



## SOUTH AFRICA SENDS CONDOLENCES TO INDONESIA FOLLOWING DEADLY EARTHQUAKE

### Tsunami hits Indonesia's Palu

A powerful earthquake rocked the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, triggering a strong tsunami that hit two coastal Indonesian cities



*The Government and people of South Africa wish to extend its sincere condolences to the Government and people of Indonesia following a powerful earthquake and tsunami that hit the island of Sulawesi, which have claimed more than 1 000 lives thus far.*

The thoughts of the people of South Africa are with the people of Indonesia during this difficult period and the South African Government extends its sympathy to those families who have lost their loved ones.

The South African Embassy in Jakarta is in contact with authorities and no South African has been reported missing.

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation urges family members of any South African who is residing or on holiday in Indonesia, whom they cannot contact or locate, to contact the department's 24-hour switchboard number at 012 351 1000.

## MINISTER SISULU HOSTS WORKSHOP ON THE REVIEW OF SA'S FOREIGN POLICY



*The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Lindiwe Sisulu, is from 4 to 5 October 2018 addressing a workshop convened by members of the Ministerial Review Panel. The establishment of the panel was announced in the Minister's Budget Vote Speech to Parliament in May 2018.*

The workshop is taking place under the theme: "Foreign Policy Review: A Strategic Reflection and Critical Appraisal of the Orientation and Implementation of South Africa's Foreign Policy".

The purpose of the workshop is to engage non-government stakeholders as part of a broader and phased consultation effort in the process of reviewing South Africa's foreign policy. Thought leaders and representatives of think tanks will be given an opportunity to make inputs for consideration by the Ministerial Review Panel.

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## MINISTER SISULU MEETS US SECRETARY OF STATE

***The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Lindiwe Sisulu, held a bilateral meeting with the United States (US) Secretary of State, Michael Pompeo, on 28 September 2018 in New York.***



The two ministers used the occasion to review the state of bilateral relations between South Africa and the US and exchanged views on African and global peace and security issues.

They expressed satisfaction with the scope and depth of cooperation between the two countries in a wide range of issues, covering political diplomatic, economic, social, technical, scientific as well as people-to-people cooperation.

The two ministers reaffirmed the commitment of their governments and business sectors to intensify and deepen trade and investment relations.

Minister Sisulu reiterated South Africa's call for its exemption from steel and aluminum tariffs.

Minister Sisulu also gave Secretary Pompeo a detailed briefing about South African land reform. The Minister emphasised that the land reform and agrarian reform process would be undertaken within the framework of the Constitution and implemented in a manner that did not affect economic stability and food stability. In this regard, the two ministers agreed to convene a meeting of all South African-based US companies to brief them about the land reform process.

With regard to peace and security matters, Secretary Pompeo congratulated South Africa for its election into the United Nations Security Council as the non-permanent member for the period 2019 to 2020. Minister Sisulu thanked the US for its support and emphasised that South Africa would prioritise the resolution of conflict on the African continent in pursuit of the African Union's aspiration of silencing the guns by 2020.

Minister Sisulu welcomed the US' initiative with regard to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the hope that this would lead to the denuclearisation of the Peninsula.

The two ministers agreed to continue exchanging views with regard to the Israel and Palestine situation. They both underscored that a satisfactory resolution would be based on a two states' solution.

At the conclusion of a cordial and fruitful bilateral discussion, Minister Sisulu accepted an invitation from Secretary Pompeo to undertake a Working Visit to Washington at dates to be finalised through diplomatic channels.

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## BRICS MINISTERS RECOMMIT TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENTS

***Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) foreign affairs ministers have unanimously agreed to implement the resolutions of the Johannesburg Summit, while deepening practical cooperation and realising mutually beneficial win-win results.***

The ministers, who recently met on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, took stock of the July Summit and underlined the progress achieved by BRICS throughout multi-dimensional and inclusive cooperation fostered by the bloc's leaders.

The Johannesburg Summit saw the adoption of the Johannesburg Declaration, which, among others, supports an open and inclusive multilateral trading system.

The leaders also found common ground in championing global trade, condemning protectionist measures, the fight against terrorism, intra-BRICS trade and fighting climate change.

“They expressed satisfaction with the many fruitful results of intra-BRICS cooperation in the areas of the economy, finance, peace, stability and people-to-people exchanges, in particular the establishment of the New Development Bank (NDB), including its Africa Regional Centre in Johannesburg; the Contingent Reserve Arrangement; the formulation of the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership; BRICS Action Agenda on Economic and Trade Cooperation; and the BRICS Agricultural Research Platform,” reads the communiqué issued after the meeting.



The ministers welcomed the constitution of the BRICS Energy Research Cooperation Platform, the upcoming establishment of the America’s Regional Office of the NDB in São Paulo, the BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution and the BRICS Vaccine Research and Development Centre.

The ministers looked forward to the early and full operationalisation of all these BRICS initiatives.

They used their meeting to exchange views on current issues of global significance in political, security, economic, financial and sustainable development spheres, as well as the three-pillar intra-BRICS strategic cooperation.

The ministers reaffirmed the importance of BRICS people-to-people exchanges in promoting common development and enhancing mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation among its peoples.

They commended the ongoing exchanges and the steady progress in BRICS, including in the fields of sports, youth, film, culture, education, tourism and governance.

They supported further BRICS people-to-people exchanges and cooperation in fostering a meaningful resonance of the BRICS partnership among its peoples. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

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## IBSA TO ADVANCE SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

***In the context of today’s dynamic global order, the India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) member states have underscored the strategic significance of the group in safeguarding and advancing the interests of the South on the global stage.***

They stressed the importance of multilateralism and the need to reform global governance structures in order to make them more inclusive, democratic, representative, transparent and responsive to the needs of the South, the group said on Thursday, 27 September 2018.

The foreign affairs ministers met for the IBSA Dialogue Forum in New York on the sidelines of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly.

The ministers noted with satisfaction the decision to enhance cooperation, based on its three pillars: political coordination in multilateral fora, trilateral cooperation and cooperation with other developing countries through the IBSA Fund for the Alleviation of Poverty and Hunger.

In the communiqué, the group underscored the IBSA Declaration on South-South Cooperation issued in June 2018 in Pretoria in the context of the run-up to the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40 Conference), to be held in Buenos Aires in March 2019.



They stressed that this provided a unique opportunity for the strengthening of future trilateral cooperation with other developing countries through the IBSA Fund for the Alleviation of Poverty and Hunger.

They emphasised the important role played by the IBSA Fund through sharing of developmental experience of IBSA countries and recalled, with satisfaction, the signature in 2017 of the IBSA Fund Agreement that will guarantee a steady flow of resources to boost its activities.

The ministers reiterated their intention to further deepen and strengthen the IBSA Dialogue Forum and stressed the importance of close coordination and cooperation among IBSA countries in various multilateral fora.

The meeting, which was attended by the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Lindiwe Sisulu; India's Minister of External Relations, Sushma Swaraj; and Brazil's Minister Aloysio Nunes Ferreira, also discussed key areas of cooperation such as the UN Security Council reforms, the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals, climate change, terrorism, human rights, refugees and financing for development.

The ministers underlined the importance of cooperation among IBSA member states in order to promote the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, as well as the outcomes of the Monterey and Doha international conferences on financing for development.

IBSA is a trilateral, developmental initiative between India, Brazil and South Africa to promote South-South cooperation and exchange.

The main objectives of the IBSA Dialogue Forum include to promote South-South dialogue, cooperation and common positions on issues of international importance, to promote trade and investment opportunities between the three regions and trilateral exchange of information, international best practices, technologies and skills, as well as to complement each other's competitive strengths into collective synergies. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

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## DEPUTY MINISTER LANDERS UNDERTAKES OFFICIAL VISIT TO GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

*The Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Luwellyn Landers, was on an official trip to Geneva, Switzerland, from 1 to 4 October 2018. Together with the Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, John Jeffery, he co-led the presentation of South Africa's initial report to the United Nations (UN) Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR).*



International Covenant on  
Economic Social and Cultural Rights

South Africa delivered a country statement to the CESCR on 2 October 2018 and engaged in a constructive dialogue with the 18-member committee of independent experts. The South African delegation also engaged in "a constructive dialogue" with the committee.

South Africa's inaugural appearance before the committee was an opportune moment for the country to highlight progress and challenges in giving effect to the provisions of the treaty (ICESCR). South Africa also highlighted what steps it had taken to promote, protect and fulfil human rights in the area of the advancement of ESC rights and its adherence to the justiciability of ESC rights.

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## DEPUTY MINISTER MHAULE HOSTS PPP IN BELA-BELA

***The Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Reginah Mhaule, in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency and Bela-Bela Municipality hosted a Public Participation Programme in Bela-Bela, Limpopo, on 27 September 2018.***



On 18 July 2018, during the Nelson Mandela Day event held at Raeleng Secondary School, the school indicated a need for history learners to be informed about Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) and the outcomes of the summit. It is essential for learners to know about globalisation and how South Africa interrelates with BRICS countries as it is also part of the curriculum in Grade 12.

The event focused on Grade 11 and 12 learners from six schools in Bela-Bela, namely: Bela-Bela Secondary School, Raeleng Secondary School, Maope Secondary School, Vingerkraal Secondary School, Batho Pele Secondary School and Hoërskool Warmbad.

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## MINISTER DAVIES ON TRADE DRIVE IN SAUDI ARABIA

***Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies has visited Saudi Arabia where he has co-chaired the Eighth Session of the South Africa-Saudi Arabia Joint Economic Commission (JEC).***

“The Eighth Session of the JEC will assess the progress made and implementation of the commitments of the previous session and seek ways to further deepen trade, economic and social cooperation,” the Department of Trade and Industry (dti) said on Sunday.

The purpose of the visit is threefold. In addition to co-chairing the JEC, Minister Davies is leading a business delegation of South African companies from the financial services, agro-processing and pharmaceutical sectors.

The visit is also a follow-up on President Cyril Ramaphosa's State Visit to Saudi Arabia in July 2018, during which Saudi Arabia pledged to invest \$10 billion in South Africa's energy, defence and agricultural sectors.



“A number of bilateral meetings with relevant Saudi ministries and investors have also been convened. These meetings will discuss the implementation of the institutions with a view of the \$10-billion investment pledge,” the department said.

Minister Davies is scheduled to address a business forum that will be hosted by the Riyadh Chamber of Commerce for business persons of both countries.

South Africa and Saudi Arabia maintain good political and economic relations and cooperate in a number of fields.

Globally, Saudi Arabia is among South Africa's top five import partners, largely due to the amount of the oil South Africa imports from the kingdom.

South Africa currently imports approximately 47% of its oil from the Arab country and regards it as a strategic partner in the Middle East.

The country is also a large investor in South Africa, especially in the area of renewable energy.

In terms of bilateral trade, total trade between South Africa and Saudi Arabia amounted to R55,4 billion in 2017, with a trade surplus in favour of Saudi Arabia due to oil imports.

Total trade showed a consistent increase from R39,1 billion in 2013 to R55,4 billion in 2017. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

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## SA TO PILOT E-VISA IN NEW ZEALAND

### ***South Africa will pilot its e-Visa in New Zealand by April 2019 in a bid to improve efficiency of visa applications.***

“Once glitches identified during the pilot phase have been addressed, the e-Visa will be rolled out to other countries,” said Home Affairs Minister, Malusi Gigaba, during a recent media briefing.

The briefing followed an announcement by President Cyril Ramaphosa on changes to the visa regime as part of the economic stimulus and recovery plan.

South Africa will also pilot e-Gates at OR Tambo, Cape Town and King Shaka International Airports by 2019.



This will allow returning South African citizens, as well as certain categories of trusted travellers, to be processed electronically as opposed to interacting with an immigration officer.

“This will increase efficiencies and convenience and improve facilitation of movement of frequent travellers going through our international airports, thus creating our capacity to service those that still require manual assistance through physical availability of immigration officers,” said the Minister.

To ease congestion at the country's ports of entry and improve efficiency, South Africa is currently finalising the development of a new Biometric Movement Control System.

This will be piloted at Cape Town and Lanseria international airports.

The biometrics capturing system is currently at selected airports, namely OR Tambo, King Shaka, Lanseria and Cape Town international airports.

A biometrics capture system is at the six busiest land ports – Beit Bridge, Lebombo, Ficksburg, Maseru Bridge, Oshoek and Kopfontein.

“Though unrelated to visas, the above six are the land ports of entry, where we also receive the highest volumes of complaints regarding congestion.”

Minister Gigaba said processes were underway to deal with congestion to ensure human movement and smooth trade relations and tourism with South Africa's neighbours.

In the current financial year, Minister Gigaba said his department was working on expanding biometrics to all remaining ports on the enhanced movement control system.

Minister Gigaba also announced that the Border Management Authority Bill was currently at the National Council of Provinces and was in its final stages.

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## FERRARI WORKSHOP IN THE PIPELINE FOR GAUTENG

***Gauteng may soon have a Ferrari workshop that fixes models of the motor manufacturer.***

Gauteng MEC for Roads and Transport, Ismail Vadi, said during a meeting held in Sandton recently before the South Africa-Italy Summit, that the Chamdor automotive projects in Krugersdorp, in which provincial government partnered with the Italian Government, would also have a team of trained mechanics to fix high-end models.

“The automotive hub that will be opened in the Chamdor area in the West Rand is for after-sales support for all brands of vehicles that may be sold in the country. We are also looking at training for high-end vehicles like the Ferrari because we don’t build Ferraris in this country, so Ferrari is going to have a team dedicated to training local people in fixing Ferraris. It might not be an engine overhaul, but if it is an electrical problem then you would be able to go there,” Vadi said.



He added that this year 250 chief executives from across the continent would be attending the summit, which will be held early next month in partnership with The European House Ambrosetti, an Italian NGO.

The Automotive Industry Development Centre (AIDC), which is Gauteng’s automotive parastatal, said the project was part of government’s international relations initiative and Gauteng Premier, David Makhura, had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Emilia-Romagna region in Italy.

“This MoU allows both the Gauteng province and the equivalent Emilia-Romagna region to collaborate on various mutually beneficial programmes. Subsequent to the signing of the MoU, the GGDA (Gauteng Growth and Development Agency) then also entered into an MoU with its equivalent agency in Italy, known as the E35 Foundation, with common interests. This was signed during a mission to Italy led by the MEC for Social Development, Nandi Mayathula-Khoza, on 26 May 2017. This MoU refers to identified projects for collaboration between E35 and the GGDA. The project more specifically identified by the AIDC, which also attended the Italy mission in May [last year], was around the support that the Italy partners could provide to the township economy,” said AIDC spokesperson Mashadi Mangale.

She said the Chamdor hub would bring significant economic activity to the West Rand and had targeted 15 small businesses, which would be specialising in mechanical and auto body repairs, as well as parts sales.

She added that the hub would be serviced by master artisans and other leading professionals in the automotive field, and that it would be a centre for training and skills transfer in the motor industry. – Source: city-press.news24.com

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## SIX-DAY HIKING TRAIL FROM PORT ST JOHNS TO COFFEE BAY HOPES TO SPIKE TOURISM AND JOB CREATION

***The Minister of Tourism, Derek Hanekom, and the Eastern Cape MEC for Economic Development, Environment Affairs and Tourism recently engaged with the communities around Mngazana Village, Eastern Cape to discuss the tourism benefits of the 64-km Six Day Hiking Trail, which is currently in development.***





“The hiking trail from Port St Johns to Coffee Bay can create much opportunity. Our challenge is to make this a blow-away hiking trail. We want people from across the world to hike this trail as it is unique, linking physical beauty with a cultural experience,” said Minister Hanekom.

According to the Department of Tourism, this estimated R20-million project's construction commenced on January 2016 already, with Phase 1 and included the upgrading of the hiking trail through erosion control and enhancement of the trail; construction of ablution blocks; recreational facilities, including benches and park bins; clearing of alien vegetation; building of nine hiking huts; and provision of furniture.

“The big magnet is the physical beauty of this area and the environment which will attract many tourists. We need to look after that environment.”

“We need to make certain as tourism grows that people benefit and are always there to welcome the tourists. It is about the environment and people. Without people and the participation of the people, the environment will not be protected. If the environment is well protected, there will be more tourists, more jobs and more opportunities.”

“Big tourist attractions create jobs and put food on the table for many people. Tourism is not only for some big hotels, but it is about the people and the benefits must go to the people,” concluded the Minister.

Phase 1 of the project employed 104 people from 2016 to 2017 from Mpande, Hluleka, Mgazana and Port St Johns. The Minister was in the Eastern Cape to host World Tourism Day on 27 September 2018 at Luchaba Nature Resort in Mthatha. – Source: Traveller24

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## DUTCH TEAM BAGS SASOL SOLAR CHALLENGE

***Dutch team, Nuon, on Saturday, 29 September 2018, won the 2018 Sasol Solar Challenge in Stellenbosch, clocking 4 030.4km.***

Nuon's close rival from Japan, team Tokai, completed 3 941.4km. The top South African team, Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), travelled 2 397km on South African roads between Pretoria and Stellenbosch, narrowly beating North West University's (NWU) 2 276.3km.

The Sasol Solar Challenge is a biennial competition. Teams from across the world design and build solar-powered vehicles to drive across South Africa in an eight-day event.

In 2016, Nuon won the Sasol Solar Challenge after completing 4 716km, breaking a four-year record of 4 630km and beating Japanese team Tokai by 172km.



The teams competed to cover the most distance, following a set route each day, and then completed additional loops with the power they had left.

It takes good engineering, great drivers and a team that manages energy, the weather and the routes well. The many returning teams were aiming to break 2016's record of more than 4 500 km.

Combined, the convoys were expected to cover more than 30 000km using only the sun's power.

The finish line was in Stellenbosch, and the awards ceremony took place in Cape Town on 30 September.

The event has been sponsored by Sasol since 2012, as part of its commitment to furthering science, technology, engineering and maths education, and inspiring learners to pursue technical careers.

Participants this year included champions Nuon from Delft University in the Netherlands and former world champions Tokai University from Japan. For the first time, South Africa also hosted the City University from Hong Kong, and the Solar Energy Racers from Switzerland.

South African universities and even a high school featured strongly on the starting grid last week Saturday.

TUT set off to cheers from their home ground, and global competitors NWU hit the road with a brand new solar car, developed especially for the Sasol Solar Challenge.

They were joined by newcomers from the Central University of Technology in Bloemfontein, the Cape Peninsula University of Technology and Sonke Siyakunde, a high school team with learners from St Alban's College and St Augustine's LEAP school.

– Source: [www.itweb.co.za](http://www.itweb.co.za)

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## BOKS BEAT WALLABIES 23 – 12 IN RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

***The Boks could not have wished for a better start to the game when star winger Aphiwe Dyantyi, snatched an intercept pass from Kurtley Beale to score with barely a minute on the board.***

The Springboks beat the Wallabies in their Rugby Championship meeting in Port Elizabeth on Saturday evening, 29 September 2018

The Boks could not have wished for a better start to the game when star winger, Aphiwe Dyantyi, snatched an intercept pass from Kurtley Beale to score with barely a minute on the board.



Rassie Erasmus' men were in an attacking mood in the first half, creating numerous scoring opportunities but failing to capitalise on their early dominance, squandering those chances for points.

They scored again in the 22nd minute of the match when Handre Pollard spotted a mismatch against front-rower Scott Sio, attacking the advantage line before offloading to Faf de klerk to score the second try.

The Wallabies were not going down without a firm fight as they hit back with two quick tries from Will Genia and Reece Hodge to narrow the gap to just two points. Pollard's boot was on song in the PE, as he kept the scoreboard ticking with two penalty kicks in the first half to give the Boks a 20-12 halftime lead.

It was much the same for the Boks in the second half, as they continued to inflict territorial pressure on the Wallabies but failed to convert as silly errors plagued their game.

Pollard slotted another penalty to stretch the lead to 23 – 12. – Source: [ewn.co.za](http://ewn.co.za)

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