financial muscles. In this regard, the more we contribute financial resources to such institutions, the better the chance and prospects for us as a country to influence decisions.

The BRICS pledges were contingent on the completion of the quota review to, among other things, better reflect the relative weights of IMF members in the world economy, which

have changed substantially in view of strong GDP growth in dynamic emerging markets and developing countries.

Another separate, but strategically important, agreement was the announcement to put in place a swap arrangement, allowing central banks to lend to each other if needed to maintain market liquidity and a mechanism for pooling foreign exchange reserves.

From the above account of the outcomes of the Group of 20 (G20) Summit, it is clear that BRICS economies have become the new engines of global growth.

South Africa and BRICS countries share a common vision. Like South Africa, our fellow BRICS nations are striving to enhance inclusive economic growth that will lead to an increase in the creation of decent and sustainable jobs, advance the fight against poverty and accelerate the economic transformation of our countries. We also dream and work to realise a more equitable global political and economic system.

I have been following with interest a vibrant public discourse on South Africa’s membership of BRICS, linked specifically to Goldman Sachs and the writings of its Asset Management Global Chairperson, Mr Jim O’Neill. Mr O’Neill recently publicised an article entitled “South Africa’s BRICS Score: Not All Doom and Gloom”. He concluded this debate by saying “South Africa could more than justify its presence (in BRICS) if it helped Africa to fulfil its remarkable potential”.

He further said, “South Africa scored well for the cost of setting up business and for most of macroeconomic stability variables and also does reasonably well in some areas of governance and schooling. If South Africa could also help to lead the rest of the continent to reach its own standards where these are high, Africa would be on an accelerated path to greater economic might. By exploring cross-border expansion in trade and infrastructure, as well as improvements in domestic productivity, South Africa will have more than justified its role as a member of BRICS.”

I can assure Mr O’Neill that the objective to fulfil Africa’s remarkable potential is at the forefront of our political and economic diplomacy.

South Africa will host the fifth BRICS Summit in early 2013, which will also complete the first cycle of BRICS summits. The opportunities presented in hosting this prestigious summit are considerable.

South Africa’s membership of BRICS is premised on our global and regional/continental role as well as our domestic achievements in the “proudly South African manner”.

We joined BRICS with three objectives in mind:

- to advance our national interests as outlined in the President’s State of the Nation Address

- to promote our regional integration programme and related continental infrastructure programmes
- to partner with key players of the South on issues related to global governance and its reform.

Our membership of this body has indeed expanded BRICS’ geographic and intercontinental reach, including its global representivity and inclusiveness.

South Africa itself has a population of 50 million and an economy worth approximately US\$527 billion. Our per capita income level at purchasing power parity compares favourably with BRICS partners estimated at US\$11 000 (after the Russian Federation at US\$16700 and Brazil at US\$11845).

South Africa’s comparative advantage within BRICS pertains to South Africa’s considerable non-energy in situ mineral wealth. In a recent report commissioned by the United States (US) based Citigroup bank, South Africa was ranked as the world’s richest country in terms of its mineral reserves, worth an estimated \$2,5 trillion. South Africa is the world’s largest producer of platinum, chrome, vanadium and manganese, the third-largest gold miner, and offers highly sophisticated mining-related professional services, contributing significantly to the BRICS resource pool.

South Africa is investing R300 billion (\$35,6 billion) into expanding and improving its railways, ports and fuel pipelines, as a catalyst to help unlock the world’s greatest mineral wealth. Africa will also continue to be buoyed by the exploding global demand for oil, metals, minerals, food, and other natural resources. Likewise, the African continent, which is arguably one of the world’s largest unexplored resource basins, has abundance of riches; including 10% of the world’s oil reserves, 40% of its gold ore and 95% of platinum.

The demand from BRICS countries for these commodities has been a critical source to support growth on the continent.

South Africa’s financial market development and sophistication, also as a source of exceptionally sophisticated professional services and financial expertise, is globally recognised. The 2011/12 World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Index displayed a high level of confidence in our financial market development, ranking us in fourth place globally on this measure.

The regulation of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) was ranked number one in the world, as was the strength of South Africa’s auditing and reporting standards. Additionally, South Africa is ranked second for

both the soundness of banks and the efficacy of corporate boards.

South Africa’s excellence in science, technology and innovation is also recognised, e.g. it being awarded the majority stake in hosting the Square Kilometre Array. BRICS countries supported South Africa in obtaining the majority stake.

South Africa’s export structure to BRICS member countries shows significant diversification and the negative trade balance has also narrowed over the last four years, i.e. from R57 billion in 2008 to R22,8 billion in 2011. South Africa’s export trade with the BRIC partners has grown from 6,2% of the total in 2005 to 16,8% in 2011; whereas its imports from the BRIC countries represented 13,6% of total imports in 2005 and 20% in 2011. The Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Rob Davies, has emphasised that last year alone, trade between South Africa and BRICS countries grew by 29%, which is considerable.

Furthermore, South Africa enjoys recognition as a dedicated and committed global and regional player. South Africa’s constructive role in global governance structures as well as its position within organisations of the South, notably the African Union (AU), the Group of G77 (G77) and China and NAM is appreciated by our BRICS and other like-minded partners. South Africa is also the only African country represented in the G20, which has become an important institution on the reform of the financial and economic global governance architecture.

South Africa has always been at the forefront of promoting more inclusive formations and more equitable participation of notably emerging markets and developing economies in the world system and its decision-making structures. This belief stems from our core conviction that Africa has to be repositioned in the global system to assume its rightful place. South Africa, together with other African countries, initiated the dialogue with the Group of 8 (G8) in 2000, which led to the subsequent endorsement of the AU’s New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) by the international community at large. At the last BRICS summit, President Jacob Zuma once again strongly articulated this view, also in light of the issue of the World Bank Presidency, where Africa had put forward an exceptionally merit-based candidate.

South Africa’s invitation to join BRICS takes cognisance of our country’s contribution to shaping the socio-economic regeneration of Africa, as well as our active involvement in peace, security and reconstruction efforts on the continent.

It also recognises South Africa’s own unique historic political transformation

process to become a constitutional democracy. This constitutional model linked to our reconciliation and nation-building processes and peaceful political transition, is perceived as a unique contribution to the world. We have indeed facilitated similar processes for peace elsewhere in the world. South Africa is a systemically important economy, which is diversified and includes a sophisticated services sector and well-developed infrastructure comparable with developed countries.

The BRICS countries now constitute the largest trading partners of Africa and the largest new (not total) investors. The BRICS investment portfolio in Africa is very encouraging and promising.

Over the past decade, we have seen a seismic acceleration of commercial and strategic engagements between the BRICS and Africa. BRICS has nourished Africa’s economic emergence and elevated the continent’s contemporary global relevance. The recession and recovery period has enhanced this shift. In 2010, Standard Bank economists predicted BRICS-Africa trade will “see an additional increase in the velocity of BRIC-Africa engagements, with trade and investment spearheading the commercial charge”.

According to Standard Bank, BRICS-Africa trade will increase threefold, from US\$150 billion in 2010 to US\$530 billion in 2015. Between 2010 and 2015, BRICS’ share of Africa’s total trade will increase from one-fifth to one-third and BRICS FDI stock in Africa will swell from around US\$60 billion in 2009 to more than US\$150 billion by 2015. Today, the BRICS countries are the largest investors in the continent.

While South Africa’s share was not absorbed into these projections at the time, South Africa’s trade with Africa accounts for 17% of our total trade, 21% of our outward investment and when broken down, 14% of our total exports to the world and around 24% when including the Southern African Customs Union.

The IMF also conducted a study, which indicated that the trade and investment from BRICS to low-income countries was deemed as a critical factor to protect them from the shock of the global recession.

BRICS leaders have expressed support for infrastructure development in Africa and its industrialisation within the framework of NEPAD, first at the Sanya Summit in 2011. At the New Delhi Summit, the leaders reiterated the highest importance attached to economic growth that supports development and stability in Africa, as many of these countries have not yet realised their full economic potential. The leaders undertook to take



Manmohan Singh
Prime Minister of India



Dilma Rousseff
President of Brazil



Dmitry Medvedev
President of Russia
(2008 – 2012), Current Prime
Minister of Russia



Hu Jintao
President of China



Jacob Zuma
President of South Africa

their cooperation forward to support Africa's efforts to accelerate the diversification and modernisation of its economies, through infrastructure development, knowledge exchange and support for increased access to technology, enhanced capacity-building and investment in human capital, including within the framework of NEPAD.

BRICS leaders also considered the possibility of setting up a new development bank for mobilising resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in BRICS and other emerging economies and developing countries, to supplement the existing efforts of multilateral and regional financial institutions for global growth and development. They directed the BRICS finance ministers to examine the feasibility and viability of such an initiative, set up a joint working group for further study and report back at the next summit. Such a new development bank could complement existing institutions and address gaps and challenges in critical sectors. President Zuma has already articulated South Africa's strong support for this initiative and other African leaders have also indicated their keen interest.

In terms of strategic consideration for South African business, is the fact that regionally, South Africa provides direct access to the rest of the continent and is situated between the East, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East. South Africa has many geostrategic and related structural advantages which make it an excellent investment destination and ideal "gateway" partner in the African growth story.

Complementary to this existing and strong consumer market, are the exciting regional integration initiatives taking place on the continent. Negotiations are underway to establish a 26-country, US\$1-trillion African Tripartite Free Trade Area (T-FTA) for East, Southern and Central Africa within three years, which will expand this market to 600 million people. This regional integration initiative will put us in the same market size-bracket as our BRICS counterparts.

Another related and exciting new initiative, which has just been announced, is that of the Southern African Development

Community (SADC) Regional Infrastructure Master Plan (RIMP), which could involve cross-border projects with a combined investment value of up to US\$500 billion. The RIMP has been finalised and will be presented at an upcoming summit, scheduled for Maputo, Mozambique, in August 2012. The plan proposes the development of regional power, transport, water, communications, tourism and metrology infrastructure over the 15-year period, from 2012 to 2027. The intention is to align the implementation of the plan with the establishment of a SADC development fund, or bank, with an initial capitalisation of between US\$600 million and US\$1 billion.

At present, intraregional trade comprises less than 20% of total trade and the bulk of that trade takes place between South Africa and the other 14 SADC member states. Once the plan has been officially endorsed, the SADC Secretariat will conduct roadshows in BRICS and other countries, targeting Brazil, China, Europe, India, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States to expose potential investors to the opportunities available within the RIMP. The Project Preparation Development Facility has already been established at the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Let me now turn to Africa's promising growth and demographic dividends, as also encapsulated in the National Planning Commission's *Vision 2030*. The growth rate for sub-Saharan Africa is estimated around 5,5% for 2012; and *The Economist* of 6 January 2011 predicts that between 2010 and 2015, seven out of the top 10 fastest-growing economies in the world will be African.

There are many reasons for this sustained growth. These include greater stability and the increasing prevalence of democracies, global demand for Africa's commodities and improved economic regulatory and governance regimes. South Africa is also cognisant that the African "demographic dividend" is already recognised by economists as the future locus for growth.

According to Standard Bank's research, the five enduring factors driving this are a growing, younger and more affluent population; urbanisation; improved information and

communications technology (ICT); sustained demand for Africa's natural resources; and a deepening financial sector as Africans take up financial services personally and for business. South Africa hosted its first ICT Indaba recently, where we had a discussion on our interaction with BRICS. During that discussion, we indicated that in 2010, BRICS accounted for 13% of global demand in the ICT sector, with spending of about €328 billion.

As South Africa is one of the leading investors among developing countries on the continent, South African companies can take advantage of this unique position, through partnering with BRICS companies to explore commercial opportunities in Africa. For example, the Brazilian company Vale has partnered with South Africa's Rainbow Minerals in an agreement worth more than US\$1,2 billion to build a copper mine in Zambia. Tata Power has formed an equal joint venture with South Africa's Exxaro Resources, named Cennergi (Pty) Ltd, to develop and operate power-generation projects in South Africa initially and will have later projects in Botswana and Namibia.

With all this background, the question is: "What should business be doing to take advantage of South Africa's BRICS membership?"

There certainly is a wide scope for cooperation in various projects within the existing BRICS structures. President Zuma addressed BRICS' captains of industry prior to the last BRICS summit and emphasised that South Africa's participation in BRICS was designed to help us achieve inclusive growth, sustainable development and a prosperous South Africa.

The BRICS Business Forum's joint statement called on the respective governments to deepen economic engagement of which trade and investment were identified as the pillars of such an engagement. The target for intra-BRICS trade was set to be enhanced from the present level of US\$230 billion to at least US\$500 billion by 2015. The business leaders called for improvement of the quality of trade by focusing on more value-added trade in the three sectors of manufacturing, services and agriculture.

I wish to focus our business leaders on the fact that South Africa's service sector comprises two thirds of our economy (65,9%), which compares favourably with our BRICS partners and provides niche opportunities.

The BRICS Business Forum further cited opportunities in sectors such as, but not limited to, agriculture, energy, infrastructure, mining beneficiation and healthcare. As you can see, South Africa already enjoys comparative advantages in these cited sectors. Domestic economic priorities, such as increased beneficiation at source, could be pursued through joint partnerships and ventures.

At the Delhi Summit, other possible areas of cooperation, ranging from energy to construction and water provision were also discussed.

President Zuma urged us in his State of the Nation Address that the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality required our single-minded attention. The New Growth Path framework is geared at achieving inclusive growth and creating jobs. We identified six jobs drivers to help us achieve the much-needed growth leading to jobs. These are infrastructure development, agriculture, mining and beneficiation, manufacturing, the green economy and tourism.

To facilitate the success of these drivers, business should focus on enhancing the intra-BRICS business cooperation and coordination by promoting opportunities in the following areas.

First, is cooperation on economic opportunities in infrastructure development: South Africa has begun working intensively on its infrastructure strategy through the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission (PICC). South Africa is on course to spend in excess of R860 billion on infrastructure by March 2014. Infrastructure is therefore at the heart of how we will change

the lives of our people in the next decade.

Beyond the South African programme is the NEPAD infrastructure programme that South Africa champions as mandated by the AU, especially the North and South road and rail projects.

Second, is cooperation on skills development: The PICC is developing a skills plan for each major project, setting out the number of engineers, artisans, technicians and technologists we need. Work is being done with universities and further education and training colleges to speed up the production of these critical skills. We urge business to invest in skills development in their companies to promote youth training and empowerment through their engagement with BRICS countries.

Third, is the new development bank: As already explained, South Africa is excited by the plans for a new BRICS-led development bank, which would further facilitate cooperation among members of the BRICS business community. The bank will reinforce the BRICS grouping by utilising surplus reserves. It will also encourage investment in a more sustainable and productive manner.

South Africa will co-chair with India the joint working group under the auspices of the respective finance ministers to ensure that this initiative's feasibility be thoroughly investigated as well as benefit South Africa and Africa to the extent possible. The South African National Advisory Group on the new development bank will meet in the near future to prepare South Africa's technical input hereto.

The President has also signalled that we are convinced that we can negotiate new types of mutually beneficial developmental agreements with BRICS countries on infrastructure development.

Fourth, is promoting intra-BRICS trade: Here, I wish to challenge you all to study the

agreements signed during the BRICS summit under the auspices of the BRICS Inter-Bank Cooperation Mechanism. Areas covered in these agreements include the Master Agreement on Extending Credit Facility in Local Currency and the Multilateral Letter of Credit Confirmation Facility Agreement.

These measures are intended to increase commercial transactions, since currently, businesspeople have to convert local currencies into dollars before reconverting them into the currency of the trade partner, and this escalates transaction costs.

Another exciting initiative that has been launched is the Alliance of Exchanges, which will entail cross-listing of equity index derivatives and trading in the local currency.

Companies are therefore encouraged to facilitate engagement with their counterparts in BRICS countries.

South Africa seeks to increase its exports of higher value-added products and to encourage inward investment to support our beneficiation and industrial development objectives. Our work in BRICS is increasingly focused on cooperation to achieve these ends.

Finally, cooperation on another crucial infrastructure project is underway, requiring our collective involvement – the proposed high-capacity marine cable system linking the BRICS countries. This will address the connectivity challenges which have featured as impediments to intra-BRICS trade.

The end of apartheid has put our country on a firm footing to play its part in global affairs for a better South Africa, Africa and the world. Our national agenda is aimed at achieving inclusive economic growth for our people as well as the people of our continent.

This objective is strongly complemented by the exponential and accelerator growth potential which BRICS engagement has delivered to us and our neighbours.

Therefore, the potential for growing our own trade and investment, as well as intra-African trade and investment, must be further maximised. We will utilise our Chairpersonship of BRICS in 2013 to vigorously pursue support for these goals.

Our membership of BRICS will promote trade and investment, enhance industrialisation and promote job creation. There can be little doubt that South Africa will benefit and will continue to benefit from being a member of the BRICS.

The South African Government pledges its commitment to continuously engage and support business in South Africa and also work tirelessly in tandem with our BRICS counterparts to forge stronger partnerships to deliver prosperity and progress to our peoples.



From the left: Dilma Rousseff President of Brazil, Dmitry Medvedev President of Russia (2008 – 2012), Current Prime Minister of Russia, Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India, Hu Jintao, President of China, Jacob Zuma, President of South Africa

The new face of a new world.

He is young. He thinks he is small and insignificant. But he is not. He is growing bigger and stronger, everyday. Soon he will be a leader at the forefront of economic policy, business and politics. His decisions will change lives, industries, communities, Africa and the world. And he will not be alone. He will have an entire continent with him. A continent with the resources, minerals, political stability, human potential, technology and backing of BRICS - the 5 fastest growing economies in the world. And with all this to help this young man and his ambitious generation grow, we think maybe it's time you change the way you see Africa. Because Africa and its people, are the future.

South Africa. Your African growth story starts here.



Inspiring new ways

"BRICS BANK"

South Africa

Inspiring new ways



COULD BE A GAME-CHANGER

By Miller Matola
CEO: Brand South Africa

A far-reaching decision to establish a new international development bank, taken at the most recent meeting of Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) during March 2012 in New Delhi, has not attracted the attention it deserves. It has the potential to be a game-changer when it comes to trade and investment.

Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa intend setting up another "World Bank", not as an alternative to the existing one, but one that will meet the growing demand for access to development capital of developing countries.

Looking at the growing power that BRICS already represents, it is clear that a potential revolution in global finance might very well have started: this set off emerging economies accounts for 50% of international growth, 25% of global output and 40% of world population.

The effect of such a "BRICS Bank" will not be felt immediately but it is certain to further enhance the global shift – east and southward – which is already well underway.

The way to look at the BRICS initiative is to understand that this set of major emerging countries is not an alternate to existing international organisations, nor is it opposed to the rich North, but it is a corrective working toward giving due weight to the rapidly growing emerging world.

BRICS came into being as a multisectoral diplomatic force but in the last 18 months there have been more structures put in place to act on decisions taken at the annual summit meetings and to ensure implementation.

However, while multilateralism is at the heart of the BRICS approach, it is also a fact that a great deal of bilateral cooperation between BRICS members and individual African countries will continue.

Of significance here is that South Africa does not represent the African continent in BRICS, or even pretend to, but its membership

does mean that Africa's voice will be heard, not only in the "BRICS Bank" but at BRICS meetings and across all international bodies in which the BRICS as separate countries are presented.

These include the United Nations Security Council, and a host of international trade and investment bodies.

Apart from this broader advantage the continent as such gets from the strengths of BRICS, South Africa is leveraging opportunities to grow its own economy to be better able to respond to its own huge challenges in the fields of unemployment, poverty and underdevelopment.

The country's step as a co-founder of this new development bank is further affirmation – if it was necessary – of its widely recognised status as an important emerging market in its own right.

It will further catapult the country to the frontline as an investment destination and will open huge new trade opportunities.

But lest one forgets, BRICS is not only about trade and investment in general terms. Infrastructure development, mineral beneficiation, and scientific and agricultural cooperation are top of the list too and are already leading to closer cooperation between BRICS members.

Important to note here is that when the southern and eastern Africa free trade area gets underway in three years' time, South Africa will be an important bridge between this huge new market and BRICS – it is the only country with membership in both.

And the market will be huge – 26 countries, 600 million people with a market close to US\$1 trillion. That is truly a BRICS-sized market and right up there with the biggest in the world.

With and through South Africa there already present massive opportunities in infrastructural development within and between these countries.

When the new "BRICS Bank" gets into gear, this might very well be the first area where it may want to throw in its weight, expertise and capital. 

NEPAD

*Africa's renewal ...
South Africa championing
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NEPAD

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for Africa's Development*



South Africa's Foreign policy responds to domestic priorities

By Jerry Matjila
Director-General:

Department of International Relations and Cooperation

Poverty and underdevelopment remain the most prevalent challenges facing South Africa. The South African Government is therefore committed to a development path that ensures sustained and inclusive growth to eradicate poverty and inequality, and deliver on the post-apartheid promise of freedom from fear and want.

In his 2012 State of the Nation Address, President Jacob Zuma noted that steady progress had been made in various areas such as health, education, the fight against crime, human settlements, energy, water provision, rural development and others. He also recognised, however, that the triple challenge of unemployment, poverty and inequality persists, despite the progress made. Cabinet therefore took the decision that government should do more to grow

the country's economy, to address the problems of unemployment, poverty and inequality in the country. This decision guides the overall work of all government departments, including the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO).

South Africa's foreign policy is an important part of our national plans for socio-economic development as a core national priority and interest. These national priorities are an integral part of South Africa's national interests, which include:

- ensuring the stability of the country, its constitutional order and its institutions
- creating an environment in which South Africans are and feel secure, and are free from want and hunger

- the sustainable growth and development of the South African economy
- the sustainable growth and development of the Southern African Development Community region
- committing South Africa to working for a stable African continent that enables peace and development to take root
- working towards the creation of a just and equitable world order.

Put simply, our foreign policy engagement and international partnerships must show the symbiotic relationship between our national priorities and our regional, continental and international actions. Therefore, building international relations and partnerships

that will contribute to the achievement of South Africa's five national priorities is at the very core of our foreign policy.

South Africa's national interests emphasises a people-centred foreign policy that promotes cooperation over competition and collaboration over confrontation. This is a foreign policy that is guided by "Ubuntu" and a commitment to the establishment of mutually beneficial international partnerships that also contribute to the achievement of the national development priorities of our continental and international partners.

The foundations and strategic perspective of our foreign policy are derived from a long-standing history, ideology and values that embrace the spirit of internationalism; the rejection of colonialism and oppression; our quest for the unity and renewal of Africa; the defence of the plight of the poor of the world; and opposition to structural inequalities and abuses of power in the global system of governance. Therefore, our struggle for a better life for all in South Africa is closely intertwined with our struggle for a better Africa and a better world for all.

The uncertain and dynamically changing world in which we operate, provides both challenges and opportunities for South Africa to deliver on its mandate to its people. Practical examples of how the department strives to deliver on this mandate include the building of bilateral partnerships with emerging countries such as China, India and Brazil to strengthen trade and investment relations that stimulate the South African economy and generate jobs and skills for South Africans, as well as identifying best practice to boost socio-economic development. The department also maintains partnerships with developed countries in order to generate resources, improve capacity-building and promote technology transfer. Finding new tourist markets and negotiating agreements to facilitate South African business-to-business contact also directly benefit South African businesses and jobs, while medical exchange programmes with countries such as Cuba improve delivery of primary healthcare to our citizens, particularly in rural communities. On a multilateral level, negotiating fairer world trade rules improves access to cheaper medicines and facilitates the transfer of skills and technologies to South Africa while the climate-change negotiations try to both limit the impact of environmental change on South Africa as a water-scarce country and generate resources for South Africa to adapt through the transition to a green economy. South Africa's foreign policy also aims to create a just and equitable world order through the reform of global governance institutions, such as the United Nations, World Bank and International Monetary Fund, to better serve the political, economic and development needs of developing countries like South Africa.

DIRCO therefore has a challenging mandate to deliver opportunities for ordinary South Africans and to leverage global resources towards local service delivery. In this, we aim to support the activities of other government departments, provincial and local government, business as well as our citizens. Our task is difficult given the complex and rapidly changing global political and economic climate. However, the department remains fully engaged with delivering on our mandate to the people of South Africa and contributing towards a better South Africa, a better Africa and a better world. 🌍

PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

SOUTH AFRICA TAKING DIPLOMACY TO THE PEOPLE THROUGH THE DIRCO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME

By Seraki Matsebe
Assistant Director: Media Research, Analysis and Speechwriting

To promote participatory democracy, the South African Government has introduced public participation programmes (PPPs) for ministers and deputy ministers. These programmes seek to reinforce accountability to citizens throughout the year, emphasising government's key modes of good governance, namely transparency and accountability. Each political principal must participate in at least 10 such PPP outreach events, including repeat and follow-up visits as part of the overall performance monitoring approach of government.

This gives effect to the statement made by President Jacob Zuma during his State of Nation Address in 2010, when he said:

"The defining feature of this Administration will be that it knows where people live, understands their needs and responds faster ... We will expect the Executive and the Public Service to comply with this vision."

In consolidation of constitutional democracy, Cabinet approved the PPP outreach initiative, previously known as Imbizo, at its meeting of 24 March 2010.

PPPs are meant to serve as:

- a mechanism for fact-finding by government to align services with needs
- a two-way sharing of information that demonstrates responsiveness to needs
- a basis for sustained dialogue between government and the people
- a direct response to community issues and concerns
- a reinforcement of key pillars of a participatory and consultative democracy.

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), as a custodian of South Africa's foreign policy, uses the PPP to communicate South Africa's foreign policy successes and challenges to various stakeholders across the country. DIRCO has embarked on these programmes, targeting non-state actors whom the department regards as having an interest in the execution of South Africa's foreign policy.

Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane and her two deputies, Mr Ebrahim Ebrahim and Mr Marius Fransman, have been traversing across South Africa, moving from one province to

another, in an effort to build bridges between DIRCO and its various stakeholders, be it the media, non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations, academia, think-tanks or sporting formations.

The contextual framework that informs DIRCO's PPP is that it has to ensure that ordinary South Africans can link the country's domestic priorities with government's international engagements. DIRCO considers it necessary to create a mutually beneficial engagement with the above-mentioned stakeholders, which will ensure that the preoccupations of South Africa's foreign policy are known and appreciated, and the mandate of the department is understood.

DIRCO rolls out its outreach programme to ensure that these interactions usher in a new era of cooperation and collaboration as DIRCO strives to bring meaning to the call that "together we can do more". This is supported by the words of Abraham Lincoln: "I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them real facts".

As a department that operates on the international stage, DIRCO is obligated by its pledge and commitment to a "people-centred approach" to prioritise and emphasise cooperation over competition, and collaboration over confrontation. This it does largely due to the recognition of the fact that states are interdependent and therefore need to cooperate, hence its unflinching commitment to develop partnerships across the globe.

Consequent to each event, DIRCO through the branch Public Diplomacy (PD), sends out an organising team to carry out pre-visits and research. The purpose of these pre-visits is to engage stakeholders and identify foreign policy issues of mutual interest so that relevant topics/themes can be designed from this, according to clients'/customers' needs. This also includes service-delivery needs on how the foreign policy can contribute towards sustainable solutions through economic diplomacy and twinning, which are competencies of DIRCO as regulated by the Constitution of South Africa.

For example, the PPP by Deputy Minister Fransman, held in Grabouw, Western Cape, in April 2012, was looking at ways DIRCO could contribute towards the promotion of beneficiation at source and second-economy level through economic diplomacy and twinning, facilitated by DIRCO through its 127 missions abroad. The same objectives were set at the Buffalo City Municipality outreach programme by Minister Nkoana-Mashabane, also held in April 2012.

Topics discussed are client-orientated and based on current issues, which will not only be beneficial to that particular audience but to the world as a whole as it is for articulation of South Africa's foreign policy. This was the case at the University of Venda in August 2011, where the topic: "Balancing National, Regional, Continental and International Interests: Where does the Republic of South Africa Draw the Line through its Foreign Policy?" was discussed. This topic was relevant and at the time the core of many of government's preoccupations to refine its foreign policy and strengthen its linkages with the work done domestically to achieve the five priorities identified by the current Administration. South Africa's struggle for a better life is intertwined with its struggle for a better Africa and a better world. The outreach programme at the University of Venda targeted international relations and political science students and ordinary citizens as independent observers of international developments, as well as assertive and "informed" participants in the sphere of international relations.

The outreach programmes serve as a vehicle, which the department seeks to use in empowering citizens with information and knowledge, focusing particularly on the domestic and international policies, strategies, programmes and vision. The programme also seeks to share with members of the public government's foreign policy views – with the hope that both the Government and the public will benefit from stakeholders' own views and opinions as a practical way of practising participatory democracy.

In April 2012, during a Consultative Forum on International Relations held at DIRCO, government was hailed for a job well done by the PD Branch in communicating South Africa's foreign policy to the public. Government departments, provinces and local government commended PD for the sterling job done thus far in empowering the people of South Africa, assisting them in understanding DIRCO's mandate and South Africa's foreign policy in particular.

Today, many people understand and appreciate the good work done by DIRCO in executing and promoting South Africa's foreign policy. Currently, Africa is regarded as a "Rising Continent" because of the good work done by DIRCO, through outreach programmes, and PD by articulating foreign policy issues to relevant stakeholders, including the media. 



Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane with Deputy Minister Ebrahim Ebrahim and Deputy Minister Marius Fransman

Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane addressing students at the University of Cape Town (UCT)

Deputy Minister Ebrahim Ebrahim addressing students at the University of Zululand

Deputy Minister Marius Fransman during a Public Participation Programme in the Western Cape

African Solutions for African Problems



TAKING STOCK OF THE CURRENT CHALLENGES FACING THE AU AND THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTAL PROSPECTS OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT



By Ebrahim Ebrahim
Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation



“Other factors that will propel long-term growth include rapid urbanisation, Africa’s fondness for new technology and increasing domestic consumption.”

After numerous false starts over the past decades, there is a now a consensus that Africa’s time has come.

What is different this time around is determined leadership, political will and effective institutions that are supporting African leaders to create enabling conditions for development such as ending conflict, improving governance and strengthening regional integration.

Over the past decade, Africa has made quiet progress in transforming the African Union (AU) into a powerful engine for learning, problem-solving, fostering shared values, spreading best practice, regulating behaviour, upgrading standards, monitoring government performance and above all, energising Africa. The results have been impressive.

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), region-wide gross domestic product (GDP) growth has averaged 5.5% from 2000 – 2010, more than double the rate in the 80s and 90s. Importantly, Africa’s growth acceleration has been widespread, with 27 of its 30 largest economies expanding more rapidly after 2000, and also fairly inclusive, with the poorest seeing significant increases in real consumption. In its latest report released in May, the Africa Progress Panel, chaired by Mr Kofi Annan, noted that “For the first time in a generation, the number of people living in poverty has actually fallen – and many countries have witnessed strong progress towards the MDGs”. Steady progress has been made in getting more children into school, in bringing down the rate of HIV infections, in sanitation, and in empowering women.

While many challenges remain, for example, in tackling poverty, youth unemployment, the unequal distribution of the new wealth that is being created, low agricultural productivity and climate change, on any balanced assessment, the achievements of Africa and the AU have been remarkable.

South Africa remains committed to the idea of the African Renaissance. Since 1994, we have made African political stability and economic development our foreign policy priorities. To pursue these objectives, we have engaged in a wide variety of peacekeeping operations, peace negotiations, post-conflict reconstruction activities, as well as giving humanitarian assistance to Somalia and the Sahel region. Africa has become an important destination for our exports and many of our large companies have invested heavily in Africa.

On the other hand, some of the challenges facing the AU include the need to strengthen the functioning of the Continental Early Warning System to ensure its effectiveness in early detection and to allow for early response to peace and security threats on the continent; the effectiveness of the AU’s response to unconstitutional changes of government in view of the recent incidents of coups; the problem of the non-payment of assessed contributions by members, which opens the door to donors to set priorities; the uneven levels of commitment to shared AU values among member states; the need to domesticate and implement AU instruments; the need to review the organisation’s strategic plan to give it greater focus; and the importance of implementing strategies to enhance intra-African trade and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) infrastructure projects.

Africa is in the midst of a dramatic transformation in its development prospects. The impressive growth momentum that Africa has built up over the last decade is not only expected to continue but also to trend upwards to around 6% in the coming years. The continent will be among the fastest-expanding economic regions in the world, with a long-run growth rate starting to resemble that of the rapid developers of East Asia. Africa’s promising growth is not a flash in the pan. There are several long-term trends that suggest that this economic momentum can be sustained. Let me highlight a few:

One of the key reasons behind Africa’s growth surge has been the steady spread of peace, democracy and good governance. Competitive elections promote public accountability, incentivising better economic management, greater transparency and less corruption. The result is a healthier economy, a better business climate and greater productivity. Through the operationalisation of a number of AU instruments on governance, democracy is growing ever deeper roots. Already, around two thirds of governments in Africa are democratically elected, compared with just eight in 1991. So, we can be certain that Africa’s future growth will be underpinned by the permanent shift in expectations about rights, duties and governance that is taking place across the continent, both among citizens and at the inter-state level.

Far-reaching demographic changes already underway will fuel long-term growth. By 2050, the continent will be home to one in five of the planet’s young people and will have the world’s largest workforce of 1.2 billion. In that year, one in four workers in the world will be African, compared to one in eight from China, reversing today’s balance. They will also be highly competitive, as labour costs in places such as China continue to increase. While other regions rapidly age, in Africa the ratio of workers to the retired and the young – the so-called dependency ratio – will be improving. As these trends unfold, Africa will enjoy a “demographic dividend” of young and energetic workers to power the continent’s services and manufacturing sectors, provided they are equipped with the right education and skills.

Africa has been held back by its colonial legacy of small and fragmented markets, not a very effective platform for growth and

development. Creating larger regional markets will increase specialisation, competition and investment, providing a boost to manufacturing by offering improved economies of scale in industrial production. Rising to this challenge, in November 2010, African ministers of trade recommended that Africa fast-track the creation of the Continental Free Trade Area. An important step towards this goal was the launching in 2011 at a summit held in South Africa on negotiations to create the Tripartite Free Trade Area, which will eventually create a market of 26 countries reaching from Cape to Cairo with a population of about 600 million people and a combined GDP of US\$1 trillion. An important aspect of this integration agenda is addressing Africa’s inadequate infrastructure. African transport costs are up to four times higher than those in the developed world, a de facto barrier to trade and economic activity. It has been calculated that if the continent continues to narrow its infrastructure gap, economic growth will receive a further large boost – perhaps by as much as two percentage points a year. In view of this, the AU has set up the Presidential Infrastructure Championship Initiative, a continental committee of eight NEPAD heads of state and government, which President Jacob Zuma was asked to chair, to champion infrastructure projects at the highest level. South Africa is also chair and champion of the North-South Road and Rail Corridor Project, which traverses eight countries in eastern and southern Africa and aims to facilitate trade by upgrading road, rail, power and port facilities, as well as simplifying cross-border regulatory procedures, so that producers and traders can access regional and international markets more easily. East-West corridors are also in the pipeline.

The diversification of Africa’s economic partners will continue to provide a significant lift to growth. An enormous geographic reconfiguration is currently underway in the world economy. Emerging economies now account for half of sub-Saharan Africa’s total trade, while Western Europe’s portion has shrunk to 28%. The wider range of choice of potential business partners, as well as the intensifying competition among them, is giving African governments new-found bargaining power, which they are skilfully using to negotiate better terms to capture more value for the continent.

Africa will continue to be buoyed by the exploding global demand for oil, metals, minerals, food and other natural resources. The continent, which is arguably one of the world’s largest unexplored resource basins, has an abundance of riches, including 10% of the world’s oil reserves, 95% of platinum-group metals and 60% of the world’s available and unexploited cropland. As the world’s population heads towards a likely peak of around nine billion in 2050, it is very likely that Africa will become a major food exporter. Tapping this potential would have an important multiplier effect, since over 65% of the population work in the agricultural sector. As one research report put it: “Africa’s resource wealth could turbo-charge economic growth, provided the new wealth is used well”.

Other factors that will propel long-term growth include rapid urbanisation, Africa’s fondness for new technology and increasing domestic consumption.

Africa has come a long way. Not many people appreciate how profound the changes have been. Working together through the AU, African countries have been laying the foundations for long-term growth and development. There are still many challenges, however, and we cannot afford to be complacent. But, there is no doubt that Africa’s economic take-off is well underway. And there are compelling reasons to believe that it is likely to continue for decades to come. 

CULTURAL DIPLOMACY AND SPORT AS TOOLS FOR NATION-BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT

By Marius Fransman
Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

Cultural diplomacy, a phenomenon which has gained prominence in the practice of diplomacy and international relations in recent years, is not simply about “culture” in the narrow sense. It is about a country projecting its power in the domain of ideas – to influence the ideas and outlook of states, international organisations and non-state actors in order to pursue its national interests and enhance its geopolitical standing.

Governments across the world are investing enormous diplomatic and political resources in winning the hearts and minds of other nations and the people of the world. The tools they use vary from establishing television stations for external service to the promotion of cultural and sporting exchanges.

The practice of cultural diplomacy is in line with South Africa’s domestic policy, which in turn informs our foreign policy. There is a need for us to build on the foundations laid by the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ to build a better South Africa, a better Africa and a better world for all. South Africa should promote its cultural

resources to a worldwide television audience. But above that, it has introduced our country to non-traditional markets, including Latin America, Eastern Europe and Asia”.

It is widely understood that sporting mega-events, such as the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ are complex affairs which originate from specific sets of economic objectives but which have political and social corollaries that usually extend far beyond the event itself. With the World Cup, we made South Africa’s brand promise a reality and these gains need to be nurtured and turned into concrete investment and trade agreements that will positively impact on the lives of all South Africans.

Under the rallying call of “South Africa – Ke Nako”, South Africa became the stage and the entire African continent the theatre of what we believe was a successful soccer spectacle. The 2010 FIFA World Cup™ was inarguably an opportunity for nation-building for our young democracy. It was another grand opportunity after the 1994 democratic elections and saw South Africans of all shades and colours flying our national flag with pride and dignity.

The World Cup brought together a sense of pride and unity. It promoted patriotism and a true sense of belonging. It sent a crystal-clear message to the world that we are a real rainbow nation, united in its diversity. The FIFA World Cup taught us, among the many things, that sport is a useful tool of nation-building as it is a unifying and a feel-good factor. We are confident that it promoted our national aspirations as laid down in the supreme law of the Republic, the Constitution:

- “Heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental rights;
- Lay the foundations for a democratic and open society in which government is based on the will of the people and every citizen is equally protected by;
- Improve the quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person; and
- Build a united and democratic South Africa able to take its rightful place as a sovereign state in the family of nations.”

A shared vision and unity in diversity is a fundamental tool of nation-building and development. We believe though that development can be sustained if it is people-driven and people-centered. During the build-up to the 2010 FIFA World Cup™, our fellow South Africans demonstrated their sense of patriotism, by flying our rainbow flag and wearing a Bafana Bafana jersey every Friday. To us, this was a show of faith and confidence in our country and our continent. Collectively, all this contributed a lot in delivering the most successful FIFA World Cup ever – to the extent that FIFA declared that South Africa would be Plan B for future world cups.

There is no denying the fact that sport builds a healthy and economically productive nation. To accelerate economic growth, we need a healthy and productive nation as they are drivers of sustainable development. We need to develop and promote sport for all ages and in particular the youth, in whose hands lies our future.

We cannot overemphasise the benefits of sport in ensuring that our children are kept away from crime, drugs and a general delinquent lifestyle, which is the enemy of any nation. It is through sport that we can build morally strong social fabrics of society.

Sport is a strong foundation for building a sustainable society.

The World Cup has provided a major springboard for Brand South Africa, both domestically and internationally. The positive aspects of the country that have emerged from hosting the 2010 World Cup have resulted in increased patriotism, positivity, self-belief and self-respect.

The challenge that remains for our country and through future sporting events is to sustain and develop a united, cohesive and inclusive South Africa, in pursuit of building one winning nation.

Sport undoubtedly plays a significant role in the daily lives of billions of people around the world. It is therefore vital that we in South Africa and our diplomats abroad, recognise the positive aspects of various sporting codes in the pursuit of our foreign policy objectives.

The success of the World Cup won for our country the hearts and minds of the world!

It was a small step in the right direction to profiling our country as a land full of possibilities – as a land that everybody in this world should visit in their lifetime. The event projected us as a responsible member of the international community. It prepared the world to return us to the United Nations (UN) Security Council. It gave the world confidence that the hosting of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP17/CMP7) would be a great success also in terms of outcome – and it was!

We have demonstrated to the world that our democracy may be the age of a teenager, but that we have the maturity to stand tall among adults! Let us look forward to hosting the African Cup of Nations in January 2013. 🌍



diplomacy through sport – for development and nation-building. South Africa has worked tirelessly to place the developmental needs of the South and of Africa at the forefront of our foreign policy engagements and we remain proud of the fact that sport in South Africa has acted as a unifying factor.

We fondly remember the rainbow nation during the 1995 Rugby World Cup, the 1996 African Cup of Nations and the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. Who among us can forget that, as soon as our Bafana Bafana beat France and then decided to exit from the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ – all of us, without fail, rallied behind our Ba-Ghana Ba-Ghana. This was a clear demonstration that

sport as a tool of our foreign policy can also assist with our goal of continental integration.

The economic, cultural and social aspects of sporting events could become a valuable tool for South Africa in our fight to address our developmental challenges, as well as the developmental challenges facing the African continent.

To a great extent, we are of the view that the World Cup has also truly afforded South Africa and Africa the opportunity to do away with negative stereotypes while enhancing our positive perceptions. To quote the Department of Tourism: “The World Cup uncovered the rich multiplicity of South Africa’s tourism



President Jacob Zuma handing over the World Cup Trophy to the President of FIFA, Mr Joseph Sepp Blatter



Soccer fans at Burger's Park Fan Fest

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DIRCO RADIO

to broadcast foreign policy

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) is set to launch its own "all talk" radio station by October 2012 to educate the public on the country's foreign policy. The radio station will be modelled on the Voice of America (VOA), which is funded by the United States' State Department. However, Radio DIRCO will be the budget version of the VOA model, with no full-time paid staff and no licensing fees, because it will be broadcast over the Internet.

The station will cover various aspects of foreign policy, and journalists and analysts will be invited to discuss the news of the day as it relates to international issues. People will be able to call in and also have their say. Senior DIRCO officials will have regular slots during which they will be expected to explain and popularise South Africa's foreign policy.

ASSISTANCE FOR CITIZENS WHEN ABROAD

Travelling and living abroad is no longer a new concept to South African citizens. The quotation below is as relevant today as the day it was made by the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, at the Heads of Mission Conference held at the Sandton Sun Hotel in Johannesburg in August 2009.

“Approximately five million South Africans reside outside South Africa, and each year South Africans make more than 30 million trips abroad. While most South Africans living or travelling abroad do not encounter problems, various factors can pose challenges and risks. New and emerging threats have led to a more security-conscious world. Heightened public awareness and anxiety about the risks involved in international travel have led to an increase in the number of South Africans who seek from our missions, information, assistance and protection. The changing profile of South African travellers, more frequent travel to remote and dangerous destinations, the pursuit of business opportunities in areas of the world that are politically and economically of higher risk, and the growing impact of extreme weather events and other natural disasters worldwide, have also had significant consequences for the consular work of our missions. Assisting citizens who are abroad mainly as tourists, students, businesspeople and expatriates are one of the defining aspects of the consular service of every nation”.

A growing number of South African citizens travelling abroad are becoming victims of crime, accidents, illness, death, natural or man-made disasters, civil unrest etc. Of particular significance were, for example, the 9/11 attacks in New York in 2001, the 2002 and 2005 Bali bombings, the 2004 South Asia tsunami, the conflict in the Middle East and the devastating tsunami and earthquake in Japan, which all emphasised the role of consular services.

For ordinary persons, the term “consular services” amounts to the discovery of the international relations ministry for the first time. Consular services can also be described as “diplomacy for people” and this, if managed appropriately, provides the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) with a clearly identifiable domestic constituency even if the rendering of consular services is predominantly done abroad.

Consular services in the South African context are provided by DIRCO to South African citizens, both individuals and bodies corporate abroad, in accordance with international law and domestic policies.

Consular services, include, among other things:

- Consular services to distressed and destitute South African citizens abroad (including assistance following deaths, missing persons, child custody, abductions, kidnappings, etc.).
- Consular services to South African citizens in detention or imprisoned abroad on the basis of South African policies.
- Service of Process (it facilitates the process via diplomatic channels to have documents in civil law served on respondents abroad).



Consular assistance

By Asogan Moodley
Deputy Director-General:
Corporate Services and
Chief Financial Officer

- Other legal processes that include transmitting requests for extradition, mutual legal assistance, evidence on commission, derogatory letters and maintenance orders.
- Consular notarial services, commonly referred to as legalisation services.
- Immigration and civic services (at missions where the Department of Home Affairs is not represented).
- Registration of South Africans Abroad (ROSA). The Chief Directorate: Consular Services introduced a unique web-enabled electronic registration process, called ROSA, which makes it possible for South African travellers to submit registrations electronically, wherever Internet access is available. ROSA is located on a web server at the department and linked to the departmental website, www.dirco.gov.za. ROSA is available to South African citizens who are travelling, living, studying or working abroad. The information travellers register on ROSA allows the chief directorate to assist South African citizens in the event of a declared emergency. The ROSA software allows travellers to register as individual travellers or as a group, register multiple destinations, update their profiles (individual or as a group) and deregister their profile from the system. The system generates a unique reference number that the traveller retains to update his/her travel or to deregister.

- Consular Incident Command Centre (CICC). To respond effectively to the challenges facing consular services, the CICC is activated during declared consular emergencies to provide strategic direction in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. The CICC is responsible for both preventative measures and crisis management, and works in close collaboration with the consular sections at the department’s missions abroad. The CICC provides a nodal point for consular assistance for South African citizens in difficulty abroad and support to South African missions. It also renders assistance at domestic level.

The Consular Service Delivery Charter serves as a guideline to inform the public about the role of the Consular Official and sets out the standards of service delivery that the public can expect to receive from Consular Services and South African missions abroad. The Service Delivery Charter champions commitment to provide efficient, effective and courteous consular services to all clients in an equitable manner. The charter indicates what can and cannot be done for South African citizens abroad and outlines citizens’ rights and responsibilities in related matters.

There is no doubt that consular services will continue to be a growth business in the years ahead, both in complexity and scope. DIRCO must therefore ensure, through well-defined procedures, that the global consular network represented by

South Africa’s diplomatic and consular missions continues to deliver consular services in a professional manner with a sense of purpose.

For more information, contact the Chief Directorate: Consular Services:

Physical Address:

Ground Floor,
OR Tambo Building, 460 Soutspansberg Road, Rietondale,
Pretoria.

Postal address:

Department of International Relations and Cooperation,
Private Bag X152, Pretoria, 0001.
The Legalisation Section is open to the public on work days from 8:30 to 12:30.

You can also access the department by:

Telephone (012 351 1000), fax (012 329 1752) or visit www.dirco.gov.za.

There is a dedicated general enquires’ e-mail address (legalisation@dirco.gov.za) on the website.

Brand South Africa



Inspiring new ways



Overview of the City of Johannesburg

AN OVERVIEW OF BRAND SOUTH AFRICA



Brand South Africa was established in August 2002 to help create a positive, compelling and consolidated image for South Africa. There are many benefits of having a consolidated brand image, with the most important being that a consistent Brand South Africa message creates strategic advantages in terms of trade and tourism for the country in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

The primary mandate of the Brand South Africa is to build the South African nation's brand reputation in order to improve the country's global competitiveness.

Brand South Africa aims to:

- develop and articulate the value proposition and positioning that will drive the long-term reputation of the organisation
- build pride and patriotism among South Africans with the objective of uniting the nation by encouraging

all South Africans to live the nation brand, and in so doing, define a South Africanness

- increase South Africa's global competitiveness by developing symbiotic partnerships with all stakeholders (government, business, labour and civil society) who deliver on (and are able to leverage) the nation brand and aligning them to enhance South Africa's reputation.

International marketing and mobilisation

Brand South Africa's international campaigns focus on the needs of investors in South Africa, exporters and global South Africans. For investors, Brand South Africa aims to increase familiarity and knowledge of South Africa as a viable, world-class and profitable business destination in targeted international trade, investment and tourism markets in line with strategies of the Department of Trade

and Industry, Department of International Relations and Cooperation and SA Tourism.

Strategic engagements

Investment missions are undertaken to target countries where investors and the media are engaged with Brand South Africa messaging. Export missions promote South Africa's export industries (clusters) in line with Trade and Industry South Africa's export strategy.

Global South Africans

Global South Africans is a network of influential, well-placed South Africans abroad. Brand South Africa aims to mobilise the Global South African network behind a programme of investment recruitment, skills identification, mentoring, skills transfer, study exchange and work experience initiatives. Brand South Africa

also engages with the global media, through projects such as MediaClubSouthAfrica and sponsorship of the International Media Forum.

Domestic mobilisation

Domestically, our aim is to build and sustain national pride and patriotism. This is achieved through a number of projects such as the Movement for Good; the active citizenship campaign, *Play Your Part*, and *South Africa.info* and support to the campaigns of the Department of Arts and Culture and of Sport and Recreation South Africa.

"To build pride and patriotism among South Africans with the aim of uniting the nation by encouraging all South Africans to live the nation brand."
Mr Miller Matola, CEO Brand SA



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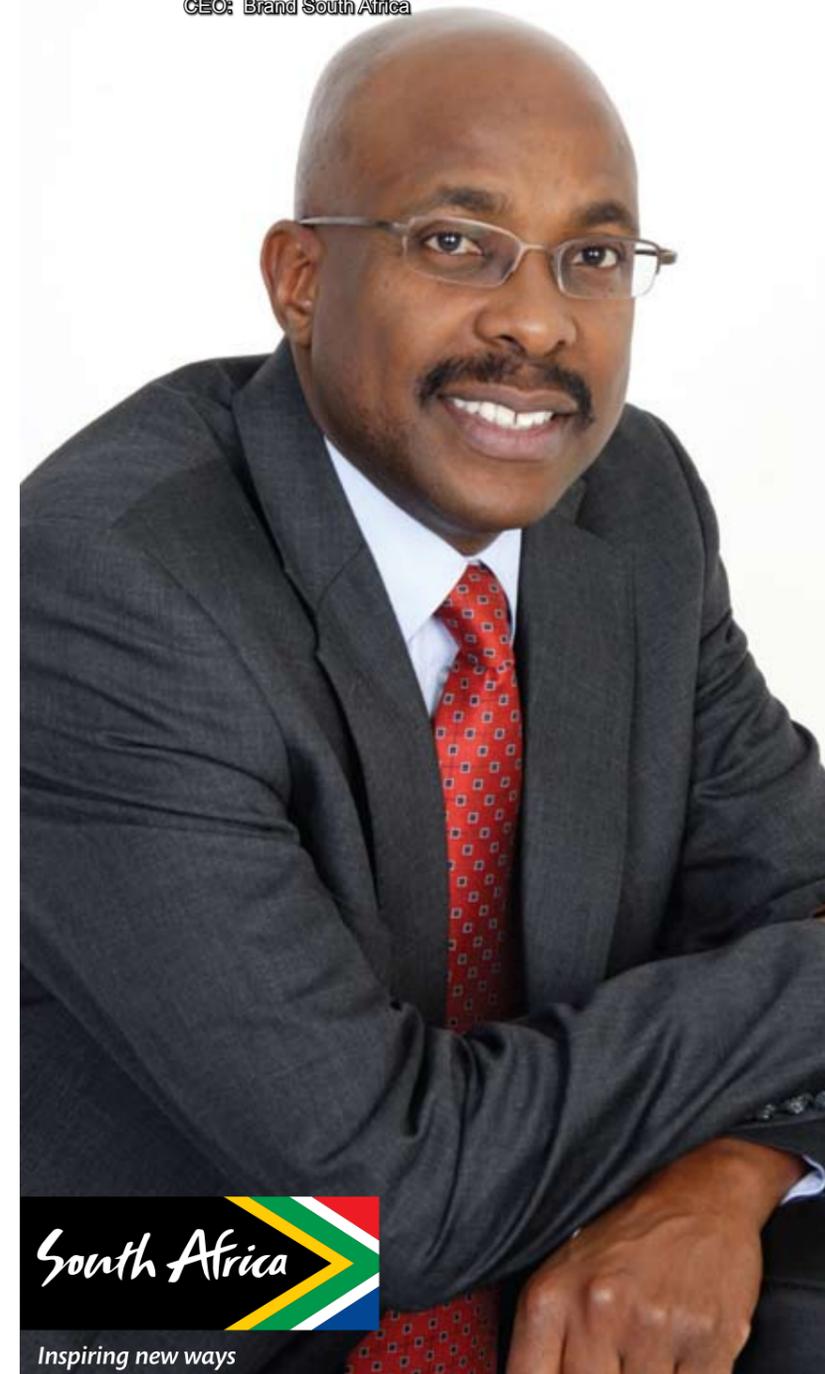
The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) has partnered with Dimension Data, South Africa's leading ICT services provider to find new ways of harnessing the power of emerging technologies to deliver services for South African citizens around the world. Dimension Data is privileged to assist DIRCO in this endeavor. We have deployed technology solutions to remove barriers to real-time communication across all South Africa's foreign embassies, equipping DIRCO's 128 global locations with a secure, scalable network across a single communication interface. Together, DIRCO and Dimension Data are releasing the power of ICT to enhance service delivery, reduce telecommunications costs and enable positive international relations between South Africa and the world.

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WHO IS BRAND SOUTH AFRICA?

By Miller Matola
CEO: Brand South Africa



of producing and disseminating consistent and appropriate messaging for different stakeholders.

With many different messages from different sources being sent out about the country, the realisation grew that there was a need for consistent messaging and brand positioning. Why? Because it was evident that to attract tourism, investment and business onto our shores, there needed to be a coordinated and authoritative platform available to lead policy articulation, research into the country's unique selling points and discussion on how we can build on investment successes of the past.

As the custodian of South Africa's brand, Brand South Africa has been at the forefront of the country's changing image. From being a country "alive with possibilities" to one that has been "inspiring new ways", South Africa has positioned itself to not only be the gateway into Africa but also as the voice of the African Agenda. South Africa's new pay-off line, *Inspiring new ways*, has emphasised the belief that the country is not only a major regional player but a pioneer in international and continental relations.

And it is this belief and message, among other things, that Brand South Africa ensures is amplified to all of South Africa's audiences.

Since its establishment, Brand South Africa has endeavoured to articulate government policy, trade policy and the benefits of investment to national and international businesses. Brand South Africa tailors its marketing activities to not only showcase South Africa as a country, but South Africa as a thought leader. Partnerships with stakeholders, captains of industry, experts and pioneers are established to emphasise that this is not only a country that gives impressive return on investment, but that its people are at the forefront of sustainable change in every industry and community.

In its young democracy, South Africa has become the largest and leading economy on the African continent. Also, Brand South Africa's local *Play Your Part* Campaign is one that is firmly aligned with the National Development Plan's national unity and social cohesion priorities. *Play Your Part* is not only about getting people and companies to donate money to charities – it's about getting every South African to realise that the only way we can all live in a South Africa we'll be proud to call home and a legacy for the future, is to play our part, no matter how small, to make this country the South Africa we'd like to live in.

To create a positive and compelling brand image for South Africa, Brand South Africa pursues activities domestically that promote pride and patriotism; and internationally that position the country's brand reputation to improve global competitiveness.

Previously known as the International Marketing Council of South Africa, the organisation's official name change took place in 2011 to best align with the mandate of nation-building and country positioning to improve global competitiveness.

When the world was unsure of what to expect from, or make of South Africa, Brand South Africa was created with the objective

FTA A TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY Brand South Africa

South Africa is actively involved in addressing one of the major constraints on the sustainable development of the African continent – the lack of intra-African trade and the low levels of regional and continental economic integration. Regional integration, in Africa in general, and within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in particular, is a key determinant to unlock Africa's competitiveness and is a top priority of the South African Government.

The evolving free trade agreement (FTA) between the overlapping regional economic communities of SADC, the Common Market of East and Southern Africa (Comesa) and the East African Community (EAC) gives traction to this ideal by expanding trade relations and increasing foreign direct investment.

The opportunity lies in expanding intra-African trade, which currently represents only 11% of total African trade, and is currently hindered by poor infrastructure, particularly energy, transport, irrigation and telecommunications.

South Africa is well positioned to play a role in unlocking this potential with a stock exchange ranked among the top 20 in the world; developed financial, legal, communications, energy and transport sectors; and a modern infrastructure supporting efficient distribution of goods throughout the southern African region and the continent.

This southern and eastern Africa FTA is building on existing common market arrangements and in the longer term is intended to be, in its turn, the building block for a continent-wide FTA.

But this SADC, Comesa and EAC FTA – due to be in place by the first quarter of 2014 and at present being negotiated in Nairobi – will already be a huge boon to BRICS. The sheer size of this market is astonishing: 26 countries, 600 million people and a market of US\$1 trillion. This is the same market-size as other BRICS counterparts.

While South Africa is one of the negotiating partners, it plays a leading role in expanding and upgrading infrastructure throughout the potential FTA.

Coupled with these new regional road, rail and port improvements, will come more efficient flow of goods, skills and investment within the region and dramatically enhanced export growth potential and competitiveness – also within the FTA. All of this occurs within the African Union, prioritising an African Economic Community, which aims to establish a Pan-African common market of over a billion people without internal borders, which will unleash the



Inspiring new ways

From left to right: President Jacob Zuma of the Republic of South Africa, King Makhosetive Mswati III of the Kingdom of Swaziland, President Hifikepunye Pohamba of the Republic of Namibia, Lieutenant General Seretse Khama Ian Khama, President of the Republic of Botswana, and Pakalitha Mosisili, former Prime Minister of Lesotho (1998 – 2012)

enormous economic growth and development potential of the continent.

Finance Minister, Mr Pravin Gordhan, urged South Africa in his budget speech earlier this year to seize the opportunities presented by the changing world, pointing to the massive growth in emerging countries while that in advanced

economies lagged – and Africa was expected to be the second fastest-growing region in the world, with sub-Saharan Africa growing at 5,5% this year.

To further enhance intra-African trade within the above context, the Minister announced proposals to simplify and modernise procedures



for cross-border investments into and out of South Africa.

This is a welcome and important addition to the building of a FTA, recognising that improved infrastructure is vital but so is ease of trade and the moving of goods across borders and between countries.

The Minister also pointed out that South Africa had a strong and sophisticated financial system which could be used to facilitate and guide investment into Africa and underpin its development.

The establishment of this vast FTA across southern and eastern Africa will undoubtedly

run into many snags in its initial years but it holds out tremendous advantages for all of the hundreds of millions of its inhabitants.





The seven-dish MeerKAT precursor array, KAT-7, the world's first radio telescope array consisting of composite antenna structures

AFRICA IS PROUD TO HOST THE SKA

By Naledi Pandor
Minister of Science and Technology

The eagerly awaited announcement regarding the site for the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), the world's largest radio telescope, happily coincided with celebrations to mark Africa Day on 25 May 2012. The announcement also coincided with the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the African Union (AU). The African bid to host the SKA was endorsed at the 2010 and 2012 AU heads of state summits.

The African bid and a rival bid by Australia and New Zealand were shortlisted from five competitors in 2006 by an international panel. South Africa led the African bid with support from eight partners: Botswana, Namibia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Kenya, Ghana, Zambia and Mozambique.

The gigantic SKA will have thousands of radio antennae that will work together as one giant "ear" to tune into the cosmos. With this instrument, we will be able to solve many mysteries of the universe that have intrigued humanity and kept scientists guessing up to now. It will look back to the earliest moments of the universe, before the first stars and galaxies formed, and delve into how the universe has evolved over 14 billion years. It will contribute to investigating the very nature of the dark energy and dark matter which fill the universe, will give insight into how planets are formed and test Einstein's theory of gravity.

Since this will be the largest telescope ever built and will attempt to solve fundamental problems of the universe, it will focus world attention on the host countries. Without a doubt, this will transform the way the African continent is seen and will make Africa a destination for investment in world-class science and technology.

The SKA will consist of about 3 000 dish antennae and hundreds of radio "fish-eye" antennae spread over 3 000 km, which will all be linked to a central data processor by optical fibre.

The SKA is an iconic project. It is also a very large investment by a global consortium of countries – it is expected to cost in excess of R15 billion (€1,5 billion) to build and about €150 million (R1,5 billion) per year to operate and maintain (for 50 years or more).

Astronomy has always pushed the boundaries of technology. The SKA will push the boundaries of high-speed computing (it will need a supercomputer 1 000 times as fast as anything currently operating) and very fast data transport. At hundreds of terabits per second, the SKA will generate about 200 times the data flow through the entire World Wide Web. It will need huge data storage since it will generate more data in a week than humanity has generated in its entire history. It will challenge our scientists to develop algorithms to be able to analyse the huge datasets, very wide-band digital radio receivers and many other areas of technology.

These immense challenges mean that working on the SKA will generate the skills and capabilities to innovate in technologies that will be crucial in the global economy in the next decades – everything is now wireless, and the collection, processing and analysis of radio signals and of huge datasets are becoming ubiquitous. These capabilities will almost certainly contribute to the emergence of new industries, in which South Africa and her partner countries on the continent can and should play a leading role.



South Africa has already made major strides in developing the technology needed for the SKA. The Department of Science and Technology, through the National Research Foundation, has identified and developed an exceptionally radio-quiet site for radio astronomy in the Karoo, near Carnarvon. The site is protected by law against radio transmissions and other activities which could disturb astronomy. Electric power and high-speed data links have been provided, as well as roads, accommodation and workshops.

It is here in the Karoo that South Africa is building the MeerKAT telescope. The SKA Organisation has announced that the 64-dish MeerKAT will be part of Phase One of the SKA, together with the ASKAP array in Australia. Each of these MeerKAT telescopes will be 13,5 m in diameter, and they will all be linked to a central data processor and high-performance computer in the Karoo and controlled remotely from Cape Town. Until the SKA is completed in 2024, the MeerKAT will be the largest and most sensitive radio telescope in the southern hemisphere and one of the most sensitive in the world. It has already excited great interest internationally, with over 500 scientists applying for observing time. Already, the first five years have been allocated to 10 international teams. The inclusion of the MeerKAT and ASKAP in the SKA will maximise the investments already made by both South Africa and Australia.

It should also be stated that the SKA Site Advisory Committee unambiguously and by consensus found in favour of the African proposal on the basis of its analysis of technical, scientific, costs and implementation plans. The subsequent decision of the members of the SKA Organisation to split the project was unexpected given the search for a single site. Nonetheless, we have accepted this outcome as a compromise in the interest of science, and our scientists look forward to working closely with their Australian colleagues and other scientists from all over the world to implement this global project.

The SKA Organisation stated as follows: "The majority of SKA dishes in Phase One will be built in South Africa, combined with MeerKAT. Further SKA dishes will be added to the ASKAP array in Australia. All the dishes and the mid-frequency aperture arrays for Phase Two of the SKA will be built in southern Africa while the low-frequency aperture array antennas for Phase One and Two will be built in Australia/New Zealand".

The recognition, in the site decision, of the MeerKAT telescope as a critical step towards the implementation of the SKA, is of major importance to us. This recognition is substantive evidence of the great strides made by the local radio astronomy community since South Africa signalled its interest in the SKA.

Many institutions in other countries are keen to co-invest in the MeerKAT. The SKA South Africa team building the MeerKAT has demonstrated that it is one of the best teams of engineers and scientists in the world and is held in very high regard by the international astronomy community. The team has already built and commissioned the prototype KAT-7 – seven antennae in the Karoo, which are already making superb test pictures of immensely distant radio galaxies. The MeerKAT has now passed the preliminary design review by a leading international panel, which congratulated the team on the quality of their work and on their enthusiasm and commitment.

Because the Karoo site is so good for radio astronomy, two major telescopes are being built there by international collaborations. The first is the Precision Array to Probe the Epoch of Reionisation (also known as PAPER). This is a collaboration between the National Radio Astronomy Observatory of the United States of America, the University of California, Berkeley, and the SKA South Africa. The second major telescope is the C-BASS (C-Band All Sky Survey) telescope, a collaboration of SKA South Africa with Caltech and Oxford and Manchester universities. PAPER was relocated from Western Australia and is already producing exciting maps of the radio sky. It is searching for the signal of the very first stars being born, a few hundred million years after the universe's birth in the Big Bang.

The MeerKAT and the SKA are a focus for the Youth into Science programme. Since 2005, the SKA South Africa Project awarded nearly 400 grants for postgraduate and undergraduate study in astronomy, physics and engineering. This has already produced 25 PhDs and 52 MScs, graduates who are desperately needed by South Africa and Africa. Forty-nine of the bursaries have gone to students from other African countries and this has led directly to astronomy courses starting in Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Ghana, Zambia, Botswana and Mauritius.

South Africa is working with other African countries to build a network of radio telescopes throughout Africa. Redundant satellite communications dishes will be used where possible and a 32-m diameter dish donated by Vodafone in Ghana is currently being converted into a radio astronomy antenna by the Ghanaian Government and the SKA South Africa team, with help from Vodafone and Oxford University. Brazilian scientists have applied for funds to join this exciting project, extending the network to South America.

The cooperative and collaborative functioning of these networks operating in unison will create high-resolution observations of astronomical objects or accurately measure the distance between each radio telescope in the network. This is the basis for the construction of the African Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) Network. The resolution will be determined by the separation distance of telescopes. The greater the separation distance, the greater the resolution, and a network that uses the large North-South advantage in Africa will make it a powerful VLBI.

Africa is being talked about as the next great business destination and the next great economic growth story. Iconic projects like the SKA, the MeerKAT and the Africa Telescope Network can produce young people with the skills and capabilities to ensure that this becomes a reality. The recognition that science and technology are key to Africa's emergence as an economic powerhouse is essential for Africa to reach its potential. 🌍





Profile

Navi Pillay

Navanethem Pillay: United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Human Rights

The UN General Assembly appointed Ms Navanethem (Navi) Pillay of South Africa as the High Commissioner for Human Rights – the leading UN human rights official – on 28 July 2008.

As a member of a non-white minority in apartheid South Africa, and as a frontline, grassroots lawyer who acted as a defence attorney for many anti-apartheid campaigners and trades unionists, Ms Pillay has personal experience of many of the issues that a high commissioner for human rights has to deal with as part of his/her mandate. She has also been active in supporting women's rights, and was one of the co-founders of the international non-governmental organisation Equality Now, which campaigns for women's rights and has been in existence for 20 years. She has also been involved with a number of other organisations working on issues relating to children, detainees and victims of torture and domestic violence as well as a range of other economic, social and cultural rights.

Judge Pillay has served as a judge on two of the most important international criminal courts in the modern era, spending eight years with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, including four years as its president; and also on the International Criminal Court in The Hague. Both these courts deal with the extreme end of the human rights spectrum – war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide – and are at the cutting edge of the development of international law in these areas.

Judge Pillay is the fifth UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to be appointed since the office was founded 15 years ago. She heads an organisation that has about 1 000 staff members working in 50 countries with a total annual budget of some US\$150 million.

What are human rights?

Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, whatever our nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language or any other status. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without any discrimination. These rights are all interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by law, in the forms of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other sources of international law. International human rights law lays down governments' obligations to act in certain ways or to refrain from certain acts, and to promote and protect human rights and the fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups.

Universal and inalienable

The principle of universality of human rights is the cornerstone of international human rights law. This principle, as first emphasised in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948, has been reiterated in numerous international human rights conventions, declarations and resolutions. The 1993 Vienna World Conference on Human Rights, for example, noted that it was the duty of states to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of their political, economic or cultural systems.

All states have ratified at least one, and 80% of states have ratified four or more of the core human rights treaties, reflecting the states' consent, creating legal obligations for them and giving concrete expression to universality. Some fundamental human rights norms enjoy universal protection by customary international law across all boundaries and civilizations.

Human rights are inalienable. They should not be taken away, except in specific situations and according to due process. For example, the right to liberty may be restricted if a person is found guilty of a crime by a court of law

Interdependent and indivisible

All human rights are indivisible, whether they are civil and political rights, such as the right to life; equality before the law; freedom of expression; economic, social and cultural rights, such as the right to work, social security and education; or collective rights, such as the right to development and self-determination, are indivisible, interrelated and interdependent. The improvement of one right facilitates advancement of the others. Likewise, the deprivation of one right adversely affects the others.

Equal and non-discriminatory

Non-discrimination is a cross-cutting principle in international human rights law. The principle is present in all the major human rights treaties and provides the central theme of some of international human rights conventions such as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

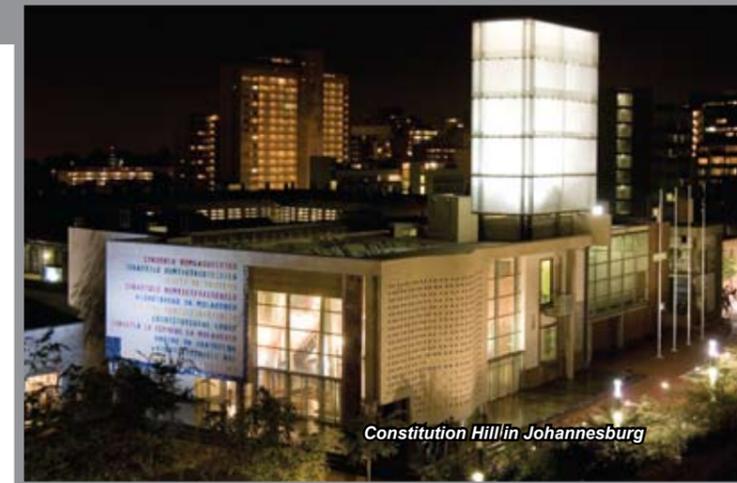
The principle applies to everyone in relation to all human rights and freedoms and it prohibits discrimination on the basis of a list of non-exhaustive categories such as sex, race, colour, etc. The principle of non-discrimination is complemented by the principle of equality, as stated in Article 1 of the UDHR: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights".

Both rights and obligations

Human rights entail both rights and obligations. States assume obligations and duties under international law to respect, protect and fulfil human rights. The obligation to respect means that states must refrain from interfering with or curtailing the enjoyment of human rights. The obligation to protect requires states to safeguard individuals and groups against human rights abuses. The obligation to fulfil means that states must take positive action to facilitate the enjoyment of basic human rights. At individual level, while we are entitled to our human rights, we should also respect the human rights of others.

International human rights law

The international human rights movement was strengthened when the UN General Assembly adopted the UDHR on 10 December 1948. Drafted as "a common standard of achievement for all peoples and



Constitution Hill in Johannesburg

nations", the declaration for the first time in human history clarified the basic civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all human beings should enjoy. It has over time been widely accepted as the fundamental norms of human rights that everyone should respect and protect. The UDHR, together with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two optional protocols, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, form the so-called International Bill of Human Rights.

A series of international human rights treaties and other instruments adopted since 1945 have conferred legal form on inherent human rights and developed the body of international human rights. Other instruments have been adopted at regional level, reflecting the particular human rights concerns of the region and providing for specific protection mechanisms. Most states have also adopted constitutions and other laws, which formally protect basic human rights. While international treaties and customary law form the backbone of international human rights law, other instruments, such as declarations, guidelines and principles adopted at international level contribute to its understanding, implementation and development. Respect for human rights requires the establishment of the rule of law at national and international levels.

International human rights law lays down obligations which states are bound to respect. By becoming parties to international treaties, states assume obligations and duties under international law to respect, protect and fulfil human rights. Through the ratification of international human rights treaties, governments undertake to put into place domestic measures and legislation compatible with their treaty obligations and duties. Where domestic legal proceedings fail to address human rights abuses, mechanisms and procedures for individual complaints or communication are available at regional and international levels to help ensure that international human rights standards are indeed respected, implemented and enforced at local level. 

Source (<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/InternationalLaw.aspx>)

Biography

- Born in 1941 in South Africa

Education

- University of Natal (BA and LLB)
- Harvard University (Master's and Doctorate in Human Rights and International Law)

Career

- 2003 – 2008: Appeals Division Judge, International Criminal Court in The Hague
- 1999 – 2003: President, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
- 1995 – 1999: Judge, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda; 1995: Acting Judge, Supreme Court of South Africa
- 1995: Vice-President, University of Durban-Westville
- 1985: Co-founder of Equality Now
- 1967 – 1995: Attorney and conveyancer, High Court of South Africa
- 1967: First woman to start a law practice in Natal, South Africa. Acted as defence attorney for many apartheid activists.



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Yvonne Chaka Chaka

Earlier this year, popular South African performer, Ms Yvonne Chaka Chaka, became the first African woman to receive the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Crystal Award for artists who improved the world through their work.

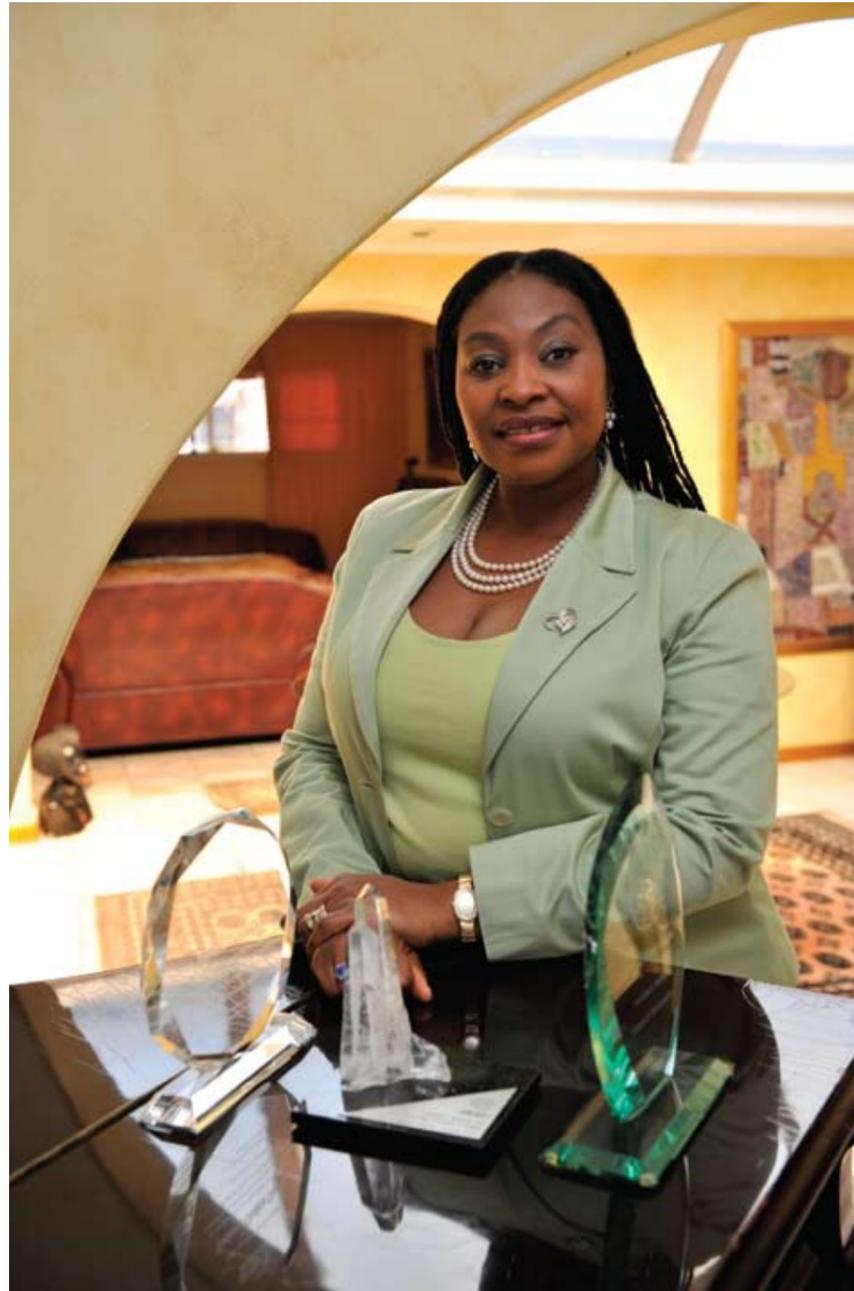
Born in Soweto, Dobsonville, Ms Chaka Chaka knew from an early age that her voice was not just given to her for the sole purpose of entertaining but that it was God who had bestowed it on her. She understood when she began her music career in 1985 that it was a higher being speaking to her and that she had to use her voice for all that is positive. Over the years, she has done just that – dedicating her time to use her voice to speak on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves, those whose voices have been silenced and are living in fear.

Little did she know that her voice would steal people's hearts throughout the continent and that she would be crowned the Princess of Africa – a name given to her by the people of Uganda during one of her concerts in that country in the early 1990s. Tears rolled down her cheeks when crowds lining the streets of Kampala, with placards displaying the words, "I LOVE YOU MY PRINCESS OF AFRICA" cheered her name, a name Ms Chaka Chaka has carried with great honour and respect, to such an extent that she named her developmental organisation the Princess of Africa Foundation.

The Crystal Award she received is in recognition of the work she is so passionately involved in. One of the engagements closest to her heart is the fight for better medical care for malaria sufferers, not only in Africa but throughout the world. "Men, women and children are dying unnecessarily of preventable and treatable diseases. They have almost no access to basic health services and are trapped in a cycle of poverty and sickness. Many communities in Africa and other poor regions of the world are tragically missing out on decent medical healthcare", she says.

Fighting for access to medical care is a battle she has been involved in for the past seven years. Ms Chaka Chaka never thought that her work on malaria would one day result in her becoming a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations (UN) Roll Back Malaria Partnership.

When Phumzile Ntuli, one of her back-up singers died of malaria, Ms Chaka Chaka was devastated, asking herself how something like this could happen to one of her own. Her questions turned into guilt and remorse as



malaria is not only a preventable disease but also treatable. After some introspection, she decided to do something about it, and started working tirelessly on her malaria campaign. The results are paying off.

Travelling the continent has opened her eyes to the extent of the problems faced by humanity. She recalls a woman in Tanzania who had to walk 45 kilometres with her baby on her back to get to a clinic. When she arrived, the child died and the woman had to walk the same 45 kilometers back home; this time with her child's dead body on her back. It is such stories of hardship that propel her to fight on. "These women will never be able to go to Davos or the UN headquarters in the United

States and tell leaders about their problems." Ms Chaka Chaka believes that it is better to look at a human being holistically when seeking medical care; when governments establish clinics, they must do so keeping in mind that these facilities should be practical and offer health seekers a stress-free environment to check everything in one go instead of being sent to different health facilities for different check-ups. According to Ms Chaka Chaka, the plight of women all over the world is far from over. It is women and children who are at the receiving end of bad decisions by those who are in power, and women face abuse in the homestead. "Culture is supposed to be one of the areas which protects and values women.



Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations' Roll Back Malaria Partnership

However today, we hide behind culture to justify some of the abuse of human rights directed towards women. In some countries and some instances, here in South Africa, we still find women compelled to marry the brother of her deceased husband: she is not given a choice in the matter, and many women around the world are still today denied the right to own land and the only reason given is culture."

On one of her trips to Ghana, she witnessed a project where men and women were given pieces of land as separate groups to plough. It was clear that the land given to the women was productive while the men's plots remained stagnant. The sad part is that once these women go back home with the profits

from their sales, the men demand the money. One then wonders why in all of the endless strife and suffering Ms Chaka Chaka never gives up on her quest. She reminds us that as an African woman, a call to care for one's community is not by choice but something which we as Africans are born with. Ubuntu is a power greater than ourselves and it remains the only driving force, which in the midst of all chaos enables us to regroup and pull each other up. "When I grew up, the lady next door was also my mother. It did not matter that we were not blood-related, she had the right to reprimand me when at fault. Neighbours took care of each other. If there was no sugar in the house, the neighbour readily shared her

remaining last spoons. We need to go back to such values now more than ever before. The world is becoming more turbulent and communities need to stick together because it is only the fibers of Ubuntu which can get humankind through these difficult times."

Previous winners of the WEF's Crystal Award include actor Richard Gere; cellist Yo-Yo Ma; producer, composer and musician Quincy Jones; and singer Youssou N'Dour.

This Princess of Africa is also the UN Children's Fund Goodwill Ambassador for malaria in Africa, the UN Millennium Development Goals envoy for Africa, and was the first ambassador for former President Nelson Mandela's Children's Fund. 🌍



SOUTH AFRICA FASHION WEEK

THE BUSINESS OF FASHION



South African Fashion Week (SAFW) was started 16 years ago in 1997. Since its inception, the SAFW has been committed to the development of creative fashion by showcasing the abundance of talent in South Africa's design industry. The SAFW gives young people the opportunity to develop their creativity in the fashion world. Its long-term objective is to enhance South Africa's fashion tourism industry, with the aim of helping to promote South African fashion globally and encourage global fashionistas to come and experience the country's unique fashion offerings and hugely talented designers. Through participation in this event, most South African designers have found their voice and made good business of fashion in following their vision.

The SAFW realises it is essential to give young creative people the

opportunity to develop early. This is done through a series of initiatives in support of fledgling entrepreneurs and their business needs through mentorship programmes; facilitation of skills and knowledge transfer through workshops and training courses; facilitating partnerships between established designers and crafting communities; identifying and developing new design talent through the Renault SAFW New Talent Search in support of design initiatives; and by promoting the work of designers on public platforms through the SAFW website, in the media and on every possible level.

Retail structures and buyers who sustain the fashion industry have historically supported the financial dynamic that surrounds any fashion week and its designers. The next event will be taking place from 27 to 30 September 2012. 🌐

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Travel guide and tips



The do's and don'ts of airport travel

Flight Centre advises all travellers to keep a few things in mind to make holiday travel smoother and a little easier on the airport officials.

Here is a list of do's and don'ts to ease your way.

Things to remember

- DO call the airline customer service before leaving for the airport and check your flight's schedule. Sometimes, the flights get delayed or cancelled. Calling beforehand can save a lot of unexpected trouble.
- DO reach the airport at least 1½ hours and two to three hours for domestic and international flights respectively before the flight is scheduled to leave.
- DO carry all your travel-related documents and make sure that you have properly placed them in your baggage before stepping out of your home. These documents comprise air tickets, boarding passes, and a valid ID and passport issued by government.
- Don't commit a mistake by carrying prohibited items. You can check the airline's website to know the details of prohibited items. Generally, you're not allowed to carry dangerous items like knives and guns at all and be aware of the LAGs restrictions (liquids, aerosols and gels).
- Don't place valuables, cash or medications in your checked baggage. All these items should be kept in carry-on baggage.

At the airport

- Don't ever leave your vehicle abandoned in front of the terminal. In case you require leaving your vehicle, then park it in short-term parking. Any unattended vehicle is subject to being towed and ticketed. Better save yourself from later headaches!
- Don't bring drinks or food through the security checkpoint. Drinks and food bought after the checkpoint have been screened and therefore it can be carried onto the airplane.
- You should remove all your metallic items and put them in your carry-on baggage before reaching the security checkpoint. These items may comprise jewellery, cellphones, loose change, belt buckles, pagers, keys, etc.
- Do check that you possess a boarding pass and valid identification before reaching the security checkpoint. Security people will definitely ask for them when reaching the security checkpoint.

Following all these airplane travel tips from the airfare experts at Flight Centre will ensure a pleasant and quick trip through any airport. Have a great trip! 🌍

For more information on flights to anywhere around the world, speak to Flight Centre on 0860 400 747 or visit www.flightcentre.co.za



Top 5 holiday ideas for 2012

Cultural option

Experience the Far East culture in Thailand

From idyllic, unspoilt beaches with turquoise seas and pure, white sands to bustling cities sporting exotic markets and a vibrant, colourful nightlife, it is easy to see why Thailand has become one of the most popular tourist destinations for the adventurous and young at heart. A turbulent and often bloody history spanning several millennia has left Thailand scattered with ruins, forgotten temples and deserted cities; revealing a rich tableau of past eras that contrasts sharply with the more modern aspects of the nation's contemporary face. Thailand's booming tourist economy has resulted in the opening of a number of expensive and luxurious international hotels.

Those looking for the rustic splendour of the beaches and islands will find plenty of cheap and comfortable accommodation, however. The size and geographical diversity of Thailand provide for a variety of activities: snorkelling, diving and a host of watersports are very popular around the islands, while inland enthusiasts can trek into the mountains or cycle across the flat river areas of the north-east. Bustling, crowded cities like Bangkok and Patong display the wilder urban side of Thailand, ensuring the country has something to offer everyone who visits.

Adventure option

Skiing in the Alps

It's hard to describe a week away in the Austrian Alps without it making us smile. The Austrian ski villages that are dotted around the Alps are all very enchanting in their own little ways. Different coloured houses are scattered throughout cobbled streets filled with horse-drawn sleighs and the amazing carved wooden balconies and windows remind you of the olden days. Depending on what time in winter you visit, hopefully you will see the snow fall and the villages turn into a winter wonderland, similar to what you see in fairy tales. The pine

trees get heavily weighed down by the snow, transforming entire landscapes into scenes that we would imagine look like heaven.

Whether it is a romantic getaway, an adventure with friends or a family holiday, we would definitely recommend trying a ski holiday once. It is an ideal way for families with teenagers to choose a holiday where everyone interacts, spending time learning and enjoying something new. Austria is a wonderful destination and is renowned for its picturesque resorts and outstanding levels of service and quality. A ski holiday in Austria will offer world-class skiing and a vibrant après ski, making it a superb choice for your next ski holiday. The best route to access the majority of Austrian ski resorts would be to fly into Munich as there are many resorts accessible within two to three hours from there.

At Pentravel, we recommend purchasing an all-inclusive ski package. These normally include your flights, transfers, accommodation, ski passes, ski school, ski hire and entertainment programme at the resort. There is no better way to experience everything that your resort has on offer.

Beach option

Relax and unwind in Mauritius

Mauritius is the classic option for South Africans. With it being a mere four hours away and the convenience of South Africans not requiring visas, make this destination a sought-after one. Whether in pursuit of sport or leisure, culture or cuisine, excitement or relaxation, you will be captivated by the extraordinary mix of friendly people, the intoxicating fragrances, luxurious beach resorts and the finest hospitality that is Mauritius – an island to be discovered and enjoyed time and again. Surrounded by sandy white beaches and cooled by the flower-scented trade winds, Mauritius is a tropical island paradise. It is a diverse tropical island, a mixture of Indian, French, Creole and Chinese cultural influences. The Mauritius tropical landscape is a beautiful mix of jungle-covered mountains, sugar-cane fields, waterfalls, and white sand beaches. There are different standards of hotels and accommodation available to suit your needs. Our staff travel to

Mauritius regularly and will be able to advise you on which resort suits your requirements and budget. We recommend you book an all-inclusive "leave your wallet at home" option as this is the most cost-effective way to travel to Mauritius. Pay for everything before you leave to avoid additional costs on snacks, lunches and drinks while on holiday.

Cruise option

Award-winning Royal Caribbean International, the world's youngest, freshest and most innovative cruise fleet, lets you explore the world as never before.

With a choice of 22 magnificent ships, over 290 destinations, breathtaking shore excursions and an on-board experience that includes ice-skating rinks, rock-climbing walls 61 meters above sea level, a flow rider and our spectacular new onboard surf park, it's no wonder Royal Caribbean International is way more than a cruise. Where in the world can you ice skate around a sun-drenched Caribbean island? Go rock-climbing high above the rooftops of Venice? Or relax in a soothing spa in the middle of a tropical rainforest? Only on a Royal Caribbean cruise holiday!

From the moment you step on board any of Royal Caribbean's ships, you'll find a world of choices you could only have imagined. With so many exciting activities onboard, choosing can be an activity in itself! Play basketball, speed around the in-line skating track, play a round of golf in the golf simulator or work up a sweat in the gym. The best part of all is these activities won't dent your wallet as they are all included in the price.

With the ships being mini-destinations in themselves, it is almost a bonus to discover different destinations each day while only having to unpack once. Meals are included with casual dining, restaurant and buffet-style options and for the in-between nibbles there are pizza bars and ice-cream parlours. 24-hour room service adds to the pampering and you may just need that breakfast in bed after taking in a West End-style show and then boogying down in one of the discos until the early hours!

For kids, there can be no greater adventure than sailing the high seas. And to make it even



more special, Royal Caribbean created the Adventure Ocean Programme, specifically designed to entertain children from three to 17 years, with an exciting range of fun and educational supervised activities.

Guided holiday option

Pentravel recommends choosing a Trafalgar Guided holiday as your first option. We passionately believe in the power of travel to broaden the mind and build bridges between people. By sharing with you the hidden places not mentioned in guidebooks, the local people you wouldn't otherwise meet, and the traditions you may not have discovered by yourself, we ensure that you get the "insider" view, an authentic and enhanced experience you simply could not have had on your own.

It is this dedication to taking guests beyond the obvious sights that has helped them grow over the past 65 years into one of the most trusted and successful international guided holiday companies in the world. From Europe to the United States, from South America to South Africa, they pride themselves on uncovering the hidden gems, cultural highlights and not-to-be-missed attractions of the places you visit. We'll help you delve deep into the heart of off-the-beaten-path cities and towns and capture the true essence of each new destination.

While on tour we want you to relax, unwind and enjoy your holiday. So, the best way of assuring your peace of mind, is to take care of everything for you.

Forget all the hassles and headaches. One phone call to Pentravel and we'll make all the arrangements, take care of every detail, and leave you free to concentrate on the fun things. We've covered everything; which is why you can dream, pack, and leave the rest to us. Whether you travel by coach, ship or train, we will ensure that you travel in style. We only use state-of-the-art, modern transport to ensure that you are safe and comfortable at all times. 🌍

Please pop into any of our shops countrywide to find out more about these holiday options or any other ideas you may have for this upcoming year. Alternatively, call us on 0861 770 770 or e-mail us on info@pentravel.co.za. We would love to hear from you.





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Freedom PARK

a heritage destination

Freedom Park is the South African tale in the voice of the South African people. Using our unique culture, heritage, history and spirituality, it tells of the events that shaped us and why we are who we are today. It is the heart and soul of our nation captured in one breathtaking space.

Situated close to our capital's city centre, Freedom Park stands as a memorial to what we have achieved as a nation. Most importantly, it stands as a beacon to guide all South Africans on the route of hope and patriotism to a proudly united nation.

A visit to Freedom Park is a liberating, spiritually cleansing and inspirational experience: a pilgrimage to dispel the myths and prejudices that have concealed and distorted the image and achievements of South Africans.

Isivivane

Isivivane is a sacred space – the spiritual resting place for those who played a part in the freedom and liberation of South Africa. Inclusive of all faiths and religions, it invites South Africans to celebrate their shared spirituality and heritage.

Isivivane asks us to take a moment to contemplate our united humanity. Despite our differences in race, culture and creed, all human beings share a common bond in the way in which we experience emotions such as joy, pain or loss. As South Africans, Africans and citizens of the world, Isivivane is the ideal space to explore and celebrate this thread that runs through us all.

To infuse Isivivane with a sense of sanctity, representatives from various religions and beliefs performed the necessary rites and rituals to ensure a spiritual haven, which all South Africans can call their own. As a sign of respect, we ask that all visitors remove their shoes when entering Isivivane.

S'khumbuto

S'khumbuto is the main memorial. It stands as a testimony to eight conflicts that have shaped the South Africa of today. These are pre-colonial wars, slavery, genocide, wars of

resistance, the South African War, the First World War, the Second World War and the struggle for liberation.

The concept of S'khumbuto signifies a place of remembrance for those who have died, but also a place of invoking their assistance in current and future affairs. S'khumbuto is a place of celebration rather than grief and mourning.

S'khumbuto has various elements, each one with its own symbolism and meaning, including the Wall of Names, the Amphitheatre, the Sanctuary, the Eternal Flame, the Gallery of Leaders, the Reeds and the President's Tree.

The Wall of Names is an awe-inspiring structure (697 m in length), inscribed with the names of those who played a significant part during the above eight conflicts within South Africa's history. The physical wall can accommodate 150 000 names. To date, approximately 75 000 names have been inscribed.

Embraced by the Wall of Names is the Amphitheatre – a terraced space that can seat 2 000 people. It serves as a multi-purpose venue for major national events or celebrations.

Uitspanplek

Uitspanplek is a peaceful place where families can spend the day together or where visitors

to the park can relax and reflect after a tour. The concept is derived from the Groot Trek era where the Voortrekkers would interrupt their journey to rest and replenish as they moved into the interior of the land. This place of rest would be called the uitspanplek.

Moshate

Moshate is a high-level hospitality suite, which is used for presidential and diplomatic functions. It also acts as a VIP retreat for negotiations, discussions and the signing of agreements and accords.

The architectural concept was derived from the design of the various kingdoms within the South African landscape. In this way, the institution of African traditional leadership is being honoured.

//hapo

Khoi proverb: //hapo ge //hapo tama / haohasib dis tamas ka i bo

(A dream is not a dream until it is shared by the entire community)

//hapo forms part of the last phase of Freedom Park. This is the phase that will draw all the elements on this 52-hectare site together to present a united whole. //hapo will be where your journey through Freedom Park starts.

//hapo tells the story of Africa dating back 3,6 billion years, focusing specifically on southern Africa, but also touching on the

rest of the continent. Our rich and colourful history unfolds in seven epochs or eras, from creation to the issues of reconciliation and nation-building that we face today.

Within //hapo, the history of our region is brought to life as visitors are transported beyond a mere taking in of facts but are encouraged to live and experience the bygone ages. Each story is revealed in layers, creating a sense of wonderment and curiosity. Instead of simply stating the facts, //hapo equips visitors with clues and tools that allow each and everyone to paint a picture of "what might it have been like for me".

//hapo will therefore be much more than a traditional museum. It will be a place where the historical, cultural and spiritual resources of South Africa will come alive – a place where people will be able to reach a new understanding of a complex past, explore the diversity that is South Africa's greatest wealth and create shared dreams of the future. The overriding objective for //hapo is to be a "living" interpretive centre – one with which each and every South African will identify personally.

Scheduled for completion in September 2012, //hapo will be a place for the South African community to dream and learn together. 



