

MINISTER SISULU BRIEFS MEDIA

The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Lindiwe Sisulu, on Thursday, 11 October 2018, held a monthly media engagement with members of the press.

The engagement focused, among others, on the outcomes of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit in Beijing, the 73rd Session of United Nations General Assembly in New York, other regional and international developments as well as upcoming events.

Minister Sisulu was accompanied by Deputy Ministers Luwellyn Landers and Reginah Mhaule.



DEPUTY MINISTER LANDERS ATTENDS TICAD MINISTERIAL MEETING IN JAPAN

Deputy Minister Luwellyn Landers, on behalf of the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Lindiwe Sisulu, participated in the Ministerial Meeting of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), in Tokyo, Japan, from 6 to 7 October 2018. The meeting focused primarily on the progress made by the TICAD process since the conclusion of the Sixth TICAD Summit, hosted in Nairobi, Kenya, during August 2016, and the TICAD Ministerial Review Meeting, concluded in Maputo, Mozambique, during August 2017.

The meeting also served as the Ministeriallevel preparatory meeting for the Seventh TICAD Summit of Heads of State and Governments (TICAD VII) that will be hosted in Yokohama, Japan, during August 2019.

The main thematic areas for consideration included:



- trends and challenges since TICAD VI
- economic transformation for inclusive growth
- healthy, sustainable and stable society for human security
- strengthening connectivity for Africa and beyond.

TICAD remains an important strategic partnership of the African Union, with the potential to support African countries to industrialise their economies, create sustainable, inclusive growth and, with it, sustainable employment opportunities and a better future for their people, thus also having the potential to contribute significantly to fulfilling the aspirations of South Africa's National Development Plan priorities.

.....

SOUTH AFRICA SENDS CONDOLENCES TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC) FOLLOWING A ROAD DISASTER

The South African Government, on behalf of the people of South Africa, has conveyed a message of condolences to the Government and people of the DRC, and particularly to the families of all the victims of an oil tanker that collided with a vehicle on an arterial highway in the west of the DRC on Saturday, 6 October 2018.

It is reported that at least 60 people died and scores suffered serious burns following the accident that occurred on a highway linking the capital, Kinshasa, to the country's sole seaport at Matadi on the Atlantic Ocean.

The South African Government extends its condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in this tragic accident and further wishes the injured a speedy recovery.

SOUTH AFRICA SUPPORTS THE RELIEF AND RESCUE INITIATIVE BY THE SA NGO, GIFT OF THE GIVERS, OFFERED TO INDONESIA

The Government and people of South Africa wish to extend its sincere condolences to the Government and people of Indonesia as they are still battling the aftermath of the deadly earthquake and tsunami in the Central Sulawesi Island.



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 Government supports the work that the non-governmental organisation, Gift of the Givers, is doing in Indonesia to bring life-saving assistance during this time of need.

South Africa and Indonesia have strong historical and fraternal bonds based on a shared history that pre-dates the Bandung Conference of 1955.

The two countries maintain a strong and strategic bilateral relationship, which is a reflection of shared values and a common vision for the future.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION (DIRCO) WELCOMES THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ) ORDER ON IRAN

DIRCO welcomes the decision of the ICJ that has ordered the United States of America (USA) to ensure that sanctions against Republic of Iran do not affect humanitarian aid and civil aviation safety.

The ICJ, which is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations (UN), ordered the USA to remove any impediments to the free exportation to Iran of goods required for humanitarian assistance, as well as goods and services required for the safety of civil aviation.

Following its decision to withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) between the P5 + 1 and Iran, the USA reimposed sanctions against Iran, which had been lifted as a result of the JCPOA.



South Africa has previously expressed its concern on the decision by the US Government to withdraw from the JCPOA.

South Africa continues to maintain that the JCPOA, unanimously endorsed by the UN Security Council, was a major achievement for multilateral diplomacy and the peaceful resolution of conflict.

South Africa reiterates that the unravelling of the JCPOA could have unintended consequences for all parties involved and the broader international community. South Africa once again calls on all parties of the JCPOA to continue to honour their commitments under the agreement.

JAPAN A STRATEGIC INVESTOR FOR SA

Japan remains an important long-term investor in South Africa's economy, says the Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Bulelani Magwanishe.



"Japan has over the years invested in the automotive sector and information and communications technology (ICT) and as South Africa, we will continuously cooperate and work with them for future investments.

"With that said, there are still vast opportunities for them to invest and collaborate with us in productive sectors like energy, agro-processing, ICT and skills development," said Deputy Minister Magwanishe recently.

The Deputy Minister was speaking during a breakfast engagement with Japanese investors hosted on the sidelines of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) VII Ministerial Meeting in Tokyo.

Deputy Minister Magwanishe also congratulated Sumitomo rubber industries on the recent launch of their R970million truck and bus tyre plant in Ladysmith, KwaZulu-Natal. He also extended a congratulatory word on Tokyo Marine's acquisition of a 22.2% stake in South Africa's Hollard Insurance to the tune of R5 billion.

Furthermore, Deputy Minister Magwanishe invited potential investors to attend the planned Presidential Investment Conference that will take place later this month.

Last month, South Africa's Department of Trade and Industry (dti) led a week-long investment mission to the island nation. The mission was part of government's investment drive to attract \$100 billion worth of investments in the next five years. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

DEPUTY MINISTER MANAMELA VISITS BRICS FUTURE SKILLS EXPO IN MIDRAND

Deputy Minister Buti Manamela, as the champion for the BRICS Future Skills Competition, visited the expo on 3 October 2018.

The showcase included exhibits in data analytics, automation, industrial rob otics, drone technology as well as other future skills in engineering, transport, ICT and manufacturing.

The future skills challenge was designed for young innovators and entrepreneurs ranging from ages 18 to 35 from the five BRICS countries. The primary objective of the BRICS 2018 Future Skills Challenge was to highlight and promote future technologies and the changing skills required as the world prepares for the advent of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (commonly known as 4IR).



SAAT, ROLLS-ROYCE PARTNERSHIP TAKES OFF

The Department of Trade and Industry (dti) has welcomed British industrial technology company Rolls-Royce's partnership that will help deliver improved aircraft availability and skills.



Based at the South African Airways Technical (SAAT) premises at Johannesburg's OR Tambo International Airport, the facility is capable of storing a full range of Rolls-Royce engine types to meet the requirements of airline and business jet customers based or operating in Africa.

Speaking at the opening of the company's first lease engine storage facility in Africa, acting dti Deputy Director-General (DDG) responsible for industrial development, Thandi Phele, said the partnership between the company and SAAT was crucial.

Rolls-Royce is providing technical training to SAAT staff to enable them to conduct work on engines in storage. The long-term goal is for SAAT mechanics to be capable of performing a range of inspection and on-wing services to Rolls-Royce customers on the continent.

"This partnership between Rolls-Royce and SAAT is critical in many respects. It will not only allow SAAT the ability to store engines at this facility – in compliance with engine manual requirements of Rolls-Royce – but it will equip [SAAT] with the capability and capacity to offer technical support on a full range of Rolls-Royce engine types.

"[This will be in order] to meet the requirements of airline and jet customers based or operating in Africa. This is key for South Africa as an investment destination in Africa," said DDG Phele.

The partnership is supportive of not only South Africa's but also the African continent's economic development needs, DDG Phele said.

"We appreciate the training programme that will be provided to SAAT staff to enable them to conduct work on engines in storage, and in future will be capable of performing a range of inspection and on-wing services to Rolls-Royce customers in Africa."

He stressed that South Africa had a strong focus on improving investor and consumer confidence by fast-tracking structural reforms and higher levels of investment for economic growth.

This, she said, required partnerships between government, business and labour, which are critical in boosting investor confidence levels. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

LESOTHO HIGHLANDS PROJECT EMPOWERS BUILD COMPANIES



The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) has started a series of workshops to empower construction companies in South Africa.

The LHDA is the implementing agency of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP), a binational project between the governments of Lesotho and South Africa.

The agreement signed between the two governments sets out the structures that are required to implement the project on behalf of the two governments.

In a bid to improve compliance and participation in the LHWP works, the LHDA started a series of workshops with registered construction companies in Gauteng and Free State to explain the Procurement Framework of the LHWP Phase Two, and to share lessons learned from previous tender submissions.

According to the Department of Water and Sanitation, Phase Two will increase the current supply rate of 780 million cubic metres a year incrementally to more than 1,26 billion cubic metres a year.

"Phase Two of the LHWP will be implemented in terms of two distinct components: a water delivery system to augment the delivery of water to South Africa and a hydropower generation system, which will increase the current electricity generation capacity in Lesotho," the department explained.

The first workshop was held at the Bethlehem Town Hall in Free State and the second workshop at Floreat Hall in Bloemfontein.

Similar workshops will also be held at the Senate Hall of the University of South Africa on Friday and Duncan Hall in the Gauteng Legislature on Saturday. – SAnews.gov.za

ZEITZ MOCAA WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD

THE MEC of Economic Opportunities, Alan Winde, has congratulated Cape Town's Zeitz MOCAA, which has just won the award for overall Cultural Destination of the Year in the Leading Cultural Destinations Awards.



The museum, which is just over a year old, also won the award for new culture destination in Africa and the Middle East, while South Africa won for luxury destination of the year.

The awards, dubbed the Oscars of the museum



world, celebrates the world's best cultural destinations. The awards were held in London on Friday, 5 October 2018.

MEC Winde said: "The Zeitz MOCAA is a worthy winner of this award. This museum is unlike anything anywhere in the world and provides a unique focus on African art and celebrates its artists. As a tourist destination, it absolutely cannot be missed and the fact that the jury saw fit to name it as the cultural destination of the year just underlines this."

The awards' shortlist was drawn up earlier this year by a mixed group of experts, and the final winners decided on by the awards jury.

The jury is made up of international experts in areas ranging from the visual arts and architecture to gallery curators, designers and art historians.

The museum has racked up several awards since its opening, including the Cultural Architecture Category in the ArchDaily Building of the Year Awards; the Best New Public Building in the Wallpaper* Design Awards; and being named as one of *TIME* magazine's 100 World's Greatest Places of 2018.

KZN CLENCHES TOP SPOT AT WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS

The Zulu kingdom, KwaZulu-Natal, cemented its position as the darling of mega events' organisers when the City of Durban was announced as Africa's premier meetings and conference destination.



The City of Durban received the honours at the World Travel Awards held at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli ICC on Saturday evening, 6 October.

Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs MEC, Sihle Zikalala, received the award on behalf of the Provincial Government of KwaZulu-Natal.

"With this prestigious award which recognises the work done by our Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE), KwaZulu-Natal has once again reinforced its position as the world's mega events and tourism destination," said MEC Zikalala upon receiving this top drawer accolade.

"This recognition was also a solid acknowledgment of the never-ending excellent service that tourism players offer to the province's guests and delegates when hosting international events.

"We are humbled by the increased confidence that the world continues to show in KwaZulu-Natal. We have in the recent past successfully hosted mega events such as the World Economic Forum on Africa, Telecom World Conference, World AIDS Congress, Tourism Indaba, to mention but a few," said the MEC.

The province planned on using the high-profile gatherings as vehicles to attract the attention of potential investors and tourists essential in growing the economy to scale down the current high levels of joblessness and poverty, MEC Zikalala said.

"The current estimates are that, over the next three years, the total direct impact from our MICE will be in the region of R1,1 billion.

"Tourism KwaZulu-Natal is on an aggressive campaign to increase the number of international tourists. This campaign to grow international tourists was bearing fruits.

"The latest statistics reveal that some 2 000 more international tourists arrived via King Shaka International Airport in the first three months of the year compared to the same period last year," he said.

MEC Zikalala said there had been an increase in more airlines flying directly into KwaZulu-Natal.

At the end of October, British Airways will also fly directly from Heathrow King Shaka International Airport.

- Source: SAnews.gov.za

SOWETO LIGHT SHINES ON BROADWAY AS "THE LION KING" HITS NEW YORK

When the curtain lifts at the Minskoff Theatre in New York, Tshidi Manye's voice sweeps over 1 600 people, leaving barely a dry eye in the house.



In character as the oracle Rafiki, Manye has opened the hit musical, *The Lion King*, with the song *The Circle of Life*, on Broadway – New York's theatre district – since 2004.

"Adults are the first to cry when that curtain goes up and I start singing," she told *City Press* in the theatre's foyer recently.

The 51-year-old actress was raised in Mofolo in Soweto, the daughter of Clifford Manye and Thandi Zulu, a famous playwright.

As a child, she sang in her mother's plays and in church, not dreaming her talent would be her ticket to a redcarpet life on the other side of the world.

"Growing up, I wanted to be a social worker. I love helping people, making people feel comfortable," she says.

Now, through her voice, Africa comes alive on a New York stage to standing ovations six nights a week.

Earlier this year, industry newsletter *The Wrap* announced *The Lion King* was Broadway's highest-grossing production, with earnings of \$1,48 billion (R21,8 billion). Based on the 1994 Disney animated film – with music by composer Lebo M, Elton John and Hans Zimmer – the award-winning musical features five of South Africa's official languages.

It was third time lucky for Manye, who auditioned for The Lion King three times.

"At the audition for Rafiki, I had butterflies in my stomach; I left the room feeling so embarrassed. But as I was leaving I saw Lebo M and he said to me, 'You did a great job, you did an amazing job!" she says.

Although Manye has lived in the United States of America for the past 13 years, she still calls Johannesburg "home". She and her 22-year-old son Mpho visit family in Joburg and Durban whenever time allows.

2018 SADC GAMES HELD

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) hosted the 2018 South African Development Community (SADC) Intra-Regional Sports Tournament on Saturday, 6 October 2018.



The SADC Tournament is one of the flagship wellness activity events that DIRCO participates in annually in the different sporting codes (male and female soccer, volleyball, tennis, netball, athletics, pool and chess).

This annual tournament contributes towards the consolidation of regional integration through cultural and sports diplomacy, as well as strengthening the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation among the SADC countries. The DIRCO team competed against Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho on the day.

LE CLOS BAGS FOUR MEDALS IN BUDAPEST BOUNTY

Chad le Clos completed another successful FINA Swimming World Cup Meeting, winning four medals at the Budapest leg over the weekend.

The four-time Olympic medallist won two gold medals and two silvers in a repeat of the Eindhoven leg from a week ago.

Le Clos posted the slowest time in the heats session of the 200-m butterfly, but that did little to hold him back in the final as he led from start to finishing, touching first in a time of 1:50.29.

Japan's Daiya Seto gained on the South African over the final 50m of the race, but had to be content with the silver, clocking 1:51.01, with countryman Yuya Yajima (1:51.80) bagging bronze.



Le Clos kicked off the gala on a golden note when he won the 100-m butterfly in 49.22 ahead of France's Mehdy Metella in 49.71 and Brazil's Nicholas Santos in 50.12, while Ryan Coetzee finished in eighth place clocking 51.54.

Brad Tandy also stepped onto the podium on the opening night claiming bronze in the 50-m freestyle final in 21.06 behind Russia's Vladimir Morozov in 20.51 and Great Britain's Ben Proud in 20.89.

On the final night of the gala, Le Clos was denied the butterfly treble finishing second in the 50-m race. Santos smashed the world record in the 50-m butterfly, posting a time of 21.75 with Le Clos touching behind him in 22.11, while Kosuke Matsui finished third in 22.62. Coetzee missed out on a podium place finishing fifth in 22.73.

In his final race of the night, Le Clos finished second in the 200-m freestyle in 1:42.78 with the United States' Blake Pieroni beating him to the wall in 1:42.00 with Morozov rounding off the podium in 1:43.01.

The FINA Swimming World Cup will move to Beijing between 2 to 4 November for the start of the third and final cluster. – Source: <u>www.sport24.co.za</u>

SCHLEBUSCH STRIKES FIRST GOLD FOR TEAM SA

Amber Schlebusch staged an exceptional comeback and won the first gold medal for Team South Africa in the women's triathlon at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires.

After a poor start, Schlebusch struggled at the back of the field in the first two segments but moved up through the pack, overtaking race leaders Sif Bendix Madsen from Denmark and Switzerland's Anja Weber to win the title.

The 17-year-old from Durban began the race with a weak swimming opening leg, leaving the water in seventh position and 27 seconds behind the leaders.

Schlebusch then struggled to catch the leaders, and was stuck in eighth place during the bike section.

She ended the cycling leg of the competition in eighth, and almost a minute behind Madsen, who led going into the run.



Schlebusch trailed in third after the first of two laps of the final segment but ran each circuit 30 seconds faster than her Danish rival and almost 60 seconds faster than the Swiss.

"It was a bad swim but then I caught up on the run," she said. "I'm really, really happy to end up feeling really strong."

Schlebusch eventually caught Weber and then Madsen and was near tears as she crossed the finish line 11 seconds ahead of the latter. "Now I can say I'm a Youth Olympic champion. It's a pretty good title to have so I'm really stoked," she said. "I'm in disbelief right now." – Source: www.teamsa.co.za



For back issues of Newsflash, visit: http://www.dirco.gov.za/department/newsflash.html

Editor: Delien Burger Picture Editor: Yolande Snyman Design and layout: Delien Burger