



July 2007

dfa **Now**



Minister Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma with Italian Deputy Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema in Pretoria

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DEAR COLLEAGUES

Welcome to another issue of DFA Now. In this July issue we bring you the following: report on the IBSA Ministerial Commission held recently in New Delhi, India; Our Missions: Argentina and Havana; DFA sport mini tournament; plus the coverage of the winter games 2007.

Please don't forget that we rely on your assistance in meeting the printing deadline. Therefore, in the future to ensure that the DFA Now is released on good time please assist us by meeting the submission deadline for the articles. Please forward your letters and articles to the Editor before the deadline. Thanking to all contributors who have heeded this request.

Enjoy!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

We at the Mission would also like to take the opportunity to congratulate you and the Editorial Committee on the June 2007 edition of our in-house magazine.

Thank you for keeping us informed with the activities of the Department.

Best personal regards,
LP O'Farrill, Counsellor (Havana)

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Our Mission in pictures: Havana



Deputy Minister Aziz Pahad, with Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi and Deputy Minister Jabulani Moleketi, addressing the African and Middle East Diplomatic Corps resident in Cuba on Africa and the Middle East.

More on our missions on page 9...

THE 4th India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Ministerial Trilateral Commission held in New Delhi, India

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS of South Africa, HE Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, the Minister of External Relations of India, HE Mr Pranab Mukherjee, and the Minister of External Affairs of Brazil, HE Mr Celso Amorim, met in the Indian capital of New Delhi on 17 July 2007 for the 4th India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Ministerial Trilateral Commission. The meeting focussed on, amongst others, preparations for the upcoming 2nd IBSA Summit which is to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 15-17 October 2007.

Minister Dlamini Zuma was accompanied by a high-level senior government delegation with representatives from the Departments of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Industry, Transport, Communications, Minerals and Energy, Agriculture, Social Development, Arts and Culture, Environmental Affairs and Tourism and the South African Revenue Services. A meeting of Senior Officials (Focal Points) took place on 13 July 2007 and was mainly aimed at evaluating the progress within the 14 Sectoral Working Groups of IBSA since the 1st IBSA Summit in September 2006. These working groups include, amongst others trade, information society, science and technology, transport, energy, health, tourism, agriculture, education, defence, social development, public administration and climate change.

At their meeting on 17 July 2007, the Ministers discussed a wide range of global issues and reaffirmed the IBSA Dialogue Forum as an important mechanism for political consultations and coordination of positions on important international developments and issues of mutual interest. The Ministers reconfirmed their determination to play a constructive role in international affairs as three emerging economies of the South and to



India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) logo

maintain friendly relations with all countries. The Ministers called for enhanced sectoral cooperation amongst the three countries through fast-tracking the implementation of decisions and agreements already concluded, in order to produce tangible results. The Ministers also agreed to formalise the establishment of an additional Sectoral Working Group on Revenue Administration with a view to improve trade facilitation.

IBSA countries could, by combining its efforts with that of the rest of the South, accelerate the process of change to international decision-making processes to become more democratic, representative and multi-polar.

During her opening remarks, the Minister reflected on the significance and international relevance of IBSA and the role it should play within multilateral for a in terms of standing together in solidarity on issues of importance to the developing world. In this regard, it was highlighted by the

trilateral partners that IBSA countries could, by combining its efforts with that of the rest of the South, accelerate the process of change to international decision-making processes to become more democratic, representative and multi-polar.

Minister Dlamini Zuma also noted that, for IBSA to effectively respond to issues such as poverty especially on the African continent, the three countries need to mobilise their collective resources. Along these lines, she invited her IBSA partners to consider making contributions to the Pan-African Infrastructure Development Programme, as well as to use the IBSA fund effectively to address international poverty and development challenges.

Through civil society and parliamentary participation in the IBSA processes, the Dialogue Forum further stands to gain by not only enriching the trilateral debates within sectors but also by expanding ownership of this initiative to ordinary people. The promotion of increased cultural and sports ties between IBSA countries was also emphasised as both are regarded as people-to-people contact.

As part of the 4th Trilateral Commission Meeting, the Ministers reviewed the joint initiatives of the Sectoral Working Groups and took note of their progress reports.

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They further encouraged Working Groups to meet on a more regular basis, as well as to ensure that their Plans of Action have clear time-bound deliverables. It was also emphasised that the trilateral contact among the sectoral counterparts need to be deepened through improved systems of communication. In addition, the Ministers expressed their concern about the challenge to improve transport connectivity between IBSA countries, as this issue impacts on both government and the private sector and is key to the success of IBSA.

In preparation for the 2nd Summit in South Africa, the Ministers discussed the importance of making progress within key sectors. They also recognised the need for cooperation in the areas of human settlement development, as well as climate change and environmental cooperation, and were encouraged by the prospects of the formation of additional Working Groups in these fields. As part of the preparations for the 2nd Summit, various Working Groups are in the process of finalising Memoranda of Understanding/ Agreements to be possibly

ready for signature at the event, such as in the areas of Wind Energy, Social Development, Health and Medicines, Cultural Cooperation and Revenue Administration.

South Africa looks forward to receiving and hosting its IBSA partners at the 2nd Summit in Sandton, Johannesburg from 15-17 October 2007. This occasion, that will also allow for business, academic and parliamentary participation, presents yet another opportunity to carry forward and further consolidate the development agenda of this strategic partnership ■

Cultural Diplomacy



TAKING A CURSORY LOOK

at the definition of International Relations one is confronted with definitions which speaks to it being a matter of academic and public policy “field, and can be either productive or normative as it both seeks to analyze as well as formulate the foreign policy of particular states”.

There is a tendency among players in the field to only talk about International Relations in political science terms and not really seeing it as a philosophical, cultural, history, psychology and human sociology matter or phenomenon. I am tempted to discuss theories such as post structuralism, social constructionist and otherism but that will need another platform fertile for this kind of intellectual deliberations.

In this piece of writing I want to talk about the contribution that the Directorate: Marketing is making in promoting South Africa’s International Relations, which is a cornerstone of our Diplomacy. This process is taking place within the context of the strategic objectives thrust of the Department but also the aims we have set ourselves to achieve at a Chief Directorate: Public Diplomacy.

Among others, Cultural Diplomacy is a highly recognised and visible form of Diplomacy. Cultural workers and products are able to communicate complex ideas and phenomenon in simple, understandable formats.

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Zulu traditional dancers, performing 'Indlamu'

Cultural icons and products carry with them our pride, identity, values and systems as a nation. They carry the national soul, that which defines us and negotiate our place in the global political system and arena. To lay foundation to this issue, there are currently two South African artists in South Korea on a cultural mission. They are there on the invitation of the Seoul Arts Company and will be residing in that country for a six months period engaging in cultural exchange public programmes with local communities and cultural workers. The two are Teboho Tsoetsi, who is a musician playing and making instruments from Mmabatho and Mlungisi Zondi, who is a dancer of note hailing from KZN. Although programmes like these help the imaging of the country abroad they also enlarge South Africa cultural footprint in the world through culture, arts and sciences.

Arguably, Cultural Diplomacy is one of the many communication vehicles through which a country can

“Take for example what our televisual publics take for granted or are assumed to be taking for granted. We know American cultural icons more than any other thing in that country and those iconographies carry with them the ideals behind the “American Dream” and its cultural concept.”

attempt to make itself recognised as a brand as these culture products carry an identity with them as discussed earlier. Take for example what our televisual publics take for granted or are assumed to be taking for granted. We know American cultural icons more than any other thing in that country and those iconographies carry with them the ideals behind the “American Dream” and its cultural concept.

This practice also demands innovation and constant (re)alignment and (re) negotiation by investing in our culture and arts. It has been proven in the past that by doing this we are not only attracting attention to these deliverables but to our country as well. In this regard, the films *Tsotsi*, *UCarmen wase Khayelitsha* and *Yesterday* have proven this by helping put South Africa and the rest of Africa on the world stage ■

By: Boiki Motlounj
Directorate: Marketing
Culture and Sports Liaison.

1

The launch of the Pan African Infrastructure Development Fund on the 1st of July in Accra; Ghana proved once more that “ex Africa simper aliquid novi” – that something new always comes out of Africa. The Fund launched by the Ghanaian President and Current Chairperson of the African Union; John Kuofur and President Thabo Mbeki has so far mobilized US \$ 625 million that will be used to finance NEPAD continental projects. At this AU Summit, the Accra Declaration on the Union Government of Africa also agreed to accelerate the economic and political integration of the African continent with the ultimate objective of creating the United States of Africa. The Summit also agreed on the importance of involving the African peoples; including Africans in the Diaspora in the processes leading to the formation of the Union Government.

2

South Africa's commitment to addressing the impact of HIV and AIDS saw Deputy President Mlambo – Ngcuka address a Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) Conference in Nairobi in her capacity as the Chairperson of the South African National Aids Council- promoting the vision of an HIV and AIDS Free- Africa.

3

The launch of the SA – Belarus Joint Intergovernmental Committee on Trade and Economic Co-operation (ITEC) by Minister Dlamini Zuma was another qualitative step forward for both countries. Speaking with the local media after paying a courtesy call to the President of Belarus; Alexander Lukashenko; Minister Dlamini Zuma emphasised the “fraternal ties that exist between Belarus and South Africa which were sharpened during the anti – apartheid struggle will be further developed. With regards to the economies of both countries, Minister Zuma highlighted “ that the countries's two economies had complementarities that can be beneficial to both”. During this visit, Minister Dlamini Zuma received an Honorary Professorship from the University of Belarus for her outstanding leadership. In her acceptance speech, Minister Dlamini Zuma dedicated the Award to “ all the African women whose toil in the fields may be the only hope for the survival of their children – the women who with bundles of wood on their heads; buckets of water on their sides and babies on their backs – sacrificed for a better life for our continent”



4

Deputy Minister Sue van der Merwe took the fight against proliferation of chemical weapons further by hosting the 10th anniversary of the Chemical Weapons Convention. In this regard, South Africa supports the efforts of the OPCW to stop the spread of chemical weapons and support the promotion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of chemistry.

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5

As part of South Africa's efforts towards the promotion of South – South co-operation; Deputy Minister Pahad co-chaired the 5th – SA – Cuba Joint Consultative Mechanism in Havana. The session also reviewed and consolidated bilateral, political; economic and trade relations with Cuba. This was part of a 4 – nation visit that saw South Africa consolidating its ties with Cuba; Panama; Mexico and Spain.

6

Italy and South Africa's relations were elevated to a higher level when Deputy Prime Minister Massimo D' Alema visited South Africa with a strong Italian business delegation. As part of South Africa's efforts towards Promoting North – South Dialogue ; Minister Dlamini Zuma stressed the importance of exploiting the untapped potential in terms of economic co-operation. Both countries looked forward to the convening of the EU – Africa Summit in December to be hosted by the Portuguese Presidency. Efforts towards 2010 FIFA World Cup; were also high on the agenda.



7

Promoting South – South co-operation was pushed to a new level with the recent New Delhi Ministerial IBSA Dialogue Forum. Minister Dlamini Zuma led the South African contingent. The Dialogue focused amongst others on global governance; climate change; international trade; the attainment of the MDGs; intellectual property; biodiversity; peaceful uses of energy and regional co-operation. IBSA is composed of India; Brazil and South Africa

8

The Symbolic burning of the Weapons Ceremony and lighting of the Flame of Hope Torch in Cote'd' Ivoire; symbolised once more that indeed new news are coming out of Africa as the writer Charlayne Hunter - Gault indicated in her latest book " New News out of Africa" –

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9

Deputy Minister Sue van der Merwe's briefing to the Heads of Missions accredited to South Africa on the Outcomes of the 9th Ordinary AU Summit was a shining example of democracy in action.. This event further showcased that Africans are indeed on the right path in building the institutions of the African Union and taking its work very seriously. This platform enabled the Excellencies to be abreast of developments on our beloved continent.



10

As our Brazilian friends were preparing to leave New Delhi; news of the Brazilian air crash that claimed the lives of almost 200 people saw President Thabo Mbeki extending condolences on behalf of the government and the South African people to the peoples and government of Brazil. Sathi, ngxe akuhlanga lungehliyo!

12

Dr Zola Skweyiya delivered the speech on behalf of Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma in London on the 19th July 2007.

13

Closing the month; President Mbeki also addressed the 38th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association – Africa Regional Conference in Cape Town; calling on the delegates to serve the peoples of our continents with pride.

11

This year, marked the 90th anniversary of the Sinking of the Troopship SS Mendi. Imbongi u Krune Mqhayi ethetha ngokuzika kwalenqanawa wathi “
Awu! Zaf'int'ezinkulu ze Afrika, Isindwe lenqanawa de yazika, Kwaf'amakhalipha; amafela – nankosi, Agazi lithetha kwi Nkosi yenkosi. Ukufa kwawo kunomvuzo – nomvuka! (A translation – Awu! Here comes the strong men of Africa. The load was too much for the ship; it sank. Heroes and the king's soldiers perished; Whose blood mattered to the King of Kings. Whose death will bear fruit and leave a legacy....

Prepared by Nomfanelo Kota; Director – Media Liaison; Media Liaison Directorate

Our Mission: Argentina



Visit to Argentina by the South African Minister of Science and Technology, Mr. Mosibudi Mangena

MINISTER MANGENA VISITED Argentina on 08-12 July 2007 following an invitation by the Argentine Secretary of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, Dr Tulio Del Bono. The Minister's visit was undertaken within the context of the existing cooperation agreement on Science and Technology between the two countries. The Science and Technology sector also forms part of the key strategic areas for cooperation in the Joint Binational Commission (Co-chaired by Minister Dlamini Zuma and Minister Jorge Taiana, Argentine Foreign Minister) that convened its first session in Pretoria on 26-28 February 2007.

Minister Mangena's delegation to Argentina consisted of twenty one persons, comprised of senior officials from the South African Department of Science and Technology, as well as scientists/researchers from various South African academic and research institutions. The Minister's programme involved the following: holding meetings with the Argentine Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Lic. Daniel Filmus on 10 July, Opening a South Africa-Argentina Science and Technology Workshop (focusing on six broad areas) on 11 July, and holding meetings with heads of various Argentine Science and Technology institutions on 10-12 July 2007.

During meeting with Minister Filmus, both Ministers underlined their support for the growing bilateral relations between

South Africa and Argentina, especially in the area of Science and Technology. They expressed their support for the current commitment to the strengthening of bilateral and multilateral relations among the countries of the South such as South Africa and Argentina. They said such relations could have significant impact if scientists and academics from both countries (given the two countries similarities in many aspects) could collaborate in various innovative projects aimed at developing relevant technologies for use by people of both countries. Both Ministers noted that South Africa and Argentina were committed to attaining the Millennium Development Goals, within the expressed time-frame, and that plans were underway in both countries to realize the allocation of 1% of their countries GDP to S&T Research and Development programmes. South Africa plans to reach this target by 2008/9, while Argentina is targeting year 2010.

The Argentine S&T institutions visited by the Minister were: National Institute of Agricultural Research- INTA (counterpart institution of SA's Agricultural Research Council- ARC), National Commission of Atomic Energy- CNEA (counterpart of Nuclear Energy Corporation of South Africa- NECSA), National Commission of Space Activities- CONAE (counterpart institution of SA's Satellite Applications Centre- SAC), and National Institute of Industrial Technology- INTI (counterpart institution of the

CSIR). These visits provided the Minister with an opportunity to understand the operations of these institutions. Furthermore, the visits were aimed at finding ways on how to link these institutions with their South African counterpart institutions so that institution specific agreements could be established for future collaborative projects.

When opening the SA-Argentina Science and Technology Workshop in Buenos Aires on 11 July- where scientists/researchers from both countries met on 11-12 July 2007 to deliberate on a comprehensive Action Plan focusing on key six areas, the Minister encouraged the participants to take advantage of the conducive environment created by the Governments of both countries. He said the meetings by the scientists should translate into tangible programmes/projects which should be jointly funded by both Governments. The target should be to make concrete pronouncements on S&T when the SA and Argentine Ministers of Science and Technology meet in South Africa next year.

Key discussion elements at the Workshop on 11-12 July included six focus areas, such as Agricultural Research, Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, Social Sciences & Humanities, Energy & Hydrogen Economy, and Polar Research. The ultimate result of this workshop will be for both countries to agree on joint S&T projects (covering above six areas) that should be funded by both Governments- the target being from year 2008 ■

DFA Mini Tournament

THE DFA HOSTED A MINI SOCCER and netball tournament on Saturday 19 July 2007 in Lucas van der Berg Stadium in Pretoria West in preparation of the winter games that were hosted on Friday 27 July 2007. There was participation from other government departments such as the Department of Transport, The Department of Science and Technology, City of Tshwane, and the South African Reserve Bank.

There were medals awarded for all teams that participated and trophies awarded to the best teams. Some individuals were also awarded for their outstanding performance in the tournament. The teams that participated were as follows:

SOCCER AND NETBALL

- DFA
- City of Tshwane (COT)
- Department of Transport
- SA Reserve Bank
- Department of Science & Technology (DST)

There were medals and trophies awarded for the winning teams, best players and top goal scorers. The winning teams were as follows:

SOCCER

- 1st position City of Tshwane (Gold medals)
- 2nd DFA (Silver medals)
- 3rd Department of Transport (Bronze)
- 4th Department of Science & Technology (Bronze medals)

NETBALL

- 1st position City of Tshwane
- 2nd SA Reserve Bank
- 3rd DFA

Certain individuals were awarded for showing the outstanding performance at the tournament. The awards were as follows:

SOCCER

Top goal scorer was Thabo from COT and Zola from DST. The referee award was given to Maseko from DFA.

NETBALL

Best defenders were Lizzy Mashaba from DFA and Bridgette from Reserve Bank. Best centres were Malebo Boshielo from DFA and Ntebu from COT. Best goal shooters were Louse from SA Reserve Bank and Masechaba from COT.



Winter Games

ON 27 JULY 2007 officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs participated in the Winter Games organised by NIA/SASS. There was a very good response from the officials during the games. The DFA officials represented the department in various sporting codes such as:

- Snooker/ Pool
- Soccer
- Netball
- Tennis
- Mountain Bike
- Angling
- Fun run & walk
- Golf

- Volleyball
- Action Cricket
- Aerobics
- Squash

During the games some lost, some won but all present encouraged and supported each other. Participants were like one big happy family. The results were as follows:

SOCCER

NIA 0 DFA 1
NPA 1 DFA 0

The DFA won one game, lost one game, scored one goal and conceded one goal.

NETBALL

First round

DFA1-SAPS1
10-10

Second round

DFA2-SAPS2
4-5

Third round

DFA1-NPA1
6-6

DFA got third and fourth positions at Pool, third position being presented to Mr Paul Selokane and fourth position to Mr Vishal Lalla.

The Sports Council would like to thank all the participants and encourage other officials to start taking sport seriously by forming teams and start practising to prepare for next year's winter games and the APSD games so that we can win all the games and create team spirit. CHALLENGE YOURSELF ■



Where were you..?

