



PRESIDENT ZUMA OFFICIATES AT SIXTH ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATION

This year's Armed Forces Day celebration also commemorated the centenary of the sinking of the "SS Mendi" steamship, which killed more than 600 black South Africans during the First World War.



The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, President Jacob Zuma, on 21 February 2017, officiated at the Sixth Armed Forces Day celebrations at the Moses Mabhida Stadium in Durban.

In 2012, President Zuma proclaimed that 21 February each year would be observed and commemorated as Armed Forces Day to expand public understanding of the military's role and its purpose to society, and to demonstrate the military's combat readiness against threats and support government during peace time.

Armed Forces Day remains one of the most important events on the country's calendar as it showcases the capability and contribution to society of the country's armed forces.

"Armed Forces Day honours members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for their outstanding service and dedication during various military operations in defending the territorial integrity of the Republic and protecting our people as well as their selfless contribution in international peacekeeping missions, mostly on the African continent.

"This year's Armed Forces Day also marks the centenary commemoration of one of the worst tragedies in the South African history where hundreds of South African troops, including 607 black troops, died during the sinking of the *SS Mendi* steamship during the First World War on 21 February 1917," said President Zuma.

During the main event, the President took the salute from the SANDF during the military parade and subsequently bestowed military medals to honour some members of the SANDF for their outstanding



work and for service to the country. President Zuma also laid a wreath in honour of the 616 troops of the South African Native Labour Corps (SANLC) who perished on 21 February 1917 when the *SS Mendi* steamship tragically sank in the English Channel on the way to France to participate in the First World War.

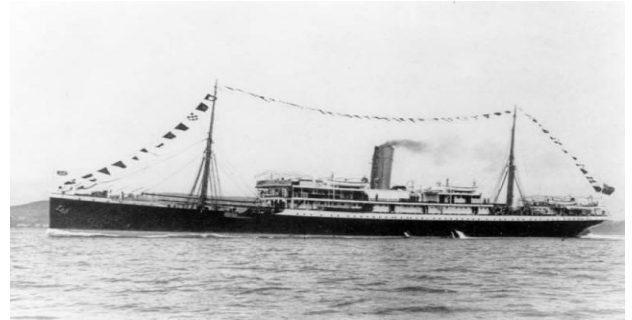
SA AND UK HONOUR “SS MENDI” SOLDIERS

Members of the South African Native Labour Corps (SANLC) who lost their lives during the sinking of the SS Mendi a 100 years ago were honoured and remembered this week.

The event was, among others, commemorated as part of Armed Forces Day in KwaZulu-Natal at the Moses Mabhida Stadium and in the United Kingdom (UK).

On the fateful morning of 21 February, in the icy waters off Southampton, another ship, the SS *Darro*, collided with the SS *Mendi*, which went down within 20 minutes.

More than 600 South Africans of whom 607 of them were black troops plus 30 crew members, mostly from Britain, died in the tragedy. About 139 of the soldiers who died – in what has been described as one of the 20th century's worst maritime disasters in UK waters – were from the Eastern Cape.



Minister in The Presidency responsible for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Jeff Radebe, was in the UK on 20 February to pay tribute to the soldiers who perished.

He joined the Princess Royal, Princess Anne; her husband, Vice-Admiral Sir Timothy Lawrence; and the Chief of the South African Navy, Vice-Admiral Mosiwa Hlongwane; who also paid tribute to the soldiers.

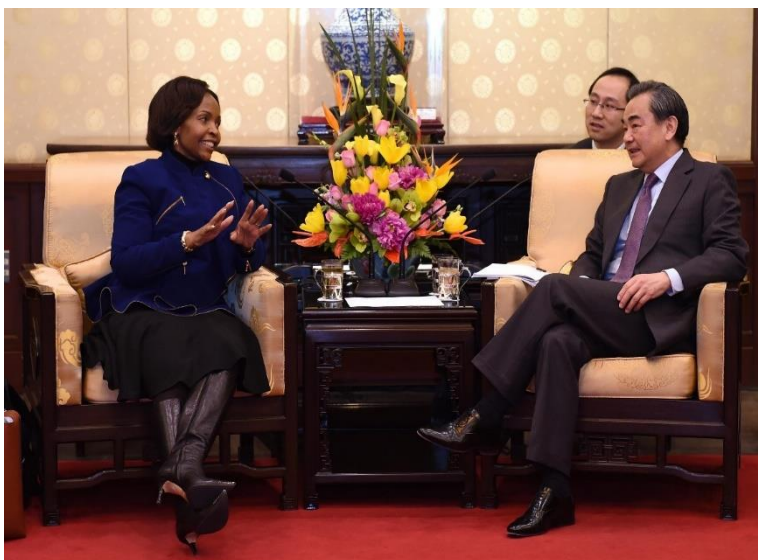
Speaking at a memorial service at Southampton's Hollybrook Cemetery, Minister Radebe said that South Africans had many lessons to learn from the soldiers. He said they temporarily suspended all their demands for equality so that the human race could be saved from itself.

“They were brave young men who had responded to a call by the African political leadership of the time to voluntarily

heed the call to serve. They were sons of brave fathers who had taken part in wars of resistance. They had been specifically recruited to learn and gain experience on how wars were fought in other parts of the world,” Minister Radebe said. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

MINISTER NKOANA-MASHABANE CONCLUDES A SUCCESSFUL WORKING VISIT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The engagements in Beijing provided an important opportunity for Minister Nkoana-Mashabane and Minister WANG Yi, as well as Vice Minister SHI Yaobin to discuss issues of mutual interest at bilateral and multilateral level.



The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, concluded a successful Working Visit to Beijing in the People's Republic of China on 19 February, where she met with her counterpart, Foreign Minister WANG Yi, and paid a courtesy call on the Vice Minister of Finance, SHI Yaobin.

South Africa and China's bilateral diplomatic relationship is at the level of a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP), with China currently involved in several important development projects in the country. The two countries are also members of BRICS and co-chairs of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

"The purpose of the visit was to meet with my counterpart, Minister WANG Yi, and the Vice Minister of Finance, SHI Yaobin, to discuss the South Africa-China CSP and progress we are making bilaterally. We also took stock of

progress made as the co-chairs of FOCAC. In our capacity as ministers responsible for the overall coordination of work under BRICS in our respective countries, we also discussed the status of BRICS projects," said Minister Nkoana-Mashabane.

China, the current chair of BRICS, will host the Ninth BRICS Leaders' Summit in Xiamen, Fujian Province, from 3 to 5 September 2017. Thereafter, it will be South Africa's turn to chair BRICS in 2018.

MINISTER NKOANA-MASHABANE LEADS SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION TO G20 FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

South Africa is one of the 19 member countries of the Group of 20 (G20) which, in addition to the European Union (EU), the 20th member, have been meeting regularly since 1999 to discuss global economic policy coordination.



The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, recently concluded a successful Working Visit to Germany where she led the South African delegation to the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Bonn from 16 to 17 February 2017.

Germany assumed the Presidency of the G20 in December 2016 and unveiled its overarching theme for its Presidency of "Shaping an Interconnected World" with the sub-themes of "building resilience", "improving sustainability" and "assuming responsibility".

The G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting convened under the theme: "Shaping the Global Order – Foreign Policy beyond Crisis Management." Contemporary and future global security and development issues were deliberated by the foreign ministers.

The topics of discussion included: "Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", "Maintaining Peace in a Complex World," and "Cooperation with Africa".

South Africa's participation in the G20 is informed by the National Development Plan and the strategic imperative to negotiate the best possible outcomes for South Africa, Africa and the developing world.

In this regard, Minister Nkoana-Mashabane stated during the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting that the G20 members must support the African continent in its economic integration and development initiatives.

"Africa has its own development blueprint, namely, the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the New Partnership for Africa's Development as its implementation mechanism. These programmes are also aligned to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," said Minister Nkoana-Mashabane.

The Minister added that the G20 partners could contribute significantly by cooperating with Africa in realising this vision of a sustainable continent. The G20 Summit is scheduled for 7 to 8 July 2017 in Hamburg, Germany.

MARABASTAD REFUGEE CENTRE GETS NEW LOOK

The refurbishment of the Marabastad office was prompted by complaints received from clients about the facility in 2016.

President Jacob Zuma recently officially opened the refurbished Marabastad Refugee Reception Office in Pretoria, which will be named the Desmond Tutu Refugee Reception Centre.

Before officially opening the centre, President Zuma, accompanied by the Minister of Home Affairs, Malusi Gigaba, toured the newly refurbished centre.

Prior to the office being refurbished, there were allegations of corruption, the office did not have enough staff, slow IT systems, inadequate filing systems and poor management. There were also long queues, overcrowding and allegations of criminal syndicates. As part of improving service delivery at the centre, Minister Gigaba last year launched the paperless system at the Marabastad Refugee Reception Office to contribute towards eradicating corruption.

The Department of Home Affairs believes the introduction of automated systems at the Marabastad centre will eradicate long queues and other challenges they experience. The department also introduced a new application system at the Marabastad centre to ease the process of foreign nationals applying for permits and asylum documents.

Introduced at the end of January last year, the box system has brought some relief to foreign nationals as they no longer have to stand in long queues to get their documents processed. It has also put a halt on corrupt activities.

The box system allows foreign nationals to drop their applications or expired permits inside boxes provided by the department and then security guards collect the boxes and take them to officials inside the centre for processing.

The guards return a few hours later with newly printed permits. They read out the names and owners collect them and leave. – Source: SAnews.gov.za



SA, FRANCE TO ADVANCE TRADE, ECONOMIC RELATIONS

South Africa and France have agreed to enhance trade and economic relations.

The Minister of Trade and Industry, Rob Davies, recently held a courtesy meeting with new French Ambassador to South Africa, Christophe Farnaud, in Cape Town where they discussed relations between the two countries.

“Strengthening of relations between the South African and French businesses on composites and advanced manufacturing in general will create opportunities for both countries. Advanced manufacturing is viewed as a sector for future economic growth,” said Minister Davies.

The meeting emphasised that the two countries could cooperate in the composite sector (ship building) despite South Africa being new to the composite manufacturing. France is the leader in the sector.

Minister Davies said South Africa would like to see investments and technical collaboration in composite applications.

The sectors that the two countries can cooperate in will be further discussed at the Joint Economic Commission between South Africa and France, to be held in Paris, possibly by the end of March.

The work agenda of economic relations between South Africa and France is coordinated through the South Africa-France Joint Economic Commission (JEC).

The broad aim of the JEC is to promote and strengthen trade and industrial cooperation between the respective economies. The forum provides an opportunity for consultation on issues of mutual interest, in particular, regional and global issues.

Total trade between the South Africa and France has gradually recovered to pre-crisis levels of 2007/08, growing by an annual average rate of 6,2% from 2010 to 2015.

Currently, major South Africa’s exports to France include vehicles, aircrafts, machinery and automobiles, while imports from France include pharmaceuticals, electrical and electronic equipment, turbo jets and vaccines for human use. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

MINISTER ZULU LAUNCHES FRENCH SOUTH AFRICAN TECH LABS

Minister Lindiwe Zulu has launched the Technology Businesses Incubation Partnership that focusses on black entrepreneurs.

FRENCH TECH

CAPE TOWN



The Minister of Small Business Development, Lindiwe Zulu, and the French Ambassador, Christophe Farnaud, on 21 February, launched the French South African Tech Labs, the new incubator and accelerator dedicated to South African and French entrepreneurs.

The launch, which took place in Century City, Cape Town, is a partnership between Methys, an international company operating in digital transformation and the Small Enterprise Development Agency, an agency of the Department of Small Business Development. Both organisations have invested a combined R10 million in this new programme for entrepreneurs. This initiative seeks to enhance links between France and South Africa in the innovation ecosystem.

The primary goal of this partnership is to transform ideas and projects into sustainable businesses and to create dozens of jobs in the next few years. This launch is a build-up to the Global Entrepreneurship Congress, which will be held in March this year – for the first time on the African continent.

SOUTH AFRICA, BELGIUM TO COOPERATE IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

South Africa's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Belgium will cover areas of mutual interest such as marine and Antarctic science. South Africa conducts extensive research in the Antarctic region where it has the SANAE IV base.



South Africa and Belgium have signed a five-year cooperation agreement that will see the two countries implement joint research and innovation initiatives. The agreement, signed by the Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor, and the Secretary of State for Science Policy, Elke Sleurs, will be implemented by South Africa's Department of Science and Technology and the Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO).

BELSPO manages 10 federal scientific institutes, including the Royal Museum for Central Africa (which, through research into zoology, geology, anthropology, history, forestry and agriculture adds to knowledge towards sustainable development in Africa), the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (which studies biodiversity, development and the natural environment) and the Royal Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy (which plays a central role in the study of global climate change).

The MoU is set to promote the exchange of scientific information and expertise between the two countries and facilitate the hosting of joint seminars and training on aspects of mutual interest such as climate change, marine and Antarctic science, biodiversity and space science.

A joint committee of cooperation will be established to ensure the objectives of the MoU are achieved.

Bilateral relations between South Africa and Belgium were formalised in 2004. Belgium is an important South African trading partner, with imports and exports amounting to billions. Belgium is also a vital source of foreign direct investment in South Africa, particularly in the areas of mining, green energy, ports, logistics and agriculture sectors.

South Africa already has an agreement with the Government of Flanders (a region of Belgium), which was signed in 1996. Areas of cooperation under this agreement include health, life science, engineering, technology, social science and the humanities.

ALGERIA TO GET A TASTE OF SA CULTURE

The cultural programme will be launched in Algeria's capital, Algiers, and will run until 3 March.

Algerians will get an opportunity to sample South Africa's artistic talent when the cultural seasons is launched in that country on 24 February.

The programme is aimed at showcasing South Africa's artistic talent to create an inter-cultural and inter-generational dialogue between the two countries. It is also a platform to strengthen cultural and people-to-people relations, lay the basis for expanded trade and promote cultural diplomacy as part of government's broader socio-economic agenda.

"We have a golden thread that links us all as brothers and sisters. It is through culture that we are able to articulate and reflect the wishes and aspirations of the people for a united continent.

"The ties that bind us are greater than what separates us. Therefore, we look forward to the first cultural seasons of South Africa in Algeria," said the Minister of Arts and Culture, Nathi Mthethwa.

The Government of South Africa and the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria signed an agreement on cooperation in the fields of arts and culture in 2009.

"The agreement is in line with South Africa's foreign policy imperative on regional integration and places arts, culture and heritage at the centre of the economic growth agenda and skills development, amongst others," the Department of Arts and Culture said.

The cultural seasons will also strengthen collaboration on the Africa Month programme of activities that takes place in May to celebrate the formation of the Organisation of African Unity, celebrating African identity and culture and the building of a better Africa in a better world. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

MINISTER BROWN ATTENDS ABU DHABI DEFENCE EXHIBITION

Denel will be exhibiting its own global defence capabilities and services with a view to consolidating existing relationships and securing key new clients.

The Minister of Public Enterprises, Lynne Brown, recently led a South African delegation to Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates, to attend the International Defence Exhibition and Conference (IDEX).

IDEX is among the world's leading defence markets, with a total of 57 countries and 1 235 companies registered to participate. Participating companies include Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Rostec and South African state-owned arms manufacturer, Denel.

Minister Brown aimed to strengthen government-to-government partnerships and relationships with global defence companies and stakeholders.



Minister Brown encouraged international stakeholders to do business with Denel to expand the company's order book and boost the South African defence manufacturing industry.

Defence exports and linked services create precious jobs and contribute towards the filling of scarce skills in the high-tech and advanced manufacturing sectors. These skills are vital to South Africa's global competitiveness.

R78 BILLION INVESTED IN ICT INDUSTRY

Government has invested R78 billion in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) industry in the last three years, says Telecommunications and Postal Services Minister, Siyabonga Cwele.

This was according to a report by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

"The country has already started to see benefits of this accelerated investment, where the *Network Readiness Index* and usage improved.

"This and other measures driven by our government has helped to steadily push up the World Economic Forum *Global Competitive Index* from 56 in 2014 to 47 in 2016 out of 140 participating countries," Minister Cwele said.

The Minister was speaking on 15 February during the debate on the State of the Nation Address in Parliament. Government has adopted the Integrated ICT White Paper, which it is using to deconcentrate the industry.

"We will use open access networks and our natural resource spectrum, as strategic levers to induce real transformation and the lowering of barriers to entry for blacks, small businesses and marginalised groups." – Source: SAnews.gov.za

ACSA RANKED AMONG 10 MOST PUNCTUAL IN THE WORLD

The Minister of Transport, Dipuo Peters, has congratulated the Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) for having being ranked among the 10 most punctual airports in the world.



"ACSA's achievement, among others, is attributed to its world-class state-of-the-art Airport Management Centre (AMC), which is the nerve centre of the airports operations. The AMC facilitates a seamless coordination between airlines, baggage handlers, security staff, customer service staff, aircraft engineers and marshals," said Minister Peters.

The list was revealed by the OAG Aviation Worldwide, a United Kingdom-based agency which monitors on-time-performance among airlines and airports globally.

OR Tambo International Airport in Kempton Park achieved eighth place in the large airports category while Cape Town International Airport ranked sixth in the medium airports category. King Shaka International Airport in KwaZulu-Natal was 10th in the small airports category.

OAG Aviation Worldwide tracks a minimum of 80% of the flights that operate at an airport for it to be included in the Punctuality League.

According to the league, the top 20 airports in the large airport category ensured that 83,9% arriving and departing flights operated under 15 minutes of their scheduled arrival and departure times last year.

Minister Peters said that ACSA's achievement followed its continuous growth in its aeronautical income derived from regulated tariffs as well as for its non-aeronautical revenue. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL VOTED AFRICA'S BEST AIRPORT

While the world number one for 2016 was named as Singapore Changi International Airport, in Africa, Cape Town International Airport was king.



Cape Town International Airport was voted the best airport in Africa recently, in a poll by a popular online travel guide focussed on “making travel more tolerable”.

The Guide to Sleeping in Airports – “a travel community that shares their experiences and advice with fellow airport sleepers” at sleepinginairports.net – has been asking people since October to rate their experiences at airports worldwide based on several categories.

These include comfort, services, security and cleanliness as well as free wifi, pay-to-use lounges and budget-friendly food options. Travellers were consistently happy with the terminals' cleanliness, simplicity and helpful, friendly staff as well as perks such as free wifi.

While no African airports made it into the world top 10, three South African airports are in Africa's top 10. Johannesburg's OR Tambo came in at number four and Durban's King Shaka International was at number six.

Top of the world's worst airports list was Jeddah King Abdulaziz International Airport in Saudi Arabia. The worst airport in Africa was Juba International in South Sudan. – Source: www.timeslive.co.za

PROTECT SA'S WETLANDS

Government has called on non-governmental organisations, civil society, communities and other stakeholders to raise awareness about wetlands to protect and conserve them.

Speaking recently at the Esselen Park Wetlands Pan in Tembisa, the Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture, Rejoice Mabudafhasi, said wetlands had enormous economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits for the country. She led a public awareness drive to commemorate World Wetlands Day on behalf of the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Barbara Thomson.

“It is, however, sad to note that, to date, we have lost an estimated 50% of wetlands in the country due to unsustainable use and poor land management.

“We also need to highlight that if sustainably managed, wetlands play a significant role in protecting and improving water quality, providing habitat for fish and wildlife, flood reduction and maintaining surface water flow during dry periods, among others. These valuable functions are a result of the unique natural characteristics which wetlands provide,” Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi said.

The Department of Environmental Affairs said it would continue to make significant investments in the conservation, management and restoration of wetlands through implementation of the Ramsar Convention and the Working for Wetlands Programme, to ensure healthy wetlands that will improve water quality and water supplies. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

SA TOURIST GUIDE APPOINTED AS PRESIDENT

The World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations (WFTGA) has appointed a South African tourist guide as its new President.

Alushca Ritchie, a registered tourist guide in the Western Cape, was appointed to head the internationally recognised body at the 17th biennial WFTGA Convention, which took place in Tehran, Iran, recently.

Ritchie has been a wine specialist for the last six years. She owns and manages a tourism business and has served as the Chairperson of the Cape Tourist Guides Association, a director on the Cape Town Tourism Board and as the Western Cape Representative of the South African Travel Services Association.

The Minister of Tourism, Derek Hanekom, congratulated Ritchie on her appointment.

“We are very proud of this global leadership achievement.

“This presents another opportunity for us to elevate the status of the guiding profession and to acknowledge the important role that our tourist guides play in providing superb visitor experiences,” said Minister Hanekom.

The WFTGA is a not-for-profit, non-political organisation comprising tourist guide associations, individual tourist guides, educational institutions and other members who have a direct or indirect association with tourist guides.

It is an Affiliate Member of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO). The President of WFTGA serves for a two-year term and is supported by an Executive Board made up of delegates from Australia, Iran, United States of America, Canada and the United Kingdom.

The convention was attended by about 350 participants and delegates from over 40 countries.

The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hassan Rouhani, officiated at the opening ceremony.

The Vice-President and Head of Cultural Heritage, Handcrafts and Tourism Organisation, Zahra Ahmadi Pour, and the Secretary-General of the UNWTO, Taleb Rifai, also attended.

“I look forward to representing all tourist guides on an international platform. This will be a great opportunity to learn and to promote a sector which is very rarely recognised as a profession, although it is an integral component of the tourism value chain,” Ritchie said.



SAA ADDS NEW CODE SHARE ROUTE WITH AIR SEYCHELLES

South African Airways (SAA) and Air Seychelles have announce another code-share route service from Seychelles to one of South Africa's largest city, Durban, starting from 30 March 2017.



The new service is scheduled to operate twice a week, Thursdays and Saturdays, and is already open for sale, offering a greater travel choice to guests travelling between South Africa and Seychelles.

The code-share partnership between SAA and Air Seychelles dates back to October 2013 with SAA as a marketing carrier between Johannesburg and Seychelles – with five weekly services between Johannesburg and Praslin Island operated by Air Seychelles.

Added to this, Air Seychelles has already been the marketing domestic services operator for by SAA on its Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London routes.

Chief Executive Officer of Air Seychelles, Roy Kinnear, says the ties between South Africa and Seychelles are strong and evident for everyone to see.

"Building on these strong ties and the existing five weekly services between Seychelles and Johannesburg, Air Seychelles has taken the commitment to start the twice-weekly operation to Durban on 30 March 2017."

"We are confident these air links will bring our countries closer and contribute to the development of our respective economies and tourism industries," says Kinnear. – Source: Traveller24

SOUTH AFRICA RANKS AS BEST WINTER-SUN DESTINATION FOR NORTHERN HEMISPHERIANS

South Africa's beach destinations have done the country proud again, ranking as one of the best winter-sun destination for Northern Hemispherians.



According to *Conte Nast Traveller*, South Africa is best to visit in November and March and what sets the country apart among others, Laos, Oman and Hawaii, is stunning scenery, breathtaking beaches, as well as world-class wines and fabulous food.

Unsurprisingly, the Western Cape gets a mention.

"The country's most celebrated stretch of coastline is the glorious Garden Route. However in the other direction, a road trip through the Western Cape makes a rewarding alternative and the weather is particularly good in December and January," says *Conte Nast Traveller*. – Source: traveller24.news24.com

CHARLIZE THERON TO PRESENT AT OSCARS

South African actress Charlize Theron has been named as one of the presenters of the 89th Oscars, to be hosted by Jimmy Kimmel on 26 February 2017.



Charlize will be joined by Amy Adams, Riz Ahmed, Javier Bardem, John Cho, Dwayne Johnson, Felicity Jones, David Oyelowo and Emma Stone, among others.

Charlize is no stranger to the Academy Awards having presented before, and becoming the first South African to ever win the Best Actress Award (in 2003 for *Monster*).

Last year, many were upset that the South African wasn't nominated for her brilliant performance in *Mad Max: Fury Road* – the movie which received 10 nominations and walked away with six awards. – Source: www.sapeople.com

TREVOR NOAH IS COMING TO SA FOR A COMEDY SHOW

Featuring all-new material, the show will focus on exploring how life has changed for Noah after the big break that took him to America, making him the hallowed host chair of one of the most popular news programmes in the world.

Comedy Central (DStv channel 122) has partnered with *Daily Show* host, Trevor Noah, to bring his brand new stand-up tour to South Africa at the TicketPro Dome, from Thursday, 10 until Friday, 11 August 2017.

Noah announced the news with a special video message on Comedy Central social media sites in Africa on 14 February.

Tickets for Trevor Noah Live at the Dome went on sale via Ticketpro 20 February priced from R300.



RABADA FETCHES R9,8 MILLION IN IPL AUCTION

Proteas fast bowler Kagiso Rabada was drafted by the Delhi Daredevils for close to R10 million at the lucrative Indian Premier League (IPL) auction.



Rabada, 21, entered the auction with a base price of \$149 254 (R1,9 million), but a bidding war between the Daredevils and the Kings XI Punjab saw the South African speedster go to the Daredevils for IND 500 lakhs or \$750 000 (R9,8 million).

Rabada became the third most expensive foreign player at this year's IPL auction with England all-rounder Ben Stokes fetching more than \$2 million for the Rising Pune Giants and Stokes' compatriot, fast bowler Tymal Mills, fetching \$1,8 million.

Rabada, who is South Africa's No 1 Test bowler, has played 16 T20s for the Proteas and has taken 22 wickets at an average of 22.63.

He will play in his debut IPL season after opting to sit out last year to play for Kent in the English County Championship.

Rabada joins Proteas teammates Quinton de Kock, Chris Morris and JP Duminy in the Dehli Daredevils squad.

The IPL begins on 5 April 5 and runs until 21 May. – Source: www.sport24.co.za

VAN NIEKERK ACHIEVES PROTEAS WOMEN MILESTONE

Proteas skipper Dane van Niekerk became the first South African woman to take 100 wickets in one-day international (ODI) cricket.



The Proteas women recently lost their first match of the Super Six stage of the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier against India in Colombo.

Van Niekerk, 23, took the wicket of India's Mona Meshram to reach the milestone, as she became the seventh woman in ODI cricket to reach a double of 1 000 runs and 100 wickets.

"I was aware about it quite a while ago, but kind of forgot about it. Mingz (Mignon du Preez) reminded me of that when I got the wicket," Van Niekerk told the ICC website.

"Things were not going our way, so the last thing I was wondering about is the 100th wicket.

"Every game I play for South Africa is really special for me. I am lucky enough to have taken my 100th wicket and lucky to score runs for my country. Hopefully, I can continue to contribute – winning the World Cup is my only aim."

Van Niekerk took over the ODI captaincy from Du Preez in October last year. –Source: www.news24.com

MAMELODI SUNDOWNS WIN AFRICAN SUPER CUP WITH LATE PENALTY

A late penalty by Ricardo Nascimento clinched a first-ever African Super Cup for Mamelodi Sundowns as they beat TP Mazembe 1-0.

A late penalty by centre back Ricardo Nascimento clinched a first-ever African Super Cup for South African club Mamelodi Sundowns on 18 February, as they beat TP Mazembe Englebert, of the Democratic Republic of Congo, 1-0 at Loftus Versfeld in Pretoria.

The 83rd-minute spot-kick was all the home side had to show for a dominant performance in which only Mazembe goalkeeper Sylvain Gbohouo stood between Sundowns and a runaway score.

The Ivory Coast international goalkeeper pulled off a host of brilliant stops to keep his side in the game until full back Issam Mpeko was penalised for a wild lunge on Sundowns captain Hlompho Kekana and Brazil-born Nascimento stepped up to convert.



Sundowns winger Anthony Laffor had three close-range efforts saved by Gbohouo while a series of other chances also went begging.

It was Sundowns' first triumph in the African Super Cup, an annual one-off game between the winners of the continent's two major club competitions, the Champions League and the African Confederation Cup, having won the Champions League for the first time in October. – Source: www.ewn.co.za

SOUTH AFRICA BEST PERFORMING COUNTRY AT THE AFRICAN JUNIOR TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Kruger is only 14 years of age, so her win in the older under 18 African Junior Championship age group no wonder has impressed the world.



The South African junior under 18 team recently dominated the African Junior Championships in Tunis, the Tunisian capital.

The most notable win for South Africa came when Zoe Kruger won the Girls Under 18 title, upsetting second seed Dia El Jard of Morocco 4-2 4-2 in the final.

The tournament organisers were forced to change the format to short sets when rain continuously disrupted play in the early rounds of the outdoor hard court championships.

Kruger in the quarter finals also upset fourth seed Nermeen Shawky of Egypt in straight sets.

South Africa won a second title when favourites Bertus Kruger and Richard Thongoana won the boys doubles title. Kruger and Thongoana beat fellow South African team mates and second seeds Siphos Montsi and Phillip Henning in the final 1-4 4-1 (10-7).

Two South African boys, namely Siphos Montsi and Bertus Kruger, reached the boys singles semi-finals.

The strong performances by the South African players enabled the team to earn enough points to be named best performing team of the Championships. – Source: www.tenniss.co.za

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