A chance meeting with the Consuls General of Brazil and Russia (BRICS) and the Honorary Consul of Botswana (SADC) a little over a year ago has, at the behest of CG Ndaba, culminated with the inauguration of both the BRICS and SADC Chapters in our area of accreditation. Issues discussed at both events ranged from solidarity with Africa in general and South Africa in particular and so was the state of world economy (global recovery or lack thereof), downward spiral of crude oil prices, unilateral punitive sanctions imposed on a fellow-BRICS country, cultural issues, sports the upcoming 2018 World Cup to be hosted by Russia and cuisine.

Photo above (l-r): CG Amb. Eduardo Prisco Ramos (Brazil); CG Sergey Petrov (Russia); CG Amb. Venkatesan Ashok (India); CG Amb. Luo Linquan (China) and CG Ndaba (South Africa). The standing line is in the BRICS formation.
Also discussed was the Chinese-led Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), the BRICS-led New Development Bank and the current stand-off between RSA and the US on the latter’s threat to wean the former from AGOA because of the US’s poultry exports dispute with the RSA. The Russian Consul General hosted the dinner at his residence and so did the Honorary Consul of Botswana host lunch at his own residence in San Francisco. Developments in Africa, South Africa and in our sub-region took center stage and will become a standard item for discussion whenever each grouping meets at pre-determined dates mutually-convenient to all BRICS and SADC partners.
Top Photo (l-r) CG Ndaba and the Honorary Consul of Mauritius, Mr Jitu Somaya at the launch of the SADC Chapter in the West Coast

Photo (l-r): Ms Carla Thorson (Snr. VP: Programs World Affairs Council); Ms Tarisai Garande (VP: African Technology Foundation); CG Ndaba; Dr Martha Saavedra (Associate Director at the Center for African Studies- University of California Berkley) at the inauguration of the SADC Chapter in the West Coast

Photo (l-r): Consul-General Ndaba and Mr. Charles Frankel, Honorary Consul of Botswana
Consul-General Ndaba pictured signing the visitors book at the Honorary Consulate of Tanzania in San Rafael on 18 March 2015

Photo taken at the Inauguration of the Honorary Consul of Tanzania, Mr. Ahmed Issa in the presence of Tanzanian President, Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete

Photo (above) taken in the recently opened Honorary Consulate of Tanzania in the Bay area. Consul-General Ndaba had spent much time since, June 2012 supporting the Honorary Consul of Tanzania, Mr. Ahmed Issa and introducing him to useful interlocutors in the L.A, Bay area, Sacramento and the Washington State. The Consul-General continues doing so each time he visits the Bay Area. (l-r) Mr. Ahmed Issa, Honorary Consul of Tanzania, Consul-General Ndaba, Mr. Thomas Binamo, Exec. Director of the Honorary Consulate of Tanzania

Consul-General Ndaba pictured signing the visitors book at the Honorary Consulate of Tanzania in San Rafael on 18 March 2015
As the clock ticks marking the numbered days of my posting in Los Angeles, our Mission is heartened by the positive responses it is receiving from our interlocutors on the West Coast re: our efforts to place RSA, SADC, Trilateral Free Trade Agreement (TLFTA) and the overall African Agenda 2063 on the map of our area of accreditation on the West Coast. Of interest to our audiences, is our approach to would-be-investors and venture capitalists with the accentuation of “formation of smart partnerships” between business entities in South Africa, Africa in its entirety and those on the West Coast. In this effort we have attracted African American Chambers of Commerce, Academic Institutions, Centers of African Studies spread along the West Coast.

The Mission has witnessed a sudden surge in the interest on developments in South Africa and Africa. One can venture to say that this appetite from our interlocutors was triggered in the first instance, by this Mission’s introduction of the celebration of the Africa Day on 25 May 2011 as an awareness drive on our part to sensitize the West Coast about the positive developments taking place in the Continent. The inaugural event in 2011 was followed hot on the heels by our celebration of the official induction of the 6th region of the AU (African Americans and the Caribbean Community) on 25 May 2012. We further attracted more interest when our Mission on 25 May 2013 hosted the 50th anniversary of the founding of the erstwhile OAU and now the AU. The Mission also celebrated last year’s Africa Day in Portland (Oregon) which we tagged onto a Celebrate Trade event that was attended by Governor John Kietzhaber of Oregon and Mayor of Portland Charlie Hales on 19 May 2014.

Mission further prides itself of having led in the inauguration of both the BRICS and SADC Chapters on the West Coast which all happened from 17-19 of March 2015.

Regards,

Consul-General Ndaba
COSAS, Committee for South African Solidarity hosted a farewell party for Consul-General Ndaba in March 2015. Nearly a hundred friends and supporters of COSAS work in South Africa attended this event which was marked by speeches, poetry and music.

Photo (l-r): CG Ndaba pictured with his friends the Reverend Victor Medearis, 94 years and Mr. Alden Bryant, 92 years. Both attended the farewell function.

Photo (l-r): CG Ndaba flanked by Rev. & Mrs. Moonsamy both South Africans resident in Oakland during the farewell function held by COSAS and Friends of South Africa.

Above Photo (Far Right): Mr. Sagie Govender, Founder, Committee for South African Solidarity, COSAS.

Photo (l-r): CG Ndaba pictured singing with his friend Mr. Alden Bryant at the farewell function. Both were singing the song titled “Joe Hill”. Joe Hill was a trade unionist who was executed by the state of Utah which had outlawed Union activism in that state.
Dr. Fred Jordan, President of the SAN Francisco African-American Chamber of Commerce paying tribute to his long-time friend, CG Ndaba. The SFAACC received the former Deputy President, Jacob Zuma in 2007 before his election as the President of the ANC in Polokwane.

CG Ndaba with Mr. Clifton Cooper Vice President of the NAACP Chapter in the Bay Area.

Pictured Above (l-r): Former union Activist, Mr. Alden Bryant, CG Ndaba and the President of the SFAACC, Dr. Fred Jordan at the farewell function in honor of the CG.
Photo above & left: CG Ndaba pictured with one of the Math & Science young teachers from South Africa.

Teach with Africa continues its Math and Science projects in South Africa which benefits both students and teachers in these gateway subjects.

Attending a gala dinner held in San Francisco on 19 arch 2015 to raise funds for the Teach with Africa projects in South Africa. A whooping amount of $300,000 was raised at this event.
A local Bay Area choir performing amongst others (below), the national anthem of South Africa “Nkosi Sikelel iAfrika” at the gala dinner hosted by Teach With Africa (TWA) and graced by the attendance of Consul-General Ndaba.

Photo taken (right) with Ms. Jena Dominguez at the gala dinner held in San Francisco on 19 March 2015.

(Below) CG poses with yet another Teach with Africa beneficiary in the latter’s program in South Africa.
Commitments for **Sponsorships** pouring in thick and fast for an Africa event now set for August 2015

Through the diligence of the Consul-General the project has almost run full circle and is ready to be handed over to the African Diaspora leaders that had entrusted the CG with this task.

Pledges of sponsorship and support for the envisaged event has been coming in thick and fast from financial institutions, African Chambers of Commerce, Centers of African Studies, Institutions of Higher Learning and Organizations involved in Trade and Investments on the West Coast.

In November 2014, an assignment was bestowed unto the Consul-General to help reconfigure the format and content of the Africa related events on the West Coast and the formation of the smart partnerships between entities on the West Coast and those in South Africa/Southern Africa and the two other Regional African Economic Communities, the EAC and COMESA.
Sponsorships continued

The CG has in the meantime secured financial commitment and sponsorships for the upcoming event from an Arizona Beauty products multi-national company, SEACRET which uses minerals from the Dead Sea to make its products. Also in the bag are commitments of support from the Africa Investment Fund, Mr Joe Sive, the Investment arm of the Standard Bank of South Africa based in New York, Mr Mark Chiaviello and the Meryl Lynch Group through its Senior Vice President, Mr Gilbert Tong and his Associate and Financial Advisor, Mr Mathew Howley.

Photo (l-r): Mr. Michael DeRenzo of the US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)

Mr. DeRenzo is the Regional Director for Southern Africa. USTDA will sponsor in-kind for the upcoming event.
Ms. Flowers is also the Treasurer of the District Export council of Southern California. Her event, similar to the objective of the Consul-General’s reconfiguring the content and the format of the Africa Day event, are two sides of the same coin. Hence, the Consul-General’s contribution to the latter fits hand in glove with hers. Therefore, the handover to her event would be a logical and workable conclusion and RSA’s contribution to marketing South Africa within the context of Regional integration.

A meeting between the two was held at the Consulate on 27 April 2015 at the behest of Consul-General Ndaba.
“Professor “Hal” Walker’s contributions to the Project Apollo XI enabled both the late astronaut Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldren to become the first and second men to walk on the surface of the moon. At the command of our late, beloved icon ‘Madiba’, the husband and wife team has, since 1998, been launching and running STEM projects in South Africa. They now enjoy permanent residency status in RSA.

~C.G. Ndaba
A Gugulethu young man (pictured with donated laptop) is congratulated by Gugulethu student whom the Walkers assisted in spending 2 weeks at JPL/ NASA on the Mars Rover Project. She returned from the U.S. highly motivated and graduated with honors in Geology from Western Cape University.

Dr. Bettye Walker visits the Aids Creche in Du Noon with Donation from the Inglewood Rotary Club
Pictured below: Prof. Hal & Dr. Bettye were guest speakers at the Afrika Tikkum Student Center in Diepsloot.

Prof Walker is the Founding President of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Cape Town, S.A.

Pictured below: Dr. Bettye & Prof. Hal Walker Award Head Boy at Parklands College.

The Walkers made a request to the Head Boy at Parklands College to assist one of the township schools where they donate their work. He assisted in making a film clip which was sent to the Walkers for their students in America to add their film showing students reaching across the Globe.

Pictured below: Dr. Bettye Walker International Women’s History Day Speaker, Cape Town, S. A.
Walkers lead Ribbon Cutting in Cape Town, SA
Computer Literacy Lab Donation from Inglewood Rotary Club.

The Walkers share thoughts with an elementary principal in Cape Town.

Prof. Walker is the Guest Speaker at the Awards Assembly at Oude Molen Science School.
The Mission has been working closely with Mrs. Ursula Sjooroos and the San Diego Zoo on various projects such as “Save the Rhino” and the proposed Research Institute in KwaZulu-Natal.

The research facility will be committed to generating, sharing, and applying scientific knowledge vital to the conservation of animals, plants and habitats in the region. Multidisciplinary scientists will be posted in different areas within this region to carry out studies vital to the conservation of animals, plants and habitats.

Their approach is to first identify the most significant problems for conservation and restoration of endangered species and apply the most innovative and creative science possible to solving them.

They will initially follow programs developed by the research from the San Diego Zoo; however, we envision a center that would bring in researchers, professors, and students from countries around the globe.

The Research Institute will include the following programs:

- Applied Animal Ecology
- Applied Plant Ecology
- Behavioral Ecology
- Conservation Education
- Genetics
- Reproductive Physiology
- Wildlife Disease Laboratories
- Conservation Partnership Development
Author, Academic and Motivational speaker, Mr. Mark Mathabane (2nd from the left) with a team of financiers for the filming of his book, “The Kaffir Boy” to be shot in South Africa in October 2015

Messrs. MK Khothule, CG Ndaba and Mr. Barry Horowitz, a consultant for the Port of Portland

Honorary Consul of Zambia, Mr. Robert Sichinga with CG Ndaba

(Photo on the Left)
CG Ndaba with Mr. Mark Mathabane

(Below): CG Ndaba with LA Lawyer Mr. James Wohl, Esq
Interactions

L.A. Mission

With friends of South Africa Medical Group on 9 April 2015. This is a group made up of Health Professionals in Private Practice that met on this day to raise funds to build a hospital in Yaounde, Cameroon

Photo (l-r): Mr. John Gilmour, Founder & Exec. Director LEAP Science & Math Schools in RSA, CG Ndaba and two participants

With Ms. Babalwa Rasane, Host/Producer of Spotlight on Africa & Life and Times

(Please on the above) With Commissioner Loretta Smith of the County of Multnomah

Farewell lunch in honor of CG Ndaba hosted by Mr. John Blackwell (right), Dean of the Consular Corp in Portland