



In the spirit of Ubuntu



credits

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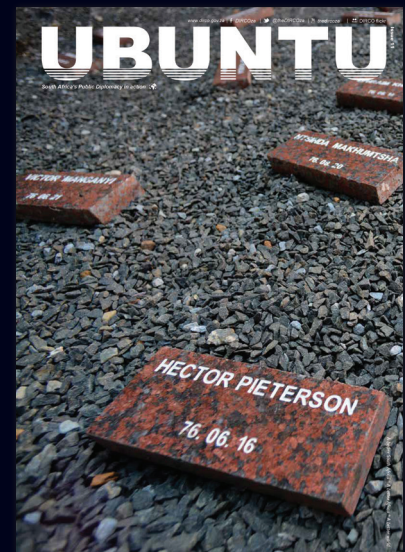
international relations
& cooperation

Department:
International Relations and Cooperation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

UBUNTU

a Nguni word meaning humanity

The Department of International Relations
and Cooperation's quarterly magazine

**ON THE COVER**

This year is the 40th Anniversary of the Soweto Uprising. We pay tribute to the 16 June 1976 generation whose brave actions led to the declaration of apartheid as a crime against humanity by the United Nations, and triggered a groundswell of international solidarity against the apartheid regime. Hector Pieterston, age 13, was one of the first students to be killed. He has since become a symbol of youth resistance to apartheid. The cover depicts the Garden of Remembrance at the Hector Pieterston Museum with the names of all those who died in the uprising inscribed on loose bricks.

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SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

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This year is the 40th Anniversary of the Soweto Uprising and South Africa pays tribute to the 16 June 1976 generation whose brave actions led to the declaration of apartheid as a crime against humanity by the United Nations (UN), and triggered a groundswell of international solidarity against the apartheid regime. South Africa will remain eternally grateful to the international community for their role in the struggle against apartheid, and the birth of a new democratic South Africa.

This is also the “Year of Human Rights with specific focus on Women’s Rights” as declared by the Heads of State and Government during the African Union (AU) January 2016 Summit. Women’s rights are human rights.

It coincides with the 60th Anniversary of the historic march by the women of South Africa against inhuman, unjust and discriminatory apartheid laws. We reaffirm the centrality of human rights in our foreign policy and recommit ourselves to intensify our efforts at the promotion and protection of women’s rights in particular.

During the State of the Nation Address on 11 February, President Jacob Zuma underscored the centrality of the National Development Plan (NDP), the overarching apex policy framework that guides the work of the fifth administration.

In the area of international relations, the NDP states: “... in order for South Africa to achieve its national goals of eradicating

poverty, lowering inequality, creating jobs and making transition to a resilient carbon economy, foreign relations must be driven by the country’s domestic economic, political and social demands, as well as our regional, continental and global obligations”.

In pursuance of this injunction, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) has translated the NDP goals into a strategic programme that seeks to:

- sustain political, economic and social relations
- strengthen political and economic integration and development of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)
- consolidate the African Agenda
- strengthen and consolidate South-South relations
- leverage relations with the North in advancement of national and continental priorities and agenda of the South
- advocate for the reform and strengthening of the global system of governance.

We live in a turbulent world characterised by economic crisis on the one hand and political conflict on the other. These twin global challenges pose a serious threat to peace and development in the world. Peace and development are two sides of the same coin. According to the UN’s *2016 World Economic Situation Prospects*, the global economy is

expected to grow sluggishly by a mere 2,9% in 2016 and 3,2% in 2017. The global economic downturn has forced many governments to adopt fiscal consolidation measures side by side with stimulus packages. South Africa is one of the developing countries whose economics are fully integrated in the global economy, hence the impact.

Part of DIRCO’s response to this changing global economic landscape has been to identify economic development opportunities for South Africa. In anticipation of growth in both the African and Asian regions, we took a conscious decision to expand and strengthen our diplomatic missions in the two regions.

South Africa increased its presence on the continent from seven diplomatic and consular missions in 1994 to 47 in 2015. Consequently, South Africa’s trade on the continent increased 39 times from R11,4 billion in 1994 to R385 billion in 2015. We are targeting half a trillion rand trade with Africa by 2019. As at the end of 2015, 20% of South Africa’s trade was conducted within the African continent.

With regard to Asia and the Middle East, South Africa’s trade and investment in these regions have grown considerably and continue to do so. In 1994, trade with Asia and the Middle East combined was approximately R45 billion and has increased to approximately R760 billion for Asia and R116 billion with the Middle East. Working together with other government departments, we can achieve a trillion rand trade with this region by 2019.

Based on the above, it can be deduced that there is a direct correlation between the growth of South Africa’s diplomatic missions and the phenomenal expansion of our trade and investment relations on both the African continent and in Asia and the Middle East. The same applies to the Americas and Europe. With additional economic diplomacy efforts and enhanced national coordination, South African trade with the world can reach R2 trillion by the end of this administration.

At the same time, as we explore new markets, we continue to maintain close economic ties with the industrialised economies of the North, which provide, among others, preferential market access to some of South Africa’s exports. Enhancing the economic and political dialogue is an important part of our economic diplomacy strategy as they remain a primary source of foreign direct investment and official development assistance flows into South Africa.

In addition to the economic uncertainties we face, the global security situation has become

more precarious in the recent past. We have witnessed with concern growing extremism, increased acts of terrorism and intra-state conflict in various regions across the world, including the Sahel. The long-standing conflict in Syria and the instability in Libya are but examples of the conflict. These developments have led to an increase in migration flows as people flee the consequences of conflict. It is important that the root causes of migration are addressed, especially the impact on women and children. South Africa's development is intertwined with that of the southern African region and the African continent at large.

Hence, the country's renewed efforts at ramping up industrialisation should be viewed within the overall framework of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap as approved by the SADC Extra-Ordinary Summit in April 2015. We seek to industrialise the regional and continental economies in order to develop our own manufacturing capacity.

South Africa also seeks to radically alter the colonial/post-colonial pattern where Africa was a supplier of raw materials. Africa should produce value-added goods for exports into the global economy. It is only in this way that we can address the paradox of a rich-resource continent inhabited by a poverty-stricken population and make a decisive break with the past.

In pursuit of the continental economic integration agenda, we have witnessed the launch of the SADC, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and East African Community Tripartite Free Trade Area (FTA) in June 2015 in Egypt. This FTA, which merges 26 countries into a free trade zone with 625 million people and a total gross domestic product of US\$1.6 trillion will contribute immensely towards increasing intra-African trade. The Tripartite FTA represents an important milestone towards the conclusion of negotiations for the establishment of the Continental FTA.

Led by President Zuma, the AU Assembly unanimously re-elected South Africa for a second consecutive two-year term to the AU's Peace and Security Council. This gives us the opportunity to consolidate the work done in the past two years, including contributing to the implementation of Agenda 2063's goal of "Silencing the Guns by 2020". South Africa will intensify its diplomatic efforts to help bring about lasting political solutions in Lesotho, Burundi, South Sudan and the Great Lakes region.

We commend the outgoing AU Commission Chairperson, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma,

for her admirable leadership, in particular the conceptualisation of Agenda 2063, which has since been adopted as the continent's vision – the "Africa we want".

In pursuit of the NDP goals, particularly concerning energy security, South Africa has engaged in mutually beneficial partnerships with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Memorandum of Understanding between South Africa and the DRC on the Grand Inga Project, signed in 2011, has entered into force. This project, when completed, will be a significant addition to South Africa's energy mix, contributing 15 000 MW to the national grid. The African continent continues to leverage relations with strategic partners such as China to achieve its developmental objectives as set out in Agenda 2063. In this regard, the first-ever summit-level meeting of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), held in December 2015 on the African continent in Johannesburg, focussed on the objectives of Agenda 2063 and the China Two Centenary Goals.

China pledged US\$60 billion for Africa's skills training, socio-economic and infrastructure development from which South Africa and the continent at large will benefit. Ahead of the FOCAC meeting, Chinese President Xi Jinping undertook a State Visit to South Africa, culminating in the signing of 23 agreements amounting to close to R100 billion.

Our cooperative partnerships with emerging economies complement other existing platforms which we utilise to pursue the African Agenda. Since we joined the Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) formation, Africa's developmental needs and aspirations have been fully incorporated into the BRICS agenda. The BRICS's New Development Bank (NDB), headquartered in Shanghai, has recently started operations and its African Regional Centre will be located in Johannesburg.

The NDB approved its first tranche of projects in April 2016. Each member state has been allocated a project to implement and South Africa has been allocated US\$180 billion for renewable energy. Through this decision, the NDB has commenced to discharge its mandate, namely: the funding of infrastructure projects that promote sustainable development. Africa's partnerships with the United States of America, India, Korea and Japan are also yielding positive socio-economic results.

In the spirit of mutual beneficial global cooperation, South Africa will continue to participate actively in the Group of 20 (G20) processes in its capacity as Co-chair of the G20 Development Working Group.

As the chairperson of Group of 77 and China, South Africa was at the forefront of articulating and promoting the collective economic and developmental interests of the South within the UN system. We coordinated the G77 and China positions in the negotiations for the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which was adopted at a UN Summit in September 2015, and during the third International Conference on Financing for Development, which resulted in the "Addis Ababa Action Agenda".

We are satisfied that the 2030 Agenda is all encompassing in that it addresses the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely: the economic, social and environmental dimensions, and is aligned to the AU's Agenda 2063 and our own NDP.

Concerning the climate change negotiations, South Africa utilised its tenure as the Chair of the G77 and China to engender a paradigm shift from the mitigation-centric approach to a holistic and comprehensive approach in order to meaningfully address climate change. In this regard, the historic Paris Agreement and the package of supporting decisions covering climate action in the pre- and post-2020 periods mark the successful conclusion of a four-year negotiation process under the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action initiated by South Africa in 2011. South Africa signed the Paris Agreement at the UN Secretary-General's high-level event in New York on 22 April 2016 and will commence with the domestic processes required for ratification.

We remain convinced that the UN is the pre-eminent organisation for the maintenance of global peace and security and the advancement of development. We will therefore continue to advocate for its reforms, particularly the reform of the UN Security Council to ensure that this body is both responsive to the needs of developing countries and is truly representative of the current global realities.

The following words of President Nelson Mandela addressing a Joint Sitting of Parliament to mark 10 years of democracy still ring true: "In a cynical world we have become an inspiration to many. We signal that good can be achieved among human beings who are prepared to trust, prepared to believe in the goodness of people".

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



Africa Day, which is celebrated each year on 25 May, commemorates the 1963 founding of the Organisation of African Unity, presently recognised as the Africa Union (AU). South Africa's Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma became the first female chairperson of the AU Commission in 2012. She will step down at the end of her four-year term in July 2016. Agenda 2063, a blueprint to achieve a prosperous, integrated and peaceful Africa, is one of her legacy projects.





The good work done by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) is not going unnoticed.

In March, DIRCO came in Third Place in Universum's Most Attractive Employers Awards 2016 for the category: Humanities/Liberal Arts/ Education. Universum is the global leader in employer branding and delivers a full range of services in research, strategic consulting and communication solutions that enable employers to better understand, attract and retain top talent.

Every year, Universum Global conducts research across the world and specifically within South Africa in 2015, Universum interviewed over 45 000 tertiary institution

students as well as over 21 000 professionals in various sectors, including business/commerce, engineering/technology, healthcare/health sciences/sciences and humanities/liberal arts/law. The research survey indicated that DIRCO was perceived by professionals as a desired place to work due to aspects such as international exposure, training opportunities and travelling.

In April, South Africa received the Distinguished Diplomatic Service Award by the World Affairs Council in Washington, DC.

As the first African country to receive this award, it recognises South Africa's outstanding commitment to global education, international affairs and global communication to advance our national interests.

Cabinet has also recognised the work of the department by applauding the winners of the Second Annual Ubuntu Awards, held in February, which recognised South African industry leaders and eminent persons for their contribution to promote our national interests and values across the globe.

In the same statement, Cabinet commended the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, for her contribution to South Africa's international engagements, driven by the vision of a united African continent that is peaceful, democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous, and which contributes to a just and equitable world.

There is tangible evidence supporting these accolades.

In DIRCO's Budget Vote in Parliament on 3 May, Minister Nkoana-Mashabane highlighted how DIRCO's conscious decision to expand and strengthen diplomatic missions in strategic regions have paid off.

"South Africa increased its presence on the African continent from seven diplomatic and consular missions in 1994 to 47 in 2015.

Consequently, South Africa's trade on the continent increased 39 times from R11,4 billion in 1994 to R385 billion in 2015. We are targeting half a trillion rand trade with Africa by 2019. As at the end of 2015, 20% of South Africa's trade was conducted within the African continent.

"With regard to Asia and the Middle East, South Africa's trade and investment in these regions have grown considerably and continue to do so.

In 1994, trade with Asia and the Middle East combined was approximately R45 billion and has increased to approximately R760 billion for Asia and R116 billion with the Middle East.

Working together with other government departments, we can achieve a trillion rand trade with this region by 2019."

The Minister said that "with additional economic diplomacy efforts and enhanced national coordination, South African trade with the world can reach R2 trillion by the end of this administration".

DIRCO has a sharpened focus on economic diplomacy with a view to addressing the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality as outlined in the National Development Plan. Therefore, our international relations engagements for this year will continue to be based on our country's national priorities and the pursuit of continental aspirations.

DIRCO is successfully delivering on its mandate, which is the creation of a better South Africa and contributing to a better and safer Africa in a better world.

The successful implementation of South Africa's foreign policy would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of DIRCO's officials both at head office and abroad. 🇿🇦



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Towards a better South Africa, continent and world

By Siyabonga Cwele

Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services and
Chairperson of the International Cooperation, Trade and Security Cluster

During 2015, government sharpened its focus on economic diplomacy to strengthen relations that will bring foreign investment and help it to address the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

The South African Government's International Cooperation, Trade and Security Cluster is responsible for the implementation of the Medium Term Strategic Framework: 2014 – 2019 commitments, as articulated in Outcome 11. Our vision is to "Create a better



South Africa, contribute to a better and safer Africa in a better world". Government fulfils its commitments through the cluster system that promotes coordination and integration of interrelated functions to accelerate service delivery.

During 2015, government sharpened its focus on economic diplomacy to strengthen relations that will bring foreign investment and help it to address the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality. This focus has led to a number of partnerships with like-minded countries and significant funds have been committed towards African development by South Africa's international partners.

South Africa's priorities enhanced in bilateral and multilateral engagements

South Africa ended the year 2015 by hosting

Under South Africa's Chair, the G77 and China demonstrated unprecedented unity, which resulted in securing the best deal possible for developing countries.

the State Visit by the President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, which took place on the eve of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit during which a number of agreements were concluded.

President Jacob Zuma took part in the 2016 World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos with a delegation comprising ministers and business leaders. The WEF was an important platform to promote and profile South Africa's attractiveness as an investment destination of choice. Building on WEF Africa, this delegation took a united message to WEF Davos that South Africa was open for business. Despite challenges in the global economy, South Africa remains a competitive business and investment destination. In the first three quarters of the current financial year, South Africa attracted R64,3 billion in foreign direct investment, far surpassing the target of R45 billion. For citizens, the investments mean an opportunity to work, develop their skills, earn a sustainable income and feed a family.

Participation in multilateral institutions

The Minister of Environmental Affairs, Edna Molewa, led the South African delegation to the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and 11th Meeting of the Parties serving as the Conference of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (UNFCCC COP 21/CMP11). This global conference, which took place from 30 November to 12 December 2015 in Paris, France, led to the adoption by consensus of the Paris Agreement and a package of supporting decisions, addressing climate action in both the pre-and -post 2020 periods.

President Zuma delivered the South African national statement, held bilateral meetings and was accorded the special honour by the French President of chairing a full session of the leaders' event. This was in recognition of President Zuma's special role as initiator of the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, under which the Paris negotiations took place, as well as a key contributor to broader United Nations (UN) processes on environment and sustainable development.

South Africa participated in these negotiations as Chair of the Group of 77 and China, whose 136 members represent well

over 80% of the world's population, as well as in its role as a member of the Africa Group of Negotiators; the Brazil, South Africa, India and China group (BASIC); and in its national capacity. Minister Molewa led the G77 and China at the ministerial-level meetings in Paris, while Ambassador Nozipho Mxakato-Diseko, Deputy Director-General: Global Governance and Continental Agenda at the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), chaired the group for all other meetings during 2015. South Africa drafted key text that helped forge the political deal underpinning the legal agreement and also made successful interventions. Under South Africa's Chair, the G77 and China demonstrated unprecedented unity, which resulted in securing the best deal possible for developing countries.

The successful finalisation of the Paris Agreement is extremely significant for South Africa as it strives to enhance its efforts to transition to a lower-carbon economy and society, as well as to adapt in the short, medium and long term to the impacts of increasing temperatures and reduced rainfall in many parts of the country.

South Africa also assumed a seat on the UN Broadband Commission, which noted that 3,2 billion people were connected to the Internet. The commission is now focused on finding ways to connect the next four billion people, mostly in underdeveloped areas, and trying to bring down the costs to connect them.

South Africa is implementing the roll-out of broadband to ensure that all citizens are able to use the transformative power of the Internet to keep pace with global developments and market their businesses internationally. We want to ensure that ultimately, access to broadband is at competitive prices as we move to lower the costs of doing business in South Africa.

In his State of the Nation Address in February 2016, President Zuma emphasised that the African continent remained central to South Africa's foreign policy engagements.

South Africa hosted the Summit of African Union (AU) Heads of State and Government in June 2015. At that time, the negotiations for a Continental Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) were launched. The CFTA will also follow the developmental integration approach for which South Africa has consistently been



Economic cooperation with our Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRICS) partners was strengthened when the first two intergovernmental agreements were concluded on the occasion of the Sixth BRICS Summit. These were the Agreement on the New Development Bank and the Treaty Establishing a Contingent Reserve Arrangement.

advocating. The developmental integration agenda is premised on three pillars: market integration complemented by the concurrent pillars of industrial and infrastructure development.

President Zuma and senior officials attended the 24th Ordinary Session of the AU Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 30 to 31 January 2016. The AU launched the theme: "Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063".

South Africa's plans are underway to domesticate and align Agenda 2063 and the first 10-Year Implementation Plan. This is in response to the summit's call for all AU organs and continental institutions to align their strategic and master plans to the first 10-Year Implementation Plan and ensure maximum coordination in its implementation, in the spirit of complementarity and subsidiarity.

South Africa also participated in the important World Radiocommunications Conference, which took place in November 2015. This conference agreed on new allocations and reassignment of spectrum for critical services. South Africa was successful in advancing its national position. The outcomes have positive benefits for the national priorities, including universal broadband roll-out, universal broadcasting roll-out, satellite communications services, aircraft services, maritime and the ocean economy programmes, environmental public protection and disaster relief, emergency services and security services, as well as other future programmes to support economic transformation and to realise the National Development Plan objectives.

Strong, mutually beneficial South-South cooperation

South Africa participated in the India-Africa Summit held in New Delhi, India, from 26 to 30 October 2015 and the FOCAC hosted in Johannesburg from 4 to 5 December 2015 as we strengthened these important partnerships. China announced investments of US\$50 billion of which South Africa will receive US\$10 billion for infrastructure, industrialisation and skills development.

The Preferential Trade Agreement between the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and the Southern Common Market (Mercosur), comprising Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, has now been ratified by all member states and this agreement is expected to enter into force in 2016. The agreement will offer new market access opportunities for South African exports and also strengthen South-South cooperation.

Economic cooperation with our Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRICS) partners was strengthened when the first two intergovernmental agreements were concluded on the occasion of the Sixth BRICS Summit. These were the Agreement on the New Development Bank (NDB) and the Treaty Establishing a Contingent Reserve Arrangement. The NDB approved its inaugural projects in April 2016.

South Africa participated in the inaugural BRICS Ministers of Communications whose aims include demonopolising the electronic manufacturing sector, opening their markets to each other and increasing cooperation among each other.

Strong, mutually beneficial and strategic formations with the North

Countries of the developed North remain important strategic partners for South Africa.

South Africa continues its engagements with the European Union (EU) as a bloc (consisting of 28 members), which is our largest trading partner and foreign investor. Over 2 000 EU companies operating within South Africa have created over 350 000 jobs. The EU also contributes 100 million Euros (about R1,5 billion) to infrastructure development for domestic and regional programmes through the Infrastructure Investment Programme.

In 2015, South African exports to the EU amounted to more than R216 billion, of which half were manufactured goods. The legal scrubbing of the Economic Partnership

Agreement (EPA) between the Southern African Development Community (SADC) EPA group and the EU was concluded in October 2015. The agreement will be put forward for ratification within the next few months. This agreement brings improved market access for some South African products into the EU, beyond that which was enjoyed under the earlier South Africa-EU Trade, Development and Cooperation Agreement.

Furthermore, the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) was re-authorised in June 2015 for 10 years until 2025, with South Africa's inclusion.

This will secure continued market access for South African products, including in value-added generating sectors such as agriculture and automobiles. South Africa and the United States of America (USA) have resolved all outstanding issues relating to the agricultural imports from the USA, paving the way for continuation of AGOA benefits for South Africa's agricultural exports into the US market.

South Africa and the USA have recommitted themselves to work towards resolving issues affecting South Africa's agricultural exports into that country. The affected agricultural exports include, among others, citrus, avocados, litchis, beef, mutton and racehorses.

The renewal of AGOA beyond September 2015 and a pledge to support African-led peace initiatives on the continent are among the significant outcomes of the US-Africa Leadership Summit held in the USA last year.

A sustainable, developed and economically integrated Africa

Economically, regional economic integration efforts have gained considerable momentum through the launch of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa-East African Community-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area (FTA) in June 2015 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.

The Tripartite FTA comprises combined markets of 26 countries.

The combined gross domestic product (GDP) of these countries in 2014 was estimated at US\$1,3 trillion and amount to 58% of Africa's GDP.

Efforts are underway to also engage in the Continental FTA negotiations launched by the assembly in June 2015, which will integrate all the AU member states with a market of over one billion people with a projected GDP of approximately US\$3,4 trillion by 2017.

Over 2 000 European Union companies operating within South Africa have created over 350 000 jobs.

The year will also seek to explore more business and developmental opportunities, and demonstrate South Africa's innovations and best practices in various areas such as science and technology (S&T), fashion, mining, arts, culture, tourism and greater people-to-people interaction.

Member states were also encouraged to urgently develop a continental initiative on critical technical skills and prioritise investments in the development of skills, especially in the areas of S&T, essential for implementing Agenda 2063, including vocational skills and trade technicians, and the design and management of large-scale projects.

An economically integrated southern Africa

South Africa assumed the position of Chair of the SACU in June 2015. In SADC, the review of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan was completed and adopted by an Extraordinary SADC Summit in April 2015.

In the area of economic integration, industrial development was given centre stage and is being front-loaded in the implementation plan.

It is important that all partners develop their industrial sectors in order to benefit fully from integration initiatives.

In further elaboration of this new orientation, the SADC has also developed a regional industrialisation strategy. As a final component of that work, the action plan of the strategy is being developed.

A peaceful, secure and stable Africa

President Zuma stated in the State of the Nation Address that: "South Africa continued to support peace and security and regional economic integration through participation in the AU and the SADC initiatives".

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) and South African Police Service continue to participate diligently in conflict prevention and peacekeeping on the continent.

The Force Intervention Brigade, which the SANDF is part of, had a very successful operation, which saw the biggest armed group in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) M23 surrendering.

In December 2015, South Africa's Lieutenant-General Derrick Mgwebi was appointed as the new Force Commander of the UN Mission in the DRC, called MONUSCO.

He took over command of a 20 000-strong UN Mission in the eastern part of the DRC. This is the largest UN peace-support

operation on the African continent and in the world.

The SANDF, under operation Team Bulisa, has assisted with the development and completion of the Military Strategy of the Armed Forces of the DRC. This is part of capacity-building that the SANDF is involved in, with other defence forces of the region through defence cooperation.

Maritime security continues to be the other key operation for the SANDF on the east coast of the continent. The SANDF successfully deployed two ships, *SAS Spioenkop* and *SAS Galeshewe* on Operation Copper in the Mozambique Channel at alternating times. The SANDF has been in the Mozambique Channel since 2011. They carried out operations to counter piracy activities and there has been a drastic reduction of piracy in the Mozambique Channel.

South Africa's efforts have resulted, among others, in a number of key outcomes such as the operationalisation of the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises (ACIRC), of which South Africa is a contributing and founding member.

South Africa has continued to support peace and security, and regional economic integration by participating in AU and SADC initiatives. Following the operationalisation of the ACIRC, we hosted the AMANI AFRICA II Field Training Exercise (19 October – 7 November 2015) to test its full operational capability as a build-up to the operationalisation of the African Standby Force. The success of this exercise was a significant milestone in our quest to fully operationalise the African Peace and Security Architecture.

The South African Government will continue to contribute to peacekeeping on the continent through various peacekeeping missions. Its involvement in peacekeeping missions is premised on our appreciation that Africa's economic development depends on the substance of peace and stability.

Working in partnership with regional and international partners and as a member of the AU Peace and Security Council, South Africa continues to play a critical role in the restoration of peace and stability in the DRC, Burundi, Central African Republic, Libya, South Sudan and other conflict-torn countries.

Political cohesion within southern Africa to ensure a peaceful, secure and stable region

At regional level, South Africa chaired the SADC Organ on Peace, Security and Defence Cooperation from August 2014 to August 2015 and led SADC electoral observer missions to Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia, Mauritius, Zambia and the Kingdom of Lesotho. All these elections were declared peaceful, credible, transparent, free and fair.

The elections in Lesotho were a culmination of the successful facilitation by Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa under the auspices of the SADC. South Africa also continued with the regional peace and security initiatives in the Republic of Madagascar and the DRC. South Africa will continue to support conflict-resolution initiatives in Lesotho, Sri Lanka and South Sudan, led by the Deputy President as Special Envoy of the President.

Tourism's contribution to the South African economy

Tourism remains a key driver of South Africa's national economy. The sector contributes about 9% to our GDP. The country received a total of 8 903 773 foreign tourist arrivals during 2015, generating a significant revenue contribution to the economy.

In 2015, the tourism sector raised concerns about the impact of new immigration regulations that were introduced to combat child trafficking and improve security at South Africa's points of entry. Government listened to these concerns and committed itself to finding a better balance between the country's security and economic development interests.

An Inter-Ministerial Committee on Immigration Regulations, chaired by Deputy President Ramaphosa, brought several government departments together to find this balance. Cabinet has approved several measures to make it easier for tourists coming to South Africa to apply for visas and travel with children. At the same time, it has ensured that the safety of all children and the security of our country is not compromised. Government is confident that tourism will continue to contribute significantly to our economy as the revised measures are implemented.

Several skills-development and capacity-building programmes are underway to unlock

South Africa's efforts have resulted, among others, in a number of key outcomes such as the operationalisation of the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises, of which South Africa is a contributing and founding member.



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the full potential of tourism. These include training 577 young people as chefs this year, instructing 300 youths in the art of serving wine expertly as professional sommeliers, and teaching unemployed graduates to become food safety assurers, who ensure that the food served at establishments is stored, prepared and served safely.

Over 1,6 million local and international tourists visited the Kruger National Park in 2015. They enjoyed the magnificent biodiversity of one of the world's leading successes in wildlife conservation. An

additional access point into the Kruger National Park will be developed near Muyexe in Limpopo. The new Shangani Gate will improve access to the park and provide economic opportunities for local communities by producing arts and crafts, providing supplies, and operating tours and other hospitality services.

The Department of Tourism is implementing revised Tourism Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Codes of Good Practice. The black ownership target has been set at 30%, which is higher than the target in the generic

codes of good practice to assist in efforts to drive transformation in the sector. To address women empowerment, this 30% must consist of 50% women and 50% men.

South Africans and international tourists should visit the country's important cultural and heritage sites and beautiful landscapes and diverse attractions. Access to these sites is being improved as part of a broader strategy to create a culture of travel among our people.

The tourism industry is a major contributor to the South African economy and employment of our citizens. This shows that ongoing efforts to showcase the country as a tourist, investment and destination of choice are bearing much-needed fruits during this low global economic outlook.

The *Nation Brands Index* recognises South Africa as among the top 50 most globally competitive countries in the world. The index looks at six pillars of the brand of a nation with a number of criteria.

The pillars include: tourism, people, exports, immigration and investment, governance, and culture and heritage. The *Nation Brands Index* is the result of 20 342 interviews in 20 countries.

According to the index, South Africa's strengths are seen as sports (particularly football), pristine landscapes and game reserves.


Participants in the survey also indicated that the citizens of South Africa were described as, among others, desirable friends, good employees, hardworking and skillful. This demonstrates that South Africa has so much good to offer.

Conclusion

The year 2015 was a special year for international relations as it marked 70 years of existence of the UN. South Africa used the occasion to continue to advocate for the reform of the Global System of Governance, particularly the UN Security Council and the Bretton Woods institutions.

South Africa's international relations engagements will continue to be based on South Africa's national priorities and the pursuit of continental aspirations.

Domestically, 2015 marked the 60th anniversary of the Freedom Charter, which called for peace and friendship among nations. This year, we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

Building on this strong foundation, we are resolute in our determination to create a better South Africa; contribute to a better and safer Africa in a better world." 



The World Travel and Tourism Council estimates tourism will earn R120 billion in export earnings, and contribute more than R380 billion to the economy this year.

Delivering his department's Budget Vote in Parliament recently, the Minister of Tourism, Derek Hanekom, said that in January 2016, over one million tourists arrived in South Africa, 15% more than in January last year. February brought an increase of 18%.

To bridge the skills gap and unemployment in the tourism sector, the Department of Tourism has developed a series of learnership programmes.

The National Youth Chefs Training Programme qualification is recognised internationally. It ensures world-class service standards and promotes South African indigenous cuisine. In the 2015/16 financial year, the department enrolled 577 learners. The programme is continuing in 2016/17 and the budget for the programme over the two financial years is R63 million. Since its inception in 2011, this programme has produced over 1 400 graduates.

The Tourism Buddies Programme is an experiential hospitality training programme targeting the unemployed youth to enable them to acquire skills and gain work experience to enhance employability in the hospitality and tourism sector. The budget for the programme is R140 million. Since its inception, this programme has produced 2 654 graduates.

The Sommeliers (Wine Servicing) Programme specialises in all aspects of wine service as well as wine and food pairing. The role is much more specialised and informed than that of a wine waiter in fine dining today. There were 245 learners who graduated and the budget for the programme was R15 million.

Food Safety is a scientific discipline aimed at handling, preparing and storing food in ways that prevent food-borne illnesses. This includes a number of routines that should be followed to avoid potentially severe health hazards. As a pilot project, 100 Further Education and Training Hospitality and Tourism unemployed graduates were trained and have completed the programme with a 55% absorption rate. In the 2016/17 financial year, the department plans to recruit and place 500 learners in this programme.

This year we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996. Building on this strong foundation, we are resolute in our determination to create a better South Africa; contribute to a better and safer Africa in a better world.

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South Africa's diplomacy of Ubuntu is inspiring excellence globally

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

South Africans of all walks of life have made our country proud across various fields internationally, and they should be recognised and celebrated.





**UBUNTU
AWARDS**
SOUTH AFRICA
2016

South Africa is an influential player in regional, continental and global political, economic and trade affairs. In our capital city, Pretoria, we host the second-largest contingent of foreign diplomatic representatives in the world. South Africa maintains diplomatic relations with countries and organisations through 125 missions in 107 countries abroad, and through the accreditation of more than 160 countries and organisations resident in South Africa. The result? The image of our country abroad is that of a stable and maturing democracy, supported by strong institutions of political and economic governance with a well-capitalised banking system and abundant natural resources.

This positive outlook of South Africa's image is in no small measure a result of the hard work of our diplomats and other compatriots who fly the flag high on the global stage.

In tandem with our growing footprint in the world, South Africa's international trade has escalated to high proportions, thereby contributing towards job creation and poverty eradication. South Africa is the second-largest and most dynamic economy on the continent, accounting for 24% of Africa's gross domestic product in terms of purchasing power parity. Ours is also the second-largest developing country investor on the continent. In 2013, 29% of our exports were destined for Africa. In 2012, 12% of our dividends came from Africa.

It is also significant to recognise that despite global foreign direct investment (FDI) falling by 16% in 2014, South Africa was able

to attract over R140 billion in the 2013/14 financial year. This is almost double the amount of FDI in 2012. Again, FDI inflow to South Africa was registered at US\$3,31 billion from January 2015 to July 2015 with 5 037 jobs created.

In addition, and contrary to international trends, gross domestic fixed investment into South Africa has been growing steadily since the global financial crisis.

Multinationals continue to find South Africa an attractive investment destination. To underscore the point, some of the multinationals from the most developed economies in the world which currently have operations in South Africa include: 700 from the United States of America; 600 from the United Kingdom; 600 from Germany; 280 from Japan; 185 from France; and





120 from India. Recently, VW committed an additional R4,5 billion to its investment into the South African market. Our diplomats working with colleagues from the economic cluster departments do the hard work behind the scenes.

For a country that was isolated and shunned by the international community just over two decades ago, the role we have played globally since 1994 is nothing short of remarkable. South Africans of all walks of life have made our country proud across



various fields internationally, and they should be recognised and celebrated.

Accordingly, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation hosted the second annual Ubuntu Awards on 13 February 2016 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. Each year, awards are given to organisations or individuals who have, through excellence, innovation, creativity, social responsibility and patriotism, distinguished themselves as true ambassadors of South Africa and contributed to promoting South Africa's national interests and values across the world.

The second annual Ubuntu Awards cut across eight categories – from an economic

diplomacy award to social responsibility diplomacy and the OR Tambo Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Ubuntu Awards initiative is inspired by South Africa's foreign policy, which is driven by the vision to achieve a united African continent that is peaceful, democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous and which contributes to a world that is just and equitable.

South Africa pursues this vision, informed by the values of Ubuntu (Humanity). The spirit of Ubuntu is tightly woven in South Africa's moral fibre, more especially in our interaction with fellow Africans and the international community in general. South Africa is implementing its diplomacy of Ubuntu





Ubuntu Lifetime Achievement Award: Johnny Makhathini (posthumously) received by his wife, Valerie



Ubuntu Ambassadorial Excellence Award: Ambassador Bene L M'poko

towards achieving its national interests within a very complex and dynamic environment, which requires that we creatively navigate and find opportunities, working together with our people at home and friends and partners abroad.

Central to South Africa's national interest is to address the triple challenges of eradicating poverty, unemployment and inequality.

While developing its people and creating prosperity, South Africa's national interest is, however, not framed in narrow nationalistic terms and recognises the importance of others in the region and on the continent.

We will continue to strengthen our political and economic relations with the aim of enhancing bilateral political and economic engagements by forging partnerships in the various regions of the world.

Economic and political relations remain important vehicles for cooperation and

promoting South Africa's national priorities. The national priorities of government, as well as the needs of Africa such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development as espoused in the National Development Plan, are also pursued in bilateral relations.

Focus is also placed on the strengthening of economic relations for the promotion of South Africa's trade, investment and tourism potential and opportunities.

The African continent remains central in our foreign policy, and this approach forms the basis for our friendship, cooperation and peace efforts all over the world. South Africa stands for cooperation and partnership, instead of competition, in global affairs.

We have been consistent in our support of regional and continental processes to respond to and resolve crises, strengthen regional integration, significantly increase intra-African trade and champion sustainable development

and opportunities in Africa. South Africa's foreign policy engagement is aligned with Africa's Agenda 2063 to contribute to the socio-economic development of the African continent. The struggle for a better life in South Africa is intertwined with our pursuit of a better Africa in a better world.

The strengthening of the African Union and its structures is a strategic priority in deepening the continental integration process.

Closer to home, the integration of the Southern African Development Community remains critical for the economic development of the region and for South Africa's global competitiveness.

The forging of partnerships with countries of the South are critical to advancing not only South Africa's own development needs and also alleviating domestic challenges, but also the African Agenda and to create political, economic and social convergence for the



Ubuntu Sport Diplomacy Award: Wayde van Niekerk



Ubuntu Economic Diplomacy (Africa): Standard Bank



Ubuntu Social Responsibility Award: Motsepe Foundation



In March 2016, South African Wayde van Niekerk became the first runner to break 10 seconds for the 100 metres, 20 seconds for the 200 m and 44 seconds for the 400 m.

The world 400-m champion had previously broken the marks on the two longer distances before running 9.98 sec over 100 m in Bloemfontein on Saturday, 12 March. Van Niekerk was helped by a legal 1,5 m/s tailwind and the 1 300 m altitude at the track. Before that, the 23-year-old's 100 m personal best (PB) was 10.45s, although that was back in 2011.

His 200 m PB is 19.94s while he ran 43.48s in winning the world title in Beijing last year. He will, however, be running only the 400 m at the Rio Olympics later this year. news24.com

fight against poverty, underdevelopment and the marginalisation of the South. South Africa will continue to promote the strengthening of South-South cooperation and support the Agenda of the South in all relevant fora.

We will also continue to utilise the already established bilateral and multilateral engagements to consolidate and strengthen relations with strategic formations of the North to advance and support national priorities, the African Agenda and the Development Agenda of the South.

In the execution of our foreign policy, taking into account this reality, and consolidating our traditional trade ties while expanding new ones, we shall ensure that we remain an active and responsible global citizen, grounded in our values and principles.

This year's Ubuntu Awards laureates have once again inspired us to be the best South Africans that we can be, and remind us that



Ubuntu Lifetime Achievement Award: Agnes Msimang

when we work together, we can and will continue to move South Africa forward by creating a better Africa and a better world for all.

The 2016 Ubuntu Awards winners are:

- Ubuntu Economic Diplomacy (Africa): Standard Bank
- Ubuntu Economic Diplomacy (Global): Discovery
- Ubuntu Social Responsibility Award: Motsepe Foundation and Rescue SA
- Ubuntu Arts and Cultural Diplomacy

Award (Contemporary): Black Coffee

- Ubuntu Arts and Cultural Diplomacy Award (Veteran): Hugh Masekela
- Ubuntu Youth Diplomacy Award: Catherine Constantinides
- Ubuntu Sport Diplomacy Award: Wayde van Niekerk
- Ubuntu Ambassadorial Excellence Award: Ambassador Bene L M'poko
- Ubuntu Lifetime Achievement Award: Agnes Msimang and Johnny Makhathini (posthumously).



Ubuntu Youth Diplomacy Award: Catherine Constantinides



Ubuntu Economic Diplomacy (Global): Discovery



Ubuntu Social Responsibility Award: Rescue SA

The African story is changing

By Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa

A continent of over a billion people, Africa is said to have the fastest-growing middle class in the world. Opportunities that were not available a mere generation ago, are now within reach of millions more people.

Africa's growth and development narrative is changing. To do business well in Africa today requires more than traditional economic analysis.

It requires an understanding that Africa is a very diverse continent, with a vast array of different social structures, political systems, economies, products and markets.

For this reason, there is no single African growth story. No business that seeks to operate across the continent can pursue a single African growth strategy.

Africa is simply too large and too diverse. Yet, despite all this variety, most African economies share common features.

Most are reliant on the extraction and export of raw materials. Most are constrained by inadequate infrastructure, low skills levels and limited industrial capacity. This exposes many African economies to fluctuations in commodity prices and depressed global demand.

The lack of industrial capacity means that many African countries are unable to extract sufficient value from their natural resources.

They are not able to realise the potential benefits for job creation, improved export earnings and inclusive growth.

That is the part of the African story we know well.

However, the African story is changing.

Africa's future depends not so much on the

rise of commodity prices but on the expansion and development of its human capital.

A continent of over a billion people, Africa is said to have the fastest-growing middle class in the world. Opportunities that were not available a mere generation ago, are now within reach of millions more people.

More Africans are educated, more are employed, more own assets.

Africa has a young and rapidly expanding workforce.

Over the next few decades, as many other countries grapple with the challenges of an ageing workforce, Africa has the potential to become the most vibrant, innovative and productive region in the world.

However, to achieve this potential, African countries, individually and collectively, need to pursue deliberate political, social and economic measures. Many of these measures are described in the African Union's (AU) Agenda 2063. And many of them are being implemented.

Even as many economies still rely on commodity exports, there is significant investment in other sectors. The growth in retail banking, telecommunications, information technology and niche and finished goods has been remarkable.

African economies are becoming more diverse, more industrialised and more innovative.

Today, a large proportion of transfers in foreign currency is not carried out through

the international banks, but through mobile money remittances from the African Diaspora.

Several African airlines, led by the likes of Kenya Airways and Ethiopian Airlines, are becoming more commercially viable, investing in new aircraft, opening up new routes and increasing intra-Africa commerce and trade.

In countries like Nigeria and Kenya, even with limited Internet connectivity, innovative technological solutions are improving the lives of rural communities.

Cellphone-based technologies are revolutionising the practice of medicine. Thanks to apps being developed on the African continent, a health worker at a rural clinic can refer an issue for specialist diagnosis, in real time, by simply taking a cellphone photo of a patient's eye.

African economies have both the potential and ability to leapfrog advanced economies in developing technologies suitable for local conditions and needs.

Economic change in Africa is taking place alongside political change.

Governments are increasingly concerned with the need for stability as a precondition for economic growth and social development. African countries are more united than ever before in promoting good governance, regional integration and multilateralism. Through our work in the African Union, we are steadily establishing an integrated community that values accountability, good governance and transparency. Through a strong peer review mechanism, we are seeing less conflict.

With some notable exceptions, changes in government take place through the ballot box and not through the barrel of a gun. More than ever, Africa is resolving its challenges through mediation, peace and dialogue.

African countries are working hard to transform their economies.

Governments are supporting programmes that promote manufacturing and competitiveness. They are encouraging new growth opportunities by investing in economic and social infrastructure.

Importantly, African countries are collaborating on cross-border infrastructure projects that foster greater integration and trade.

Thanks to apps being developed on the African continent, a health worker at a rural clinic can refer an issue for specialist diagnosis, in real time, by simply taking a cellphone photo of a patient's eye.

Many of these fall under the auspices of the Presidential Infrastructure Championing Initiative, headed by President Jacob Zuma. This initiative is providing political leadership to projects such as the Trans-Saharan Highway between Algeria and Nigeria, the Grand Inga Dam in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the North-South Corridor in southern Africa.

In South Africa, we are undertaking a massive infrastructure investment programme overseen by the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission.

It is improving the capacity of our economy through better roads, ports, railways, electricity generation capacity and water infrastructure.

It is improving people's lives through new hospitals, clinics, schools and bus rapid transit systems.

It is part of a broader economic strategy that seeks to grow the economy by increasing investment in productive economic sectors such as manufacturing and agriculture.

Central to the economic future of our country is the development of the skills of its people.

Nowhere has the impact of apartheid been more keenly felt than in education. By depriving generations of black South Africans of a decent education, the apartheid government sought to deny them and their descendants a prosperous future.

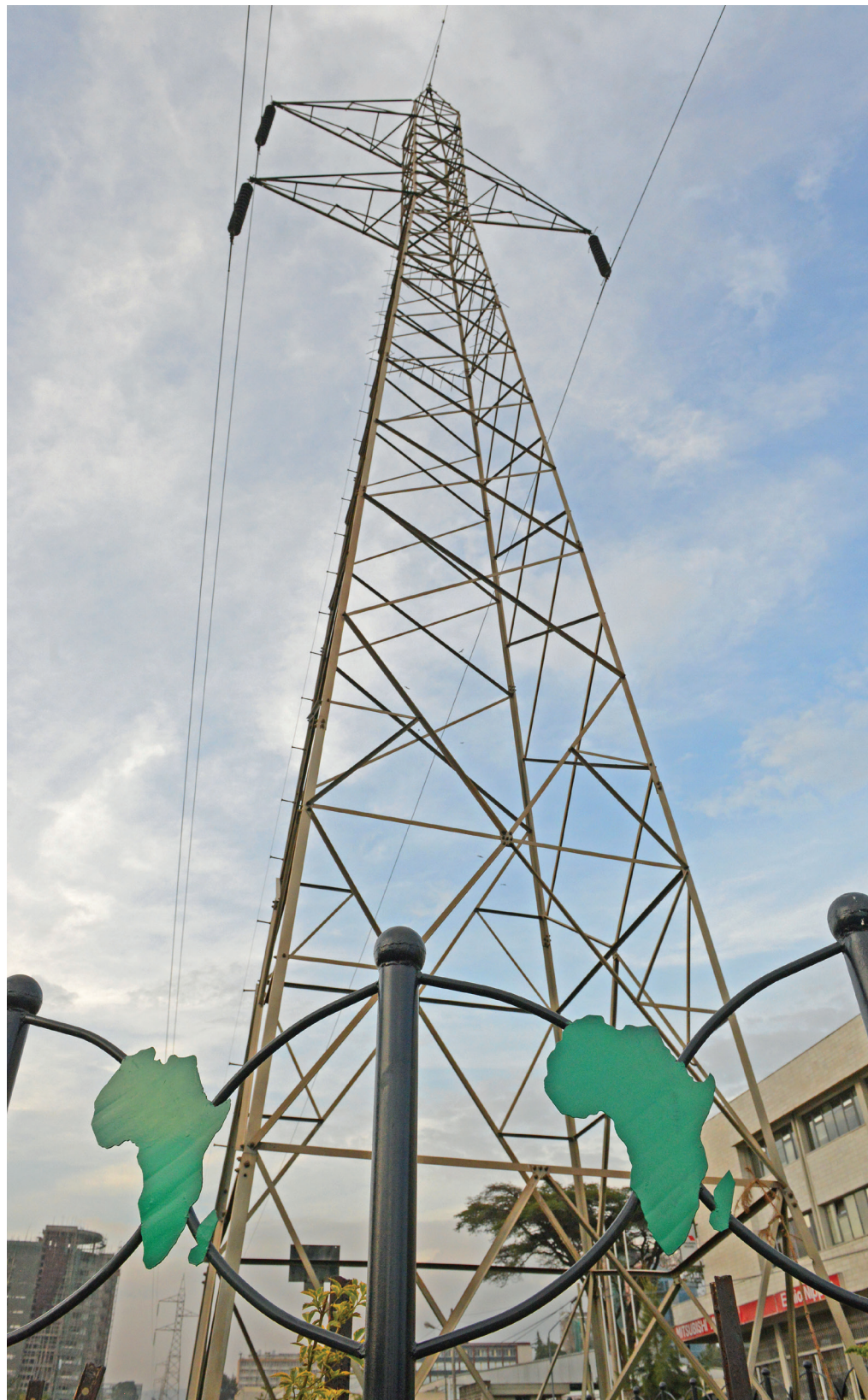
We have allocated R640 billion to basic education over the next three years. Much of this will go to improving school infrastructure, ensuring all learners receive suitable learning materials and improving teacher training. We have significantly expanded access to higher education, and have increased the funding available to poor students through the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS).

The amount disbursed annually by NSFAS has grown by approximately 270% since 2008, and is budgeted to grow even further in the next few years. However, funding of higher education remains a critical problem.

We need to ensure that no-one is excluded from higher education because of an inability to pay. At the same time, we need to find funding mechanisms that are sustainable and ensure a high quality of education. No country has managed to achieve what we are seeking to achieve without affordable, accessible and quality higher education.

As a country, we must move with speed and purpose to address these fundamental issues of access, transformation and quality outcomes.

There are many ways to describe Africa's recent progress and the expectations that



many have of its imminent economic and social emergence.

One of the most compelling accounts of what we are witnessing in Africa today was written over a century ago by Pixley ka Isaka Seme: "The brighter day is rising upon Africa. Already I seem to see her chains dissolved, her desert plains red with harvest, her Abyssinia and her Zululand the seats of science and religion, reflecting the glory of the

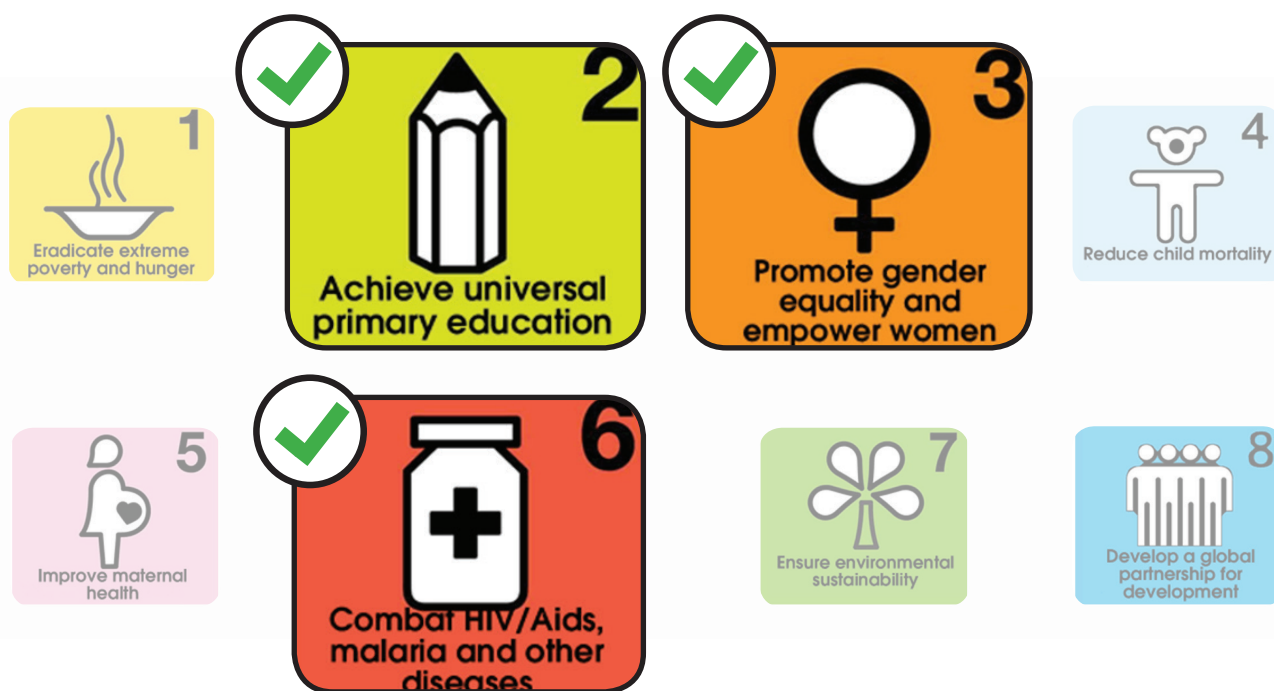
rising sun from the spires of their churches and universities.

"Her Congo and her Gambia whitened with commerce, her crowded cities sending forth the hum of business, and all her sons employed in advancing the victories of peace – greater and more abiding than the spoils of war.

"Yes, the regeneration of Africa belongs to this new and powerful period!" 🌱

Africa's education and gender equality goals "well achieved"

"Since mid-2000, Africa's (gross domestic product) growth has been high, averaging 5%, and well above the global average of 3% per year, instilling optimism about the continent's economic prospects."



Africa is on track with goals such as promoting gender equality and empowering women, according to the 2015 *Millennium Development Goals Report* released at the 10th African Economic Conference, which was held in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, in November 2015.

Increasing government spending on healthcare, education and support of vulnerable groups such as the elderly, were key topics discussed by experts at the conference.

The annual conference was organised by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations (UN) Development Programme and the UN Economic Commission for Africa. The theme of the event was: "Addressing Poverty and Inequality in the Post-2015 Development Agenda". It provided a forum

to explore the policy, institutional and investment frameworks needed to boost Africa's equitable, inclusive and environmentally sustainable development.

Pali Lehohla, Statistician-General of Statistics South Africa, was one of the speakers at the event.

The conference discussions included a debate about the call from economists for better policies to promote income distribution in Africa.

The AfDB said while Africa as a whole had made considerable progress on poverty reduction since the mid-1990s as a result of rapid economic growth, it had yet to have a significant impact on income distribution.

"Since mid-2000, Africa's (gross domestic product) growth has been high, averaging 5%, and well above the global average of 3% per year, instilling optimism about the continent's economic prospects. However, the growth has not been inclusive or equitable, and has

made little impact on poverty. The bank also said that better social policies could enhance income growth and income distribution, including "improving the complementarity between physical capital and education, especially at the basic educational level".

In addition, there was a need for policy-makers in Africa to put greater emphasis on addressing income inequality; empowering women; narrowing the gaps in health, nutrition and education; and challenging prejudices and stereotypes that fed discrimination and marginalisation.

Speaking at the conference, Steve Kayizzi-Mugerwa, the acting vice-president and chief economist of AfDB, underscored the need to take into account the political economy to effectively address income inequalities.

"Public policy needs to take (into) account the role of local bureaucracy because they are affected by the same policies," Kayizzi-Mugerwa said, pointing out that

economic managers needed to consult local administrative structures in policy formulation to make it effective. He also spoke about agricultural productivity and industrialisation as necessary to feed the continent and for it to achieve sustainable development.

According to experts, a small number of African countries is relying primarily on improving income distribution to reduce poverty. However, worsening income distribution is the major culprit in the majority of countries experiencing poverty exacerbation.

Statistics also show that other regions of the world have performed better, showing that the gap between Africa and the developed world is increasing. This suggests that Africa must perform even better and set up measures to address income inequality to catch up with the rest of the world.

There was a greater risk of high inequality in resource-dependent countries as 55% of resource-rich countries had experienced an increase in inequality compared to 50% of non-resource-rich countries, Professor Haroon Borat of the University of Cape Town argued in his presentation, "Resource Dependence and Inequality in Africa: Impact, Consequence and Solutions".

He pointed out that high resource-dependent economies were associated with lower levels of civil-society organisation, less transparent electoral processes and less effective government. Prof. Borat argued that drivers of inequality in resource-dependent economies included high initial capital cost of entry into natural resources and

Africa has made the most progress in increasing the number of seats held by women in national parliaments, with an average increase of 15% between 2000 and 2014.

poor employment generation. "There is need for strong institutions and good governance to manage resources. There is also a need for greater emphasis on social protection," he said, adding that while there were no clear success stories, countries such as Ghana and Botswana could provide some positive lessons to guide institutional arrangements that governed resource wealth.

Report on Africa's goals


The *Millennium Development Goals Report* revealed that three of the seven goals for Africa were on track. These were:

- combating HIV, AIDS, malaria and other diseases: a downward trend is observed in the incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with HIV, AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, especially since 2000
- promoting gender equality and empowering women: for example, Africa has made the most progress in increasing the number of seats held by women in national parliaments, with an average increase of 15% between 2000 and 2014
- achieving universal primary education: the average primary completion rate

stands at 67%, and the youth literacy rate reached 69,61% in 2012, in part owing to increased access to universal primary education.

The goals that were not on track in Africa, were:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: poverty is perpetuated by, among others, rising inequalities, unemployment, the youth bulge, unplanned urbanisation, lack of diversification. Hunger declined by 8% in Africa excluding, North Africa, between 1990 and 2013.
- Reduce child mortality: the under-five mortality rate fell by 55% between 1990 and 2012, while the infant mortality rate fell by 40%. Only Egypt, Liberia, Malawi and Tunisia achieved both targets on reducing child mortality.
- Improve maternal health: by 2013, Africa had 289 maternal deaths per 100 000 live births, compared to the world average of 210 maternal deaths per 100 000 live births.
- Ensure environmental sustainability: addressing the declining forest cover in Africa.

More than 250 participants from across the continent and outside it, including policy-makers, academics and leaders of civil society and the private sector attended the 10th African Economic Conference. 

African Development Bank Group / www.southafrica.info

"AfDB also said that better social policies could enhance income growth and income distribution, including "improving the complementarity between physical capital and education, especially at the basic educational level."



African Economic Conference, Kinshasa, November 2-4, 2015

Addressing Poverty and Inequality in the Post 2015 Development Agenda



Building a better connected world

Huawei is a global leader of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) solutions. Continuously innovating, based on customer needs, we are committed to enhancing customer experiences and creating maximum value for telecoms carriers, enterprises and consumers. Our telecoms network equipment, Information Technology (IT) products and solutions, and smart devices are used in 170 countries and regions. Huawei ranked 228th on the Global Fortune 500 based on its revenue in 2014. In 2014, the company's revenue reached approximately USD 46,5 billion.

We invest over 10% of our annual sales revenue into research and development (R&D) and more than 45% of our 170 000 employees engage in R&D. Leveraging our experience and expertise in the ICT sector, we help bridge

the digital divide and promote high-quality broadband connectivity for all. As an advocate of socio-economic sustainability, we make every effort to support secure and stable network operations, and help customers and industries improve efficiency to drive low-carbon economic growth. By localising our operations and building a global value chain, we help local innovators maximise their global value and share win-win outcomes.

A better connected world is on the horizon. Working closely with partners, we endeavour to build an efficient and integrated digital logistics system, which will enhance interconnectivity and interactivity – between people and people, people and things, and things and things – to spark infinite opportunities and potential for everyone everywhere and to move the world forward.

Growing with Africa

In Africa, Huawei has established three regional headquarters, namely Northern Africa, Western Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa. These regions consist of 47 subsidiaries, covering more than 60 countries. We have seven centres providing training to more than 30 000 trainees annually. In total, 71 000 Huawei employees, of whom 65% are local employees, contribute to set up half of the wireless base stations and 50 000 km of optical fibre on the continent.

Corporate citizenship

Huawei's key strategies in Africa include customer-centric, green innovation and social responsibility. Huawei is committed to being a globally responsible corporate citizen, contributing to the sustainable development of different categories, including the environment, health, education and community.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Strategy and Management

Huawei is dedicated to ensuring that all people can enjoy the basic rights of communications and information services. During our commercial activities,

we also attach great importance to the sustainable development of society and the environment and continuously enriching people's lives through communications.

Bridging the digital divide

Huawei applies its professional experience in the IT field to bridge the digital divide so that people can enjoy communications services and experiences anytime, anywhere through any terminal.

Environmental protection

Environmental deterioration and accelerated global warming have posed great challenges to the sustainable development of the world economy. In the telecoms industry, energy-saving and emission-reduction measures have become imperative.

Supply chain

Huawei insists on ethical and green procurement approaches and improves CSR management in its supply chain to ensure that product procurement meets CSR requirements and realises our strategic goals.



China and Africa united by a common destiny

Chichi Maponya

CEO Maponya Group and Deputy Chairperson of the South African Council of Foreign Relations

China and Africa have solid relations with each having a common vision for a world that is prosperous and developed and where both can play a meaningful role in global political and economic governance.

History tells us that Africa's relations with China go way back to the Ming Dynasty. However, more recently, formal political relations were established in 1949, which coincided with Africa claiming its independence from its colonisers.

China and Africa have solid relations with each having a common vision for a world that is prosperous and developed and where both can play a meaningful role in global political and economic governance. In the 21st century, relations between Africa and

China have become deeper and more formal through the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

The first summit was hosted by China in 2006 and South Africa hosted the second summit in Johannesburg from 4 to 5 December 2015.

The African Union Commission Chairperson, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, described our relations succinctly when she said: "The relationship between ourselves and China is founded on four basic principles: treating each other sincerely and equally; consolidating solidarity and mutual trust;

jointly pursuing inclusive development; and promoting inventive practical cooperation between our countries."

During FOCAC, relations between China and Africa were further strengthened with the adoption of the Declaration of the Johannesburg Summit of FOCAC. Most importantly, FOCAC ended with the finalisation of a Strategic Vision for Win-Win Cooperation.

The declaration is based on the five major pillars that characterise relations between Africa and China: political equality and mutual trust, win-win economic cooperation,



mutually enriching cultural exchanges, mutual assistance in security and solidarity and coordination in international affairs. Both sides further agreed to leverage their social and political capital – enhanced by their combined population of 2,3 billion people – to advocate for the reform of the global political and economic governance architecture. To achieve this successfully, however, African countries and China must have the required levels of development of their own economies.

The implementation of the FOCAC Johannesburg Action Plan 2016 – 2018 will go a long way towards ensuring growth and development of African countries with the support of China.

The action plan includes targeted cooperation plans over the next three years in the areas of industrialisation, agricultural modernisation, infrastructure construction, financial services, green development, trade and investment facilitation, poverty reduction and public welfare, public health, people-to-people exchanges and peace and security. The scope of the increased cooperation includes:

- The China-Africa Industrialisation Plan: China will build or upgrade a number of industrial parks and set up regional vocational education centres and schools for capacity-building. China will also train 200 000 technical personnel and provide 40 000 training opportunities for Africans in China.
- China-Africa Agriculture Modernisation: China will transfer readily applicable technologies to Africa and will encourage Chinese enterprises to engage in large-scale farming, animal husbandry as well as grain storage and processing in Africa to create jobs.
- The China-Africa Infrastructure Plan: China will pursue mutually beneficial cooperation in infrastructure planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance, particularly in the sectors of railway, road, regional aviation, ports, electricity and telecommunications. China will also support the establishment of five transportation universities in Africa.
- China-Africa Green Development Plan: China will increase capacity for green, low-carbon and sustainable development in Africa, which will include support in launching 100 projects to develop clean energy, protect wildlife and build smart cities.
- The China-Africa Trade and Investment Facilitation Plan: China will undertake 50 trade programmes

The implementation of the FOCAC Johannesburg Action Plan 2016 – 2018 will go a long way towards ensuring growth and development of African countries with the support of China.

to improve Africa's capacity for internal and external trade and investment and will negotiate free trade agreements with countries and regional organisations and increase the import of African products.

- The China-Africa Poverty Reduction Plan: China would cancel outstanding debt in the form of zero-interest loans borrowed by least developed countries in Africa that matured at the end of 2015.
- The China-Africa Public Health Plan: China will support the building of the African centre for disease control and increase cooperation between 20 Chinese and African hospitals.
- China-Africa Cultural and People-People Exchange: China will build five cultural centres in Africa and provide satellite reception to 10 000 African villages. China will also sponsor 2 000 educational opportunities with diplomas/degrees and 30 000 government scholarships.
- The China-Africa Peace and Security Plan: China will provide grants worth US\$60 million (R865,64 million) to support the building and operation of the African Standby Force and the African Capacity for the Immediate Response to Crisis.

China will provide additional funding support to the implementation of the above plans: US\$5 billion of grant and zero-interest loans, US\$35 billion of loans of concessional nature on more favourable terms and export credit line, an increase of US\$5 billion to the China-Africa Development Fund and the Special Loan for the development of African small and medium-sized enterprises, and the China-Africa Fund for Production Capacity Cooperation with the initial contribution of US\$10 billion. The implementation of these agreements will see the continent moving

towards the vision of a prosperous, developed and integrated Africa as envisaged by Agenda 2063.

Ahead of the FOCAC Summit, President Jacob Zuma hosted President Xi Jinping on a State Visit. The interactions between the South African and Chinese delegations concluded with the signing of 26 agreements.

As with Agenda 2063, the implementation of these agreements will see South Africa make strides towards the growth and development of its economy. This will have a direct impact on our socio-economic development. Some of the key agreements include:

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Jointly Building the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road.
- The Agreement between the Department of Environmental Affairs and the NDRC on Strengthening Cooperation in the Oceans Economy: This agreement aims to promote cooperation on the Oceans Economy between the two countries and related organisations and enterprises. This agreement is directly aligned to South Africa's Operation Phakisa.
- The MoU on Cooperation in Health and Medical Sciences between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa: This MoU will expand exchanges in the fields of public health, healthcare delivery systems and biomedical sciences, as well as establish regular cooperation between health institutions.
- The MoU on Cooperation and Development on Science Parks: This MoU will promote cooperation in business incubation, high-end skills development and information and communications technology research and development investment.
- The MoU between the Department of Public Enterprises, Republic

Ahead of the FOCAC Summit, President Jacob Zuma hosted President Xi Jinping on a State Visit. The interactions between the South African and Chinese delegations concluded with the signing of 26 agreements.





of South Africa, and the State-Owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council, The People's Republic of China: This MOU will facilitate the strengthening of cooperation in terms of infrastructure construction projects, information communications, as well as cooperation between Chinese and South African energy-related companies.

- The Action Plan on Cooperation in Human Resource Development between the Department of Higher Education and Training of the Republic of South Africa and the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China: 2 000 training opportunities will be offered to South Africa for the period 2015 to 2020.
- The MoU on Strategic Cooperation entered into between Eskom and the State Corporation of China: This MOU

will facilitate cooperation in the field of energy and will also enable the pursuit of commercial opportunities and exchange information on projects in geographic regions of mutual interest in the fields of transmission and distribution projects, renewable energy projects and off-grid rural electrification programmes.

- The Loan Agreement between the China Development Bank Corporation and Eskom: Eskom and the China Development Bank will conclude a loan agreement to facilitate South Africa-China investment and trade cooperation and to further support Eskom's infrastructure construction. The loan facility is to the value of US\$500 million.
- The Framework Cooperation Agreement between the China Export Credit Insurance Corporation (Sinosure) and Transnet: Sinosure will

provide insurance support to Transnet up to a total amount of US\$2,5 billion to support procurement by Transnet of mechanical and electrical products, whole-set equipment from Chinese enterprises, projects contracted by Chinese enterprises in South Africa, as well as operation, maintenance and other related services.

- The Strategic Cooperation Agreement to Fund Infrastructure and Industrial Development Projects in South Africa and the Rest of Africa between the China Construction Bank Corporation and Industrial Corporation of South Africa (IDC) Limited: The parties will fund infrastructure and industrial development projects, directly and indirectly, in South Africa and the rest of Africa, subject to their internal funding processes.
- The MoU between the Beijing Automotive Group (BAIC) and the IDC: The BAIC and the IDC will establish motor-vehicle manufacturing facilities in South Africa at a coastal city (either Durban or East London), which will create jobs and manufacture motor vehicles for sale in South Africa and the rest of the African continent.
- The Cooperation Framework Agreement between the Trans Caledon Tunnel Authority and the China Communications Construction Company: This agreement aims to establish and develop long-term cooperation to fund and implement new projects in the water and sanitation sector in South Africa.
- The Agreement on the Final Acceptance for the CBERS-04





Satellite Ground System in South Africa between the South African National Space Agency (SANSA) and the China Aerospace, Science and Technology Corporation (CASC): The CASC appointed the China Centre for Earth Resource Satellite Data and Application to build the CBERS-04 Satellite Ground System for SANSA. The CBERS-04 Satellite Ground System was formally handed over to SANSA while President Xi Jinping was in South Africa.

- The Collaboration and Framework Agreement between the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China and Standard Bank South Africa: Standard Bank South Africa and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China will

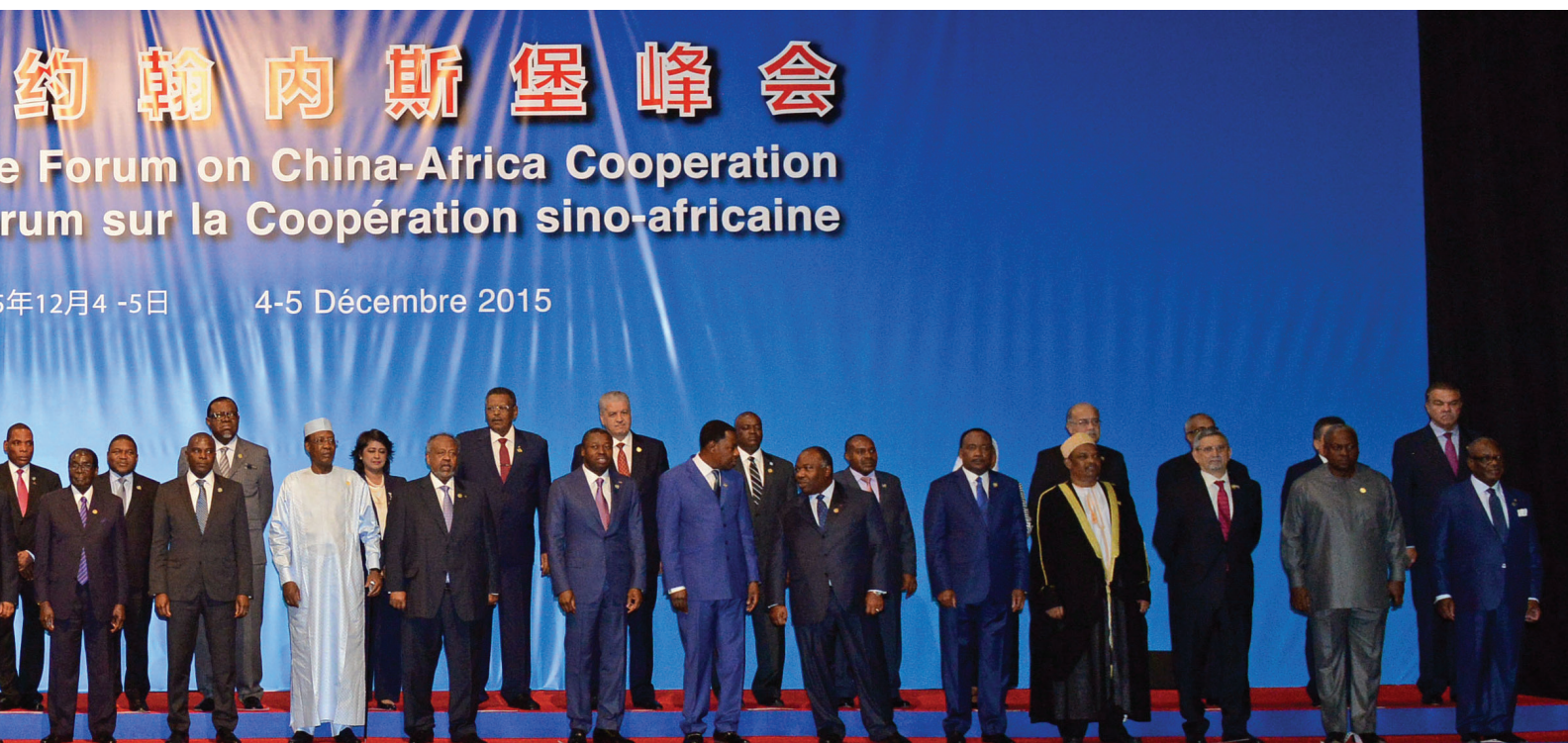
cooperate to strengthen various sectors of the South African economy, with a particular focus on power and infrastructure. The agreement is worth up to R10 billion over the next five years.

- The Cooperation Agreement between Investec and the Export-Import Bank of China: Investec Bank and the China Export-Import Bank will cooperate in projects to enhance trade between China and South Africa in mechanical and electronic products, complete sets of equipment, high and new-technology products, energy, raw materials, agricultural products and other products consistent with the economic and industrial development goals of both countries; and energy

and infrastructure projects located in China, South Africa or third countries in sub-Saharan Africa to be invested or developed by Chinese and/or South African enterprises, among other fields.

The extent of the agreements finalised both for Africa and South Africa attests to the strength of relations between China and the continent.

The implementation of these agreements will see both Africa and China achieve a vision of a common destiny of growth, development and prosperity. FOCAC 2015 must indeed be remembered by historians as the point at which relations between China and Africa moved towards a strategic vision for win-win cooperation. [↗](#)



Beyond solidarity: The predicament of South Africa and Cuba relations

By Siphamandla Zondi

University of South Africa's (Unisa) Institute for Global Dialogue and Centre for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

While there is strong high-level affinity between the two countries, this is yet to result in the flow of goods and services and movement of people (as workers or tourists) between the two countries and their respective regions.



At a reception dinner in honour of the visiting President of Cuba, Fidel Castro, in 1998, President Nelson Mandela said the relations between Cuba and South Africa were founded in “bonds that run centuries deep, including a common heritage of African dispossession as well as shared struggle and pride in the restoration of human

dignity”. However, he also underlined the fact that in the long run these bonds would be sustained through cooperation to “overcome the constraints on our development and growth rooted in the current global system”.

Yes, the two countries are bonded by the history of solidarity that defines also their location in the geopolitics of the modern, still colonial world system marked by a prosperous and dominant centre occupied

by North America and Western Europe, and a periphery made of former colonies, most of which are blighted by poverty and underdevelopment. This shaped their outlook, orientation and role in the world.

Their commitment to not only end colonial rule in national territories, but to decolonise the world itself is born in this history.

Their shared need for change, restructuring of global governance institutions, correcting

injustices in the balance of power globally, fairness in international trade and investment and equity in global decision-making is derived from their shared historical experiences.

Today, South Africa and Cuba enjoy very warm political relations, complemented by visible and productive cooperation in health especially, and history has pushed them together.

But these relations are yet to translate into the meaningful economic, trade, cultural and educational exchange that former President Mandela argued was the future.

While there is strong high-level affinity between the two countries, this is yet to result in the flow of goods and services and movement of people (as workers or tourists) between the two countries and their respective regions.

The thermometer of political relations is high, but the fuel, which is concrete economic, cultural and social cooperation, is observably lower.

One must assume that there have been earnest attempts to remedy this. When I visited Cuba on behalf of the Unisa Centre for Latin American and Caribbean Studies to establish research and academic relations in November 2015, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa was also briefly in Havana and so was Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma on behalf of the African Union.

To cap this evidence that we are serious about South Africa-Cuban relations, deputy ministers of trade and industry, international relations and cooperation as well as youth affairs also visited.

I kept on wondering if beyond warming up already warm relations, there was work towards deepening concrete and mutually-beneficial cooperation.

I wondered if we were not overwhelming Cuba with solidarity when it was also poised for new levels of economic, cultural, scientific and social cooperation.

Privately, Cuban observers notice that there is a lot of romance towards Cuba at a time when that country is ready for deeper cooperation in light of the changes in Cuba-United States (US) relations in the past year.

They indicate that they worry that it will be Western states that are lining up with projects in infrastructure, tourism, telecommunications, information and communications technology and the ocean economy that might reap the fruits of rapprochement with the USA rather than old friends who remain just friendly rather than strategic.

The time is now ripe for South Africa to rethink its policy towards Cuba and the whole of the Caribbean with a view to upgrading it from romance to deeper cooperation that will

The time is now ripe for South Africa to rethink its policy towards Cuba and the whole of the Caribbean with a view to upgrading it from romance to deeper cooperation that will be sustained by concrete benefits that the people and institutions of both countries will experience.



Current state of relations with Cuba

South Africa and Cuba enjoy cordial bilateral relations characterised by years of excellent cooperation in various fields of common interest and mutual benefit. Since the dawn of democracy in 1994, these relations have further strengthened, and efforts have been redoubled to ensure that both countries continue to work together and support each other at various levels, including in multilateral fora and other strategic formations.

It is for this reason that South Africa looks forward to further strengthen its relations with Cuba towards establishing a win-win partnership. A much stronger partnership with Cuba will help build South Africa's skills base, fast-track transfer of skills, create decent jobs, address inequalities in both countries and promote inclusive growth.

South Africa and Cuba established the Joint Consultative Mechanism in 2001 at the level of deputy ministers to regulate structured relations between the two countries. The two countries have since 1994 signed a number of agreements in various sectors and cooperated in a number of fields. South Africa is a beneficiary of Cuba's ongoing assistance in the areas of health, labour, defence, social development, housing and infrastructure.

During the State Visit to Cuba in December 2010, President Jacob Zuma announced that South Africa would offer the Cuba Economic Assistance Package to the tune of R350 million to assist with the agricultural development process as well as the reconstruction of win-win infrastructure devastated by natural disasters.

Through the South Africa-Cuba Health Agreement, more than 420 South African students from disadvantaged backgrounds have qualified in the field of medicine with over 3 000 more students currently undergoing training. South Africa currently hosts over 300 Cuban medical personnel, engineers and Science and Mathematics teachers working in South Africa.

Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa paid an Official Visit to Cuba from 26 to 28 October 2015 during which he led a high-level government and business delegation to strengthen bilateral, political, economic and trade relations between the South Africa and Cuba. The Deputy President visited Cuba at the invitation of his counterpart, First Vice President Miguel Diaz Canel Bermudez.

During the visit, Deputy President Ramaphosa paid a courtesy call on President Raul Castro and held bilateral discussions with Vice President Miguel Diaz-Canel. He reiterated South Africa's support for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States of America initiated under the leadership of President Castro and President Barack Obama. In this regard, the Deputy President also called for an end to the blockade against Cuba and the removal of all punitive measures that had been directed against the Cuban people.

Among others, Deputy President Ramaphosa visited and paid his respects at the Jose Marti Monument at the *Plaza de la Revolucion* and the Oliver Tambo Bust at the Park for African Heroes; interacted with the management of the Latin American School of Medicine where a number of South African students are being trained to become doctors; met with leaders and the broader South African student body studying medicine in Cuba; and visited the Cuban Combined Cycle Gas Plant to study how Cubans cope with energy challenges; the Cuban Molecular Immunology Centre, including the local Polyclinic; and the Military Historical Park Morro in Havana.

Under the auspices of the South Africa Health Agreement, almost 3 000 South African students are currently receiving training in Cuba. In addition, the deployment of Cuban doctors, engineers and technical experts across South African provinces is a further demonstration of strong bilateral relations between the two countries.



be sustained by concrete benefits that the people and institutions of both countries will experience. Political relations and solidarity do not need anymore strengthening, but they need harnessing for the next level. But do we understand what this means? Have we deployed correctly our capacities to this end? The campaign to end the US economic embargo and occupation of Cuba's Guantanamo Bay is crucial, but what happens with the US acquiescence tomorrow? Solidarity for fundamental reform of the United Nations Security Council and international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and World Bank is crucial, but it is also meant to ensure an environment more enabling for South-South trade and investment. Should this be achieved now, will we be ready to take up opportunities in the Caribbean or will we think about this when the victory has happened?

The current bilateral agreements governed by a binational commission cover the following priority areas: health, labour, defence, social development, housing, skills development and infrastructure. However, it is in the area of health where we have some

The time is now ripe for South Africa to rethink its policy towards Cuba and the whole of the Caribbean with a view to upgrading it from romance to deeper cooperation that will be sustained by concrete benefits that the people and institutions of both countries will experience.


concrete cooperation of note. The people of these two countries deserve maximum benefit in medical pharmacopeia, exchange of technologies, joint construction of essential infrastructure, easy travel between the two regions and business opportunities. How do we achieve this when the entire relationship is almost completely government-to-government with very little participation of business, including black and small business, educational institutions, science councils and civil society?

We need to ensure that the staffing and posture of our diplomatic mission on the ground are poised to signal comprehensive and concrete relations.

We should expand relations from political campaigns only to include trade shows, cultural exchange programmes and connections among research and educational institutions.

We will not be able to see much advancement in these relations if we have not made greater effort at promoting the greater Caribbean region and northern Latin America in South Africa.

Political solidarity is important, but it is only a strategic basis on which to build concrete economic, social and cultural cooperation. Solidarity keeps memories alive long enough for us to build the next basis of relations.

Cuba and South Africa can be a useful experiment in the transitioning of South-South collaboration from solidarity to mutually-beneficial concrete cooperation over the long term. The two countries can then be the basis of doing the same with the rest of the Caribbean, which is pregnant with huge opportunities. 

Cuba and South Africa can be a useful experiment in the transitioning of South-South collaboration from solidarity to mutually-beneficial concrete cooperation over the long term.



GAUTENG GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



GROWING THE GAUTENG CITY REGION'S ECONOMY

Gauteng is a globally competitive city region and province in South Africa. It is indeed the financial capital of the country with more than 70 foreign banks. It is home to all South African Banks' Head Quarters, Stockbrokers and Insurance giants, as well as the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE).

The Gauteng provincial government through its Department of Economic Development has established the Gauteng Growth and Development Agency to spearhead and coordinate economic development efforts for the province targeting local and international business stakeholders.

The GGDA's key purpose is to maximise the effect of developing the economy of Gauteng, through supporting the growth of the cooperatives economy, facilitation of trade and investment and increased strategic economic infrastructure.

Over the last two decades the GGDA being the merger between GEDA and Blue (IQ) has facilitated over R 20 billion worth of domestic and foreign direct investment that has generated over 25 000 jobs.

GGDA has also managed to facilitate iconic economic and social infrastructure for the region including; the renown Nelson Mandela Bridge, linking two key economic Centres; the Gautrain rapid transport system; Constitution Hill, housing key historical monuments; the world class Automotive Supplier Park in Rosslyn; as well as a centre of innovation focusing on smart industries and biosciences known as "The Innovation Hub".

In order to secure greater convenience for potential investors and exporters, the Gauteng Investment Centre (GIC) under the GGDA was established as a one-stop-shop (OSS) offering efficient services to enable ease of doing business with Gauteng and thus play a role in developing the economy.

The Gauteng provincial government (through the GIC) works with other government regulatory entities to ease the cost of doing business and to facilitate trade, investment and exports. (Please include the ggda web address as well as the physical address of the GIC.)

www.ggda.co.za



SA-Iran's relations elevated to a strategic partnership

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

Iran has a large and growing economy and possesses skills and expertise that could influence the countries around it – and even beyond – in a very positive manner. Iran is one of the world's largest sources of energy, be this crude oil or gas.

The recent State Visit by President Jacob Zuma to the Islamic Republic of Iran took place at an opportune time following the lifting of sanctions against Iran.

South Africa had consistently pledged its solidarity with Iran during the sanctions period and supported Iran's inalienable right to pursue nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. South Africa recognises that Iran is a pivotal and influential player regionally and



With the sanctions now lifted, there is immense potential for closer commercial and investment cooperation between the two countries, including the eventual resumption of crude oil imports from Iran.

crime against humanity". Trade between South Africa and Iran was interrupted by the imposition of unilateral sanctions against Iran, primarily by the United States of America and the European Union, rather than the United Nations Security Council. The sanctions impacted negatively on our own economic development agenda.

Iran was one of the biggest suppliers of crude oil to South Africa prior to the sanctions. Whereas South Africa imported about one-third of its crude oil requirements from Iran in 2011, it was forced to end imports by June 2012 altogether, due to the sanctions.

As a result, total trade between the two countries stood at R358 million by 2015.

This figure does not reflect the optimal capabilities of the two economies.

Despite the setback of sanctions, South Africa remained committed to consolidating bilateral relations with Iran.

With the sanctions now lifted, there is immense potential for closer commercial and investment cooperation between the two countries, including the eventual resumption of crude oil imports from Iran.

President Zuma and President Hassan Rouhani undertook to take cooperation to a higher level in the fields of trade, education and skills development; science and technology; energy, including petrochemical gas exploration and refining capacity; agriculture; mining and mineral beneficiation; infrastructure development and transport; finance, banking and insurance; and tourism.

Among the eight memoranda of understanding (MOUs) signed during the State Visit was the establishment of the Joint Investment Committee, which puts in place a measured and pragmatic form of cooperation. These measures will enable us to significantly increase our levels of trade.

The MOUs on Insurance Cooperation and on Cooperation in the Field of Trade and the accompanying Roadmap provide a good departure point for establishing financial and banking relations in order for our two countries to strengthen economic and trade cooperation.

The establishment of the South Africa-Iran Business Council will further complement the objectives of the Roadmap. This will translate into tangible deliverables and add further impetus towards expanding on the economic ties between our respective business communities.

The MOU between the Petroleum Oil and Gas Corporation of South Africa and the Research Institute of Petroleum Industry will attract inward investment into South Africa in the petrochemical sectors with emphasis on cooperation in the construction of a South African refinery and supply of crude oil from Iran.

The South African delegation reassured the Iranian business community that our country offered a diversified base of industrial sectors and had a large number of competitive industries, abundant natural resources and well-developed transport and logistical infrastructure. We emphasised that our financial systems remained stable and that we had a sound Constitutional framework to protect property rights.

President Zuma and President Rouhani agreed to increase non-oil trade to a billion dollars by 2020. It is imperative that the two countries focus on diversifying trade. This will add much impetus towards addressing issues of job creation, as well as skills and technology transfer in both countries.

Apart from the focus on improving economic and trade relations, President Zuma's visit also provided an opportunity to solidify cooperation with Iran on a broader range of issues. South Africa regards Iran as a strategic trading partner and a strong ally internationally and in the Non-Aligned Movement. We share common views in relation to the right of African states to determine their own destiny.

President Zuma took advantage of the visit to Iran to exchange views with his counterpart on a wide range of issues of mutual interest, including developments in the Middle East and Africa. Iran's observer status within the African Union augurs well for our ambitions of advancing the economic agenda on the African continent.

South Africa welcomes the fact that Iran has set up an Africa Task Force to increase commerce with Africa. We encouraged Iranian business to intensify their interaction with Africa, which is now widely recognised as a promising new growth pole in the world economy.

The recent State Visit has indeed laid a solid foundation for the elevation and consolidation of bilateral relations between our governments and our people into a strategic partnership, which holds much promise for the economic emancipation of our peoples. 🇺🇦

internationally. Iran has a large and growing economy and possesses skills and expertise that could influence the countries around it – and even beyond – in a very positive manner. Iran is one of the world's largest sources of energy, be this crude oil or gas.

South Africa-Iran relations date back to pre-1994 when Iran supported South Africa's liberation movement by severing relations with the apartheid regime in 1979 and imposing a trade boycott.

In 1994, Iran lifted all trade and economic sanctions against South Africa and re-established diplomatic relations on 10 May 1994.

During his visit to Iran in September 1996, the late President Nelson Mandela noted that, after the Iranian revolution of 1979, the country "sacrificed much in support of our cause" and "refused to oil the [apartheid] system which the world regarded as a

The power of humanity

By Hugo Lambrechts

Deputy Director: Humanitarian Affairs and

Itumeleng Moutloali

Legal Adviser of the International Committee of the Red Cross (Pretoria)

Since its inception, the international conference has become a unique global and non-political forum which takes place every four years.

The 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent took place from 8 to 10 December 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland, under the central theme of "Power of Humanity: the Fundamental Principles in Action". South Africa played a significant role in the deliberations at the conference. Ambassador NKM Seleka, Director of Humanitarian Affairs at the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), chaired two plenary sessions of the Commission on Healthcare in Danger (HCiD): "Continuing to Protect the Delivery of Healthcare Together".

In his comment about the importance of the conference, Ambassador Seleka reinforced the relevance and applicability of the Seven Fundamental Principles of the Movement in modern-day situations of conflict and emergencies, namely humanity, impartiality, independence, voluntary service, unity, neutrality and universality. He further reiterated that the conference stayed true and committed to the "power of humanity" and "voluntary service", which was the rallying cry for this milestone event.

In this context, the Henry Dunant Medal Humanitarian Awards, granted for voluntary service to the volunteers who worked tirelessly to contribute to the healthcare needs of the Ebola patients and survivors, was most humbling. Since its inception, the international conference has become a unique global and non-political forum which takes place every four years. It brings together representatives from states which are party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions as well as the International Red Cross and

Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) to debate important humanitarian issues and to adopt resolutions that guide its participants in carrying out humanitarian action.

Comprising a mix of thematic meetings, debates and exchange of best practices, the conference also considered contemporary humanitarian problems such as migration, the safety of healthcare workers during armed conflict and the effects of climate change. It was attended by representatives of 169 states, 185 of 190 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as well as 101 observers in an effort to find a common vision for future humanitarian action.

The international conference is the supreme deliberative body for the Movement where states parties to the Geneva Conventions exercise their responsibilities under the conventions in support of the work of the Movement and its humanitarian action in assistance to the most vulnerable. After much deliberations and discussions, which included following up on the implementation of resolutions adopted at the 31st International Conference in 2011, 10 resolutions were adopted by consensus. These resolutions will serve as a continuous guide to governments in carrying out their humanitarian obligations:

- **Resolution 1:** Strengthening International Humanitarian Law (IHL),

After much deliberations and discussions, which included following up on the implementation of resolutions adopted at the 31st International Conference in 2011, 10 resolutions were adopted by consensus. These resolutions will serve as a continuous guide to governments in carrying out their humanitarian obligations.

protecting persons deprived of their liberty.

- **Resolution 2:** Strengthening compliance with IHL.
- **Resolution 3:** Sexual and gender-based violence: Joint action on prevention and response.
- **Resolution 4:** HCiD: Continuing to protect the delivery of healthcare together.
- **Resolution 5:** The safety and security of humanitarian volunteers.
- **Resolution 6:** Strengthening legal frameworks for disaster response, risk reduction and first aid.
- **Resolution 7:** Strengthening the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's response to growing humanitarian needs.
- **Resolution 8:** Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement on Operational

Arrangements dated 28 November 2005 between the Palestine Red Crescent Society and Magen David Adom in Israel.

- **Resolution 9:** Dissolution of the Augusta Fund and allocation of the capital to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund. Revision of the Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal.
- **Resolution 10:** Power of Humanity.

Key messages that emerged from the important HCiD commissions were:

- Examples mentioned during the commission proved that the protection of healthcare was possible when a number of prevention and mitigation measures were implemented by different actors at their level.
- The protection of healthcare needs to be tackled from different perspectives,



as violence against healthcare is a problem with compound roots.

- Relevant actors should continue to exchange information on their experiences and practices at the field level and learn from each other.
- Concerted action of different actors at national and international level can make the difference for the protection of healthcare.

The commission emphasised that HCiD should be a concern of everybody, whether affected or not, as IHL safeguards our humanity, and our collective commitment to this body of law should contribute in preserving the good of humanity.

Notably, the intervention by Dr Otmar Kloiber, Secretary-General of World Medical Association (WMA), reiterated similar sentiments with his comments that “the WMA is part of the community of concern”.

In this regard, Ambassador Seleka said that it was vitally important that from here the Red Cross/Crescent Societies, national governments and regional economic communities should individually and collectively develop and submit pledges that rally and mobilise people to move away from being simply communities of concern, to communities of action by creating a concerted awareness campaign as the HCiD was a matter of life and death. Members of the conference further submitted pledges, which are voluntary commitments made by governments, national societies and

observers to carry out measurable actions and activities in support of the conference themes, as well as the implementation of the resolutions adopted during the conference.

By mid-February 2016, a total of 137 pledges had been deposited and conference participants could still register pledges until the end of March 2016.

South Africa is an active player in the promotion and implementation of IHL. This is evident through the ratification and domestication of numerous IHL treaties such as the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols which became part of South African law through the 2012 Implementation of the Geneva Conventions Act.

In addition, DIRCO co-hosts the Annual Regional Seminar on IHL with the ICRC. The regional seminar has been held for the past 15 years and is attended by representatives from more than 15 governments in southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands, who come together to discuss the state of IHL

The commission emphasised that Healthcare in Danger should be a concern of everybody, whether affected or not, as International Humanitarian Law safeguards our humanity, and our collective commitment to this body of law should contribute in preserving the good of humanity...

compliance in their countries. In light of its commitment to IHL, the South African Government deposited three pledges on disaster risk reduction and management as well as promoting compliance of IHL for the first time.

A Regional Pledge on Strengthening IHL was lodged by South Africa based on the outcomes of the regional seminar, and it is expected that all 15 participating governments will sign onto this.

The South African Red Cross Society, which plays a key role in public health service provision and emergency response in cooperation with the Government, also submitted a pledge on engaging the community to take steps to strengthen their resilience and contribute towards sustainable development.

In the next four years until the next conference in 2019, delegations will take measurable actions to implement resolutions taken at the 32nd International Conference and past conferences. [U](#)



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South Africa elected to UNESCO Executive Board

By Thivhilaeli Makatu,
Counsellor Multilateral, South African Embassy, Paris

South Africa's election to the Executive Board gives the country an opportunity to contribute to international peace and security by promoting the interests of the African continent as outlined in Africa Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) is known as the "intellectual" agency of the UN.

At a time when the world is looking for new ways to build peace and sustainable development, people must rely on the power



of intelligence to innovate and expand their horizons and sustain the hope of a new humanism. UNESCO exists to bring this creative intelligence to life, for it is in the minds of men and women that the defences of peace and the conditions for sustainable development must be built.

UNESCO strives to build networks among nations that enable this kind of solidarity, by:

- mobilising for education: so that every child, boy or girl, has access to quality education as a fundamental human right and as a prerequisite for human development
- building intercultural understanding through the protection of heritage and support for cultural diversity. UNESCO created the idea of world heritage to protect sites of outstanding universal value

At a time when the world is looking for new ways to build peace and sustainable development, people must rely on the power of intelligence to innovate and expand their horizons and sustain the hope of a new humanism.

- pursuing scientific cooperation such as early warning systems for tsunamis or transboundary water management agreements, to strengthen ties between nations and societies
- protecting freedom of expression: an essential condition for democracy, development and human dignity.


UNESCO has three governing structures, namely the General Conference of its 192

member states, which meets every two years; the 58-member Executive Board, which ensures the overall management of UNESCO; and the Secretariat, which is responsible for the day-to-day running of the organisation.

In November 2015, South Africa was elected to serve on the Executive Board of UNESCO for the period 2015 to 2019. South Africa, represented by Ambassador Rapu Molekane, also serves as the Vice-Chair for the Africa Group on the Executive Board. The Executive Board meets between general conferences. South Africa's election to the Executive Board gives the country an opportunity to contribute to international peace and security by promoting the interests of the African continent as outlined in Africa Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The South African National Commission, which is made up of representatives from various government departments responsible for the areas of competence of UNESCO as well as representatives from civil society, acts in an advisory capacity to the South African delegation to the General Conference and the Executive Board meetings. The South African National Commission Secretariat is located within the Department of Basic Education in Pretoria, from where it coordinates the activities of all departments through a network of national focal points, including the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO).

The South African Embassy in Paris, headed by Ambassador Molekane and as an arm of DIRCO, serves as the de facto Permanent Delegation to UNESCO.

South Africa previously served on the Executive Board from 1997 to 2001 and 2005 to 2009. It currently also serves in the following subsidiary bodies of UNESCO: Council of the International Bureau of Education, International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere, Intergovernmental Council of the "Management of Social Transformations" Programme and the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport. 





Team South Africa stands tall in Davos

By Kingsley Makhubela
CEO of Brand South Africa

Our most important message in Davos to international business and investors would have to be that, South Africa was open for business in this environment and that they could be assured of our commitment to policy certainty and consistency.

South Africa was represented by a multistakeholder high-level delegation at the World Economic Forum's Davos meeting from 20 to 23 January 2016. Coming within the context of projected lowered global economic growth and falling oil and commodity prices, this gathering of international opinion-makers and thought leaders presented an opportunity to look at global responses and



and preserve a business-friendly environment. Efforts at the National Economic Development and Labour Council to foster a stable labour environment are yielding results.

The Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration has been given responsibility through the Labour Act amendment to mediate in resolving strikes.

Comprehensive business incentive packages across sectors offer support to business.

South Africa provides a platform to leverage on the fastest-growing region in the world.

With a strong team consisting of ministers from the Economic Cluster, senior representatives of South African state-owned entities and many representatives of business, Team South Africa took these messages with confidence to the snow-covered town of Davos in Switzerland. This was communicated in all our interactions during the four-day long forum.

What we experienced was that investors and leaders of global business continued to be positive about South Africa in particular and Africa as a whole, contrary to the sentiment we have seen expressed domestically about all affairs economic.

Investors and global business leaders also appreciated South Africa's frankness and openness in explaining some of the challenges we are dealing with in terms of our economic growth.

Despite these challenges, South Africa continues to attract foreign direct investment with the ICICI Bank of India announcing it would set up an office in South Africa. This affirms our position that we are a preferred investment destination even in these global conditions.

We also took the opportunity to reiterate to delegates at Davos that the National Development Plan and the nine-point plan for economic recovery, underscored by Operation Phakisa, remains our programme of action. This communicated an awareness on our part that we could not continue with business as usual. The challenging and uncertain global economic conditions necessitate an innovative approach to ensuring that we remain globally competitive in the face of turbulence.

A message can only go that far to build confidence. We must now pull together in our various sectors to ensure we implement these programmes.

In a highly uncertain economic climate, we have as Team South Africa once again demonstrated that uniquely South African quality of being able to stand together in the face of adversity because apart from our sectoral interests, our country is most important. This is the spirit that will see us transcend almost unprecedented global uncertainty. [U](#)

best practice to a range of pressing social, developmental and economic issues.

South Africa is not insulated from this global economic environment and although we have the most diversified economy in Africa, with a strong macro-economic policy and fiscal environment, the falling commodity prices, among others, present a challenge to our economic growth forecasts.

Our most important message in Davos to international business and investors would have to be that, South Africa was open for business in this environment and that they could be assured of our commitment to policy certainty and consistency.

Among others, we communicated that:

- our strong macro-economic framework has shielded the economy from the full brunt of a challenging global economic

environment and volatility in global capital markets

- government, through its fiscal consolidation measures, is committed to continued fiscal prudence and preservation of investment grade credit ratings
- private partnerships in energy through renewable programmes are fast contributing to power availability over and above the large energy infrastructure built
- mature banking institutions and world-class capital markets make for easy access to capital.

The adoption of a socio-economic impact assessment system by Cabinet in September 2015, seeks to avoid policy contradictions

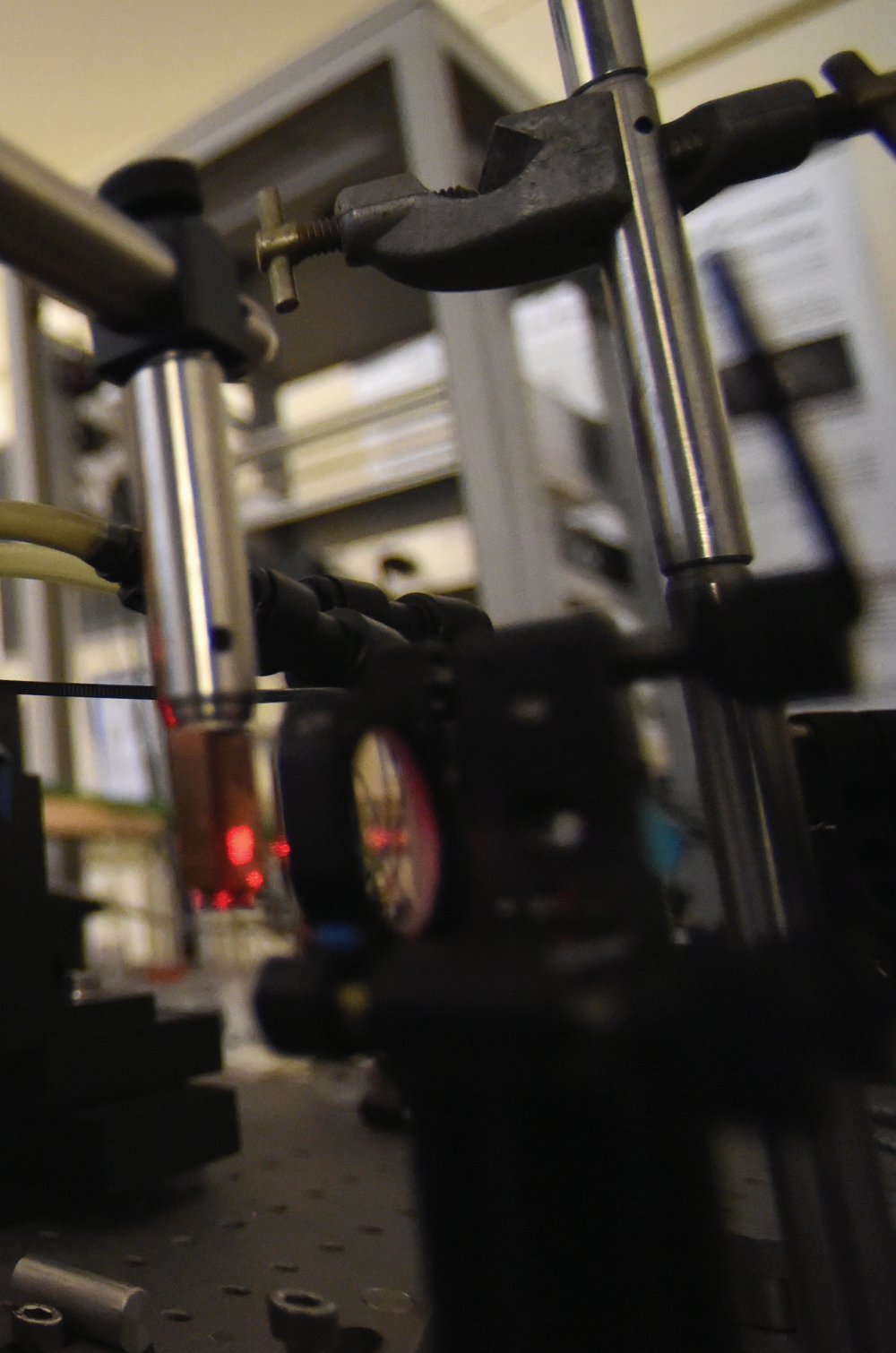


Science at the forefront of SA's vision

By Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa

Science is at the centre of all human progress. It is critical to our development as a nation and as a continent.

The fossil record tells us that humans originated in Africa. It was here, over the course of several millennia, that humans evolved the capabilities that enabled them to venture beyond the shores of our continent, to colonise new lands and build new civilisations.



Government will continue to work hard to promote relationships with global partners and to leverage foreign investment in science and technology in South Africa.

It was here that our capacity for innovation developed.

It was here that we began to understand and master our physical environment. It was in Africa that humans discovered what we now know as science.

Science is at the centre of all human progress. It is critical to our development as a nation and as a continent.

In 1994, we inherited an economy with deep structural deficiencies. Government had to put in place interventions to ensure economic stability and inclusive growth. We have focused on transforming the economy, pursuing policies to grow strategic sectors and create employment opportunities.

Investment in research and development (R&D) has been an important part of South

Africa's economic development strategy over the last two decades. Technological innovation is crucial for economic diversification and sustainability. As we have encouraged investment in R&D, we have worked to reconfigure and reorientate our research institutions and to promote cooperation between higher education institutions, state agencies and business.

Progress towards a knowledge-based economy will be driven by a variety of elements. These include human capital development, knowledge generation and exploitation, and knowledge infrastructure development. It requires that we address the gap between research results and socio-economic outcomes.

Significant progress has been made during the past two decades, but more still remains to be done.

South Africa's economy is still faced with profound challenges that require a coherent and concerted response from all social partners.

The Department of Science and Technology is leading government's efforts to make South Africa a preferred destination for foreign investment in science, technology and innovation.

The work being done to encourage international companies to locate their R&D facilities in South Africa is seeing results.

General Electric, for example, is investing R500 million in a customer innovation centre in Gauteng. We welcome its decision to invest a further R200 million to support South African small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) through technology transfer.

IBM has announced that it would invest R700 million over 10 years into information and communications technology (ICT) R&D.

Cisco has announced a three-year partnership worth R66 million to increase the company's R&D activities in South Africa.

Government will continue to work hard to promote relationships with global partners and to leverage foreign investment in science and technology in South Africa.

We will continue to support training opportunities for South African researchers abroad and enable cooperation agreements that allow South Africa to share its international experience and expertise.

Science and technology is critical for our continent's economic growth and development.

For centuries, Africa has provided the raw materials that have fuelled the greatest industrial and technological advances in human history.

However, we have not had the opportunity to fully enjoy the economic and social benefit



that arises from the exploitation of our resources. That needs to change. That is why the approval by African heads of state of the science, technology and innovation strategy is such a positive development. It has the potential to establish Africa as a supplier not merely of raw materials, but also of the technology and knowledge required to transform those materials into a better life for all its people. South Africa is committed to playing its part.

In 2011, the country published its beneficiation strategy, which proposes five value chains for analysis. These are in the areas of coal and nuclear, iron and steel, titanium pigment and metal, platinum group metals and precious metals.

One of the outcomes of that strategy was the construction of a titanium pilot plant at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

While South Africa is the second-largest producer of titanium-bearing mineral concentrates in the world, little value is added to the mineral before it is exported.

Government has invested some R100 million over two years to help develop and commercialise a process to produce primary titanium metal powder.

By developing technologies to manufacture titanium products, the country can become a significant contributor to the global aerospace market.

The South African Government adopted the National Infrastructure Plan in 2012 to transform the country's economic landscape, while simultaneously creating significant numbers of new jobs and strengthening the delivery of basic services.

It is investing more than R800 billion over three years in building new and upgrading existing infrastructure.

The roll-out of the infrastructure development plan will play a crucial role in unlocking economic opportunities, promote mineral extraction and beneficiation, address socio-economic needs and lead to inclusive economic growth.

A strong manufacturing sector is crucial for industrialisation.

We will continue to support South Africa's manufacturing sector to enable the country's companies to develop new capabilities and products that will broaden the country's exports.

The CSIR has the capacity and expertise to contribute to the growth of our manufacturing sector. The organisation has demonstrated this capability by supporting SMMEs in the production of biotechnology-based products. The CSIR has used laser technology to improve the competitiveness of South Africa's



In 2015, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) celebrated 70 years of existence.

The CSIR performs multidisciplinary research and technological innovation with the aim of contributing to industrial development and the quality of life of people of South Africa – and increasingly on the wider continent.

Constituted by an Act of Parliament in 1945, the CSIR is one of the leading science and technology research, development and implementation organisations in Africa. The CSIR's main site is in Pretoria, while it is represented in other provinces of South Africa through regional offices.

The CSIR transfers the knowledge generated through research activities by means of technology and skilled people. The generation and application of knowledge reside at the core of the CSIR. This takes place in domains such as biosciences; the built environment; defence, peace, safety and security; materials science and manufacturing; and natural resources and the environment.

Emerging research areas include nanotechnology, synthetic biology and mobile autonomous intelligent systems.

The CSIR houses specialist facilities of strategic importance for African science. These include information and communications technologies; laser technology; and space-related technology.

Research and development activities include intellectual property management, technology transfer (for commercial gain as well as for social good), knowledge dissemination and impact assessment.

The CSIR has a group of facilities that manages standard technology-based services. The experts in this group utilise the value of CSIR knowledge-application activities by providing specialised consulting, analysis and testing services to address the needs of clients. Services include forensic fire investigations, food and beverage analysis, environmental testing, engineering forensics, wire rope testing, mechanical testing, fires and explosion tests, sports technology and analysis, and project management.

South Africa's national imperatives and global challenges provide the macrostrategic framework within which the CSIR conducts its research. In an effort to contribute to placing the African continent on a path of sustainable growth and development, the organisation supports and actively participates in the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

www.csir.co.za/

manufacturing industry. It has supported programmes to improve the energy efficiency of large companies.

The National Development Plan (NDP) outlines South Africa's long-term vision for a more competitive, inclusive and diversified economy. Science, technology and innovation must be at the forefront of realising this vision.

The NDP says that science and technology must be used to address some of the problems in education, health and economic development, and to facilitate access to information and knowledge.

Already that is happening.

The departments of health and science and technology, for example, are working with the CSIR to design ICT architecture for the National Health Insurance.

There have also been important successes in areas like HIV prevention and treatment, satellite-building, paleontology, fluorochemicals and technology for improved service delivery.

Progress in developing and supporting renewable energy solutions is particularly encouraging. Government will increase

its support for the work done by the CSIR and other parties in identifying strategic geographical areas that are suitable for wind and solar projects.

Government has invested in infrastructure for hydrogen research at the CSIR, and is keenly following progress in finding a way to more easily store hydrogen for use as a clean energy alternative. We commend the partnership between the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation, Department of Trade and Industry and the CSIR for the successful implementation of the National Cleaner Production Centre of South Africa.

Over the past five years, the centre has assisted more than 80 industry plants to save sufficient energy to electrify over 120 000 South African homes for a year.

Government's vision for 2030 is that South Africa becomes a dynamic and connected information society that has a vibrant knowledge economy that is inclusive and prosperous. Hundreds of thousands of years ago, Africa was at the centre of human innovation. It can become so again.

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South African expertise and skills help to save Petra

By John Davies

Ambassador to Amman, Jordan

Their impressive work has been praised by all concerned with the project: the Jordan Department of Antiquities, the Petra Development and Tourism Regional Authority, UNESCO as well as the Italian Government. ►►



Petra, the “rose red city half as old as time”, is the most famous sight in Jordan and is visited by thousands of tourists each year. It was voted as one of the seven wonders of the world in a recent global exercise.

The site contains a number of instantly-recognisable monuments, the most famous being the Treasury (or *el Khazneh* in Arabic), followed by the Monastery (*el Deir*), reached after a strenuous uphill climb. In fact, neither is a treasury or a monastery, and most of the monuments at the Petra site are, comparatively speaking, not that old, dating to classical Greek and Roman times (second century BC to fourth century AD). The approach to the Treasury, along the narrow Siq (canyon), is nevertheless one of the most dramatic sights in the world.

The Israelites passed by this way during the Exodus, although there is no sign of their presence, mainly because the Nabataeans, an Arab tribe that built most of what we now see at Petra, were only active from the second century BC onwards. The area surrounding Petra, however, has remains dating back to the earliest human settlements. Budeira, a few hundred metres from “Little Petra”, a neighbouring village, is a Neolithic site dating back to the times when humans first started living in settlements and cultivating crops, 10 000 years ago.

When Petra was rediscovered by the Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhart in 1812, the site was largely abandoned and almost inaccessible. Unfortunately for Petra, the beautiful “rose-red” local sandstone rocks are very soft and erode easily. Many of the monuments and tombs in Petra show signs of serious erosion and those that are in the path of the wind, which whips up sandstorms at certain times of the year, have often been almost worn away altogether. Floods during the rainy season (not very long in Jordan, the second-most “water challenged” country in the world) also cause havoc and retaining dam walls which now protect the Siq.

This means that the Siq itself, the main access channel to the city of Petra, is potentially dangerous in that rainstorms and wind gradually expose faults in the overhanging rocks and eventually cause them to collapse into the valley below. As this poses a serious threat to all the tourists moving through the Siq, the authorities, together with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), decided some years ago to commission a study of the Siq’s stability and identify areas that needed attention. This process included identifying



specific rocks or groups of rocks that are close to collapsing and falling as well as introducing delicate measuring instruments, linked by satellite to a control centre that constantly monitors fissures in the rocks to detect when they start to widen and thereby threaten to fall. As part of the process, the main monuments and tombs themselves were subjected to a

3-D laser mapping process, greatly assisting preservation and planning for the future.

The Zamani Research Group, based at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and headed by Professor Heinz Ruther, was established to map and document, through 3-D modelling, all of Africa’s great monuments. Zamani is part of UCT’s Geomatics Division



(www.zamaniproject.org). Zamani has carried out projects in many African countries, and is currently doing a survey of the famous pyramids of Meroe in Sudan.

Funding for such projects is sometimes erratic and Zamani found that it had spare capacity just at the time that the Italian Government agreed to fund the Petra Siq

Stability Project. The group therefore tendered for the project (which was also overseen by UNESCO) and was successful.

Their impressive work has been praised by all concerned with the project: the Jordan Department of Antiquities, the Petra Development and Tourism Regional Authority, UNESCO as well as the Italian

Government. If further funding becomes available, Zamani would undoubtedly be well-placed to continue its mapping work in Jordan, thereby creating greater awareness of South Africa's skills and competence in this area and serving as a wonderful advertisement for the country. 🇺🇲



LIBERATION HERITAGE

Beyers Naudé

Speaking at the Special Official Funeral of Dr Beyers Naudé in Johannesburg on 18 September 2004, the then President of South Africa, Thabo Mbeki, said that he “... was a great son of the people of our country whose very being was infused with a deep sense of compassion. A humble person who would never be able to conceive of himself

as other than an ordinary person; he felt in closest communion with the ordinary people of our country, the wretched of the Earth”.

Oom Bey, as he was affectionately known, was born in Roodepoort, in the then Transvaal, on 10 May 1915 and was named after Boer General Christiaan Frederik Beyers. One of eight children, he was born into a family who was fully committed to the preservation of Afrikaner nationalism. His father was a minister of the Dutch Reformed

Church (DRC) and was a founding member of the Afrikaner Broederbond, a secret society aimed at promoting Afrikaner nationalism. Naudé followed in his father's footsteps by studying Theology at the University of Stellenbosch. He received his degree in 1939 and completed a Master's degree in languages. He also joined the Broederbond as its youngest member when he was only 25.

In 1940, he was appointed assistant-minister at the DRC in Wellington, Cape Town. In August the same year, he married Ilse Weder, the daughter of a Moravian missionary.

For the next 20 years, Naudé ministered to various congregations across the country. He followed the political philosophy of the National Party, but the Sharpeville Massacre in 1960 brought about a huge change of heart.

After completing his last sermon in which he placed “the authority of God before the authority of man”, he removed his robes and left his church. Naudé and his family were completely ostracised by their fellow Afrikaners.

He had already begun to question the morality of apartheid after witnessing the destruction of black family life under the South African migrant labour system.

In 1961, Naudé became acting moderator of the Southern Transvaal DRC Synod despite his outspoken opposition to apartheid. In April of the same year, he was appointed moderator. He was the founder member of the Christian Institute, a non-racial ecumenical organisation that challenged the established traditional church while providing humanitarian relief. Naudé was also the editor of the Christian Institute's publication, *Pro Veritate*.

Naudé was serving as minister, or dominee, in the Aasvoëlkop congregation during this time and experienced intense inner conflict regarding the church's support of apartheid with his own Christian principles. In 1963, he resigned from the Broederbond after 22 years of membership.

His real turning point came on a Sunday morning in September 1963. Already considered a traitor for quitting the Broederbond, he braved complete rejection by the Afrikaner community by condemning apartheid from the pulpit. After completing his last sermon in which he placed "the authority of God before the authority of man", he removed his robes and left his church.

Naudé and his family were completely ostracised by their fellow Afrikaners. He was embraced by the black community and joined a Dutch Reformed congregation led by Reverend Sam Guti in Alexandra.

Naudé was forced to resign as minister. He continued in his position as Director of the Christian Institute, but in May 1965, the Security Police raided the organisation's premises.

Naudé was opposed to violence as a means of change and in 1972 he travelled to Europe where he delivered a sermon at Westminster Abbey, London. He became the first Afrikaans theologian to be honoured in this way. He continued on to West Germany for talks with church leaders there. In September 1972, he was awarded an honorary doctorate in Theology by Amsterdam's Free University for "exceptional merit for the development of theological science".

The year 1974 saw Naudé receiving an honorary doctorate of Law from the University of Witwatersrand. He was also honoured with the Reinhold Niebuhr Award for "steadfast and self-sacrificing services in South Africa for justice and peace". His passport, which had been confiscated, was returned so that he could travel and receive the award at a ceremony in Chicago, United States of America. On his return it was confiscated

Madiba, paying tribute to his old friend, said Naudé had "stood up against apartheid at a time when it was an unpopular thing for white people to do, and he did so at the expense of his family and his freedom".

again. In October 1977, Naudé and his Christian Institute were banned. Despite the continual persecution he established a ministry to council pastors. He was not allowed to leave his house, or speak to more than one person at a time. He continued to speak to other anti-apartheid activists like Archbishop Desmond Tutu on a one-to-one basis.

After seven years, Naudé's banning order was lifted in September 1984. He immediately threw himself back into the struggle against apartheid. He succeeded Archbishop Tutu as the secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches in 1985. In 1987, he formed part of the Afrikaner group that met with African National Congress

representatives in Senegal. The demise of apartheid and the move to democracy turned Naudé from pariah to hero. President Nelson Mandela called him a "living spring of hope for racial reconciliation".

In June 1999, despite failing health, he opened the inauguration ceremony for President Mbeki.

Naudé passed away at the Elim retirement village in Northcliff, Johannesburg, on 7 September 2004. He was 89. His wife, Ilse, aged 92, was by his side.

Madiba, paying tribute to his old friend, said Naudé had "stood up against apartheid at a time when it was an unpopular thing for white people to do, and he did so at the expense of his family and his freedom".

www.southafrica.info / www.sahistory.org.za



Beyers Naudé with Oliver Tambo



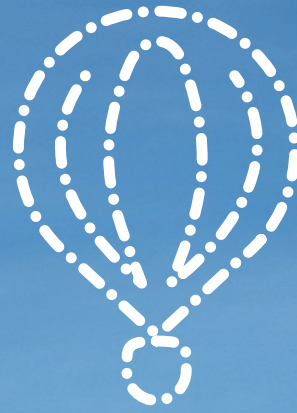
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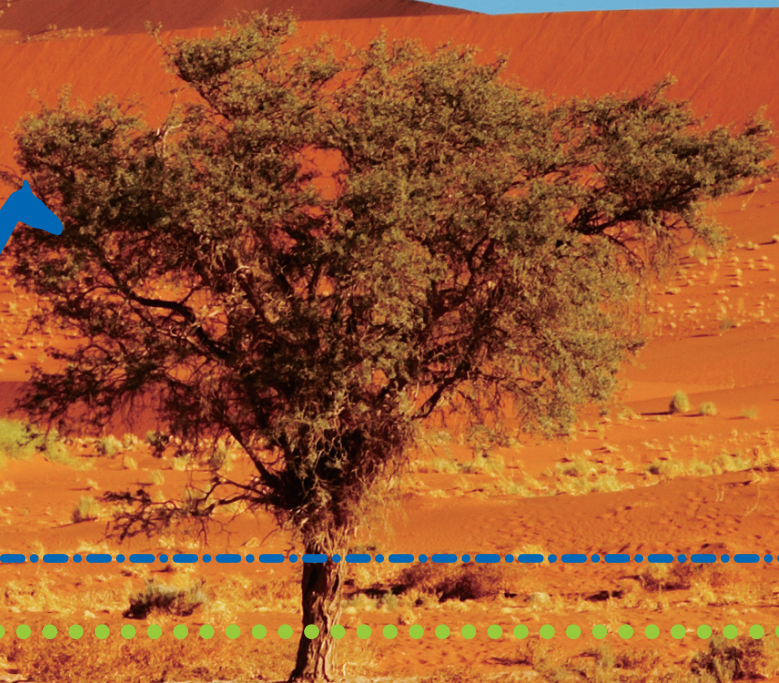




ZTE with Africa

20

Years



Rhino anti-poaching interventions showing results

By Albi Modise

Chief Director: Communication/

Head of Communication

Department of Environmental Affairs



South Africa is starting to turn the corner in the fight against rhino poaching. In the past year, the number of rhino poached for their horn decreased as the number of arrests for poaching increased dramatically. This could be ascribed to the joint effort of government departments, state-owned entities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to ensure that rhino are protected for future generations.

The increased cooperation is evident not only from the fact that the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Edna Molewa, was joined by the ministers of justice and state security at recent media updates on the rhino poaching situation, but is also borne out of the increased success of the cooperation between entities such as SANParks and the Limpopo National Park in Mozambique.

In August 2012, Cabinet approved the Integrated Strategic Management (ISM) of Rhinoceros in South Africa. This approach comprises compulsory interventions, interventions to increase rhino numbers, long-term sustainability interventions, international and regional cooperation and game-changing interventions.

On 1 November 2015, the war against rhino poaching and wildlife crime received a much-needed boost when President Jacob Zuma visited the Kruger National Park (KNP), witnessing first-hand the extent of rhino poaching in South Africa, and the steps being taken by the Government to address the matter.

During his visit, the President assisted in taking DNA samples from a rhino cow captured to become a foster parent to rhino calves orphaned by poaching. The President paid tribute to the efforts of rangers at the Ranger Memorial at the Kruger Gate and officially opened the Mission Area Joint Operations Centre (MAJOC) at Skukuza. This centre – one of the key milestones of the ISM approach – has been established in the park by the South African Police Service (SAPS) to coordinate operations against rhino poaching by all affected government institutions. These are the departments of environmental affairs and defence, the SAPS, SANParks and the provincial conservation agencies. Rhino poaching was declared a national security

The well-equipped and trained reaction forces with good land and air mobility, as well as a significant night capability, now have the benefit of early warning, detection and tracking systems to enhance proactive operations. More and more allies are joining this costly campaign to ensure sustainability and continuous improvement.

threat in 2011. Since, then the Government has increased its efforts in curbing a crime that affects not only the survival of a key member of the Big Five, but also jobs in the tourism, wildlife and related sectors, as well the country's economy and cultural and natural heritage.

By approving the ISM approach, government has prioritised the need for a strengthened tactic, particularly information coordination and the strengthening of partnerships with neighbouring countries, law-enforcement authorities and communities surrounding protected areas.

This approach has delivered a number of satisfying results since its implementation 18 months ago.

For the first time in a decade, the poaching situation has stabilised. This is cause for hopefulness, particularly in light of the fact that poaching activity into protected areas has increased considerably during 2015.

In addition, the much-feared year-end spike in poaching was prevented at the end of 2015 when a concerted Ranger and Task Force effort ensured that the country lost half the number of rhinos in December 2015 compared to 2014.

Another achievement by the end of 2015, was that all crime scenes had been attended to – this despite a serious backlog earlier in the year. This is largely due to the admirable efforts of the SAPS/KNP forensic and investigation teams, as well as significant training in crime-scene management offered to investigators during the year.

The National Prosecuting Authority announced in January 2016 that it had convicted 48 rhino poachers since August 2015 on charges ranging from possession of rhino horn, dealing in rhino horn and the illegal

hunting of rhino to conspiracy, trespassing and the illegal possession of firearms and ammunition.

Over the past three years, the concerted efforts of the rangers and other forces resulted in 509 poachers arrested inside the park and 304 weapons seized. If the successes adjacent to the park are taken into account, since they are launched from the MAJOC at Skukuza, a total of 795 poachers were arrested and 431 weapons seized.

2015's successes also included a decrease in the number of rhino poached for their horn in South Africa to 1 175 from the record number of 1 215 in 2014. Last year, 826 rhino were killed in the KNP – a clear indication that the situation has been stabilised as a result of our hard-fought campaign.

The ISM approach saw the introduction of the Intensive Protection Zone concept in the KNP. It remains an important pillar for the protection of the high-density rhino population in the south of the KNP, and is being expanded to other protected areas in the country.

The well-equipped and trained reaction forces with good land and air mobility, as well as a significant night capability, now have the benefit of early warning, detection and tracking systems to enhance proactive operations. More and more allies are joining this costly campaign to ensure sustainability and continuous improvement.

Another step has been the implementation of the Rhino Information System, which serves as a single online environment where rhino-related information – be it news in the media or information from NGOs or government – can be collated and standardised.

The Green Scorpions and the National Border Management Coordinating Committee have been training officials at ports of entry



and exit on all aspects of the Illicit International Cross-Border Movement of Endangered Species. Since August 2015, 1 047 border-enforcement officials have received training.

In terms of interdepartmental collaboration between the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and its partners in the Security Cluster, around 400 magistrates and prosecutors received intensive training last year.

The DEA is in the process of collating inputs from the public following the gazetting in January 2016 of the Draft Amendment of the norms and standards for the marking of rhinoceros and rhinoceros horn, and the hunting of rhinoceros for trophy hunting purposes, of 2012.

Collectively, the amendments strengthen enforcement efforts to ensure that the translocation of live rhino, the management of rhino horn and the hunting of these animals are done within the ambits of the law – without contributing to an increase in rhino poaching.

Another policy development was the publication of the Biodiversity Management Plan for White Rhino in December 2015. This plan enables the evaluation of conservation progress and management, and sets out key actions and strategies needed to ensure that monitoring protection conservation and sustainable management of the species will contribute to meeting conservation goals – as well as the long-term vision for the conservation of white rhino.

Since last year, SANParks' biological management interventions focused on moving rhino from high poaching risk areas to safer zones within the KNP, evaluating and initiating several rhino strongholds and saving

rhino orphans left abandoned when their mothers were poached.

A total of 124 rhino were moved out of the KNP last year.

A recent survey has shown that more than a quarter of the world's white rhino population (5 000) is in the hands of private and communal landowners in South Africa.

Unfortunately, more than 60 properties disinvested completely of white rhino during the survey period, resulting in a loss of approximately 11% of habitat that held white rhino. Security costs were reported to have doubled since 2010 with a national private white rhino security costs of approximately R40 million annually.

But, it is communities living either adjacent to protected areas, or those who have land claims on protected areas pending, that are key to all partnerships aimed at halting poaching.

In December 2015, the Biodiversity Economy Strategy was launched to promote guardianship of wildlife within all communities.

The Government aims to ensure that in the next 14 years, R7 billion in wildlife equity is transferred to previously disadvantaged communities and entrepreneurs.

This will largely be facilitated through the department's Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programme as well as through mobilising game donations from provincial conservation authorities and SANParks.

A prime example of community ownership of prime species was the donation in November 2015 of four dehorned rhino to a community trust at a ceremony in KwaZulu-Natal. The donation was facilitated by the national DEA and the KwaZulu-Natal

Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs. The rhino were donated by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.

On the international front, South Africa continues to work with regional and international enforcement networks such as the World Customs Organisation, the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Secretariat, World Bank, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Interpol – all of which make up the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime. The country is therefore able to strengthen priority actions at a national level, as well as harness the support of international partners for those priorities that involve transnational syndicates.

South Africa also continues to play a key role on the Advisory Board of Interpol's Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee.

In addition, South Africa is collaborating with rhino range and consumer states to support efforts to neutralise the threat of organised transnational criminal syndicates involved in the illegal wildlife trade.

As part of the Memorandum of Understanding signed with Vietnam in 2013, South Africa played host to the Vietnamese Youth Wilderness Trails Programme in 2015.

This is a demand reduction campaign that will capacitate young rhino ambassadors throughout schools in Vietnam, and will run until 2017.

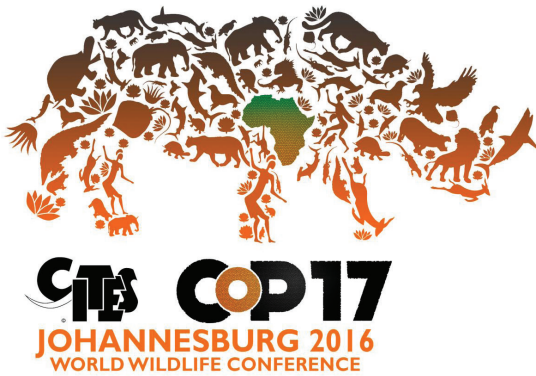
Cooperation with Mozambique has been further cemented not only during the discussions held between President Zuma and President Filipe Nyusi of Mozambique in October 2015, but also through a number of projects undertaken.

Among these have included:

- the presentation to Mozambique's Environmental Police with a donation of equipment to the value of R2,6 million to strengthen

The Government aims to ensure that in the next 14 years, R7 billion in wildlife equity is transferred to previously disadvantaged communities and entrepreneurs.





The world's eyes are turning to South Africa as the country prepares to host the 17th Conference of Parties to CITES (CITES CoP17) in Johannesburg from 24 September to 5 October 2016.

Mozambique's environmental law-enforcement efforts, and support the rangers in Limpopo National Park

- guard and field ranger training in association with the Southern African Wildlife College
- the resettlement of villages as part of the community resettlement programme at Limpopo National Park is still underway and it is anticipated that the programme should be completed by the end of 2017.

In December 2015, at the Sixth Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), held in Johannesburg, wildlife conservation and combating the illegal trade of wildlife were included in the FOCAC Action Plan. The Ministerial Meeting and Heads of State Summit of FOCAC saw the two countries agree to transform the wildlife trade dynamics from Africa to China, with a view to significantly reducing illegal trade and supporting the sustainable utilisation of Africa's wild plants and animals, including regulated legal trade in wildlife.

The world's eyes are turning to South Africa as the country prepares to host the 17th Conference of Parties to CITES (CITES CoP17) in Johannesburg from 24 September to 5 October 2016.

The country is widely expected to table a proposal to CITES to legalise the trade in

rhino horn. However, no such decision had been made by the time of going to press.

The Committee of Inquiry set up to investigate the feasibility, or not, of a possible trade in rhino horn was set to present its findings and recommendations following a year of investigation to the Cabinet during March 2016 for a decision.

Only then will the South African Government take a formal stance regarding the sale of stockpiled rhino horn.

On World Wildlife Day, 3 March 2016, Minister Edna Molewa signed the Host Country Agreement for CITES CoP17 with the Secretary-General of CITES, John Scanlon, on the margins of an international conference on wildlife crime in The Hague, the Netherlands.

Scanlon described South Africa as a highly appropriate location given the frontline wildlife challenges and opportunities being tackled on the continent.

"Africa is home to a vast array of CITES-listed species and South Africa is globally recognised for 'the Big Five'.

"CITES parties and observers look forward to convening in South Africa for the World Wildlife Conference," said Scanlon.

At COP17, parties will collectively evaluate the progress made since 2013, and take decisions on what additional measures are needed to end illicit wildlife trafficking. It will also consider a number of proposals to

bring additional species under CITES trade controls, as well as tackle issues concerning livelihoods and the review of significant trade, traceability and the effectiveness of CITES implementation, among other things. The illicit trade in wildlife and rhino poaching will also feature on the agenda.

The signing coincided with the release of the official COP17 logo – an iconic image of the African white rhinoceros.

The rhino's "body" comprises the outlines of a number of species of endangered plants and animals from the African continent, such as the pangolin, cycad, African aloe and African lion.

The selection of the rhino as the dominant image of the COP17 logo reinforces South Africa's status as home to the largest rhino populations in the world.

South Africa's sterling rhino conservation track record has resulted in significant growth in rhino numbers: from approximately 50 in 1895 to approximately 18 000 today.

"The choice of a rhino as the dominant image in the logo for COP17 is also to draw attention to the challenges South Africa and other African range states face as a result of poaching," says Minister Molewa.

"The COP17 logo reminds all of us of the interconnectivity between different species, and of the fragile, complex relationships between humankind and our stewardship of our natural resources.

South Africa looks forward to hosting this important gathering, where we will chart the course for a new era in species conservation," says Minister Molewa. 

A beacon on the global landscape of human memory

By Nicholas Wolpe
CEO Liliesleaf

"Liliesleaf was an old house that needed work and no one lived there. I moved in under the pretext that I was a houseboy or caretaker that would live there until my master took possession. I had taken the alias David Motsamayi, the name of one of my former clients. At the farm, I wore the simple blue overalls that were the uniform of the black male servant." — Nelson Mandela, *Long Walk to Freedom*.



Liliesleaf today is a national heritage site that commemorates a strategic and seminal point in South Africa's liberation struggle history and is a beacon on the

global landscape of human memory.

More than just a national heritage site, it symbolises and articulates what underpinned and defined the liberation struggle. It is a site of memory that keeps the history of the liberation struggle alive and real.

Visitors to the historical site interact with dynamic, immersive interactive audio and audiovisual exhibits that take them on an inspiring journey of discovery where intriguing and fascinating liberation struggle testimonies and stories come to life that helped shape and define South Africa's new democratic dispensation.

As time moves on, it is easy to forget where we have come from and what we as

a people and nation have been through. With each generation, the gap gets wider and the importance of our past has the potential to fade from the historical landscape and narrative. As a consequence, Liliesleaf today takes on more significance and meaning as it aims to ensure, through the testimonies and stories which are told through interactive dynamic exhibits, that the events and actions that influenced and shaped South Africa's liberation struggle are not lost or forgotten.

Liliesleaf was purchased in August 1961 through a front company of the South African Communist Party (SACP), Navian (Pty) Ltd. The funds to purchase the property purportedly came from Moscow via Zurich into the trust account of the law firm of James Kantor & Partners, which did the legal transaction on behalf of Navain (Pty) Ltd.

The small holding was purchased from the Fyffe family who were from Scotland and had named the farm after a Scottish village of the same name. It was a 28-acres farm situated in the then secluded peri-urban area of Rivonia.

At the time of the purchase, Nelson Mandela was underground. In his statement from the dock, which he delivered in April 1964 during the Rivonia Trial, he said: "In October, Arthur Goldreich informed me that he was moving out of town and offered me a hiding place there. A few days thereafter, he arranged for Michael Harmel to take me to Rivonia. I naturally found Rivonia an ideal place for the man who lived the life of an outlaw. Up to that time, I had been compelled to live indoors during the daytime and could only venture out under cover of darkness. But at Liliesleaf [farm, Rivonia], I could live differently and work far more efficiently."

In early December 1961, Arthur Goldreich, a member of the SACP, with his wife Hazel and their two small children, Nicholas and Paul, moved onto the small holding. The Goldreichs projected an acceptable white middle-class family facade while the thatched cottage and outbuildings concealed covert underground liberation activities.

The purchase of Liliesleaf coincided with the decisive decision to shift to armed struggle and as Ahmed Kathrada aptly remarked, through a process of osmosis Liliesleaf became the High Command of the newly formed military wing of the African National Congress (ANC), with its first Commander-in-Chief being Nelson Mandela.

Liliesleaf became the nerve centre of the underground liberation movement and it was from there that the military overthrow of the apartheid regime was planned and discussed ...

Liliesleaf became the nerve centre of the underground liberation movement and it was from there that the military overthrow of the apartheid regime was planned and discussed ... and where structures like The Secretariat and the High Command planned and strategised a path that played a seminal role in changing the course of South African history. Key debates took place on political and military policy and strategy as well as on military action. This included the drafting of Operation Mayibuye. The plan motivated a shift from sabotage to guerrilla warfare and the toppling of the government by military action, with external assistance.

It was with apprehension and reluctance that the leadership convened for one last meeting at Liliesleaf on the afternoon of Thursday, 11 July 1963, to conclude discussions on Operation Mayibuye and address some operational matters and the recently passed 90-day Detention Act.

AnnMarie Wolpe, wife of Harold Wolpe, who also had been briefly arrested in the aftermath of the Liliesleaf raid, recalled the period in her autobiography, *The Long Way Home*. She quotes her husband, saying, "The tragedy is that this was scheduled to be the last meeting there. We'd been worried for some time, and everything was due to be moved away from the house."

Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Ahmed Kathrada, Lionel "Rusty" Bernstein, Raymond Mhlaba and Bob Hepple were meeting in the thatched cottage to continue the debate on Operation Mayibuye, while in the lounge of the Manor House was Denis Goldberg, reading a banned book, *Brighter than a Thousand Suns*, a personal history of the atomic scientists by Robert Jungk.

The six men heard dogs barking and a vehicle making its way down the long driveway. Govan Mbeki looked out of the window. He did not recognise the vehicle – a white dry cleaning van with the words "Trade Steam Presses" printed on it. Bernstein then looked up and exclaimed with surprise that he had seen the very same van parked outside the Rivonia police station while on route to the farm.

Pandemonium broke out in the thatched cottage. Mbeki had a copy of *Operation Mayibuye* on his lap. He tried to get rid of it in the coal stove. It was unlit, so he pushed it up the chimney. No one had matches; the





Fortunately for South Africa, the apartheid State's imprisonment of the Rivonia trialists failed to quell, quash or crush the morality, spirit and ideals of the liberal struggle.

incriminating document could not be burned. Kathrada and Sisulu climb out the back window of the cottage and were making a break into the dense Highveld scrub behind the cottage.

The police were apparently acting on a tip-off that Walter Sisulu was hiding out on the farm but what they stumbled on inadvertently was a meeting of members of the top leadership of the liberation movement. They hit the jackpot.

From that moment, the word "Rivonia" became synonymous around the world with the crushing of the internal liberation movement and resistance to apartheid.

At the time of the raid, Mandela was serving a five-year sentence on Robben Island. The day after the raid, however, the police uncovered a cache of documents in the coal shed behind the main house kitchen door.

The police allegedly clapped their hands with joy as they recognised the handwriting as belonging to Mandela.

His writings, diaries and journals were concealed in the coal shed, which linked him to Liliesleaf and enabled the apartheid State

to bring him as accused No 1 to the Rivonia Trial. There was evidence of Mandela's relationship and link to Liliesleaf, and all the intimate details of his travels abroad to build up support for the ANC and Imkhonto we Sizwe (MK).

The police had their case: a 62-page notebook entitled, *Part One: How to Be a Good Communist*, his diary of his trip abroad in 1962 and a false Ethiopian passport in the name of David Motsamayi, which Mandela had gone under while operating from Liliesleaf and used during his secret African mission.

The police also found a handwritten version of an MK disciplinary code, which had been written by Harold Wolpe, a notebook on the *Theory of Demolition*, written by Arthur Goldreich and other incriminating liberation material.

The raid on Liliesleaf resulted in the Rivonia Trial, where eight of the 10 accused: Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Walter Sisulu, Raymond Mhlaba, Ahmed Kathrada, Denis Goldberg, Andrew Mhlangeni and Elias Motsoaledi were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The trial came not only to encapsulate the determination, conviction and ideals of what the struggle meant but also gave the accused a platform to voice what the ideals of the struggle were about. The Rivonia trialists came to represent the embodiment and soul of the struggle "that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people".

This was nowhere more clearly articulated, expressed and extolled than by Nelson Mandela's closing remarks in his "I am prepared to die" statement, where he said: "During my lifetime, I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

Fortunately for South Africa, the apartheid State's imprisonment of the Rivonia trialists failed to quell, quash or crush the morality, spirit and ideals of the liberal struggle. Though the Rivonia trialists were incarnated and not seen for over two decades, their indelible spirit and belief remained ever present. Then on 11 February 1990, the symbol of the struggle walked free and with it the aspirations and hopes of a nation. 🇿🇦



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Africa: the new frontier for investment

By Manusha Pillai

General Manager: Communications
Brand South Africa

Africa's ability to attract a significant share of global foreign direct investment therefore bodes well for the continent's developmental agenda and suggests that Africa is doing something right to convince investors that their investments are safe.

The message from the continent to the world, since the early 2000s has been: partnership for development and mutual benefit. This was a fundamental paradigm shift for a continent which was traditionally supported by aid rather than trade. The African Union, with its related institutions, aims at inculcating an ethos of good governance and responsible leadership on the continent to give expression to this message and provide assurance to international partners. This, in addition to the recent adoption of Agenda 2063 – Africa's first long-term programme for socio-economic development – has been key to overhauling the African brand image and saying to the world that Africa is open for business.

Recent analysis of foreign direct investment (FDI) into Africa tells us these endeavours are bearing fruit – the continent is increasingly becoming a viable investment destination, which can be correlated with a more positive continental reputation and image.

According to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD): “FDI is an integral part of an open and effective international economic system and a major catalyst to development”. Africa’s ability to attract a significant share of global FDI therefore bodes well for the continent’s developmental agenda and suggests that Africa is doing something right to convince investors that their investments are safe.

According to the recently released *Africa Investment Report 2015*, compiled by fDiIntelligence: “FDI into Africa [in 2014] increased by 64% to US\$87 billion [which represents] 660 projects”.

This amounts to 13% of global FDI which has increased from 0,6% in 2000. The 464 multinational companies which have invested in the continent are saying without equivocation that Africa is open for business and that it is a safe and reliable investment destination.

The most attractive sectors for investors are: financial services with 133 projects; the coal, oil and natural gas sector with 25 projects and a combined capital investment value of US\$33 billion; the real estate sector with 23 projects and a capital investment of US\$12 billion; and the industrial machinery sector with 33 projects.

The auto components sector reflected an improved performance of 133% while the value of projects in the industrial machinery as well as software and information technology services sectors increased by 378% and 72%, respectively; FDI projects in the chemicals sector amounted to US\$7 billion, indicating an increase of almost 2000% from 2013; and the alternative and renewable energy sector saw US\$10 billion being invested across the continent.

The benefits of FDI for developing countries are well documented. According to the OECD,

Increased foreign direct investment, if used efficiently, can provide governments with a catalyst to both develop and supply human capital for domestic and international business.

and other studies: “FDI triggers technology spillovers, assists human capital formation, contributes to international trade integration, helps create a more competitive business environment and enhances enterprise development. All of these contribute to higher economic growth, which is the most potent tool for alleviating poverty in developing countries”.

The areas where we are seeing the most investment also impact on improving the quality of life for citizens.

Africa’s ability to attract increasing amounts of the global share of FDI is, however, only part of the continent’s success story. Increased FDI must equate to economic growth and development of human capital. This requires strong leadership from both the public and corporate sectors.

Human capital is, according to the OECD “paramount to a country’s ability both to attract FDI and maximise spillovers from foreign enterprise presence”.

Africa must capitalise on the competitive advantages of multinational enterprises resident on the continent – which are an important source of research, development and technology – to develop continental technological competencies and the human capital to maintain such competencies.

The development of Africa’s human capital is a key pillar of Agenda 2063.

Increased FDI, if used efficiently, can provide governments with a catalyst to both develop and supply human capital for domestic and international business.

While FDI can also be a catalyst for the integration of markets to facilitate more efficient and effective trade relations, Africa cannot rely on foreign investment alone and must drive its own integration. To this end, a firm foundation was laid when in

June 2015, the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) negotiations were concluded. When fully implemented, the CFTA will build an integrated market with over one billion people and returns of approximately US\$2,6 trillion.

Intra-regional trade is already contributing to Africa’s growth and the African Development Bank finds that “after decades of relative stagnation, the value of formal intra-African trade has increased almost fivefold in absolute terms between 2001 and 2012”.

In addition, “intra-African greenfield FDI projects as a percentage of greenfield inflows into Africa almost tripled between 2003 to 2013, from 7% in 2003 to over 21% in 2013”.

The successful African growth story is therefore being driven both internally and externally. Various studies indicate a positive correlation between investment and future economic growth. The data suggests that there is every reason for citizens of the continent to be optimistic about prospects for growth and development for their countries and themselves.

The science and theory on brand development tell us that brand equity is built and strengthened by what brands do and not just what they say.

The continent has made significant progress in transforming its image and reputation, which is supported by increased investment – from external markets as well as within the continent.

Africa has certainly become a globally competitive investment destination. The OECD cautions that although there are real economic benefits of FDI, “they do not accrue automatically”.

Maximum benefits will ensue from a healthy enabling environment for business, “which encourages domestic and foreign investment, provides incentives for innovation and improvements of skills and contributes to a competitive corporate climate”.

Will history find the leaders of the continent able to seize the opportunities presented by the Africa Rising narrative to ensure that the African brand is built on what is done rather than what is said? Only time will tell ... U

The data suggests that there is every reason for citizens of the continent to be optimistic about prospects for growth and development for their countries and themselves.

Opening up the African skies

By **Derek Hanekom**
Minister of Tourism

The liberalisation of the African skies, without compromising national security needs, could generate 155 000 new jobs and inject another US \$1,3 billion into the continent's 12 leading economies. ►►



The aviation industry is an essential catalyst for global tourism and trade. Due to its speed, efficiency and capacity to transcend geographical barriers, air transportation has become an indispensable part of integration and the global economy.

Africa's economy is projected to grow significantly in the near future, and new prospects for the aviation industry will emerge. Improved air linkages will facilitate further development, making it essential that we all support the agenda for accelerated growth. We will not pursue this growth at the exclusion of our partners from other parts of the world, but with a view to sustaining effective relationships and partnerships with global partners for inclusive and equitable growth in the aviation industry.

In 2014, the world's airlines ferried about 3,2 billion passengers to their destinations, which is a 6,5% increase from the previous year. The African airline industry grew by 7%. The high growth rate is largely attributable to systematic and long-term investment in airport infrastructure and the adoption of open skies policy.

While growth in African aviation might offer us some hope, the hard truth is that our continent still lags far behind our international counterparts in the aviation stakes.

The Aviation Africa Summit in 2015 noted that the failure by the continent to implement the Yamoussoukro Declaration had been detrimental for the continent. The declaration calls for the liberalisation of African skies for African airlines. It aims to establish a single African air transport market by avoiding market restrictions imposed by bilateral air service agreements.

The African Business Aviation Association's 2015 report points out that Africa has to improve on training and skills development, safety and security, infrastructure, airspace and airport access to match our international competitors and to take advantage of future growth prospects. We must also reduce our taxes and fees.

As a continent on the rise, Africa can use its status as a newcomer in the aviation industry to accelerate its own development by not repeating the mistakes of those who started before us. We can build on the best practices of winning destinations as we build our aviation capacity. And there are many success stories to emulate. The rapid growth and development of the aviation industry is a strategic prerequisite to attain competitiveness.

South Africa's aerospace sector is now contributing an estimated 2,1% to gross

The impact of the aviation industry on sectors like tourism and cargo freight makes the development of aviation facilities a key success factor for economic development on the continent. Africa's diverse economic sectors stand to benefit immensely from the integrated world market.

domestic product and around 4,3% to employment opportunities, which include direct aviation and tourism business operations.

The African aviation market remains largely unexploited. Like all our sister countries on the continent, we in South Africa are determined to rid the continent of poverty, disease and civil war through our active participation in the African Union and other multilateral structures. With our diversified industrial base, modern infrastructure and sophisticated financial markets, we are regarded as a key gateway into Africa.

The impact of the aviation industry on sectors like tourism and cargo freight makes the development of aviation facilities a key success factor for economic development on the continent. Africa's diverse economic sectors stand to benefit immensely from the integrated world market. The commitment by many African countries to construct and upgrade airports demonstrates the continent's recognition of the role that a healthy aviation sector plays in its competitiveness and growth prospects. The truth is that six of the world's 10-fastest growing economies are now located in Africa, making the continent the next frontier of global economic development.

With 25% of the world's arable land and a predominantly youthful population, Africa can become a global food basket that is capable of feeding its own inhabitants and exporting a variety of agricultural products to the world.

Impediments to the growth of Africa's aviation industry include poor intra-African connectivity, weak policy and legislation governing the aviation sector, the high cost of doing business and poor infrastructure.

Limited intra-African connectivity is reflected in the schedules of our national airlines, which tend to fly frequently to destinations outside the continent, especially to Europe, with far fewer flights to other African destinations. In an article published by the Fin24 business magazine, the Director-General and CEO of the International Air Transport Association, Tony Tyler, listed intra-Africa connectivity as a significant factor undermining our continent's aviation industry. He said: "It is strange that African countries seem more willing to give flight permission to airlines from outside

the continent than to those from within the continent. About 80% of the air traffic to Africa is on non-African airlines."

He attributed this state of affairs to restrictive air traffic regimes in Africa. While this is changing, the pace of the change does not match the desire and readiness for trade and investment among African countries themselves. Poor connectivity is costly. People travelling from Johannesburg to Rabat in Morocco, to use but one example, may have to fly via Paris instead of enjoying a direct flight within the continent.

Travelling between Kenya and London is more convenient than flying from Nairobi to Maputo in Mozambique.

On a brighter note, Africa is gradually addressing some of these challenges. Resolutions taken during the meeting of the African Airlines Association in Kenya in 2013 included calls for unrestricted intra-Africa



market access and regulatory alignment among African states. The gathering recommended the creation of even playing fields to promote fair competition. The commitment to establish aviation hubs and the entry of affordable airlines, can transform the African airline business by enabling direct flights between destinations on the continent.

The Yamoussoukro Declaration calls for greater collaboration and the promotion of internal market liberalisation and fair competition. This is a crucial developmental strategy to address industry concerns around safety, environmental protection and security.

The liberalisation of the African skies, without compromising national security needs, could generate 155 000 new jobs and inject another US\$1,3 billion into the continent's 12 leading economies.

We have already recognised that poor aviation facilities have impeded the continent's development. But, investment in infrastructure, especially in modernising airports to handle the new generation of aircraft such as the Airbus 380 and the Boeing 747-8, and cooperation with regional trade blocs like the European Union, is improving the performance of African airlines. This includes the installation of modern satellite services essential for safe and efficient aviation.

The 2010 FIFA World Cup brought a major facelift and upgrade of South Africa's airport infrastructure. This included the construction of King Shaka International Airport in Durban. South Africa continues to place infrastructure development at the top of its developmental agenda, with further improvement in airports as a priority.

The safety and security of passengers and aircraft is, of course, absolutely crucial, and requires special attention to ensure that it is not an obstacle to the growth of air transport on the African continent. Focus on safety is now taking centre stage in the African aviation industry.

Africa is implementing the 2012 Abuja Declaration to promote air safety standards that match the world's minimum safety standards. Through the South African Civil Aviation Authority, we continue to implement sound and effective safety standards in South Africa. Other factors that contribute to the challenges faced by the African aviation industry include a lack of resources to replace old aircraft, the low pace of acquiring new technologies and poor maintenance of existing fleets.

South Africa's Airlift Strategy makes a stable and sustainable aviation sector a priority. We have identified a number of interventions, including ensuring world-class

aviation infrastructure and services, ensuring that we have a stable airport system, regulating aircraft emissions around airport and applying a balanced approach towards managing aircraft noise.

The National Airlift Strategy, along with our aviation legislation, indicates our commitment to growing this sector.

The South African aviation sector is stable; we must now become globally competitive.

South Africa has participated actively in the International Civil Aviation Negotiation Forum and has supported initiatives to expand air services that benefit our economy and spatial development initiatives. South Africa is committed to funding developmental projects that benefit the entire continent. Our country is regarded as the springboard to establish strong aviation hubs for sustainable trade and tourism routes that could be marketed to potential investors in the world market.

South African Airways continues to secure landing rights on the continent and the rest of the world, and its fleet includes new aircraft that are competitive in the global market.

Sustainable growth has to be supported by skilled personnel, stringent safety measures and quality assurance through constant maintenance of aircraft. Skills development remains among our greatest and most immediate challenges and is crucial to the growth of the aviation industry. 🇿🇦



OR Tambo International Airport



Shaping conversation in Africa

By Jeff Radebe

Minister in The Presidency responsible for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) and Vision 2030 are an embodiment of our collective development goals and aspirations as a society in relation to the elimination of the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality. The NDP builds on the

foundation that has been laid over the past in our quest to create a new society free of apartheid colonialism and its related negative political, social and economic impacts. It is common knowledge that under apartheid rule a culture of secrecy, disinformation and restrictions on press freedom were a norm, as journalists were subjected to harassment and some newspapers closed down.

I recall an occasion in 1991 during which the newly unbanned liberation movement, the African National Congress, convened a meeting of approximately 300 delegates to discuss the drafting of a media policy, which led to the adoption of the Media Charter, and which remains the policy of that organisation as the ruling party of the Government of South Africa.

With freedom comes obligations. Since 1994, as the democratic Government, we have seen the media as a partner and a powerful independent agent for social change. It is the inherent role of the media to inform, educate and entertain everyone, not just the selected minority.

to information, we believe that we open doors for the implementation of other rights that are guaranteed in the Bill of Rights, including other similar international obligations that we subscribe to.

Through South Africa's legal framework, we value human rights, transparency, accountability, equality, justice, good governance and democracy.

Recently, President Jacob Zuma delivered the Percy Qoboza Memorial Lecture during which he declared that: "Never again will our nation witness the harassment of the free media such as occurred on Wednesday, 19 October 1977, when the apartheid regime clamped down on the media, banning two newspapers, *The World* and *The Weekend World*, and arresting the editor and other brave journalists who stood up to the regime".

This reminder and clarion call by the President seeks to ensure that as a new democracy, we cherish these freedoms and ideals, and we also ensure that they inform our outlook in terms of engaging with other nations across the world on matters of democracy and development.

With freedom comes obligations. Since 1994, as the democratic Government, we have seen the media as a partner and a powerful independent agent for social change.

It is the inherent role of the media to inform, educate and entertain everyone, not just the selected minority.

This helps empower people to form their own views and opinions, and become active citizens who are able to use the information to engage meaningfully on matters of development that affect them on a daily basis. Most importantly, the media helps build active citizenry that is able to hold powerful actors in society to account, including the private and public-sector leadership and organisations.

In South Africa, we have made significant progress in terms of media transformation, which is part of the broader developmental agenda to eradicate the legacy of apartheid.

There is still much to be done since, for instance, print media ownership patterns remain largely untransformed and alternative voices – more especially of the poor and most disadvantaged – still remain largely unheard

in the media environment.

We champion community media to help fill this gap at grassroots level.

The NDP invites all of us to build a capable and developmental state that is underpinned by active citizenry – and I strongly believe that media can play a pivotal role in terms of achieving this development agenda.

The African context

South Africa does not exist in a vacuum. We are part and parcel of the African continent.

Hence, we have committed our country to contribute towards the creation of a better South Africa, and a better and safer Africa in a better world.

From a media perspective, the South African Government supports or is signatory to a number of international instruments, protocols and charters such as: the African Charter on People and Human Rights, Windhoek Declaration, Johannesburg Principles, the Southern African Development Community Protocol, the African Charter on Broadcasting, the Access to Airwaves Principles, the Dakar Declaration and the Declaration on the Principles of Freedom of Expression in Africa, among others.

These instruments create an enabling environment for all of us to build strong media that contributes to social, cultural, political and economic development and emancipation.

Let us take advantage of this splendid opportunity to make a difference in our lifetime.

Human development indicators are beginning to show significant shifts in relation to the trajectory of African development, as the latest *African Development Indicators* report recognises the positive impact of the policies that have been adopted by various African governments as well as better informed citizens.

The report notes the following positive trends, among other things:

- the continent has experienced rapid economic growth at an average rate of 5% over the past decade, against global challenges
- more than 80% of Africans have access to mobile phones; a trend that



The charter broadened the debate and addressed issues such as basic human rights and media freedom, democratisation of the media, the relationship between those working in media and society, media education and training and proactive measures to promote diversity in the society that we were envisaging then. Policy documents and subsequent multiparty negotiations laid a basis for the current Constitution of the Republic of South Africa that was adopted in 1996, whose Section 16 guarantees:

- freedom of press and other media
- freedom to receive and impart information or ideas.

Furthermore, in Section 32 of the Bill of Rights, South Africa's Constitution guarantees access to "any information held by the State; and any information that is held by another person and that is required for the exercise or protection of any rights".

The Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 has been used effectively by journalists and other persons to defend this right over the years. By guaranteeing access



is now characterised as an information technology revolution

- for the first time in history, poverty has been declining with the absolute number of people living under \$1,25 per day falling by nine million.

This is a good story to tell about our beloved continent. Our collective tasks as leaders, including media leaders, are to ensure that these positive trends are sustained and the fruits of this development are experienced by all our people.

The remaining challenges of conflict, malnutrition, pandemics, illiteracy, unemployment, environmental hazards and gross inequalities should be eradicated where they still persist.

In January 2015, the heads of state and governments of the African Union (AU) assembled in Addis Ababa during the 24th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the AU – where they adopted Agenda 2063. Agenda 2063 is a long-term vision and a commitment of Africans themselves to achieve the following aspirations:

- a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
- an integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-

Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance

- an Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
- a peaceful and secure Africa
- an Africa with strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics
- an Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth
- Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.

Agenda 2063 is aligned to the emerging global consensus regarding the shift from the millennium development goals to sustainable development goals.

The media will be instrumental in ensuring that as Africans we are well-informed of the steps that we are required to implement to achieve these developmental aspirations and goals. They should provide platforms for the battle of ideas in this regard.

All sectors of societies within the African countries should strive to make the 50-year vision of the “Africa We Want” a reality by implementing practical programmes, strategies and social compacts that will take us gradually towards its attainment in 2063.

The media holds the key since its core business is about information and knowledge dissemination. It should play its watchdog role without fear, favour nor prejudice.

We can achieve this if we work together as various stakeholders in society. The media holds the key since its core business is about information and knowledge dissemination. It should play its watchdog role without fear, favour nor prejudice. The media should defend the development progress made thus far and challenge governments, civil society and the private sector to always act in a manner that puts people first and contributes meaningfully towards socio-economic development. This should be done in a manner that is genuinely participatory, rights-based and respectful of the diversity of views and voices.

Media should be the voice of the voiceless.

The struggle for emancipation of the poor in Africa and globally from the chains of poverty and underdevelopment is a long-term journey that we should all embark on with more vigour, solidarity and determination. We dare not let down our people at a time when they expect more from us in terms of information and provision of better education, health, skills, employment, housing, water, governance, social protection and the eradication of poverty.

We should produce information and develop measures that will make all peoples of Africa to face socio-economic risks and environmental hazards with greater preparedness and resilience – better informed by our various media platforms which play a key role in terms of early-warning and proper response mechanisms.

The new information and communications technology revolution in Africa brings about new opportunities for media to reach the previously marginalised groups and present innovative solutions in terms of empowering citizens of the African continent to determine their own development and livelihoods. We echo the voices of our current African leaders when they call us into action through Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want – with a vision of an integrated, peaceful and prosperous Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena. 🇸🇩

The media should defend the development progress made thus far and challenge governments, civil society and the private sector to always act in a manner that puts people first and contributes meaningfully towards socio-economic development. This should be done in a manner that is genuinely participatory, rights-based and respectful of the diversity of views and voices.

PROUD LEADERS IN PRODUCTION INTEGRITY

South Africa is a leader in production integrity, embracing strict guidelines for sustainable farming, and the responsibility of protecting our environment and conserving our unique biodiversity.

More than 95 percent of our wine is produced in the area known as the Cape Floral Kingdom (CFK). One of six such plant kingdoms in the world, it is the smallest, yet richest, home to over 10 000 plant species, more than in the entire northern hemisphere. The CFK is one of 34 recognised biodiversity hotspots, with 70 percent of the plants found here not found anywhere else on earth.

Our South African wine industry is very proud of its focus on environmental sustainability and pioneering moves to conserve and protect the extraordinary biodiversity that makes us capable of producing such a vast array of great wines that reflect their very specific and distinctive origins.

Producers farm according to independently audited Integrated Production of Wine (IPW) scheme guidelines to prevent further loss of habitat. These guidelines cover health and safety, minimising the use of sprays, monitoring water usage and recycling the maximum water possible, as well as protecting the natural habitat. Many wine farms have embraced the initiative imaginatively, developing hiking trails and nature reserves as part of their visitor experience and the result is that there are now nearly 144 000 hectares set aside for conservation – significantly more than the total area under vine (99 463 ha).

In 2010, South Africa launched the world's first industry-wide sustainability seal, which guarantees a certified wine's environmental credentials according to measurable, auditable criteria (from minimising chemical usage and cleaning up waste water to introducing the natural predators of vineyard pests). It also makes it possible for consumers to verify information simply by entering each seal's unique number on the Sustainable Wine South Africa (SWSA) website at www.swsa.co.za. Already some 95 percent of wines certified in accordance with the IPW system are meeting the requirements to carry the sustainability seal.

Currently, there are 39 WWF Conservation Champions acknowledged by WWF as real industry leaders. The repositioned

WWF partnership with industry continues to use the familiar sugarbird and protea label, with the new name of Conservation Champion replacing the term Biodiversity & Wine Initiative (BWI) Champion, to recognise and reward industry best practice.

Many South African wine farms are going back to basics by using biological forms of pest control, such as ducks in the vineyards for snail control and predatory wasps to control mealybugs. Some are building perches for birds of prey, which control rodents, and others are even attracting bats to control moths. At the other end of the scale is using cutting-edge technology, such as satellites to capture data, aerial photographic images and moisture-testing probes in the soil to provide a detailed overview of the vineyards. Using this technological information, the viticultural team can then determine the best and most environmentally friendly route to follow.

Water-wise systems, from specially constructed wetlands to floating islands in dams, form a key part of the solution to the management of cellar effluent by many wineries.

Along with Australia, New Zealand and California, South Africa has also developed the International Wine Industry Greenhouse Gas Accounting Protocol and calculator, a system that measures carbon dioxide emissions that occur throughout the growing, production, packaging and transportation of wine. Many producers have reduced their carbon emissions through the use of a locally developed lightweight (350g) bottle or other recyclable alternatives to glass; by exploring solar and wind power options; and/or by collaborating with domestic and international logistics companies to make greater use of railroads, for example, thus reducing their dependence on road transport.



SA innovations changing the world

South Africans have exceptional talents, innovations and ideas and have made their mark in the international arena.



It is a well-known fact that the world's first heart transplant was performed in Cape Town by Dr Chris Barnard on 3 December 1967. Barnard went on to become an international celebrity and performed more than 10 other heart transplants.

However, that is but one example of South African innovations, which have literally changed the world – be it in a big or small way.

World's first digital laser

In 2013, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) announced the development of the world's first digital laser.

CSIR researcher Sandile Ngcobo, who conducted the breakthrough experimental work as part of his PhD studies, believed the significance of the research was to demonstrate the ability within the CSIR to lead innovation in this field.

"I believe the digital laser will be a 'disruptive' technology.

"This is technology which may change the status quo and which could create new markets and value networks within the next few years or decade.

"The research into the digital laser continues. It adds to the CSIR's strong track record in the development of laser technology in mathematical optics," said Ngcobo.

"This groundbreaking development is further evidence of the great potential we have in scientific innovation.

"That the world's first digital laser should come from our country is testimony to the calibre of scientists that South Africa has," said the former Minister of Science and Technology, Derek Hanekom.

CAT Scan

The Computed Axial Tomography Scan or CAT Scan was developed by Cape Town physicist Allan Cormack and his associate Godfrey Hounsfield. He provided the mathematical technique for the CAT Scan, in which an X-ray source and electronic detectors are rotated around the body and the resulting data is analysed by a computer to produce a sharp map of the tissues within a cross-section of the body. Cormack and Hounsfield won the 1979 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their work on X-ray computed topography. Cormack was born in Johannesburg and attended Rondebosch Boys' High School in Cape Town.

Full-body X-ray scanner

In 2013, South African X-ray system manufacturer Lodox Systems made its mark on the international medical scene with a low-radiation dose X-ray system that takes a full-body scan in just 13 seconds. Lodox is also safer, emitting up to 10 times less harmful dose than regular X-ray systems.

It even got the attention of the makers of popular American television drama *Grey's Anatomy*. The Xmplar-dr X-ray system featured in the 18th episode of season nine of the TV drama series for its functions in medical trauma and forensic pathology.

"Although *Grey's Anatomy* is just a TV show, the featuring of Lodox's unique scanner shows that our technology is of the highest standard and continues the proud tradition of world-class South African medical innovation that was started by such pioneering icons as Alan Cormack and Christiaan Barnard."

Lodox's critical imaging technology was first developed for use in South Africa's

diamond mines to prevent smuggling in the 1980s and 1990s.

Kreepy Krauly

The swimming pool vacuum cleaner was invented by Ferdinand Chauvier, a hydraulics engineer who came to South Africa from the Belgian Congo in 1951.

Chauvier quickly realised that there was a huge market for taking the hassle out of cleaning swimming pools and went about inventing a machine that would do the job automatically, efficiently powered by the ordinary operation of the pool's filter.

But it wasn't until 1974 that the first Kreepy Krauly was born in Chauvier's Springs home.

He died in 1985, but Kreepy Kraulys continue to keep thousands of pools clean in South Africa and the world over.

Pratley Putty

George Pratley was a renowned South African inventor who developed significant products for use in industry and became known for his innovative adhesive products. These include Pratley Putty, which was used on Apollo 11's Eagle landing craft in 1969, which carried Neil Armstrong to the moon. Initially called Pratley Plastic Putty, it was developed in the early

1960s as an insulator and an adhesive agent for fixing brass terminals inside cast-iron cable-junction boxes. In 1965, Pratley built Humphrey, a robot, from scrap metal held together by Pratley Putty.

The putty was the first of its kind in the world and, apart from the moon landing, was also used to halt cracking in one of the main supports of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, United States of America.

Dolosse

Dolosse – branching concrete blocks weighing up to 30 tons – are used across the globe to break up wave action. They were the invention of East London harbour engineer Eric Merrifield after a storm ripped into the Eastern Cape coast of South Africa in 1963 and tore off 60% of East London harbour's armour. Merrifield wondered if the breakwater would have been more resistant if it had not been solid and taking on the full force of the thundering surf on just one plane. He decided to reconstruct the breakwater using a "porous" design to dissipate the water's energy. Thus, the dolos was born and a momentous novelty in harbour engineering took off. Free of patents, this Eastern Cape design is today used on breakwaters, harbours, jetties and coastlines across the globe.

The Coega Project, comprising an industrial development complex and deepwater port 20 kilometres east of the city of Port Elizabeth, made history with the casting of the biggest dolosse on the African continent: 26 500 30-ton dolosse are used on the two breakwaters for the deep-water harbour of Ngqura.

Retinal Cryoprobe

Selig Percy Amoils, pioneering inventor and biomedical engineer, was born in Johannesburg in 1933. Amoils first pioneered cryosurgery for cataracts and retinal detachments in 1962. This led to the Cryoprobe in 1965 that forever changed the method of cataract and retinal surgery.

For this invention, Amoils achieved world recognition and a Queen's Award. His Cryoprobe has been on display in the Kensington Museum in London next to the inventions of Guglielmo Marconi, the inventor of wireless telegraphy, and Alexander Graham Bell who invented the telephone.

Cybertracker

Biologists everywhere rejoiced when physicist Louis Liebenberg and computer scientist Lindsay Steventon created the Cybertracker in 1996. Used to track animals of all shapes and sizes, it uses a satellite navigational system similar to GPS that allows scientists

in the comfort of their labs to keep tabs on tagged animals.

Speed Gun

Invented in 1992 for a sports-crazy nation by innovator and engineer Henri Johnson, the speed gun was unveiled in 1999 at the Cricket World Cup. Commonly called the EDH Speed Ball, it is used to measure the speed and angle of fast-flying balls, especially those thrown from the bowler's hand in cricket, or served in tennis matches.

Cheaper solar power

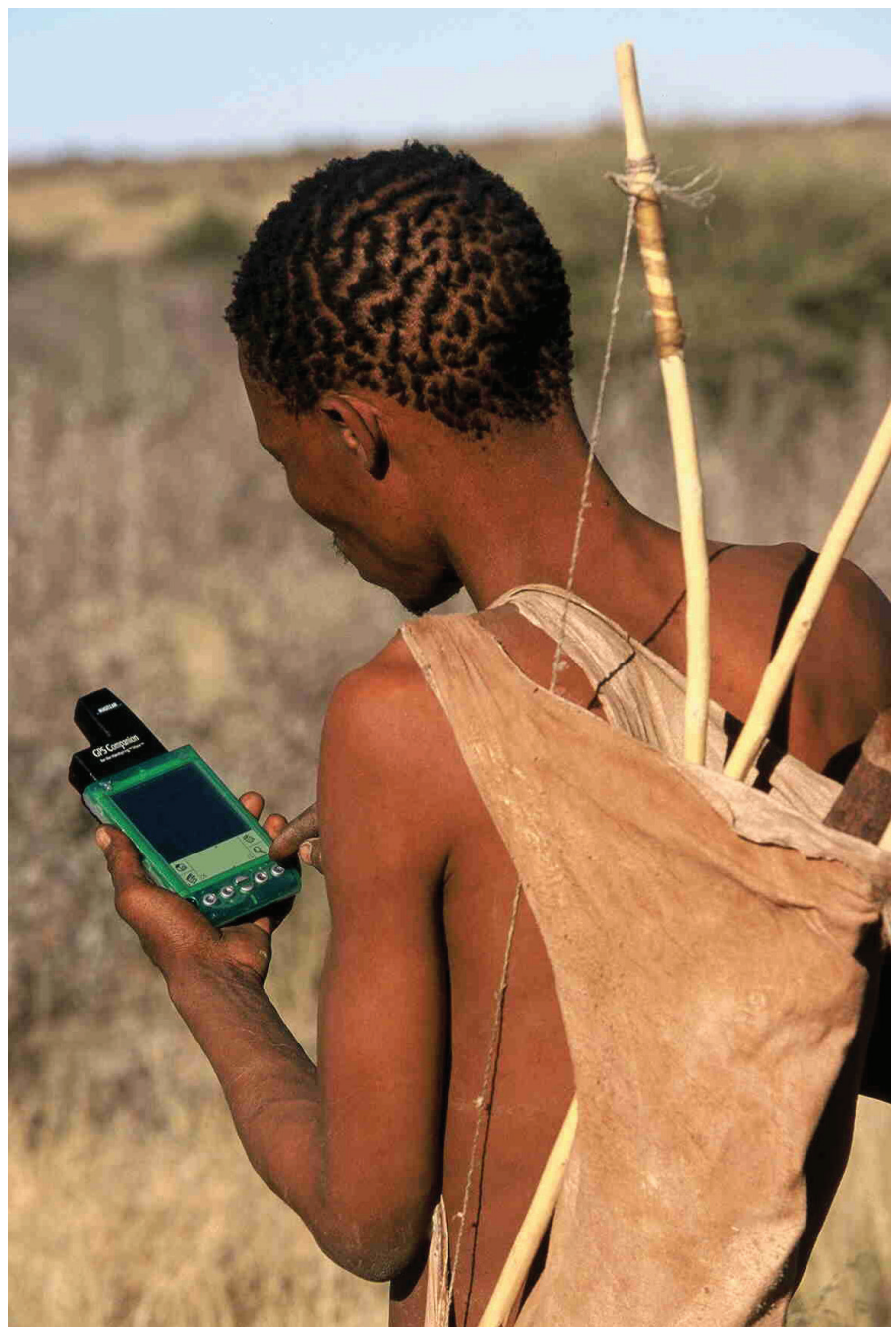
An innovation in solar power which uses a micro-thin metallic film was created by Professor Vivian Alberts at the University of Johannesburg. The discovery has made

solar electricity five times less expensive than solar photovoltaic cells. Alberts' solar panels consist of a layer of a unique metal alloy, five microns thick. The photo-responsive alloy can operate on most flexible surfaces.

In February 2014, a semi-commercial plant for the production of thin-film solar module technology was opened in Stellenbosch.

3D underwater imaging system

The world's first low element-count 3D underwater imaging system was developed at the CSIR. The researchers also built a technology demonstrator that was successfully tested at the underwater test facility at the Institute of Maritime Technology. The CSIR's Kiri Nicolaides said: "Our team developed a range of technology building



Cybertracker



Full-body X-ray scanner

In 2011, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research developed a world-first fingerprint identification technique. The structural fingerprint classifier is able to correctly classify a fingerprint with only partial information.

blocks ... which can achieve an image using only 96 sensors. This should make the system much cheaper than 3D underwater imaging systems currently available, due to its acoustic properties, of a much higher resolution."

Fingerprint identification classifier

In 2011, the CSIR developed a world-first fingerprint identification technique. The structural fingerprint classifier is able to correctly classify a fingerprint with only partial information. CSIR Head of Information Security, Professor Fulufhelo Nelwamondo, explained the need for the model. "In fingerprint recognition, fingerprint templates normally sit in a database, so when going through an identification process, the system has to sift through thousands, if not millions of templates, making the system slow in yielding results.

"The extensible fingerprint classifier will allow the system to be extremely fast and accurate when a database

search is conducted. It will increase the overall efficiency of the entire fingerprint recognition system."

Digital drum

The digital drum is a co-creation of the CSIR and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and was cited in *Time* magazine as one of the top 50 inventions in 2011. The drum is a computer system that gives people access to information on issues such as health and education. The design is based on the CSIR's digital doorway, a stand-alone computer system to promote self-learning of computer literacy and information skills.

The CSIR's Grant Cambridge said: "The digital drum design proved to be an innovative way for UNICEF and the CSIR to address a need through a solution developed in the absence of technology."

<http://www.thesouthafrican.com/the-top-10-south-african-inventions/> <http://www.timeslive.co.za/scitech/2014/07/08/13-of-south-africa-s-boldest-science-innovations/> www.southafrica.info/south-africa-s-boldest-science-innovations/ www.southafrica.net/ <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org>



Lumkani fire detection



South Africans continue to produce innovative solutions. Four of the 10 finalists in the 2015 Innovation Prize for Africa awards were South Africans:

Lumkani fire detection

David Gluckman's innovation is an off-the-shelf fire-detection device and alert service that uses radio frequency transmission technology suitable for informal dwellings. In the event of a fire, the device sounds an alarm to alert the family.

Within 20 seconds, the device triggers a signal that sets off heat detectors in a 60-metre radius to elicit a community-wide response to the fire. This device prevents fires from ravaging high-population-density communities and boosts community mobilisation efforts.

Mellowcabs

Neil Du Preez's innovation, Mellowcabs, is a suite of technologies that includes recovering

the kinetic energy that is typically lost in the braking process, converting it into electricity and storing it. Other innovations include hydrogen fueled Mellowcabs, adaptable, renewable body shells and an app to book cab rides that can be paid for with cash or credit. Other user-friendly services include tracking the cab's location, wifi access and mobile charging during the ride.

The minicab service fills the gap for commuters who need organised, safe and affordable micro transport within a three-mile radius. This environmentally friendly taxi service also eases traffic congestions in cities without causing pollution.

Seebox

Johan Pierre Kok's innovation is a scientific engineering educational "Seebox" that allows children to enjoy a practical and experimental way of learning sciences and electronics, and measuring almost anything electronic or scientific.

It also offers short videos explaining what is being measured. This addresses the shortage of electronic and scientific professionals and affords children the opportunity to learn firsthand the principles of science and electronics by building, measuring and experimenting.

Smartspot TBcheck

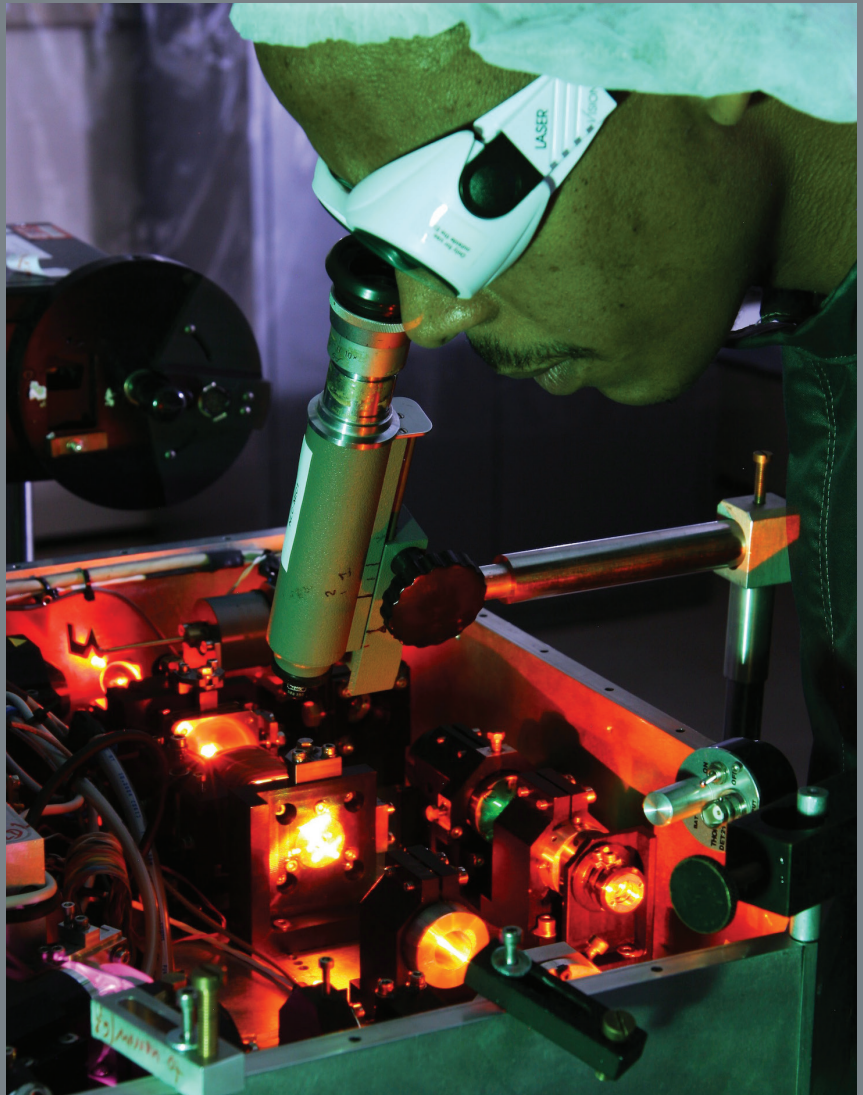
Lesley Erica Scott's innovation is the Smartspot's flagship product, TBcheck, which examines the accuracy of machines used to diagnose tuberculosis (TB).

They are designed to assess whether these machines are functioning optimally. Unlike other products, TBcheck is easy and safe to use and can be delivered to laboratories economically.

This makes diagnosing TB far easier and will go a long way in curbing the TB epidemic in Africa. Today, TB is second only to HIV and AIDS as a leading cause of death on the continent.



Dolosse



Digital laser

KOYO® Elevator

Bear Your Happiness

South Africa complex of a Chinese enterprise

As a Chinese enterprise, KOYO has special South Africa complex: The 2010 football carnival still fresh in the heart of South Africa's people, Not only the glorious appearance in the world for South Africa people, but also the first time showing in the world significant event for KOYO. The main board and controller designed by KOYO is the first time used in this event. Through the excellent performance in the Charlotte Maxeke Hospital and Johannesburg Football main stadium of World Cup, Bank of Lisbon, 69 President, 30 Simmons. KOYO comprehensively attend the construction of South Africa: municipal hall, hospital, bank, etc. By such kind of cooperation, Gradually this is Chinese team, not only increase the understand to south Africa, but also enhance the feeling to this land.

*"I am falling in love this country,
it's full of hope and vitality same as my homeland"*

—— The CEO of Mrs Zhang expressed her feeling.
With the following cooperation, we believe more and more KOYO people will deeply love this land.



69 President Building



Bank of Lisbon - Department of Housing



30 Simmonds-office of the Premier



Custom House

Apparently, KOYO team loves South Africa so much that they are not satisfied about the cooperation, KOYO is also planning to establish a school to provide training on elevator technologies to local people and the elevator manufacture factory to create more job opportunities to local people. Instead of gaining pure business profit, KOYO expects more to work with South Africa people to achieve our common dreams and goals together. In this process, we will establish a friendship like a battle partner. We will be touched by ourselves when we fight for the better future of our countries together. Now, we want to shoulder the construction of a stronger and beautiful country for South Africa to do the honorable mission.



Rahima Moosa Mother and Child Hospital



Edenvale Hospital



Tambo Memorial Hospital

Why arts and culture contribute more to an economy than growth and jobs

By Jen Snowball

Professor of Economics at Rhodes University

South Africa is increasingly beginning to focus on its cultural and creative industries as potential contributors to economic growth and job creation.

An indication of growing international interest in the potential of cultural and creative industries can be seen in a recent set of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) guidelines on how to measure and compile statistics about the economic contribution of the cultural industries.

But should this be the only reason for funding arts and culture?

Cultural industries can be defined as those whose major outputs have some symbolic value – such as fine arts, film and craft – but also possibly including jewellery design, publishing and fashion. Creative industries are

defined more broadly. These have knowledge as their major input, and in addition to cultural goods and services could include things such as software design and Internet services.

UNESCO has provided guidelines on ways in which these industries can be classified. But there is still no international consensus. Nor is there likely to be, since different countries will have very different levels of involvement and focus that may shape what information is useful for them.

Cultural Times, the first global map of the cultural and creative industries, which was recently released, acknowledges the societal value of arts and culture.

Undeniably, culture and creativity have been the cement that binds together not only hearts

and souls, but entire societies and nations. This survey quantifies the global economic and social contribution of the sector. The study analyses the following cultural and creative industry sectors: advertising, architecture, books, newspapers, magazines, gaming and movies, music, performing arts, radio, television and visual arts.

Cultural Times assesses the contribution of cultural and creative industries to economic growth. It estimates that they generate US\$250 billion in revenue a year, creating 29,5 million jobs worldwide. The report helps to demonstrate the value of arts and culture. It provides a good rationale for government support of arts and culture, especially in developing countries where there are so many other demands on the public purse.

Contribution to jobs and growth in South Africa

South Africa is increasingly beginning to focus on its cultural and creative industries as



potential contributors to economic growth and job creation. This is reflected in the report, *Mzansi's Golden Economy*, which sets out ways in which the arts, culture and heritage sectors can contribute to the growth and development of the country's economy.

In addition, the Government recently established the National Cultural Observatory.

It will act as a hub for information and research about the economic and social impact of the creative and cultural industries.

South Africa did its first cultural and creative industries mapping study in 2014.

Though not yet publicly available, it showed that the industries had created between 162 809 and 192 410 jobs, about 1,08% to 1,28% of employment in the country, and that they contributed 2,9% to gross domestic product.

Based on interviews with a wide variety of more than 2 000 people involved in the cultural and creative sector, the study also found that firms tended to be small, with more than a quarter (27%) having only one employee, and a further third (34%) employing between two and five people.

Women and men were about equal in proportion. More than three-quarters (77%) were from black, coloured or Indian race groups.

Given the severe youth unemployment in South Africa, the industries may be particularly important for job creation: 22% of employees are younger than 18, 18% between 19 and 24, and 19% between 25 and 30. This means that 60% of the workforce in the industries is younger than 34. These findings echo worldwide trends. The global mapping study found that employment in the industries was relatively open to people from all ages and backgrounds (but especially the young), and dominated by small firms. In developing



countries, production is dominated by the informal economy.

Other spin-offs

The industries are also a potentially important contributor to social cohesion and nation-building through the promotion of intercultural dialogue, understanding and collaboration. These are part of a range of spin-offs that artistic production can offer, beyond the straight "instrumental value" – those values that, while undeniably important, are essentially spin-offs of the main point of artistic production.

The "intrinsic" values and aims of culture, "art for art's sake", are things such as: to entertain, delight, challenge, give meaning, interpret, raise awareness and stimulate.


These non-market values are difficult to measure in monetary terms, but are just as important as the instrumental values. While jobs can be created by many economic activities, what other kinds of production can generate these same intrinsic values?

Cultural capital is one. This is defined as the sum total of a country's wealth or stock of art, heritage and other kind of cultural expression.

Like other kinds of capital, it needs to be invested in – otherwise it will depreciate and be devalued over time.

Public and private sponsorship and support of the arts is particularly important for those producers whose main focus is intrinsic value.

Such cultural production is often challenging or disturbing and, while it has a big impact on collective thinking, may not be a financial or market success or may be distributed for free. Think, for example, of the role played by music in the fight against apartheid. While recognising and supporting the very important role that the cultural and creative industries play in the economy, I would argue that we shouldn't lose sight of the unique intrinsic values that they generate.

This includes the reflection and shaping of national and individual identities. 

This opinion piece was first published by *The Conversation*





International film productions boost South African economy, skills

Directors, writers, actors and hands-on production staff are taking the lessons learned from working on international productions and using these to tell local stories and build the industry.

More international film productions should be encouraged in South Africa to strengthen the country's economy, Trade and Industry Minister, Rob Davies, said at an event to publicise a recent United States television production in the country, the historical series, *Of Kings and Prophets*.

The rand-dollar exchange rate was a boon to foreign film production, he said: "It means they have a huge advantage; it just makes it much cheaper for them." Minister Davies added that the training and experience for the local film production workforce, covering everything from acting to production and behind the scenes, were an immeasurable boost for the South African talent involved. Service providers and other industries also benefit from the investments.

Since the introduction of its film incentive programme by the Department of Trade and

Industry (dti) in 2004, 20% of preproduction and production spending by international film productions in South Africa had gone directly into the country and its workforce, the department said – even more if postproduction work (including using local visual effects and editing companies) was completed in South Africa.

The effects of this investment were being felt in all areas of the industry, according to a 2012 baseline report by Deloitte.

It showed that the industry achieved an economic multiplier of 2,89 – for every rand spent in the industry, R1,89 was generated within the local economy. In total, since 2004, R15 billion has been invested in South Africa and its people.

Film and television production added R5 billion to Cape Town's economy, according to the city; a city of choice for local and foreign filmmakers.

More importantly, it added 35 000 new local jobs between 2011 and 2014. Productions

include the Leonard DiCaprio hit, *Blood Diamond*, *Safe House* starring Denzel Washington and, most recently, the acclaimed *Mad Max: Fury Road*.

Johannesburg, not to be left out, has also enjoyed its fair share of Hollywood filmmaking glitz and financial boost as the backdrop to hit films such as *District 9* and *Chappie*, a scene in the second *Avengers* movie and local hits such as *Jerusalema* and *Fanie Fourie's Lobola*.

Over the last five years, the local film industry – telling original South Africa stories for film and television for local and international markets – has grown exponentially. Directors, writers, actors and hands-on production staff are taking the lessons learned from working on international productions and using these to tell local stories and build the industry.

Between 2011 and 2013, the industry produced 25 films for theatre release, generating 11% of industry-wide box-office takings, or R98 million (about \$6,4 million) of R879 million.

During the first half of 2014, more than a dozen local films accounted for R33 million of the R382 million total box office gross. These films covered diverse genres and fortunes: action, drama, comedy, documentary and art house. Successful movies such as Anant Singh's epic *Long Walk to Freedom*, the *Spud* trilogy, numerous Afrikaans-language box





office hits and, most recently, the sleeper success of the romantic drama *Ayanda*, have all benefited from the development of the local film industry via large international input.

Of Kings and Prophets, a production by the American Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), was recently filmed in Cape Town. It is officially, according to the dti, the largest production filmed in South Africa. Direct production spend by ABC is estimated at over R450 million, with R391 million of that expenditure qualifying for a 20% rebate for the South African Government.

According to the dti, estimated direct and indirect tax revenue for the local economy is estimated to be R70 million.

Almost all of the crew on the production were South African, according to ABC, covering everything from costume design to casting and set construction.

Sets – interiors are in a Stellenbosch warehouse and exteriors are in Durbanville – were reputedly some of the largest ever built in South Africa and were coordinated by a full South African workforce, headed by production design veteran Johnny Breedt. Breedt also worked on *Long Walk To Freedom*, *Hotel Rwanda* and *The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series.

Of the 600 to 850 crew members working on the series, 50% were from "previously disadvantaged" groups, Minister Davies said, including 26 South African trainees and film

graduates in 12 production departments. Their training was provided by the local non-profit Film Industry Learner Mentorship (Film) Programme and was financed by the dti.

A total of 829 local production vendors and service providers – including catering, manufacturing and hospitality assistance – were used by the production.

The series' co-executive producer, Chris Brancato, praised the work ethic of the South African Production team, highlighting the ethnic diversity of the crew, particularly in fulfilling various high-skill roles – something he called a rarity in Hollywood.

Speaking to *Business Day*, Brancato said the assistance from the local industry and the Government did not disappoint. Comparing the differences between the American and South African counterparts,

he said seasoned Hollywood film industry members working on the *Of Kings ...* production were incredibly impressed with the work ethic and skills level South Africans had shown, adding that it "is not a common response in Hollywood".

Another ABC production head, Gary French, reiterated the international film community's enthusiasm for working in South Africa and with South Africa talent, telling *Business Day*: "We couldn't have done it without the South Africans who have come on to our show and become part of our family." 🇿🇦

Bizcommunity / Business Day / Southafrica.info



Between 2011 and 2013, the industry produced 25 films for theatre release, generating 11% of industry-wide box-office takings, or R98 million (about \$6,4 million) of R879 million.



South Africa is open for business

South Africa has enormous potential as an investment destination: a unique combination of highly developed first-world economic infrastructure with a vibrant emerging market economy.



South Africa is one of the most sophisticated, diverse and promising emerging markets in the world.

Strategically located at the tip of the African continent, South Africa is a key investment location, both for the commercial opportunities within its borders and the potential it offers as a gateway to the rest of the continent – a market of some one billion people.

South Africa has enormous potential as an investment destination: a unique combination of highly developed first-world economic infrastructure with a vibrant emerging market economy. It is also one of the most advanced, broad-based industrial and productive economies in Africa.

Here are just 10 of the many reasons to do business in South Africa:

Sound economic policies

South Africa's disciplined fiscal framework promotes domestic competitiveness, growth and employment and increases the economy's outward orientation.

Key economic reforms have created solid macroeconomic stability.

Taxes have been reduced, tariffs lowered, the fiscal deficit brought under control and exchange controls relaxed.

Despite its bright prospects, South Africa still faces the key challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

The National Development Plan (NDP) is a bold effort to overcome these.

The plan aims, by the year 2030, to achieve a real annual economic growth rate of 5%, reduce inequality and rein in unemployment from its current 25% to a mere 6%.

Two ambitious economic frameworks support the targets of the NDP:

- The New Growth Path aims to create a more developed and equitable economy, largely by creating five million jobs.
- The Industrial Policy Action Plan aims to promote broader participation by historically disadvantaged groups in the mainstream of the industrial economy. It plans large-scale state investment in infrastructure, small business and skills development, and interventions targeting specific areas of the economy.

The South African Reserve Bank, the central bank, maintains its independence from government. Its programme of inflation targeting has shown good results in stabilising

both interest and exchange rates. South Africa's investor-friendly policies also make it clear that foreign investment is welcome.

A favourable business and legal environment

South Africa's Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) rates among the top 20 exchanges in the world by market capitalisation.

The JSE is regarded as a mature, efficient and secure market with world-class regulation, trading, clearing, settlement assurance and risk management. It has harmonised its listing requirements, disclosure and continuing obligations with those of the London Stock Exchange and offers superb investor protection.

The World Economic Forum's (WEF) *2015 – 16 Global Competitiveness Index* rates South Africa first in the world – out of 140 countries – for financing through the local equity market, and second for the regulation of securities exchanges. The index also rates South Africa first for the strength of auditing and reporting standards, and gives it third place for both the efficacy of corporate boards, and the protection of minority shareholders' interests.

South African law is historically founded on Roman-Dutch law, although aspects of it – particularly company law and the law of evidence – have been heavily influenced by English law.

General commercial legal practices relating to transactions and the drafting of commercial agreements are generally globally applicable and in line with international norms and conventions.

South Africa's globally admired and progressive Constitution – which includes a Bill of Rights – is the highest law of the land, regulating the protection of human rights and the principles behind all legislation. One of its guarantees is the independence of the judiciary.

Trade and industry take place in a free enterprise economy. The courts are open to foreigners on exactly the same terms and conditions as South African citizens. But many commercial disputes avoid the courts, instead being resolved with arbitration and by agreement between the parties.

Sanctity of contract is protected under common law, and independent courts ensure respect for commercial rights and obligations.

World-class infrastructure

South Africa has world-class infrastructure – including a modern transport network,

South Africa allows easy access to the other markets of sub-Saharan Africa. It is one of the economic powerhouses of the continent and considered a dynamic force in the Southern African Development Community.

sophisticated telecommunications and superb tourism facilities.

The Government has identified massive infrastructure projects as key to boosting the country's economic growth rate and creating employment, and is spending billions of rands on getting the investment ball rolling.

South Africa's success in hosting the world's largest sporting event, the 2010 FIFA World Cup, has shown that the country is capable of undertaking – and successfully completing – major projects on time.

Access to markets

Its position at the southern tip of the continent gives South Africa easy access to the 14 countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) – with a combined market of over 250 million people.

The country is also an excellent launchpad to the islands off Africa's east coast, and even the Gulf States and India.

South Africa is a trans-shipment point between the emerging markets of Central and South America and the newly industrialised nations of South and Far East Asia.

Major shipping lanes pass along the South African coastline in the South Atlantic and Indian oceans.

The country's seven commercial ports form by far the largest, best equipped and most efficient network in Africa.

The gateway to Africa

Africa, with 200 to 300 million of its people approaching middle-class status, is seen as the next great growth story after China and India. The McKinsey Global Institute has identified Africa as the world's second-fastest growing region. This growth is "creating substantial new business opportunities" for global companies.

South Africa allows easy access to the other markets of sub-Saharan Africa. It is one of the economic powerhouses of the continent and considered a dynamic force in SADC.

Bordering Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Swaziland and Lesotho, its well-developed road and rail links provide the platform and infrastructure for ground transportation deep into sub-Saharan Africa.

South Africa also has the resident marketing skills and distribution channels to open up commercial ventures into the rest of Africa.

South Africa has a host of investment incentives and industrial financing interventions to encourage commercial activity. The country's trade rules favour a further expansion in its already burgeoning international trade.

The special International Headquarter Company regime is aimed at positioning South Africa as a holding company gateway for foreign multinationals investing in Africa.

Trade reform and global strategic alliances

South Africa has trading relationships with more than 200 countries and territories.

In 2011, the country was admitted to the BRIC group of major developing economies – Brazil, Russia, India and China – renamed BRICS. In 2015, the BRICS group set up the New Development Bank to help finance the growth of emerging economies. Each of the five countries has a 20% shareholding in the bank, which has an authorised capital of US\$100 billion.

The bank will be headquartered in Shanghai, China. Its first regional office, the Africa Regional Centre, is to be set up in South Africa's commercial hub, Johannesburg.

The BRICS countries have also established a Contingent Reserve Agreement, in which they undertake to provide financial support to each other in the event of balance of payment problems.

South Africa also has special relationships with the Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Swaziland), SADC and the European Union (EU).

South Africa has become a key trade and investment partner to China, today a

South Africa has a host of investment incentives and industrial financing interventions to encourage commercial activity. The country's trade rules favour a further expansion in its already burgeoning international trade.



major investor in Africa. Plans are afoot for a continental free trade area to boost commerce within Africa, further opening up opportunities for South African companies.

Trade agreements further the aims of the South African Government to accelerate growth and industrial development. The Economic Development Division of the Department of Trade and Industry is responsible for trade negotiations.

The cost of doing business in South Africa

South Africa's exchange rate makes it one of the least expensive countries for foreigners to live and do business in – with a first-world infrastructure and high living standards ensuring good value for money.

While energy costs have increased in recent years, government plans to meet the country's growing energy needs with renewable and efficient sources.

South Africa compares favourably for petroleum prices, with private sector and multinational oil companies refining and marketing nearly all imported petroleum products in southern Africa.

Telecommunications costs are coming down.

The Government is taking steps to ensure cheaper and more widely available bandwidth capacity, while the landing of several submarine fibre-optic cables along both the East and West coasts of Africa has boosted the continent's connection with the rest of the world.

South Africa's corporate tax rate – 28% in 2015 – compares favourably with a number of developing countries. Professional labour costs are far lower than those in developed economies.

The ease of doing business in South Africa

South Africa ranks 73rd out of 189 countries in the World Bank and International Finance Corporation's 2016 *Doing Business* report.

The report is an annual survey of the time, cost and hassle for businesses to comply with legal and administrative requirements.

The survey rates the ease of doing business in South Africa as higher than major developing economies such as Brazil (116), China (84), India (130) and Nigeria (169).

It also scores far above the sub-Saharan African average rank of 143.

South Africa's technological research and quality standards are world-renowned. The country has developed a number of leading technologies, particularly in the fields of energy and fuels, steel production, deep-level mining, telecommunications and information technology.

South Africa's Capitec Bank has been ranked the best in the world, according to international banking advisory group Lafferty, in its inaugural *Bank Quality Rankings*.

The organisation makes use of a combination of financial and non-financial disclosures to determine the quality of the banks and their respective business models.

"We saw a correlation between a bank's quality and its value to investors," reads the Lafferty website. "So we looked for the key factors that investors pay a premium for. Then we rated each bank for each of these key factors, to give an overall quality score."

All companies planning to do business with the South African Government and the general business community must comply with Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment policies. These aim to redress imbalances and broaden the economy by ensuring that members of historically disadvantaged communities have greater access to it.

Industrial capability and cutting-edge technology

South Africa's manufacturing output is increasingly technology-intensive.

The high-tech manufacturing sectors – machinery, scientific equipment and motor vehicles – enjoy a growing share of total manufacturing production.

South Africa's technological research and quality standards are world-renowned. The country has developed a number of leading technologies, particularly in the fields of energy and fuels, steel production, deep-level mining, telecommunications and information technology.



Other indicators were also taken into account when analysing results: strategy, culture, customer satisfaction, executing brand promises and other criteria.

"Our aim is to promote excellence in banking – for customers, staff, communities, society at large and not least for bank shareholders and investors," said Lafferty Group founder and chief executive, Michael Lafferty.

According to business news website, *Businesstech*, Absa was the second-highest ranked South African bank with four stars. Standard Bank, Nedbank and FirstRand also featured in the top 100 banks. www.southafrica.info

Competitiveness

South Africa ranks 49th out of 140 countries in the WEF's 2015 – 16 *Global Competitiveness Index*.

It is most highly ranked country in sub-Saharan Africa, and claims the middle ground among the BRICS countries – behind China (28) and Russia (45), but ahead of India (55) and Brazil (75).

South Africa's government provides incentives for value-added manufacturing projects, support for industrial innovation, improved access to finance and an enabling environment for small business development.

Industrial development zones have been established in close proximity to major ports and airports, offering world-class infrastructure, dedicated customs support and reduced taxation.

South Africa has a well-developed and regulated competition regime based on best international practice.

Competition legislation follows EU, United States and Canadian models.

The law places various prohibitions on anti-competitive conduct, restrictive practices (such as price fixing, predatory pricing and collusive tendering) and abuses by "dominant" firms, defined as companies with a market share of 35% or more.

www.southafrica.info

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IDC helps Hall Longmore save jobs

The manufacturing industry has the potential to make a major impact on South Africa's economy. The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) funded Hall Longmore for the purchase of raw materials and plant equipment. The funding enabled the company to save jobs and recover all the way to profitability. Hall Longmore is now ranked amongst the leading international suppliers of Electric

Resistance Welded and Spiral Welded steel piping for the transportation of water, gas and petro chemicals. The IDC, an entity of government, continues to play a critical role in coordinating key industrial sectors across the economy to advance industrial development. The IDC can fund your business. Call **0860 693 888** or visit **idc.co.za** for information about the sectors that the IDC supports.



Your partner in development finance

200 years of South African coinage celebrated

According to the South African Reserve Bank, the Griqua currency became the first South African currency in 1815. It also became the country's first decimal coinage and the world's first Christian Missionary coinage.



The Griqua Town 200 R5 coin, released by the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) on 12 January 2016, celebrates the 200th anniversary of the creation of the first coinage created for a local community in South Africa.

As the first town to be established north of the Orange River, Griekwastad, or Griquatown (originally called Klaarwater), is one of the country's most important foundation towns.

It was a stopover on the trade route and therefore important for commerce throughout the history of the country.

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currency in 1815. It also became the country's first decimal coinage and the world's first Christian Missionary coinage.

The town is considered an important missionary town, and was the home of Scottish minister, Robert Moffat, who wrote the first Setswana translation of the bible.

The reverse of the R5 coin features an image of the original 1815 Griquatown coin, engraved with the words "Coinage of Griqua Town 200. 1815 – 2015".

The obverse side of the coin bears the South African Coat of Arms and the acronym, SARB.

The Griqua Town R5 coin is the fourth commemorative R5 issued by the Reserve

Bank since the first bi-metallic R5 was introduced in 2004.

Other notable commemorative coins include the 2008 Nelson Mandela 90th birthday coin, the 90th anniversary of the SARB in 2011 and the 20th anniversary of democracy coin, issued in 2014.

The coin, with its bronze-coloured centre and a silver-coloured border, includes security features such as the serrated and grooved edges and micro-lettering. These features are still part of the Griqua coin.

The Griqua coin R5 will be part of normal circulation coinage and is considered legal tender, alongside other R5 coins already in circulation throughout the country.



The South African Mint Company, which is more than 120 years old, is one of the foremost preservers of South Africa's heritage.

It is one of the world's leading mints and over the years has earned a worldwide reputation for its customer service, exceptional craftsmanship and the high standard of its quality coins. The Circulation Coin Division manufactures legal tender coins that are used in everyday transactions, as well as coin blanks which are sold to other mints for final minting. Over and above producing all South African circulation coins, the company also produces circulation coins and coin blanks for the international export market that are used as currency in numerous countries in Africa.

The South African Mint offers central banks and other mints a one-stop service that includes coin designing, creation of master dies, manufacturing of production dies, manufacturing of coin blanks, minting of coins, as well as partial deliveries of the finished products to the customers' vaults.

The company's state-of-the-art manufacturing facility located at Centurion, Pretoria, ensures that it is able to meet various customer requirements and specifications.

Some of the circulation coin metal alloys produced by the company include copper,

bronze and nickel electroplated products, as well as products made from stainless steel and various copper-based alloy compositions of copper, nickel, aluminium, zinc, tin and other metals.

The Mint Museum displays coins that reflect the numismatic history of the country as well as various artifacts and pieces of equipment that was used previously to manufacture coins and dies. Among the items on display is the "Oom Paul Minting Press".

This is one of the oldest working coin presses in the world with a manufacturing date of 1891. President Paul Kruger, then President of the old Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek ordered two presses from Ludw. Loew & Co. in Berlin to be used at the first South African Mint on Church Square, Pretoria. More than eight million coins were minted between 1892 and 1900 on the "Oom Paul". The so-called "Kruger millions", Sammy Marks golden tickkeys, special 1947 crowns for the visit of the British Royal family, the first decimal 1c coins in 1961, the first Kruger Rand in 1967, the first gold Protea in 1986 and the first R2 coin were minted on this historical press.


The first of South Africa's various other new 24-carat gold coin series was also launched on this press.

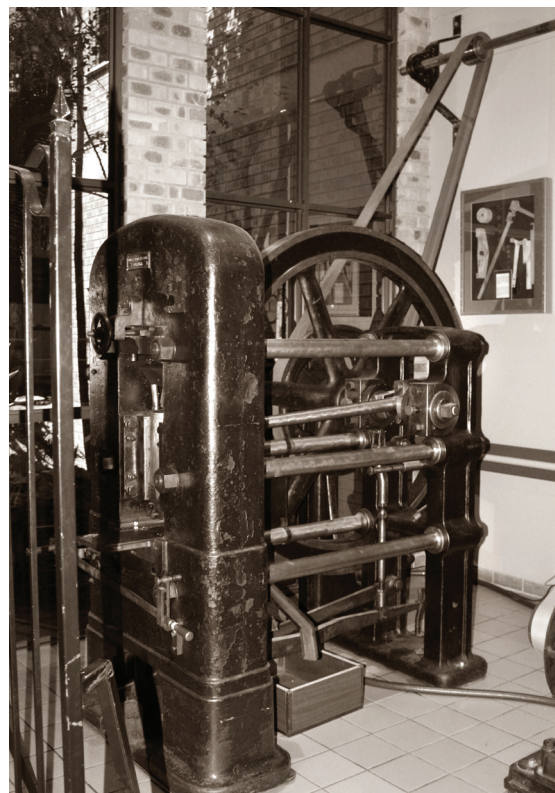
www.samint.co.za

For coin collectors, the South African Mint, a subsidiary of the SARB, has issued special Griqua Town coin sets, which include R5 non-circulation collectors' coins.

The sets include R2 silver crowns, R2 gold coins and R5 regular circulation coins and proof.

These sets are available at the South African Mint in Centurion, Gauteng.

The SARB issues commemorative circulation coins as part of its production of currency and they are usually issued to commemorate an event that involves a wider section of society, and such coins are made available and accessible to the public at face value. 



Among the items on display at the Mint Museum is the "Oom Paul Minting Press"



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South Africa celebrates her armed forces

The Armed Forces Day celebration coincided with the anniversary of the fateful sinking of the *SS Mendi* vessel along the English Channel on the same day in 1917.



Each year, 21 February is dedicated to celebrating South Africa's armed forces. It is a platform that enables the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) to showcase its latest military equipment and technologies that are used to protect the country. Speaking at the Arms Forces Day celebrations, held in Port Elizabeth, President Jacob Zuma said South African soldiers continued to perform exceptionally well in peace missions in Africa and had done the country proud. The day is used by the military to demonstrate the military combat readiness

of the SANDF, against any threats to the sovereignty of South Africa.

It also provides youth the opportunity to find out about careers that are available in the SANDF.

President Zuma commended the work of the SANDF which went beyond protecting the country, as the forces also came in handy when there were natural disasters, medical emergencies and for their assistance towards police in those rare occasions that required a maximum response to crime, such as Operation Fiela.

The President said one of the key demonstrations of the success of South

Africa's participation in peacekeeping missions was the recent appointment by the United Nations (UN) of Lieutenant-General Derrick Mbuyiselo Mgwebi as the Force Commander of the 20 000-strong UN Mission in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo, called MONUSCO.

"This is the largest UN Peace Support Operation in the world and on the continent.

"The appointment of General Mgwebi is a clear indication of the confidence that the UN has in South Africa and the role and contribution we have made in peacekeeping on the continent and beyond," said the President.

"This appointment is, therefore, not only an honour to General Mgwebi personally, but also to South Africa as a whole," said the President.

South Africa plays its role mandated mainly by the African Union (AU) with the support of the UN, and participates in peace missions on the continent.

"We do this because we want to see peace and stability on our continent.

... one of the key demonstrations of the success of South Africa's participation in peacekeeping missions was the recent appointment by the United Nations (UN) of Lieutenant-General Derrick Mbuyiselo Mgwebi as the Force Commander of the 20 000-strong UN Mission in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo, called MONUSCO.



"We want to see the end of suffering of women and children in Africa. We want to see the end of the flight of Africans from their countries because of wars and conflicts.

"We are passionate about peace and that is why our armed forces are always ready to participate in peacekeeping missions."

President Zuma said the AU had taken a resolution that guns must be silenced in Africa by 2020. South Africa is playing its part meaningfully towards the achievement of that goal.

President Zuma called on the SANDF to open up to the public and teach people about its work.

"I would like to see more and more interaction between the SANDF and our people.

"It should not just end here and today. The SANDF belongs to the people of South Africa.

"It serves our people, and they need to know more about their defence force," he said. He said the primary objective of the defence force was to defend and protect the Republic, its territorial integrity and its people in accordance with the Constitution and the

Thousands of spectators and guests crowded the Port Elizabeth beachfront and were treated to a mock land and sea rescue by SANDF members, including the special forces and SA Navy. The military had warships, aircraft and equipment on display, including the G6, Olifant main battle tank and Rooikat.

principles of international law regulating the use of force. The Armed Forces Day celebration coincided with the anniversary of the fateful sinking of the *SS Mendi* vessel along the English Channel on the same day in 1917.

"2017 will mark the centenary of the sinking on the *SS Mendi*, a huge milestone in our military, as we remember our fallen heroes," he said.

Thousands of spectators and guests crowded the Port Elizabeth beachfront and were treated to a mock land and sea rescue by SANDF members, including the

special forces and SA Navy. The military had warships, aircraft and equipment on display, including the G6, Olifant main battle tank and Rooikat. Hawk and Gripen fighter aircraft and attack helicopters made several formation flypasts, as the public commentator noted that some demonstrations were the first before a viewing public. Drills included two inflatable boats being dropped by parachute and soldiers "para-dropping" to swim to specific targets. The Armed Forces Day was preceded by various activities during the week of 13 to 20 February 2016. [U](#)

African News Agency / www.gov.za/www.defenceweb.co.za



Flying the SA flag

SA scientist wins continental scientific award

On 30 January 2016, South African scientist, Prof. Tebello Nyokong, was presented with the African Union (AU) Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Award at the AU Summit of Heads of State and Government in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The AU Kwame Nkrumah Awards are given annually to African scientists who have distinguished themselves in the fields of science, technology and innovation. Through the awards, the AU seeks to acknowledge the importance of science and technology in the development of the continent.

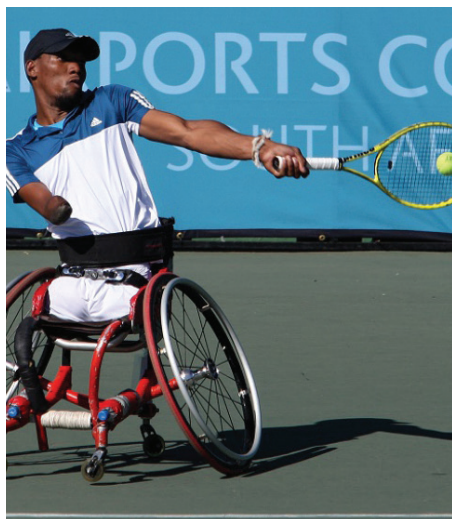
Prof. Nyokong is a Distinguished Professor at Rhodes University and director of the Nanotechnology and Innovation Centre (NIC), a national science facility established by the Department of Science and Technology in 2007. Among other things, the NIC's work includes research and development in various scientific fields, aimed at driving South Africa's transformation from a resource-based economy towards a knowledge-based economy using nanotechnology.

Congratulating Prof. Nyokong, the Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor, said that this proved that South Africa and Africa had world-class scientists. "Our congratulations go to Prof. Tebello Nyokong for shining the spotlight on South Africa by winning such a prestigious award."

Last year, another distinguished South African scientist, Prof. Salim Abdool Karim, won the same award. Prof. Nyokong is also a recipient of the National Order of Mapungubwe in Bronze.



Sithole does South Africa proud at Australian Open



South African Lucas Sithole and playing partner David Wagner from the United States of America (USA) beat the British/Australian combination of Andy Lapthorne and Dylan Alcott 6-1, 6-3 at the Australian Open held in Melbourne recently to claim the top spot in the wheelchair tennis quad doubles final.

It was Sithole's second Grand Slam title following his win at the US Open singles final in 2013.

"I enjoyed the match very much," an excited Sithole told News24 after the game. "It was great to play with David Wagner again."

The partners have been playing together and against each other since 2013, developing

a healthy rivalry vying for the top ranking and building a solid friendship along the way.

Sithole, who is triple amputee, lost both his legs and his right arm in a childhood accident.

He started playing tennis professionally in 2006, representing South Africa at a tournament in the Netherlands, considered the de-facto home of wheelchair tennis.

The 20-year-old, who grew up in the small mining town of Dannhauser in KwaZulu-Natal, has won seven titles and risen to become the one of the best singles players in the world.

He is now setting his sights on the Rio Olympics, hoping to earn himself and South Africa a gold medal.

News24Wire

Baleka Mbete awarded for distinguished leadership

In January 2016, the Speaker of the National Assembly, Baleka Mbete, received the 2016 Martin Luther King Legacy Award for International Service in Washington DC, in the United States of America (USA).

The Martin Luther King Legacy Award for International Service is bestowed annually by a Washington-based health organisation – the Institute for the Advancement of Multicultural & Minority Medicine – as part of

the commemorative celebrations in honour of the late Dr King's birthday on 15 January.

Previous winners of this award include conservative US Republican senator, Bob Dole; former US Secretary of State, General Colin Powell; former United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan; as well as various ambassadors from the USA, France, Africa, the United Kingdom and Germany.

www.SANews.gov.za / www.sapeople.com



Rivonia Trio receive Freedom of City of London



Former Rivonia trialists were in the United Kingdom (UK) recently to receive the Freedom of the City of London.

"The Rivonia generation symbolises the best values of the liberation movement, including selflessness, courage and providing leadership

by example," said Neeshan Balton, director of the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation. Kathrada, Andrew Mlangeni and Denis Goldberg were joined by their legal representatives, George Bizos and Joel Joffe, to receive the award in recognition of their fight for freedom and racial equality. The Freedom of the City of London, believed to have begun in 1237, is conferred on individuals by the City of London Corporation to "help celebrate a significant achievement, or to pay tribute to their outstanding contribution to London life or public life". They met Prime Minister David Cameron and made various appearances.

"The Freedom of the City of London is the highest recognition that the city can give to a citizen of the UK or an outsider ... For Mr Kathrada it is an honour, especially to be receiving it among the remaining Rivonia trialists," said Zaakirah Vadi, spokesperson for the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation.

Past recipients include Princess Diana, Morgan Freeman and Winston Churchill. "Their struggle, arrests, incarceration and subsequent freedom epitomise the transition the country underwent. In a way, this award is a tribute to their vision of a non-racial future – a value championed from as far back as 1955, with South Africans from across racial lines working together to challenge the apartheid state," Balton said. www.timeslive.co.za

SA chef gets Michelin Star

South African chef, Jan Hendrik van der Westhuizen, has received a Michelin Star for his restaurant in Nice, France. The highest achievement for a chef is a Michelin Star.

The restaurant in the Côte d'Azur was one of 52 to receive a star for 2016. Last year, Restaurant JAN was voted as one of the best restaurants in the world by *Conde Nast Traveller*, which praised its "healthy modern cooking". The South African chef, who's cooking is inspired by his grandmother, wins customers' and critics' hearts alike with a menu that often features South African favourites like biltong, mussels, fish curry and malva pudding, among others.

The "Oscars of the Food World", the Michelin Stars are awarded annually for *Michelin Guides*, which are a series of annual guide books published by the French company Michelin for more than a century.

The *Michelin Red Guide* is the oldest European hotel and restaurant reference guide. The acquisition or loss of a star can have dramatic effects on the success of a restaurant. Japan and France are the two countries with the highest number of three-starred restaurants. There is no *Michelin Guide* available for South Africa so Michelin Stars are not awarded to chefs based here. Food24



Prestigious Edinburgh Medal awarded to a South African



The 2016 Edinburgh Medal was jointly awarded to Kevin Govender from the Cape Town-based Office of Astronomy for Development (OAD) and the International Astronomical Union (IAU) on 30 March at the 2016 Edinburgh International Science Festival to recognise their wide-reaching contributions to science.

It is the first time in its history that this award goes to a South African.

It is awarded jointly for the creation and practical establishment of the IAU Office of the OAD, which integrates the pursuit of

scientific knowledge with social development for and with those most in need.

The office, launched in 2011 by the Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor, is hosted at the South African Astronomical Observatory in Cape Town, South Africa, in partnership with the National Research Foundation and the South African Department of Science and Technology. Under the pioneering stewardship of its first Director, Kevin Govender, the OAD has successfully harnessed astronomy in the service of global education and capacity-building.

The OAD was established as part of the IAU's decadal strategic plan "Astronomy for Development", which was initiated and driven within the IAU by the renowned astronomer Prof. George Miley.

The Edinburgh Medal is a prestigious award given each year to men and women of science and technology understanding whose professional achievements are judged to have made a significant contribution to the understanding and well-being of humanity.

Kevin Govender and President of the IAU, Silvia Torres Peimbert, was presented with the Edinburgh Medal at the Chambers of the City of Edinburgh Council on 30 March 2016.

They gave the Edinburgh Medal Address, "Astronomy for a Better World", as part of the 2016 Edinburgh International Science Festival, in the presence of Lord Martin Rees, the Astronomer Royal.

The 2016 Edinburgh International Science Festival ran from 26 March to 10 April.

2016 Edinburgh Medal co-recipient Govender commented: "Besides its technological, scientific and cultural contributions, astronomy fundamentally gives us the perspective we need to change the world, and it is amazing to see how this vision has rallied people and organisations from just about every continent.

"It has been, and continues to be, a journey driven by many with a shared passion for both science and society."



Flying the SA flag

SA ballet dancer wins international award

The 16-year-old South African ballet dancer, Leroy Mokgatle, has won a scholarship at the Prix de Lausanne International Ballet Competition in Switzerland.

"The first for South Africa in 28 years and the second in South African history," Art of Motion, his dance school in Randburg, Johannesburg, said in a Facebook post. "Thank you to the world audience for voting our SA candidate as their audience choice."

Mokgatle was given the Audience Favourite Award following the finals held in Lausanne on Saturday, 6 February, and won a scholarship to further his studies at one of the 66 prestigious Prix de Lausanne partner schools or dance companies around the world.

The previous South African winner was Ann Wixley, who received a scholarship in 1988.

Mokgatle performed a classical and a contemporary dance at the event.

According to Art of Motion, Mokgatle moved to Johannesburg from Pretoria in 2013 to train with the company.



Last September, Mokgatle won a gold medal at the prestigious Genée International Ballet Competition. Art of Motion expressed gratitude to the organisers of the Prix de Lausanne, saying it was an "extraordinary experience; one that will remain with us forever". news.24.com

A win for Team South Africa in The Hague



Team South Africa has won the 2016 International Schools Moot Court competition, held in The Hague in the Netherlands. The city is home to the United Nations' International Court of Justice, headquartered in the Peace Palace, and the International Criminal Court (ICC).

This year, the competition, held from 18 to 22 January, focused on the issue of crimes against humanity during a time of war.

Out of the 11 other countries that participated in the competition – namely, Argentina, Bulgaria, Germany, Mongolia, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russia,

St Martens, United States of America (USA) and Venezuela – South Africa triumphed over Team USA in the final. The South African team comprised pupils from various schools ranging from rural to former Model C schools. The successful team members were Nthabiseng Mbatha, Simon Motsheweni, Paseka Selinyane, Claire Rankin, Clara-Marie Macheke, Katelyn Chettle and Shandre Smith.

"Contestants were given an opportunity to argue both as defender and complainant using international criminal law and treaties that are relevant to the ICC," said the Department of Basic Education. "We take the opportunity to congratulate Claire Rankin and Clara-Marie Macheke from Springfield Convent in the Western Cape for taking the top spot at the International Schools Moot Court Competition at The Hague, after toppling Team USA." The competition is usually presided over by the judges from the ICC. This year, Judge Howard Morrison and Judge Raul Pangalangan chaired the debate.

Department of Basic Education

South African authors nominated for international award

Three South African writers have been nominated in what has been called the "world's richest literary prize", the International Dublin Literary Award.

Zakes Mda's *Rachel's Blue*, Mandla Langa's *The Texture of Shadows* and Imraan Coovadia's *Tales of the Metric System* are in the running for the €100 000 (about R1,5 million) prize money.

The annual award is in its 21st year. Nominations come in from libraries

across the world. "The nomination process for the award is unique as nominations are made by libraries in capital and major cities throughout the world," reads the Dublin Literary Award website.

"Participating libraries can nominate up to three novels each year for the award.

"Over 400 library systems in 177 countries worldwide are invited to nominate books each year." The winner will be announced on 9 June 2016.

The three South Africans are among 160 titles in the running this year.

The South African novels have already been given the nod on the local literary scene.

Rachel's Blue won the 2014/15 University of Johannesburg Prize, *The Texture of Shadows* was long-listed for the inaugural FT/Oppenhheimer Funds Emerging Voices Award for Fiction and *Tales of the Metric System* was shortlisted for the 2015 Barry Ronge Prize.

www.southafrica.info

Temba Bavuma makes South African cricket history

In January 2016, Temba Bavuma became South Africa's new cricketing hero, scoring his first Test century in the second Test against England in Cape Town. In front of a captivated crowd that included his father, Bavuma helped the Proteas side fight back against a formidable English team. His century was the first scored by a black South African since the country's readmittance into the international cricket fraternity in 1991.

While South Africa has produced some exceptional and legendary black bowlers such as Makhaya Ntini and Lonwabo Tsotsobe, fans have been anxiously waiting for a batsman like Bavuma to break the mold of the typical South African batting line-up with heaps of talent and unreserved drive to stand toe to toe with the big guns, such as Hashim Amla and AB De Villiers.

The 25-year-old Capetonian earned his stripes playing for the Gauteng Lions, where he has been since 2010, batting at an average of 60. Despite his short stature – Bavuma is 1,67 m – he is known to hit the ball hard and fast, with unusually high conversion rates for half-centuries and centuries for the Lions.



Bavuma debuted for the South African A side in 2012 against Sri Lanka and represented the Lions at the 2015 Africa T20 Cup against the best of African cricket.

He played his first Test for the Proteas against the West Indies in 2014, and received the call-up again this season

to tackle the English in the traditional New Year's Test at Newlands, Cape Town.

Bavuma's 102 (not out) helped South Africa build a challenging score of 627 for the English to reach with only one day remaining in the five-day Test.

www.southafrica.info

Team South Africa wins Eurasian Schools Debating Championships

Team South Africa returned home recently from Turkey after an awesome win at the Eurasian Schools Debating Championship (ESDC) 2016.

The young South Africans won 9-0 in the Grand Final debate opposing Team Romania on the motion THBT (this house believes that) employers should not require employees to have university degrees. Team Romania congratulated South Africa on winning

#ESDC2016 and wrote on Facebook that it was "an exceptional performance from them and a pleasure for us to face off in such an engaging and high level debate".

The South African champs also scooped the top five speaker rankings in the tournament with first place going to Steven Lochner, second to Rebecca Mqamelo, third to William Shoki, fourth to Katya Broomberg and fifth to Grant Fourie.

While in Turkey, the team kept their supporters updated on Facebook with their adventures, which included tasting Turkish tea for the first time, experiencing "angry Istanbul traffic" and being caught out by "sneaky" restaurant entrepreneurs.

The debating team will now train for the World Schools' Debating Championships to be held in Stuttgart, Germany, in July this year. www.sapeople

Neethling named as Laureus ambassador



Former South African swimmer and Olympic gold medallist, Ryk Neethling, has been named the latest Laureus Sport for Good Foundation Ambassador.

Born in Bloemfontein, Neethling attended Grey College, where he excelled in swimming, earning a place in the South African swimming team for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. He has since been lauded as one of the most accomplished swimmers to come out of South Africa.

He currently holds the South African record in the 200-, 400-, 800- and 1 500-m freestyle events and up until August 2006 held the 4x100-m freestyle relay world record.

Chairperson of the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation SA, Morné du Plessis, said: "We are really excited to welcome Ryk to the Laureus stable. Ryk has proved himself to be more than just a triumphant sportsman.

"He has been an inspiration to swimmers across the country, understanding the importance of nurturing talented sportspeople and essentially playing a vital role as a mentor to champion swimmers Chad le Clos and Cameron van den Berg.

"Ryk epitomises the Laureus philosophy, we are really excited to have him on board."

Responding to the announcement, Neethling said: "It's a massive honour for me to be named a Laureus ambassador – on par with the privilege of being an Olympian. Not every Olympic gold medallist is invited to become part of this elite organisation.

"It shows that you've achieved more than just a win but have done something significant with it, and it is my goal to use my influence for good."

Africa News Agency



In the grounds of the Union Buildings in Pretoria, is a Delville Wood Memorial in tribute to the South African troops who died in World War I (WWI). South Africa entered WWI on 8 September 1914, on the side of the Allied Forces. On 15 July 1916, the SA Infantry Brigade under Major-General HT Lukin was ordered to clear the wood at d'Elville, north-east of the village of Longueval, France, of enemy soldiers, thereby covering the flanks of the British Brigade. The South Africans occupied the wood on that day, but the problem was not so much to take the wood, than to hold it. Despite fierce counterattacks and artillery bombardments from German divisions, the South African brigade refused to surrender. The brigade was relieved on 20 July after six days and five nights of ferocious fighting. Only 750 soldiers remained of the brigade's 3 433 soldiers; the rest had either been killed or wounded. The Battle of Delville Wood went down in the history of WWI as an example of supreme sacrifice and heroism and remained the most costly action the South African Brigade fought on the Western Front.



#a good story to tell



Tourism in SA comes out top again

South Africa's unique tourism attractions and innovative operators continue to garner global recognition.

The Garden Route was recently named as one of the 10 best walking routes in the world by *The Telegraph*, an influential newspaper in the United Kingdom.

Children in the Wilderness (CITW), a non-profit organisation that arranges bush and wildlife experiences for young people to inspire Africa's future environmental leaders, was a runner-up in the United Nations World Tourism Organisation's (UNWTO) awards for sustainable tourism in Madrid recently.

The Telegraph said the trails of the Garden Route tour covered some of the best coastal trails, forests and gorges in South Africa. The 16-day trip starts from Table Mountain and includes the Alexandria Trail and the Addo Elephant National Park.

The inclusion of the Garden Route in the top 10 list puts it on par with well-known walking routes in Italy, France and Costa Rica.

The UNWTO Awards are the flagship awards for the global tourism sector. The award for sustainable tourism honours people and organisations who work for the benefit of host communities and protect their country's environmental and cultural heritage for future generations.

CITW was named as second runner-up for Innovation in Non-Governmental Organisations. CITW takes the novel approach of hosting camps and establishing eco-clubs for children and adults, and aims to develop future leaders who have a sound understanding of the links between conservation, tourism and community development.



SAA introduces flights to Abuja

South African Airways (SAA) has introduced flights to Abuja as a second gateway to Nigeria.

The flight departed on Tuesday, 26, January, at 11:55 pm from Johannesburg (via Lagos) and landed at 7:30 am in Abuja. The aircraft was greeted with a traditional celebratory and welcoming water salute as it taxied into the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport.

SAA's introduction of a second entry point in Nigeria, besides the long-established daily flights to Lagos, forms part of the airline's Long-Term Turnaround Strategy.

SAA said a second gateway to Nigeria strengthened the company's position in West Africa, where it played a significant role in enabling the movement of goods and people between southern and West Africa.

The three weekly non-stop flights between Johannesburg and Abuja operate with modern Airbus 330-200 aircraft, offering SAA business class luxury and economy class comfort, with the latest in-flight entertainment content. News24.com



JSE opening office in Cape Town

The JSE recently announced that it was opening a new office in Cape Town.

The JSE said the new office in the city would enhance its service to clients, build and strengthen relationships and provide accessible support to the market.

According to the JSE, this is because Cape Town is becoming an increasingly important hub of South Africa's financial services industry. "Cape Town is a major centre for global and local institutional investors as well as listed companies. Being the second-largest economic hub of South Africa, the head office base of many institutional clients and an increasing number of member firms and brokers, an office in the city is a logical part of the JSE's client strategy," explained capital markets director, Donna Oosthuysen.

In the new office, the JSE will be represented by senior capital markets specialist, Maryke Vreulink. It will be used for all JSE-related activities and events held in Cape Town. Fin24



JOHANNESBURG STOCK EXCHANGE



SA receives ALMA Award for curbing malaria

South Africa was awarded the 2016 African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) Award for achieving the Malaria Millennium Development Goal target.

The award was presented and received by President Jacob Zuma during the ALMA meeting for heads of state and government of the African Union at the end of January.

In South Africa, malaria cases have decreased by 82% with deaths also decreasing by 71%, since the year 2000 to date.

The decrease in malaria cases is attributed to a sound malaria vector control programme, where the country has used dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane or DDT odourless insecticide for indoor residual spraying, coupled with other World Health Organisation-recommended interventions.

"We are honoured to receive this 2016 ALMA Award, which recognises the efforts that our programme in South Africa has made, not only in the past decade, but also investments we have made to fight malaria since the 1940s," said President Zuma.

President Zuma also noted that while South Africa was delighted at the country's successes, government would not be complacent in tackling the disease.

"In this regard, we have committed to eliminate the disease from within our borders. We are also working with our neighbouring countries to also fight the disease in our neighbourhood," said President Zuma.



Dunkin' Donuts to open over 250 stores in SA

America's Dunkin' Brands Inc has signed a franchise agreement with Grand Parade Investments (GPI) Ltd to open more than 250 Dunkin' Donuts and more than 70 Baskin-Robbins food shops in South Africa, focusing on Cape Town and Johannesburg.

The leading United States brand also said it would launch Baskin-Robbins ice creams at South African supermarket chains and convenience stores.

"As we continue our global expansion of Dunkin' Donuts and Baskin-Robbins, we are delighted to work with GPI to bring both brands to South Africa," Bill Mitchell, President, Dunkin' Brands International, said in a statement.

"GPI has a wealth of experience in the local restaurant and retail industry, and a strong focus on operational excellence.

"We look forward to supporting GPI in their efforts to make Dunkin' Donuts and Baskin-Robbins available to a growing number of customers in South Africa in the years ahead." Africa News Agency



More people visit South Africa over festive season

The 2015/16 festive season recorded a 5,3% increase in traveller movement compared to 2014/15, the Minister of Home Affairs, Malusi Gigaba, said recently.

"From 1 December 2015 to 7 January 2016, a total number of 5 390 856 travellers went through our borders, much higher than the total earlier reported for 1 December 2015 to 3 January 2016, that is, 4 798 183," said the minister at a media briefing on 12 January.

He said 1 487 148 of the total were South African citizens, and 3 903 708 were foreign nationals.

"There were 2 003 509 arrivals of foreigners and 706 365 arrivals of citizens, bringing total arrivals to 2 709 874," said the minister. The increase in volumes in terms of arrivals was 7,6% for foreigners and 0,3% for citizens.

There was also an increase of 4,9% in travellers from Africa, 6,1% from Europe, 7,8% from North America, 15% from Asia, 2,5% from Australasia, 21% from the Middle East, and a decrease of 1% in arrivals from South America.

Gigaba said the top nationalities arriving in South Africa over this period were from Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Swaziland, Botswana, United Kingdom, Germany, United States of America and Namibia.

Of the 2 680 982 departures, foreigners accounted for 1 900 199 and South African citizens numbered 780 783. www.southafrica.info





Cape Town hotel makes *Telegraph's* Elite Top 50 List

The luxurious boutique hotel Ellerman House, overlooking Bantry Bay in Cape Town, has joined 49 illustrious other hotels around the world in the latest "50 Greatest Hotels" named by the British *Telegraph* newspaper.

The Telegraph noted in its introduction that many great hotels in the world did not make the list, showing how "fabulous" the properties were that its numerous panelists had chosen.

The three other hotels in sub-Saharan Africa that made the list were designed, owned or managed by South Africans. They are Wilderness Safaris' North Island in Seychelles, Mnemba Island Lodge belonging to andBeyond in Tanzania, and Singita's Sasakwa Lodge near the Serengeti, also in Tanzania.

The Telegraph said about Ellerman: "Perched high above the Atlantic, in a 1.5-acre terraced garden carved out of the Bantry Bay cliffs, Ellerman House enjoys perhaps the most spectacular location in Cape Town, a city not short on views.

"With just 13 rooms and suites sharing the sprawling grounds, and outsiders welcomed by prior arrangement or guest invitation only, Ellerman House is also the most private hotel in the city, a secluded retreat with the kind of hushed atmosphere that suits the many regular visitors who treat it as their Cape Town home.

"Urbane owner Paul Harris is also one of the foremost collectors of South African art: every wall here is testament to his great eye and deep pockets. Even Harris' enormous wine collection, displayed in an innovative 'wine gallery' and described by many as a work of art in its own right, is – along with the 24-hour guest pantry (chock-full with delectable home-baked savoury and sweet treats), sumptuous rooms, Cape Riviera views and intuitive service – part of the sum that sets this house apart." sapeople.com



Table Mountain welcomes its 25-millionth visitor

Early in February, Joburg visitor Bafana Sibanyoni was announced the 25-millionth person to visit Cape Town's natural wonder of the world, Table Mountain, with the latest million achieved in just one year and two weeks.

Bafana Sibanyoni (28) thought a first-ever trip up Table Mountain would be the ideal way to celebrate his partner, Mbali Ntanzisi's, 26th birthday, but the couple had no idea that their Cableway experience was about to reach entirely new commemorative heights.

The couple was delighted to learn they had won a luxury weekend in the Mother City, announced by the Cableway staff in proudly South African fashion.

For being the 25-millionth and 25-millionth + 1 visitors, the two were rewarded with a weekend stay at the Taj Cape Town Hotel; two more complementary Cableway tickets; a Cableway hamper, including Shop at the Top merchandise and a Table Mountain Cafe voucher, as well as vouchers for experiences at the Cableway's fellow Cape Town Big 7 partners: V&A Waterfront, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, Groot Constantia and Cape Point.

The growth of the Cableway has been exponential since the introduction of the new revolving cabins – doubling its 1997 numbers to reach 22 million visitors in November 2012.

Table Mountain Aerial Cableway had a record December with 28% more visitors than in December 2014, reportedly because the weather was extremely favourable and they were open every single day in December.

From among a league of extraordinary attractions, Table Mountain was named a New7Wonder of Nature in 2012, adding to record growth in tourism numbers as the "wonder effect" took hold and visitors flocked to the mountain. Traveller24



Northern Cape named as Top World Region to Visit In 2016

The Northern Cape is gathering some well-deserved attention from the rest of the world. *Rough Guides* has listed this border-lying province of South Africa as one of the top 10 regions to visit in 2016. Topping the likes of Italy and Indonesia, *Rough Guides* describes the Northern Cape as "an area covering one-third of the country's landmass and seldom explored by visitors".

They also mentioned the area's super-gorgeous wildflowers in springtime, the Kalahari's famous black-maned lion, the San people – remnants of the oldest population on Earth – the lush and flowing Orange River and Richtersveld Nature Reserve for adrenaline junky-fun. Traveller24





Market Theatre celebrates 40th anniversary

On 9 February, the Minister of Arts and Culture, Nathi Mthethwa, delivered an address to kick-start the first in a series of milestones marking the 40th anniversary of the Market Theatre. Minister Mthethwa spoke, preceding the opening performance of the first production for the year, *A Raisin in the Sun*, written by Lorraine Hansberry, directed by James Ngcobo and presented in association with the United States Embassy.

Established within weeks of the 1976 Soweto Uprising, the Market Theatre came to symbolise the struggle for freedom. During the dark days of the apartheid regime, the theatre represented a ray of hope and the microcosm of what South Africa could, and finally did, become. It was the creative crucible for indigenous South African work and artists. For nearly two decades, the Market Theatre was a beacon of light that brought the story of South Africa to world stages and won many accolades for its courage, commitment and artistic integrity. Fearless in its stance, the Market Theatre stood for democratic principles, freedom of choice, dignity and self-esteem and gave a vitally important voice to the black community. Today, it is still viewed as a “theatre of the people”.

The Market Theatre has won 296 national and 39 international theatre awards for the artistic quality of the work it produces and the calibre of the writers, directors, actors and lighting, set and costume designers it engages with.

As part of the 40th anniversary milestone of South Africa’s most iconic theatre, the Market Theatre has lined up several key productions that will be staged throughout the year.



Three CapeNature reserves given eco thumbs up from Australia

South Africa’s Kogelberg, Robberg and Goukamma CapeNature reserves have become the first tourism products in South Africa and the Southern African Development Community to have been awarded the prestigious ECO Certification by Ecotourism Australia.

CEO of CapeNature, Dr Razeena Omar, explained that the award was a huge honour to CapeNature, ecotourism and sustainability within South Africa.

Ecotourism Australia is represented in southern Africa through an exclusive agreement with Eco-tourism Africa, a COMET Corporation initiative.

The ECO Certification Programme was developed to address genuine nature and ecotourism operators – guided by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council criteria.

The ECO Certification Programme provides travellers with the assurance that all certified products within the awarded areas are supported by strong, well-managed sustainable practices and high-quality nature-based tourism. ECO Certification is product-specific and the following CapeNature products have been certified:

- Goukamma Nature Reserve for its self-catering accommodation
- Kogelberg Nature Reserve for the Oudebosch self-catering accommodation, its hiking trails and birdwatching available at the Stony Point penguin colony
- Robberg Nature Reserve for its array of hiking trails.

Chief Executive of Ecotourism Australia, Rod Hillman, commended CapeNature for being responsible members of South Africa’s tourism industry to benefit the community and environment “while providing enjoyable and meaningful experiences for their visitors”.

“I commend your leadership in becoming the first organisation in South Africa to gain eco-certification.” Traveller24



E-commerce spend on SA phones to jump 70%

E-commerce spending by South Africans via their mobile devices is set to grow by 70% in 2016, says a survey.

The survey reported that South African shoppers spent R28,8 billion online in 2015, which was expected to grow to R46 billion by 2017, of which mobile would account for R19 billion.

According to research organisation Ipsos, this figure is set to outpace overall e-commerce spend in South Africa, which is forecast to grow by 29% this year.

E-commerce spending via mobiles accounted for 25% or R7 billion of all online transactions in 2015, said Efi Dahan who is the Africa and Israel regional director for PayPal. Payment service Paypal commissioned the Ipsos survey.

“There is no doubt that the rapid penetration of smartphones in South Africa will continue to be the driving force of online shopping in the upcoming years.”

Most South African online shoppers (59%) buy locally, with 37% buying both local and cross-border and 5% buying exclusively from international providers. news24.com





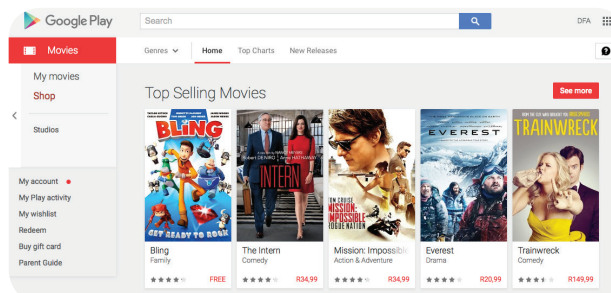
Google Play Movies goes live in SA

Search giant Google has recently switched on its movie service in South Africa, months after launching its music offering locally.

Dubbed Google Play Movies, the service enables users to rent or buy movies such as *Jurassic World*, *Fifty Shades of Grey* and *The Lego Movie*. Television shows are not available on Google Play in South Africa yet. Neighbouring African countries Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia are among places that also have Google Play Movies now.

The launch of Google Play Movies in South Africa comes hot on the heels of the search giant launching its music streaming offering in December last year.

Google's push to enter South Africa's video-on-demand space further comes after United States-based Netflix launched in the country in January. news24.com



Black Mambas raise funds for rhinos in England

Two members of the all-female rhino-saving brigade from South Africa, the Black Mambas, who have been publicised around the world, were in England recently to raise awareness and funds for their campaign.

The team was one of the winners last year of the United Nations' Champions of the Earth Award for its anti-poaching work.

They also recently launched the Bush Babies education outreach project, bringing wildlife education to local schools.

The Black Mamba Anti-Poaching Unit (APU) was founded in 2013 by Transfrontier Africa and created to protect the Olifants West Region of Balule Nature Reserve and has since expanded to cover the entire Balule area of 400 km².

The Black Mamba APU is the first of its kind, being that the majority of the teams are women. There are currently 26 deployed Black Mambas and a further 23 armed guards who operate within Balule and along its boundaries.

www.sapeople.com / www.blackmambas.org



Luxury Rovos Rail at the forefront of private train travel

The luxury South African train company Rovos Rail – which has long been running neck and neck with the Blue Train in pampered rail travel – has bought the “three-star” Shongololo Express, a 19-coach train that has been running a select number of two-week tours across the country. For a fraction of the cost of Rovos' classy trips, travellers can get similar Rovos attention.

It puts South Africa at the forefront of some of the best private train travel in the world.

“Operating a three-star train had always been at the back of my mind. When I learned that the Shongololo Express was on offer, the timing seemed serendipitous and so an opportunity not to be missed”, Rohan Vos, owner and CEO of the Rovos Rail Group, said in a statement recently.

Vos said the train had been repainted in green and cream – the Rovos colours – and an additional dining car and an observation car added. The six Emerald suites (about 10 square metres each) and 30 Gold cabins (seven square metres) will remain as is and all the Shongololo's current staff will also remain employed on the train. The three tours follow much the same as the ones that were already being offered, but have been slightly repurposed, according to the statement. The tours are Southern Cross (Pretoria to Victoria Falls, 12 days), Dune Express (Pretoria to Swakopmund, 12 days) and Good-Hope Golf (Pretoria to Cape Town, 15 days). www.sapeople.com



Four SA lodges listed as global winners in luxury hotel awards

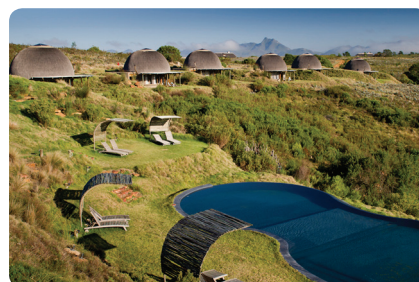
The Ninth Annual World Luxury Hotel Awards, hosted at the Harbour Grand Hong Kong at the end of last year, listed four South African lodges as global winners.

South Africa's safari and bush offerings were awarded top laurels.

The following establishments won global recognition:

- Global Winner: Luxury Bush Lodge - Rhulani Safari Lodge
- Global Winner: Luxury Game Lodge - Emdoneni Lodge
- Global Winner: Luxury Safari Retreat - Nkorho Bush Lodge
- Global Winner: Luxury Eco Safari Resort - Gondwana Game Reserve.

The Overall Winner at the event was awarded to the Hotel Plaza Athénée, a luxury five-star hotel overlooking the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the French capital. Traveller24





Camp's Bay among world's best beaches

One of the Mother City's most loved beaches has once again claimed global laurels.

Camp's Bay beach has been named the 17th-most amazing beach on the globe by the reviewers' platform TripAdvisor, in their Top 25 Beaches in the World survey. Apart from Camp's Bay, Cape Town and the whole of South Africa for that matter, are littered with some of the most incredible beaches.

South Africa occupies the southern tip of Africa, which mean a large chunk of the country's border is coast. The coastline stretches more than 2 500 km from the desert border with Namibia on the Atlantic coast southwards around the tip of Africa and then north to the border with Mozambique on the Indian Ocean. Traveller24



Cape Town coffee spot trumps world's brews – Again!

Cape Town has been crowned the coffee capital of the world once again as the iconic Truth Coffee Roasting was named the very best coffee shop in the world for the second year running by acclaimed United Kingdom news agency, *The Telegraph*.

The steampunk coffee and roasting franchise, with its flagship shop in Buitenkant street, Cape Town, has been ranked top spot by *The Telegraph* because of their "steampunk-inspired artisan coffee".

The list of 13 international spots includes the likes of Café Central in Austria, Workshop Coffee in London, Coffee Academics in Hong Kong, with South Africa's very own steampunk-themed Truth Coffee Roasting sitting proudly in the number-one spot. Traveller24



New York Met and Paris Opera sign up South Africa's Pretty Yende for more

Pretty Yende, South Africa's incredible opera singer, has both New York and Paris clamouring for more.

Both the Metropolitan Opera House in New York and the *National Opera de Paris* have announced Yende's return to their stages in their 2016/17 line-ups.

According to Yende's Facebook page, "it is with great excitement to announce Ms Yende's return to The Metropolitan Opera House in New York for two opera productions as the Primadonna".

After making her debut at New York's world-famous Met three years ago, she will return in the 2016/17 season as Rosina in Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*.

Earlier this year, she performed this role at the *National Opera de Paris* (Opera Bastille) in France to critical acclaim, with her performance being described as "absolument exceptionnelle" (absolutely exceptional).

In New York, she will join one of the most internationally celebrated Bel canto tenors Javier Camarena and Peter Mattei in the title role. According to the post on Facebook, Pretty will also play Juliette in Gounod's "lush Shakespeare adaptation of the tragic love story. This will mark Ms Yende's debut on the role".

Yende will also appear in the 50th Anniversary Gala for Metropolitan Opera joining all the international opera stars.

The *Opera National de Paris* also announced recently that Yende would return to the Opera Bastille in their 2016/17 season in the title role of *Lucia di Lammermoor* by Donizetti. This will mark her second production of *Lucia* after her great success in the role at the Dutch National Opera in Berlin.



Jamie's Italian expands to South Africa

Jamie Oliver's successful restaurant chain, Jamie's Italian, is heading to South Africa. It will add a Joburg branch in Melrose Arch to its already expansive global reach. There are 40 establishments across the world; the first opened its doors in the British university town of Oxford in 2008.

The restaurant is all about authenticity. Oliver has worked closely with his friend and mentor, Gennaro Contaldo, to create the essence of Jamie's Italian – "tradition combined with current, innovative ideas and a Jamie twist".

"Being awarded the Jamie's Italian franchise is such a privilege," Stephen Gersowsky, chief executive of Whisky Creek Brands told lifestyle website, *Destiny Connect*. "We all understand the responsibility that comes with representing this iconic brand in South Africa, and we believe our passion, commitment, integrity and dedication to the industry will lay a solid foundation for us to deliver on the expectation that comes with launching Jamie's Italian." www.southafrica.info



SA film wins award in Berlin

South African film notched up another accolade as Anant Singh's *Shepherds and Butchers* won an award at the Berlin Film festival recently.

The film, produced by Singh and directed by Oliver Schmitz, was awarded the third place Panorama Audience Award for Fiction Films – a first for a South African film.

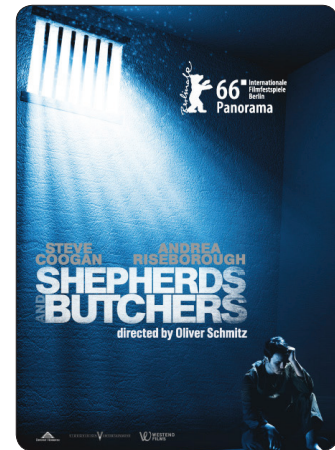
Based on Chris Marnewick's book of the same name, the film revolves around a young warden, arrested after killing seven black members of a karate team, and the jaded lawyer who takes on the murder case.

The film competed in a pool of 51 submissions from 33 countries in the Panorama Section of the festival.

Commenting on the award, Singh said: "We are overwhelmed by this acknowledgement for our homegrown South African film, which competed with the best in the world. It is a testament to the amazing talent we assembled for the film, and this enabled us to successfully compete in the international arena."

Shepherds and Butchers stars newcomer, Garion Dowds as well as a number of well-known South African actors, including Deon Lotz, Robert Hobbs, Eduan van Jaarsveldt and Marcel van Heerden alongside Steve Coogan (*Philomena*) and Andrea Riseborough (*Birdman, Oblivion*).

The film also features the song *Angels*, a collaboration between Barry Gibb, co-founder of the Bee Gees, and Vusi Mahlasela. Times Media Group



Decrease in infant mortality in South Africa

There has been a marked decrease in child mortality rates in South Africa, according to the Institute of Race Relations (IRR), which says this is indicative of improved child health in the country.

The IRR made this finding in its latest *South Africa Survey*, published in February 2016. It found that the under-five mortality rate had declined from 77,2 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2002 to 45,1 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2015. The institute also found that deaths of infants under one year of age declined from 51,2 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2002 to 34,4 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2015.

According to the IRR, poor access to healthcare services, especially immunisation programmes; malnutrition; and poor living conditions were three of the leading contributors to child deaths.

It found that:

- Immunisation rates had steadily increased in South Africa. In 2001, 67% of children under one year of age were immunised. This increased to 89,8% in 2014.
- Social grant beneficiaries as a percentage of the total national population increased from 9% in 2001 to 30% in 2015. This had undoubtedly contributed to raising living standards.
- From 2001 to 2014, severe malnutrition rates among under-fives dropped from 12,5 per 1 000 children to 4,5 per 1 000 children.

The *South Africa Survey* has been published annually by the IRR since 1948 in the interests of advancing fact-based policy-making. Institute of Race Relations



Maties Prof. elected to UN Committee

A Stellenbosch University professor has been elected to serve on the United Nations (UN) Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Sandra Liebenberg, who occupies the HF Oppenheimer chair in Rights Law in the university's law faculty, was nominated by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation in recognition of her "extensive experience in human rights law, particularly in the area of economic, social and cultural rights".

The UN Economic and Social Council elected Liebenberg and the Egyptian candidate, Mohamed Ezzeldin Abdel-Moneim, as candidates representing Africa. Their four-year term begins on 1 January 2017.

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is a mechanism for defending and promoting economic, social and cultural rights, and has a mandate to specifically monitor fulfilment of states' obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It is composed of 18 independent experts.

Liebenberg is academic co-director of the law faculty's postgraduate Socio-Economic Rights and Administrative Justice Research Project. She previously served as a member of the technical committee advising the Constitutional Assembly on the Bill of Rights. www.timeslive.com



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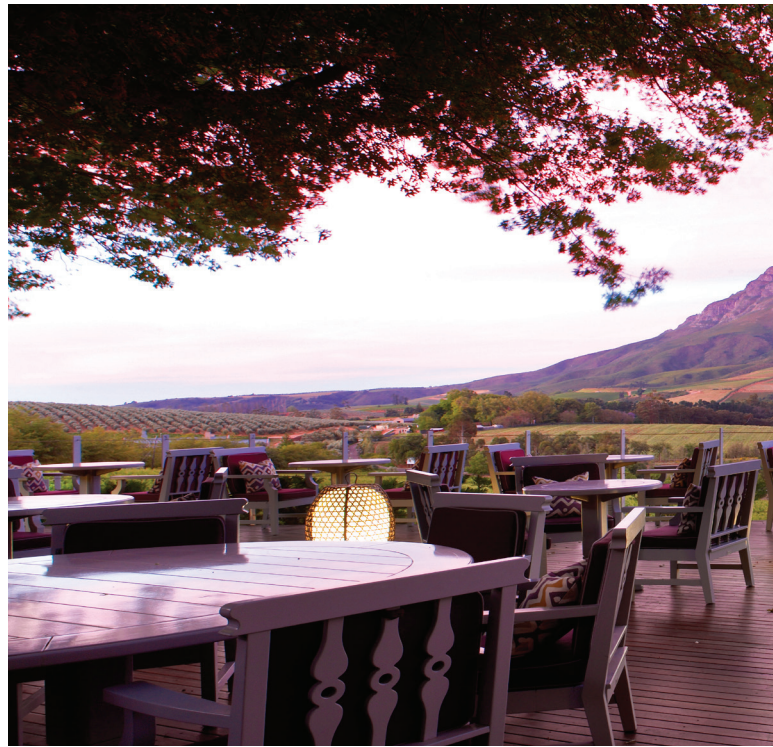
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SA wine estates sparkle

The Best of Wine Tourism Awards celebrate innovation and excellence in wine tourism throughout the eight greatest wine regions in the world. ►►





Delaire Graff Estate, situated in the Helshoogte Pass just outside Stellenbosch in the Cape Winelands, has been announced as the overall winner at the 2016 Great Wine Capitals Global Network Best of Wine Tourism Awards.

The estate took the 2016 global laurels after taking the top spot in both the Art and Culture and Wine Tourism Restaurants categories.

The Great Wine Capitals is a network of eight major global cities in both the northern and southern hemispheres, which share a key economic and cultural asset: their internationally renowned wine regions.

The wine regions of the world are the Cape Winelands, Cape Town; Bilbao in Spain; Bordeaux in France; Mendoza in Argentina; Porto in Portugal; Valparaiso or Casablanca Valley in Chile; Napa Valley in San Francisco, United States of America; and Rheinhessen in Mainz, Germany. The Best of Wine Tourism Awards celebrate innovation and excellence in wine tourism throughout the eight greatest wine regions in the world.

It is the only such network to encompass the so-called "old" and "new" worlds of wine, and it aims to encourage travel, education and business exchanges between the prestigious eight wine regions.

This international competition is designed to reward businesses in each member

region that have distinguished themselves in terms of the excellence of their facilities and delivering quality experiences to visitors in various categories.

Awards are given in the following seven categories:

- Accommodation
- Wine Tourism Restaurants
- Sustainable Wine Tourism Practices
- Architecture and Landscape
- Art and Culture
- Innovative Wine Tourism Experiences
- Wine Tourism Services.

According to the Great Wine Capitals Global Network website, the Delaire Graff Estate is a most aesthetically interesting contemporary





art destination. "The art collection has been a lifelong passion of owner Laurence Graff OBE, who continues to discover promising South African artists.

"The stunning interiors at the estate have been designed around some of the private works on display and incorporate the rich natural and cultural heritage of the winelands, resulting in a beautiful synergy of art and space.

"South Africa's diverse heritage is reflected in the art at Delaire Graff Estate: Lionel's Smit's *African Woman in the Tasting Lounge* echoes the subtle palette of the natural hues used in the sophisticated setting, while signature Dylan Lewis cheetahs grace the estate's landscape.

"Works by Vladimir Tretchikoff, Deborah Bell, Sidney Kumalo, Fred Schimmel, Durant Sihlali and Cecil Skotnes adorn the walls, while guests at the lodge will particularly enjoy Stephane Graff and the intensity of Ndkumbule Ngqinambi's work.

"Guided tours are available and guests can explore the incredible contemporary collection for themselves throughout the estate as the pieces are incorporated into the gardens, restaurants, accommodation and winery, transforming Delaire Graff Estate into an unrivalled artistic and cultural experience."

In the regional leg of the 2016 Great Wine Capitals Global Network Best of Wine Tourism Awards, the following Cape

wineland establishments were also awarded:

- Villiera Wines for Sustainable Wine Tourism Practices
- La Motte Wine Estate for Wine Tourism Service
- Cavalli Wine and Stud Farm for Architecture and Landscapes
- Boschendal Estate for Accommodation.

Innovation was particularly lauded at this year's competition, with wineries clearly responding to the challenge of higher expectations from tourists. 🍷

Traveller24 / www.greatwinecapitals.com





SA fishing town among World Responsible Tourism Awards winners

Founded in 2004 by Responsible Travel, the World Responsible Tourism Awards at the World Tourism Market are a global search and celebration of the most inspiring and enduring responsible tourism experiences in the world. ▶▶



"Tourists are becoming increasingly concerned about social and environmental issues, and they want to support destinations and products that take responsible tourism seriously."

The Western Cape fishing town and popular tourist destination, Gansbaai, received a gold Best Destination honour at the 2015 World Responsible Tourism Awards, held in London in November 2015. The South African-based charity, Campaign against Canned Hunting, also took joint gold in the Best Animal Welfare Initiative category. Bushmans Kloof received a silver Best Cultural Heritage Attraction Award while Grootbos Private Nature Reserve got a silver Best for Poverty Reduction Award.

The award ceremony was part of the annual World Tourism Market (WTM).

Founded in 2004 by Responsible Travel, the World Responsible Tourism Awards at the WTM are a global search and celebration of the most inspiring and enduring responsible tourism experiences in the world.

The vision of the awards, which are open to any organisation anywhere in the world, is to surprise and inspire tourists and the tourism industry by what it is possible to achieve with responsible tourism, and to shine a light on the best of the best.

The Best Destination for Responsible Tourism category is awarded to a holiday destination setting an inspirational and influential example for responsible tourism.

"Our award-winning places, products and programmes demonstrate the leadership role South Africa is playing in developing and implementing responsible tourism," said the Minister of Tourism, Derek Hanekom.

"The winners of the WTM awards, and others in the sector who are striving towards greater sustainability, are maintaining our country's competitive edge in the global tourism market.


"Their success comes from taking a responsible approach right from the start of their planning, and then ensuring that all their products, services and activities are socially, environmentally and economically sustainable into the future.

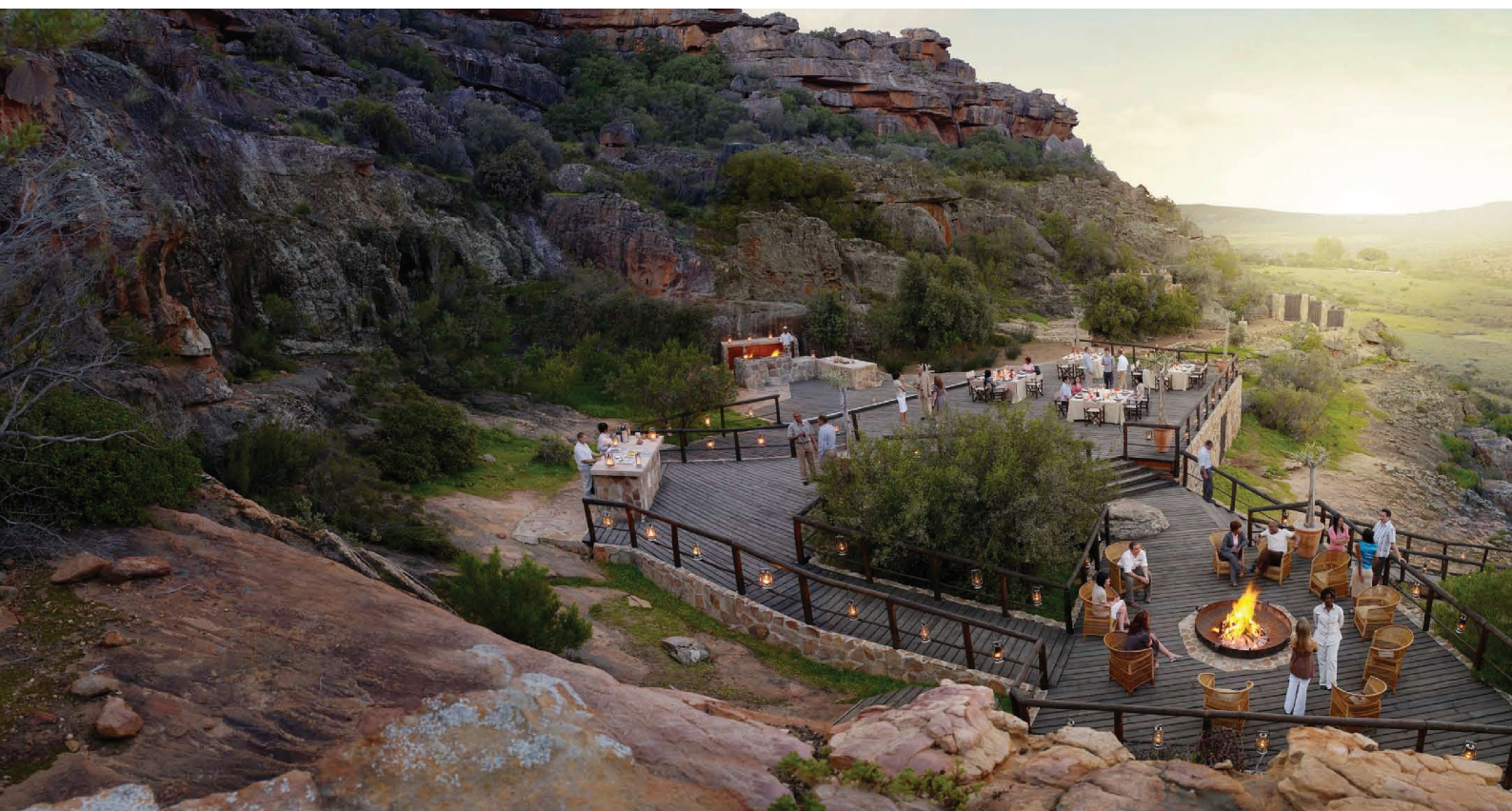
"We must now spread these world-leading responsible tourism practices throughout the entire tourism industry," said Minister Hanekom.

"Tourists are becoming increasingly concerned about social and environmental issues, and they want to support destinations and products that take responsible tourism seriously."

WTM sources senior influential figures from in and around the travel industry to offer invaluable insights and knowledge through the WTM Conference and Seminar Programme.

The World Responsible Tourism Awards has various categories for Poverty Reduction; Best Animal Welfare Initiative; Best Innovation for Carbon Reduction; Best for Beach Tourism; Best Hotel for Local Sourcing; Best Cultural Heritage Attraction; Best for Engaging People and Culture; Best Accommodation for Disability Access; Best Destination for Responsible Tourism; Best for Wildlife Conservation; Best Sea or River Cruise; Best Responsible Tourism Blog; and People's Choice in Responsible Tourism.

LooLa Adventure Resort in Indonesia was announced as overall winner of the World Responsible Tourism Awards 2015. 





Grootbos Private Nature Reserve



Bushmans Kloof

Why millions chose Africa as their safari destination

By Marco Scholtz

Senior Lecturer in Tourism at Tourism Research in Economic Environments and Society, North-West University

The tourism industry is one of the most important for the continent: it provided 12,8 million people with jobs, directly and indirectly, in 2011. Tourism in 2012 contributed over US\$36 billion or 2,8% of the continent's gross domestic product.

More than 30 million tourists visit Africa every year. Over half of the international arrivals are for business purposes, and may partake in tourist activities as well, while 15% travel for pure tourism and 30% visit friends and family.

Tourists select the continent as a destination for wildlife viewing and to enjoy the sunny skies. Africa is the world's number one destination for safaris, which range from the exotic to the very simple.

The tourism industry is one of the most important for the continent: it provided 12,8 million people with jobs, directly and indirectly, in 2011. Tourism in 2012 contributed over US\$36 billion or 2,8% of the continent's gross domestic product.

The continent's vast and diverse nature makes it complex and difficult to decide on the best region for a safari. But the east, central and southern parts of the continent are by far the preferred choices. These areas generally have well-developed or fast-developing tourism sectors. There is an abundance of

wildlife as well as low to no visa requirements. Tourists to these regions mostly come from countries like France, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Germany and Portugal.

Below is a quick guide to some of the safari hot spots on the African continent.

East Africa

East African countries are strongly reliant on the tourism industry for generating income. Strong improvements in marketing and cooperation between these nations will help to ensure the success of this vital tourism sector.

Standardised criteria for hotels, restaurants and other services across these countries will make it easier for tourists to find suitable services. These countries possess various natural and cultural resources that make tourism possible.



The Serengeti wildebeest migration is the main reason Kenya and Tanzania have become popular safari destinations. This migration sees millions of wildebeest, accompanied by various other animal species, move between Tanzania and Kenya. The best places to view this migration include Kenya's Maasai Mara and Tanzania's Serengeti National Park.

And while in the area, don't forget to visit Africa's highest mountain – Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania's Kilimanjaro National Park.

The Ngorongoro Crater Conservation Area is also a great choice with an abundance of Big Five – the African elephant, African lion, white/black rhinoceros, African leopard and the Cape buffalo – and will not disappoint.

Central Africa

Civil wars and terrorist groups have made it dangerous to travel to some countries in this region. Many tourists still take their chances, though, as Central Africa is an area of immense natural beauty.

The Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Rwanda are great places to view the endangered mountain gorillas. The best places for viewing them include the Virunga National Park in the eastern DRC, Mgahinga Gorilla National Park in south-west Uganda, or Volcanoes National Park in north-west Rwanda. Various factors have threatened the population of gorillas, including poaching, habitat loss, disease, war, unrest and poverty.

Today, due to conservation efforts, the population of mountain gorillas is showing steady growth. The fact that many tourists want to get up close to these animals also drives conservation efforts, since with tourism comes economic improvement.

If you'd prefer to take part in Africa's best on-foot chimpanzee encounters, visit Kibale Forest in Uganda.

Southern Africa

South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi offer very diverse wildlife. This is because of the variety of biomes in the region.

Chobe National Park is home to the biggest concentration of elephants in the world – 70 000 of them. It lies between the Chobe River and the Okavango Delta in the north-eastern parts of Botswana. Also in Botswana, the Moremi Game Reserve in the iconic Okavango Delta, is the first reserve in Africa to be established by local residents.

The Etosha National Park in the northern arid region of Namibia offers great chances of spotting endangered black rhinoceros as well as flamingos in the salt pans.

The Kruger National Park in South Africa is in its own league because of its diversity of animals as well as advanced environmental management techniques and policies.


iSimangaliso Wetland Park was the first site in South Africa to be awarded World Heritage Site status.

It contains most of South Africa's remaining swamp forests and is Africa's largest estuarine system, which is a partially enclosed body of water where fresh water from rivers and streams mix with salt water from the ocean.

The park borders Kosi Bay and St Lucia Lake, which is the only place in the world where you can find sharks, hippopotamus and crocodiles in the same body of water.

Addo Elephant National Park in the Eastern Cape province is the only park where you can find the Big Seven: the African elephant, Cape buffalo, African lion, African leopard, African rhino as well as whales and Great White sharks.

The Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park consists of mostly unspoiled wilderness in the north of South Africa, crossing over into Botswana.

This park is largely located in a desert area and is famous for animal species such as the Kalahari black-maned lions and the Gemsbok or Oryx. 

The article was first published on *The Conversation* (<http://theconversation.com>)





Wonderboom Airport proudly services communities



Wonderboom Airport in the north of Pretoria is constantly improving itself in order to benefit its customers.

It recently introduced daily return flights between Pretoria and Cape Town, South Africa's two historic capital cities. While celebrating its 80th year of existence this year, it is continuously upgrading its facilities and enhancing services for the convenience of its customers.

The airport is conveniently located in the north of Pretoria in an uncongested area between major highways.

Airlink links two historically significant cities. Tshwane is host to many diplomatic communities and is second only to Washington DC in the United States of America in its number of foreign embassies. Its fast growth into the largest metropolis in South Africa in terms of land mass has increased the need for regular flights to connect it to the mother city and legislative capital of South Africa, Cape Town. The current daily Airlink return flights between the two cities take place in partnership with South African Airways.

In addition to passenger services, Airlink also offers express air cargo services between these two cities and beyond.

Increased passenger numbers will eventually ensure a selection of commercial flights and more routes in the near future. Other envisaged future developments include the enhancement of general aviation and chartered private flights. Furthermore, the envisaged reinstatement of its international status will enable Wonderboom Airport to service the domestic market and the regional market of Africa.

Wonderboom Airport is a medium-sized airport with a single terminal building that provides quick and easy access to its effective and convenient facilities. It is a fully functional airport and hosts more than 184 businesses on its premises, including a Villa San Giovanni restaurant and hotel.

The City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality is the licence holder of the airport.

Historic overview

The history of Wonderboom Airport can be traced as far back as 1937 when the erstwhile City Council established and opened a new airfield on a 342-hectare site on the farm Wonderboom, 11 kilometres north of the



city centre. The airfield was then known as the Pretoria North Airfield, and the name Wonderboom Airport only came into use in 1940.

To celebrate its 80th anniversary, Wonderboom Airport is planning an air and car show for 11 and 12 June 2016. It will be called the Wonderboom Airport Adrenaline Show, and it promises to bring excitement and fun to communities in Tshwane and beyond.

Named after the magnificent indigenous fig tree that has been standing in the vicinity for more than 1 200 years, Wonderboom Airport has a rich history. Although it had humble beginnings and development took time, over the years the airport has hosted several

unique and first-ever events that placed it firmly on the radar. The following events are a few of those that made the airport known for its uniqueness and excellent services:

- the first transatlantic flight in a two-seater aircraft by two locals (1955)
- the first South African Parachuting Championships (1964)
- the first three-man star parachute jump (1968)
- the first five-star parachute jump record (1970)
- South Africa's first black parachute jumper, Flocks Manceba (1974)
- the christening of the Delaney aircraft, named after the first baby to be born on board a scheduled flight (1975)
- tandem-rig parachuting with then Miss World, Anneline Kriel (1986).


Why use Wonderboom Airport? Here are a few reasons:

Wonderboom Airport in the north of Pretoria is constantly improving itself in order to benefit its customers.

- It is conveniently located in the north of Tshwane in an uncongested area: The airport is only 11 km from the city centre, which means that customers are only a few kilometres away from world-class hospitals, universities, research centres, business sectors, industrial hubs, government departments, major tourist destinations and many more amenities and institutions.
- It is easily accessible for locals as well as visitors from other provinces: It is close to the N1 that leads to Polokwane in the north and the N4 (Bakwena Highway) that leads to Rustenburg in North West and Emalahleni in Mpumalanga.
- It is constantly upgraded and services are continuously improved: The City of Tshwane, in collaboration with stakeholders, constantly upgrades infrastructure in the area to the benefit of customers. The envisaged K97 link (to be opened soon) between the N4 and the airport will add value on a regional scale, linking Tshwane with North West, Limpopo and others.
- It saves you travel time: A test run revealed that the time it takes a traveller to drive from the east of

Tshwane to OR Thambo International Airport, find parking, check in and move to the aircraft, is the same time that it will take the same traveller to drive from the same area to the Wonderboom area, park the car, check in and land in Cape Town!

- Its staff members ignite excellence in their services: Wonderboom Airport is an easy-in, easy-out airport. All staff are continuously trained to be time-efficient and effective. The end result is good customer service and a pleasant flying experience. It is a place where the customer is king and is treated with dignity and respect.
- It lies in the middle of a fast-growing industrial and tourism hub. The airport is surrounded by a range of historical sites and tourism hot spots that include the following:
 - The majestic Magaliesberg, a declared World Biosphere Reserve, which is 100 times older than Mount Everest and one of the longest mountain ranges in South Africa
 - The Wonderboom, a magnificent wild fig tree which is about 1 200 years old

- Tswaing Crater, a conservation area that is home to a meteorite impact crater and surrounding wetland
- Dinokeng, Tshwane's alternative to the Kruger National Park
- Cullinan, a quaint little town where the world's biggest diamond was discovered
- many more interesting places. 

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Creating beauty out of waste

Buthelezi has been a regular and popular exhibitor on the South African art circuit for years, and has garnered positive attention from international galleries and art schools.

South African artist Mbongeni Buthelezi recycles plastic litter, adds some heat and melts it all on to his canvases to create some of the most audacious pieces of art.

A regular exhibitor on the local and international art scenes for almost 20 years, he has been hailed as one of South Africa's most innovative artists.

"I (use rubbish to) create something beautiful from it. I collect something that has no value and give it new life. That's what we can do with ourselves and our lives," is how

Buthelezi introduces himself on his website portfolio, and for years he's made a name for himself as one of South Africa's boldest and most original artists.

He chose to work with plastic during his art school days as a way to draw attention to the medium and as a way to stand out in the often crowded local art scene. The combination of the tangible method of sculpting plastic on to canvas was also a way for him to work through his creative process.

Buthelezi has garnered positive attention from international galleries and art schools. Art lovers are intrigued by his use of discarded



consumer plastic in crafting vibrant and engrossing African story-portraits. In these works, he makes bold statements about the world as he sees it, addressing social and environmental issues.

In 2010, the *Live Out Loud* website said Buthelezi's work "reflects humanity's often detrimental impact on the environment, but his original use of discarded objects to depict an often forgotten group of people truly sets him apart".

His artistic process involves melting down strips of coloured plastic on to the canvas surface, itself often also made from plastic. He understates the creation process as simple and haphazard, but the final Pollockesque pieces speak for themselves, enjoyable and provocative on all levels, from all distances.

Buthelezi may be the only artist – that he knows of – who works in this medium, but he appreciates this singularity as it doesn't give him an outside point of reference that may hinder his originality.

Yet, he still believes the melted plastic method is a way to make art creation easily available to anyone who wants to experiment,

Art lovers are intrigued by his use of discarded consumer plastic in crafting vibrant and engrossing African story-portraits. In these works, he makes bold statements about the world as he sees it, addressing social and environmental issues.

but who may not be able to access or afford traditional art materials. "(Anyone) can gather waste plastic and start painting," he says, "and construct something out of nothing".

When it comes to appreciating the role art has played in his life, Buthelezi is philosophical, seeing himself as "a mirror for the society I live in, and I want to make a meaningful impact on that society".

In addition to being recognised with a number of local art awards during his career, including semi-finalist in the 2007 Sasol Wax Art Awards, Buthelezi has also won a Visi Design Award and a *Mail & Guardian* Green Trust Award for "commitment and

contributions to the environment (with) social conscience and creativity".

Born in 1965 in Johannesburg, Buthelezi is artist-in-residence at the Omni International Arts Centre in New York City and for the South African National Arts Festival.

He has exhibited in Germany, the United States of America and the Netherlands, and has been commissioned to make exclusive works by companies such as Mercedes Benz South Africa and the Daimler Art Collection in Stuttgart, Germany. www.medioclubsouthafrica.com



Swan Lake: South African adaptation enthraling the world



After wowing South African audiences in 2010, Dada Masilo's *Swan Lake* is enthraling the rest of the world. Combining traditional ballet with African dance, the performance has been described as fresh, upbeat, innovative and diverse. It sensitively deals with issues such as homophobia and apartheid's legacy. A troupe of South African ballet dancers has given a local twist to the *Swan Lake* story. It was commissioned by, and premièred at the National Arts Festival in South Africa in 2010. Now, the 13-strong dance company is touring the rest of the world, captivating audiences.

Choreographed by Dada Masilo, the ballet combines classical movements with African dance. In Masilo's take, Prince Siegfried doesn't fall in love with Odette, who is under a sorcerer's curse and transforms into a white swan at sunrise every day. He falls for a male

black swan, Odile, an attraction that has fatal consequences.

"Homophobia, forced marriages, the legacy of apartheid and the ravages of AIDS are evoked with humour, sensitivity and lucid intelligence in a vigorous work of astounding beauty," reads the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust website.

Masilo studied at the Performing Arts Research and Training Studios (Parts) in Brussels from 2005 to 2006. She also trained at the Dance Factory in Johannesburg and established her reputation as one of South Africa's most renowned choreographers.


Masilo's *Swan Lake* is currently touring the United States of America, after touring the United Kingdom, to rave reviews.

"Dada Masilo's new version stands apart from so many others not only for the fresh and fast-paced style that comes with the addition of African dance, comic theatre and carnival, but for her wit and seriousness in handling the

original ballet's themes." – Judith Mackrell, *The Guardian*.

"The ballet boasts incredible energy, attitude, innovation and diversity rarely seen in a typical ballet, all without sacrificing an engaging story and superb technique.

"One can't help but offer a standing ovation to the bravery and ingenuity of a true artist and her incredible team." – Olga El, *Broadway World*. Its politics are simple – against homophobia – and its manner is friendly, even near the start, when it makes fun of ballet conventions with broad narration about 'surplus girls in the moonlight'." – Brian Seibert, *New York Times*.

"Masilo's brilliance lies in her ability to effortlessly weave the threads of so many themes – gender politics, art and artifice, the universality of the broken heart — into such strong and vibrant cloth." – Natasha Gauthier, *Ottawa Citizen*. 

Source: Media Club South Africa



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 - Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner

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Be part of the transformation!



South African classic jazz revitalised

From the earliest colonial days until now, South African music has been created out of the mingling of local ideas and forms with those from outside the country, giving it all a special twist that gives it the unmistakable South African flavour.



Old and new musical worlds, jazz and hip-hop came together in *Songs from Jazztown*, a musical tribute to South Africa's iconic jazz artists.

Directed by James Ngcobo, *Songs from Jazztown* ran from 17 November to 20 December 2015 at Joburg's Market Theatre.

Brand South Africa partnered with the Market Theatre for this production to highlight the role of South African music in building the country's nation brand, and encourage young citizens to play their part and honing their artistic skills. According to the Market Theatre website, the production premiered in



the Eastern Cape in 2014 with support from the Department of Arts and Culture's Touring Venture Fund. "It received a great reception by tapping into the old sound that was such a hit in the 50s."

The show was refreshed with hip-hop artists narrating the story, encouraging younger audiences to experience classic jazz music in a reinvigorated format.

Some of the legendary musicians featured in this end-of-year musical celebration included jazz greats Dolly Rathebe, Miriam Makeba, Gibson Kente and many more.

"We wanted to immerse ourselves in the beautifully haunting sounds they orchestrated and to say we remember them and their contribution to the South African songbook,"


said Ngcobo. "In musical departments around the country, young people sit in lecture rooms and witness the brilliance of these composers, which is why we also want to give these young singers that we have cast a chance to sing the songs of yesteryear.

"We are making theatre in South Africa and that means we have a deep well that we drink from, which inspires us to forge new and exciting narratives." Performing these classic numbers were Asanda Bam, making her debut at the Market Theatre, as well as Gugu Shezi, Tshepiso Mashego and Nomfundo Dlamini.

The story of South African music is one of dialogue with imported forms, and varying degrees of hybridisation over the years. From

the earliest colonial days until now, South African music has been created out of the mingling of local ideas and forms with those from outside the country, giving it all a special twist that gives it the unmistakable South African flavour.

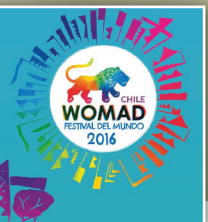
In the 1950s, the old strains of marabi and kwela had begun to coalesce into what is broadly referred to as mbaqanga, a mode of African-inflected jazz that had various practitioners. Singing stars such as Makeba, Rathebe and Letta Mbulu gained fanatical followings.

It was also a time for the first meaningful cultural and social interactions between various race groups in South Africa. 

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The Soil rocks Santiago during WOMAD festival

By Mvuyo Mhangwane

Counsellor – Political, South African Embassy, Santiago de Chile

South Africa's acapella group, The Soil, gave an outstanding performance when the trio (Buhlebendalo Mda and biological brothers, Luphinda and Ntsika Ngxanga) took the stage at the three-day WOMAD (World of Music, Arts and Dance) music festival in Santiago, Chile, from 12 to 14 February 2016.

WOMAD was founded in 1980 by, among others, English rock legend Peter Gabriel. In general, musical groups from different countries and continents are invited to perform in one venue with a view to utilising the power of music to foster love, unity, understanding and tolerance in the world. As and when sponsorship is secured, the festival is taken to different parts of the world.

The first WOMAD festival was in Shepton Mallet, United Kingdom, in 1982 where the audience saw, among others, Peter Gabriel, Don Cherry, The Beat, Drummers of Burundi, Echo & The Bunnymen, Imrat Khan, Prince Nico Mbarga, Simple Minds, Suns of Arqa, The Chieftains and Ekome performing. Since

1982, WOMAD festivals have travelled all over the world, bringing artists to numerous locations and entertaining over one million people.

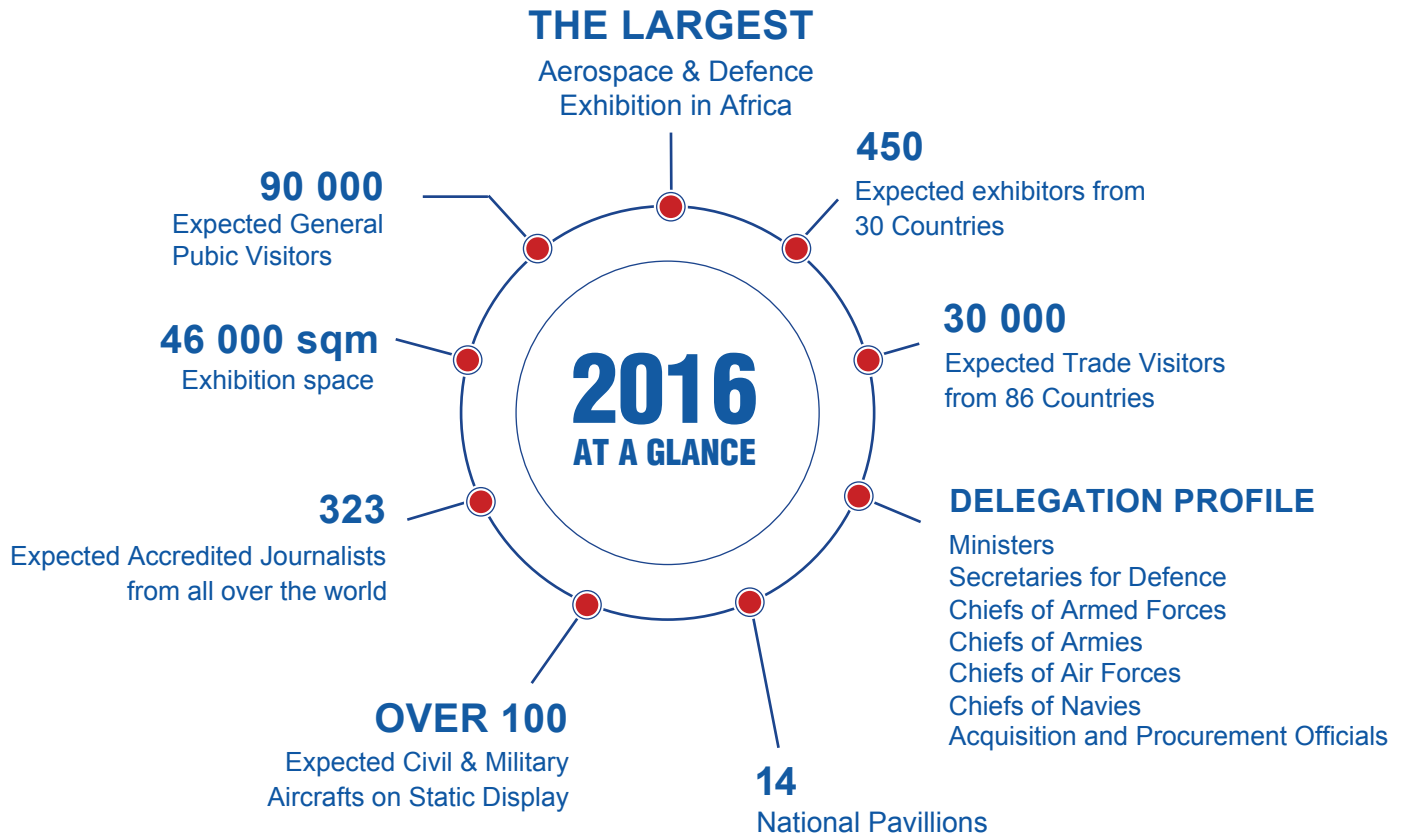
In Santiago, WOMAD 2016 featured 22 artists from 15 different countries. Apart from Chile and South Africa, other artists were drawn from countries such as Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania, Canada, Russia, Spain, Poland, Belarus, Palestine, Argentine, Brazil and Columbia. This is the second successive time that Chile hosted WOMAD and in both cases there has been a South African group featured. The legendary Mahotella Queens performed in 2015. Commenting about the group's invitation to WOMAD 2016, Luphinda, said: "We are honoured to be part of this great WOMAD festival which is great testimony to the universal power of music. We are grateful that the organisers and the audience were so impressed by the performance of Mahotella Queens in 2015 that they decided to include another South African group in this formidable universal line-up." Buhle added that they would ensure that they "hoist the country's flag, and indeed that of the continent, high".

And hoist it very high they indeed did with aplomb. It was heartening to observe the largely Spanish-speaking audience who did not understand most of the songs, which are in indigenous South African languages and English, making an effort to enthusiastically sing along when asked to. The group also received a positive response whenever they asked the audience to join them in doing some South African dance moves.

After the performance, Ntsika assured the South Africans who met them back stage that the group would definitely return to Chile in a year or so and perform in different parts of the country. He summed up the trio's (heartfelt) view when he said: "We were overwhelmed by the warmth of the Chilean people and zealous response to our music. We feel we owe them a longer tour, especially given the positive reviews that we got about other South African groups that performed in the country in 2015 – Mahotella Queens and Soweto Gospel Choir".

For those of us who are South Africans based in Chile, we can only say, Bring it on and Thatha "The Soil" Thatha! 🇿🇦

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This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Soweto Uprising on 16 June 1976. The day is commemorated annually in South Africa as Youth Day. On 16 June 1976, more than 15 000 students gathered at Orlando West Secondary School with the intention of participating in a peaceful march to the nearby Orlando Stadium. The demonstration was planned in protest against the use of Afrikaans as the medium of instruction at schools. However, the police and armed forces responded to the protest violently and the first fatality of the day was Hector Pieterse, a 12-year-old pupil who was shot by the police. It is believed that 175 others were also killed that day. This violent backlash to what was meant to be a peaceful march caught the attention of the international community. After this event, many countries imposed sanctions on South Africa in an attempt to force the apartheid government to ease its repressive rule.



R LIVES