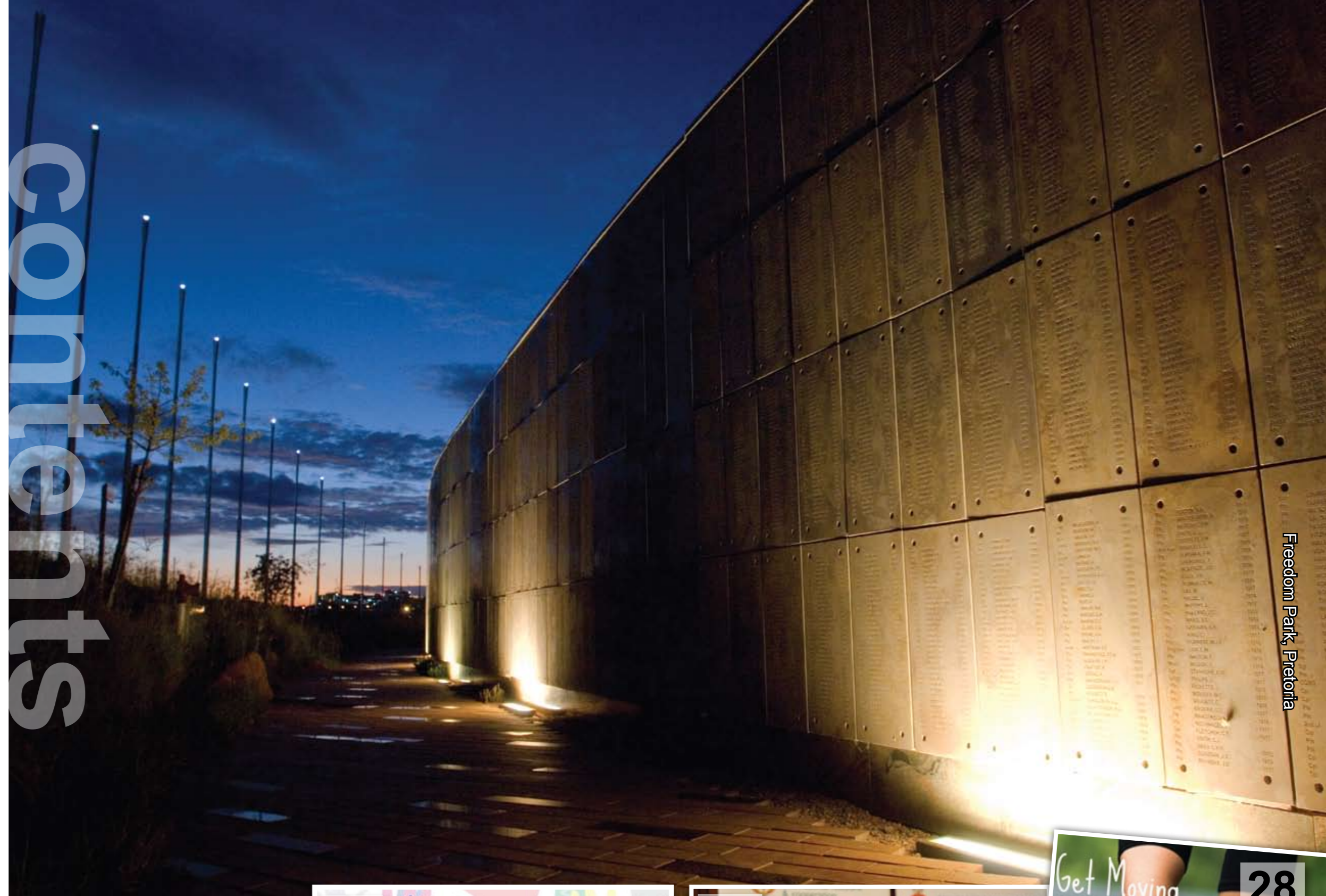




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## Letter from the Editor

Dear Diplomats,

**G**overnment has called on all South Africans to commemorate Human Rights Day and reflect on the progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights in the country. This year's theme, "Celebrating 20 Years of Changing Lives through Human Rights", provided an opportunity for all South Africans to realise that South Africa is a better place to live in, through the gains that have been made in our country's young democracy.

In this issue, we highlight the foreign policy achievements made over the past 20 years as contained in the recently-released "20 Year Review" document (page 8).

We can proudly attest that our country has systems in place such as the Constitution, supporting legislation, policies and programmes aimed at protecting human rights in the country. Since the advent of democracy, government has consistently worked on improving the lives of all. Some of the initiatives include the continuous effort to provide universal healthcare; the provision of antiretroviral treatment for HIV/AIDS; the establishment of a national agency for youth development; the promotion of regional human rights programmes; and the setting up of the Ministry for Women, Children and People with Disabilities.

Today, more people have access to safe drinking water, and more than 12 million people

now have a place to call home as government has invested more than R100 billion in building new homes since 1994.

With the official celebrations of 20 Years of Freedom, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation has stepped up its Public Participation Programme to inform citizens about progress made and how foreign policy makes an impact on national priorities. Deputy Minister Ebrahim Ebrahim reached out to students at a seminar hosted by the University of Pretoria's Department of Political Sciences and the Centre for Mediation in Africa on 24 February 2014. You can read his lecture on page 16

Freedom Month was officially launched by the Minister of Arts and Culture, Paul Mashatile, and the Minister of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation, Collins Chabane, on 3 April 2014 under the theme "South Africa – A Better Place to Live in".

Freedom Day 2014 on 27 April marked 20 years of democracy in South Africa. It was an opportunity not only to celebrate 20 years of freedom and democracy, but to reflect on how it was achieved, the progress made in the past 20 years and how South Africans should work together to implement the National Development Plan.

**MG**

Happy Reading!

# Did you now?

**1** The Department of Trade and Industry (the dti) has launched the R71-million Itukise Unemployed Graduates Programme, which will help unemployed graduates get work experience by negotiating placements at companies for them. Through Itukise, the dti will engage with companies that have received different government incentives to provide work experience to unemployed graduates for 12 months. The department will also seek to place interns at companies interested in the programme.



**2** Since the adoption of "SA Connect", the Broadband Policy and Strategy, on 4 December 2013, 782 schools have been connected with computers and cyberlabs; the Ikamva e-Skills Institute was launched; and the National Broadband Advisory Council established.



**3** In March, Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi and the Deputy Minister of Basic Education, Enver Surty, launched the Human Papilloma Virus Vaccination Campaign, which will see Grade 4 girl learners getting the first dose of the vaccine. The campaign is a significant public health milestone and is expected to reduce cervical cancer and its associated mortality within the next two to three decades.



**4** The deployment of the South African National Defence Force back to the country's borderline has resulted in a noticeable number of interceptions of various illegal activities. This has resulted in operational successes such as the confiscation of contraband (mainly cigarettes and liquor) worth over R100 million, dagga to the value of over R50 million, 103 weapons confiscated, the apprehension of 80 000 undocumented persons, recovery of over 300 stolen vehicles, arrest of 2 000 suspected criminals and the recovery of 18 000 livestock.



**5** Cape Town beat over 160 cities from 14 countries to be named Global Earth Hour Capital 2014, the World Wide Fund for Nature's Earth Hour City Challenge announced. The judges found that the city "stood out as a role model for the global South with a showcase of green programmes and actions other cities can replicate".



# SA expanding its global footprint

**I**n just 20 years, South Africa has managed to reset and reconstruct its relations with the international community following 400 years of exclusion during colonialism and apartheid.

This is according to the *20 Year Review*, released by President Jacob Zuma recently, which says the country has sought to improve North-South relations, focusing on reforming the global economy and global governance, enhancing market access for developing countries and instituting more favourable terms for trade, debt relief and new forms of partnership for development.

"South Africa's reintegration into the global community has seen its diplomatic, political and economic relations expand rapidly to include countries with which it previously had no relations.

"By 2012, the number of foreign diplomatic missions, consulates-general, consulates and international organisations in South Africa had increased to 315," reads the review.

This is the second-largest number of diplomatic offices accredited to any country after the United States of America.

South Africa's missions abroad increased from 36 in 1994 to 125 in 2012.

The importance of Africa in South Africa's foreign policy is reflected in the growth of South African representation in Africa, which increased from 17 in 1994 to the current total of 47 missions.

## Partnerships for a better and peaceful world

The country has served on the United Nations (UN) Security Council for a two-year non-permanent term; joined powerful and influential group of emerging economies Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS); and India, Brazil, South Africa (IBSA) and remains the only African country on the G20.

To advance the interests of developing countries, South Africa has worked to promote a rules-bound international political and economic order and to transform North-South relations through dialogue while consolidating South-South collaboration by participation in groupings such as the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the UN Conference on Trade and Development.

South Africa also works with other African states and multilateral organisations like

the UN, Organisation of African Unity/African Union (AU) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) to promote international respect for human rights, democracy and good governance.

It has assisted Madagascar, the Zimbabwean and South Sudan people to resolve their problems and has with peacekeeping in Ethiopia/Eritrea, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi, among others. Further testament to the country's international footprint is that former Minister Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma was appointed as the AU Commission's Chairperson in July 2012.

The country has also hosted many international conferences and events since 1994. These include: the NAM Summit (1998), Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (1999), UN AIDS Conference (2000), UN World Conference against Racism (2001), World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002) and the historic and successful UN Climate Change Conference (COP17/CMP7, which delivered the landmark Durban Platform that rescued the Kyoto Protocol).

The democratic South Africa has prioritised developing bilateral political and economic relations, especially with African countries.

Since 1994, it has signed 624 agreements and established 40 bilateral mechanisms – nearly half of the total number of bilateral mechanisms in place – with countries on the continent.

The *20 Year Review* does, however, note that there have been challenges with the implementation of some of these agreements.

## Expanding trade relations

The country's export markets have changed considerably over the past 20 years with new markets emerging, while the share of exports to some traditional markets, such as the United Kingdom (UK), Japan and Europe, has declined.

According to the report, China has emerged as South Africa's most important export trading partner since 2009, with its share of non-gold merchandise exports measuring 12,9% in 2012, compared with 0,8% in 1994.

India is now South Africa's fifth-largest export destination, having overtaken both the UK and Switzerland.

African countries have also become increasingly important export markets,

especially for manufactured goods. "Exports to the entire African continent increased from 10% in 1994 to 17,6% in 2012. SADC countries claimed most of these exports, accounting for 12,9% of overall exports in 2012, up from 8,3% in 1994. Africa accounts for around a third of South Africa's exports of more advanced manufactures," says the review.

South Africa has also benefited substantially from the United States' (US) African Growth and Opportunity Act, 2000, which aims to expand US trade and investment with sub-Saharan Africa, stimulate economic growth, encourage economic integration and facilitate sub-Saharan Africa's integration into the global economy.

Bilateral trade between South Africa and the USA grew from R15,9 billion in 1994 to more than R129 billion in 2013, with the trade balance being in South Africa's favour.

Between 1994 and 2013, South Africa's fiscal and macro-economic policies boosted bilateral trade between South Africa and European countries and stimulated foreign direct investment (FDI) and tourism.

From 1994 inward, FDI stock increased significantly as South Africa experienced a continuous upward trajectory, from R44,7 billion to R1,38 trillion in 2012 in nominal terms.



South Africa's bilateral political and economic relations also increased exports in goods and services, from R106 billion in 1994 to R892 billion (in nominal terms) in 2012.

## Looking to the future

Going forward, the report says South Africa's foreign policy should continue to be shaped by the interplay between prevailing diplomatic, political, security, environmental, economic and regional factors.

"It should remain cognisant of global power shifts, the stratification of regional groupings, threats to human and state security, internal

and external sovereignty and natural resources, and the need to promote South Africa's national interests."

It notes that regional and continental integration are important for Africa's socio-economic development and political unity, and for South Africa's prosperity and security.

Consequently, this means that Africa will remain at the centre of South Africa's foreign policy.

"The country will strengthen its support for regional and continental institutions that work towards achieving peace and resolving security crises, and it will take further steps

to strengthen regional integration, promote intra-African trade and champion sustainable development on the continent."

The review had also identified the cooperation between vital state institutions that deal with international relations policy and cross-border issues should also be strengthened.

"Closer collaboration and partnerships between government, business, civil society and labour must be pursued to ensure that the country operates holistically in the competitive and unpredictable international arena," says the review. – [SAnews.gov.za](http://SAnews.gov.za)

# 20 YEAR REVIEW IN NUMBERS



## Access to quality education



- By 2012, 78% of learners (more than eight million) in 80% of public schools (close to 20 000 schools) benefited from the no-fee policy.
- 9 million – the number of learners in more than 20 905 primary and secondary schools that are benefiting from the National Nutrition Programme. In 1999, this programme only reached 4,9 million learners.

## Early Childhood Development



- 1 million – the number of children aged 0-4 in an Early Childhood Development facility or some form of out-of-home care. Of these, 467 000 children are recipients of the means-tested subsidy through 18 826 registered centres.
- 705 000 – the number of Grade R enrolments between 2003 and 2011.

The number has more than doubled from 300 000.

- 87,8% – the percentage of Grade 1 learners in public schools who had attended Grade R by 2012.

## School enrolment



- 98% – the gross primary enrolment in 2012.
- 89% – the gross secondary enrolment in 2012. This was an improvement from 51% in 1994.

## School build programme

- 84 468 – new classrooms and 21 774 ablution facilities built.
- 8 765 – schools provided with water.
- 6 434 – schools provided with electrical connections.
- 2 761 – the number of new schools that have been constructed.

## Senior National Certificate

- 78,2% – the Matric pass rate in 2013. This number has steadily increased over the past 20 years from 53,4% in 1995 to 61% in 2009 and 78,2% in 2013.
- 30,6% – the percentage of Grade 12 learners who qualified for Bachelor's

studies in 2013. This is an increase from 19,9% in 2009.

- On average, between 2010 and 2012, 128 000 learners obtained bachelor passes, compared with 70 000 per year for the period 2000 to 2002.

## Adult literacy



- 3 million – the number of illiterate adult learners who enrolled in the Kha Ri Gude Literacy Programme between 2008 and 2012.
- Currently, 80% of the Kha Ri Gude learners are women, 8% are disabled and 25% are youth, and 20% are above the age of 60.
- 64% – the percentage of Africans aged 20 years and over who completed Grade 9 by 2011. This is an increase from 48% in 1994.
- 64% – the percentage of African adults aged 20 and over who completed Grade 12 in 2011. It increased from 23% in 1994.

## Teachers



- 62 804 – the number of Funza Lushaka bursaries awarded to student teachers from 2007 to 2013 at a cost of over R1,9 billion.
- 13 708 – the number of new teacher graduates in 2012. The number has doubled from 6 315 in 2009.

## Tertiary education



- University enrolment had almost doubled, increasing from 495 356 students (universities, technikons and teachers' training colleges) in 1994 to 953 373 students (public universities and universities of technology) in 2012.
- 58% – the percentage of women students enrolled in university programmes.
- 81% – the percentage of black students enrolled in Higher Education institutions in 2012.
- 5 281 – the number of Research Masters graduates in 2011. This is an increase from 4 179 in 2009.
- Doctoral graduates increased by 15% from 1 373 in 2009 to 1 576 in 2011.
- 40,7% – the placement rates of Further Education and Training (FET) college graduates in 2012. This is an increase from 22% in 2009.
- 657 690 – the number of enrolments in FET colleges in 2012. The number was 271 900 in 2000.
- 52 749 – number of learners who benefited from the national certificate vocational system at FET colleges.
- 3 430 – the number of artisans who successfully completed trade tests between 2000 and 2006. 6 030 artisans successfully completed trade tests

between 2007 and 2008. This number increased further to 15 277 artisan qualifications during 2011/12 alone.

## National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)

- Between 1994 and 2012, approximately one million university beneficiaries received NSFAS loans and bursaries worth approximately R30 billion.
- R1,7 billion – the worth of bursaries for FET students in 2012, benefiting 237 908 students between 2009 and 2011. The amount increased from R100 million in 2007.
- The NSFAS has grown extensively and now funds 205 000 students at universities and 215 000 students at FET colleges.

## Fighting crime and corruption



- 40% – the percentage of households who felt the levels of violent and non-violent crime had decreased in their area of residence during the period 2008 to 2010.
- 60% – the percentage of households surveyed in the *Victims of Crime Survey* satisfied with the way the police and courts are doing their work.
- The crime detection rate for contact crimes improved from 39,5% in 2001/02 to 60,7% in 2011/12.
- 13 000 – the number of cases of corruption and maladministration that have been referred to government departments for further handling and investigation through the National Anti-Corruption Hotline.
- R320 million – the amount recovered by government from perpetrators through the National Anti-Corruption Hotline.
- R149 million – the amount paid by the Asset Forfeiture Unit in the first six months of last year into the Criminal Assets Recovery Account and to the victims of crime. This is 170% above its target of R55 million.
- Between 2009 and 2013, over 30 000 accused have been convicted in connection with commercial crimes.

## Growing the economy



- R3,2 trillion – the value of South Africa's gross domestic product (GDP), which is 83% larger than it was in 1993.
- South African economy grew from a GDP of US\$136 billion in 1994 to a GDP of US\$384 billion in 2012.
- 3,2% – South Africa's economic growth rate since 1994. The percentage is an increase from 1% growth per year in the decade prior to 1994.
- Unemployment remains the key economic challenge. It dropped from a peak of 31,2% in March 2003 to 25,2% in March 2013.
- 6 million – the number of work opportunities created through Government's Expanded Public Works Programme and Community Work Programme for unemployed people; 40% of them are young people.
- The average annual household income for South Africans increased from R48 385 in 2001 to R103 204 in 2011, well above the pace of inflation.
- South Africa is spending R827 billion on its National Infrastructure Plan to grow the economy.
- R1 trillion – the amount invested in national infrastructure projects between 2009 and 2014 while R451 billion was spent between 2004 and 2008.
- More than 100 000 – the number of passengers using the Rea Vaya Bus Rapid Transit System in Johannesburg. Similar Systems are being built in Cape Town, Tshwane, Nelson Mandela Bay, Buffalo City, eThekweni and Rustenburg.
- Government has built a 700-km fuel pipeline from Durban to Gauteng to transport 4 billion cubic litres of petrol, diesel and jet fuel a year.
- Close to 1 500 km of new roads or lanes have been built.
- Over 1,2 million – the number of passengers using the the Gautrain every month.
- R120 billion – the amount that the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa will spend over the next 10 years to buy new trains.

(Continues on page 10)

- R300 billion – the amount Transnet is investing to build much-needed transport infrastructure.

## Access to health for all

### Life expectancy



- South Africa's life expectancy is on an upward trend from 52,7 years in 2002 to 59,6 years in 2013.
- Life expectancy of males increased from 50,5 years in 2002 to 57,7 years in 2013.
- Life expectancy of females had improved to 55,2 years in 2002 from 61,4 years in 2013.

### Childhood mortality



- The infant mortality rate decreased from 63,5 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2002, to 41,7 deaths per live births in 2013.
- The under-five mortality rate decreased from 92,9 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2002 to 56,6 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2013.
- In 2005, South Africa was one of only four countries globally with an under-five mortality rate higher than the 1990 baseline for the millennium development goals. This rate declined by an average annual rate of 10,3% between 2006 and 2011.

### Malnutrition among children

- Severe malnutrition among children decreased from 88 971 in 2001 to 23 521 in 2011.
- Vitamin A deficiency among children under five years of age decreased from 63,6% in 2005 to 43,6% in 2012.

## HIV and AIDS



- 20,2 million – the number of South Africans tested for HIV between April 2010 to June 2012.
- 2,4 million – the number of patients receiving public-sector antiretroviral therapy (ART) in 2013 in South Africa. The number increased from 47 500 in 2004 to 1,79 million in 2011.
- The total number of people dying from AIDS each year decreased from 300 000 in 2010 to 270 000 in 2011.
- 8,5% – the HIV prevalence estimates for people aged between 15 to 24. The number declined from 9,7% in 2009 to 8,5% in 2013.
- Nationally, there has been a significant reduction in mother-to-child transmission of HIV from about 8% in 2008 to 2,5% in 2012. Consequently, over 100 000 babies were protected from HIV infection.
- 3 540 – the number of health facilities providing ARVs in 2013. It's an increase from 490 in February 2010.
- Government increased the number of professional nurses trained on Nurse Initiated Management of ART from 250 in 2009 to 23 000 in 2013.
- 50% – the decline in the number of children aged 0-4 years who acquired HIV between 2006 and 2011.
- 50% – the decrease in the number of people acquiring HIV infection, from 700 000 in the 1990s to 350 000 in 2011.
- Government introduced the Fixed-Dose Combinations of ARVs in 2013 costing R89,37 per patient per month. Before, it used to cost R313,99 per patient per month.

## TB



- Between April 2011 to March 2012 alone, over 100 000 households with known TB patients were visited, and about 160 000 people were screened; 3 000 contacts were diagnosed with TB and 3 200 with

HIV infection. Most of these patients would not have been identified through routine processes.

- 4,2 million – the number of tests conducted since the invention of the GeneXpert test; more than half were done in South Africa.
- Cure rates improved from 57,7% in 2005 to 73,8% in 2012, while defaulter rates decreased from 8,5% in 2007 to 6,1% in 2012.

## Clinics and hospitals



- 1 500 – the number of health facility infrastructure introduced by the democratic Government.
- This includes building new facilities and refurbishing existing facilities and facilitating access to healthcare within a 5-km radius of where people lived.

## Malaria



- Malaria cases decreased by 855 from 64 622 cases in 2000, compared to 6 846 cases in 2012.
- 84% – the decrease in the number of malaria deaths from 458 to 72 deaths between 2000 and 2012.

## Public healthcare institutions



- 129 million – the number of visits to primary healthcare services by the end of March 2013. This is an increase from 67 million in 1998.
- 59,6% – the percentage of households using public-sector clinics in 2012. The figure stood at 44,5% in 2004.

- The proportion of people who go directly to public hospitals (without a referral from a clinic) decreased from 24,6% in 2004 to 10% in 2012.
- 80% – the percentage of population receiving treatment through the public healthcare system.
- 44 000 – the number of community service health professionals placed in remote, rural and underserved areas.

## Health professionals



- 1 400 – the number of new medical students accepted annually. In the 1990s, medical schools in South Africa accepted approximately 1 000 new medical students annually.
- 777 – the number of doctors who have to date been recruited and placed in remote areas as a result of an agreement between SA and Cuba during the first term of South Africa's democratic government.
- 760 – the number of South African students from rural areas and disadvantaged backgrounds who have been recruited to study medicine in Cuba.

## Local government and basic services



- 95% – the national access to clean and safe drinking water in 2011/12. This is up from only 60% in 1994.
- Over 9 million have access to basic water supply.
- 83% – the percentage of households with access to sanitation in 2011/12. This number is up from 50% in 1994.
- 6,4 million – the number people with access to basic sanitation.
- 86% – the national average of access to electricity in 2013/14.
- 4 million more electricity connections had been made to poor households.

- More South Africans are using electricity for cooking, increasing from 47,5% in 1996 to 73,9% in 2011.
- The number of households that use electricity for heating increased from 44,5% in 1996 to 58,8% in 2011.
- By May 2013, government had installed over 350 000 solar water geysers.
- Some 3,7 million subsidised housing opportunities (including houses and serviced sites) have been provided to the very poor, giving a home to about 12,5 million people.
- Over the past 20 years, about 2,8 million completed houses and units, and just over 876 774 serviced sites were delivered. Since 1994, more than R100 billion has been invested in providing housing opportunities, which has ensured 12,5 million people have place to call home.
- The delivery of 5 677 614 formal houses by government and the private sector resulted in a shift in the number of people living in formal housing from 64% in 1996 to 77,7% in 2011.
- The formal housing market has increased 13-fold from R321 billion in 1994, reaching a collective value of about R4,036 trillion by 2014.
- More than 16 million people were eligible for social grants by June 2013, compared to 2,5 million in 1998.
- 11 million – the number of children benefiting from the Child Support Grant, which was introduced in 1998 with 70 000 beneficiaries.
- 500 – the number of informal settlements that have been replaced with quality housing and basic services over the past five years.

## Rural development



- 9,4 million hectares of land have been transferred from 1994 both through land restitution and redistribution.
- Since 1995, 79 696 land claims were lodged, 77 334 have been settled of which 59 758 have been finalised.
- 4 860 – the number of farms transferred to black people and communities between 1994 and the end March 2013.
- 416 – the number of emerging farmers who have received support through the Recapitalisation and Development Programme. This is in addition to the

existing 595 farms currently being supported at a cost of R1,2 billion.

- 1 269 – the number of farms that were recapitalised between the third quarter of 2009 and March 2013. Since 2009, the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights has spent R4,8 billion to acquire 368 483 hectares of land for restoration.
- Close to 35 000 jobs have been created by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform through various initiatives such as building of bridges, schools, health facilities, construction of roads and other infrastructure related activities.
- 7 000 – the number of jobs created through the successful implementation of the Recapitalisation and Development Programme that saw 1 269 farms being converted into 100% productive farms.
- R631 million – the amount invested by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform in programmes to train and deploy rural youth
- 948 468 – the number of food gardens established since 2009 to enable poor households to produce their own food.

## Governance and administration



- After the 2009 elections, 43% of MPs and 42% of members of provincial legislatures were female. Global rankings of the percentage of women parliamentarians in national parliaments put South Africa in the top 10 out of 188 countries, ahead of many developed countries
- 1,3 million – the number of people employed in national and provincial government combined by the end of 2011/12. Of these, 57% were female and 43% male. Furthermore, 80% were African, 9% white, 8% coloured and 3% Asian.

## Communications

- 89% – the percentage of households with access to cell phones. This increased from about 32% in 2001.
- Television access increased from about 53% of households in 2001 to more than 74% in 2011, and computer ownership increased from 8,5% of households in 2001 to more than 21% in 2011.



# South Africa remains committed to maintaining effective nuclear security

By Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane

**T**he recent Nuclear Security Summit (NSS), held in The Hague, Netherlands, met to review progress towards strengthening nuclear security through stronger national measures and improved international cooperation.

The summit concluded with the adoption of The Hague Communiqué, which builds on the outcomes of the earlier summits in Washington (2010) and Seoul (2012).

The Communiqué, among other things, includes:

- reducing the amount of dangerous nuclear material in the world that terrorists could use to make nuclear weapons
- improving the security of radioactive material
- improving the international exchange of information and international cooperation.

South Africa's participation in the NSS process is informed by the shared vision of a world free of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, as well as its triple objectives of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The South African Government remains committed to maintaining effective nuclear security of all nuclear and other radioactive material within South Africa, consistent with its national and international obligations.

We welcome the progress achieved to strengthen nuclear security at national levels, and through the relevant multilateral organisations, especially the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

We should all remain vigilant of the risks inherent in the continued existence of nuclear weapons, as well as those posed by nuclear terrorism, the illicit nuclear network and

criminal acts, and the use of nuclear or other radioactive material for malicious acts.

In addressing these risks, South Africa remains committed to a multilateral approach to promoting nuclear security which upholds the centrality of IAEA and the United Nations (UN), and which respects the international rule of law and the principles enshrined in the UN Charter.

We believe that through a cooperative approach in the relevant multilateral organisations, we can effectively deal with these risks.

Nuclear energy not only provides for the expanded opportunity to generate power for our development, but we derive great benefit from its application to areas such as health, nutrition and agriculture. South Africa contributes to these applications through the supply of medical isotopes and is well placed to produce these isotopes on a large scale using low-enriched uranium fuel.

We agree that highly enriched uranium (HEU) and separated plutonium require special precautions. At a national level, we have taken the necessary precautions in line with our international legally binding obligations on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation. However, these precautions do not constrain us in exercising our inalienable right to research, develop and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, including by engaging in the enrichment of uranium.


Furthermore, South Africa continues to believe that the focus on minimising the use of HEU in peaceful applications, which represents a very small fraction of the HEU used for military purposes, should be addressed in the framework of the long-overdue negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a fissile material treaty.

We equally remain concerned about the high risks posed by the large quantities of weapons-usable material that remains

outside the scope of international oversight provided by the IAEA's safeguards system.

Going forward, the best approach would be to address the issues of nuclear safety and nuclear security in a comprehensive and coherent manner.

In line with our commitment to multilateralism, South Africa believes that the nuclear security architecture should have the IAEA at its centre, based on the relevant international legal instruments and informed by the IAEA guidance. To achieve this, we should infuse the gains of the NSS process into the existing multilateral fora in partnership with those states that have not participated in the NSS.

South Africa remains committed to the important issue of nuclear security and stands ready to work together with all members of the international community to raise nuclear security levels internationally. 



South Africa was the first and only country to build nuclear weapons and then voluntarily dismantle them. In the 1980s, South Africa constructed six gun-type nuclear weapons and had started building a seventh. Less than a decade after assembling its first nuclear weapon, South Africa abandoned its nuclear weapons programme, joined the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as a non-nuclear weapon state, and allowed international inspections of its former nuclear weapons programme.

Since abandoning its nuclear weapons programme, South Africa has emerged as a champion of both global nuclear non-proliferation and equal access to peaceful nuclear energy.

In May 1993, the South African Parliament passed the Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act, 1993, which committed South Africa to abstain from the development of nuclear weapons. At the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, South African diplomats built consensus among member states to adopt a set of Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament and to extend the NPT indefinitely.

On 11 April 1996, South Africa and 42 other African states signed the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), which entered into force in June 2009. In June 1996, South Africa was admitted to the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, and in September, South Africa signed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. South Africa, one of 44 countries that must ratify the treaty for it to take legal force, did so on 30 March 1999.

## LOOK HOW FAR WE'VE COME: TWENTY YEARS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

**A**partheid legislation denied people the right to vote, to work, to access education, to move freely, to love whomever they wanted to, to not be imprisoned without trial ... South Africa's groundbreaking Bill of Rights, Chapter 2 of the Constitution, changed all that.

Compared to the apartheid era, where the majority had no political rights and parties opposed to apartheid were banned, all South Africans now have the right to freedom of association and are free to make political choices and campaign for any political party or cause.

Whereas the majority of South Africans were denied the right to vote during the apartheid era, every adult citizen now has the right to participate in free, fair and regular elections, the right to vote and to stand for public office and, if elected, to hold office.

All South Africans have the right to assemble, to demonstrate, to picket and to present petitions, provided this is done peacefully.

South Africans now have the right to freedom of expression.

The press and other media can express themselves freely and there is academic freedom and freedom of scientific research.

The Bill of Rights also provides for the right to access any information that is required for the exercise or protection of any rights. The freedom of expression does not extend to propaganda of war, incitement of imminent violence or advocacy of hatred based on race, ethnicity, gender or religion.

Compared to the apartheid era, all South Africans are now equal before the law and have the right to equal protection and benefit of the law.

Whereas during apartheid, people were detained without trial, mainly for their political beliefs, all citizens now have the right to freedom and security of the person, which includes the right not to be detained without trial and not to be treated or punished in a cruel, inhuman or degrading way.

Everyone who is detained has the right to be told the reason for their detention, and to legal representation. Everyone who is arrested for allegedly committing an offence has the right to remain silent and to a fair trial or hearing before a court.

While the apartheid State sought to deprive the majority of South Africans of their citizenship and controlled their movement through oppressive pass

laws and other means, no citizen may be deprived of citizenship and everyone has the right to freely move through the country, reside anywhere and hold a passport.

Whereas the apartheid State reserved skilled jobs for white South Africans, all citizens now have the right to choose their trade, occupation or profession.

All citizens have the right to fair labour practices, to form and join a trade union and participate in its activities and programmes and the right to engage in collective bargaining. No one may be subjected to slavery, servitude and forced labour.

While access to education was racially determined during apartheid, all South Africans now have the right to basic education, including adult basic education, and to further education, which the State has sought to progressively make available and accessible.


All South Africans now have the right to access healthcare, water and social security and appropriate social assistance if they are unable to support themselves and their dependants. No one may be refused emergency medical treatment.

Every child, regardless of race, has a right to basic nutrition, shelter, basic health services and social services. Every child also has the right to family care or parental care and to be protected from maltreatment, neglect, abuse or degradation and exploitative labour practices.

Compared to the apartheid era, all citizens have the right to freedom of sexual orientation, conscience, religion, thought, belief and opinion.

During apartheid, not only was same-sex marriage unheard of, but homosexuality was illegal. In 2006, South Africa became only the fifth country in the world to pass legislation allowing gay and lesbian people to marry – way ahead of so-called developed democracies such as Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Apartheid's "immorality" legislation also outlawed sex and marriage between people of different races. Today, all marriages concluded under any tradition, or any system of religious, person or family law, are recognised.

Compared to the further oppression and discrimination women experienced during the apartheid era, they now have equal rights before the law, including the right to make decisions regarding reproduction. 

*This is an edited excerpt from South Africa's Twenty Year Review.*



# A DIRCO Public Participation Programme to students of the University of Pretoria

By Deputy Minister Ebrahim Ebrahim

Over the past two decades, South Africa has assisted a number of states with conflict resolution and has shared experiences with regard to transitional justice.

These countries include Palestine, Northern Ireland, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Sudan/Southern Sudan, Madagascar, Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka, to name but a few.

This year, South Africa marks the 20th anniversary of our democratic transition – a transition that also marked the end of our country's pariah status and our full integration into the structures and processes of the international community, especially in Africa. Taking our place in the community of nations came with high expectations shaped by our peaceful transition referred to as the South African miracle and the iconic status of former

President Nelson Mandela as a master of reconciliation and forgiveness.

In fact, our own peaceful transition from the brink of civil war is central to our approach to disputes and remains an example to the world of how a deeply divided country on the brink of disaster can build a nation through all-inclusive dialogue.

Moreover, South Africa has a moral obligation to act in solidarity with Africa for its unwavering support for the liberation movement as well as a form of recompense for the crimes committed against our neighbours by the apartheid regime.

It is this belief in the central importance of the African continent to our foreign policy that has also guided our engagement on the continent to support development and peace initiatives.

We played an active role in reshaping the Organisation of African Unity into the African Union (AU), especially with the aim of strengthening Africa's ability to address conflict.

Since its inception in 2002, the AU has established and consolidated a comprehensive peace and security architecture based on a paradigm that recognises preventative diplomacy as central to the eradication of conflict on our continent.

These mechanisms that the AU has put in place bear testimony to the determination to our continent to address peace and security challenges in a comprehensive manner.

The United Nations (UN) Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and acts on behalf of the entire UN membership.

It is wrong to think that the council only has one or two options at its disposal, namely sanctions and military intervention. What is often forgotten is that the security council should at all times promote the peaceful settlement of disputes and that it should act preventively. The provisions of the UN Charter


encourage parties to a conflict, as well the council, to first and foremost seek negotiated settlement, through mediation, conciliation, arbitration and even by judicial means.

All too often, the council jumps to the provision of intervention, rather than encourage prevention, dialogue, and compromise. In addition, the UN Charter reminds us that any action undertaken by the Security Council must be measured, appropriate and without prejudice to the rights, claims and/or positions of the concerned parties.

With these principles in mind I now turn to the disastrous situation in Syria. We will all agree that humanitarian crisis brought on by the civil war is a huge human tragedy. After two rounds of UN-sponsored negotiations, peace remains elusive. Over the nearly three years of violence, the conflict has increasingly become sectarian with increased jihadist activity and extra-judicial killings as well as atrocities perpetrated by all sides. The use of chemical weapons, barrel bombs, allegations of food and water being used as weapons of war, war crimes and crimes against humanity are alarming and lead to despondency over the possibility of achieving a negotiated solution. In addition, the large number of internally displaced people and refugees fleeing into neighbouring countries has a destabilising effect on the entire region, with Syria's neighbours being drawn into the sectarian

violence. In fact, it is no longer accurate to warn against a possible spill-over of the Syrian conflict into the region as some commentators are already describing the situation as a "regional war with its epicentre in Syria".

The only hope for the Syrian people lies in the willingness of the parties to the conflict to immediately put an end to the violence and to engage each other constructively in dialogue with the aim of reaching an agreement on the political transition on the Geneva Communiqué of June 2012.

It is the responsibility of the Syrian Government and the opposition to sincerely engage each other with the aim of reaching difficult decisions over the future of the country. For this to happen, the parties have to be flexible when engaging with each other and genuine in their intent to break the political stalemate. Democracy is an unassailable right of the Syrian people, but it cannot be achieved by military means. In the end, the parties must negotiate with each other, and this requires great courage and strength of will. After all, it is easier to start a war than to end it. However, continued delay in substantive discussions on a transitional governing body and future institutions comes at a heavy price – paid in the blood of innocent civilians. 

*Based on a lecture during a Public Participation Programme at the University of Pretoria.*



# A better life

71%



## Is the creation of a better life for all not a good story to tell?

In his State of the Nation Address (SONA), on 13 February 2014, central to a number of inspiring messages President Jacob Zuma shared with the nation was that, “we have a good story to tell”.

But what was even more profound in his address was an acknowledgement that “South Africa is a better place to live in today than it was 20 years ago”.

This is a very simple narrative of a country which has risen from the ashes.

A country that has abandoned the shameful past and steadily moved towards building a new culture based on democratic principles.

A country whose bitter past is nowhere closer to its prosperous future.

I often sit back in agony asking myself if we have turned out to be a nation that lacks appreciation for its achievements.

Better still, could it be that we have an inclination to take a siesta each time government unveils its achievements, and later wake up to a moment of denial that our government has recorded some remarkable achievements?

Nevertheless, a much more restrained part of my being often whispers otherwise – that perhaps we have become a rainbow nation overcome by sudden amnesia. By any stretch of imagination, 20 years are too short for us to forget the gains of our government.

The *Oxford Dictionary of Contemporary English* describes the word “amnesia” as

loss of memory. As in the case with origins of many other words, its origins are in Greece. Simply translated from the Greek language to English, it simply means “forgetfulness”.

Could it be that this forgetfulness dominated our thoughts to an extent that we ignore the key principles underpinning what we came to know as the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA).

As a patriot, I have not forgotten that CODESA marked the foundation for South Africa’s dawn of a new democracy. The ushering of CODESA was also the manifestation of a passage from oppression to freedom for all – irrespective of colour, gender, religion.

Could it be that we have forgotten that it was during this period that we were all overcome by excitement at the prospects of a new era in the political life of this country? Oppression, discrimination and despair were to be buried in the past to make way for a blissful future.

Did we really forget how we braced ourselves for a future characterised by unity, hope and equality for all because we knew this is all we have ever wished for?

We were all excited because we knew the meaning of this transition. The objectives of what was to be a democratic government were clear – to establish an all-embracing and inclusive identity for the country. An identity we can all be proud of. An identity which could earn respect from our neighbours, the continent and the international community.

## LOADING...

By Bobby Moroe

### What really happened to this excitement?

The year 2014 marks the fifth democratic elections in South Africa. In May, we will again go to the polling stations to cast our votes. We will do so because we are committed, I assume, to a desire to continue embracing the very inclusive identity for this country.

The least we can do is never to turn a blind eye to this identity. This is an identity that makes us who we truly are – regardless of our colour, religion, creed and gender.

This is an identity that unifies us in our diversity. In 1994, we emerged victorious because we did not forget that this is the very identity capable of producing the present-day South Africa.

### Have we forgotten that too?

I hope not!

Today, government has attained many of the promises made in 1994.

Nationally, government has over the past 20 years consolidated its focus on building a credible nation. It is this Administration that gave deeper meaning to concept of respect for human rights.

In fact, our recent admission into the United Nations Human Rights Commission is perhaps a good example of this good story that the President reminds us of.

Clearly, there cannot be any claim to have advanced the respect for human rights when people still live in poverty and squalor. In 1994, our government turned its back on this shady culture of human rights abuse, undertaking a journey towards a South Africa that cherishes human rights.

Ensuring that our people have access to clean running water, proper sanitation, electricity, good education, decent jobs, housing and other amenities that restore the integrity of our people is a greater part of human rights.

The National Development Plan gives deeper meaning to the importance of ensuring that government consolidates its gains, and focus on key issues of national interest, towards achieving Vision 2030.

This is a further challenge for government to redoubles its efforts.

### Is this not a good story to tell?

Arguably, very few countries can assert to have achieved what South Africa has achieved in just 20 years.

Regionally, our country has been a key strategic player.

Since 1994, South Africa has been playing a critical role in contributing to the various aspects of development in Africa. Our membership of the African Union, Southern African Development Community, Southern African Customs Union and other key structures within the region has earned us respect as a country committed to good governance, promotion of peace, stability, justice and equality.

In short, strengthening the African Agenda continues to be the centrepiece of South Africa’s foreign policy.

Internationally, consolidating and strengthening relations with countries of the South through our membership of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) and India, Brazil, South Africa (IBSA) has been one of the key milestones of President Zuma’s Administration.


Our global stature has increased, positioning our country as a key player in institutions of global governance such as the UN, World Trade Organisation, G77+ China, G8, G20, among others.

Our recent admission to the Economic and Social Council is another reminder that South Africa has a greater role to play in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

### Tell me if this is not a good story to tell?

Clearly, our society has been totally transformed in every sphere since 1994. But a lot still needs to be done.

South Africa has moved from being an inactive reject and pariah state, to a country that plays critical leadership in Africa, and continues to yield power and influence in global politics.

This transformation has brought about great respect for our country. This is a legacy we must all work hard to preserve for those who will come after us. 

*Bobby Moroe is a speechwriter for the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation and talkshow host on Ubuntu Radio ([www.ubuntu-radio.com](http://www.ubuntu-radio.com)).*





## Manila participates in TravelLife Fair and the 21st Travel Tour Expo

The Mission participated in two tourism-related events, namely Rockwell's TravelLife Fair, which was held at the Rockwell Tent in Makati City from 17 to 19 January 2014 and the 21st Travel Tour Expo from 14 to 16 February 2014 at the SMX Convention Centre in Pasay City. In addition, the Embassy, in cooperation with SAA and the Northern Cape province, co-hosted the tourism and visa seminar on 15 February 2014.

Participation in events such as these has enhanced awareness of South Africa as an alternative tourism destination. Consequently, SAA, Thai Airways and Tata ma Tata Tours reported an increase in interest on South Africa and tour package sales. Tata ma Tata Tours collaborated with three local travel agencies, namely Rajah Travel, FCM and Macor Travel, apart from their link with *TravelLife* Magazine. The latter was organising a tour group to South Africa during May 2014.

The interest in South Africa has surely increased over the years because of the participation in the tourism fair/expo and tourism seminar. It is only through this participation that Filipinos can be properly informed about what South Africa can offer as an exciting tourist destination in addition to safari. The seminar is essential in that it will continue to reinforce and update the travel agencies, tour operator and companies on



(L-R) Ambassador Agnes Nyamande-Pitso, Ed Smith and Amaureen Smith entertaining queries during the TravelLife Travel Fair at Rockwell Tent

the South African immigration rules and regulations and the requirements thereof. The Embassy will continue with this marketing drive in collaboration with Aerotel (SAA local agent) and the Northern Cape Department of Tourism and Economic Cooperation. The latter is busy with a drive to enhance their marketing promotion in the Philippines by linking tourism with trade. In this regard, plans are underway

for the Maloof Qualifying Competition to be held in the Philippines in February 2015. The winner will then participate in the world's greatest skate boarding event, the Maloof Money Cup, to be held in Kimberley in September.

# News from abroad

## Deputy Minister Fransman receives credentials of heads of UN agencies

The presentation of credentials of three United Nations (UN) agencies took place at Deputy Minister Marius Fransman's Office in Cape Town on Tuesday, 28 January 2014. Credentials were presented by the following heads of UN agencies:

- Clementine Nkweta-Salami, Regional Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees
- Herve Ludovic De Lys, Representative of the UN Children's Fund
- Dr Tobias Takavarasha, Representative of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation.

South Africa enjoys cordial relations with these UN agencies whose different and specific mandates contribute to a better life of all South Africans and Africans in the region and the continent. They all committed themselves to the further strengthening of the relations with South Africa and Deputy Minister Fransman assured them of South Africa's support and cooperation in furthering their mandates.



Deputy Minister Fransman with Clementine Nkweta-Salami, Regional Representative of the UNHCR



Deputy Minister Fransman with Herve Ludovic De Lys, Representative of UNICEF



Deputy Minister Fransman with Dr Tobias Takavarasha, Representative of the United Nations FAO

## Pakistan High Commission in Pretoria celebrates Pakistan Day 2014

"The peace-loving people of Pakistan share a common vision with the rest of the world: to live in a world where democracy, peace and prosperity prevail", the High Commissioner remarked during his address to a large gathering at Pakistan House, Pretoria. The High Commissioner stated that the Government of Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif was committed to effectively tackle the whole range of economic-, security- and energy-related challenges that we confront in Pakistan today.

The High Commissioner highlighted the contours of Pakistan's liberal and friendly investment policy and expressed hope that the upcoming Fourth Session of the Joint Commission would provide impetus to the development and diversification of bilateral trade and investment cooperation between Pakistan and South Africa.

The messages of the President and Prime Minister commemorating the Pakistan Day were read out during the function.

The chief guest, Godfrey Oliphant, South Africa's Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources, spoke of the friendly relations between the two countries while emphasising the need



Member of the South African Parliament, Rafeek Ali; Deputy Minister Oliphant; High Commissioner Najm us Saqib; and the Dean of Asian Group

to seize the opportunities for increased cooperation between the two countries.

More than 300 guests comprising the Diplomatic Corps, Members of Parliament,

government officials, defence representatives, media and think-tanks attended and enjoyed the beautifully arranged Pakistan Day reception.

## 20th anniversary of Cuba-South Africa relations commemorated in Pretoria

The Cuban Embassy and the Medical Mission in South Africa celebrated the 20th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries with a political-cultural-sports activity in Pretoria.

The day's programme also sought to welcome 88 new health collaborators who joined the medical team that has been working for almost two decades in this southern African country.

The activities were presided over by the Cuban Ambassador to the capital, Carlos Fernández, and the second Head of the Caribbean Diplomatic Mission, Tania Pérez, who highlighted the commendable work done by the Cuban collaborators in this country.

The head of the Medical Mission, Alex Carreras, recalled in a dialogue with Prensa Latina that the brigade of Cuban professionals had been providing various health services

in eight of the nine South African provinces, some of them for over 15 years.

In accordance with a request made by South African authorities, these 88 new doctors would join the work of previous collaborators 116 who had been working in many cities in this sister nation, Carreras said.

As part of the overall programme of activities, a softball game was held with the participation of Cuban diplomats and aid workers from various disciplines: doctors, engineers, representatives of the Cuban company Labiofam and representatives of the Cuban press in Pretoria.

The gathering was attended by Cuban sports specialists in family medicine, orthopaedics, surgery, cardiologists and pediatricians, among other specialties, from the Gauteng, Limpopo and North West provinces.

On 11 May 1994, President Nelson Mandela and the historic leader of the Cuban Revolution, Fidel Castro, formalised diplomatic ties between the two nations. It was an official step in improving relations between the two brotherly peoples which had begun three decades earlier.

At the time of the struggle against apartheid, outside the borders of this country, thousands of Cuban fighters joined Angolans, Namibians and South Africans in the battlefields and helped overthrow the military machinery of the apartheid regime.

Moreover, in recent years there are over 400 young South Africans graduates of medicine from Cuba, who provide an important primary healthcare service to many poor communities in this country, while another 70, whose studies started in the Caribbean island, are currently completing their training at South African universities.

## Deputy Minister Thabethe encourages India-South Africa trade relations

The South African Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Elizabeth Thabethe, within the ambit of the 20th year of freedom celebrations, embarked on an Investment and Trade Initiative (ITI) to India to further cement the strong trade ties between these two emerging economies. According to Deputy Minister Thabethe, India's emerging economy is expected to play an important and growing role in South Africa and the global economy in coming years.

"World trade patterns are changing, and trade with India is of growing importance to South Africa. Since establishing bilateral relations in 1993, trade between India and South Africa has grown steadily and consistently. The potential of India's economy and the country's growth trajectory is forecast to recover to previous levels in the coming years. This is good news for South Africa," said Thabethe.

Thabethe said South Africa's trade with India had doubled over the last five years, with minerals such as gold, diamonds and platinum, base metals, chemical products and machinery making up the bulk of exports.

"India has been one of our top 10 trading partners for the past few years and is now our fifth-largest export destination and sixth-largest source of imports, according to the latest data," she added.

Thabethe spoke of the deep-rooted relations between the two countries while addressing approximately 100 businesspeople from India and South Africa at a business seminar that was hosted by the Department of Trade and Industry at the ITC Grand Chola in Chennai, India.

More and more Indian companies are setting up their business in South Africa following in the steps of the already established giants like Mahindra, Ashok Leyland, Bank of Baroda, Godrej, Marico and IT behemoth, Infosys. These companies are testimonies to the lucrative business environment South Africa offers them. "We encourage more companies to come forward and explore the opportunity provided by a fellow BRICS nation", said Thabethe.



## India to play growing role in our economy: SA

Johannesburg, Feb 24 (PTI): South Africa expects India to play a major role in growing its economy, the country's deputy trade minister said on Sunday on the eve of a visit where she is leading a delegation of 40 business people to Chennai and Mumbai as part of the Investment and Trade Initiative.

South Africa's deputy minister of trade and industry Elizabeth Thabethe and the delegation will arrive in India for the fifth annual Investment and Trade Initiative (ITI) from 24-28 February.

The ITI is part of South Africa's Department of Trade and Industry's export and investment promotion strategy to focus on India as a high growth export market and FDI source. The objective of the ITI is to create market access of South African value added products and services in India, and to promote South Africa as a trade and investment destination.

According to Thabethe, India's emerging economy is expected to play an important and growing role in South Africa and the global economy in coming years.

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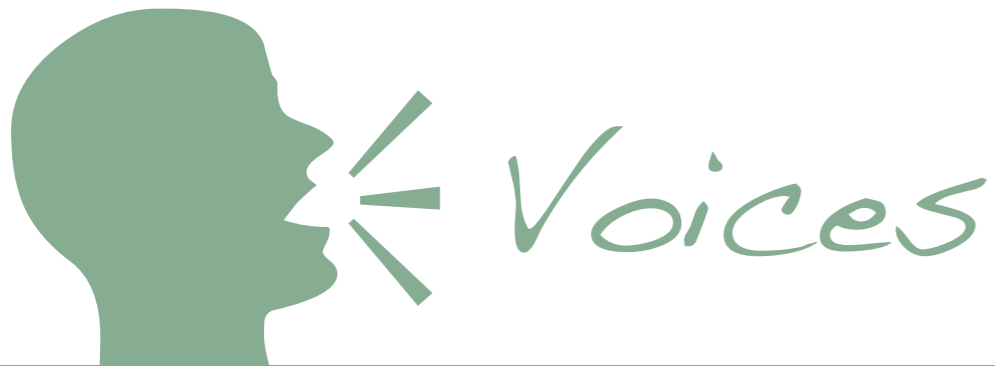
The latest ITI will target the promotion of South Africa's agro-processing, beneficiated metals and mining technology, automotive components and electro-technical sectors in India. The expected outcomes as a result of the initiative are to generate trade leads, identify potential buyers and to build a presence and image of South Africa's diverse sectors in India.

Activities planned include trade and investment seminars, mini exhibitions and business to business meetings. The last ITI in India was held in September 2013.

The Deputy Minister also expressed the hope that India would be able to aid the development of more small-scale companies, fostering excellent economic ties in South Africa, based on its own dynamic sector. In this regard, the Deputy Minister visited Equitas, a micro-finance agency aimed at empowering previously disadvantaged women-based entrepreneurs. Deputy Minister Thabethe stated: "Both South Africa and India have recognised that the small and medium-scale

industry is the key to unprecedented growth in emerging economies. The contribution of this industry to the gross domestic product of the country is immense and we hope to attract the Indian entrepreneur to South Africa".

Thabethe led a delegation of 27 businesspeople representing a variety of sectors, including agroprocessing, capital equipment, automotive, clothing and textiles, mining and energy.



## Being an intern at DIRCO

By Tseleng Mofokeng

Internship programmes play a major role in skills development as it is a contributing factor that leads to job creation in South Africa. It is an opportunity offered to unemployed graduates to obtain practical experience relating to their field of study and with the possibilities of absorbing them at the end of the contract if necessary.

I remember searching on the Department of International Relations and Cooperation's (DIRCO) website and seeing an internship advertisement, just five days before the closing date. I sent my application even though I was not sure it would reach DIRCO in time. Receiving a call for an interview was evidence that my application was well received. I was extremely excited because I knew that I was ready to sell myself during the interview.

When I joined DIRCO, I had the mindset that as an intern, I would be making photocopies most of the time because I was told that it was the duties of interns in some organisations. However, in DIRCO, it is a different environment because I do what is aligned to my qualifications.

Being in Public Diplomacy under the Directorate: Strategic Communication, I am working with very energetic and supportive colleagues. The team has been grooming me and I am confident that after my internship, I will be a competent employee. Their achievements alone challenge me to put more effort in my work.

I am grateful to our internship coordinators from Human Resources because they are very supportive; they give us a sense of belonging to the department. Not only are they interested in our outputs but they nurture the process of producing the outputs. For instance, we submit monthly reports and they review and offer assistance where it is needed and encourage unity among ourselves through activities such as celebrating our birthdays.

As a person who likes introducing new things to my life, working at DIRCO as an intern is a privilege because we are exposed to learning opportunities beside gaining experience. For instance, English for Diplomatic Purpose Training may sound like it is just a repetition of English that is taught at school but it is not because the content is compiled in a

way that it is work-related and helps one to be an equipped communicator. The content includes presentations, writing progress, feedback and investigative reports and speech writing. The reality is that we cannot ignore the fact that we are living in the ever-changing information age and we need to upgrade our lives, careers and so forth. We often get tired when we are returned by Supply Chain Management for mistakes in submissions but the opportunities have been created for us to improve such areas, therefore DIRCO is the place to be.

I have found my work to be challenging, interesting and a learning platform and I have learnt to take everything that appears to be a challenge as an opportunity to learn. Even when I do the same things over and over again, I always find something new to learn or a better way of doing what I do.

With my internship experience at DIRCO, it is recommended that in the next groups of interns to come, if possible, all interns be placed in their relevant field of study and be given the opportunity to rotate to other directorates which are relevant to their field of study because that would give them exposure and more competitiveness and not only in DIRCO but outside as well. The idea of placing interns in one section until the internship ends, indirectly, make interns comfortable in what they are doing; the aim is not only to offer service in one area but also get more experience as much as possible. I understand that at the same time it might inconvenience the mentors as they would have to train different people but that reduces the challenges that interns are faced with when they have to leave at the end of the contract: fear of not being competitive enough for outside companies or government departments. I believe that would give them a fair chance of being employed at the end of the contract and not only in DIRCO but outside as well.

On the whole, DIRCO is a great place to start a career. It is the department I would like to work for if I get a chance to come back. The experience I am gaining is preparing me to be competitive both in DIRCO and outside – that brings confidence to my career and I would surely be a competent employee in my next job.

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# NOTICE BOARD

## TIPS TO HELP YOU STAY SAFER ONLINE

Being a good digital citizen is vital to help you and your family stay safer online. Follow these essential steps to protect your devices, information and family on the Internet.

- Defend your computer.
- Keep all software (including your web browser) current with Microsoft Update.
- Install legitimate antivirus and antispyware software, such as Microsoft Security Essentials. (If you run Windows 8 or Windows RT, you don't need Microsoft Security Essentials).
- Keep your firewall turned on.
- Don't put an unknown flash (or thumb) drive into your computer. If it has a virus, it could infect your computer.
- Before you open an attachment or click a link in an e-mail message, an instant message (IM), or on a social network, confirm with the sender that the message is legitimate.

Don't click links or buttons in a pop-up window that seem suspicious.

Protect sensitive personal information.

- Before you enter sensitive data in a web form or on a webpage, look for signs – like a web address with https and a closed padlock ( ) beside it – that it is secure.
- Never give sensitive information (like an account number or password) in response to a request in an e-mail message, IM or on a social network.
- Don't respond to pleas for money from "family members", deals that sound too good to be true, lotteries you didn't enter, or other scams.

Create strong passwords and keep them secret.

- Create passwords that are made up of long phrases or sentences that mix capital and lowercase letters,



numbers, and symbols. Use different passwords for different sites, especially those that keep financial information.

Take charge of your online safety and reputation. Discover what is on the Internet about you and periodically evaluate what you find. Cultivate a positive reputation. Learn more about how to manage your online reputation.

Use social networks more safely.

Look for Settings or Options in services like Facebook and Twitter to manage who can see your profile or photos tagged with your name, control how people can search for you and make comments, and how to block people.

- Do not post anything you wouldn't want to see on a billboard.
- Be selective about the friends you accept. Periodically assess who has access to your pages, and review what they post about you.

Talk to your kids about staying safer online.

To make online safety a family effort, use a mix of guidance and monitoring with your children. Negotiate clear guidelines for web and online game use that fit your kids' maturity and your family's values. Pay attention to what your kids do and who they meet online.

## NIP AND TUCK

Repairs to the ceilings and bulkheads will be taking place at the main reception area. The works will be taking place every evening from 18h00 until 05h00 the next morning. It is envisaged that the project will continue for approximately one month. Although there should not be much disruption to officials working during the evenings, there might be minimal noise and some areas will be closed off with barricades.

Officials who perform duties after-hours are requested to take care while exiting through the main reception area.

Please contact the Directorate: Local Property Management/PPP Unit should you require any further details.

## Mauritius-Africa Scholarships 2014

As a member of the Southern African Development Community, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and African Union, Mauritius plays a dynamic role on the African continent and cooperates with the continent with a view to, among others, fast-tracking regional integration and sharing its experience on governance and development. In this context, the Government of Mauritius is offering scholarships for undergraduate studies in public tertiary education institutions in Mauritius to 50 African students in 2014. The deadline for submission of applications is 30 June 2014. Information about the application process can be obtained on the following website: [www.studymauritius.info](http://www.studymauritius.info).

**DATE TO REMEMBER:**  
Inauguration Day  
- 24 May 2014





# WORD PUZZLE

Test your general knowledge



N	O	R	T	S	A	C	L	E	D	I	F	Y	U
W	Y	U	S	A	A	Q	A	T	C	A	G	N	P
O	W	A	L	K	R	C	T	P	C	H	I	M	R
R	D	B	M	Y	Q	D	O	I	E	O	I	D	Z
K	L	E	M	A	D	O	R	N	N	T	I	N	Y
E	I	L	V	N	N	F	L	B	N	D	O	E	A
R	M	N	B	E	A	D	U	I	E	E	L	W	A
S	P	J	W	H	L	I	E	L	P	R	C	C	N
D	O	O	T	O	L	O	A	-	E	H	I	T	R
A	P	U	H	D	T	O	P	B	P	T	A	I	D
Y	O	Q	I	S	S	P	M	M	F	I	G	N	2
S	N	N	T	T	I	I	I	A	E	H	T	O	T
P	G	G	O	Y	K	H	N	L	T	N	O	S	N
S	L	M	Y	Z	K	V	B	S	K	2	T	L	O

## Clues:

Look for the answers to these questions in the word puzzle above. Answers appear from left to right, right to left, horizontal, diagonal and vertical.



- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1. South Africa's Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources (Surname)                                     | 8. Official seat of government                                      | 16. The world's greatest skate boarding event, the Maloof Money Cup, will be held here |
| 2. Historic leader of the Cuban Revolution (2 words)   | 9. Global Earth Hour Capital 2014 (2 words)                         | 17. Southern African ... Community   |
| 3. Freedom Park's new museum   | 10. The country hosting the most diplomatic missions (Abbreviation) | 18. Historic site where the Freedom Charter was adopted                                |
| 4. Capital of the Eastern Cape   | 11. South Africa's Broadband Policy and Strategy (2 words)          | 19. South Africa's northernmost province   |
| 5. South Africa's most important export trading partner  | 12. The centre of South Africa's foreign policy                     | 20. The Bill of ... is contained in the Constitution                                   |
| 6. 1 May (2 words)   | 13. South Africa's Minister of Health (Surname)                     |  |
| 7. The first and only country to build nuclear weapons and then voluntarily dismantle them (2 words) | 14. The African Union was established in this year                  |  |
|  | 15. South Africa's Ambassador to Manila, Philippines                |  |

## Sudoku

See solutions on inner back cover

1	3	7		8	6
			1		2
	8	4	9	3	
	4	1	3	6	8
		5	8		
1			9	5	
3	1			9	
7	6	9		4	
					3

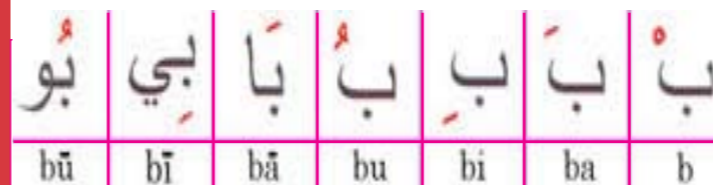
## LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE

Ahlan wa sahlan - Welcome

Arabic (al-'arabiyyah) is one of the macro languages of the world and the largest member of the Semitic branch of the Afro-Asiatic language family .

### Interesting facts:

- It is spoken primarily across **26 countries** in the Middle East (including The Levant) and North Africa as official or co-official language
- Its closest living relatives are Hebrew and Aramaic
- The term **Arabic** can be used as a generic term that covers all varieties of Arabic, namely *Classical Arabic*, *Modern Standard Arabic*, and the numerous varieties of *Arabic Dialects* (referred to as spoken or colloquial)
- Arabic influenced many languages with which it came in contact. These include **Urdu, Swahili, Hausa, Turkish and Persian** to name just a few. These languages adopted the Arabic script and borrowed a large number of Arabic vocabularies).



### The writing system

The Arabic alphabet is a accurate representation of the sound system of the language. It contains **28 letters** (consonants). **Vowels** appear in the form of symbols added above or below the letters to vocalise it.

- Arabic words are written in horizontal lines from right to left.
- The letters are written in cursive style.
- There are no capital letters.

### Some English words of Arabic origin

<b>algebra</b>	<i>al jebr</i> , 'reunion of broken parts' (as in computation)
<b>coffee</b>	<i>qahwah</i> , 'coffee'
<b>cipher</b>	<i>sifr</i> , 'zero, empty, nothing'
<b>cotton</b>	<i>qutn</i> , 'cotton'
<b>emir</b>	<i>amir</i> , 'commander'
<b>lime</b>	<i>limah</i> , 'citrus fruit'
<b>mummy</b>	<i>mumiyah</i> 'embalmed body'
<b>Safari</b>	<i>safar</i> , 'journey'
<b>Sahara</b>	<i>saharaa</i> , 'desert'
<b>sofa</b>	<i>suffah</i> , 'bench'
<b>sugar</b>	<i>sukkar</i>
<b>tariff</b>	<i>taarif</i> , 'inventory of fees to be paid'

ARABIC

### Words associated with Arabs

- Desert - Dates - Camel - A Turban/ a Scaff - A Thowb (white dress-like garment) - An Abaayah (A cloak) - Arabian horses - Shiysha ( Hubble bubbly pipe) - Coffee - Black tea with mint (Shy) - Couscous - Falafel



### General expressions in Arabic

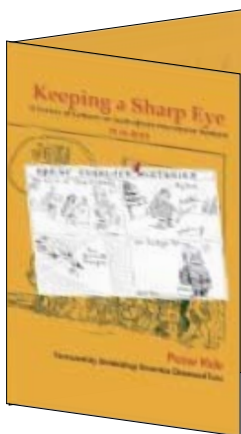
Hello	marhaba	مرحبا
Goodbye	ma'a ssalama!	مع السلامة
Please	min fadlak	من فضل
Thank you	shukran	شكرا
How are you?	kaif haaluk?	كيف حالته؟
I'm fine, thank you	Ana bikhair	بخير انا
My name is ...	ana ismee...	اسمي ...
Yes	na'am	نعم
No	laa	لا
See you soon	ilal'liqaa'	الى اللقاء
Congratulations	mabrook!	مبروك





# BOOK REVIEW

**Title: “Keeping a Sharp Eye: A Century of Cartoons on South Africa’s International Relations 1910 – 2010”**



**Number of copies available in DIRCO’s Library: One**

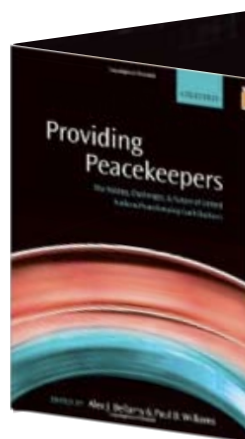
**Section: General collection**

Author: Peter Vale is Professor of Humanities at the University of Johannesburg and Nelson Mandela Professor of Politics Emeritus, Rhodes University. His research interests included social thought, intellectual traditions in South Africa, critical theory, the future of the Humanities, the origins of international relations in South Africa and the politics of higher education.

“Keeping a Sharp Eye: A Century of Cartoons on South Africa’s International Relations” is his most recent book.

Review: For a century, cartoonists have been commenting on South Africa’s international relations. This book is about how these “other” observers have looked and commentated on South Africa’s relations with the world for the past 100 years.

**Title: “Providing Peacekeepers: The Politics, Challenges, and Future of United Nations Peacekeeping Contributions”**



**Number of copies available in DIRCO’s library: Three**

**Section: General collection**

Editors: 1. A Bellamy served as a non-resident senior adviser at the International Peace Institute in New York, Honorary Professor of International Relations at the University of Queensland. His most recent book includes “Massacres and Morality: Mass Atrocities in an Age of Civilian Immunity” (Oxford University Press, 2012), edited with Paul D Williams.

2. P Williams served as a non-resident senior adviser at the International Peace Institute in New York and as a Visiting Professor at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies at Addis Ababa University. He also published the following books: “War and Conflict in Africa” (Polity, 2011) and “Understanding Peacekeeping”, 2nd edition (Polity, 2010). Co-author with AJ Bellamy, “British Foreign Policy under New Labour”, 1997 to 2005 (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2005).

Review: During the first decade of the 21st century, the rising demand for peacekeepers saw the United Nations (UN) operate at a historically unprecedented tempo, with increases in the number and size of missions as well as in the scope and complexity of their mandates. The need to deploy over 120 000 UN peacekeepers and the demands placed upon them in the field have threatened to outstrip the willingness and to some extent capacity of the UN’s member states. This situation raised the questions of why states contribute forces to UN missions and, conversely, what factors inhibit them from doing more? “Providing Peacekeepers” answers these questions. After summarising the challenges confronting the UN in its force-generation efforts, the book develops a new framework for analysing UN peacekeeping contributions in light of the evidence presented in 16 case-study chapters which examine the experiences of the United States, the United Kingdom, France, the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, Nigeria, Ghana, Nepal, Uruguay, Brazil, Turkey, South Africa and Japan. The book concludes by offering recommendations for how the UN might develop new strategies for force generation so as to meet the foreseeable challenges of 21st century peacekeeping and improve the quantity and quality of its uniformed peacekeepers. 🌍