

UBUNTU magazine – issue 17 South Africa's Public Diplomacy in action

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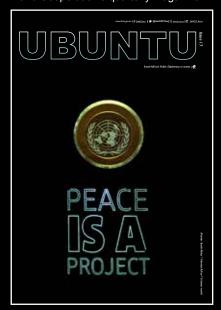




UBUNTU

a Nguni word meaning humanity

The Department of International Relations
and Cooperation's quarterly magazine



ON THE COVER

South Africa was elected to the Non-Permanent Seat in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on 8 June 2018 and started its tenure on 1 January 2019.

This is South Africa's third term on the UNSC, having previously served from 2007 to 2008 and 2011 to 2012.

The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Lindiwe Sisulu, said South Africa's tenure in the UNSC would be dedicated to the legacy of President Nelson Mandela and his commitment to peace.

"South Africa will use its tenure in the Security Council to promote the maintenance of international peace and security through advocating for the peaceful settlement of disputes and inclusive dialogue. We will continue to enhance close cooperation between the UNSC and other regional and subregional organisations.

"South Africa's diplomatic efforts over the past two decades include conflict resolution, prevention, mediation, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. We firmly believe that, while we must strengthen the tools at the Security Council's disposal in addressing conflicts as they arise, the focus should be on preventative diplomacy and on addressing the root causes of conflicts"

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In every issue



Ushering in a second decade of BRICS strategic cooperation



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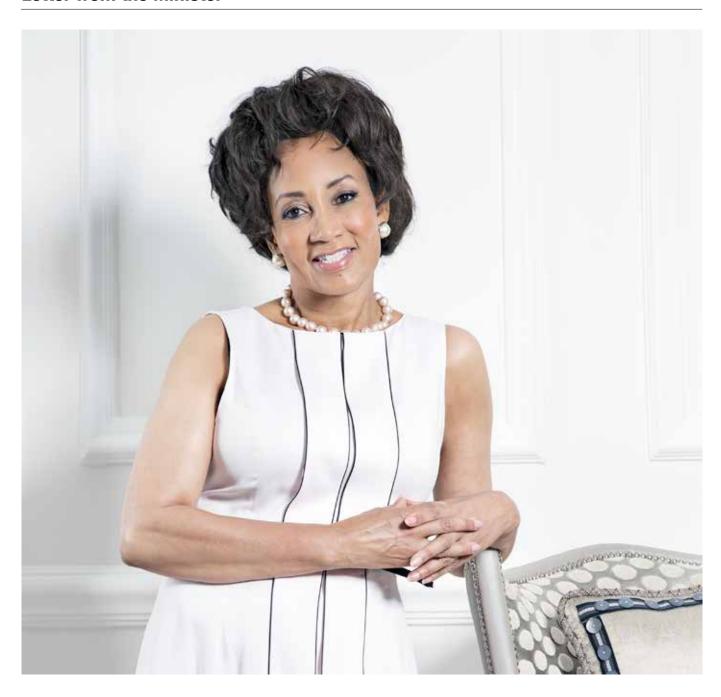
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Letter from the Minister



outh Africa needs to develop a foreign policy stance that strengthens the bridging role it has played over the last 25 years between the different global blocs, premised on a largely independent foreign policy orientation.

This will allow South Africa to contribute to strengthening and democratising the global multilateral system so that it fosters peace, stability, prosperity, equality and human rights for all people, especially in Africa, and work towards establishing equality between countries. Equality, democracy and prosperity within countries cannot be established without working towards equality between countries.

We are guided by our domestic priorities and aspirations in the formulation and consequent implementation of an independent and democratic foreign policy, which is premised on the values of our Constitution. Our aspirations, which are encapsulated in the National Development Plan Vision 2030, provide an overarching vision that guides our foreign policy imperatives and our international relations programme. Our work reflects the importance of improving the living conditions of our fellow Africans on the continent as well as creating conditions for human fulfilment across the globe.

Our purview of work is increasingly challenging, considering the turmoil in the international environment, which has in the recent past witnessed efforts to entrench protectionism and elitism in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. While the said era has its advantages, we cannot shy away from the reality that it has demonstrated the potential to further alienate the majority of the poor worldwide and for that reason we must proactively manage its effects.

We can only leverage its opportunities and avert compounding the persistent economic hardships by investing in our people and ensuring that Africa is not left behind as the digital era further evolves.

We must also be conscious that our continent and the region will progress towards improved manufacturing capacities and reduce its dependence on exporting raw materials only to buy furnished products later at higher prices. This perpetuation of neocolonial relations undermines our continental and regional efforts to bolster prosperity through product value and increased intra-Africa trade.

We must double our efforts to counter the effects of an unpredictable and economically sluggish environment. We remain cognisant of the fact that the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is our immediate and biggest trade partner and that our future is intertwined with that of the 16 member states comprising this regional economic community and the continent.

SADC's integration agenda is anchored in two tracks, political and security integration and economic integration, and to this effect, has developed economic and strategic blueprints to advance regional economic integration.

In a similar vein, our objectives of regional integration within SADC are also intertwined with our objectives of the African Union (AU) and enhancing the African Agenda. The adoption and launch of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA), as well as the signing of the Kigali Declaration on 21 March 2017, took us a step closer towards regional and continentally integrated economy. Similarly, SADC-East African Community-Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA), anchored in market integration, infrastructure development and industrial development, saw the TFTA Agreement signed by 22 out of 26 member countries, including South Africa, signing on 7 July 2017 in Kampala, Uganda.

Overall, the SADC region remains politically stable although we shall continue to impress on partners and work with them to consolidate democracy and peace for development.

Our partnerships and formations within the broader South-South relations are historic and remain important. In furthering our economic imperatives, the world's leading emerging economies, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) continued to be the leading sources of foreign direct investment (FDI) among emerging investor countries, as flows from these five economies rose from US\$7billion in 2000 to US\$145 billion in 2012, accounting for 10% of the world total

The BRICS formation has become a formidable force not only in geopolitical affairs. The establishment of the BRICS New Development Bank, which was first deliberated by BRICS leaders at the Fifth BRICS Summit, held in South Africa in 2013, is a clear indication that BRICS countries are firm in their determination to reform the global financial architecture. Reform of the global financial infrastructure was agreed to by all countries in Agenda 2030, and it is appropriate that South Africa, through BRICS, continues to keep this important aspect of the Sustainable Development Goals on the global

We assumed Chairship of BRICS for the second time since being invited to join in 2011 on 1 January 2018 and concluded this role on 31 December 2018. We sought to build on the legacy of our hosting of the 2013 Summit and quicken the pace towards strengthening relations between BRICS and the African continent. The seminal 10th BRICS Summit was chaired by President Cyril Ramaphosa at the Sandton International Convention Centre in Gauteng from 25 to 27 July 2018 under the theme: "BRICS in Africa: Collaboration for Inclusive Growth and Shared Prosperity in the 4th Industrial Revolution", and saw the participation of all BRICS leaders. The summit was also attended by leaders invited for the BRICS-Plus Dialogue, namely Argentina, Jamaica and Turkey and heads of state and government invited for the Africa Outreach Dialogue, namely Rwanda, Uganda, Togo, Gabon, Madagascar, Senegal, Namibia, Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana, as well as representatives from Lesotho, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Tanzania and Sevchelles.

The summit was an occasion for the BRICS leaders to re-emphasise the importance of global collaboration by all countries on the basis of equality within a reformed and democratised global public order, including a more democratic United Nations (UN), inclusive of the UN Security Council (SC) and related multilateral institutions.

With regard to the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), South Africa assumed the Chair of the association for the period October 2017 until October 2019. This provides us with an opportunity to build on the Jakarta Summit outcomes and propel the implementation of the IORA Action Plan (2017 - 2021). Importantly, we focussed and will continue to do so, on enhancing the institutional mechanisms necessary to advance important priorities for South Africa and the region. These include but are not limited to women's economic empowerment, maritime safety and security, the Blue Economy and tourism.

Our bilateral relations with countries in the region, the continent, the Global South and

the North continue to grow and strengthen within the difficult economic climate.

Our bilateral relations have served as a key driver of Economic Diplomacy and yielded tangible dividends for the South African economy. The southern African region continues to be of great importance to South Africa, not only politically, but more so in the area of trade and economic development. In 2016, South Africa's trade with the region amounted to R336 billion, which is estimated to be more that 70% of the total trade with

Furthermore, Western Europe accounted for about 25% of South Africa's total global trade in 2016 and remained South Africa's largest source of FDI. Both the United States of America and Canada continue to be important trade and investment partners for South Africa.

Our strengthened relations with Asia and the Middle East countries are evidenced by the increase in our diplomatic presence in the region. Comparatively, we had a mere six missions in 1994 and 10 years later. South Africa had diplomatic relations with all 57 countries in the region, with 32 missions.

Consequently, in 1994, South Africa's total trade in the region stood at approximately R5 billion for the Middle East and R40 billon for Asia. In 2014, this figure grew rapidly and substantially to R760 billion for Asia and R116 billion for the Middle Fast

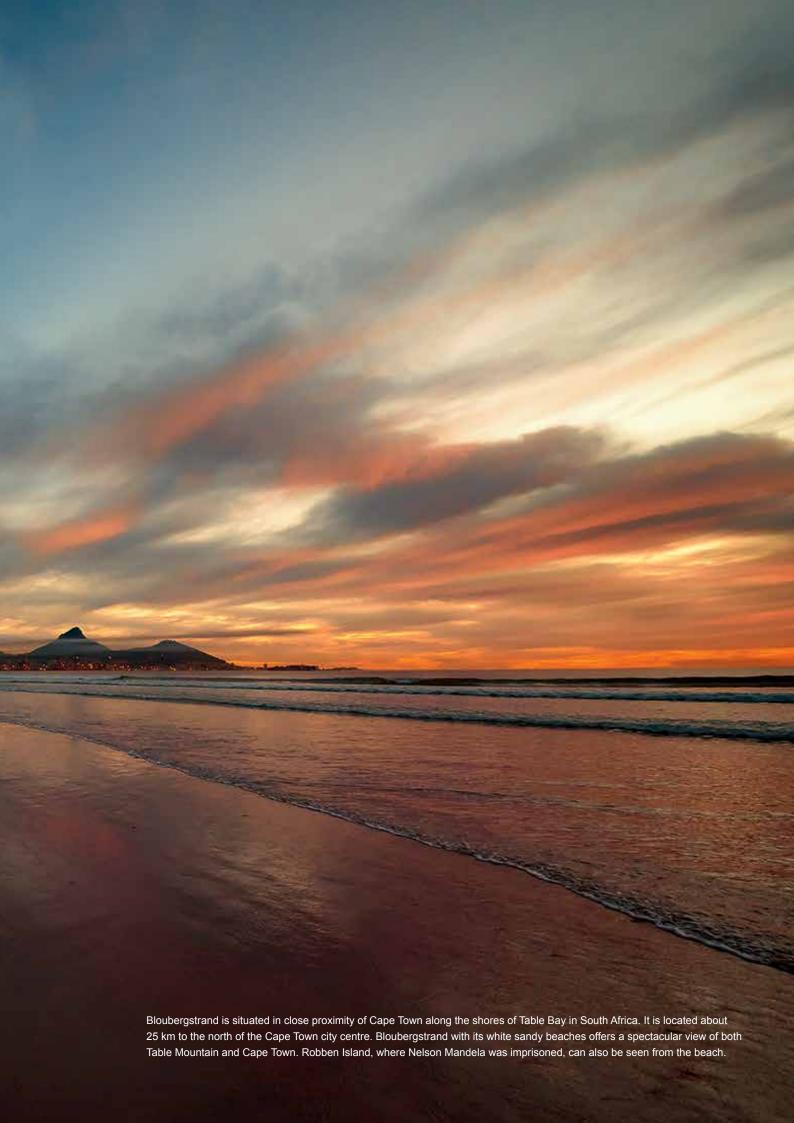
We are therefore committed to advance this objective during our tenure at the UNSC as a non-permanent member from 2019 to 2020. We intend to use our third tenure to promote the maintenance of international peace and security through advocating for the peaceful settlement of disputes and inclusive dialogue and to advocate for close cooperation between the UNSC and other regional and subregional organisations.

We will continue to provide information about our work and the benefits our country derive from our international engagements in platforms such as this publication. Work that we proudly continue to undertake for the betterment of humanity.

We will continue to ensure that South Africa strengthens its role in peace-building, democratisation and the creation of an equitable world.

Lindiwe Sisulu Minister of International Relations and Cooperation







outh Africa's foreign policy has been topical of late, following the country's successful campaign to return to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in the non-permanent category for an unprecedented third time.

The country's voting patterns at the UN Human Rights Council and some UN committees, as well as how we respond to various geopolitical issues, have sparked interesting debates.

As we enter 2019, it is worth looking back at what South African diplomats under the leadership of Minister Lindiwe Sisulu have been up to.

The UNSC is one of the six principal organs of the UN and is charged with the maintenance of international peace and security as well as accepting new members and approving any changes to its charter. Its powers include peacekeeping operations, international sanctions and military action through SC resolutions. It is the only UN body that issues binding resolutions to member states. From 1 January 2019, South Africa occupies a seat on the council for two years. This is not a small achievement.

In 2018, South Africa chaired the 16-member Southern African Development Community (SADC), co-chaired with China the Forum for China-Africa Cooperation, continued to chair the 21-member Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and chaired the Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) formation.

Our role as Chair of IORA is important for a number of reasons. Firstly, the membership of the association accounts for nearly one-third of the world's population (2,6 billion). Half of the world's trade travels through this region. In addition, the Indian Ocean has a variety of natural resources that are vital to the wellbeing of those living in the area, to safe trade and environmental stability.

Secondly, the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition that will continue to 2020, coincides with South Africa's tenure as Chair of IORA. To this end, South Africa will use its role to facilitate the participation of African countries in the ocean research expedition, to use the expedition to build human capacity in South Africa and on the African continent, and facilitate the establishment of African regional training and research institutions as part of our legacy as Chair of the association.

The last SADC Summit we hosted took a number of historic decisions. One such decision was the admission of the Union of Comoros as the 16th member of the regional body. The fact that more states want to join SADC is an affirmation of the attraction and effectiveness of our regional organisation. We remain firm in our pursuit of peace and stability as well as shared growth and prosperity.

South Africa continues to play a key role in the African Union (AU) and the UN.

In the AU, we are involved as part of continental efforts to "silence the guns" and bring about lasting peace and prosperity in conflict situations such as those in South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo

In the UN, we still look back with satisfaction at our tenure as Chair of the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Board of Governors. The IAEA is a multilateral body with the responsibility to promote the safe and secure use of nuclear science and technology for peace, security and development.

South Africa presided over the IAEA Board of Governors at a time when the global peace and security environment was characterised by heightened tensions and uncertainties.

South Africa is highly regarded by the IAEA because of the development of its peaceful nuclear programme. Through the power plant at Koeberg, the country generates 5% of its electricity supply from nuclear.

South Africa is the second-largest producer of medical isotopes, which are used in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

Minister Sisulu has instructed that one of the barometers to be used to gauge the effectiveness of our foreign policy endeavours is how we contribute to our government's apex strategy, the National Development Plan. The plan sets out a long-term vision that seeks to address the challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality, and puts South Africa on a path to long-term development and prosperity.

The southern African region remains the primary destination for South African exports.

At the last count, the region accounted for more than R336 billion, or 77,17%, of our total African trade

In 1994, trade between South Africa and the rest of Africa stood at R11.4 billon. As at December 2016, South Africa's total trade with Africa stood at R436 billion.

According to the report, Africa Economic Outlook 2017: Entrepreneurship Industrialisation, published by the African Development Bank and the UN Development Programme, "the continent has made steady progress in governance and management of public institutions and resources, and continues to do so".

"Relative to the past, Africa now enjoys better ratings on democratic governance and the rule of law, which are critical to nationbuilding and policy consensus."

Furthermore, the report notes: "Over the past two decades, the value of trade between Africa and the world has quadrupled. Today, the continent's trading partners are also more geographically diverse, and regional cooperation is building momentum."

"This is because African countries have adopted more open policies, invested in infrastructure and continued to pursue regional integration."

President Cyril Ramaphosa and Minister Sisulu always remind us that the future of South Africa is inextricably linked to that of our region and continent.

For that reason, South African diplomats will continue championing the African Agenda through all the international forums that we lead, and look forward to more successes, working towards realising our vision of "a better South Africa, a better Africa and a better world".

We firmly believe that we have succeeded during the course of 2018 to elevate our country's stature internationally remaining true to our principles. U

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South Africa has what it takes to compete on the world stage

In the midst of global uncertainty, we are fortunate to have at the helm of our diplomatic service an experienced and capable corps of people who can be relied upon to steadfastly promote our progressive international agenda.

By President Cyril Ramaphosa

e strive to advance our national interest in a global landscape that is in a constant state of flux, where political, social and economic forces beyond our control have a direct bearing on our efforts.

Like any other country, South Africa is not immune to tremors in the global economy or to shifts in geopolitics.

In the midst of global uncertainty, we are fortunate to have at the helm of our diplomatic service an experienced and capable corps of people who can be relied upon to steadfastly promote our progressive international agenda.

In all our efforts, we are guided by the National Development Plan 2030, which provides a roadmap for unleashing the energies of our citizens, growing an inclusive economy, building capabilities and enhancing the ability of the State

At the same time, we wholly identify with the aspirations of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and its vision of "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena".

South Africa and its fortunes are inextricably linked to those of the continent.

In accepting the Nobel Peace Prize in 1961, Inkosi Albert Luthuli said:

"I accept this also as an honour not only to South Africa, but for the whole continent of Africa, to this continent, Mother Africa!"

It was the people of Africa who extended the hand of friendship and solidarity to us during the dark days of apartheid, and today it is African countries who are our valued allies and trade partners.

When Africa falters, South Africa falters. And when Africa prospers, South Africa prospers.

We are guided by the words of Kwame Nkrumah, who said:

"Divided we are weak, united. Africa could become one of the greatest forces for good in the world."

The year 2018 marked the centenaries of two titans of the liberation struggle, Tata Nelson Mandela and Mama Albertina Sisulu.

As we reflected on their respective legacies, we were ever mindful of the sacrifices they and many others made for our liberation.

We carry a weighty responsibility to ensure that their sacrifices were not in vain, and to realise their vision of a South Africa free from discrimination, inequality and want.



Although we have registered notable progress in the 25 years since democracy, we still grapple with the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality.

To address these challenges, government is on an ambitious drive to grow our economy, anchored in cooperation between government, business, labour and civil society.

We want to get our economy going following a period of stagnant growth. We want to regain public and investor trust, and thereby unlock private capital and promote investment.

Above all, we want to see our people secure dignified, meaningful employment to ensure that all South Africans benefit from economic growth.

We recently held the South Africa Investment Conference in Johannesburg, a critical intervention to showcase opportunities for both domestic and foreign investors.

The conference was an integral part of government's ambitious drive to raise US\$100 billion in new investment over five years, stimulate economic growth and create jobs.

The conference discussed opportunities sectors like agriculture, minerals, manufacturing, transportation, energy, water, information and communications technology, tourism and film.

The Heads of Mission Conference, which was held from 21 to 25 October 2018, took place at an important moment as our diplomats must play a pivotal role in driving the message that South Africa is open for business

It is our missions abroad that are leading our Economic Diplomacy, who need to ensure that the outcomes of the conference are conveyed around the world, and who are responsible for assisting the expansion of trade and investment links with partner countries.

The Investment Conference followed the successful Jobs Summit held earlier in October 2018, where more than 70 interventions were identified to protect existing jobs and create new ones.

The framework agreement adopted by social partners at the summit focusses on empowering women and the youth, stimulating demand in the local economy and expanding our export capacity.

The summit agreed that the "Buy South Africa" should be significantly upscaled and that we should take advantage of new opportunities in Africa through regional and continental integration.

As part of our investment-friendly approach, we are focussing on addressing structural weaknesses in the economy, rebuilding investor confidence, restoring good governance in public institutions and creating a supportive environment for those who want to invest and those who have invested already.

South Africa's advanced infrastructure has long been one of the country's strongest attractions for investors.

As part of the work that we must undertake now to stimulate growth and create employment, we are consolidating our R400-billion Medium Term Expenditure Framework infrastructure budget into an Infrastructure Fund.

This will be used to address infrastructure gaps in areas such as roads, water infrastructure, schools, human settlements and public transport.

Additional resources from development finance institutions, multilateral development banks and private lenders and investors will also be leveraged through this fund.

Over the past few months, we have already achieved a number of milestones in our quest for improved investment, resulting in renewed levels of business confidence.

For example, we have initiated changes to our visa regime to attract more skilled workers and tourists.

Processes to restore confidence in our institutions and organisations of governance are underway.

We are investigating and prosecuting cases of corruption.

The governance and management of key state-owned enterprises are being overhauled to ensure they are held accountable to fulfil their economic and developmental mandates.

Our ability to generate foreign investment in our country depends in large measure on the image of our country abroad, which is one of the core responsibilities of our diplomats.

We must acknowledge that there are some negative perceptions about South Africa, its government and its economy that we need to work to correct. It is important that we should not overlook the challenges we have, nor deny that we are emerging from a period of difficulty. ▶▶

South Africa's third term on the UNSC should build on President Nelson Mandela's legacy of working towards a peaceful, just and prosperous world. We must honour his legacy by serving as a bridge-builder, bringing together divergent perspectives and seeking peaceful resolution of any conflict.

However, it is clear that our democracy is resilient, that we are making progress in addressing the immediate challenges we face, and that we are establishing a foundation for lasting growth and fundamental transformation.

We should locate the South African narrative within the context of a continent that

It is estimated that over the next 20 years the working population of Africa will increase to more than a billion.

Ours is a young, active and increasingly connected continent.

With favourable demographics, high productivity potential and ideal positioning as a springboard into the rest of Africa, our country is an attractive destination for growthseeking investors.

Ranked 61 out of 147 in the World Economic Forum's latest Global Competitiveness Report and as the continent's second-biggest economy, South Africa offers investors the stability of a well-regulated and developed country, an effective legal environment, cost competitiveness and reliable infrastructure.

Our banking system is solid, well capitalised, well-regulated and internationally respected.

There is no doubt that we have a very solid base to work from.

A new future that is highly connected and interdependent

The advent of globalisation heralded a new future that is highly connected and interdependent.

This means that there are a vast set of issues - from climate change to cross-border crime - that cannot be address by individual countries acting alone.

It is only through collective effort, supported by multilateral institutions like the United Nations (UN), that we have been able to address some of our world's most complex challenges.

As we witness the rise of extreme nationalism in some parts of the world, and neo-isolationism takes root in others, it is clear that the need for an effective, rulesbased multilateral system is greater than ever.

The very essence of the UN Charter is respect for international law and the principles of international justice as we seek, as a global collective, to live in harmony, maintain international peace and security and respect the human rights of all.

Good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law are also among the aspirations of Agenda 2063.

If we are to safeguard our security and prosperity, if we are to silence the guns in Africa, we have to work to consolidate rather than erode the international rule of law.

It is international law that informs the exercise and limits of the use of state power, and that enforces cooperation over conflict, and collaboration over confrontation.

The challenge before us is to transform global politics from a power-based hierarchy to a rules-based international system where each country can advance and protect its national interest without provoking animosity.

The centrality of the UN to South Africa's foreign engagement is based both on a strong belief in collective and equitable global governance, but also because of the UN's role in the fight against apartheid.

South Africa enthusiastically embraces its responsibilities as an active member of the

This is particularly the case as South Africa entered the UN Security Council (SC) as a non-permanent member from 2019.

Our election provides us with an opportunity to align the work of the UN with that of the African Union (AU) and to promote the positions we have adopted when we campaigned for this non-permanent seat, including the priorities of Agenda 2063.

South Africa's third term on the UNSC should build on President Nelson Mandela's legacy of working towards a peaceful, just and prosperous world.

We must honour his legacy by serving as a bridge-builder, bringing together divergent perspectives and seeking peaceful resolution of any conflict.

We must continue to campaign for the reform of the UNSC.

The current formation is antiquated, unrepresentative and prejudicial to developing and smaller states

The UNSC remains the primary international organ mandated to promote international peace and security. It is essential that it remains true to its mandate and moves beyond the paralysis brought on by the geopolitical interests of a few member states.

The only way this can happen is if world leaders, including those who represent the permanent members of the UNSC, are bold and courageous and commit to enlarging the council urgently.

Failure to do so will encourage states to start acting unilaterally, with disastrous consequences for all.

As South Africa, we need to pay particular attention to the intersection of the work of the UNSC and that of the Peace and Security Council of the AU.





We should encourage greater cooperation and collaboration to ensure a common approach to ending conflict on the continent.

We will need to continue to be engaged with the ongoing challenges in Lesotho, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, South Sudan, Somalia, Central African Republic, Mali and Libya.

The AU has established and consolidated comprehensive peace and security architecture, which is based on a paradigm that recognises Preventive Diplomacy as central to eradicating conflicts on our continent.

We will use our term in the UNSC to highlight and advance the cause of the Palestinian and Saharawi peoples.

Peace and security in Africa are inextricably linked to its economic and social development.

The most effective way to ensure lasting stability is to achieve economic growth that benefits all of Africa's people.

At the same time, peace and stability are a necessary condition for faster and more inclusive growth.

South Africa played an active role in remodelling the Organisation of African Unity into the AU, specifically with the aim of strengthening Africa's ability to resolve conflict.

We will continue to support the institutional reforms of the AU to ensure that it retains its agility in an ever-changing and complex world

We are resolute that such reforms should conform to the AU Constitutive Act and not betray the Pan-African philosophy of the founding leaders.

Multilateral relations

On multilateral level, 2018 marked the 10th anniversary of the G20 being held at summit level. The meeting took place in the context of uncertainty, increased unilateralism and protectionism by some G20 members.

South Africa will continue to use its membership of the G20 to promote inclusive growth and development and support the Argentinian Presidency in its efforts towards consensus-building and fair and sustainable development.

In July 2018, we successfully hosted the Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) countries, establishing the foundation for a decade of greater cooperation, development and progress.

In addition to reaffirming our shared commitment to multilateralism and the interests of the countries of the global South, we developed an ambitious agenda for cooperation on the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the opportunities provided by rapid advances in technology.

We are also taking the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation towards a strategic partnership, in which China will be a significant partner in developing African infrastructure and promoting regional integration.

South Africa is chairing the Indian Ocean Rim Association, which we view as the preeminent regional organisation linking Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Australasia.

We will focus on uniting the diverse countries that constitute the association

behind an agenda of peace, stability and sustainable development.

An ever-changing and complex global environment

We exist in an ever-changing and complex global environment.

As a country, as a brand, as a trade partner and as an investment destination, South Africa has what it takes to compete on the world stage.

It is up to us to make sure we take full advantage of the opportunities that exist for the benefit of all our people.

We have emerged from a difficult decade, which has dampened confidence and slowed our progress.

As we undertake the critical task of renewal and rebuilding, we draw strength from the knowledge that we stand on the shoulders of giants like Tata Mandela and Mama Sisulu.

Their examples have shown us that we can triumph over adversity. They taught us that the race will never be won until all South Africans are able to lead lives of dignity, in peace and in prosperity.

Their lives provide ample evidence of the limitless potential of the human spirit to persevere and to prevail.

Working together as South Africans - and in concert with partners across the globe we can be certain that we will indeed build a better Africa and a better world. U

The UN must become a representative and truly democratic global parliament of the people



n September 2018, I had the honour to address the United Nations (UN) General Assembly for the first time as President of the Republic of South

It was nearly a quarter of a century since the founding father of our democracy, President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela stood at that podium to declare that:

"The millions across our globe who stand expectant at the gates of hope look to this organisation [the UN], to bring them peace, to bring them life, to bring them a life worth livina."

As we marked the centenary of the birth of this great global leader, we were bound to ask whether the UN has met the needs and the expectations of the millions who stand at the gates of hope.

We are bound to ask what contribution the UN has made to a more peaceful, more prosperous and more equal world.

More importantly, we are called upon to ask - as we did during the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit - what the UN and the assembled global leadership must do to secure lasting peace, reconciliation and stability across the It is within our hands to forge a more representative, equal and fair UN that is empowered and equipped to lead the struggle to end poverty, unemployment and inequality in the world.

By President Cyril Ramaphosa

The Government and the people of South Africa express its the deep gratitude to the international community for convening the Peace Summit to honour the memory of Nelson Mandela and advance his legacy.

We applaud the Political Declaration of the Summit, which recognises the period from 2019 to 2028 as the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace.

This reflects a new and sincere commitment by the world's leaders to comprehensively advance peace and security and resolve all conflicts and wars.

To succeed in giving effect to this commitment, the UN must become what billions of people across the world want it to be - a representative and truly democratic global parliament of the people.

Throughout its seven decades, the UN has been a source of hope for the oppressed, exploited and poor.

During the dark days of colonialism and apartheid, we drew strength, inspiration and encouragement from the UN and its Charter in our quest for self-determination.

With the support of the UN, we were able 25 years ago to bring an end to the nightmare of apartheid.

Nelson Mandela led us to freedom and gave us the great opportunity to transform our

We have embarked on a journey of transformation, and work is in progress to deal with the ugly legacy of apartheid.

Madiba's vision continues to guide us as we seek to improve the lives of our people in many respects, through improving the educational outcomes of our youth and transforming an economy that was constituted to serve the interests of a few.

We have started a comprehensive dialogue on the question of land reform, which We are reforming our economy and creating an environment that is conducive to investment, and have embarked on an investment drive to attract US\$100 billion in the next five years.

is guided by our Constitution and the rule of law as we seek ways to ensure that the land is shared among all who work it, as set out in our Freedom Charter.

Even as our country is going through difficult economic challenges, we have made progress.

We are reforming our economy and creating an environment that is conducive to investment, and have embarked on an investment drive to attract US\$100 billion in the next five years.

To the poor, vulnerable, and marginalised, the UN today is a beacon of promise in a landscape of doubt.

To billions across the world, the UN is the most powerful instrument we possess to achieve a more equal, more humane and more inclusive world.

They are men and women with dreams and aspirations that transcend the hardships of the present, who want to contribute to a new global civilization defined by care, justice and solidarity.

They want an end to the greed, ignorance and conceit that are driving the destruction of our only home, the Earth.

It is within our hands to forge a more representative, equal and fair UN that is empowered and equipped to lead the struggle to end poverty, unemployment and inequality in the world.

We are a young world, where more than half the global population is under the age of 30 years.

This is even more pronounced on the continent of Africa, where two-thirds of its people were not yet born when Nelson Mandela was released from prison.

We are living in the Age of Youth.

This places a responsibility on us, as leaders, not only to put the interests of young people at the centre of our efforts, but also to empower women and young people to be more prominent in directing the course of global affairs.

It is young people who are fighting the wars that we started.

It is women who are bearing the brunt and hardships of the wars that continue to destroy their families and lives.

Young lives are being lost and futures are being destroyed. There is an urgency to the measures we must take to end conflict and war

Not only must we stop the death, destruction and human suffering that are visited daily on millions of people, but we must act with purpose to prevent the loss of another entire generation to its aftermath.

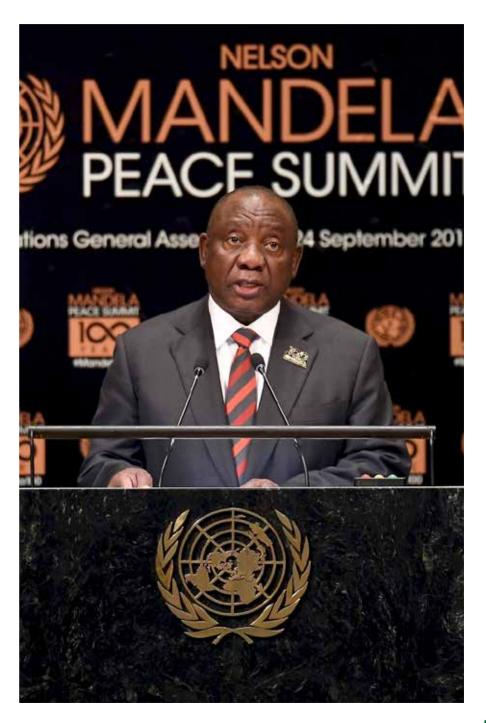
We must accept our shared responsibility and our shared interest - in ending conflict, and, using the outcomes of the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, empower the UN to be a more effective instrument for mediation, peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction.

Our resolve to end ongoing conflicts and our determination to root out terrorism must be matched by action and by the appropriate deployment of resources.

We must act with the same urgency to resolve some of the world's most protracted and intractable disputes.

The fact that the people of Palestine have endured occupation and suffering for nearly as long as the UN has existed, makes their plight no less pressing, nor their suffering any less acceptable.

We must similarly intensify our efforts to secure the right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination and full national sovereignty. >>





One of the greatest challenges to the achievement of global prosperity and development is the continued exclusion of millions of women and young people from meaningful economic participation.

It is therefore vital that we deploy every means at our disposal to address youth unemployment and ensure universal access to educational opportunities that are appropriate to the changing world of work.

We need a deliberate programme to ensure that the digital revolution - which carries such great potential for both disruption and empowerment - is effectively harnessed to promote social justice and human progress.

The call to leave no one behind requires that we strengthen the institutions of global governance and make them more responsive to the needs of young people, particularly in the developing world.

Institutions like the UN, World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organisation need to be reshaped and enhanced so that they may more effectively meet the challenges of the contemporary world and better serve the interests of the poor and marginalised.

Reform of the UN, and particularly its Security Council, is a priority if we are to give full effect to the values and principles enshrined in the UN Charter.

We must resist any and all efforts to undermine the multilateral approach to international trade, which is essential to the promotion of stability and predictability in the global economy.

The history of the global economy informs us that no country can prosper at the expense of all others, and that no people can hope to live in comfort and security for as long as millions of others languish in poverty.

It is therefore essential that we take collective responsibility for the development of all nations and for the improvement of the lives of all people.

This responsibility manifests in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on the financing of development, among others.

Together. thev represent our common commitment to tackle poverty, underdevelopment and environmental degradation.

They represent our common commitment to tackle diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, diabetes and cancer.

Our task as global leaders is to pursue the policies that are required to turn intent into implementation and mobilise the resources needed to turn implementation into impact.

As Africans, we have made significant strides in addressing the challenges that have confronted our continent over many decades.

We continue to vigorously implement our commitments contained in the African Union Agenda 2063, which is our collective plan to rid our continent of underdevelopment, poverty and conflict and improve democratic governance, the rule of law and the promotion of human rights.

We have reached agreement on the establishment of an African Continental Free Trade Area, which will fundamentally transform African economies, giving rise to a new industrial age on the continent.

We are working to silence the guns in Africa by 2020, to bring an end to conflicts that have cost the lives of millions of our people, displaced many more and stunted economic growth and human development.

As the continent with the youngest population in the world, Africa has the potential to be the next great frontier for global growth.

With effective investment in education, improved healthcare, good governance and greater economic integration, Africa has the potential to develop its productive capacity on a scale and at a rate that will lift tens of millions out of poverty.

The youth of Africa are poised to transform their continent.

As the people of South Africa, we are committed to be part of this transformation.

From the ashes of a system that was described by the UN General Assembly as a crime against humanity, we are building a new democratic nation, united in its diversity.

We are working to correct the injustices of our past and to build a society that is free, inclusive and sustainable.

We are pursuing an economic path that draws on the resources and capabilities of all our people to eradicate poverty, unemployment and inequality.

We are determined through our international relations to be a force for progress and peace and global equality, and will continue to advance the interests of the African continent and the Global South.

Nelson Mandela once said: "Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great".

This is not the generation that will stand expectant at the gates of hope. This is the generation that will change the world. This is their time, and this is their age. Let their greatness blossom. U



From 25 to 27 September 2018, President Cyril Ramaphosa participated for the first time in the General Debate of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA73), under the theme: "Making the United Nations Relevant to all People: Global Leadership and Shared Responsibilities for Peaceful, Equitable and Sustainable Societies".

The President's programme commenced with the unveiling of a life-size statue of the late struggle icon and first democratically elected President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, at the UN Headquarters.

Addressing the occasion, President Ramaphosa said the statue would remain a constant reminder to the international community of the dedication of Nelson Mandela to the mission of the UN. It would also be a constant affirmation of South Africa's commitment to contribute to a better world for all.

"President Mandela firmly believed that the UN was the most valuable and effective instrument for the advancement of peace, development and equality that humanity had conceived," said President Ramaphosa.

Also convened in honour of the centenary of the birth of President Mandela was the UN Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, where President Ramaphosa acknowledged efforts of the world body in peacekeeping, while cautioning that the organisation faced intricate and complex challenges.

"Over the past seven decades, millions of people worldwide have been killed, maimed, displaced and starved as a result of war and conflicts. We are called upon to act decisively to end the exposure of women and children to untold suffering including displacement, torture, rape, mutilation and murder," said President Ramaphosa.

In his maiden address to the UNGA. President Ramaphosa urged world leaders to take stock of the effectiveness of the UN and to chart a way forward to improve the organisation's efficiency and relevance by making it more democratic, responsive and transparent.

The President said: "The UN must become what billions of people across the world want it to be – a representative and truly democratic global parliament of the people."

The President strongly defended multilateralism, urging leaders to resist any and all efforts to undermine the multilateral approach to international trade, which is essential to the promotion of stability and predictability in the global economy.

President Ramaphosa drew the attention of world leaders to progress being made in South Africa despite the country's difficult economic challenges. "We are reforming our economy and creating an environment that is conducive to investment, and have embarked on an investment drive to attract US\$100 billion in the next five years."

Turning to land reform, the President said a comprehensive dialogue guided by the Constitution and the rule of law would ultimately provide a resolution. "We have started a comprehensive dialogue on the question of land reform, which is guided by our Constitution and the rule of law as we seek ways to ensure that the land is shared among all who work it, as set out in our Freedom Charter."

President Ramaphosa reiterated previous calls for the UN to reform, particularly the Security Council (SC), which still does not have permanent African representation.

President Ramaphosa also called on the UN to act with urgency to resolve some of the world's most protracted and intractable disputes, particularly that of the people of Palestine who have endured occupation and suffering for nearly as long as the world body has existed

In addition to the UNGA General Debate, President Ramaphosa participated in the UN High-Level Meeting on Tuberculosis (TB). The meeting focussed on efforts to accelerate an end to TB and reach all affected people with prevention and care. "TB is not just a medical condition. It has many social determinants, including poverty, unemployment, poor nutrition, overcrowding and social stigma that fuel the spread of diseases," said President Ramaphosa.

The President also reiterated South Africa's support for the "Key Asks" identified through a consultative process led by the World Health Organisation, Stop TB Partnership, civil society and other interested parties.

"We would like to see the declaration emanating from this High-Level Meeting embracing the "Key Asks" and setting in motion the bold response needed to end the global TB epidemic. Investing in research and development is critical if we are to develop new diagnostics, vaccines and medicines - and find innovative ways to deal with the social determinants of TB and its transmission.

"As South Africa, we look forward to the meeting of the UNGA of 2030 where it should be declared that indeed, we have ended the TB epidemic."

The President also addressed the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) Meeting. The CFR meetings convene government officials, global business leaders and prominent members of the intelligence and foreign-policy community from around the world to discuss international issues.

The President's Working Visit concluded with trade and investment promotion engagements that included the Invest in South Africa Private Roundtable, the Bloomberg Global Business Forum Panel Discussion as well as the Business Seminar on Opportunities in South Africa. These engagements were part of a sustained programme of stimulating interest and attracting foreign direct investment into the South African economy, alongside creating the conditions for greater domestic investment

President Ramaphosa was accompanied by Ministers Lindiwe Sisulu of International Relations and Cooperation; Rob Davies of Trade and Industry; Nosiviwe Mapisa-Ngakula of Defence and Military Veterans; Nhlanhla Nene of Finance; Aaron Motsoaledi of Health; Nathi Mthethwa of Arts and Culture; Siyabonga Cwele of Telecommunications and Postal Services; Naledi Pandor of Higher Education; Dipuo Letsatsi-Duba of State Security; and Gugile Nkwinti of Water and Sanitation. U



Why South Africa is on a path of economic renewal

By President Cyril Ramaphosa

South will celebrate 25 years of democracy, hold its sixth democratic national election and accelerate the process of economic revival and growth.

Over the last quarter century, the country has made remarkable progress in expanding opportunities for its people, most of whom still live with the effects of the apartheid system. Millions of poor South Africans have been provided with houses, social support, electricity and water. The black middle class has grown significantly and access to healthcare and education have been expanded.

However, over the last decade, growth has been slow, progress in several areas has stalled and corruption has undermined key public institutions and state-owned enterprises. More South Africans are employed than ever before, yet our levels of inequality remain among the highest in the

In the last year, we have taken firm measures to correct this. As a result, the country is now emerging from a period of economic stagnation and political uncertainty and has entered a new era of renewal in support of our growth ambitions.

We have a firm foundation on which to build. South Africa's high level of industrialisation, our position as a key manufacturing hub and services destination on the African continent, and our strong financial sector are key drawcards for investors.

Furthermore, we are one of the most technologically resourced countries in Africa. We consistently rank highly in terms of Internet bandwidth capacity and broadband penetration and have some of the highest mobile phone subscription rates on the continent.

Whether it is in mining, manufacturing, agriculture, clothing and textiles, services, tourism or the ocean economy, South Africa's economy is as diverse as it is sophisticated. It is our ambition to diversify our export basket further and move towards higher productivity and enhanced global competitiveness.

We are aware of the critical policy missteps that led our economy to flounder and the effect that corruption and political patronage have had on public confidence.

But the political and economic landscape of South Africa has vastly improved. I have laid out ambitious plans to turn our economy around, restore business confidence, deal decisively with corruption and get our people working again.

We have registered significant gains. As part of an ambitious drive to raise US\$100 billion in new investment in five years, I appointed four investment envoys and assembled a specialised team to mobilise and facilitate investment. Just a few months into this journey, commitments of more than US\$6 billion show investors have confidence in the range of reform measures we have put

Government is working with the local and international business community, labour, civil society and other stakeholders to drive our economic recovery. These social partners have also agreed on a range of actions to create new jobs and protect existing ones.

We promised to restore good governance, deal with corruption and restore faith in our public institutions. Commissions of inquiry have been established to investigate the capture of government institutions and key





rom 25 to 26 March 2019, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) convened Solidarity Conference with Western Sahara at the level of Heads of State and Government at the Department of International Relations and Cooperation in Pretoria. It was a historic and unprecedented event. Although political formations have hosted such important events in the past, we have no collection of an intergovernmental body hosting a conference of this nature.

The conference, which was attended by more than 20 countries, served to remind us of what we have always believed - that until the last colony, the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), is decolonised, none of us are truly free.

The SADC Solidarity Conference with Western Sahara was convened to, among other things, reaffirm the right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination in line with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations (UN) and applicable documents of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and African Union (AU) as well as to champion the implementation of the UN resolutions and OAU and AU decisions to allow the people of Western Sahara to exercise their right to selfdetermination

The conference was the realisation of a formally adopted resolution by and binding on all of us as SADC. This principled decision was initiated by the SADC Council of Ministers in July 2017 in Tanzania. At the 37th SADC Summit following on the Ministerial Conference in August 2017, the convening of the conference on solidarity with the people of Saharawi was adopted by a unanimous decision by all.

We finally came together in the land of Nelson Mandela to clearly demonstrate our international solidarity with the Saharawi people in their quest for self-determination. It is this kind of solidarity and support for the people of Western Sahara that must give courage and impetus to their struggle for selfdetermination.

It is befitting that the Solidarity Conference was held on South African soil because democratic South Africa is itself a product of international solidarity. This happened because many people in the world took a principled position on the need to support our struggle for freedom. The same applied to the support for the struggles of the peoples of Angola, Namibia, Zimbabwe and other countries.

We cannot but be moved by the plight of the Saharawi people.

It has been 43 years since Western Sahara was annexed, and for these four decades the people of Western Sahara have had to ensure dispossession, displacement, conflict and the deprivation of their liberties.

The Saharawi people have lived in refugee camps in Tindouf in Algeria since the 1970s, making this one of the longest humanitarian crises the world has known.

In these camps, men, women and children live in desperate conditions, relying on international aid to survive.

The situation of the Saharawi people is a blight on the human conscience, all the more so that it has endured for far too long.

It is important that we find common ground as we consolidate international solidarity with the Saharawi people to realise their inalienable right to self-determination.

Most of us have attained our freedom, strengthened and assisted by the solidarity of people who cared about our plight.

We knew that every country has an inalienable right to independence and selfdetermination, consistent with the principles of the Charter of the UN and applicable UN Security Council (UNSC) resolutions as well

as the relevant decisions of the AU and its predecessor, the OAU.

The UN has played a significant role and passed many resolutions in raising the plight of the people of Saharawi long before most of us attained our freedom. On 14 December 1960, the UN General Assembly unanimously passed Resolution 1514 (XV), also known as the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. This declaration made it possible in the course of the last 50 years for more than a hundred colonial territories to get independence, as well as several non-self-governing territories and those put under protection to exercise their right to self-determination and independence. Saharawi was one of these.

Since the adoption of Resolution 1514 (XV), a great number of former colonial territories, achieved their independence and are sovereign state members of the UN, carrying out, individually and collectively, their full responsibilities, with a view of implementing the goals and principles of the UN Charter.

Although the UN has taken an active role in this matter, we as SADC members have decided that our solidarity will complement these efforts. For as long as our sister peoples of Western Sahara continue to be denied their inalienable right to self-determination and independence consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the UN, there is no post-colonial Africa. We are now free from colonialism and we call modern Africa, post-colonial Africa. We need to ensure that it is indeed post-colonial in all states, because it is incorrect to repeat regular references to our continent as "post-colonial", when the people of Western Sahara are not free.

The Saharawi people have been fighting for their inalienable right to self-determination for far too long. This notwithstanding the various attempts that have been made by our continental community, mainly by the AU and the OAU as well as the UN, which has long decided that there must be a referendum in Western Sahara.

The first of such attempts was the August 1988 Settlement Plan, accepted by Morocco, that was jointly elaborated by the UN and OAU and endorsed by UNSC in its resolutions 650 of 1990 and 690 of 1991. Furthermore, the UNSC resolutions, particularly resolutions 621 of 1988 and 658 of 1990 approved the holding of a referendum for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

The year 2019 marks 28 years since the signing of the Western Sahara ceasefire agreement, yet the Saharawi people have,

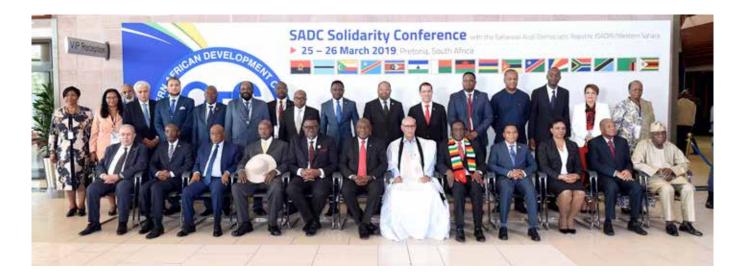
year-in-year-out since then, been denied the opportunity of holding a referendum to decide their future.

The Saharawi people are not asking for something impossible, but, a right to self-determination so that they can take responsibility for their own destiny. They do so because they have a right to it like any other nation in the world. A right that has been recognised in terms of International Law since 1975 when the International Court of Justice provided an advisory note in which it did not recognise Morocco's claim to the land. Since then, there has been a myriad of international resolutions and court judgments that have recognised the Saharawi people's right to self-determination. The time has come to allow them to exercise their legitimate right to self-determination through a referendum.

Our support of the Western Sahara cause is based on several principles, which include, among others:

- multilateralism and international legality in seeking lasting solutions to conflict
- the centrality of the AU and UN in the resolution of conflict
- respect for human rights law in the territories, respect occupied international humanitarian law and support for the provision of humanitarian assistance to Saharawi refugees >>





- an end to the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of Western Sahara in the illegally occupied territory
- the need to respect the various laws of occupation that compel democratic states not to legitimise though its actions, internationally wrongful acts
- our opposition to colonialism, occupation and support for a nation's right to selfdetermination.

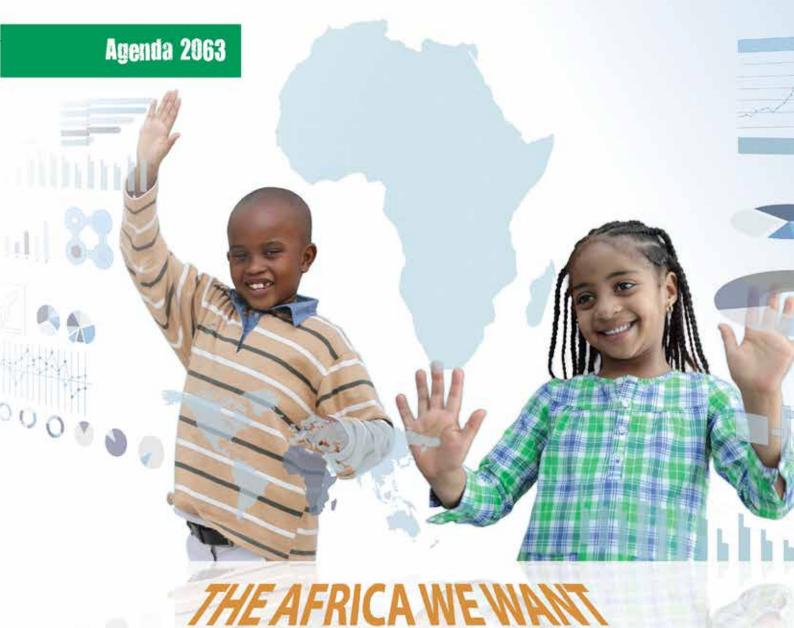
A lasting solution to the Western Sahara conflict has to be found through the UN mechanism in the form of a referendum. The referendum must give the Saharawi people a clear choice, with one of the options being independence in a sovereign state. Anything else will not represent negotiations in good faith. South Africa firmly rejects any attempt to coerce or force the Saharawi people into a pre-determined outcome, or an outcome decided by others at their expense.

The Solidarity Conference reflected our commitment, as the countries of Africa, supported by our friends in the international community, to call for a just, acceptable and lasting solution to the situation in Western Sahara. The pain of the Saharawi people, their trauma brought about by displacement and exile, is ours too.

So long as the aspirations of the people of Western Sahara are not met, we will fall short of realising the vision of the AU's Agenda 2063 of a continent at peace with itself. U

So long as the aspirations of the people of Western Sahara are not met. we will fall short of realising the vision of the AU's Agenda 2063 of a continent at peace with itself.





Our Aspirations for the Africa We Want

- A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
- An integrated continent, politically united, and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism
- An Africa of good governance, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
 - A peaceful and secure Africa
 - An Africa with a strong cultural identity, Common Heritage, values and ethics
- An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential offered by African People, particularly its women and youth, and with well cared for children
 - Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner

Agenda 2063 is gaining momentum. It is time for action.

Be part of the transformation!



SA reaches out to neighbours in distress

he Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Lindiwe Sisulu, on 28 March 2019, travelled to Mozambique and Zimbabwe to hand over donations aimed at assisting victims of Cyclone Idai.

The cyclone left a trail of destruction, displaced hundreds of thousands of people, destroyed vast areas, cut off communication networks and made roads impassable.

Minister Sisulu visited the city of Beira in Mozambique and the Chimanimani District in eastern Zimbabwe to hand over the donations made by South African citizens, companies and members of the Diplomatic Corps, who heeded the earlier call for assistance by the Minister. The donations included financial aid, clothes, water purifiers, non-perishable food items and blankets.

Minister Sisulu also met rescue teams, including the South African National Defence Force (SANDF), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), United Nations (UN) agencies and volunteers.

The Minister was accompanied by members of the business community led by Patrice Motsepe, the founder and executive chairperson of African Rainbow Minerals.

The Minister expressed her sincere gratitude to all the South African companies, NGOs and individuals who have responded, and are still responding, to the call for humanitarian assistance for victims affected by Cyclone Idai in Malawi, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

"We are humbled by the generosity of all South Africans who continue to deliver boxes of goods to the Department of International Relations and Cooperation. This is who we are. This is what Ubuntu is," said Minister Sisulu.

They donated an amount of R120 million towards relief efforts in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. The donations will go towards infrastructure development following the floods in those countries.

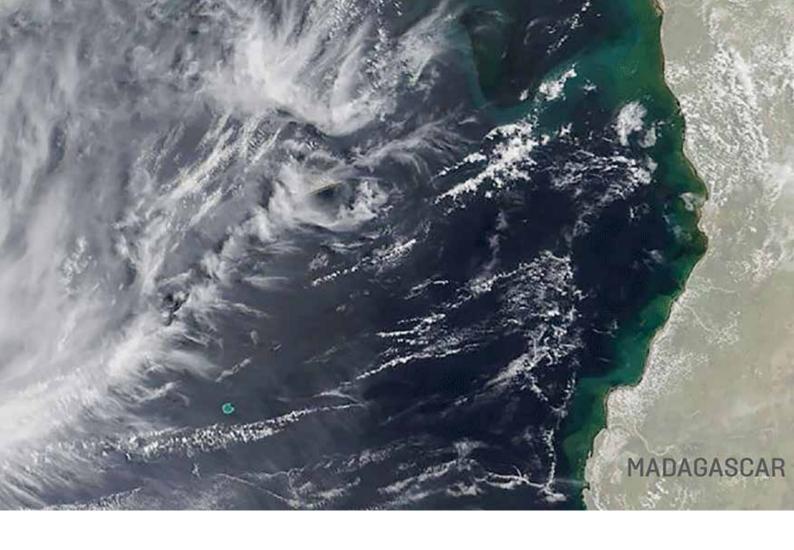
Two weeks before the visit, Minister Sisulu appealed to South Africans, corporate companies and NGOs to make relief donations to the victims of Cyclone Idai.

"As the South African Government, we are humbled by the remarkable response from all South Africans. We have received donations ranging from blankets, mattresses, medical









supplies, water purifiers to food", said Minister Sisulu

"We continue to receive various donations from different sectors of our society, including churches and the private sector.

"We wish to extend our words of appreciation to everyone who has responded to the call to assist our neighbours in need. Working together as a nation, we will succeed in restoring smiles to the faces of the people of Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi", added Minister Sisulu.

Using its air platforms, the SANDF engaged in multilateral efforts to provide lifesaving and sustenance supplies to areas cut off by the devastating cyclone.

The SANDF was critical to all agencies operating in the area in that it provided air-lifts to assist in most low-lying areas, including Beira in Mozambique, which saw entire villages submerged under water, with the death toll rising and many people unaccounted for.

Other international agencies also assisted. The first of three planes carrying relief items from the UN Refugee Agency landed early on Wednesday, 27 March 2019, in the Mozambican capital, Maputo. The supplies - including tents, sleeping mats, mosquito nets and solar lanterns - were distributed to 30 000 people in Mozambique, as well as Malawi and Zimbabwe.

The World Health Organisation provided supplies to treat diarrhoeal diseases and cholera, and helped to set up cholera treatment centres.

In its statement on 27 March 2019, Cabinet expressed its appreciation on the work done by the SANDF, South African Police Service and the Department of Health. It also thanked NGOs and the Gift of the Givers for providing ongoing humanitarian and disaster-relief assistance. U

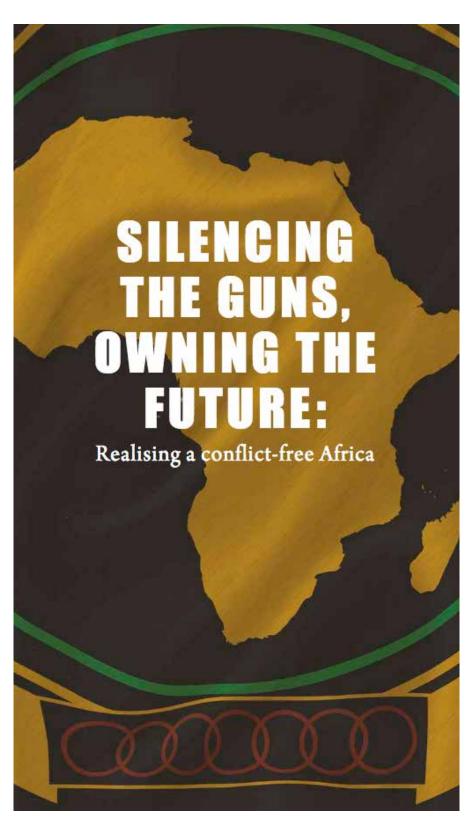
"We are humbled by the generosity of all South Africans who continue to deliver boxes of goods to the Department of International Relations and Cooperation. This is who we are. This is what Ubuntu is," said Minister Sisulu.







Africa rising – African Union's landmark resolutions place the continent on the path to rapid growth and stability



Agenda 2063 is a strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent up to the year 2063, the centenary year of the founding of the AU's predecessor, the Organisation of African Unity.

By Deputy Director-General Xolisa Makaya Department of International Relations and Cooperation

he African Union (AU) Summit, held in July 2017 in Nouakchott, Mauritania, took several important decisions that will place the continent on a path to rapid growth and stability, as envisioned in the AU's long-term vision document, Agenda 2063.

Agenda 2063 is a strategic framework the socio-economic transformation of the continent up to the year 2063, the centenary year of the founding of the AU's predecessor, the Organisation of African Unity. The vision document sets out ways through which African states can collectively accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development.

The Africa Rising narrative has never been more evident than now with the AU's collective commitment to the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement, which will have a farreaching impact on the African economies and significantly increase intra-Africa trade, investment and infrastructure development.

The AfCFTA will integrate Africa, leading to the creation of a single market of over one billion people and approximately US\$3,3 trillion in gross domestic product.

During the summit, President Cyril Ramaphosa signed the AfCFTA, which was ratified by Parliament in December 2018. President Ramaphosa handed in the Instrument of Ratification to the AU Commission during the AU Summit. which took place from 10 to 11 February 2019 in Ethiopia. The agreement is an important step towards South Africa's participation in this market that will create opportunities and many benefits for the country and enable South African companies to export goods and services across the continent. It will contribute to the growth and diversification of our economy and therefore create jobs, as well as reduce inequality and unemployment.

Another landmark resolution adopted at the AU Summit with a view to enhancing Africa's economic development, trade and investment, is the establishment of the AU Development Agency (AUDA). The AU Summit approved the establishment of the AUDA as a technical body of the AU, and requested the AU Commission, in consultation with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Implementation Agency, to develop a statute for AUDA and submit it for adoption at the January 2019 AU Summit.

The NEPAD Agency is responsible for the implementation of the AU's Agenda 2063 and works to support the realisation of various development programmes and initiatives within African countries. The transition from NEPAD to AUDA will be undertaken as part of the establishment of the latter.

These positive developments offer the prospect of a new dawn for Africa.

The unity and renewal of our African continent must be pursued together with efforts to transform the global system. It is within this context that the 10th Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS)

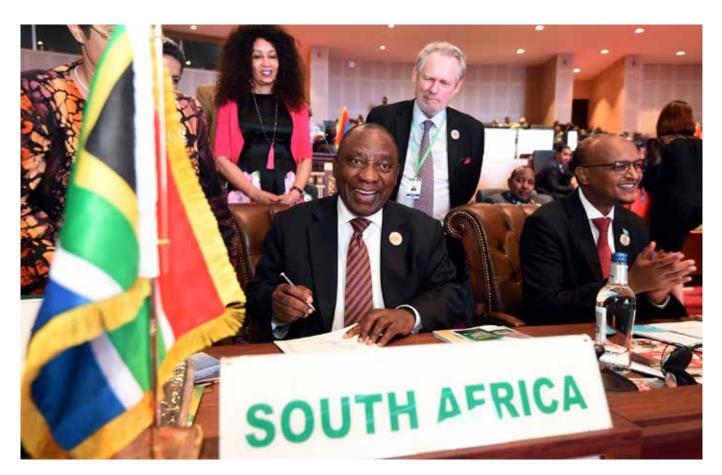
Summit in Sandton, Johannesburg, under our Chairship, hosted an Africa Outreach meeting of selected heads of state and government. This approach was started in Durban when we hosted the BRICS Summit in 2013.

Our view is that we must continue to promote and enhance the implementation of the AU's Agenda 2063 through the BRICS mechanisms, among other routes. In this way, we will be able to improve intra-Africa trade and leverage more on alternative sources of funding that the BRICS New Development Bank provides for infrastructure development and sustainable development. The continent is already benefitting in this regard, particularly in implementing the BRICS-funded AU North-South Development Corridor projects.

An effective, efficient and a financially self-reliant AU is required if the continent is to achieve its goal of integration, development, peace and security. In this regard, the AU Summit discussed various institutional and financial reform measures, which will not only place our continent on the path towards Africa's transformation, but will







also reverse the dependency that hampers the development of the full potential of our continent.

Africa continues to make progress in its quest to mobilise financial resources within the continent through the full implementation of the decision on financing of the AU, adopted in 2016. With the efforts that have been put in place in the fight against corruption and illicit financial flows, Africa can augment and enhance its prospects for adequate selffinancing for its development agenda.

The African continent has become generally politically stable and has over the past 20 years made significant strides in deepening democracy and good governance. Conducting elections has also become regular. Peace and security matters were also high on the agenda of the AU Summit, where the situation in South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Libya and Somalia was discussed. Progress made in the fight against terrorism and extremism on the continent was also raised

The AU Summit adopted two very important resolutions on the AU's Agenda 2063 Flagship Project on Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020. Firstly, member states were urged to mark September as Africa Amnesty Month by mobilising citizens to voluntarily surrender illegally owned weapons. Secondly,

member states were called on to submit reports on their efforts to implement the AU Master Roadmap on Practical Steps to Silence the Guns in Africa by 2020.

The goal of Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020, as contained in Agenda 2063, will coincide with the end of South Africa's twoyear tenure on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Our term as a nonpermanent member of the UNSC is running from January 2019 to December 2020.

Among the priorities South Africa will pursue in the council to achieve this goal will include: addressing the inextricable link between security and development; strengthening political solutions to conflict situations, including through preventive conflict prevention diplomacy, management, mediation and peace-building; and strengthening cooperation between the UNSC and the AU Peace and Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security.

South Africa is fully committed to implementing the decisions taken at the AU Summit. For too long, laudable initiatives have failed to come to fruition as a result of failure to implement. Our leaders are becoming increasingly impatient with delays and procrastinations. U



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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition, provide school meals and build resilience.

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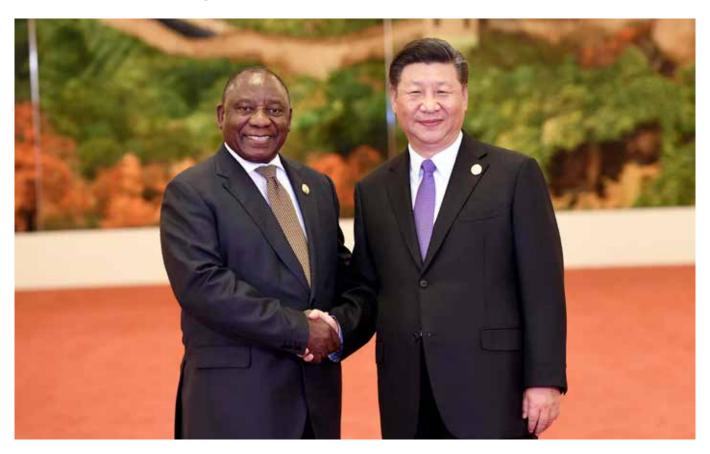
Fighting Hunger Worldwide







Solidifying Africa's ties with China



FOCAC brought together 52 African countries, the African Union Commission and the People's Republic of China, as equal partners in fostering greater unity and cooperation.

By Dr Anil Sooklal

Department of International Relations and Cooperation

Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Summit took place in Beijing from 3 to 4 September 2018 under the theme: "China and Africa: Towards an Even Stronger Community with a Shared Future through Win-Win Cooperation".

The event was co-chaired by President Cyril Ramaphosa and China's President Xi Jinping. At the summit's conclusion, South Africa handed over the Co-Chairship of FOCAC to Senegal, having served six years (2012 to 2018) in this role.

FOCAC brought together 52 African countries, the African Union (AU) Commission and the People's Republic of China, as equal partners in fostering greater unity and cooperation.

Founded on the principles of South-South cooperation, the summit provided a basis for mutual benefit and support, while serving as a vehicle through which Africa and China could stimulate growth and unlock new opportunities in trade and cooperation.

The relationship between China and Africa is based on more than just trade: it is a partnership aligned to Africa's development goals, as contained in the AU's Agenda 2063 and the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

FOCAC is a multilateral platform for exchange and cooperation, covering various aspects of politics, trade, economy and culture.

The last FOCAC Summit was held in Johannesburg in 2015. At that event, China

pledged support to Africa's development. President Xi announced the upgrading of the Sino-African Strategic Partnership to a Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership, guided by the principles of "sincerity, real results, affinity and good faith". The announcement included new measures, which were implemented from 2016 to 2018, and were aimed at addressing the three bottlenecks in Africa that are hampering development on the continent: poor infrastructure, lack of skilled personnel and lack of capital sources.

To build the China-Africa Comprehensive Strategic and Cooperative Partnership, China committed itself to implementing 10 cooperation plans - in the areas of industrialisation, agricultural modernisation, infrastructure. financial services, green development, trade and investment facilitation, poverty reduction and public welfare, public health, people-to-people exchanges, and peace and security.

To facilitate the implementation of these measures, China announced the provision of US\$60 billion (R884 billion) for funding support. This included US\$5 billion for grants and zero-interest loans; US\$35 billion for concessional loans and export credit; and US\$5 billion for technical and industrial project funding. Furthermore, an increase of US\$5 billion would be added to the China-Africa Development Fund and Special Loans for the Development of Africa. The China-Africa Fund for Production Capacity Cooperation will be provided with an initial contribution of US\$10 billion.

The summit adopted the new Beijing Action Plan (2019 to 2021), which will chart a new course of China-Africa friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation across various fields in the next three years. The focus will be on political and economic cooperation, social development cooperation, cultural and people exchanges, peace and security, and international cooperation. As partners, China and Africa also aim to strengthen the Belt and Road Initiative, which advances infrastructure and boosts trade.

South Africa envisions a greater focus on institution-building by establishing skills development centres in all of the AU's regional economic communities. This was a key deliverable of the 2018 FOCAC Summit.

During its tenure as Co-Chair, South Africa ensured that infrastructure development initiatives were successfully realised to enhance intra-regional trade and attract trade and investment towards Africa.

A large number of Africa's priority FOCAC projects were either completed or under way. Some of these projects include the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway in Kenya and the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway Project.

On a bilateral level, China is South Africa's largest trading partner, and has been so for nine consecutive years. In 2017, bilateral trade grew by 11,7% to US\$39,17 billion - a more than twentyfold increase from the figure at the start of diplomatic relations.

China has become a major investment partner for South Africa in stimulating economic and social transformation and development. South Africa is the top destination of Chinese investment in Africa, with investments of more than US\$25 billion in accumulative terms

having accrued by June 2017. More than 180 major Chinese enterprises and thousands of small and medium enterprises have been established in the country. In addition, South Africa hosts the largest number of Chinese tourists in Africa, with about 100 000 citizens having visited the country in 2017.

In many areas, the China-Africa partnership has delivered concrete outcomes that are beneficial to Africa. Africa is committed to utilising this partnership to the fullest in terms of market access and business opportunities.

There is also a need to align the partnership with the AU's strategic objectives. In this regard, we look forward to cementing an even stronger China-Africa partnership through win-win cooperation.

In many areas, the China-Africa partnership has delivered concrete outcomes that are beneficial to Africa. Africa is committed to utilising this partnership to the fullest in terms of market access and business opportunities.



Ushering in a second decade of BRICS strategic cooperation



outh Africa hosted a successful 10th Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRICS) Summit from 25 to 27 July 2018 in Sandton under the theme: "BRICS in Africa: Collaboration for Inclusive Growth and Shared Prosperity in the 4th Industrial Revolution". It was attended by the heads of state and government of South Africa, Brazil, Russia, India, China, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Angola, Zambia, Namibia, Senegal, Gabon, Togo, Uganda, Jamaica, Argentina, Turkey, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Tanzania

The BRICS Summit took place during a period when we were commemorating the centenary of the birth of two of South Africa's struggle icons, Tata Nelson Mandela

The agenda of the BRICS Summit was extensive, which was a direct reflection of the diversity and depth of interaction between the five countries.

By President Cyril Ramaphosa

and Mama Albertina Sisulu. The values they represent served as an inspiration for our discussion on key issues affecting the international community, as well as the rich discussion with our outreach partners.

The agenda of the BRICS Summit was extensive, which was a direct reflection of the diversity and depth of interaction between the five countries. We discussed issues of mutual concern aimed at achieving development, economic growth and prosperity, as well as

peace and security. We acknowledged that we had travelled a remarkable path over the course of the last 10 years and we remained committed to growing our economies and improving the lives of our peoples. We also highlighted our commitment to building responsive, inclusive and collective solutions to the world's economic challenges, including poverty, inequality and unemployment.

The BRICS countries are firmly in agreement on the need to safeguard and

and Zimbabwe.

strengthen multilateralism. In this regard, we support the centrality of the United Nations (UN), as the universal multilateral organisation entrusted with the mandate for maintaining international peace and security, advancing global development and promoting and protecting human rights, so as to build a brighter shared future for the global community.

We reiterated in our discussions the strengthening of multilateral institutions of global governance and the need for comprehensive reform of the UN, including the Security Council (SC). We affirmed our commitment to the World Trade Organisation to ensure a rules-based, transparent, nondiscriminatory, open and inclusive multilateral trading system.

We are committed to the full implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals to ensure equitable, inclusive, open, all-round, innovationdriven and sustainable development. We emphasised that the three dimensions of sustainable development - economic, social and environmental - should be addressed in a balanced and integrated manner. We furthermore discussed the importance of strengthening our cooperation to deal with the challenges brought about by climate change and assure the world of our commitment to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

In respect of global security matters, we noted, with concern, the challenges and threats faced by the international community and committed to enhance communication and cooperation among BRICS countries in international fora. In this regard, we also highlighted the need for BRICS countries to enhance cooperation on peacekeeping matters.

It was evident from our discussions that we stood united in our condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever committed and by whomsoever. In this regard, we are committed to countering terrorism in accordance with the principles of international law.

We received a positive report from the BRICS Business Council on their activities since September 2017 and we commended them and the BRICS Business Forum for their collective efforts toward strengthening economic cooperation in infrastructure, manufacturing, energy, agriculture, financial services, e-commerce, alignment of technical standards and skills development.

During our deliberations, we reaffirmed our commitment to BRICS industrial cooperation, including on industrial capacities and policies, new industrial infrastructure and standards, as well as small, micro and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs).

We noted that the notion of the Fourth Industrial Revolution set us on a path to further development in key sectors of information and communications technology (ICT), digitisation and the growth of SMMEs. We therefore committed to jointly seize the myriad of opportunities presented by the Fourth Industrial Revolution. While recognising the potential positive impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, we are also aware of the growth of the criminal misuse of ICTs and in this regard reiterated the need to develop an international universal legally binding instrument on combatting criminal use of ICTs within the UN.

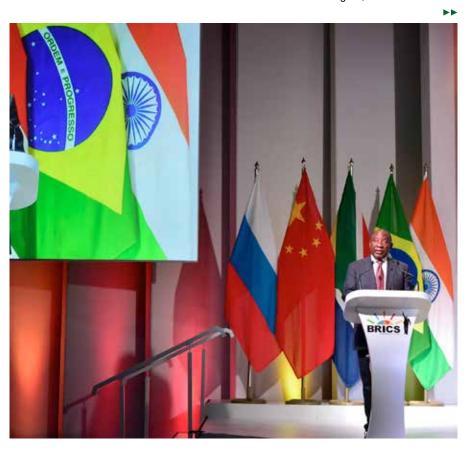
In continuation of the BRICS tradition of Outreach, first initiated by South Africa during its first tenure as BRICS Chair in 2013, the BRICS leaders met with African leaders, including the chairpersons of the African Union (AU) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD); heads of state and government of the recognised regional economic communities and of the AU Commission; as well as with leaders of the Southern African Development Community. Following the BRICS Plus initiative of China in 2017, we also met with leaders of the Global South, namely Argentina as G20 Chair, Jamaica as Caribbean Community Chair and Turkey as Chair of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

In this regard, our discussions represented a continuation of the 2013 BRICS-Africa discussions, wherein BRICS pledged to support African development, industrialisation and infrastructure development, as contained in the NEPAD programmes and the AU's Agenda 2063. There was also discussion around the implementation of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the building of broad partnerships for development. The rationale behind this engagement is to create a platform for greater interaction and partnerships among countries of the Global South to shape the agenda to effect changes in the global economy, notably

- development and economic growth through trade and investment integration
- cooperation in global governance financial, economic and political institutions.

In seeking to improve the lives of our people, we endorsed the initiative of enhancing BRICS cooperation in health through the establishment of a BRICS Vaccine Centre, which is key in the promotion of research and development of medicines and diagnostic tools to end epidemics and facilitate access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines.

Having recognised the potential, inherent in the tourism sector for all the BRICS countries, and the need to foster enhanced people-topeople relations among our five countries, we endorsed the establishment of a BRICS Tourism Track within BRICS. The promotion of tourism is essential to addressing the triple challenges of unemployment, inequality and poverty, which are common to all our countries. In this regard, we welcomed the





establishment of the BRICS Tourism Track as it is key to fostering inclusive and sustainable development.

Women must play an integral role in society, and we dedicated ourselves to ensuring their full participation in the economy and society. The BRICS members are in agreement on the important economic benefit to be derived from the socio-economic empowerment of women, particularly in developing countries. In support of this ideal, we agreed on the establishment of a BRICS Women's Forum.

The following agreements were signed during the course of the summit:

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Collaborative Research on Distributed Ledger and Blockchain Technology in the Context of the Development of the Digital Economy
- MoU on BRICS Regional Aviation Partnership
- · Agreement for Establishment of the Regional Office of the New Development Bank for the Americas in the City of São Paulo, Brazil.

We concluded our deliberations with the adoption of the Johannesburg Declaration and Action Plan, which highlight the great strides that BRICS has made in terms of establishing institutional mechanisms for tangible cooperation. We look forward to strengthening our collaboration as we usher in the second decade of BRICS strategic cooperation. U

We acknowledged that we had travelled a remarkable path over the course of the last 10 years and we remained committed to growing our economies and improving the lives of our peoples.









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For a list of South African diplomatic, consular and other representatives in foreign countries, visit www.dirco.gov.za Issue 17 South Africa's Public Diplomacy in action UBUNTU



Since our humble beginnings at the southernmost tip of Africa in 1915, we have grown into a global internet and entertainment group and one of the largest technology investors in the world. Operating in more than 120 countries and markets with long-term growth potential, we build leading companies that empower people and enrich communities. Today, we run some of the world's leading platforms in internet, video entertainment, and media.

But we have never forgotten our roots.

South Africa is our birthplace and we are proud of our place in a country brimming with



imagination, creativity and innovation. Entrepreneurial spirit is at our heart, and runs deep in our people, wherever they are in the world.

Today, our endeavours attract global talent to build outstanding companies and products used across the world by millions of people every day to improve their lives.

We are committed to telling the stories that shape the world of South Africans, to connecting South Africans to each other and the wider world, to helping people around the world improve their daily lives, and to entertaining audiences with the best of local and global content.

The Naspers story

Naspers was established in 1915 to produce a Dutch-language newspaper. From that starting point, two pivotal moments – both leaps into brave new worlds – redefined the future of its business. Those moments in time triggered the evolution from a print media business into a global internet and entertainment group, and one of the largest technology investors in the world.

The first pivot came in 1985, when Naspers launched M-Net, Africa's first pay television channel. The M-Net vision was forged by a group of energetic young entrepreneurs with a dogged determination to transform the lives of South Africa's viewing public.

This vision would permanently change the face of local broadcasting. Launched at a turbulent time in South African history, many believed that the pivot into paid-for TV was a daring experiment, perhaps even doomed to failure. Decades later, MultiChoice produces and serves the best of local and international content to millions of customers across Africa. And continues to lead innovation in an increasingly digital world.

The second pivot came in 2001, with the truly transformational decision to invest in Tencent, a fledgling Chinese internet company. Tencent remains one of the very best enterprises in the world and we therefore remain firmly committed to the investment. Followed by an investment in Mail.ru in 2006, these early bets in the new world of online lead to a period of intense investment beyond the shores of Africa and into exciting markets as diverse as Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and the Middle East, and Asia.

Today, Naspers companies and investments improve the lives of hundreds of millions people in more than 120 countries and markets across the world. They operate across print and digital media, video entertainment (including the classic pay TV model, digital terrestrial TV, and digital streaming) and the internet, including marketplaces, online classifieds, etail, travel, entertainment, payments and fintech, education technology and food delivery. With nearly 20% of the world's population using the products and services of companies Naspers has built and invested in, and many of these customers using the products of more than one of its companies, the group continues to look for innovative and ambitious founders and businesses to back, particularly those that address big societal needs.



Innovating for a changing world

For over a century, Naspers has steadily grown from its humble beginnings as a small newspaper publisher, by investing in, acquiring and building leading companies with sustainable competitive advantages.

Today, Naspers is a global internet and entertainment group and one of the largest technology investors in the world. But the group stays true to its roots: it continues to back innovative founders and businesses that it believes have the potential to scale beyond their local market. Increasingly, they address big societal needs using technology.

Naspers holds entrepreneurship at its heart. The group constantly looks at the world around it, identifying the changes and shifting trends it believes will shape the needs and behaviours of both local communities and society at large. In recent years, rapid technology innovation has created and connected communities, enabled trade and broken down borders, removed friction and added speed, commoditised knowledge and delivered real-time news, and of course entertained. In short it has played a key role in empowering people and enriching communities. And in todays connected world, the way people think, influence, interact and live continues to evolve in unprecedented, transformational ways.





























A commitment to contributing to the global communities in which we operate

Over the years, Naspers has witnessed countless examples where innovation and entrepreneurial spirit came together to solve unique local challenges and address big societal needs. And as a global company, it recognises the importance of making a positive economic and social contribution to communities in which we operate.

Enriching the lives of South Africans

Off screen, more than 90 000 black South Africans have benefitted from MultiChoice's broad-based black economic empowerment (BBBEE) share scheme, Phuthuma Nathi. A R2 000 investment at scheme launch was worth close to R25 000 in 2016, having yielded a total dividend of R10 000 over that period. The scheme has paid out almost R6.5 billion in dividends since inception, changing the lives of thousands of shareholders. Media24's BBBEE share scheme Welkom Yizani further affords thousands of black South Africans the opportunity to own 15% of the company.

For over 100 years Media24 has produced content through its newspapers, magazines, books, digital media and multimedia that has kept South Africans informed of the world around them. Voted the media company most graduates aspire to work by more than 2 000 graduates, Media24 remains committed to equality, diversity and transformation. And when you consider that Media24's digital platforms have over 12 million daily page views, it's clear this is a company looking ahead to the next 100 years.

MultiChoice is not only the provider of world class TV-programmes, movies, sport, news and documentaries across the African continent, it is also one of the biggest contributors to the growth of the South African film and television industry.

Together with M-Net, it include one the largest funders of local content in Africa and through SuperSport, the biggest funder of sport on the continent. MultiChoice believes in the youth of South Africa, and through its corporate social investment and skills development programmes, helps young people realize their potential in sport, broadcasting, and film-making. Through its flagship corporate social investment programme, Media24 equips young South Africans with digital skills by teaching them how to use digital technologies to research and produce news and information.

As part of its commitment to empowering women, MultiChoice has implemented a Leading Women programme with the Gordon Institute of Business to develop women at a middle to senior management level. Other initiatives include internal leadership development programs, a Women in Business Program (Wimbiz) and a Women Empowerment Program with the Lagos Business School.

A meaningful place to work

It can be tempting to think that only founders can be entrepreneurial. Over the years, Naspers has come to believe that entrepreneurial spirit is actually just a mindset, and anyone can have it. And sometimes you can't just simply cross your fingers and hope it happens, you have to give it a helping hand. Opening the lines of communication is a good first step. Ensuring everyone in the business understands the big picture is key – if teams don't know what they're trying to achieve, it's less likely they'll focus their creativity and efforts on the right things.

Giving people the freedom to think for themselves and challenge the status quo is important. Not just in terms of how things are done within the organisation, but also in terms of what the organisation is doing for its stakeholders and customers. Encouraging everyone to stay close to the people they serve and fully understand what they are trying to achieve can spark all sorts of innovative ideas. Encouraging and listening to ideas from across the organisation about every aspect of the organisation can open up new sources of innovation. In short, creativity is everyone's job.

Naspers has created a compelling place to work where people are engaged and motivated to achieve their full potential. The company employs nearly 25 000 people across the world in fully-owned andmanagement-controlled businesses. In South Africa the company employs more than 15 000 people in MultiChoice, Media24 and Takealot, and thousands more indirectly through MultiChoice's network of more than 1200 accredited installers and 120 DStv agencies. MultiChoice also backs emerging entrepreneurs. Its enterprise and supplier development programme offers various forms of support to small businesses, including loans, favourable supplier payment terms and trading opportunities. This commitment to enterprise development creates jobs and delivers economic growth, which ultimately ensures social upliftment in local communities.







Solving complex and challenging problems that face the world

Our entrepreneurs, at the forefront of innovative technology

Increasing access to education

Recent investments by Naspers into education technologies like Codeacademy, Udemy and Brainly are helping to redefine how education is accessed and delivered across the world. These innovative online platforms are opening the doors to learning for millions of people who previously did not have access to education around the world – people who face many barriers that prevent them from learning and developing their skills in traditional classroom or university environments.

Efficient transportation

Another example of how innovation and entrepreneurial spirit merge to solve unique local challenges and address a big societal need is redBus in India. This innovative transportation app keeps India moving by digitally

aggregating the nation's vast number of bus routes and timetables from a wide array of operators. Before redBus, travellers faced the near-impossible task of manually piecing together multistep journeys where some operators even lacked official bus stops. redBus helps people get to work on time, visit relatives, and enjoy pastimes with far less hassle. And that's not all.

In addition to timetable and route data, redBus also aggregates information on the experience delivered by each of the bus companies. Customers can use this information in their ticket purchase decisions, but by making this information visible in one place, redBus also enables India's various bus companies to see what their competitors offer. The result is that all the companies raise their game, ultimately benefiting society at large. Naspers is helping

redBus scale beyond India, with expansion into Latin America, Malaysia and Singapore – regions it believes can also benefit from the company's leading-edge technology.

Giving youth access to the work place

SuperSport's Let's Play, part of MultiChoice, has benefitted millions of school children in South Africa through various physical education programmes for over 10 years. On top of this, the MultiChoice Diski Challenge – the Premier Soccer League reserve league – has opened up opportunities for young footballers aspiring to professional careers, while providing a learning platform for over 40 interns, who produce the broadcasting of the matches on SuperSport and community television stations.

Retraining workforce with new skills

Naspers launched its online and offline learning environment, MyAcademy, in September 2016 specifically

for its staff around the world. This year, more than 20 000 group employees accessed content on MyAcademy online. MyAcademy offers the very best online learning content from global providers such as Udemy, Big Think, Harvard Business School, Codecademy, Ready, Vado, and Rosetta Stone. Naspers' MyAcademy classroom-based programmes offer its people the opportunity to grow their leadership skills regardless of where they are in the world. The company also focus on developing key functional skills in the areas of technology, sales and business development, finance, law and human resources. This year more than I 500 people attended such programmes, and from around the group over 26 000 consumed online lectures and engaged in more than 43 000 hours of training on the platform.

The story of a company founded by Eddie Seane and Mafadi Mpuru in 2015

Eddie joined SuperSport as an intern cameraman and his training there prepared him for the broadcast industry. The company was started with the modest investment from their salaries and in 2010, they received an interest-free

loan that allowed them to purchase their first outside broadcast (OB) van. Today, the company owns three OB vans, a state of the art pre- and post-production facility, employs 70 people and produces a variety of programmes for SuperSport.



















Opportunities for emerging entrepreneurs

Our formula for success

Fostering innovation

As a society, we need to recognise the importance of promoting innovation as a key driver of social change. As a company, Naspers understands its importance, and recognises and rewards the best examples from across the group. The Naspers Innovation Awards recognise people or teams who have made a significant, positive and measurable impact on their customers through a great innovation, usually product or technology based.

This year's prizes went to teams from OLX India for innovative solutions in intelligent messaging templates; MultiChoice for big data competency used for insights and recommendations by products like DStv Now, and designing a new advertising architecture, unique in the world, which allows MultiChoice to effectively monetise content; and Irdeto's research team who used machine learning (ML) to automatically process and identify streams distributed by pirate aggregation sites to our classifieds and ecommerce platforms. Their efforts, and the efforts of countless other dreamers, thinkers, entrepreneurs, innovators, developers and doers are transforming the lives we live every day. They are at the forefront of the charge to address big societal needs through innovation and Naspers celebrates their success.

Movile is the top mobile commerce platform in Latin America, with over 100 million users per month. Movile develops world-class mobile marketplaces and is a leader in B2C mobile app-based services in Latin America including iFood and Sympla. A leading self-service ticketing platform in Brazil, Sympla is a one-stop-shop for entertainment and events in Latin America. Movile is also ramping up its content distribution. It is one of the largest distributors of kids' content digitally in the world.

iFood, a subsidiary of Movile is a leading online food delivery platform in Latin America, fulfilling more than six million orders per month. In Brazil, iFood is the preferred destination for food delivery. Another way of bringing technology to a very important part of people's lives - eating at home and at work.

Competing globally

Naspers knew it had to respond to the rapidly changing television viewing habits seen elsewhere in the world. The associated rise of subscription video on demand (SVOD) was gathering pace and, with continued improvements in internet connectivity in Africa, it was only a matter of time before new entrants brought this service to our markets. It was a chance between being disrupted by others, or taking

the initiative and disrupting itself first. The company decided on the latter and built a leading-edge SVOD business in the full knowledge it could well cannibalise its existing pay TV interests. Naspers took ShowMax from idea to full launch in just six months.

ShowMax vouchers are now available in more than 500 different retail stores. South Africa's four main banks also allow the linking of ShowMax subscriptions with their customer loyalty programmes. ShowMax also works in partnership with mobile equipment manufacturers and internet service providers like Telkom, who offer an entertainment data bolt-on.

In its first 15 months, ShowMax achieved well over 10 million views or, put another way, more than 700 years of continuous viewing if watched back-to-back. Creating downloadable content, enabling customers to apply data usage caps, establish a cash voucher system, and implementing multiple user profiles are some of the tougher technical challenges that had to be solved. Our founders are role models for our people across the globe; they inspire us to not only have vision, but also innovate to take calculated risk, and to push hard to pursue our dreams.



Helping local entrepreneurs scale their businesses to compete in the global market

We identify, invest, and work with local entrepreneurs in order to scale their businesses to the global market



Entrepreneurial spirit is the foundation of success at Naspers. And while we believe entrepreneurial spirit is not the sole preserve of entrepreneurs – anyone can have it – it is true that founders embody that spirit. At Naspers we're fortunate that many of the founders of the businesses we have invested in over the years remain part of our family, leading their companies through the next waves of growth. Our founders are role models for our people across the globe; they inspire us to not only have vision, but also innovate to take calculated risks, and to push hard to pursue our dreams. It's why we encourage all our teams to act like founders. No founder embodies entrepreneurial spirit more than Alec Oxenford.

Alec is the Argentinian co-founder of OLX and, more recently, Letgo, two global classifieds businesses that we are proud to say are part of the Naspers family. Alec perfectly represents what it means to have entrepreneurial spirit, and has many unique views on pursuing dreams that we can all learn from.

How an Argentinian entrepreneur invested in India and is now leading a classified innovation in the U.S.

When Alec co-founded OLX, he took what he describes as the "Martian approach." Most entrepreneurs launch their business in their home country— and city— because that's what they know best. But imagine you are a Martian looking down on the world. As an unbiased extra-terrestrial, with no ties to any particular region, you would take a different course. You would look at the whole world and choose the optimal market to build your business. So despite being Argentinian, Alec started with India.

Alec believes that people are far more similar around the world than most realise: they may have different day-to-day priorities and habits but, in the main, virtually everyone is driven by the same motivations. Chief among them is the desire to make life better for themselves and their family. He believes OLX and let go help people do this by enabling "wealth creation", making it easy to monetise personal possessions that would otherwise sit unused, by selling them locally. But his vision is bigger than creating successful, local trading

economies on a global scale. Alec is passionate about the role that OLX and Letgo play in solving the world's number one problem – excessive resource consumption and pollution that have vastly negative effects on the sustainability of the environment and put life on the planet at risk.

We are inspired by Alec's thinking and drive, which is what led us to invest in him and OLX in 2010. Later in 2015, following the successful growth and expansion of OLX, Alec came to us with his idea for Letgo, a mobile-only classifieds business. We back him again and we're excited by the past progress let is already making in countries like the US, Turkey, Canada and Norway. In September 2015, Alec was awarded the inaugural Naspers Founder Award. He remains chairman of OLX, but spends his days focused on Letgo where, together with his partners – Jordi Castello and Enrique Linares – he guides the company's vision and oversees operations, fundraising, and key hires.

Our message is clear. If you want to promote entrepreneurial spirit in your organization, a great starting point in encouraging your people to act like founders. Or put simply, be more Alec.















IORA pursuing peace, stability and development



Maritime safety and security is a critical component and precondition for the economic activity and growth that is necessary for sustainable socio-economic development.

By Luwellyn Landers **Deputy Minister of International Relations** and Cooperation

he Indian Ocean region is of great strategic importance and value to the world in which we now find ourselves, and it is of utmost importance to safeguard and develop the region for the benefit of all its peoples.

The year 2018 was historic, as it was the centenary year of the birth of former President Nelson Mandela, regarded widely as the founding father of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). The formation of IORA has its roots in Nelson Mandela's remark in 1995

"The natural urge of the facts of history and geography should broaden itself to include the concept of an Indian Ocean Rim for socio-economic cooperation and other peaceful endeavours."

His vision became a reality two years later when in March 1997, the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IORA-ARC), now IORA, was launched in Mauritius with 14 member states. Today, the association has 21 member states and seven dialogue partners. It has become a strong and dynamic international body working to ensure an Indian Ocean Rim that is safe, secure and sustainably developed.

South Africa assumed the Chair of IORA in October 2017, under the theme: "IORA - Uniting the Peoples of Africa, Asia, Australasia and the Middle East through Enhanced Cooperation for Peace, Stability and Sustainable Development". This guiding theme for our Chairship until October 2019 encompasses South Africa's view that the Indian Ocean region should be characterised as a region of peace, stability and development; and that we view IORA as the pre-eminent regional organisation with which to pursue this ambitious goal.

the natural urge of... the facts of geography should broaden itself to include the concept of an Indian Ocean Rim for socio-economic co-operation...

Maritime safety and security is a critical component and precondition for the economic activity and growth that is necessary for sustainable socio-economic development.

As we move forward in this regard, it is important to recognise that South Africa did not assume the Chair in a vacuum. We are building on a solid foundation laid by other important strategic partners in the region that have led IORA recently such as Indonesia, Australia, India and Iran.

During India's Chair of the association from 2011 to 2013, the work of IORA was streamlined and invigorated to become more focussed and targeted towards the sustained growth and balanced development of the Indian Ocean region and of member states, and to create common ground for regional economic cooperation.

IORA subsequently adopted the following six key priority areas:

- · Maritime Safety and Security
- Trade and Investment Facilitation
- · Fisheries Management
- · Disaster Risk Management
- Academic and Science and Technology Cooperation
- · Tourism Promotion and Cultural Exchange.

During Australia's Chair from 2013 - 2015, the association changed its name from the IOR-ARC to IORA, signifying this renewed vigour in the work of the association. Australia also enhanced the strategic focus of IORA through the adoption of the Blue Economy and women's economic empowerment as agreed priority issues that cut across the aforementioned key priority areas.

During Indonesia's Chair from 2015 to 2017, the first IORA Leaders' Summit to commemorate IORA's 20th anniversary was held in Jakarta on 7 March 2017. The summit's adoption and signing of the Jakarta Concord elevated the association's profile and stature to a significantly higher level, and charted the way forward for IORA into the next decade, beginning with South Africa's Chairship. To this end, the Jakarta Concord provides the highest levels of commitment with which to make the Indian Ocean a region of peace, stability and development through enhanced cooperation, including but not limited to the six priority areas.

The IORA Action Plan provides a firm set of realistic and measurable commitments for the IORA Council of Ministers to implement the Jakarta Concord, and take IORA forward in a more outcomes-orientated manner.

To this end, the Action Plan provides short-, medium- and long-terms goals to, among others:

- promote maritime safety and security in the region
- enhance trade and investment cooperation in the region
- promote sustainable and responsible fisheries management and development
- strengthen academic, science and technology cooperation
- foster tourism and cultural exchanges
- harness and develop the Blue Economy in the region
- promote gender equality and the economic empowerment of women and airls.

To give effect to these targets, IORA, under South Africa's Chairship, is strengthening its institutional mechanisms and bodies, including the Secretariat, and is in the process of establishing new dedicated functional bodies to deal specifically with critical priorities in areas such as maritime safety and security, the Blue Economy, women's economic empowerment and tourism. There is also a strong focus on enhancing trade and investment between IORA members; empowering the youth; ensuring the effective utilisation of resources, such as water and fisheries; and promoting research, development and innovation, including through the second International Indian Ocean Expedition. The focus on key priorities and the establishment of these new bodies will enable IORA to have a comprehensive set of work plans to deal with the challenges being faced in the region, as well as to take advantage of the many opportunities that these areas bring to the fore. We are on a new and exciting trajectory and we look forward to working with our partners to explore these opportunities in a coherent and organised

In this regard, South Africa is deepening and broadening its engagement with the IORA dialogue partners to enhance their role in and support for the core objectives in the IORA Action Plan. The unprecedented interest in IORA among countries wishing to be dialogue partners is testament to the progress that we are making in taking IORA forward as the pre-eminent international organisation in the Indian Ocean.

Furthermore, South Africa is committed to deepening and strengthening IORA's partnerships with international and regional bodies such as the United Nations (UN), the African Union (AU), Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation as well as other important maritime bodies and symposia focussing on the Indian Ocean. We are particularly gratified that IORA has observer status at both the UN General Assembly and the AU, and we look forward to strengthening our engagements with these important organs, particularly cooperation on development in the areas of capacity- and institution-building under the IORA Action Plan.

In the case of the UN, for instance, we are collaborating with agencies and bodies such as the Food and Agricultural Organisation and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation for the exchange and dissemination of ocean data and information. We are in the process of finalising a Memorandum of Understanding with the UN Institute for Training and Research. This cooperation and collaboration are in support of the UN's Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Furthermore, as one of the many African countries of IORA, we are committed to working with the AU in support of Agenda 2063 towards a prosperous Africa based inclusive growth and sustainable development. It is important to recognise that the AU has declared 2015 to 2025 as the Decade of African Seas and Oceans. We look forward to identify ways to collaborate between IORA and the AU around the 2050 Africa Integrated Maritime Strategy - Africa's overarching, concerted and coherent longterm actions to achieve the objectives to enhance maritime viability for a prosperous Africa.

Likewise, at the regional level in southern Africa, the Southern African Development Community is moving towards a strategy to develop a thriving maritime economy and harness the full potential of sea-based activities in an environmentally sustainable manner.

IORA is an organisation on the move and one that cannot and should not be ignored. U



The Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Luwellyn Landers, participated in the Third Indian Ocean Conference from 27 to 28 August 2018, in Hanoi, Vietnam.

The conference under the theme, "Building Regional Architecture", was organised by the India Foundation, in association with its partners, the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies of Singapore and the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies.

South Africa as the current Chair of the Indian Ocean Rim Association encompasses the view that the Indian Ocean region should be characterised as a region of peace, stability and development within which to pursue the goal of promoting socio-economic cooperation for the well-being and development of the countries and peoples of the Indian Ocean Rim. U







Caring for life

"Our work is not just about making medicines. It is about making a difference."

- Dr YK Hamied, Cipla chairman

Purpose Inspired

We pride ourselves on a strong legacy of crusading care. Cipla played a pioneering role in HIV/AIDS treatment globally as the first company to reduce the cost of ARVs to less than one dollar a day, thereby improving the lives of millions of patients. We strive to find solutions that deliver on our ethos of "Caring for Life".

Excellence focussed

Cipla believes everyone has the right to world-class medication at affordable prices. Our unique formulations enable us to produce medicines of superior quality across a diverse range of therapeutic categories.

Innovation Driven

As part of our commitment to manufacturing in Africa for Africa, Cipla is expanding our local manufacturing footprint. Our state-of-the-art factories in Uganda and South Africa, along with other manufacturing facilities worldwide, have the stamps of approval from all the main regulators and enable us to advance healthcare for all.



Social responsibility has been at the core of Cipla, since inception. It mirrors Cipla's relentless commitment to improve lives and aims to build access and affordability for the most vulnerable groups in society. The Cipla Foundation has initiatives spanning healthcare, education and enterprise development with its aim to improve life for all South Africans.

For more information or to get involved, visit www.ciplafoundationsa.co.za









milesforsmiles

Miles for Smiles creates awareness and raises funds for Operation Smile to facilitate corrective surgery on children born with cleft lip and cleft palates.

2,500 smiles

R8.7 million raised since 2006

ajuga

Ajuga creates a safe environment where young children can learn, grow and thrive.

5 ECDs 3 crèches since 2012

sha'p left

Sha'p Left is a nurse-driven primary healthcare service that treats people close to home in their communities.

8 urban nurse surgeries

3 rural nurse surgeries since 2014

owethu

Owethu focuses on providing access to a broad range of primary healthcare services to communities most in need.

2 clinics since 2014



Digital revolution should respond to the needs of the developing world

We have the means and the responsibility to direct the evolution of information and communications technology towards the achievement of a better life for all the peoples of the world.

By President Cyril Ramaphosa

he International Telecommunication (ITU) Telecom World Conference was held in September 2018 at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre in Durban. It was an honour for the Government and the people of South Africa to host this event for the first time on the African continent.

For South Africa, the ITU Telecom World provides a guide to the future. The deliberations that took place there concern the economy and society of tomorrow that we are building today.

We are at the dawn of a digital revolution that will reshape the way we work, the way we live and the way we relate to each other.

Technological change is proceeding at a pace far greater than anything humanity has experienced before.

It is through forums like this that we are able not only to anticipate technological change, but also to harness it for the advancement of

It is through bodies like the ITU that we craft a digital agenda for inclusivity, sustainability and development.

We have the means and the responsibility to direct the evolution of information and communications technology (ICT) towards the achievement of a better life for all the peoples of the world.

It is our task to ensure that the Fourth Industrial Revolution improves the human condition and that no one is left behind.

It is our task to ensure that this digital revolution responds to the needs of the developing world.

It must assist in overcoming unemployment, not exacerbate it. It must bridge the digital divide, not widen it. It must employ the latest in ICT and data analytics to solve some of the world's greatest development challenges.

The decisions we make now, as individual countries and as a global collective, will determine whether the Fourth Industrial Revolution is the opportunity that so many people anticipate or the threat that so many people fear.

As our economies become increasingly dependent on ICT, it is critical that governments work more closely with industry to maximise the value of digital innovations. It is equally critical that both government and industry develop effective collaborative relationships with the communities they are both expected to serve.

It is such relationships that are required, for example, for the accelerated rollout of broadband in areas that are generally seen as not being economically viable. And yet, the presence of broadband in such areas is vital for the viability of the economy.

The rapid expansion of broadband reach and accessibility is a priority in South Africa because it is a key determinant of economic inclusion. There are currently 20 million South Africans who do not use the Internet, for a range of reasons such as unaffordable data prices, lack of Internet-enabled devices and lack of access.

Yet, about 87% of households in South Africa have access to mobile phones, presenting us with a great opportunity to overcome digital exclusion and to drive inclusive growth and innovation

Government has recently decided to accelerate the licensing of the radio frequency spectrum in the 2.6Ghz, 700Mhz and 800Mhz bands to hasten the growth of mobile communications.

We have finalised consultations with the telecommunications industry and other stakeholders to ensure allocation of spectrum reduces barriers to entry, promotes competition and reduces costs to consumers.

Following a Cabinet decision in August 2018, the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa is preparing to license available high demand spectrum.

In addition, we have begun work in preparation for 5G spectrum licensing as part of our efforts to build a smarter digital economy.

In 2018, government announced plans to establish a Digital Industrial Revolution Commission to ensure we are in a position to seize the opportunities of the rapid advances in ICT.

We are informed by research that associates investment in ICTs with such economic benefits as higher productivity, lower costs, new economic opportunities, job creation, innovation and increased trade.

ICT also helps provide better services in health and education and strengthens social cohesion

Our work in this area coincides with agreement on the establishment of an African

Continental Free Trade Area, which will create a single market of over a billion people.

At the Plenipotentiary of the African Telecommunications Union, held in August in Nairobi, South Africa was mandated to lead a five-country committee to coordinate the development of the continental response to the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

This is a task that we undertake in support of the African Union's Agenda 2063, which seeks a continent with diverse and inclusive economies, advanced infrastructure and a skilled and capable population.

In promoting this vision, we see a key role for technology. >>

We have finalised consultations with the telecommunications industry and other stakeholders to ensure allocation of spectrum reduces barriers to entry, promotes competition and reduces costs to consumers.



ITU TELECOM WORLD 2018 MAKE A BETTER FUTURE HAPPEN FASTER.

It was precisely this - the developmental role of technology - that South Africa's founding President Nelson Mandela affirmed when he addressed the Seventh World Telecommunications Conference and Exhibition in Geneva in 1995. It was the first year that South Africa participated in the global event as a full member of the ITU.

In his speech, President Mandela said it was crucial for South Africa and the entire African continent to be part of the organisation that would drive international policy, technological development, cooperation and skills transfer

Let us be guided by his vision of a world in which everyone is connected, not only by technology, but also by a common humanity.

Since rejoining the ITU, South Africa has worked with other member countries to advocate for the transformation of the institution and the entire global communications landscape to promote equality and inclusivity.

In the World Summit on Information Society, held in Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005, we advocated for a people-centred and development-oriented information society, where citizens' lives are enhanced by ICTs and member states are recognised on an equal footing.

We continue to champion the Internet as a tool for social and economic development.

We support universal broadband and universal broadcasting to connect all citizens and ensure that they have access to information

Most recently, we have advocated for the safety of ICT infrastructure and secure use by all online

Important to Africa and developing countries is the need for countries to share manufacturing and localisation opportunities to allow equal access and shared growth throughout the world.

We support equitable access to global ICT resources such as orbital slots, satellites and governance of the Internet.

We firmly believe that there is a strong correlation between innovation and growth.

South Africa recently embarked on an investment drive to attract US\$100 billion in new investment in the country over the next five years.

This is part of a broader effort to set the economy on a new path of growth, employment and transformation.

We are determined that the ICT sector be an integral part of this investment drive, with a focus on infrastructure investment, e-commerce, local manufacturing equipment and innovation. South Africa has demonstrated its capabilities in the development and deployment of ICT.

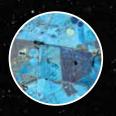
Telecom World 2018 produced innovative solutions to societal challenges and establish a platform for greater inclusive growth. U



SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL SPACE AGENCY

Space Operations

We provide state-of-the-art ground station facilities and services, including satellite tracking, telemetry and command as well as launch support, n-orbit testing, mission control and satellite-based navigation.



Earth Observations

We drive and coordinate South Africa's Earth observation efforts to sustainably benefit all South Africans in an earthfriendly manner





Space Science

We are recognised as being the national expert in space science research, space weather and magnetic technology applications and services. As part of the worldwide network of magnetic observatories we are responsible for research, infrastructure and date used to monitor the near-Earth space environment.



Human Capital Development

We train South Africans in key areas of national importance, develop scarce and transferable skills and contribute to transforming the country into a knowledge-based economy



Space Advancement

We increase the uptake and appreciation of science among our youth and improve the overall scientific literacy and engagement of the general publi



We lead the technical development of space systems and sub-systems by operating a national assembly, integration and test (AIT) facility and supply related services locally and internationally

Space

Engineering



The benefits we create for society stems from merging and repackaging South Africa's existing capacity, competence, experience, skills and expertise in space science and technology into six areas





Our value proposition

We create social capital through world-class and efficient services and social benefits. We develop human capital through effective human capital and engaging our citizens. We enhance global capital by positioning South Africa as a recognised global space citizen.



We support intellectual capital through cutting-edge research, development, innovation, technologyand its applications. We grow economic capital by participating competitively in the global space industry and developmentof space applications.







Towards achieving a world free from the threat posed by nuclear weapons

Bv Luwellvn Landers

Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

South Africa's signature of the treaty reflects its continued commitment towards the achievement of a world free from the threat posed by nuclear weapons and ensuring that nuclear energy is used for peaceful purposes only.

e are facing the greatest threat to our existence. This threat come from nuclear weapons alone, but in the main, is as a result of the creeping new ideology of unilateralism. As we deal with the threat of nuclear and how best to arrest it, we must be vigilant against the menace of unilateralism that is in stark conflict and pointed contradiction to our survival and humanity.

It is significant to recall that South Africa's struggle for political freedom was closely linked to the campaign for nuclear disarmament, including the elimination of the apartheid nuclear bomb. The eventual abandonment of the nuclear weapons programme by South Africa is testimony to the principled stance of the overwhelming majority of South Africans against nuclear weapons and their elimination

Given its unique history as the first country to have eliminated its nuclear weapons, South Africa is proud to have been able to

play a role in the creation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, together with its partners in Austria, Brazil, Ireland, Mexico and Nigeria. We also thank the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and the vast majority of states and members of civil society that actively contributed to the process and the adoption of the treaty in July 2017.

South Africa's signature of the treaty reflects its continued commitment towards the achievement of a world free from the threat posed by nuclear weapons and ensuring that nuclear energy is used for peaceful purposes only. Our signature is also a fitting tribute to the values espoused by the late President of the African National Congress, Oliver Reginald Tambo. Already in 1987, as a guest of honour at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial, Mr Tambo wrote the following inscription in the Guest Book:

"History chose the city of Hiroshima to tell the world never again to go to war, never ever to abandon the struggle for peace. The tragic



story of Hiroshima told in this painful museum is a guide to present and future generations if mankind and our planet are to be saved from complete obliteration."

While we celebrate this historic achievement, we are fully aware that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is but one piece of the puzzle.

While the treaty is neither the proverbial silver bullet nor the final word on nuclear weapons, it seeks to establish an international norm, delegitimising and stigmatising the possession of nuclear arms. It aims to contribute towards achieving the objective set out in the very first resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1946 to eliminate all weapons of mass destruction.

The treaty complements other international instruments by contributing towards fulfilling the nuclear disarmament obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the objectives of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty and the various nuclear weapon-free zone treaties, such as the Pelindaba Treaty that already banned nuclear weapons in Africa.

For South Africa, the negotiation and entry into force of the Pelindaba Treaty is a true reflection of what African states have achieved in pursuance of our common security objectives. The treaty provides tangible security benefits to us all and effectively bans nuclear weapons on the continent, while recognising the rights of state parties to utilise the atom for peace and make full use of nuclear technologies to enhance their social and economic development.

As if the threat of nuclear weapons is not enough, we also face the prospect of

the development of weapons, which once activated, could select and engage targets without human control. This category of weapons has been termed Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS).

Although it would appear as though the dictum is that LAWS do not currently exist, it is certainly true that as a result of technological innovation, certain critical functions in weapons systems currently operate autonomously. The danger exists that should this trend in research development continues without being regulated, it follows that humans will be removed from the loop of control. Thus permitting machines to determine targets in warfare.

In continuing this trend in weapons development, a range of humanitarian, ethical, legal and technological considerations arise. In this regard, an important consideration relating to it is that if human control is removed, the attribution of responsibility for breaches as applicable to current legal provisions will not be possible. In addition, limits on autonomy in weapon systems should be established to ensure International Humanitarian Law compliance and to satisfy ethical concerns.

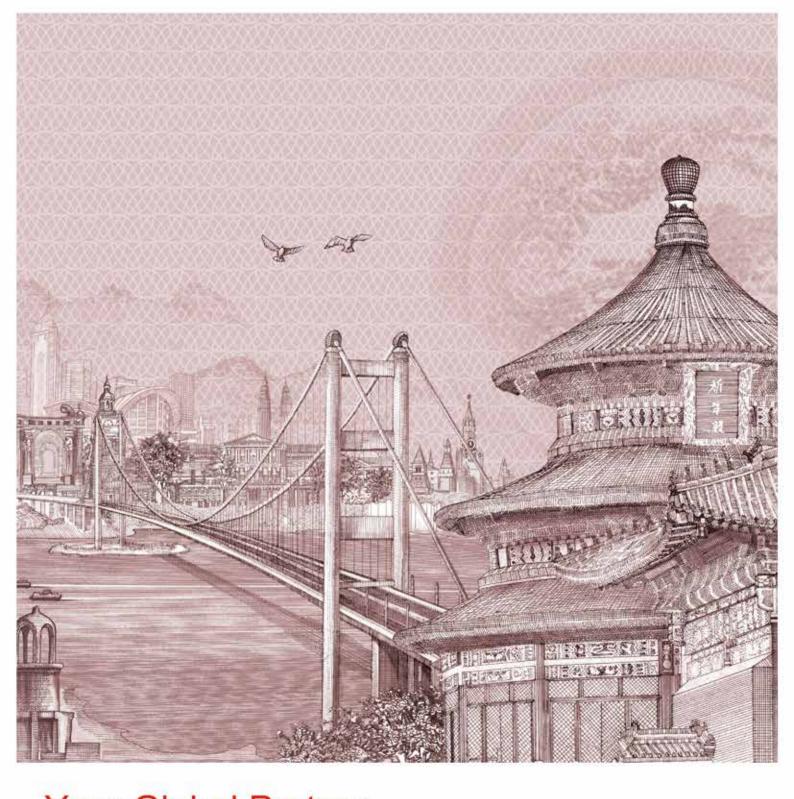
In 2018, we celebrated the centenary of the late President Nelson Mandela under whose leadership South Africa drove its progressive post-democratic nuclear disarmament order.

Let us pay tribute to Madiba's legacy by showing a clear demonstration of our collective and unwavering commitment towards a continent that is peaceful, stable, secure and prosperous - but also to international peace and security. U







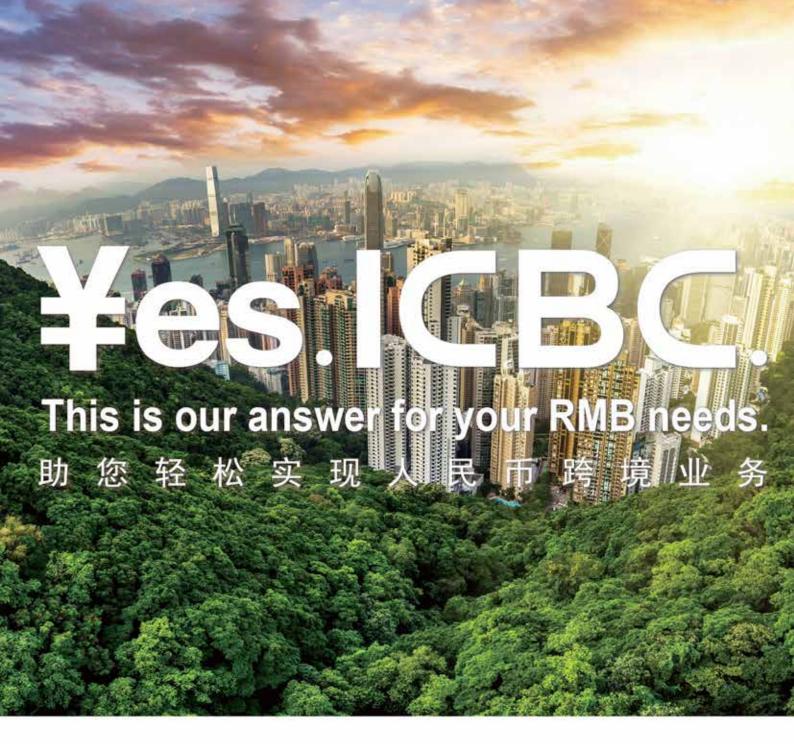


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We urge people when travelling to take time to learn about the financial, political, cultural and economic environment of their intended destination.

By Reginah Mhaule

Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

n July 2018, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) launched the Travel Smart with DIRCO Campaign, which will go a long way in improving the general understanding of the consular services the department provides to South Africans at home and abroad.

DIRCO, through the Chief Directorate: Consular Services, is mandated with rendering assistance and support to the public, working closely in collaboration with its diplomatic and consular representatives abroad. As such, the colleagues responsible for carrying out this mandate on a daily basis are in the coldface of service delivery like any other line-function department.

The only difference between DIRCO and other departments is that it functions largely in the purview of foreign relations, however, its work is aimed at improving the living conditions of South Africans. DIRCO renders consular services in accordance with Articles 5, 36 and 37 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (VCCR) of 1963 and is guided by its own legislative prescripts. The VCCR is therefore the first and to date the most important document in the consular field and provides the judicial basis and general framework for provision of consular services by member states.

Since the VCCR came into effect in 1963, consular services across the globe had to adapt and innovate, and develop new practices and responses to meet contemporary challenges

of the "global citizen". As such, the Global Consular Forum (GCF) was established for member countries to meet annually in order to collaborate, network, share ideas and also provide consular updates. In January 2018, South Africa was appointed as a Steering Committee member of the GCF.

Consular Diplomacy today requires an ongoing sharing of ideas, best practices and innovations, collaboration in areas such as crisis response, training and possibly some joint activities and research to advance the legal and policy framework that supports consular relations

Our consular officials are required to treat and provide quality assistance whenever a crises or need.



We continue to work with our own sister departments such as Home Affairs, Social Development and the South African Police Service to help us in their areas of expertise.

Furthermore, the Vienna Convention grants our officials the right to access the citizens in distress. It is therefore advisable for people travelling abroad to make the necessary arrangements with the department so that they can be of assistance in times of need. Citizens also have to make the necessary financial provisions for any eventuality that may occur. We urge travel agencies to assist us in this regard. In 2018, DIRCO had to deal with the arrest of 51 of our citizens for violation of the visa laws in China, among others. We are of the opinion that this situation could have been avoided had the necessary information been readily available.

We urge people when travelling to take time to learn about the financial, political, cultural and economic environment of their intended destination. We encourage people to learn at least a few key phrases in the host country's language. Even a modest command of the local language will go a long way. When travelling abroad, the laws of the receiving country apply to everybody and South Africans must understand that they will not receive special treatment.

South Africans are encouraged to have the contact details of the nearest South African Representative Office and to carry contact details of their next of kin at all times.

It is important that those planning to travel familiarise themselves with the information that is readily available on the DIRCO website, www.dirco.gov.za, to read more on what is needed when travelling and also on where the nearest South African Representative Office is based at your intended destination.

Travel tips

Take time to learn about your destination. By doing your homework before you leave, you minimise the chances of something going wrong.

- Take note of news reports of any problems in the area you will be/are visiting.
- Get full travel insurance or an overseas health plan. If you do not take out proper insurance, you will have to pay the costs of any emergency yourself, including expensive medical bills. (Your travel agent will advise you on the options available to suit your budget.)
- At least six weeks before you travel, check with your doctor or travel clinic what vaccinations and other health

- precautions you may need to take for your trip.
- If you have a medical condition, or are pregnant, you should seek medical advice from your physician prior to travel.
- If you have a pre-existing medical condition that could present a problem while you are travelling, it is advisable to wear a Medic Alert bracelet containing basic vital medical information, which is essential in the case of emergency medical treatment. For further information. refer to the website of Medic Alert South Africa - www.medicalert.co.za.
 - If you require medication for an existing medical condition, take a sufficient supply of prescribed medicine with you and keep it handy. Find out if your prescription medication is legal in the countries you plan to visit. Check the website of the country you are visiting. In certain countries, over-the-counter medication is prohibited e.g. codeine is a banned substance in certain countries. Keep all medication in its original, labelled containers. Carry a copy of the doctor's prescription with you. If syringes are needed, have a medical certificate stating their use. >>

- Essential medication should be stored in hand luggage to ensure availability in cases where luggage is delayed, lost or stolen.
- If you have prescription spectacles, carry a copy of the prescription for easy replacement should you lose or break them.
- Make sure your passport is valid for the whole period of the travel and in good condition, and that you have all the necessary visas/permits.
- Fill in the next-of-kin details in your passport.
- Registration of South African Citizens Abroad via the website www.dirco.gov. za. By registering your trip, you assist DIRCO to locate you during a declared emergency, thus verifying your status and liaising with your next-of-kin. The

When travelling abroad the laws of the receiving country apply to everybody and South Africans must understand that they will not receive special treatment.

- registration is a free, voluntary service provided by government, through DIRCO.
- Leave copies of your passport, insurance policy (plus the insurer's 24hour emergency number), ticket details, your itinerary and contact details with your family and friends.
- Take enough money for your trip and some back-up funds, such as traveller's cheques or credit cards. Before you leave, find out how you can replace your traveller's cheques and credit cards if you lose them, and keep a separate note of their numbers.
- Before you travel, get a good guidebook and get to know your destination. Find out about local laws and customs, and follow them. Be aware of your personal security and take sensible precautions to protect yourself.
- Always lock luggage, not only to discourage theft but also to make sure it does not open during handling. Buy small locks to lock all external zipper pockets of bags. This will also protect you against others slipping illegal substances into your luggage. Little plastic cable ties are invaluable, as they have to be cut to be
- Never carry luggage, a package or letters for someone else, unless you have been able to verify the contents

- completely. Pack your own baggage, fasten it securely and never leave it unattended. Keep an eye on your children's backpacks, toys and stuffed animals
- Do not be tempted to use drugs. While illegal drugs are readily available and openly used in many countries, the fact remains that they are dangerous and illegal. When caught, you can face lengthy jail sentences and/or the death
- For information about what you are allowed to take out of the country or bring home to South Africa, contact the South African Revenue Service (SARS) - www.sars.gov.za. If you want take out more than your travel allowance, you will need to get exchange control permission from the South African Reserve Bank.

Who can DIRCO help?

- South African citizens and permanent residents.
- Dual nationals, provided they have entered the country in question on their South African passport and they are not in the country of the second nationality. If you are a dual national travelling on your South African passport in a third state (that is, a country of which you are not a national), DIRCO will offer you its full support. If you are travelling on the passport of your other nationality, we will direct you to that state's local Embassy, High Commission or Consulate.

What can DIRCO do?

DIRCO offer non-financial assistance, which is appropriate to the individual circumstances of each case, including:

- issuing replacement travel documents against the payment of the prescribed fee after verifying citizenship (in cases of lost South African passports)
- providing appropriate help (non-financial assistance) if you have suffered serious assault, are a victim of other crimes, or are in hospital
- providing details of local law commissions, interpreters, doctors and funeral parlours (without assuming responsibility for their effectiveness or costs thereto)
- contacting you as soon as possible after being informed (dependent on local circumstances) that you have been detained
- non-financial assistance to families of deceased persons
- consular notarial functions (e.g. legalisation of South African public documents for use abroad and providing Commissioner of Oaths services).



What DIRCO cannot do?

- Get you out of prison, prevent the local authorities from deporting you after your prison sentence or interfere in criminal or civil court proceedings.
- Help you enter a country, for example, if you do not have a visa or your passport is not valid, as we do not interfere in another country's immigration policy or procedures.
- Give you legal advice, investigate crimes or carry out searches for missing people.
- Get you better treatment in hospital or prison than is given to local people.
- Pay any bills or give you money.
- Make travel arrangements for you, or find you work or accommodation.
- Make business arrangements on your behalf.
- Assist with transfer of funds to a national who is not in distress.

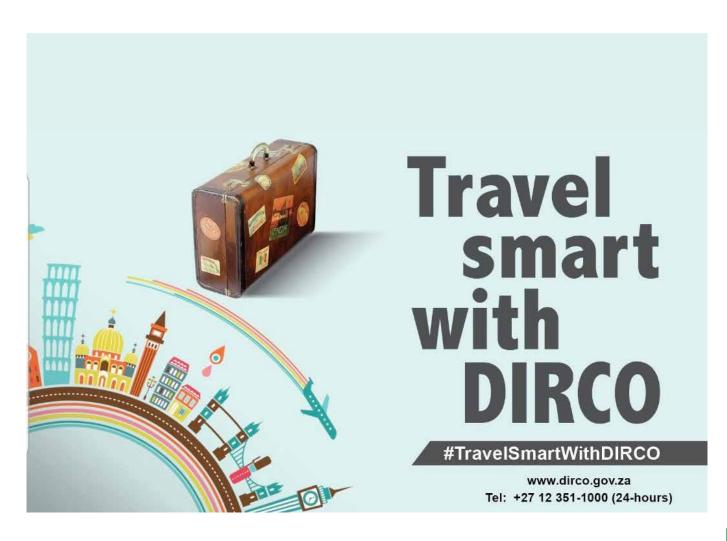
Return a child that has been abducted by a parent/family member.

When you are at your destination

- Only carry as much money as you need for the day. Leave the rest (jewellery and valuables), and at least one credit card, in the hotel safe if one is available. Keep copies of your passport, insurance details and other important travel documents separate from the originals.
- Have the contact details of the local South African Embassy, High Commission or Consulate for the country you are visiting.
- When you arrive, find out how to get in touch with the local emergency services in case you need them during your stay.
- Stay in regular touch with your family and friends in South Africa, especially if you are travelling alone or in a remote

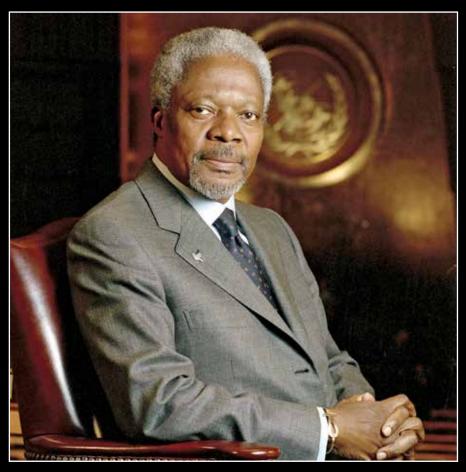
- You must respect local laws. There are very serious penalties for breaking a law which might seem trivial to you or for doing something which may not be illegal in South Africa.
- Respect the host country's local customs and behave and dress appropriately, particularly when visiting religious sites, markets and rural communities.
- Ensure that what you are bringing back to South Africa is legal.
- Be aware of local attitudes to alcohol and know your own limit.
- Be aware of what may happen if you become involved with drugs abroad.
- Choose your travel companions wisely. If your fellow travellers happen to be carrying, using or selling illegal drugs, you could be found guilty by association.
- If your luggage appears to have been tampered with, be cautious and rather call a customs official or a security guard and report the matter. U

For more information, visit www.dirco.gov.za



Kofi Annan: A man who paid his dues to global peace and security

By Abdul-Jalilu AtekuPhD Candidate in International Relations,
University of Nottingham



Il the world's a stage; And all the men and women merely players; They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts. (As you like it, Act II, scene VII, William Shakespeare.) Indeed, Kofi Annan, born in 1938, entered the world in the City of Kumasi in Ghana, and exited the world in 2018 as a humanitarian, a true statesman and a peacebuilder.

He became Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) a few years after the demise of the Soviet Union. The collapse of the bipolar world reduced to the barest minimum the constraints imposed by the Cold War rivalry on the world body. It also led to the expansion of its role and responsibilities to address the new challenges and dimensions of security.

Annan's tenure began a few years after the (re)introduction of two important international security lexicons – peacebuilding and human security. These two were popularised in the UN-commissioned works by former Secretary-General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali's *An Agenda for Peace* (1992) and the Pakistani economist, Mahbub ul Haq. Boutros-Ghali's initiative expanded the UN's role and responsibilities to the world. It also redefined global peace and security architecture.

The 1990s were characterised by complex and intractable armed conflicts. The period saw a significant shift from inter-state to intrastate conflicts. There was a rise in the number of failed states as well as egregious violations of human rights.

As the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and later the Secretary-General, Annan's task

of overseeing the implementation of the new security agenda was no doubt arduous.

The fight against poverty

Throughout his life, Annan committed himself to peace and security, human rights and rule of law. He was committed to ensuring respect for human rights and improving human security. Both were considered important in improving the quality of living of people. On one occasion he remarked:

"... anyone who speaks forcefully for human rights but does nothing about human security and human development – or vice versa – undermines both his credibility and his cause. So let us speak with one voice on all three issues."

He pursued the agenda of improving the quality of people by getting world leaders to commit themselves to addressing the basic concerns of the world's population – poverty. In his 2000 report, We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century, he urged member states to:

"Put people at the centre of everything we do to make their lives better."

In the concluding part of the report, Annan admonished:

"Free our fellow men and women from the abject and dehumanising poverty in which more than one billion of them are currently confined."

Throughout his international public service, measures to address the basic needs of people were ever present, both in his words and deeds. Even on retirement, he continued to work for the improvement of the living standards of ordinary people.

The reformist

Annan was a reformist. On taking up the post as the seventh Secretary-General of the UN, he drove the implementation of two management reports on reform. The first introduced a cabinet kind of body which assisted the Secretary-General in the effective running of the organisation.

The second established the position of Deputy Secretary-General and the reduction of administrative costs to the world body.

Recounting more recently on the genocide in

Rwanda and his later diplomatic undertakings

after the end of his tenure as the Secretary

General, Annan said he'd learnt some useful

"I realised after the genocide that there

was more that I could and should have done

He presided over reforms intended to make the UN an effective international peace and security interlocutor. In his progress report, he made further far-reaching recommendations for the expansion of the Security Council and a number of other reforms that brought about significant changes to the UN.

His past experiences shaped his international engagements, especially on international interventions save humanitarian to catastrophes. The failure of the UN to stop the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 and Srebrenica massacre when Annan served as the head of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations were key events in this context.



lessons:

Under Annan, the UN General Assembly in 2005 endorsed the doctrine of "Responsibility to Protect" following the incorporation of this doctrine in his report, Larger Freedom.

In the preparation to invade Iraq in 2003, Annan condemned the United States of Ameria and the United Kingdom, urging them not to do so without the support of the UN. He believed the intervention didn't conform with the UN Charter, and was therefore illegal.

Reflections

In his memoir, which he co-authored with his former adviser and speechwriter, Nader Mousavizadeh, Annan reflected on his roles at the UN.

On the Rwandan genocide, one of the significant lapses that dented the UN's peacekeeping reputation, Annan reported how he lobbied about 100 governments - and made personal calls to others - to assist with the passage of the Security Council Resolution (918) to dispatch about 5 500 troops to the country. He recalls how he received no single serious offer for troop contribution.

The 1999 independent investigation into what had happened categorically concluded that the UN had failed to prevent, and stop, the genocide in Rwanda. As Secretary-General during the investigation, Annan accepted responsibility for the lapses during the genocide in Rwanda. He said: "All of us must bitterly regret that we did not do more to prevent it", pointing out that the UN peace force at the time was "neither mandated nor equipped" for the kind of forceful action needed to prevent the genocide.

Nonetheless with a deeper refection, Annan said: "On behalf of the United Nations, I acknowledge this failure and express my deep remorse."

to sound the alarm and rally support. This painful memory, along with that of Bosnia and Herzegovina, has influenced much of my thinking, and many of my actions, as Secretary-General."

He was to put these lessons into practice as he continued to pursue avenues for peace in conflicts around the world. For example, six months after his appointment as the UN-Arab League Special Envoy to Syria, Annan resigned. His reasons included the stalemate in the Security Council to take measures that could ensure a peaceful resolution to the Syrian crisis as well as the intransigence of both the Assad regime and the rebels towards a peaceful outcome.

In 2016, he headed the Rakhine Commission, which was appointed to look into the Rohingya conflict in Myanmar. The commission's recommendations were unpopular to both sides. But in 2018, the Myanmar Civilian Government of Aung San Suu Kyi accepted the commission's recommendations and convened a new board, ostensibly to implement them.

Annan acquitted himself well as an international diplomat, a humanist and peacebuilder. He lived a fulfilled life, and contributed significantly in his chosen career. Kofi "Damirifa Duei Duei ne amane hunu" (Rest in Peace).

This article was first published on The Conversation



On behalf of the Government and the People of South Africa, President Cyril Ramaphosa expressed his sincere condolences at the untimely passing of Mr Kofi Atta Annan, the first African United Nations Secretary-General from sub-Sahara.

President Ramaphosa said Mr Annan's death was a great shock and loss to the global community.

President Ramaphosa paid tribute to Mr Annan "as a great leader and diplomat extraordinaire" who had advanced the African Agenda within the United Nations (UN) and had "flown the flag for peace" around the world.

He noted that: "Former UN Secretary-General Annan was a consummate diplomat, who lived a life in service to humanity".

President Ramaphosa stated that: "In becoming the first UN Secretary-General from sub-Saharan Africa and also the first Secretary-General to rise from within the UN system as a career diplomat, he became a symbol of African excellence and the contribution that Africans are making towards peace, development and human rights throughout the world. Through his tireless efforts, he was instrumental in strengthening and promoting the multilateral system of global governance in the quest to ensuring that the people of this world live in larger freedom as envisaged by the Charter of the UN."

After his term as Secretary-General came to an end, Mr Annan continued his service to towards making the world a better place by chairing the Group of Elders who are dedicated to improving peace and human rights.

Mr Annan received South Africa's National Order of the Companions of OR Tambo in 2004 for his role in the struggle against colonialism worldwide, serving as an inspiration for the fight against apartheid.



Jockin Arputham:

The gentle giant will be missed



"I am a proud slum dweller", Jockin often said. "There is a war between the urban rich and the urban poor ... And I'm trying to make peace between them."

By Lindiwe Sisulu

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

he world lost an inspirational leader and fighter for slumdwellers' rights, who died in India on Saturday, 13 October 2018, at the age of 71. The gentle giant will be missed by all of us around the world, especially his constituency in Africa, Asia and South America, for his energy, vision, dogmatic certainties and commitment - all of which knew no bounds. Jockin Arputham fought for the rights of slum dwellers for over 40 years going back to the early 1970s when he tried to stop the bulldozing of the settlement in which he lived in India.

In order to further these efforts, Jockin founded the National Slum Dwellers Federation, enduring constant harassment.

Jockin's tolerance is in the same ilk as some of the great leaders, including Albert Luthuli, Oliver Tambo and Nelson Mandela. "Talk with government", he would say, "not fight with them". It was not weak and compromising. It was a tolerance of others that came from complete self-assurance and a deep understanding that resolution of conflict came from seeing your own humanity in those that the gross inequalities of life forced you to challenge. He saw the need, above all, to get government to see the "slum" population as a tremendous resource that they could work with.

"I am a proud slum dweller", Jockin often said. "There is a war between the urban rich and the urban poor ... And I'm trying to make peace between them." He went on to say, "We are not impinging on resources. We don't take much water, electricity, public transport. We are the human resource of the city."

Jockin was a mentor and friend of the South African SDI Alliance since its inception. Through him, they first started saving after visiting India where they saw that poor people could unite through saving and data collection. The result of this relationship was the formation of the Federation of Urban Poor (FEDUP), a federation of savings

groups set up by women living in our informal settlements. Together, using a range of tools, including community-based saving schemes, community-led data gathering and mapping of informal settlements, FEDUP has devised innovative housing projects that have set precedents for better project implementation.

Jockin and this federation showed government that slum dwellers could work together to expedite delivery and promote efficiency.

These are the tools and experiences he brought to the formation of the Slum Dwellers International that he helped found in 1995. Today, the SDI has affiliated federations in over 30 countries. It is a global network that learns from and supports each other, demonstrating innovative alternatives to governments and international agencies.

The many tens of thousands of people who met Jockin will miss his magnetism. He was an enormously charismatic human being. All over the world, Jockin's mantra to the homeless and slum dwellers was "Identify the land, dance on the land, have a picnic on the land, and then develop the land. When government asks you how many people live in your settlement, don't say 'plenty'. Collect your data and tell them a number. Because information is power."

He was an unstoppable force for good and an unbelievable champion of the urban poor. For their rights most certainly and for their humanity and for the recognition - not yet won - that they were not a mass of victims or guinea pigs. Instead, he was determined to show the ever-growing number of people who understood the importance of listening to him, that the capacities, the resilience and the collective wisdom of the urban poor presented governments with a blueprint for a better future.

Jockin in his beautiful gentle manner, challenged us; not to score ideological or abstract victories (although he certainly understood their value) but to make real, tangible differences in the lives of poor people. Ministers, MECs and mayors in South Africa, who had the privilege of working with him, knew this well.

Few, if any organisation in the world, can demonstrate a similar scale and depth in terms of Jockin's/SDI's impact on poor communities - through enumeration, settlement mapping, securing tenure, installing drainage, upgrading services and incrementally building houses. The United Nations (UN) Human Settlements Programme acknowledged this and in recent times, the SDI has occupied prominence at all UN events.

This required superhuman energy and courage. It necessitated a brilliant mind. It demanded the capacity to see opportunities and seize them. Most of all, it required the ability to mobilise, humanise, conscientise and inspire people like himself - people downtrodden, excluded, evicted, exploited and objectified.

We mourn Jockin Arputham who has long taught and challenged us. Jockin, perhaps more than anyone else, has shaped and informed our work in urban areas. Those hundreds of thousands of slum dwellers who belong to Jockin's beautiful, rag-tag, festive but deeply determined army are on the march. They are the ones that will fill the "Jockin-sized hole" that the great man has left behind U





RCO HOSTS DIPLOMATIC FUN FAIR

he Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) hosted the Diplomatic Fun Fair on Saturday, 8 December 2018, at the Pioneer Museum, Pretoria, under the theme: "Honouring Madiba, A Global Champion of Human Rights, Peace and Reconciliation".

The annual event serves as a key platform to educate the general public about diplomacy and South Africa's foreign policy objectives. It brings together embassies and high commissions accredited to South Africa to showcase and promote cultural diplomacy through creative expressions such as arts, music and cuisine from around the world.





















Liberation heritage:

Dumisani Kumalo

diplomat, Dumisani Shadrack Kumalo. who served as the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations (UN), died at his home on 20 January 2019 at the age of 71.

Ambassador Kumalo was born in Kwambunda village, on the banks of the Blood River, Kingsley, Natal, to Khelina Kumalo (née Mbatha) and Andries Kumalo on 16 September 1947. He was the fifth child of 11 siblings.

After the family moved to Evaton, south of Johannesburg, he attended the Evaton Community School after which he attended Wilberforce College, also in Evaton. He furthered his academic studies by acquiring a BA degree from the University of South Africa and a Master's degree from Indiana University. He spent much of his childhood in Evaton and later moved to Soweto to stay with his elder brother and the only remaining sibling, Henry, who raised him like his son.

Mtungwa cut his political teeth as a student activist. He pursued his fight for freedom, justice and equality for all when he took up journalism and was one of the founding members of the Union of Black Journalists. He joined Jim Bailey's Post and Drum magazine in 1967 and later the Sunday Times.

It is during this time that he also became an activist in the South African Student Organisation, where he found a platform to contribute and add his voice to the fight against apartheid. From that point on, his family resigned itself to sharing him with the world as he joined the struggle.

While in exile, Ambassador Kumalo became a key figure in the anti-apartheid divestment campaign, which led to the passage of the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 by the United States (US) Congress. In this context, he played an important role in mobilising members of Congress to reverse then President Ronald Reagan's veto on sanctions because, as he put it: "Punitive sanctions, I believe, are not the best course of action; they hurt the very people they are intended to help".

"The African Agenda" occupied Dumisani Kumalo's mind as a lifelong vocation. He was a true Pan-Africanist who believed in the unity of Africa as an essential condition for the continent to address her challenges so as to improve the lives of the peoples of Africa for

Soon after Nelson Mandela's release from prison in February 1990, Ambassador Kumalo returned to South Africa for the first time after over a decade of exile in the US. He witnessed

the historic elections in 1994 that brought the African National Congress to power and thereafter started to work for the Government in 1997 as Director of the US Desk in the then Department of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Kumalo was subsequently appointed as South Africa's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) in New York and presented his credentials to former Secretary-General Kofi Annan on 21 April 1999.

He served as South Africa's Permanent Representative to the UN in New York until 2009. During his decade-long tour of duty, Ambassador Kumalo gained vast experience in multilateral diplomacy and extensive knowledge and understanding of the challenges facing developing countries broadly and the African continent in particular. In this regard, Ambassador Kumalo was vocal in calling for a strengthened and reformed UN that would serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration for all peoples of the world.

From 1999 to 2009, South Africa chaired several organisations and formations, namely, the African Union, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Group of 77 plus China (G77).

As Chair, Ambassador Kumalo articulated the views of Africa and the developing world at the UN and mobilised support for the socio-economic development programmes of the South and Africa's New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Ambassador Kumalo advocated for a rulesbased multilateral system with development, security and human rights at its centre. He actively participated in the main deliberative and subsidiary bodies of the UN and held several positions as Chair or Co-Chair of various UN bodies: he was Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission; Chairperson of the Economic and Social Council Ad Hoc Advisory Groups on Guinea Bissau and Burundi; and Co-Chair for the establishment of the Human Rights Council.

From 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2008. South Africa had the honour of serving as an elected member of the UN Security Council (SC) for the first time. Ambassador Kumalo led the first South African team to the UNSC. South Africa's main objective in the council was to contribute to the resolution of conflicts and stabilisation of post-conflict situations. Ambassador Kumalo also chaired several committees of the UNSC. He was Chair of the 751 Sanctions Committee on Somalia; Chair of the SC mandate review; Vice-Chair of the Sanctions Committee on Liberia; Vice-Chair of the Sanctions Committee on Côte d'Ivoire; Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa; and Co-Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

Ambassador Kumalo returned to South Africa in 2009 after completing his tour of duty in New York and was appointed as Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region in the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) before retiring.

On his retirement from DIRCO Ambassador Kumalo served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Thabo Mbeki Foundation (TMF) until 2015. His contribution to the work of the TMF will forever be appreciated, particularly the establishment of the Thabo Mbeki African Leadership Institute, a TMF initiative in partnership with UNISA, which trains young people in order to contribute to the development of a cadre of thought leaders on the African continent.

He was a big, exuberant man with a wide and generous smile and a sense of humour to match. In his spare time, Ambassador Kumalo loved music, particularly jazz concerts and jazz clubs - ask the many South African musicians who lived with him in exile in New York

Ambassador Kumalo is survived by his wife, Ntombikayise Kumalo; brother, Henry Kumalo; children; and grandchildren.

President Cyril Ramaphosa paid tribute to the longstanding diplomat and activist: "South Africa and the international community share this great loss with the family and friends of Ambassador Kumalo".

"We will remember this outstanding patriot, activist and consummate diplomat for influencing and guiding the global debate on apartheid and for asserting South Africa's role in the global community during the early years of our democracy.

"Thanks to his passion for our country, Ambassador Kumalo was instrumental in South Africa's transition from a pariah state to a partner to the international community.

"Ambassador Kumalo flew the flag not just for his own country, but for the SADC region, Africa and the nations of the Global South. He also championed the cause of building a multilateral system of global governance that would advance inclusion, fairness and peace among the nations of the world.

"His dedication and tenacity have ensured that South Africans and people around the world live in a better world today", concluded President Ramaphosa.

The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Lindiwe Sisulu, said Ambassador Kumalo had left a rich legacy as a multilateralist. "South Africans must celebrate the contribution Ambassador Kumalo made in the fight against apartheid during his years in exile in the US, which culminated in the UNSC recognising apartheid as a crime against humanity. Ambassador Kumalo played an important role in promoting multilateralism and a strengthened and reformed UN. At a time when multilateralism is under threat, his experience and wisdom will be sorely missed," said Minister Sisulu.

Government declared a Special Official Funeral Category 2 for the late Ambassador Kumalo, which was held on 26 January 2019. A Special Official Funeral Category 2 entails elements of police ceremonial honours in line with The Presidency's State, Official and Provincial Official Funeral Policy for distinguished persons specifically designated by the President of the Republic of South

Speaking at the funeral, the Minister in The Presidency, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, said he was larger than life, even in those cold corridors in the UN.

"His belting laughter could be heard across and beyond the walls. He approached every task with the same vigour, be it chairing the NAM or the UNSC or the G77 + China consultations or the various missions he undertook to places like East Timor. Ambassador Kumalo had inordinate interpersonal skills and the ability to befriend and unite either side of the negotiation table. He was equally loved and revered by friend and foe

"Full of life and humble, Ambassador Kumalo knew by name every security and cleaning personnel at our Mission and in the



UN. Often enquiring about their families and their progress in life, much to the irritation of many a delegation as this would often hold them up in the long walks to the General Assembly and meeting rooms.

"We could have not chosen a better representative to protect and promote the interests of our nation and continent.

"We have spoken of the overwhelming messages we received following the news of Ambassador Kumalo's passing. One such message came from the President of Western Sahara and SG of the POLOSARIO, President Brahim Gali, who said: 'Ambassador Kumalo worked wholeheartedly to promote and defend African interests and issues, including his passionate and firm support for the right of the Saharawi people to self-determination and freedom. [We are] grateful to his steadfast and principled positions, we would like to pay tribute to his great moral qualities and dedication'.

"Ambassador Kumalo was a citizen of the world and yet he spent most of his time imparting knowledge and inspiring the youth of our nation. In our Department of Foreign Affairs, there is what is colloquially known as the "University of Dumisani Kumalo" whose members are now placed throughout the world and are no doubt further imparting knowledge." U







Partnering with BRICS has reinforced South Africa as a nation that's ready to do business. We're no longer just known for thriving in the agricultural, mineral and automotive sectors. We're moving towards becoming a knowledge-based economy, with a greater focus on innovation, technology, e-commerce, financial and other fields. We're more than ready to partner with you. Are you ready?

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CAPE TOWN WELCOMES YOU



VISIT, LIVE, WORK, PLAY & INVEST IN ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CITIES ON EARTH

Cape Town has been voted the world's Best City by readers of the UK's Telegraph for five consecutive years, and there's good reason why. We rank among the world's top destinations to visit and have all the attributes that appeal to people looking for a great city in which to live, work, play and invest.

Cape Town is a proudly inclusive city, welcoming all who can join us in our vision to create a safe, sustainable, vibrant urban environment for generations to come.

We are national leaders in business and have a thriving knowledge economy; our skills market is growing and the city offers numerous opportunities for work and investment.

Cape Town is also a proud recipient of a number of international awards and accolades. In 2018, the city was named one of the Top 10 Surf Cities in the world by Surfer Magazine and crowned the number one city in Africa for business tourism events by the International Congress and Convention Association. Cape Town has also been voted one of the Top 10 Cities in the World for Travellers by Lonely Planet in 2017, Skytrax voted our airport the Best in Africa and international real estate company Savills ranked the Cape Town amongst the world's Top Tech Cities in a 2017 report.

VISIT

Cape Town is a must-visit destination. Cape Point, Groot Constantia, Kirstenbosch, Robben Island, the Table Mountain Cableway and the V&A Waterfront are the iconic destinations that form the core of the true Cape Town experience, and a trip to the city will not be complete without a visit to each Big 6 attractions. Cape Town also has the highest number of Blue Flag beaches in South Africa. Seven of the city's most popular beaches and three Cape Town marinas have been recognised for meeting the globally-acclaimed Blue Flag standards.

Beaches awarded the prestigious status include: Bikini Beach, Mnandi, Strandfontein, Llandudno, Camps Bay, Clifton 4th and Silwerstroom.

Cape Town has a number of world class museums that offer up a treasure trove to the past. A number of these museums are located in the city centre - all within walking distance of each other - and together offer a view as diverse and entertaining as the city itself.

The state-of-the-art Zeitz MOCAA – recently voted the world's top cultural destination – is the latest addition to the Cape Town landscape and the first major museum in Africa dedicated to contemporary art. The museum, housed in the historic Grain Silo at the V&A Waterfront, comprises over 9,500 square meters (102,000 square feet) placing it among leading contemporary art museums worldwide.

Zeitz MOCAA is spread over nine floors, of which 6,000 square meters (65,000 square feet) is dedicated to exhibition space. Through an entire floor dedicated to education, the museum aims to develop a new art-loving, museum-going audience.















LIVE

Cape Town has a terrific mixture of areas to live, from vibrant city-living to guiet, leafy residential suburbs. The city is known for its successful property market. In recent years Cape Town's property values and sales transactions have exceeded Johannesburg's and continue to attract international property investors. The city and surrounds is also home to four public universities, two globally recognised business schools and a number of trustworthy private and public institutions. Educational institutions situated in the city include the University of Cape Town, University of the Western Cape and the Cape Town University of Technology. Cape Town is also fast becoming the most digitally connected city in Africa. The City's public Wi-Fi service and other digital inclusion projects are part of a broader Digital City Strategy, which aims to make Cape Town the most digitally connected city in Africa. Other elements of the strategy include investment in digital infrastructure, digital business initiatives, and a focus on digital government.

WORK

Cape Town's favourable lifestyle is one of the major reasons why many of the top wealth and asset management firms choose to base themselves here. The city is home to an impressive group of wealth managers, including the likes of Allan Gray, Old Mutual, Foord, Coronation, Sanlam, Prescient and Sygnia. Most of these companies' staff and top executives live in the city. Top employment sectors in Cape Town include community and social services, the financial and trade sectors. The financial services sector employed the largest number of skilled individuals in 2015 (274 087) and the manufacturing sector employed the largest number of semi-skilled and unskilled individuals (111 213).

Cape Town is also home to over 200 companies in the Information Technology (IT) and software industry employing 7 500 people. Our large retailers have extensive distribution channels into Africa opening up the possibility of collaboration in moving products within the continent. Cape Town also has a booming film and media industry. It's a sector that has created more than 35 000 jobs, contributing about US\$ 92 million to the economy in the last 3 years.

Cape Town is home to the only Hollywood style film studio complex in Africa. Coupled with exceptionally skilled film crew and post-production services, our facilities are winning awards and attracting a growing number of productions and stars to our shores. We also act as a gateway to Africa with several companies running their African operations from our city. The City of Cape Town is making sure that our infrastructure investments support key sectors, like the tech industry. An extensive open source fibre optic network has been installed with plans to extend the footprint over the forthcoming years.

PLAY

Cape Town hosts a wide range of local and international events – from concerts and community-based events to business conferences and international sports tournaments. The city is a creative hub with arts, heritage and cultural sites, activities and opportunities for all. We have a lively arts and culture scene where creativity and heritage are explored through theatre, live music, dance, visual arts and more. Both day and night in Cape Town offer you exciting cultural spaces to visit and events to be a part of. Explore galleries and museums, cultural precincts, attend signature events and explore our top cultural venues.

INVEST

Cape Town is South Africa's oldest city, its second-most populous and an important contributor to national employment. It is the legislative capital of South Africa, the administrative and economic centre of the Western Cape, and Africa's third biggest economic hub. The Mother City produces 9.8% of South Africa's gross domestic product (GDP) and accounts for more than 71% of the Western Cape's economic activity (Global Insight, 2016). The City has a diversified economy, and the three biggest sectors are: finance, insurance, property and business services. Cape Town is attracting thinkers, innovators and design led entrepreneurs who are helping to build an ecosystem that is strong in many aspects of the knowledge economy. The city is the leader on the African continent in the information technology sector, with more tech start-ups than anywhere else on the continent.

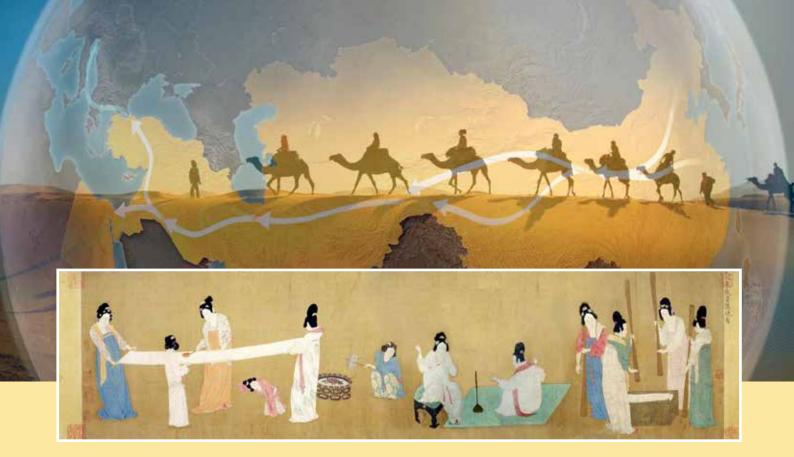
Cape Town has been chosen as the African headquarters of innovation by companies such as Barclay Rise and Thomson Reuters. The city is also the home to many of South Africa and Africa's financial institutions and, coupled with the national headquarters of many legal and consultancy firms, offer all the services needed to underpin a global drive into Africa.

One of the fastest growing sectors in Cape Town's economy is the business process outsourcing (BPO) sector, with many global call centres and online retailers like Amazon choosing to conduct their operations from our shores.

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How the new Silk Road will cement China as major trading partner for Africa

The Belt and Road Initiative will connect at least 65 countries, most of them developing economies. The routes will cover 63% of the world's population and 29% of global gross domestic product.

By Asit K Biswas, Distinguished Visiting Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore and Cecilia Tortajada, Senior Research Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

n 138 BC, China took its first step towards global connectivity with the establishment of the historical Silk Road. Zhang Qian was sent by Emperor Wudi to Central Asia to establish trade relationships. His historic missions enabled China to make contact with the outposts of Hellenic civilisation established by Alexander the Great.

These efforts enabled Emperor Han's dynasty to develop political and trade relationships with Central Asian countries. New ideas came to China, along with new plants like grapes and alfalfa and superior breeds of horses.

Centuries later, China is building a very different, very modern version of that route. The Belt and Road Initiative consists of two complementary, concurrent plans. One is an overland route connecting Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia to China. The second is the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, which aims to connect China, South East and South

The Belt and Road Initiative will connect at least 65 countries, most of them developing economies. The routes will cover 63% of the world's population and 29% of global gross domestic product.

Chinese President Xi Jinping reiterated his commitment to the project during the 10th Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) Summit, held in South Africa in late July 2018. He said it would "create new opportunities of social and economic development for participating countries".

On the face of it, the Belt and Road Initiative looks set to change a number of economic, social and strategic landscapes. But, it's essential that whatever the project produces is perceived as benefitting everyone involved - China as well as the countries affected.

Some projects, which are already underway, particularly in Africa, offer insights into how the initiative might unfold and what its benefits and pitfalls could be. These projects also suggest that China has learned from previous infrastructure investments on the continent some decades ago.

Already connecting Africa

The African leg of the Belt and Road Initiative is work in progress. China says it will hold ongoing discussions with various countries and make decisions based on consensus

FEATURE

as well as the economic, social and political feasibility of individual projects. Some of the countries poised to benefit most include Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Egypt.

This will cement China's role as Africa's main trading partner, a space it has occupied since overtaking the United States in 2009. Between 2010 and 2015, China's foreign direct investment on the continent grew by 21,7% - and it's still

It's important to point out that the Belt and Road Initiative will not be starting entirely from scratch. China has already provided significant help in improving connectivity and developing infrastructure in countries set to benefit from the initiative.

For example, China supported the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway. It's the first transboundary and longest electrified railway line in Africa. The Export-Import Bank of China provided commercial loans that funded 85% of Ethiopia's and 70% of Djibouti's contributions. And the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation also owns 10% of Djibouti's portion.

The 759-km long railway, which connects landlocked Ethiopia to the maritime trade routes of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, started carrying passengers in late 2016.

China is also responsible for constructing the Madaraka Express, which connects the Kenyan port of Mombasa to the capital city, Nairobi, a distance of 489 km. This railway is being extended to Naivasha in Kenya's northwest. There are plans to extend it even further so that it eventually interconnects Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and, much later, South Sudan and Ethiopia.



The new railway has already reduced transportation time between Kenya's two most important cities and, crucially for trade, reduced the cost of transporting a container between the two cities by half.

Next steps for the initiative

The success and effectiveness of the Belt and Road Initiative will depend on many factors. These include national and regional geopolitics and the longterm economic benefits of various projects in beneficiary countries.

It will also be important that non-Chinese companies, both public and private, are able to compete successfully for a significant portion of the construction pie. And China's economic rivals should not be excluded from bidding for and winning work.

But tension is inevitable, as has already been seen in South Asia.

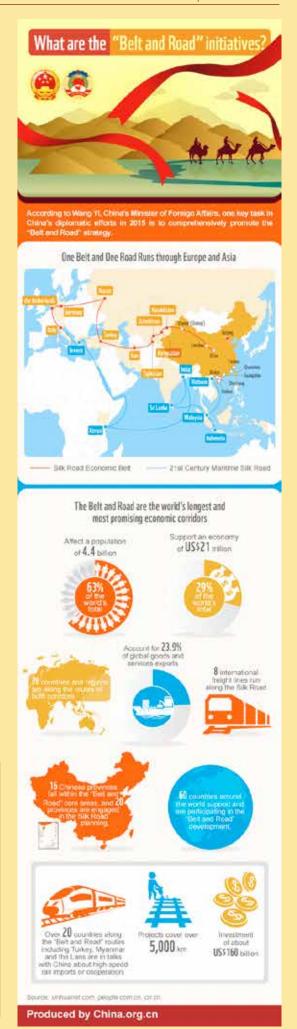
China is working to complete a 6-km bridge over the river Padma in Bangladesh for which it is providing an over US\$3 billion loan. China is investing some US\$31 billion in other projects in Bangladesh. It also plans to spend some US\$60 billion on the construction of ports, railways, roads and power plants in Pakistan.

These activities and similar infrastructure developments in other countries like Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Maldives have unsettled India, which is questioning China's real intentions in the region.

The world will be watching as the Belt and Road Initiative unfolds - and all the players will hope the benefits outweigh the costs and are sustainable in the long term U

This article was first published on The Conversation.

The success and effectiveness of the Belt and Road Initiative will depend on many factors. These include national and regional geopolitics and the long-term economic benefits of various projects in beneficiary countries.





Africa 4.0: Preparing for the **Fourth Industrial Revolution**

By Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams

Minister of Communications

he theme for this year's edition of the World Economic Forum, which took place in Davos between 22 - 25 January 2019. "Globalisation was Shaping a 4.0: Architecture in the Age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution". Myself and a delegation of South African ministers worked with other global participants on defining new models for building sustainable and inclusive societies in a plurilateral world.

There is no question that the Fourth Industrial Revolution is upon us. That it is taking place globally at unpredictably fast rates is common cause. The biggest unknown is the size of the seismic change ahead of us and its impact on the developing world, particularly the African continent.

The disruptions that digital technology will bring are expected across industries and all economic sectors, impacting the job market of the future, skills development and education of the workplace and not least, the way we live. For Africa, the Fourth Industrialisation Revolution poses massive opportunities, but also some critical risks.

Previous industrial revolutions heightened and increased regional divisions marginalised the most vulnerable societies in the world. It is imperative that governments shape the current globalisation trends to ensure inclusivity and fairness of the Fourth Industrial Revolution through collaboration and partnerships. Strong collaboration and consensus are required between government, academia, science councils, business and labour.

With Africa having the world's youngest population, the most pertinent question to my mind is: "How does Africa, with the development and climate challenges it faces, take its place in a Globalisation 4.0 context?"

As Africa's leading industrialised nation, South Africa has been preparing for the Fourth Industrial Revolution for several years across various sectors of government. All industries are being digitally disrupted, which presents an opportunity for a growing digital economy.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution provides us with a new and unique opportunity to address youth unemployment by adapting our education models to catalyse innovation and upskill the next generation for digital transformation.

Industrialisation 4.0

Through the Department of Trade and Industry's (the dti) Industrial Policy Action Plan, government has developed several iterations of industrial policy to support Africa's industrialisation and optimisation of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The dti recently established a new Chief Directorate, Future Industrial Production and Technologies Unit, to examine likely impacts and build capacity around government to confront challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

By importing Industry 4.0 technologies and combining them with low costs of production factors, emerging countries can leapfrog in the value chain and solve societal issues, including creating decent jobs.

Industries with wide product ranges (such as food and beverages), commodity producers (metals, agriculture) and precisiondriven (pharmaceuticals and electronic components) are most likely to invest in Industry 4.0, which is crucial for the South African economy.

Early South African areas of response to date include aggressive technology acquisitions, transfer and diffusion technologies; securing inward investment from global original equipment manufacturers in key strategic value chains to build global competitive capabilities e.g. mining and mining capital equipment; fuel cells; aerospace; and defence.

As government, we have stepped up research and development and commercialisation efforts, led by the Department of Science and Technology and its institutions, in close collaboration with the dti.

We are providing a much stronger institutional architecture to support technology transfers – building on excellent examples like the Technology Localisation Implementation Unit at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. In addition, we have programmes to support innovation, such as tax incentives to encourage acquisition and innovation in production capabilities, new systems, processes, products and exports.

Youth, education and jobs for new, smarter economies

Many jobs are threatened by redundancy in the next wave of industrialisation and this pertains to Africa too. Existing jobs are expected to go through step-changes in the skill sets required to perform them. Others job types are expected to grow rapidly but unpredictably.

Knowledge and information and communications technology skills will be critical to Africa unlocking future opportunities. Upskilling is essential to ensure economic survival and social consent; a critical responsibility falls on the State and business for continuous, targeted training and re-training initiatives. Governments and business should work to assist workers and communities with the changes required to be part of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

President Cyril Ramaphosa recently announced, as part of government's broader strategy to upskill the next generation with digital skills, that learners will be equipped with tablet devices to assist e-learning at public schools.

Africa embraces Globablisation 4.0

We encourage South African companies to consider the rest of Africa as a key market, especially for trade in value-added products that will form part of the Fourth Industrial Revolution value chains. Intra-African trade remains low compared to other major regions in the world such as the European Union and Asia. Africa needs to increase its production base of export manufacturing and focus on facilitating the movement of goods across borders in competitive ways.

There has been encouraging progress on this front. In July 2018, South Africa joined almost 50 other countries on the continent in signing the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) Agreement, which seeks a single continental market for goods and services, with free movement of business persons and investments. With about 1,2 billion people on the African continent, the African CFTA Agreement could create one of the largest free trade market zones in the world.

Africa has shown its digital leapfrogging capabilities in the past through successful digital transformation - the area where we're seeing economic growth occur for Africa

To this end, we as a nation are ensuring that we are part of the important global discussions pertaining to the Fourth Industrial Revolution because Africa cannot afford to be left behind.

The International Telecommunication Union Telecom World Congress was hosted by South Africa for the first time in Durban in September 2018. The conference attracted 7 000 government ministers, leaders of multilateral organisations, regulators, entrepreneurs and business, small businesses. We embraced this opportunity because it ensured that Africa's voice was heard in the important technology discussions which include preparations for 5G networks, impact and ownership of artificial intelligence, cyber security and the risks and opportunities of a smarter world.

Another area of focus is connecting the people who remain offline. The Smart Africa Initiative has resolved to launch the One Africa Network, which is aligned to modern thinking in the rollout of infrastructure as the continent strives to connect her unconnected citizens. Training people in digital skills is as important as rolling out infrastructure to cover everyone.

In this regard, African countries are rolling out the Internet-for-All Programme, which focusses on the provision of digital skills, localisation of Internet content and manufacturing and rollout of infrastructure. Some private-sector companies, like Cisco and Microsoft, are partnering with African countries to scale up digital skills training.

All these initiatives are important because they facilitate the meaningful participation of Africans in the Fourth Industrial Revolution and empowers us to do so on our own terms.



President Cvril Ramaphosa led Team South Africa's participation in the annual meetings of the World Economic Forum (WEF) from 22 to 25 January 2019 in Davis-Klosters, Switzerland

The 2019 WEF was held under the theme "Globalisation 4.0: Shaping a Global Architecture in the Age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution". The annual gathering brings together heads and members of more than 100 governments, top executives of the 1 000 foremost global companies, leaders of international organisations and relevant nongovernmental organisations, and cultural, societal and thought leaders, among others.

President Ramaphosa began programme on Wednesday, 23 January 2019, where he co-chaired a session on Shaping Africa's Agenda in the Global Context and also addressed a session on Country Strategy Dialogue on South Africa.

The President also attended the Alibaba Spring Festival Dinner hosted by founder and Executive Chairperson of the Alibaba Group, Jack Ma.

On Thursday, 24 January 2019, President Ramaphosa addressed the South Africa Investment Seminar to showcase successes of the first Investment Conference, held in October 2018, and used the opportunity to communicate on the reforms government had initiated to improve ease of doing business and enhance the country's profile as an investment partner of choice.

He also made contributions during sessions on Europe and Africa: Towards a New Development Architecture; the Informal Gathering of World Economic Leaders lunch: The World in the Age of Globilisation 4.0; and Africa's Leadership in the Global Context.

The President also during the WEF gathering met with various investors, showcasing South Africa's investment and trade opportunities.

The WEF gathering provided a platform for Team South Africa to engage and update the international community, including investors, on the path of renewal and growth upon which the country has embarked.

The Davos discussions explored how technological advances were impacting on or giving rise to new systems of health, transportation, communications, production, distribution and energy, and the changes required in education and other programmes to prepare workers for this economic revolution and accompanying social changes.

The forum enabled Team South Africa to contribute to global dialogue on key issues facing humanity and to engage on key opportunities that are emerging. u



Jobs and skills in the Fourth Industrial Revolution

The skills that will be required for the digital revolution age are, among others, cognitive abilities; systems skills; complex problem-solving skills; content skills; process skills; social skills; resource management skills; technical skills; and physical skills.

By Amukelani Chauke

South African Government News Agency

s the digital age transforms the way in which people live, it will also have an impact on the economy and on jobs. New trades with new skills will be created and some jobs that are currently being done by humans will be replaced by automated systems.

All except those that still require a human touch and complex problem-solving abilities will survive.

This is according to Professor Tshilidzi Marwala, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Johannesburg, who was one of the keynote speakers at the 2018 Science Forum South Africa, which took place in Pretoria in December 2018.

In his address, he highlighted some of the critical skills needed in the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

"I am going to talk about something called the Moravec's dilemma. Moravec basically believed that [the] skills that human beings acquired a long time ago are much more difficult to automate than skills that were acquired more recently.

"At OR Tambo, not too long ago, they used to have a machine to give people massages. You would sit on the chair and there would be things that would be moving for you to get a massage. Those chairs are no longer there and the reason for that is that human beings do those things much better than a machine.

"So, jobs that have what is called the human touch are jobs that are going to survive the Fourth Industrial Revolution," he said.

The Moravec paradox is a principle that was articulated by futurist Hans Moravec and other artificial intelligence and robotics researchers in the 1980s. It states that

contrary to other assertions, it is easy to give robots or computers adult level performance on intelligence tests while at the same time it is a bit more difficult to give them skills like sensibility or mobility.

Marwala's research in artificial intelligence

Having been in his current position since January 2018, previously Professor Marwala was the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research and Internationalisation between 2013 and 2017

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering (magna cum laude) from Case Western Reserve (University United States of America), a Master of Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pretoria and a PhD specialising in Artificial Intelligence and Engineering from the University of Cambridge. He was a postdoctoral research associate at the Imperial



College (then University of London).

His research interests are multidisciplinary and include the theory and application of artificial intelligence to engineering, computer science, finance, social science and medicine. He has published 12 books on artificial intelligence (one of which has been translated into Chinese), over 300 papers in journals, proceedings, book chapters and magazines and holds four international patents.

Automated work in the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Profesor Marwala took some time to explain the journey the world had travelled from the first to the fourth revolutions.

While the fourth marks the advent of the digital era, the First Industrial Revolution was dominated by steam mechanisation where hand-production methods were replaced by iron production and chemical manufacturing, which gave rise to the factory system. This took place in the 18th century.

The Second Industrial Revolution. between 1870 and 1940, was an era when electricity was introduced and the petroleum and steel industries were expanded.

The Third Industrial Revolution, which Professor Marwala describes as an era of knowledge distribution, was about computerisation and the birth of the Internet. The Fourth Industrial Revolution is about cyber-physical systemisation, artificial cognisation and robotisation.

Proffesor Marwala believes the world is now entering an era where a great deal of work is going to be done by machines.

Professional class must re-skill themselves

Sharing his own research into artificial intelligence and the Fourth Industrial Revolution, he said artificial intelligence had impacted several professions from healthcare and the economy to political science and psychology.

Professor Marwala used the example of the introduction of artificial intelligence into stock trading, where human traders were replaced by artificially intelligent traders. Factors such as emotion were removed from the markets and decisions are made purely based on data

"Before, when the stock market was still down in Johannesburg and everybody was shouting prices, there were two criteria you needed in order to work in the stock market as a trader. One, you must have been tall because if you are not tall enough, when you call the price, they won't see you. The second one was that you needed to have an imposing voice. If you had a soft voice you wouldn't survive there.

"But now the stock market is no longer manned by human beings. People are now using computers to trade in the stock market."

Because of this, he said, markets had become more rational and "rational markets are more efficient".

Professor Marwala also used the example of the automation of operations at the then SA Breweries as an indication that the current digital era is already impacting on working class jobs. The liquor brewer used to have a plant in East London which employed 3 000 people but after it was automated, some jobs became redundant.

He said the world was entering what is called a "post-work" era and while conventional wisdom predicts that the working class will be the biggest losers, there is a need for the professional class to re-skill themselves.

"But if you see the scale at which many white collar jobs are being automated, I think the professional class must actually re-skill themselves. They must prepare themselves much more than they are doing now," he said.

For instance, professionals in the banking sector, who initially were only required to have accounting skills, must expand their skills set. "The conclusion ... is that bankers of the future must have some form of understanding of technology, some form of understanding of society and some form of understanding of finance and accounting," he said.

Skills that will survive the Fourth **Industrial Revolution**

Proffesor Marwala said skills that could survive the Fourth Industrial Revolution could be acquired through multidisciplinary education where human and social sciences understood science and technology, and vice versa

The skills that will be required for the digital revolution age are, among others, cognitive abilities; systems skills; complex problemsolving skills; content skills; process skills; social skills; resource management skills; technical skills; and physical skills. U

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Revisiting Nelson Mandela's roots: A photographic exploration

By Raymond Suttner

Emeritus Professor, University of South Africa and Visiting Professor and Strategic Adviser in the Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg

outh African photographer, Bonile Bam, decided that he wanted to tell a different Nelson Mandela story by documenting the landscape and physical setting in which Mandela lived as a boy. Like Mandela, Bam also grew up in the Eastern Cape. The entirely black and white photographs formed part of an exhibition in Johannesburg called Mandela's Roots (Revisited). Raymond Suttner interviewed Bam on his photography and how he came to develop the Mandela exhibition, which coincided with Mandela's birth 100 years ago.

How did you come to focus on Mandela?

In 2003, I had the privilege of working for the Sunday Times newspaper in Johannesburg. During that period, I read a lot of articles about Madiba but he had already retired from politics.

A phone call from the Nelson Mandela Foundation requesting me to be an official photographer for the event where Madiba was meeting his guests, played a huge part in my career.

Did you get a chance to talk to Madiba?

At the end of the event, Mandela, spoke to me and said, "Good to see you young man, I'm glad you came".

Smiling, he continued, "You must treat a camera like a key, it will unlock many doors for you".

That was a turning point in my life. Being in the presence of a man who sacrificed everything on earth in order to help liberate his country from the chains of apartheid was exceptional. After hearing the stories and struggles he had gone through as a young boy, I took it upon myself to trace his roots in the Eastern Cape.

Was this not a difficult task?

I could not travel to Mvezo, Qunu and Mghekezweni (Eastern Cape towns) and just start pointing a camera at people. On my trip, I met with elders of the Madiba clan (Mandela's clan). Arriving there with a camera ready to photograph preserved sites would be seen as a sign of disrespect and undermining the community. My attempt was to move with caution and allow the story to unfold.

As an observer with a camera, the ability to speak and write is not enough. I needed to listen. The elders who grew up with Madiba pointed in the direction of Mvezo. When I gathered enough material, I knew it was time to get going.

On my arrival, in June 2005, I was freezing from the shoulders down to my toes. My fingertips were shrinking and becoming stiffer the closer I got to his birthplace. The houses were dark but I could identify slow movement of livestock passing far away. The path I walked through was dry and dusty with some parts of rough stones. I desperately needed a cup of coffee to stay warm but the sun was beginning to crack between clouds. The sound of the birds and Mbashe River kept me

On what were you focussed?

My point of interest was to find the remains of the house where Madiba's umbilical cord was hidden in 1918 - and related things in the surroundings.

Meanwhile, the livestock were grazing lazily in the fields. I had to stop and appreciate the view. In the village, it would be rude of a stranger to leave a place without speaking to the people on the roadside. I was interested in documenting the life, values, landscape, spaces, objects, specific textures and history of the place.

It was time to move to Qunu. Here, the Madibas dominate large part of the social landscape. Beautiful or not - a place in any part of the world is defined by human experience and knowledge brought to it.

Why do you think we can interpret Mandela through his early physical surroundings?

Clearly, it's hard to measure a person of Madiba's stature against nature. The streams and footpaths where he played traditional stick-fight with other boys, hunted rabbits, knocked birds (out of the sky) and herded his father's cattle are seen not far away from his home. In my visits there, I sensed an element of harmony and respect for tradition.

In Mghekezweni, where Madiba grew up after the passing of his father, a rondavel (bungalow) and church are testimony to what influenced his life long before politics took centre stage.

Going outside, the twin gumtrees maintained their majestic appeal. This is where Madiba was groomed to be an adviser to Acting Regent Chief Jongintaba Dalindyebo long before he became a symbol of democracy and freedom.

Why do you think the photographs are important?

These photographs matter because they tell a story about a place, a man and his identity at a certain point in time. In my view, the pictures depicted here are much more than a simple record of home. They reflect values, history and lifestyle.

Madiba was a humanist. However, some people have a basic knowledge of where he came from and who he was but in reality, not much is known about the settings that shaped his childhood.

This body of work attempts to reveal his origins II

This article was first published on The Conversation





The Faculty of Humanities at the University of Johannesburg (UJ), in partnership with the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences and the UJ Library launched the Mandela's Roots (Revisited) a photographic exhibition, consisting of some 27 black and white photographs, by Bonile Bam on Monday, 27 August 2018. The exhibition ran until 30 October 2018.

The Mandela's Roots Exhibition traced Nelson Mandela's childhood journeys through rural towns in the Eastern Cape and featured a series of mainly black and white photographs shot on film in Mveso, Quno and Mghekezweni, and documented the landscape and physical setting in which Mandela lived as a bov.

Bonile Bam, who grew up in the Eastern Cape, explained that he wanted to tell the story of Mandela through the landscape and structures that influenced his political life.

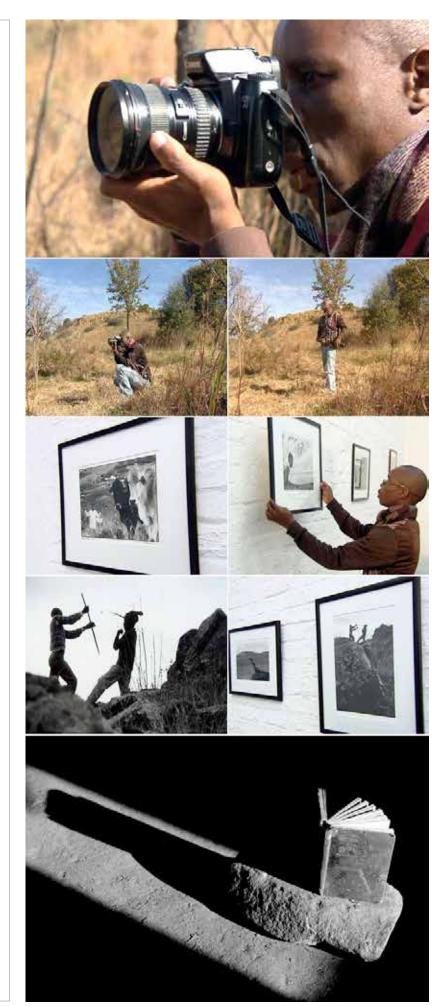
"My work represents a personal journey around spaces and times I refused to ignore. Part of my responsibility as a documentary photographer is to trace and record things I have witnessed before they forever escape the memory. South African landscape has so much hidden in it that still needs to be brought to light. It is my intention to approach every subject or object with great respect. Dignity is the foundation of knowing what to isolate or introduce without hurting the naked eye."

Bam trained at the Market Photo Workshop a photography training workshop that was started by David Goldblatt in the 1980s for photographers excluded from formal tertiary education. After graduating, he stayed on to teach at the Market Photo Workshop. While there, he was selected for the prestigious Getty Images Fellows Programme, on which he completed a photography course in New York before returning to South Africa.

Bam says he feels that this is his most significant work to date: "This is the most important project of my life. Madiba motivated me to take photography seriously and, as a result, that made me work on this project with the intention of revealing the hidden or silent story about the man who has inspired the world."

Bam, who has exhibited in New York, Austria, the Czech Republic, Sweden and the Netherlands, is now working on a project that will document various South African cultural practices. The photos will be shot in colour using a digital format. U

www.nelsonmandela.org / University of Johannesburg





How resistance led to London's Selous Street becoming Mandela Street

By Tal Zalmanovich

Postdoctoral fellow at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in the European Research Councilfunded project, APARTHEID-STOPS, that studies the transnational circulation of anti-apartheid expressive culture, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

n July 2018, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex attended the opening of Nelson Mandela: The Centenary Exhibition in London. It was one of many global events to celebrate Mandela's 100th birthday and his legacy.

What shouldn't be forgotten is that establishment support for Mandela and the struggle he represented was not unanimous during the apartheid years. For example, under Margaret Thatcher, the British Government supported Pretoria and secured Britain's economic and political interests in the region.

Yet, a network of organisations and activists, anti-colonial groups, students, trade unionists and anti-nuclear groups on the left offered support for the struggle. Local authorities - in big cities such as London as well as smaller towns such as Ipswich and Chatham across the United Kingdom (UK) were part of the mix of anti-apartheid protests. Located between government and grassroots organisations, local authorities paved the way for an official rejection of apartheid.

Their legacy of resistance is worth revisiting for two reasons. Firstly, because this form of politics is often overlooked when we concentrate on the demonstrations, sanctions and concerts in Mandela's name. And secondly, because it could be seen as a precursor to contemporary movements calling to remove statues commemorating the colonial past in South Africa and in the UK.

Act of protest

From the early 1980s, local governments in the UK began renaming streets, housing estates and community centres after Mandela as an act of protest - both against apartheid and the British Government.

In August 1981, the City of Glasgow awarded the imprisoned Mandela the Freedom of the City. That year, the Lord Provost of Glasgow also initiated a Declaration of Mayors for the immediate and unconditional release of Mandela and all other political prisoners in South Africa. The campaign led to 2 264 mayors from 56 countries signing the declaration.

On the 20th anniversary of Mandela's arrest on 5 August 1982, the United Nations (UN) Special Committee on Apartheid called for an expansion of the campaign. On the heels of this call came an initiative by the Greater London Council to rename Selous Street, home to the offices of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement in London, Mandela Street.

In the application to the Director-General of the council in March 1983, it was explained that renaming the street was a particularly public and enduring way of honouring Mr Mandela and of demonstrating support for the cause for which he is fighting.

My research at the Anti-Apartheid Movement Archives at the Bodleian Library at Oxford University shows many objections to this proposal.





Resistance

The street was quite small and entirely commercial. A survey from 1982 listed seven commercial firms, one charitable organisation, some council offices and a garage.

A letter from the council's valuer and estates surveyor shows that there was apprehension about renaming the street. It could, the surveyor argues, harm local businesses because "deliveries and new customers" would get confused by "incorrect information on maps".

Some businesses did write to the council, pointing out that they faced additional expenses such as having to order new stationary as well as advertisements.

The Post Office also objected. Its representative argued that the initiative confer "additional work, inconvenience and confusion" and that all records, maps and postcode books would need to be updated. Would it not be better, the official suggested, to name a future street after Mandela rather than an existing one?

A last challenge to the street's name came from the far-right group, the National Front, in 1988. The group distributed pamphlets calling for "British names for British places!"

It proposed renaming Mandela Street after a different Nelson: Horatio Nelson. No action was taken.

A more personal appeal came from Commander GMB Selous who informed Camden borough's director of planning and communications that his family "were slightly horrified" by the initiative. He pointed out that Henry Courtney Selous, after whom the street had been named, was the renowned painter of "The Opening of the Great Exhibition by Queen Victoria" from 1851, and his brother was a known dramatist. As a family, they would be absolutely horrified if a link with England's history should be removed at the whim of people who are, after all, visitors within our normally peaceful shores.

This was a misleading description of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, a British organisation peopled with volunteers mostly of British descent. Commander Selous also forgets to mention his most famed ancestor, Fredrick Courteney Selous, who was an imperial explorer of South Africa, assistant to Cecil Rhodes and game hunter. Frederick Courtney's exploits in South Africa and in Zimbabwe were hardly peaceful.

Commander Selous wrote a similar account in a letter published in The Spectator on 16 July.

Reports in the press about the initiative, and the objections to it, caused a stir. To avoid this criticism, the council promised small grants to cover advertising and stationary costs. It was also agreed that the street sign would retain the older name in addition to Mandela's. The change was approved in time to celebrate Mandela's 65th birthday.

The following year, the Greater London Council strengthened its commitment to anti-apartheid protests. In January 1984, it presented its own anti-apartheid declaration to a delegation from the UN. The statement declared London an "anti-apartheid zone".

The street naming controversy exemplifies the tensions over the attempt to inscribe Mandela's non-racial politics on the ground in the UK. It shows the power of local government to shape politics and mobilise change, even in opposition to national government.

The controversy also shows how the built environment can be used as an effective tool of education. U

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HIRAX has two main science goals: to study the evolution of dark energy by tracking neutral hydrogen gas in galaxies, and to detect and localise mysterious radio flashes called fast radio bursts.

By Kavilan Moodley

Associate Professor, University of KwaZulu-Natal

outh Africa is becoming one of the world's most important radio astronomy hubs, thanks in large part to its role as co-host of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA). A new telescope was recently unveiled that will be built at the SKA South Africa site in the Karoo. The Hydrogen Intensity and Realtime Analysis eXperiment (HIRAX) Project is an international collaboration being led by scientists from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN).

What will HIRAX do, and how?

It's an interferometer array that will be made up of 1 024 six-metre dishes. Interferometer arrays are really cool because they combine signals from many telescopes to provide the resolution of a larger telescope.

HIRAX has two main science goals: to study the evolution of dark energy by tracking neutral hydrogen gas in galaxies, and to detect and localise mysterious radio flashes called fast radio bursts.

Dark energy is a mysterious force driving the accelerated expansion of our universe.

HIRAX can study it, using a unique cosmic ruler provided by nature, called baryon acoustic oscillations. These were generated in the very early universe, which was a hot and dense soup of particles and light. Small irregularities gave rise to sound waves in this primordial soup.

These waves carried matter as they travelled until a time when matter and light separated, distributing matter in a very characteristic pattern. Neutral hydrogen gas is a great tracer of the universe's matter distribution. This neutral hydrogen emits a signal at 1420 MHz, which is in the range of frequencies used by cellular networks and UHF television channels; the signal gets stretched to lower frequencies as the universe expands.

HIRAX will operate between 400 and 800 MHz, allowing it to map neutral hydrogen in the universe between seven to 11 billion years ago. Studying the characteristics of dark energy during this time has the potential to unravel its properties, as this is a vital time when dark energy became the primary component in the universe and accelerated its expansion.



The second focus area involves mysterious bright, millisecond flashes that scientists call fast radio bursts. Scientists do not know what causes these. They're also hard to detect and localise since they're so brief and most telescopes only observe a small region of the sky.

HIRAX's large field of view will allow it to observe large portions of sky daily - so when the flashes happen, the instrument will be more likely to see them. We expect that it'll see up to a dozen of these flashes a day; to put that in perspective, only a few dozen in total have ever been observed.

And HIRAX will add the unique capability of being able to figure out exactly where in the sky these fast radio bursts occur, by working with several other southern African countries to build eight-dish outrigger arrays. These, in combination with the main array, will help localise these bursts to within their hosting galaxies.

It will need to collect large amounts of data at a rate of around 6.5 Terabits per second. That's comparable to all of Africa's international bandwidth. For that, HIRAX needs to design and manufacture

high-precision dishes, receivers and other instrumentation; we're working with local companies on this challenge.

Then the team will need to figure out smart ways to compress, store and analyse this data. That will require big data hardware and software

We hope that the design and manufacturing abilities required to equip HIRAX properly will open up many opportunities for local industries in the region around the SKA project.

The project originated as a response by UKZN and its partner institutions to a call for institutional flagship projects by the National Research Foundation. It's independent from the SKA and its precursor, the MeerKAT but will benefit greatly from the South African investment in the SKA project, which gives it access to excellent infrastructure hosted by the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory.

By sharing a location with MeerKAT on the SKA South Africa site, HIRAX will be able to conduct science in "radio-clear" skies across its wide frequency range. Legislation has been introduced to limit radio frequency interference on the SKA South Africa site.

It's also a great space because it allows access to the southern sky covered by other cosmological surveys and, in turn, more of the galaxy where we'll find pulsars.

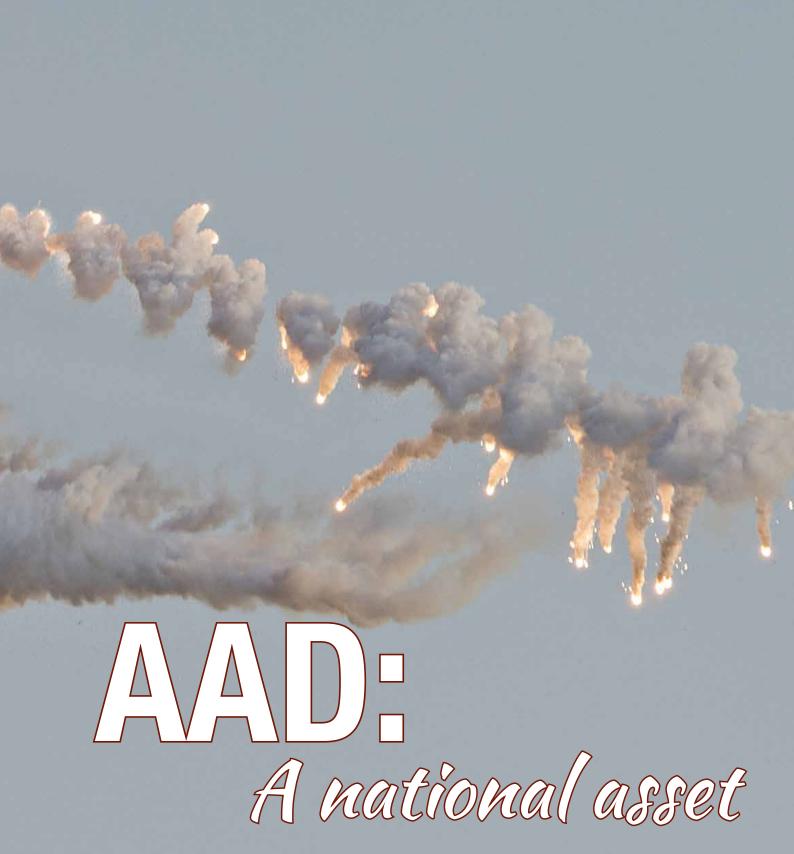
Being part of the "Karoo radio park" will allow HIRAX to add to South Africa's radio astronomy engineering and infrastructure. This infrastructure and the resulting science will increase South Africa's reputation as a global leader in radio astronomy.

HIRAX will also contribute to training the next generation of scientists for the SKA; students working on the project will be trained in all aspects of the telescope, from engineering to science. Students who build hardware are also involved in data analysis. which provides a special environment for training upcoming radio astronomy experts.

Finally, there are strong scientific synergies with MeerKAT (which was officially launched in July 2018). If HIRAX discovers any interesting new pulsars, for instance, MeerKAT can conduct follow-up timing observations at higher frequencies. U

This article, which was first published on The Conversation, was coauthored by Carolyn Crichton, a technical writer with the HIRAX Project. Before joining the project, she worked for five years at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre in the United States.





Rated among the top six exhibitions in the world, it boasts more than 450 participating companies in the defence and aerospace industries, from over 30 countries.











he Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD) is Africa's only aerospace and defence expo that combines both a trade exhibition and an air show. Held biennially in the City of Tshwane, South Africa's administrative capital, the AAD Expo is one of South Africa's largest contributors to the country's gross domestic product in show years, and is regarded as a national asset.

Managed on a rotation basis by a partnership comprising the Department of Defence, Armscor, the South African Aerospace, Maritime and Defence Industry Association and the Commercial Aviation Association of Southern Africa, AAD2018 took place from 19 to 23 September 2018.

AAD brought together the largest gathering of industry players in aerospace and defence (manufacturers and innovators) and buyers (high-level international delegations, defence chiefs of arms and senior procurement officers).

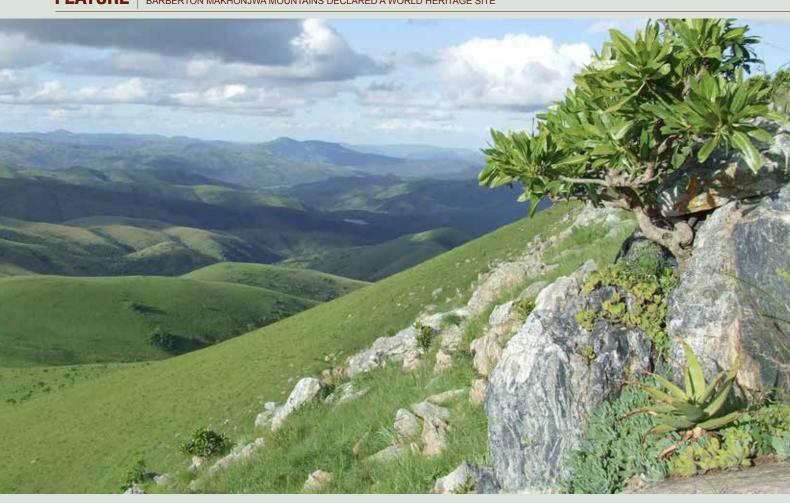
Rated among the top six exhibitions in the world, it boasts more than 450 participating companies in the defence and aerospace industries, from over 30 countries.

A new feature on the AAD2018 programme were seminars, covering topical subjects such as "Cyber Security" and "The Future of Drones". Seminars at major exhibitions have gained popularity worldwide, both as a means to convey key capabilities in a specific field to the top-level decision-makers attending the exhibition and to enable the industry to engage on a wider front. These seminars ran over the three trade days, 19 to 21 September 2018.

Given the importance of drones in both the military and commercial spheres, and at the behest of drone manufacturers, AAD2018 once again featured a dedicated drone pavilion at AAD2018.

AAD2018 was once again a world-class event with spectacular aerial and ground displays, some of which never seen before on the African continent.

Among other things, the show programme included aerial displays by the Silver Falcons, Gripens and Hawk fighter aircraft.



Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains declared a World Heritage Site

The Barberton Makhoniwa Mountains Site is truly unique - containing the oldest and best-preserved sequence of volcanic and sedimentary rocks on earth.

he Minister of Arts and Culture, Nathi Mthethwa, announced on 2 July 2018 that South Africa had become home to a new World Heritage Site. Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains were inscribed on the prestigious World Heritage List by the 42nd United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage Committee, held in Bahrain.

The UNESCO world heritage sites are places of importance to cultural or natural heritage as described in the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, established in 1972.

The inscription of the Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains brings to 10 the number of world heritage sites in South Africa, and this inscription now makes South Africa the home of the most world heritage sites in Africa. Prior to this day, South Africa was tie with Morocco and Egypt on being home to the highest number of sites in Africa, with nine world heritage sites each.

"We wish to express our deepest gratitude to the World Heritage Committee, particularly the Director-General and the Assistant Director-General for their inspirational leadership. We would also like to thank the UNESCO advisory bodies, particularly the

International Union for Conservation for the guidance they have provided during this process. We also want to thank the Africa Group for the manner in which they have championed the interest of Africa in increasing nominations of Africa's world heritage properties on the World Heritage List", Minister Mthethwa said.

"The 42nd Session of the World Heritage Committee today, has performed another hallowing act in keeping with the name of this mountain, Makhonjwa, by anointing this treasure, affirming its World Heritage Status. It has entered the global arena and has joined the league of properties of Outstanding Universal Value. As the Government of the Republic of South Africa, we would like to make a commitment that we will do all in our power to protect the integrity and the authenticity of this natural property.

"This inscription belongs to the people of the Mpumalanga province, the people of South Africa, the people of Africa and the world at large. We dedicate it to our founding fathers and our founding mothers who are

exemplified and epitomised by the legendary Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu, who this year would have turned 100 years had they lived. It is befitting to do so because the two legends were not only iconic but colossal. We say of Mandela: Be the Legacy and Mama Sisulu: A Woman of Fortitude."

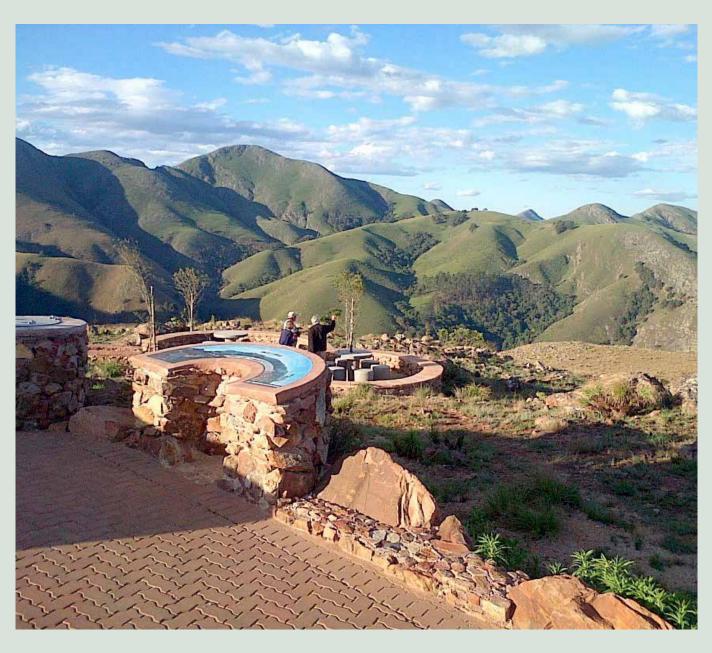
This inscription also inaugurates the province of Mpumalanga into the list of provinces that are home to world heritage sites, which are: Robben Island, (Western Cape), Cape Floral Region Protected Areas (Western Cape and Eastern Cape), Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape (Limpopo), Vredefort Dome (Free State and North-West), Maloti Drakensberg Park [Transboundary with Lesotho] and Isimangaliso Wetland Park (KwaZulu-Natal), Fossil Hominid Sites of South Africa (Gauteng, North-West and Limpopo), Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape and ‡Khomani Cultural Landscape (Northern Cape).

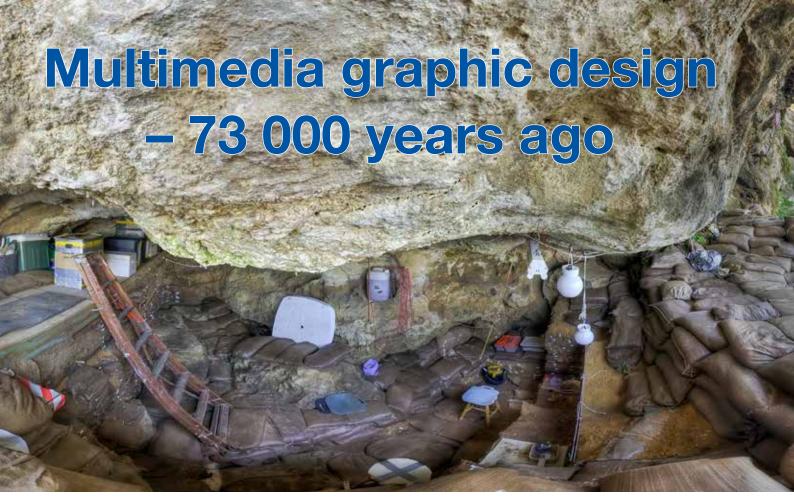
The Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains Site is truly unique - containing the oldest and best-preserved sequence of volcanic and sedimentary rocks on earth. They have provided an unparalleled source of scientific information on the formation of the early earth from 3,6 billion years ago. Along with their exceptional geology, the area is rich in wild plants, animals and beautiful scenery. The several large and small nature reserves and panoramic beauty provide the key elements needed for developing diverse and innovative tourism partnerships and businesses such as adventure tourism, geological, birding, game viewing, historical and cultural tours, hiking and off-road trails. A first world heritage site in Mpumalanga will thus provide a major global marketing boost for tourism.

According to UNESCO, the property comprises 40% of the Barberton Greenstone Belt, one of the world's oldest geological Barberton Makhoniwa structures. The Mountains represent the best-preserved succession of volcanic and sedimentary rock dating back 3,6 to 3,25 billion years, when the first continents were starting to form on the primitive Earth. It features meteor-impact fallback breccias resulting from the impact of meteorites formed just after the Great Bombardment, which are particularly well preserved.

Only two African countries were under consideration for inscription at the 42nd World Heritage Committee. On Friday 29 June 2018, Kenya had the honour of having the Thimlich Ohinga Archeological Site, situated north-west of the town of Migori, in the Lake Victoria region declared a world heritage

The Barberton Makhoniwa Mountains represent the best-preserved succession of volcanic and sedimentary rock dating back 3,6 to 3,25 billion years, when the first continents were starting to form on the primitive Earth.





Substantial progress has been made in understanding how our brain perceives and processes different categories of symbols, but our knowledge on how and when symbols permanently permeated the culture of our ancestors is still imprecise and speculative.

By Wits University

he earliest evidence of a drawing made by humans has been found in Blombos Cave in the southern Cape in South Africa.

The drawing, which consists of three red lines cross-hatched with six separate lines, was intentionally drawn on a smooth silcrete flake about 73 000 years ago. This predates previous drawings from Africa, Europe and Southeast Asia by at least 30 000 years.

The drawing on the silcrete flake was a surprising find by archaeologist, Dr Luca Pollarolo, an honorary research fellow at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), while he painstakingly sifted through thousands of similar flakes that were excavated from Blombos Cave at the Wits University satellite laboratory in Cape Town.

Blombos Cave has been excavated by Professor Christopher Henshilwood and Dr Karen van Niekerk since 1991. It contains material dating from 100 000 - 70 000 years ago, a time period referred to as the Middle Stone Age, as well as younger, Later Stone Age material dating from 2000 - 300 years

Realising that the lines on the flake were unlike anything that the team had come across from the cave before, they set out to answer the questions it posed. Were these lines natural, or a part of the matrix of the rock? Were they, perhaps, made by humans living in Blombos Cave 73 000 years ago? If humans made the lines, how did they make them and why?

guidance of Professor Under the Francesco d'Errico at the PACEAlab of the University of Bordeaux, France (the second author of the paper), the team examined and photographed the piece under a microscope to establish whether the lines were part of the stone or whether it was applied to it. To

ensure their results, they also examined the piece by using RAMAN spectroscopy and an electron microscope. After confirming the lines were applied to the stone, the team experimented with various paint and drawing techniques and found that the drawings were made with an ochre crayon, with a tip of between 1 and 3 millimetres thick. Further. the abrupt termination of the lines at the edge of the flake also suggested that the pattern originally extended over a larger surface, and may have been more complex in its entirety.

"Before this discovery, palaeolithic archaeologists have for a long time been convinced that unambiguous symbols first appeared when Homo sapiens entered Europe, about 40 000 years ago, and later replaced local Neanderthals," says Henshilwood. "Recent archaeological discoveries in Africa, Europe and Asia, in which members of our team have often participated, support a much earlier emergence for the production and use of symbols."

The earliest known engraving, a zig-zag pattern, incised on a fresh water shell from Trinil, Java, was found in layers dated to 540 000 years ago and a recent article has proposed that painted representations in three caves of the Iberian Peninsula were 64 000 years old and therefore produced by Neanderthals. This makes the drawing on the Blombos silcrete flake the oldest drawing by Homo sapiens ever found.

Although abstract and figurative representations are generally



conclusive indicators of the use of symbols, assessing the symbolic dimension of the earliest possible graphisms is tricky.

Symbols are an inherent part of our humanity. They can be inscribed on our bodies in the form of tattoos and scarifications or cover them through the application of particular clothing, ornaments and the way we dress our hair.

Language, writing, mathematics, religion, and laws could not possibly exist without the typically human capacity to master the creation and transmission of symbols and our ability to embody them in material culture.

Substantial progress has been made in understanding how our brain perceives and processes different categories of symbols, but our knowledge on how and when symbols permanently permeated the culture of our ancestors is still imprecise and speculative.

The archaeological layer in which the Blombos drawing was found also yielded other indicators of symbolic thinking, such as shell beads covered with ochre, and, more importantly, pieces of ochres engraved with abstract patterns. Some of these engravings closely resemble the one drawn on the silcrete flake.

"This demonstrates that early Homo sapiens in the southern Cape used different techniques to produce similar signs on different media," says Henshilwood.

"This observation supports the hypothesis that these signs were symbolic in nature and represented an inherent aspect of the behaviourally modern world of these African Homo sapiens, the ancestors of all of us today." U











#a good story to tell



Pres Ramaphosa hails inaugural South Africa Investment Conference

President Cyril Ramaphosa has hailed the success of the inaugural South Africa Investment Conference – which has generated announcements of investment of R290 billion – as the beginning of a new narrative on investment in South Africa.

In his closing statement to the conference in Sandton, Johannesburg, in October 2018, President Ramaphosa said the breadth of case studies presented on the performance of current investments and the range of announcements relating to new and expanded investments affirmed that South Africa was a diversified economy that presented great

The conference heard investment announcements from companies in mining, forestry, manufacturing, telecommunications, transport, energy, agro-processing, consumer goods, pharmaceuticals, infrastructure, financial services, energy, information and communications technology and water.



Prominent among these were the themes of value addition, beneficiation, innovation and entrepreneurship.

President Ramaphosa also expressed his satisfaction that most of the investments announced during the conference had originated from South African enterprises and entities or multinationals based in the country. This reflected renewed investor confidence in and commitment to South Africa after a period of uncertainty and a slowdown in investment.

The Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), which hosted the South Africa Investment Conference, also commended the conference for setting South Africa on a path of economic renewal and inclusive growth.

The conference was an opportunity for both domestic and international investors to identify opportunities in the country.

The South Africa Investment Conference was convened under the theme: "Accelerating Economic Growth by Building Partnerships", and was attended by leaders in government and business, members of the Diplomatic Corps, fund managers and entrepreneurs.

The IMC has expressed government's deep appreciation for the spirit and focus with which investors responded to government's invitation to the private sector to help the country achieve investment of US\$100 billion over the next five years.

The announced total of R290 billion in new investments complements the more than US\$28 billion in investment pledges that have resulted from engagements between the President and the President's Investment Envoys in recent months.



SA hosts Africa Investment Forum

South Africa hosted the African Development Bank's Africa Investment Forum (AIF), which was a world-class initiative positioned to transform the continent's infrastructure development landscape.

The summit took place at the Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, from 7 to 9 November 2018, under the theme: "All set for Africa's First Investment

The AIF, which was an innovative investment marketplace, brought together project sponsors, pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, private investors, policymakers, private equity firms and heads of government to raise capital to advance Africa's economic transformation agenda.



The forum was 100% transaction-based, according to the African Development Bank.

"The focus is on structuring deals, screening and enhancing projects, attracting co-investors and facilitating transactions to unlock Africa's multibillion dollar investment opportunities."

Although brimming with investment opportunities, the African Development Bank says there is an urgent need to bridge the gap between Africa's available capital and bankable projects.

Financing Africa's development needs will require an estimated US\$600 to US\$700 billion per annum.

Of this, about US\$130 to US\$170 billion a year is needed for infrastructure, according to the African Development Bank's African Economic Outlook 2018

The bank said it was working with other multilateral development partners and stakeholders to ensure that the AIF became Africa's key springboard for investment and for meeting the continent's infrastructure and development needs.

SAnews.gov.za













Industrial park to inspire confidence in SA economy

The newly revitalised Phuthaditjhaba Industrial Park should be used to inspire confidence in the South African economy, Trade and Industry Deputy Minister, Bulelani Magwanishe, said on Tuesday, 30 October 2018.

"We are here on the backdrop of the Investment Summit, which confirmed the confidence that the local private sector and multinationals have in South Africa. We therefore need to take advantage of these industrial parks to increase investment and create sustainable employment," said Deputy Minister Magwanishe.

The Deputy Minister was speaking at the launch of the first phase of the revitalised R50-million industrial park, held at the Phuthaditjhaba Multi-Purpose Centre in QwaQwa.

Deputy Minister Magwanishe also noted that there was hope for the South African economy and that signified hope for the people.

He said the revitalisation of the economy was intended to respond to unemployment in the province and should also be explored to benefit not just the province, but the entire country.

Deputy Minister Magwanishe said the province was strategic in many respects, most important being that it connected to six provinces and was the neighbour to the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho.

The Deputy Minister urged the Free State Development Corporation to woo in other small, medium and micro-sized enterprises to consider setting up shop in the park, thereby helping to "drastically" reduce unemployment.

"For 2018, Minister Rob Davies announced that R216 million had been set aside for the revitalisation of industrial parks. Phuthaditjhaba is one of the five industrial parks that stand to benefit, as we will be proceeding with the other phases of revitalisation."

"Today, we recognise the completion of the first phase of the programme in this industrial park, which was realised through an allocation of R50 million. This launch follows the completion of the first phase of the Botshabelo Industrial Park also here in the Free State," said Deputy Minister Magwanishe.

Work done at the park comprised the upgrading of the security infrastructure, including fencing, street lighting, installation of boom gates, pedestrian gates, installation of CCTV cameras and control room, as well as the refurbishment of high mast lights. SANEWS. GOV.ZA



Cabinet approves marine protected areas

In October 2018, acting Environmental Affairs Minister, Derek Hanekom, said a network of 20 marine protected areas (MPAs) would considerably advance South Africa's efforts to protect its ocean heritage for future generations.

Cabinet approved the declaration of 20 MPAs on 24 October 2018, as part of the Operation Phakisa: Ocean Economy MPAs Representative Network.

Minister Hanekom welcomed the announcement, saying it would increase ocean protection within the South African Exclusive Economic Zone to 5%.

"The [MPAs] will contribute to fisheries sustainability, advance marine ecotourism and help maintain resilience in ecosystems that are under stress from climate change."

Work on the new approved network of MPAs dates back to 2014, when the South African Government endorsed a plan to achieve, as part of Operation Phakisa: Ocean Economy, a viable network of MPAs.



Minister Hanekom said South Africa's ocean space, which was one of the most varied in the world, was highly productive, with rich biodiversity providing living and non-living resources that contributed significantly to the country's economy and to job creation.

As South Africa grows and intensifies the ocean economy, Minister Hanekom said a representative sample of marine ecosystems must be protected to ensure their resilience to human use and impact, and also the impacts associated with climate change.

MPAs provide safe spaces in which fish can breed undisturbed. They are essential to maintain eco-certification of the South African deep-sea trawl fishery. The certification process assesses whether habitat and nursery areas for the hake fishery are adequately protected.

MPAs also contribute to growing South Africa's marine eco-tourism sector by providing undisturbed natural habitat for whales, sharks, seals, dolphins, turtles and seabirds for international and domestic tourists to experience. SAnews.gov.za

#a good story to tell



Amazon to open new SA data centres, promising cheaper, safer services for corporate clients

Amazon will open additional data centres in South Africa at the start of 2020, it announced recently.

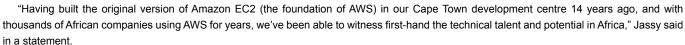
The data centres will reduce latency and costs for local corporate clients. They will also ensure that Amazon adheres to upcoming legislation to prevent personal info from being moved out of the country without consent.

This will add to the Amazon Web Services (AWS) data servers already built in South Africa, and will make sub-Saharan Africa Amazon's first infrastructure region in Africa.

The data centres will bring AWS in line with South Africa's upcoming Protection of Personal Information Act, which will ensure that data is not moved out of the country without an individual's consent.

Andy Jassy, AWS CEO, said the new infrastructure region

promised to reduce costs for corporate clients, improve security and decrease downtime.



"Technology has the opportunity to transform lives and economies across Africa and we're excited about AWS and the Cloud being a meaningful part of that transformation." www.businessinsider.co.za





Ferrari Workshop in the pipeline for Gauteng

Gauteng may soon have a Ferrari workshop that fixes models of the motor manufacturer.

Gauteng MEC for Roads and Transport, Ismail Vadi, said during a meeting held in Sandton before the South Africa-Italy Summit, that the Chamdor automotive projects in Krugersdorp, in which provincial government partnered with the Italian Government, would also have a team of trained mechanics to fix high-end models.

"The automotive hub that will be opened in the Chamdor area in the West Rand is for after-sales support for all brands of vehicles that may be sold in the country. We are also looking at training for high-end vehicles like the Ferrari because we don't build Ferraris in this country, so Ferrari is going to have a team dedicated to training local people in fixing Ferraris. It might not be an engine overhaul, but if it is

an electrical problem then you would be able to go there," Vadi said.

The Automotive Industry Development Centre (AIDC), which is Gauteng's automotive parastatal, said the project was part of government's international relations initiative and Gauteng Premier, David Makhura, had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Emilia-Romagna region in Italy.

"This MoU allows both the Gauteng province and the equivalent Emilia-Romagna region to collaborate on various mutually beneficial programmes" said AIDC spokesperson Mashadi Mangale.

She said the Chamdor hub would bring significant economic activity to the West Rand and had targeted 15 small businesses, which would be specialising in mechanical and auto body repairs, as well as parts sales.

She added that the hub would be serviced by master artisans and other leading professionals in the automotive field, and that it would be a centre for training and skills transfer in the motor industry. www.city-press.news24.com













Travel rules relaxed for foreign parents travelling with children

In a bid to increase tourism, the Department of Home Affairs has relaxed travel rules for foreigners visiting South Africa with minors.

The then Minister of Home Affairs, Malusi Gigaba, announced on Tuesday, 25 September 2018, that documentation proving parental consent for a minor to travel was no longer a requirement. However, it was strongly recommended that travellers carry this documentation, he said.

"Our immigration officials will only insist on documentation by exception – in high-risk situations - rather than for all travellers, in line with practice by several other countries," former Minister Gigaba said.



He added that instead of being denied entry where documentation was absent, travellers would be given the opportunity to prove parental consent

South Africans, however, will still be required to prove parental consent and have an unabridged birth certificate if they want to travel abroad with their minor children.

Minister Gigaba also announced a passport for minors that would eventually see the end of unabridged birth certificates as the document will have the contact details of both parents. www.news24.com



New heritage centre at !Khwa Ttu reclaims the San's voice

The San, the indigenous people of southern Africa, is finding their voice at the new San Heritage Centre at !Khwa Ttu on the West Coast near Yzerfontein.

The new museum tells their own story - from the first people of Africa, to their myths, to their first encounters with other groups - as well as share their culture, forming new relationships between visitors, community members and academia.

A dream to build a self-sustaining centre where the San can upskill, learn their heritage and transmit it to others started in 1999, when Swiss photographer Irene Staehelin bought a derelict farm and has over the past 20 years converted it into a place where the San can teach their culture to younger generations.



"The !Khwa ttu San Heritage Centre is a great deal more than a collection of artefacts and historical photos. It's a pioneering initiative that embraces the principle of community curation, led by San consultants from across southern Africa and academics. The exhibitions, San-led trails and guided experiences are designed to engage the body and senses as much as the mind," explains Michael Daiber, General Manager of !Khwa ttu.

"They demonstrate the skills and knowledge of the San people, while also telling the archaeological story of the origins of the modern mind on the southern African coastline."

Besides the new museum, !Khwa ttu also offers elegant accommodation in cottages and glamping tents, as well as game drives and a restaurant that serves delicious traditional South African cuisine. The San youth go on training courses through these initiatives which teaches them skills in hospitality and tourism, relaying their heritage as guides and learning about themselves and their roots in the process. Traveller24



French hardware store Leroy Merlin opens in Joburg

Leroy Merlin, which has been retailing hardware in France since 1960, opened its first full South African store in Johannesburg on 28 September 2018.

It isn't exactly a household name in South Africa, but Leroy Merlin has been selling hardware under that name in France since 1960, and it traces its history back to 1923, in the form of a store named, Au Stock Américain.

In 1989, it broke out of its home country for the first time, and it now has big-box stores in Russia, Brazil and a number of European countries.

Today, by its count, Leroy Merlin's parent group ADEO is the third-largest "DIY actor" in the world. www.businessinsider.co.za



#a good story to tell



Durban launched R1,4-billion highway interchange - with four levels and Africa's longest flyover bridge

Durban recently added an architectural and engineering marvel to its portfolio of landmarks.

The newly upgraded Mount Edgecombe highway interchange connects the M41 eastbound with the N2 southbound.

The old interchange was known for long waiting times – which the upgrade is due to cut from 25 minutes to one minute, on average.

The Mount Edgecombe highway interchange was officially opened by Transport Minister, Blade Nzimande, and the South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL) on Wednesday, 31 October 2018.

The interchange boasts a first for Africa, according to SANRAL CEO, Skhumbuzo Macozoma, in an interview with the state broadcaster. He says it features the continent's longest flyover ramp that stretches for one kilometre, linking the M41 eastbound with the N2 southbound, connecting surrounding areas like Phoenix and Umhlanga with Durban.



The agency undertook major upgrades to the interchange from April 2013 to ease "chronic congestion of traffic" in the area, notorious for long waiting times, especially during the festive season, when South Africans flock to the coastal region.

www.businessinsider.co.za



This South African wine receives a perfect score from top UK wine expert

A leading United Kingdom wine expert has recently afforded his first-ever perfect score to a wine in the New World (Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States) – and it happens to be a local wine: the 2015 Kanonkop Paul Sauer.

Master of Wine Tim Atkin, who has contributed on wine for the Observer, Harper's, The Economist and the BBC for the past three decades, has just released his seventh annual guide to South African wine.

Atkin says the 2015 Kanonkop Paul Sauer is "one of the greatest young wines I have ever tasted" and he gave it 100 points (out of 100). Kanonkop Paul Sauer 2015 is a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc.

Atkin gave two South African white wines a near-perfect score of 99: 2017 Alheit Vineyards Magnetic North and 2017 Sadie Family 'T Voetpad.

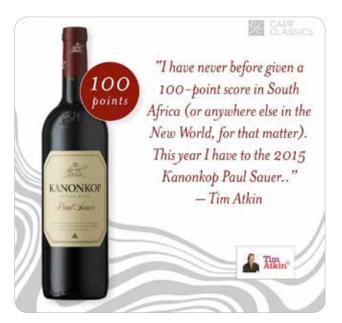
"I don't give very high scores lightly," Atkin said, "but these three stunning, world-class wines have earned it."

"To achieve the magical 100pt rating is a huge honour for Kanonkop, Stellenbosch and the South African wine industry as a whole," said Kanonkop co-owner, Johann Krige.

"Never has more great wine been made by as many producers from around the world as now. This leads to critics such as Atkin having to be

extremely judicious when deciding to award perfect scores, hence the rarity of such ratings," says Krige.

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Cruise season is docking at peak heights in Cape Town

In January 2019 alone, 17 stops were made at the city's port, and between October and 20 January, a total of 17 518 people disembarked in the city from vessels carrying 6 562 crew members. Over 17 500 people embarked on ships in the same period.

Some of the luxury liners to have visited the city's shores include the gigantic RMS Queen Elizabeth and MSC Musica, as well as the World Odyssey, the Europa 2, the Seven Seas Explorer, the Nautica and the Amadea.

Other still to pay a visit to the Mother City include the Queen Victoria, the Silver Cloud, the Pacific Princess and the Viking Sun.

The increased numbers are in part due to the opening of the dedicated cruise ship terminal

at V&A Waterfront, and expect 30 vessels making 49 stops for the 2019/20 season and 32 vessels with 67 stops confirmed for the 2020/21 season.

The Minister of Economic Opportunities in the Western Cape, Beverley Schäfer, is extremely positive about the potential this industry has for the province's tourism numbers, with 30 million expected to cruise somewhere in the world in 2019, according to the Cruise Lines International Association.

"As a province, our aim, through Project Khulisa, has been to grow tourism as a vehicle to stimulate the economy and create new jobs, and cruise ship tourism is helping us to do this. The Western Cape tourism industry currently sustains over 300 000 direct and indirect jobs, and by increasing the number of cruise liners visiting Cape Town, we can create further opportunities for work and skills development," says Schäfer.

The cruise industry has been undeniably picking up steam over the last few years as it grew from a humble 6 050 passengers in 2012 to a massive 31 035 passengers in 2017.

www.news24.co.za



Space science capabilities earn South Africa global recognition

South Africa has won an extraordinary victory in space science, with the South African National Space Agency (SANSA) being selected by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) to become the designated regional provider of space weather information to the entire aviation sector using African airspace.

This means that every aircraft flying in the continent's airspace will rely on SANSA for the space weather information it needs to submit as part of its flight plan.

Space weather, which can influence the performance and reliability of aviation and other technological systems, is caused by the Sun, the nature of the Earth's magnetic field and atmosphere and the Earth's location in the solar system.



SANSA, an entity of the Department of Science and Technology, underwent an extensive assessment to earn the distinction of becoming one of two ICAO-designated regional space weather centres - the other being a joint Russia-China centre.

SANSA will partner with one of the ICAO's three global space weather centres, PECASUS, the Pan-European Consortium for Aviation Space Weather User Services, to provide ICAO with space weather information for the African region.

PECASUS is a consortium of nine European countries, and partnering with it will provide South Africa with better access to international models and expertise.

This victory came shortly after the launch of the continent's most advanced nanosatellite so far, the ZACube-2, in December 2018.

The use of space science and technology for the good of the nation is the aim of South Africa's National Space Policy and National Space Strategy, and space weather information has both national and international benefits.

South Africa's international reputation has also been enhanced, with the country now seen as a leading player in the space science sector.



Pretoria students win International Space Law Competition in Germany

Iniversity of Pretoria (UP) students, supported by the Department of Trade and Industry (the dti) and representing Africa, won the Moot Court Competition of the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) on the sidelines of the International Austronautical Congress (IAC) 2018 in Bremen, Germany, in October 2018.

Simon Motshweni and Simon Botha beat students from India's Symbiosis International University to walk away with the first prize of more than R10 000 in a competition where they excelled themselves before the International Court of Justice judges in a mock case on the internal outer space law.

The Chief Director of Space Affairs at the dti, Nomfuneko Majaja, who also serves as the Africa Regional Coordinator for the competition, has praised the students for flying the African and South African flags high in the highly-competitive international contest.

"This happens at a time when the dti is at the final stages of reviewing the South African primary space legislation, which will provide an opportunity for engagement as well as stimulate interest among university students, policymakers and industry in this complex area of space law. The UP students exhibited excellent standard and quality as well as presented themselves in an articulate manner, which confirmed that Africa has what it takes to stand on the international fora. What makes the students' achievement even more remarkable is that Africa joined the competition only six years ago," said Ms Majaja.

The competition is internationally arranged by the IISL on an annual basis in four regions of the world, namely Africa, North America, Europe and Asia Pacific. It presents an opportunity for university students in the areas of law and science to engage on legal policy and regulatory aspects in the highly specialised area of space law and related fields such as aerospace and telecommunications.



South Africans shine in "Strictly Comes Dancing UK"



The popular United Kingdom (UK) show, Strictly Comes Dancing, kicked off in September 2018. It featured the biggest pro dancer line-up with 18 professionals participating - and two of them were from South Africa.

Johannes Radebe is two-time professional South African Latin Champion and threetime South African Amateur Latin Champion. He is a dancer with the Afro Arimba Dance Company and has also been a professional dancer on Strictly Come Dancing South Africa for two seasons, both times reaching the final. He said: "Joining Strictly Come Dancing is one of the greatest achievements of my dancing career. It is such an honour to be chosen to be a part of an incredible cast and be part of one of the biggest shows that is celebrated worldwide. I cannot wait to get started and experience the magic with the UK!"

The 31-year-old Latin champion was recently seen on Dancing with the Stars SA during which he partnered with South African netball player, Vanes-Mari du Toit. The pair made it to the semi-final round of the competition.

Born in Pretoria, Oti Mabuse started dancing at the age of four at her mother's dance school in Mabopane.

"My mom and sisters were my trainers and coaches in the beginning of my career and they've always played an important part of my dancing career. When I was 16 years old, I started training in contemporary dance with the incredible Lorcia Cooper.

"I then moved to Germany and three years later, I was the German champion, the vice European champion and took third place at the world championships. After all that, life took me in a different direction and I ended up doing German Strictly and now Strictly Come Dancing UK."

Mabuse won the South African Latin American Championship eight times, after which she moved to Germany to broaden her dancing horizons. She has earned a number of titles in her dancing career; including:

- · third place in World Cup Freestyle Latin in 2014
- · second place European Championship Latin in 2014
- · first place in German Championship PD Freestyle Latin.

This was her fourth season on Strictly Come Dancing UK.

SA teen wins Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018



In October 2018, 16-year-old South African Skye Meaker was named Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018 at a ceremony at the Natural History Museum, London, which runs the international competition.

Skye won the award for his charming portrait of a leopard waking from sleep in Mashatu Game Reserve, Botswana.

He said he had wanted to be a nature photographer since receiving his first pocket camera at the age of seven.

Mathoja the leopard's home is Botswana's Mashatu Game Reserve, which Skye and his family regularly visit.

Though she dozed just metres away from Skye, she blended into the background,

the morning light was poor, leaves kept blowing across her face, and her eyes were only ever open briefly, making it hard for Skye to compose the shot he was after.

Finally, just as she opened her eyes for a second, the overhead branches moved enough to let in a shaft of light that gave a glint to her eyes, helping Skye create his memorable portrait.

"With precisely executed timing and composition, we get a coveted glimpse into the inner world of one of the most frequently photographed, yet rarely truly seen, animals," said competition judge and previous competition winner, Alexander Badvaev

The exhibition at the Natural History Museum opened on 19 October 2018 before touring across the United Kingdom and internationally.

Three other South African photographers were also recognised, namely: Tertius A Gous, Isak Pretorius and Susan Scott

www.iol.co.za

SA Youth Olympics Team returns home with five medals



In October 2018, the South African Youth Olympics team received a warm welcome at the OR Tambo International Airport following a successful showing at the 2018 games in Buenos Aires in Argentina. The team bagged five medals, four better than the previous edition in Nanjing China.

In his message to the athletes, the Deputy Minister of Sports and Recreation, Gert Oosthuizen, praised them on their achievements

There was no medal target set for this team at the games prior to the two-week competition.

However, their success is measured by surpassing the medal count from China four years ago. There were some outstanding performances from Team South Africa that will boost the athletes' confidence for upcoming tournaments.

The medals won suggest that reaching Tokyo 2020 is a target.

"It was a surprise. I was not expecting to win. I just went out to run and I came with perfect results for my country. It's just really an honour for me, especially representing my country in the green and gold. It means the world to me," said Youth Olympics Gold Medalist Luke Davids.

Silver medalist Dune Coetzee said: "This was a really amazing experience because we got to race against the best in the world. I think it definitely counts for the big stage. We will have more experience and know how it is to race against big people and not get scared when we get onto the big stage. So, I think that this was definitely one of the best experiences I have ever had."

The hope is that these athletes will progress to senior level and represent the country at the Olympics. The games will next be held in Senegal in 2022, which will be the first time the event is hosted in Africa.

www.sahc.com

Groundbreaking liver surgery receives applause



historic and successful liver transplant from a HIV-positive mother to her HIV-negative child has received resounding applause.

Giving feedback on the outcomes of the Cabinet Meeting, held on Wednesday, 10 October 2018, former Communications Minister, Nomvula Mokonyane, congratulated the team of researchers from Wits University, who performed the historic surgery.

The team of doctors who performed the surgery included Prof. Jean Botha, Dr Francesca Conradie, Dr Harriet Etheredge, Dr June Fabian and Prof. Caroline Tiemessen.

Meanwhile, Cabinet also noted that South Africa's radio telescope, the MeerKAT, would be joining Breakthrough Listen, an international initiative seeking signs of intelligent life in the universe.

Wits doctors perform a world-first **HIV** + transplant to save a child's life



"It demonstrates our internationally recognised expertise and infrastructure," said Minister Mokonyane.

South Africa's 64-dish MeerKAT radio telescope, inaugurated in July this year, is the most sensitive telescope of its kind in the world. SAnews.gov.za

Goosen set to be inducted into World Golf Hall of Fame

wo-time major champion Retief Goosen will be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame this year.

Goosen joins Billy Payne, Jan Stephenson, Dennis Walters and the late Peggy Kirk Bell, who will all officially join the ranks as the Class of 2019

The five new members will be enshrined at the World Golf Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Monday, 10 June 2019, at Pebble Beach in the week of the men's US

The ceremony will take place at the Sunset Centre in Carmel-By-The-Sea, California.

Goosen, 49, was picked in the "Male Competitor Category" with the criteria for selection being to have won 15 or more professional titles, won two or more majors and to be at least 50 years old during the year of a given induction ceremony.

Known affectionately as "The Goose", Goosen sat within the Official World Golf Ranking's top 10 for more than 250 weeks from 2001 through 2007.

His 33 worldwide wins include two US Open Championships in 2001 - the same year he was named European Tour Player of the Year - and 2004.

Goosen led the European Tour Order of Merit in 2001 and 2002. He also played in six consecutive Presidents Cups from 2000 to 2011 as part of the International Team.

Goosen will join Ernie Els, Gary Player and Bobby Locke as the only South Africans in the World Golf Hall of Fame. sport24.co.za



Nicholas Havsom appointed Special Representative for Somalia and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM)



n 12 September 2018, United Nations (UN) Secretary-General, Guterres, announced the appointment of Nicholas Haysom of South Africa as his Special Representative for Somalia and Head of the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia.

He succeeded Michael Keating of the United Kingdom effective 1 October 2018, to whom the Secretary-General was grateful for his exemplary service and leadership of

Haysom is a lawyer with a long international career with a focus on democratic governance, constitutional and electoral reforms, reconciliation and peace processes. He was the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, a position he held since 2016. Prior to this, he served as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan from 2014 to 2016, and as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan from 2012 to 2014. He was also Director for Political, Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Affairs in the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General

from 2007 to 2012, and Head of the Office of Constitutional Support for the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq from 2005 to 2007.

In his earlier career, Haysom served in the Government of South Africa, including as Chief Legal and Constitutional Adviser in the Office of the President from 1994 to 1999. He was involved in the Burundi Peace Talks as Chair of the committee negotiating constitutional issues from 1999 to 2002 under the facilitation of the late former President Nelson Mandela. He was the principal adviser to the Mediator in the Sudanese Peace Process from 2002 to 2005

Haysom earned a degree in Law from the universities of Natal and Cape Town in South Africa. In 2012, he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Cape Town.

Brazil honours Minister Zulu

In September 2018, Cabinet congratulated Small Business Development Minister, Lindiwe Zulu, after she was honoured by the Brazilian Government.

The Brazilian Government bestowed Mnister Zulu with the highest level of the Order of Rio Branco (Ordem de Rio Branco) and the Grand Cross, in recognition of her service and achievement in the diplomatic service

"This is in recognition for the Minister's continuous efforts to enhance bilateral relations between Brazil and South Africa," then Communications Minister, Nomvula Mokonyane, said during a post-Cabinet media briefing on Thursday, 20 September 2018. in Tshwane.

Minister Mokonyane said the Order of Brazil was granted to those who had distinguished themselves in acts of meritorious service and civic virtues.

Minister Zulu served as South African Ambassador to Brazil between 2004 and 2008

She received the order from Brazil's Ambassador to South Africa, Nedilson Jorge, on 7 September in Waterkloof, Pretoria, as that country celebrated Brazil National Day.

"The Order of Rio Branco is awarded annually to Brazilian and foreign nationals for service and achievement in diplomatic service, government and civil fields," the Department of Small Business Development said in a statement. SAnews.gov.za



Minister Davies congratulates Invest SA on winning Top UCTAD Award



Outh Africa won the top global award at the United Nations Investment Promotion Awards for its excellence in boosting investment sectors that have social and economic benefits and help countries meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The awards, organised by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), honour investmentpromotions agencies and their governments for their achievements, but also showcase best practices in attracting investment into SDG-related projects that can inspire investment-promotion practitioners developing and developed countries. The award was presented at a high-profile ceremony in the Assembly Hall of the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, at the grand opening of the World Investment Forum in October 2018.

South Africa was also named as the Global Destination of the Year at the 2018 Global Sourcing Association Awards ceremony alongside the Global Sourcing Summit in Cape Town. This award was South Africa's fifth since 2012, and is further accolade and recognition of South Africa's value proposition and credible offering that combine global best practice, a talented and scalable labour pool with government support to attract international outsourcing work into South Africa.

"This prestigious global award indicates that South Africa's industrial development is playing an important role towards its economic growth and our investment drive is already starting to make a significant contribution towards achieving its SDGs. InvestSA is now globally recognised to compete in investment promotion and facilitation of large scale investments. As part of President Cyril Ramaphosa's mobilisation drive to attract investments, these global awards signify and demonstrate that government is committed to improving its investment climate and service to investors," said Minister Davies.

The prestigious global award was presented to InvestSA for its role in facilitating two pioneering waste-to-nutrient recycling projects to up-cycle organic waste into natural, sustainable high-protein animal feed. Each project will offer much-needed jobs in local communities and is expected to save an annual 80 000 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions by diverting organic waste from the landfill. The award was presented by the President of the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ms María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés.

Minister Davies said that the award was a commendable international recognition that partnerships played an important role in boosting investments in sectors as the award was for intergovernmental projects facilitated together with the Gauteng Provincial Government, Technology Innovation Agency and GreenCape.

Minister Motsoaledi receives international prizes for role in fight against TB



In October 2018, the Minister of Health, Aaron Motsoaledi, was honoured with two Kochon prizes in The Hague, Netherlands, after he was recognised for his role and political leadership in the fight against tuberculosis (TB) globally.

The Kochon Prize is awarded annually to individuals and organisations that have made a significant contribution to combatting TB. The prize was established in 2006 in honour of the late Chong-Kun Lee, founder and Chairperson of the Chong Kun Dang Pharmaceutical Corporation and Kochon Foundation in Korea.

Lee was committed throughout his career to improving access to low-cost lifesaving antibiotics and anti-TB drugs, the Department of Health said in a statement

In accepting the awards, one of which he shared with a United Kingdom MP, Minister Motsoaledi said he was deeply humbled to be considered for the prestigious Kochon Prize.

"I wish to thank the Chairperson and members of the Kochon Foundation for this honour which I accept on behalf of everyone who has worked tirelessly to decrease the number of new TB infections and deaths as we work towards the elimination of TB as a public health threat globally," Minister Motsoaledi said in his acceptance speech.

"I know that this may sound clichéd but the Kochon Prize for 2018 is for all of us, and acknowledges our passion, determination and hard work that brought us this far and, if sustained, will take us over the finish line.

Source: www.news24.com

Banyana's Thembi Kgatlana and Desiree Ellis win CAF awards



It was a great night for South African football lin Dakar, Senegal, in January 2019 when Banyana Banyana's Thembi Kgatlana won the CAF Women's Player of the Year and Goal of the Year and Desiree Ellis won Coach of the Year at the annual awards ceremony.

As expected, Mohamed Salah (Egypt & Liverpool) walked off with the Player of the Year for the second year after yet more goalscoring exploits for his club and country.

Meanwhile, Uganda and Mamelodi Sundowns goalkeeper, Dennis Onyango, was named the best goalkeeper in Africa.

The list of CAF Awards 2018 winners:

- Player of the Year: Mohamed Salah (Egypt & Liverpool)
- Womens Player of the Year: Chrestinah Thembi Kgatlana (South Africa & Houston
- Youth Player of the Year: Achraf Hakimi (Morocco & Borussia Dortmund)
- Mens Coach of the Year: Herve Renard
- Womens Coach of the Year: Desiree Ellis (South Africa)
- Mens National Team of the Year: Mauritania
- Womens National Team of the Year: Nigeria
- Platinum Award: His Excellency Macky Sall (President of the Republic of Senegal)
- Federation President of the Year: Fouzi Lekiaa
- Goal of the Year: Chrestinah Thembi Kgatlana (South Africa & Houston Dash).

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SA wins bid to host major astronomy conference in 2024





outh Africa has won the bid to host the 2024 General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) the first on African soil in its 105th year of existence.

The decision was announced by newlyelected IAU Pesident, Professor Ewine van Dishoeck, at the association's General Assembly in Vienna.

The IAU was founded in 1919 with a mission to promote and safeguard science of astronomy through international cooperation.

It has 12 557 individual members in 90 countries.

The Minister of Science and Technology, Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane, congratulated the bid committee on their sterling work.

Minister Kubayi-Ngubane said securing the bid was proof that Africa was the next big hub for astronomy with mega projects, including the MeerKAT, Square Kilometre Array and African Very Long Baseline Interferometry Network

"I am delighted that the international community is recognising the investments and concerted efforts that South Africa has been making in growing the discipline of astronomy in Africa."

The Minister added that the occasion would give a voice to Africa in the global astronomical endeavour and would bring attention to the "excellent science and education conducted on the continent".

Held every three years, the IAU General Assembly is the biggest international meeting of the astronomy community.

"Test-tube" lion cubs a world-first





Institute (MRI)

he birth of the world's first in vitro fertilisation lion cubs in September 2018 marked a pioneering moment for the conservation of big cat species.

Developed by a research team at the University of Pretoria (UP), a study into the reproductive physiology of the female African lion has led to the birth of two of the world's first lion cubs to be born by artificial insemination

The cubs were born to a lioness at the Ukutula Conservation Centre and Biobank in the North West province.

Professor Andre Ganswindt of the UP Mammal Research Institute, said this could combat the threat of extinction facing several big cats around the world.

"There are tremendous threats to wildlife due to loss of habitat and anthropogenic pressures, which also affect big cats. That is why a number of species are listed as vulnerable or endangered."

This study examined artificial insemination protocols for the female African lion, but could be used as a baseline for other endangered large, wild felines. Ganswindt said this was a pre-emptive measure to ensure techniques were developed before a species was critically endangered.

"To have the opportunity to stabilise populations even with artificial breeding, you have to have the necessary techniques well ahead of the time when it is necessary.

"That is why you cannot develop these techniques on a critically endangered species. In South Africa, we have a relatively stable lion population and that allows us to use lions as the forefront species to collect the knowledge for techniques that can be used on big cats that are critically endangered."

The project's main researcher, Dr Isabel Callealta, said: "The next step is to continue looking for the right protocols for the large feline species. This information will be used to develop protocols for artificial insemination for this and other endangered feline species."

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Amb Sooklal receives prestigious Indian award



outh African diplomat, Ambassador Anil Sooklal; Indian-American International Monetary Fund chief economist, Gita Gopinath; and Norwegian MP Himanshu Gulati were among 30 non-resident Indians (NRIs), Indian-origin people and their organisations named for the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award on Wednesday, 23 January 2019.

The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award is the highest honour conferred by the President of India as part of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Conventions on a NRI, Person of Indian Origin (PIOs) or organisation or institution established and run by NRIs or PIOs.

On presenting the awards, President Ram Nath Kovind in his address said that India

today was a land of billion ideas and billion opportunities.

"I invite each one of you to become a part of India's growth story which is being etched by its billion minds. We want to leverage your technology, know-how and investment to power our Make in India, Digital India, Clean India and Skill India programmes," the President said.

Prof. Dr Anil Sooklal is a diplomat and senior official at the Department of International Relations and Cooperation and served in the South African High Commission in India. He also served as Ambassador to the European Union, Belgium and Luxemburg. Dr Sooklal has a D.Phil in Religious Studies and Ph.D in Oriental Studies, both from the

University of KwaZulu-Natal. In addition to his duties as Deputy Director-General, he also serves as South Africa's Sherpa for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS); G-20; IBSA (India, Brazil, South Africa); and National Focal Point for the Indian Ocean Rim Association. Prof. Dr Sooklal's knowledge and experience in diplomacy and international affairs, especially of Asia, Middle East and India, ensure that he continues to be an influential person in South Africa's

The PBD is held on 9 January to mark Mahatma Gandhi's return to India from South Africa in 1915, where he spent 20 years fighting discrimination. This year, it was timed to afford the opportunity to the members of the Indian Diaspora to attend the Kumbh Mela as well as the Republic Day parade.

The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award was conferred to 11 South Africans thus far, including Pravin Gordhan, Ahmed Kathrada, Fatima Meer, Ela Gandhi, Essop Pahad, Ebrahim Ebrahim and Billy Nair.

President Cyril Ramaphosa attended the Republic Day parade in Delhi as Chief Guest of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "At a time when India is marking the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, it is our honour to welcome President Ramaphosa as the Chief Guest for the 2019 Republic Day celebrations. Bapu's close link with South Africa is well known," said Prime Minister Modi in a tweet.

South Africa and India enjoy deep historical relations and President Ramaphosa's visit further cemented the bilateral ties between the two countries. Diplomatic Society



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Africa's leading art fair celebrates 11 years

The JoburgArtFair has become an iconic event that continues to unearth many a talent, and in so doing, helps to define the imagery that is associated with Africa and its modern art.

he FNB JoburgArtFair, Africa's leading art fair, was held in September 2018 and again focussed on contemporary art from the continent and Diaspora. In its 11th year, it continued to strengthen this position by presenting the finest of contemporary African art alongside memorable exhibitions and groundbreaking initiatives.

The relevance of art holds distinct roles around the world. It ranges from cultural to educational, and in each instance holds a deeply personal perspective to everyone whom it touches. It is in many ways a sociobarometer of the times and its true impact has boundless potential.

The JoburgArtFair has become an iconic event that continues to unearth many a talent, and in so doing, helps to define the imagery that is associated with Africa and its modern art.



The fair provides African artists and galleries a platform through which to showcase their considerable talent. It has become a soughtafter event for collectors, investors and enthusiasts alike, drawing an ever-increasing number of local and international visitors, forever entrenching the love for the arts to newer audiences each year.

In 2018, the FNB JoburgArtFair featured over 45 galleries, with 15 new exhibitors of contemporary and modern arts, special projects and solo exhibitions by galleries and organisations. It was the most diverse representation from the continent in the history of the fair, with exhibitors from Angola, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

In line with the fair's leading role on the continent, the 2018 featured artist was Malawian-born Billie Zangewa, who lives and works in Johannesburg and primarily uses raw silk off-cuts to create intricate handstitched collages in flat, colourful panache.

The FNB Art Prize went to Cape Town-born artist and activist Haroon Gunn-Salie. The prize honours exceptional artistic talent and, at the same time, provides many local and international opportunities beyond the fair, often resulting in a springboard that catapults the artists' career to a higher level. Gunn-Salie joined the ranks of previous winners such as Peju Alatise, Nolan Oswald Dennis, Turiya Magadlela, Portia Zvavahera and Kudzanai Chiurai. He received a cash prize as well as the opportunity to create a new project that was showcased in a dedicated exhibition space at the FNB JoburgArtFair.

Gunn-Salie has established a collaborative art practice that translates community oral histories into artistic interventions and installations. His multidisciplinary practice uses a variety of mediums, drawing focus to forms of collaboration in contemporary art based on dialogue and exchange.

Currently based between Johannesburg and Belo Horizonte (Brazil), Gunn-Salie completed his BA Hons in sculpture at the

Michaelis School of Fine Art in 2012. His graduate exhibition, titled Witness, presented a site-specific body of work, focussing on still unresolved issues of forced removals under apartheid, working with veteran residents of District Six, an area in central Cape Town where widespread forced removals occurred.

Faye Mfikwe, Chief Marketing Officer at FNB, said that the FNB Art Prize honoured exceptional artistic talent and, at the same time, provided the winning artist local and international opportunities for the artist and the industry.

"Our commitment to the FNB JoburgArtFair ensures that in the years to come, we continue to introduce African artists to an international audience. galleries, collectors, writers, thinkers and art lovers from across the world, further enabling growth through maintaining a platform that empowers the artist."

The 2018 judging panel for the FNB Art Prize consisted of Pulane Kingston, Khwezi Gule and Amy Ellenbogen, FNB JoburgArtFair Curator of Galleries & VIP. U



Africa meets Asia in spectacular fashion fusion

ast met Africa in a thrilling fashion and cultural fusion at the African Fashion International (AFI) Joburg Fashion Week 2018. held from 4 to 6 October 2018 at Melrose Arch, before closing with two spectacular final shows at iconic Johannesburg landmarks on 7 October.

Joburg Fashion Week 2018 showcased the best of African fashion with a sprinkle of Asian flavour. Slated to show alongside fashion design stars from across the continent, including Nigeria's Deola Sagoe and Clan, were ranges from renowned South African designers such as David Tlale, Laduma and Gavin Rajah who created a glorious fashion melting-pot with Asian designers from Japan, Cambodia and China.

South Africa was recently named Africa's most innovative country and Japan takes the lead in Asia, particularly in technology

terms, founder and CEO, Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe, noted. Africa and Asia are both celebrated for promoting local authenticity while achieving covetable global style. This could lead to inspiring fashion and business partnerships.

"AFI Joburg Fashion Week 2018 is a platform for our best and most adventurous designers to showcase their work. It is also an opportunity to collaborate, and to exchange ideas and knowledge with their peers, intersecting Africa with Asia," Dr Moloi-Motsepe added. "We are particularly excited at the prospect of different takes on street style, for example. This is one of the hottest fashion trends globally and African fashionistas love to bring their own flair into how they wear their brands and celebrate Africa's design heritage, especially its fabrics. We are sure this will offer an inspiring new ingredient that will bring a fresh edge to African fashion, and can prompt a thrilling Afro-Asian fashion fusion."

During AFI Joburg Fashion Week, some of the top designers in the line-up led the industryoriented AFI Masterclass, aimed at capacitybuilding, skills and knowledge transfer as well as enabling the development of commercially sustainable African luxury fashion. Fashion Week attendees had an opportunity to shop the ramp at the Designer Boutique and be the first to own the latest designer collections.

"For more than a decade, AFI has facilitated exposure for African design talents on world-class platforms, assisting them to attract and conquer local markets and receive international exposure by focussing on the business of fashion," said Dr Moloi-Motsepe.

In just over a decade, AFI has built a thriving fashion marketing, retail and development platform that celebrates the creativity and craftsmanship of the African continent, shining a light on African luxury fashion aesthetics, in all their originality, heritage and style. U

africanfashioninternational.com / www.joburg.co.za









Famous Otter hike turns 50



he famous Otter hiking trail turned 50 in 2018. It is located in the Tsitsikamma National Park in the Garden Route National Park (GRNP), situated along the South Coast of South Africa - one of the most beautiful stretches of coastline in the world.

The GRNP is a mosaic of landscapes and seascapes, a haven for birds and animals, including seabirds, rare and endangered species. It spans approximately 155 000 hectares of land, including indigenous forests, lakes, rivers, wetlands and the sea.

The park incorporates 80 km of rocky coastline with spectacular sea landscapes, a remote mountainous region with secluded valleys covered in mountain fynbos and temperate high forests with deep river gorges leading down to the sea.

Scientists have recorded over 465 plant species in the forests, over 22 species of amphibians, 24 reptile species, 84 species of water birds. 305 species of birds and about 43% of South Africa's 290 mammal species in the GRNP

The GRNP has the single largest block of Afromontane forest in South Africa, including the Outeniqua and Tsitsikamma sandstone fynbos areas, mountains, forest and coast in close proximity and scenic beauty.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (2001) categories that were used to evaluate the threat status of the South African mammals (Friedmann & Daly 2004), the GRNP protects populations of 28 red data book species. In the threatened categories, 7,1% of the park's mammals are listed as endangered and 14% as vulnerable

Undoubtedly the best known and most popular of the South African hiking trails, the Otter trail must rank alongside the best trails in the world. The trail follows the spectacular Eastern Cape coastline from Storms River Mouth to Natures Valley in the Tsitsikamma National Park.

The Tsitsikamma section of the GRNP protects a wonderland of inter-tidal and marine life. This is one of the largest single unit "no take" (including fishing) marine protected areas in the world, conserving 11% of South Africa's temperate South Coast rocky shoreline and providing a "laboratory" for fisheries baseline research on endangered line fish species. In 1964 when it was proclaimed, it became the first Marine National Park to be proclaimed in Africa.

The Tsitsikamma section incorporates various cultural heritage sites ranging from

LIFESTYLE

Khoisan cultural heritage sites such as caves, shell middens and rock art to more recent cultural historic sites such as the ruins of small fisher settlements, remnants of the past forestry industries and grave sites. The park is embarking on a Cultural Mapping Project with the aim of identifying and protecting all cultural heritage sites incorporated within the park. An Oral History Collection Project is being implemented to recover and interpret information relating to cultural heritage. The more recent history of the forestry and fishing industries that is still in the memories of older folk from the region, is the one thing that strongly connects local communities with the park and can enhance park-community relations.

These processes will be developed and implemented in conjunction with local community members and the organisations representing community interests, as well as relevant academic institutions and researchers.

The popular Otter trail is a 42,5-km long hike that takes five days to complete, during which one walks on sandy beaches and traverses rocky routes ranging in elevation from sea level to a height of more than 150 m. The trail was opened in 1968 and is considered one of the finest multi-day trails in the world. It is named after the shy, mostly nocturnal, cape clawless otter, which inhabits the estuaries and streams of the South African coast.

One has to be between the ages of 12 and 65 to take on the trail, due to the physical demands expected from hikers. All hikers from the ages of 65 and above will be requested to produce a recent doctor's certificate that confirms their fitness level to undertake the challenging terrain of the Otter Trail

Each hut has a braai place with a sturdy steel grid. Hikers need to provide their own gas stoves and pots for cooking.

There are two huts and a single toilet at each overnight stop. Each of the two huts contains six beds with mattresses - hikers must provide their own blankets/pillows/sleeping bags etc.

It is important to be aware of the dates and the times of the high and low tides prior to hiking the Otter Trail. This is especially

important when it comes to crossing the bigger rivers such as the Elandsbos and the Bloukrans Rivers.

The Otter trail bookings are done directly through South African National Parks (http://www.sanparks.org) up to a year in advance. U

www.sanparks.org.za / www.news24.com









Exploring the Wild Flower Route of the Northern Cape

year spring, photographers, artists. botanists and sightseers from around the globe flock to the Northern Cape's Namaqualand to witness one of the greatest and most spectacular natural phenomena in the world - the blossoming of the area's wild flowers.

Thousands of the legendary Namaqualand daisies along with an estimated 3 500 other floral species create a horizon-to-horizon carpet of wonder during springtime - not something you'll easily experience anywhere else in the world, especially with South Africa's unique biomes.

The Namaqualand Flower Route lies about a five hours' drive north of Cape Town, in a series of drives that focus on the towns of Garies, Springbok, Kamieskroon and Port Nolloth, way up the N7. Included in the Wild Flower Route are the Richtersveld National Park, Goegap Nature Reserve and Skilpad Wild Flower Reserve.

There are, however, also wild flowers all over the Namaqualand, the West Coast and Olifants River Valley, and towns such as Citrusdal, Clanwilliam, Lamberts Bay, Nieuwoudtville and Vredendal.

The wildflowers in this area are nothing short of amazing. During the rest of the year, the landscape is mostly a dry and dusty desert. However, come springtime and the area is completely transformed with flowering life boasting more colour than seems possible for one place.

The riot of flowers is a highly volatile exhibition. Almost 4 000 different species of plant seeds lie awaiting germination that depends entirely on what the weather is doing. Thus, every year between July and October brings a different formula, and a different selection of flowers. A requisite stop is at the local tourist information bureau to find out where the year's best flower displays are.

The wide variety of wild flowers is largely due to the varied topography - fertile valleys contrast with high mountains, the semi-desert

plains of the north contrast with the unique Sandveld region near the coast with its wetter

Certain species are found nowhere else in the world such as the yellow leucospermum reflexum, the snow protea (protea cryophilla), blue lachanaea filamentosa, yellow sparaxis, pink cyanella alba and the Clanwilliam cedar (widdringtonia cedarbergensis).

It is hardly surprising that the spectacle is such a drawcard to the Namaqualand, where you will need at least two to three days to take in the torrent of colour and the extent of the floral display, if the desert is experiencing a good year.

And the flowers do not have to be approached by car alone. There are hiking and cycling routes that allow close scrutiny of the flower route's indigenous flora, such as those in the Goegap Nature Reserve that also provide picnic spots and overnight facilities. U

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