

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK IN ABIDJAN, 25-27 APRIL 2013

The Embassy of South Africa in Abidjan, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire organised a series of events from 25-27 April 2013 in view of the celebrations of South Africa Freedom Day.

In the morning of 25 April 2013, a **South Africa Business and Tourism Workshop** was hosted at the Golf Hotel in Abidjan. This was to provide information on South African business climate and opportunities and showcase South Africa as a tourist destination of choice. Remarking, the South African Ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire, His Excellency V.L Sindane reiterated the importance of fostering strong economic cooperation between South Africa and Cote d'Ivoire. For Africa to realise economic growth and development, the continent had to strive for an improved intra-Africa trade. Opportunities exist for trade between the two countries on sectors including agriculture, mining, infrastructure development, tourism etc; he stated.

Then was **South African Wine Tasting** in the afternoon. Invited guests had the opportunity to taste various brands of wine. The Embassy is in touch with the ever increasing importers of South African wine. In the evening, was **South Africa Fashion Show** at the same venue. A South African fashion designer, Ms Nandipha Madikiza took part in this event. She collaborated with a renowned Ivorian fashion designer.

The next day 26 April 2013, the Ambassador and Mrs Sindane led the Mission in the hosting of one of the most memorable **Freedom Day Reception** at the Official Residence. In his speech, Ambassador Sindane emphasized the sacrifices that South Africans had to endure in order to achieve their democracy. Extensive explanation was made to clarify South Africa's involvement in the Central African Republic. Later feedback from some diplomats and executives showed that this clarification was essential. He also emphasized the high level of importance South Africa attaches to the bilateral relations with Cote d'Ivoire.

The following Day, 27 April 2013, a **South Africa Golf Day** concluded the celebrations. More than 60 golfers participated, and prizes were on offer.

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