

The Eternal Flame, Freedom Park, Pretoria. Freedom Park is a centre of knowledge aimed at deepening the understanding of the nation. It strives to accommodate all of the country's experiences and symbols to tell one coherent story. In its heart burns the Eternal Flame, surrounded by tranquil water, where visitors can pause to give thanks to those who shaped the country's history.

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South Africa's Public Diplomacy in action

credits

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ON THE COVER

The copper statue of Oliver Reginald (OR) Tambo at the National Heritage Monument, Groenkloof Nature Reserve, Pretoria. Struggle veterans from different cultural backgrounds and all walks of life feature there. OR Tambo (27 October 1917 – 24 April 1993) played a major role in the growth and development of the international movement of solidarity against racism and apartheid. He, among other things, established the first missions of the liberation movement in Egypt, Morocco, Ghana and the United Kingdom. This was a modest start to bring the friends of South Africa together throughout the world in a continuous and sustained mobilisation of the international community in support of a free and democratic South Africa. The Head Office of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation in Pretoria is named after this icon. To this day, his values of Patriotism, Integrity, Humility and Passion guide the work of the department. The year 2017 marks the centenary of OR Tambo.

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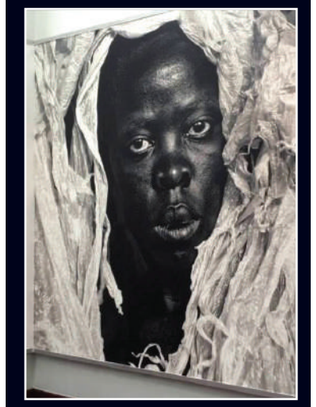
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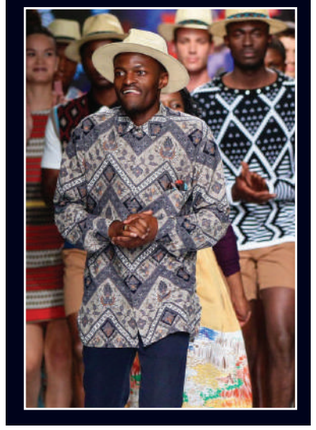
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This is the first issue of *Ubuntu* Magazine since the successfully held local government elections on 3 August 2016. The elections were a further demonstration of South Africa's maturing and vibrant constitutional democracy. President Jacob Zuma rightly pointed out during his announcement of the election results that: "You have shown the world that South Africa is a thriving democracy where differences of political opinion and diverse political preferences are allowed to flourish".

On 31 August 2016, the Cabinet Lekgotla appraised progress on the execution of key government programmes aimed at addressing the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality. We are satisfied with the focussed endeavours which have contributed to increased foreign direct investment into South Africa, considering the turbulent global economic environment and persistent sluggish growth.

The Lekgotla also directed that we accelerate the implementation of the Nine-Point Plan and the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) will contribute towards the successful implementation of the identified 40 high-impact investment projects covering areas such as agriculture and agro-processing, agri-parks, energy, infrastructure, beneficiation and the manufacturing subsector.

Our domestic imperatives are linked to the development aspirations of the southern African region, the continent and the global South. At regional level, we participated in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit on 31 August 2016 in the Kingdom of Swaziland. The theme of the summit was: "Resource Mobilisation for Investment in Sustainable Energy Infrastructure for Inclusive SADC Industrialisation for the Prosperity of the Region". We recommitted ourselves to further enhance regional economic integration while building and strengthening the region's manufacturing capacity through industrialisation, among others. The leadership of the region demonstrated their confidence in South Africa by affording us an opportunity to once again chair the SADC from August 2017.

> The leadership of the region demonstrated their confidence in South Africa by affording us an opportunity to once again chair the Southern African Development Community (SADC) from August 2017.

We need to fast-track the implementation of the SADC-Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa-East African Community Tripartite Free Trade Agreement. This will propel us to finalise negotiations for the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) by 2017 as decided by the Johannesburg African Union (AU) Summit, held in June 2015. This matter was further discussed in detail during the July 2016 AU Summit in Kigali, Rwanda, which was held under the theme: "African Year of Human Rights with a Particular Focus on Women".

The continent's leadership reaffirmed their previous decision to fast-track the establishment of the CFTA and established a high-level panel comprising five eminent persons from various regions to champion the processes. We all agree that our people have a right to economic development and as such they will be afforded the necessary opportunities to realise their prosperity.

It was also heartening to witness, during the summit, the launch of the African Passport. We believe that this is a critical step forward in promoting the free movement of persons and goods and services within the continent. We have to find ways and means of issuing these passports without compromising national security and related policies.

The Kigali Summit also conducted an election of the AU Commission Chair and other commissioners. This election was inconclusive, resulting in the extension of the current Commission Chair, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, until January 2017. We commend Dr Dlamini Zuma and the commission for the sterling work during their tenure. The AU undertook robust consultations with the continent's citizenry that culminated in the development and adoption of Agenda 2063 vision and trajectory. This developmental path has been embraced by our people and developmental partners. During her tenure, Dr Dlamini Zuma ensured that the AU embraced the spirit of self-reliance, including working towards raising its own sufficient funds for programme implementation. It is therefore incumbent on us to continue championing the African Agenda as well as ensuring sustained effective and efficient running of the continent's affairs.

> South Africa remains committed to the fight against impunity and to hold those who have committed crimes against humanity and other serious crimes accountable. We will continue to actively promote dialogue and the peaceful resolution of conflicts on the African continent and elsewhere.

We will focus our energy on strengthening continental institutions to effectively implement our collective AU decisions. This should be an integral part of the AU's transformative agenda, which is currently at an advanced stage.

Particular attention will be paid to strengthening the African Court on People and Human Rights. This organ has an increased mandate and jurisdiction that can enable us to deal with issues of impunity and access to justice without over-reliance on the international system.

In this regard, the South African Government's decision to withdraw from the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court was not taken lightly.

It was taken after weighing all the factors and making attempts to find solutions within the Assembly of States Parties, which did not succeed. South Africa remains committed to the fight against impunity and to hold those who have committed crimes against humanity and other serious crimes accountable.

We will continue to actively promote dialogue and the peaceful resolution of conflicts on the African continent and elsewhere.

The continent continues to be afflicted by conflict, which has the potential to reverse our collective gains in countries such as Libya, South Sudan, Somalia, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Despite these challenges, Africa has made remarkable strides to entrench peace, stability, democracy and good governance. The culture of peaceful transfer of political power has taken root in our continent as witnessed by the conduct of regular elections. It is therefore encouraging that Africans continue to demonstrate interest in the conduct and the outcomes of elections, thereby actively participating in the management of their affairs.

We remain committed to pursue the African Agenda in our international engagements with partners in the world.

Thus, during our participation in the G20 Summit, which took place from 3 to 5 September 2016 in China, we ensured that the interests and the aspirations of the African people were placed on the agenda of this forum. The focus of the G20 Summit was on the improvement of global and economic governance and increased international trade and investment. President Zuma utilised the occasion to call for support for Africa's industrialisation and continental integration programmes, among others.

We must continue to strengthen relations with countries of the North individually and collectively within the ambit of the European Union (EU).

We will thoroughly assess the impact of Brexit on the EU as a bloc and its relations with the continent and the entire global South. We cannot turn a blind eye to the challenges facing the EU, particularly the management of the influx of people into the region.

We must find ways to resolve issues that compel citizens to leave their birthplaces in search of better lives in the Northern Hemisphere.

It is against this background that we must strengthen the existing alternative forums in order to pursue our national priorities, the African Agenda and Agenda of the South. In this regard, our engagements in formations such as Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) are yielding positive results. Similarly, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation has proven to be key in addressing continental aspirations.

President Zuma led a delegation to the 71st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 71) Meeting in New York from 20 to 26 September 2016, held under the theme: "The Sustainable Development Goals: A Universal Push to Transform our World". During this session, world leaders adopted the New York Declaration, which expresses the political will and commitment to protect the rights of refugees and migrants.

The commitments pave the way to negotiations aimed at an international conference and the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration in 2018.

Our country once again reiterated its call for the strengthening of the institutions of global governance, including the UN, specifically the Security Council (UNSC), and advocated for the urgent reform of these institutions with the aim of correcting the historical injustice against Africa reflected in outdated structures.

We congratulate the new UN Secretary-General, former Prime Minister of Portugal, António Guterres. We hope that he will assist us in embarking on tangible reforms of the global system, particularly the transformation of the UNSC. South Africa's Ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Governor to the Board of the IAEA, Tebogo Seokolo, was on 3 October 2016, elected to serve as its Chair for the period October 2016 to October 2017.

The last time South Africa chaired the IAEA Board was in 1959.

Ambassador Seokolo's election is an affirmation of South Africa's leadership role on the world stage in general and specifically on matters of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

From 17 to 21 October, DIRCO hosted the biennial Heads of Mission (HoM) Conference at its head office in Pretoria.

The conference brought together the heads of South Africa's diplomatic missions abroad to assess national, regional, continental and global trends and dynamics and determine a strategy to be implemented in line with South Africa's foreign policy's vision and mission.

It was a significant week where we deliberated our international relations engagements with a view to further enhance our foreign policy contribution towards addressing domestic imperatives.

The conference lived up to its theme of moving South Africa forward through diplomacy and we, as South African diplomats, reaffirmed our commitment to serve the South African citizenry towards achieving a Better South Africa, a Better Africa in a Better World.

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation
Maite Nkoana-Mashabane



The Women’s Living Heritage Monument, unveiled on Women's Day, 9 August 2016, on Lillian Ngoyi Square in Pretoria, commemorates the story of women’s contribution to the liberation struggle and features the heroic stalwarts, Lillian Ngoyi, Sophia Williams de Bruyn, Helen Joseph and Rahima Moosa. The four women led a peaceful protest march to the Union Buildings in 1956, with thousands of women from all parts of the country. The Women’s Living Heritage Monument also has a leadership development and training centre and dedicated walls for murals, artworks and artefacts. These tell the story of women’s struggles covering more than a hundred years.

Publisher's note



At the end of September 2016, the results of the World Economic Forum (WEF) *Global Competitiveness Index* demonstrated the great strides South Africa had made in various areas. The results showed that South Africa improved by two places, following an improvement of seven places in 2015. More impressive, however, was that South Africa improved in 10 of the 12 areas assessed by the WEF.

These included goods and market efficiency, labour market efficiency, macro-economic environment, infrastructure, innovation, higher education, health and primary education, business sophistication, financial market development and technological readiness.

Most noteworthy were growth by 10 positions in goods and market efficiency and labour market efficiency and by six positions in macro-economic environment and higher education and training, out of 138 countries.

There are more good South African stories like this and we need to tell them.

This was but one of the messages to South Africa's Heads of Mission (HoM) during their biennial conference, held at the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) head office, the OR Tambo Building, in Pretoria from 17 to 21 October. The building was aptly named after Oliver Reginald (OR) Tambo during its opening in 2009, as a demonstration of the respect and appreciation for the role he played in driving the agenda of a non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and prosperous South Africa.

OR Tambo shaped the foreign policy of the democratic South Africa and laid a firm foundation as the foremost diplomat and face of the African National Congress during the most difficult time in our history. Therefore, DIRCO annually celebrates October as OR Tambo Month.

During the conference, President Jacob Zuma urged the HoM to "internalise the ideals of OR and build a South Africa that prioritises unity, justice and respect for democracy, equality and the human rights of all".

"Be inspired by OR as you make your contribution in building a prosperous South Africa, which makes meaningful progress in the fight against poverty, inequality and unemployment."

President Zuma also called on the HoM to keep the country brand alive and visible everywhere.

"You are our foremost marketing and promotion officers. You need to continue to position our country positively and help us to grow the economy through global economic partnerships."

During the week, the Excellencies were exposed to a township tourism experience in Mamelodi. Mamelodi ya Tshwane, initially known as Vlakfontein, may not be as well-known as more famous townships such as Soweto and Alexandra, but it shares the same pulsing vitality and struggle history.

Hosting the event, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, said: "Township tourism has the potential to provide economic opportunities for local entrepreneurs to enter the tour-operating business.

"This can help overcome the legacy of social and economic exclusion, which has for too long characterised township life.

"We have agreed to work closely with government agencies tasked with promoting South Africa abroad. We need to include our townships in the discussions."

More good news to talk about:

The leadership of the southern African region has demonstrated their confidence in South Africa by affording us an opportunity to once again chair the Southern African Development Community from August 2017.

South Africa's Ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Governor to the Board of the IAEA, Tebogo Seokolo, was on 3 October 2016, elected to serve as its Chair for the period October 2016 to October 2017.

The last time South Africa chaired the IAEA Board was in 1959.

The Vienna-based IAEA was established in 1957 with South Africa as one of its founders. It currently comprises 171 member states. South Africa is highly regarded by IAEA member states due to the development of its peaceful nuclear programme.

South Africa is currently serving as Vice Chair and will assume the position of Chair of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) from October 2017 to October 2019.

South Africa views the IORA as the pre-eminent regional organisation linking Africa, the Middle East and Asia via the Indian Ocean.

On 28 October, South Africa was re-elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council by obtaining 178 out of 193 votes – the second-highest of all African states and the third-highest overall. The term of the 14 newly elected members commenced on 1 January 2017 until the end of 2019.

The successful hosting of the Annual Diplomatic Fair by DIRCO and Proudly South African at the Union Buildings on 29 October 2016 in Pretoria served as a key platform to educate the general public about diplomacy and South Africa's foreign policy objectives.

The event brought together embassies, high commissions and international organisations accredited to South Africa to showcase and promote cultural diplomacy through creative expressions such as arts, music and cuisine from around the world. Over 60 diplomatic missions and several private businesses showcased their products and opportunities this year.

On 11 February 2017, DIRCO will once again Celebrate Excellence in Diplomacy through the Ubuntu Awards.

The awards, launched in 2015, celebrate South African citizens who play an active role in projecting a positive image of South Africa internationally.

Through excellence in their chosen fields, these proud South Africans serve as global ambassadors of our nation.

One of the 2016 winners, South African gold medalist Wayde van Niekerk, was named Male Athlete of the Olympic Games by the Association of National Olympic Committee's Awards which were held in Doha, and was also named Sportsman of the Year and Sport Star of the Year at the South African Sports Awards in November 2016.

The awards will be held under the theme: "OR Tambo … in his footsteps". For more information, go to www.ubuntuawards.co.za.

Former President Nelson Mandela reminded us that OR's ideals can never die when he said: "... Oliver Tambo has not died because the ideals of freedom, human dignity and a colour-blind respect for every individual cannot perish".

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The late Fidel Castro fought for our freedom

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

Relations between South Africa and Cuba are historic. They were forged in the common struggle against apartheid and colonialism on the continent.

South Africa has joined the world in mourning and celebrating the life of one of the greatest heroes of the 20th century, former President Fidel Castro, who passed away, aged 90, on 25 November 2016.

Comrade President Fidel Castro has left his mark in history as a renowned internationalist and anti-imperialist, who selflessly supported the struggles of the oppressed and the exploited. He stood in solidarity with liberation movements in Africa, supporting our struggle for liberation and independence, including the international campaign to isolate the apartheid regime.

Relations between South Africa and Cuba are historic. They were forged in the common struggle against apartheid and colonialism on the continent.

The victory of the Cuban/People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) forces, fighting side by side with the liberation forces against the apartheid South African Defence Force at the battle of Cuito Cuanavale in southern Angola in 1988, paved the way for the independence of Namibia in 1990.

South Africa's first democratically elected President, Nelson Mandela, acknowledged that the Cuban military victory at Cuito Cuanavale marked "the turning point for the liberation of our continent – and of my people – from the scourge of apartheid".

Following South Africa's democratic transition, South Africa and Cuba established formal diplomatic relations on 15 May 1994 and opened resident embassies in Pretoria (1994) and Havana (1995), respectively.

In 2009, former President Castro was honoured by South Africa on two occasions, namely the Order of the Companions of OR Tambo, as well as the Ubuntu Award by the National Heritage Council.

In South Africa's hour of bereavement, when former President Mandela passed away on 5 December 2013, Cuba sent a high-level delegation to the country, presided over by President Raul Castro, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and President of the Councils of State, and ministers to attend the memorial service. :

The bestowal of the Order of Jose Marti on President Jacob Zuma in 2009 during his State Visit to Cuba reflected the depth of friendship and ties between the two countries. The same honour had previously been bestowed on Presidents Mandela and Thabo Mbeki during their respective state visits to Cuba.

In 2012, South Africa bestowed the Order of OR Tambo on the Cuban Communist Party veteran and internationalist, Professor Jorge Risquet, for his sterling contribution to the anti-apartheid struggle and the international peace negotiations that followed after the ceasefire agreement in Angola. Professor Risquet passed away in 2015.

South Africa-Cuba relations were thus established long ago between the then liberation movement, the African National Congress, and the Government and Communist Party of Cuba. The pre-1994 support given for the liberation of South Africa included the education of South African students.

Many South Africans carried Cuban passports to facilitate international travel.

We must endeavour to take forward the ideals that late former President Castro espoused: internationalism, freedom, equality, justice and a better and more just world.

Cuba has, therefore, been the backbone of the South African liberation despite its many own challenges.

After 1994, Cuba was one of the first to offer material and human resource support.

The success of South Africa's political bilateral and multilateral relations could, therefore, be measured in the extent of the numerous development programmes, cooperation projects as well as the strong political and social solidarity and support that exist between our two countries and peoples.

Cuba has become an established strategic partner for South Africa in the Latin American region and within multilateral fora.

Cultural and historical ties, as well as shared struggles and common aspirations create the basis for a strong bond of solidarity between Cuba and South Africa and the continent of Africa.

The past 22 years of diplomatic relations between South Africa and Cuba have been marked by robust and constructive interactions at both bilateral and multilateral level.

In addition, Cuba has enjoyed the unequivocal support of South Africa in the United Nations General Assembly, where South Africa voted in favour of a call to lift the United States-imposed economic, commercial and financial blockade against Cuba.

There are over 30 signed bilateral agreements in place between the two countries, covering vast areas of cooperation; for example, education, science and technology, agriculture, health services, housing and water and sanitation.

Cooperation is highest in the areas of health, human settlements and public works.

The year 2016 marked the 20th Anniversary of the arrival of the first batch of Cuban doctors in South Africa.

Under the auspices of the 2012 Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Public Health and Medical Sciences, almost 3 000 South African students are currently receiving medical training in Cuba.

Meanwhile, 36 Cuban engineers are currently working in South Africa under the auspices of the South Africa-Cuba Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Water Resource Management and Water Supply, signed on 9 September 2013.

We must endeavour to take forward the ideals that late former President Castro espoused: internationalism, freedom, equality, justice and a better and more just world.



Multilateralism and South Africa's foreign policy

> The outcomes of multilateral discussions should be fair and balanced and benefit all. In addition to the themes of representivity and legitimacy, this is our vision of an ideal multilateral system.

By Ambassador Mxolisi Nkosi
Chief Operations Officer, Department of International Relations and Cooperation

South Africa's foreign policy can be situated within the theoretical framework of internationalism, which advocates for greater political and economic cooperation among nations and peoples of the world. This strand of international relations theory enjoins the people of the world to unite across national, political, cultural, racial and class boundaries to advance their common interests, and the governments of the world to cooperate because their mutual long-term interests are of greater importance than narrowly defined national interests.

In the South African context, this theoretical perspective can be linked to the political declaration made at the seminal congress of the people in Kliptown, Soweto, in 1955, which adopted the Freedom Charter. Under the rubric, "There shall be peace and friendship", the Freedom Charter declares: "South Africa shall strive to maintain world peace and the settlement of international disputes by negotiation – not war". In an article published in *Foreign Affairs* magazine in 1993, the late Nelson Mandela, then President of the African National Congress, outlined the key foreign policy principles of democratic South Africa. These underlying principles, which continue to serve as guidelines in the conduct of our foreign relations, are:

- a commitment to the promotion of human rights
- a commitment to the promotion of democracy
- a commitment to justice and international law in the conduct of relations between nations
- a commitment to international peace and internationally agreed-upon mechanisms for the resolution of conflicts
- a commitment to the interests of Africa in world affairs
- a commitment to economic development through regional and international cooperation in an interdependent world.

These principles were reaffirmed in the *Discussion Document on South Africa's Foreign Policy* in 1996. In analysing international trends, the document noted that "with the growing complexity of international interaction in almost every sphere of human life, the role of multilateral organisations in reconciling and harmonising the frequently conflicting interests of countries, will necessarily increase". But, what is multilateralism?

In a profoundly erudite article, entitled *Multilateralism: Anatomy of an Institution,* John Gerard Ruggie provides a useful definition of multilateralism, namely that: "multilateralism depicts a generic institutional form in international relations … [It is] an institutional form that coordinates relations among three or more states on the basis of generalised principles of conduct: that is, principles which specify appropriate conduct for a class of actions, without regard to the particularistic interests of the parties or the strategic exigencies that may exist in any specific occurrence".

As an organising principle, the institution of multilateralism is distinguished from other forms by three key properties:

- indivisibility
- generalised principles of conduct
- diffuse reciprocity.

These three properties should be treated as a coherent ensemble which is itself indivisible, rather than as additive, detachable indicators of multilateralism.

Indivisibility can be thought of as the scope (both geographic and functional) over which costs and benefits are spread, given an action initiated in or among component units.

Generalised principles of conduct usually come in the form of norms exhorting general if not universal modes of relating to other states, rather than differentiating relations case by case on the basis of individual preferences, situational exigencies, or *a priori* particularistic grounds.

Diffuse reciprocity adjusts the utilitarian lenses for the long view, emphasising that actors expect to benefit in the long run and over many issues, rather than every time on every issue.

I privilege this conceptual definition and explanation over many others because it provides an apposite framework to understand South Africa's behaviour in multilateral diplomacy. We believe that the multilateral system should be an indivisible construct based on common and shared values. It should set norms and standards that should find universal application, without exception.

The normative framework flowing from the multilateral system should be at the service of humanity and not parochial interests of the high and mighty. The outcomes of multilateral discussions should be fair and balanced and benefit all. In addition to the themes of representivity and legitimacy, this is our vision of an ideal multilateral system.

There can be no doubt that the world we live in is imperfect.

As Shashi Tharoor correctly argues in *Saving Humanity from Hel; Multilateralism under Challenge? Power, International order, and Structural Change,* we live neither in a purely Hobbesian world of anarchy and unconstrained power politics, nor a Kantian world of peace and harmony.

But one thing is for sure: the United Nations (UN) was not created by naive Kantians; it was established as a progressive response to an anarchic Hobbesian world. The UN, at its best, is a mirror of the world: it reflects our divisions and disagreements as well as our hopes and convictions. The UN is both a stage and an actor. It is a stage on which member states play their part, and it is an actor executing the policies made on that stage. It is the global symbol and embodiment of multilateralism, and all of its promise and limitations.

The remarkable democratic breakthrough of 1994 and the attendant espousal of a normative foreign policy have been the currency for South Africa's agency in the multilateral system. As a middle power, South Africa has played a positive role in promoting multilateral approaches to global problems and in defending the multilateral system as a whole. I mention this because there is a dialectic connection between middle powers and multilateralism. Essentially, the concept of middle-power diplomacy provides a central role to multilateral institutions, in that it privileges an anti-hegemonic approach to the conduct of international relations.

At its core is a vision of a cooperative, collaborative and not a competitive world.

In part, the insistence on moving towards a rules-based international system – within which a particular set of norms is applied without discrimination – is inevitable for a country that has struggled so hard for its own freedom and independence, and one that is intent on bringing its own values of justice and fairness to the international table.

Middle powers are characterised by a tendency to pursue multilateral solutions to vexing international issues and to embrace compromise positions in international disputes ... An ability to stand a certain distance from direct involvement in major conflicts, a sufficient degree of autonomy in relation to major powers, a commitment to orderliness and security in interstate relations and to the facilitation of orderly change in the world system are the critical elements for the fulfillment of the middle-power role.

Since 1994, our primary foreign policy priority was to accelerate South Africa's reintegration into the international community and play an active, transformative role in multilateral institutions and processes.

Our foreign policy has been inspired by our history and guided by our ethos and principles, foremost among which is the desire for a just, humane and equitable world.

In the conduct of our international relations, we attach the utmost importance to the promotion of human rights, democracy, justice and the rule of international law.

These principles necessarily place multilateral institutions, specifically the UN, at the centre of our foreign policy activities.

Furthermore, globalisation has created a highly interconnected and interdependent world of complex, new transnational threats such as terrorism, climate change, pandemic disease and food insecurity, in which common problems can no longer be solved without the collective efforts of all members of the international system acting together through multilateral institutions.



The centrality of the UN to South Africa's international relations strategy is based on a strong belief in a rules-based international system of global governance.

As a concrete demonstration of our conviction to multilateralism, we have hosted a number of multilateral conferences, most notably, the Non-Aligned Movement Summit in 1998, the Commonwealth Heads of Government in 1999, the World Conference Against Racism in 2001, the first Summit of the African Union (AU) in 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, and the UN Climate Change Conference, COP17/CMP7, in 2011. Under the leadership of the Chair of the World Conference Against Racism, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, delegates adopted the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action which reasserted the principles of equality and non-discrimination as core human rights with the aim of transforming victims of discrimination into rights-holders and states into duty bearers.

The struggle against racism and other forms of discrimination is far from over and South Africa's commitment to fight racism and promote human rights is resolute – inspired by those who paid the ultimate price in the fight against racism and injustice. Our message to the world is that the best way of honouring Madiba's legacy is to keep the outcomes of the Durban Summit and its review conference alive, particularly in recent times, as we witness the demons of racism, xenophobia

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Following our voluntary renunciation and dismantling of the apartheid bomb during the early 1990s, we played a key role in the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty – the first major international conference in democratic South Africa.

and other intolerances re-emerging in various parts of the world. Due to its reputation as a bridge-builder and problem-solver in multilateralism and the success of the above-mentioned meetings, South Africa continues to be entrusted with hosting major multilateral events. For example, the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP17) took place in Johannesburg from 24 September to 5 October 2016, and addressed key issues related to the management of endangered species.

We are deeply honoured to have been accorded the privilege to serve a third term on the UN Human Rights Council (HRC). In several interventions at high-level segments of the council, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, has reiterated our firm commitment to the mandate of the HRC. She has further underscored the fact that South Africa, as one of the 47 members of the council, would at all times be guided by a desire to constantly develop norms and standards for the promotion, protection and fulfillment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including respect for international humanitarian law. This will ensure that the council guarantees:

- maximum protection
- adequate remedies to all victims of human rights abuses and violations through a uniform regulatory framework
- that there is no impunity for human rights violations.

South Africa is committed to contributing to a peaceful world free of weapons of mass destruction. Following our voluntary renunciation and dismantling of the apartheid bomb during the early 1990s, we played a key role in the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) – the first major international conference in democratic South Africa. It is on this occasion that South Africa earned its new-found status as a bridge-builder and key player in the multilateral arena by brokering a deal that would not only extend the lifespan of the treaty, but also hold the nuclear powers responsible for fulfilling their nuclear disarmament obligations. This treaty is now commonly known as the Pelindaba Treaty, named after the headquarters of the South African Nuclear Energy Cooperation, west of Pretoria.

Building on its achievements at the NPT, South Africa also played a leading role in the process to ban anti-personnel mines that kill and maim civilians and stifle economic development on the African continent and beyond. It was a member of the core group of countries that took responsibility for developing and promoting the Mine Ban Treaty.

South Africa hosted the Organisation of African Unity conference on landmines in Kempton Park in May 1997, a key meeting in building support among African states for the treaty.

Then South African Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, the late Jackie Selebi, skillfully steered the ban treaty negotiations towards a successful conclusion in September 1997 in Oslo, Norway.

South Africa has also supported or co-sponsored all key UN General Assembly resolutions on landmines. During the last 23 years, South Africa has been able to build on these early achievements across a full range of disarmament issues, from conventional arms to weapons of mass destruction.

Today, we continue our quest for a world free from the threats posed by arms that are indiscriminate or cause excessive harm to civilians. This includes our active engagement in the area of conventional arms, such as the recently concluded Arms Trade Treaty, as well as efforts to finally rid our world of the existential threat posed by nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. It is in this context, that we are also playing an active role in the recent initiative on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons.

South Africa also played a key role in galvanising international action for the elimination of conflict diamonds from the diamond trading system, culminating in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, which has contributed to the removal of conflict diamonds in the chain of producing, exporting and importing rough diamonds in participating countries.

This process first took shape in May 2000, when representatives from several African countries met in Kimberley to "discuss ways to stop the trade in 'conflict diamonds' and ensure that diamond purchases were not financing violence by rebel movements and their allies seeking to undermine legitimate governments". As a result of our efforts, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution for the creation of an international scheme for the certification of rough diamonds in January 2001, now commonly known as the Kimberley Process.

South Africa has consistently advocated for people-centered development that takes into consideration all dimensions of development.

This multifaceted approach to sustainable development got traction at the historic UN Millennium Summit, which adopted the Millennium Declaration in 2000. This summit represented a watermark in global efforts to place development at the centre of the global agenda. The three dimensions of sustainable development, namely the promotion of economic development, social development and environmental sustainability, are the plank on which the recently adopted sustainable development goals are built. The outcome document of the 2015 UN Summit has given renewed hope to millions in the global South as it affirms the resolve of the international community to remain engaged in continuing the unfinished business of the millennium development goals. We consider this as a major achievement for the developing world at a time when the world's preoccupation with security issues could have pushed development issues to the back burner.

Another landmark development in the progressive development of the multilateral system was the 21st Conference of Parties (COP 21) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which adopted an historic agreement in Paris to address all the aspects of the climate change challenge in the post-2020 period, including adaptation, mitigation and support for developing countries. The watershed Paris Conference constituted a successful conclusion of the mandate agreed to by consensus and facilitated by South Africa at the Durban conference in 2011 to enhance the implementation of the Climate Change Convention.

As a result of our efforts, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution for the creation of an international scheme for the certification of rough diamonds in January 2001, now commonly known as the Kimberley Process.

The agreement represents a big step forward in committing all countries to act decisively against climate change on the basis of equity and a differentiation of action based on their respective national circumstances and historical responsibility. Through this agreement, hope has been restored for a safe and prosperous future, where climate change will be adequately addressed.

As the Chairperson of the G77 plus China, South Africa managed to rally the group to play a leadership role in the build-up towards the Paris Conference and eventually in clinching the Paris deal. We feel extremely honoured to have been accorded the privilege of guiding and coordinating the collective efforts of developing countries on socio-economic issues at the UN.

The promotion of peace and security, firstly in our region, on the continent, and by extension in the world, remains a major preoccupation of our multilateral diplomacy.

Our own peaceful transition from the brink of civil war informs our approach to the resolution of disputes and remains a model for conflict resolution. Our approach is predicated on Pan-African solidarity and the belief that South Africa's development and prosperity are inextricably linked to peace and development on the continent. For this reason, we shall continue to play an active role in promoting peace and security on the continent.

South Africa's approach to peace and security on the continent has been magnified in the UN Security Council (UNSC), where we have championed the prioritisation of African conflicts and at the same time advocated for closer collaboration between the UNSC and the AU Peace and Security Council (AUPSC). We have also focussed on defending the integrity of the UN Charter and the Rule of Law as the foundation for multilateral cooperation. A highlight of our term on the council was our Presidency of the council in January 2012, which had as its theme the strengthening of the partnership between the UN and the AU. Building on the success of South Africa's 2007/08 UNSC term in promoting closer cooperation between the UNSC and the AUPSC, South Africa promoted greater coordination between the two bodies to increase the effectiveness of the UNSC in addressing African conflict situations. President Jacob Zuma presided over a meeting, which resulted in the unanimous adoption of Resolution 2033 (2012). This resolution formalises cooperation between the UN and AU as a permanent part of the council's work and focusses on achieving coherence between the two bodies in dealing with African conflicts.

While we have been vocal proponents for the reform of the UNSC long before our stint in the non-permanent category, our tenure in the UNSC has convinced us that the reform of this premier organ of global peace and security is more urgent than ever before. We are of the firm view that the enlargement of the UNSC to reflect current realities will ensure that it is representative, democratic and enjoys legitimacy. In addition, internal reforms will have to be undertaken to improve the working methods of the UNSC to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness.

In over 70 years of its existence, the UNSC has expanded only once, in 1964, when the council's membership was increased from 11 to 15. At the time, the legitimacy of the UNSC was questioned because its 11 members represented only 10% of the UN's membership – as opposed to 21% in 1945 at the creation of the UN. Today, the 15 members of the council represent only 8% of the UN membership. Moreover, how can the council be legitimate and representative, if two continents, namely Africa and Latin America, are not represented at all in the permanent category? Having said this, the Security Council remains the primary international organ mandated to promote international peace and security. It is essential that it remains true to its mandate and moves beyond the paralysis brought on by the geopolitical interests of a few member states.

The best safeguard for our security and prosperity is to consolidate rather than erode the rule of law, and embed the principles of cooperation over conflict and collaboration over confrontation. The challenge therefore is to expedite efforts to transform global politics from a power-based hierarchical construct to a rules-based system of international society.

The only way this can happen is if world leaders, including those that represent the permanent members of the Security Council, are bold and courageous and commit to enlarging the Security Council urgently. Failure to do so will encourage states to act unilaterally, with disastrous consequences for all. South Africa is firmly committed to multilateralism. Multilateralism is particularly important today because of increased global and regional economic interdependence, the emergence of new transnational challenges, major systemic changes affecting the global distribution of power, domestic change and democratisation, and the expansion of global civil society.

We remain of the firm view that multilateral institutions, whatever their weaknesses, can make fundamental transformations legitimate and peaceful. We are alive to the fact that multilateral institutions are under increasing pressure to move beyond some of the age-old principles, especially from non-intervention to non-indifference, as a part of a transformative process in world politics. Having said this, we should guard against the normative evolution being used as a pretext for politically motivated intervention.

As we enter a new, dangerous era with geopolitics once more rearing its ugly head, we have a duty to restrain the powerful from engaging in acts that could trigger wider conflict and undermine global peace and security. We believe that acting unilaterally through the projection of hard power will undermine efforts to preserve stability in this time of flux. The best safeguard for our security and prosperity is to consolidate rather than erode the rule of law, and embed the principles of cooperation over conflict and collaboration over confrontation. The challenge therefore is to expedite efforts to transform global politics from a power-based hierarchical construct to a rules-based system of international society.

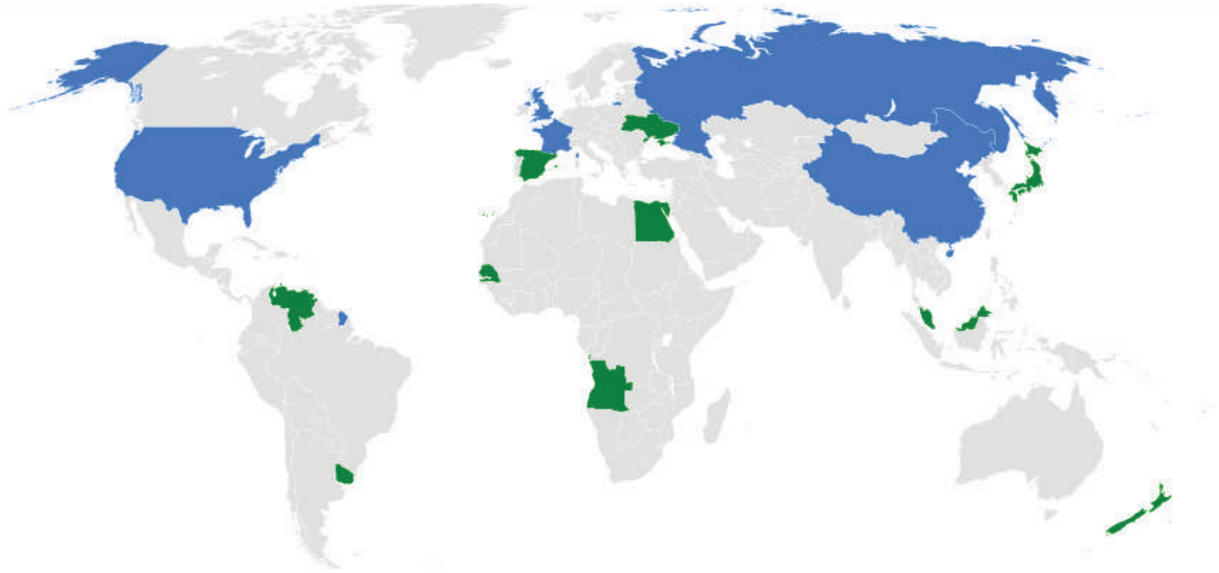


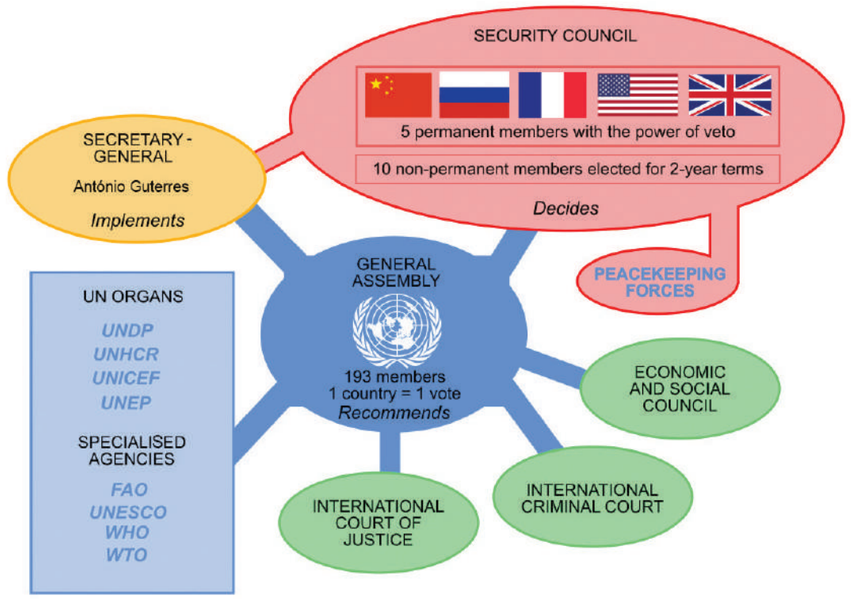
The Matola Memorial Monument and Interpretative Centre, Mozambique. This memorial honours the fallen heroes of the Matola Raid, which includes 15 cadres of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the former military wing of the African National Congress, and pays homage to the sacrifices and contributions made by the Mozambicans towards a free, non-racial and democratic South Africa.

One billion people cannot continue to be denied a UNSC voice

By President Jacob Zuma

> South Africa has been calling for, and we will continue to call for, the fundamental reform of the United Nations Security Council to ensure the representation of Africa.





The year 2016 was an important year in South Africa as the county marked two significant historic anniversaries.

In August, South Africa marked the 60th Anniversary of the 1956 Women's March against discriminatory and racist laws. The 40th Anniversary of the 16 June 1976 youth uprising against apartheid was also commemorated.

These two marked significant turning points in the history of our struggle against apartheid minority rule in our country.

The Women's March in 1956 brought the gender dimension of the struggle and the equal role of women in the fight against white domination, oppression and injustice into sharp focus.

Equally, the youth uprising 40 years ago, highlighted and cemented the role of young people in fighting for liberation and a better society.

We were reminded of these two milestones as we addressed the General Debate of the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York in September 2016 under the theme: "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A Universal Push to Transform our World".

In 2015, world leaders marked the 70th Anniversary of the UN by adopting the SDGs, also known as Agenda 2030.

We committed ourselves to an ambitious and transformative global development programme that seeks to address the triple challenge of this century, which is poverty, unemployment and inequality.

To a great extent, the millennium development goals (MDGs) played a critical role in galvanising governments and communities all over the world to put in place programmes and policies aimed at poverty eradication and in addressing socio-economic development, particularly in Africa.

It is a well-known reality that the African continent, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, did not achieve the targets that were set in the MDGs.

It was for this reason that we insisted that the SDGs should continue the unfinished business of the MDGs.

We have an interest, therefore, in ensuring the full implementation of the SDGs, as we take forward the agenda of promoting Africa's sustainable development.

We have made significant strides in the past couple of decades in reversing the impact of underdevelopment and the legacies of colonialism and apartheid in Africa.

If the African continent is to develop faster, it needs to address certain constraints.

These include addressing inadequate infrastructure; the high dependency on primary products; high exposure to commodity price volatility; limited investment in research and development, science, innovation and technology; low private-sector investment; as well as the need to continue improving skills.

To respond to some of these constraints, the continent has embarked on a number of initiatives.

These include the New Partnership for Africa's Development, the Presidential Infrastructure Championing Initiative, the African Mining Vision and the Programme for the Infrastructural Development of Africa.

In South Africa, we have put in place the National Development Plan (NDP), which is aligned to the African Union's (AU) Agenda 2063, as well as the UN's SDGs. At the core of our development plan is the focus on poverty eradication and the upliftment of the standard of living of our people.

The NDP is also in line with the drive for the industrialisation of Africa.

This will contribute to the eradication of poverty, reduce inequality and unemployment, and will also contribute positively to global growth and prosperity.

It is therefore imperative that Africa and the least developed countries, which were left behind in previous industrialisation processes, must not be excluded from the Fourth or New Industrial Revolution.

The successful implementation of Africa's development plans depends on the availability of resources. We are therefore seriously concerned about the loss of resources of the continent through illicit financial flows.

Illicit financial flows

The Joint AU and UN Economic Commission for Africa's High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa estimates that illicit flows from Africa could be about 50 billion dollars per annum. Illicit financial flows deprive developing countries of the much-needed economic resources to uplift their economies in order to provide infrastructure and basic services such as education and healthcare.

We urge the world at large to treat this problem with the seriousness and urgency that it deserves.

We also need to close the gap that has painfully divided people between the rich and the poor and which has divided countries between big and small economies.

Peace and security

Global inequality and economic exclusion have become a serious threat to global peace and stability.

Inclusive growth is thus a peace, security and prosperity imperative.

Inclusive growth will, however, remain a distant dream if powerful nations continue to put their national interests ahead of the global collective interest.

The African continent remains committed through the AU and its Peace and Security Architecture to resolve the remaining conflict areas.

We have committed ourselves to silence the guns by 2020. We appeal to the UN

> We have committed ourselves to silence the guns by 2020. We appeal to the United Nations Security Council in particular to support African peace operations so that we can achieve this noble goal.

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> It is important that the United Nations (UN) should carry out its historic mission in ensuring that the two longest outstanding decolonisation and occupation issues are resolved once and for all, in fulfillment of the UN Charter objectives.

Security Council (UNSC) in particular to support African peace operations so that we can achieve this noble goal. The situation in Libya, South Sudan and the Central African Republic remains a continental priority.

We strongly urge the UNSC to better align and coordinate with the AU in efforts to bring about peace in these sister countries and the continent at large. Beyond the continent, we remain concerned about threats of terrorism.

Sixteen years after the 11 September terrorist attacks on the United States, international terrorism remains a challenge that no single country or region can successfully deal with.

We have witnessed the rise of the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) and are horrified by its brutal and senseless killings.

The conflicts in both Libya and Syria have provided a fertile ground for the terrorists to carry out their unjustified terrorist activities.

The conflict in Syria has led to chaos in that country in under five years with devastating effects on the stability of the region.

The deadlock in the Security Council on the Syrian question exposes the inherent structural dysfunction of the 1945, post-Second World War consensus. The question arises whether the UN, and in particular the UNSC as currently configured, can fulfil its mandate in addressing the challenges of the 21st century?

The UNSC is supposed to act in our collective interest without being bogged down by domestic narrow interests of a few states.

It is imperative and urgent that the UN, and in particular the Security Council, should be reformed.

South Africa has been calling for, and we will continue to call for, the fundamental reform of the UNSC to ensure the representation of Africa.

One billion people cannot continue to be denied a voice in this manner.

Palestine and the Saharawi Arab Republic

The lack of progress in finding a durable solution to the Palestinian question and the Saharawi Arab Republic's struggle for self-determination remains a major concern.

It is important that the UN should carry out its historic mission in ensuring that the two longest outstanding decolonisation and occupation issues are resolved once and for all, in fulfillment of the UN Charter objectives.

The impact of climate change

The signing of the Paris Agreement last year marked a historic moment in humanity's resolve to minimise the impact of climate change and address the human contribution to it.

The former UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon should be commended for the extraordinary leadership that he provided since COP 15 in Copenhagen.

He remained unwavering in his commitment to see a legally binding agreement finally agreed to by all.

The adoption of the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action during COP17 in South Africa was a historic milestone and marked a turning point in the negotiation of a legally binding instrument.

It provided a clear road map with targets and deadlines.

We also salute the former Secretary-General for the sterling and outstanding manner with which he steered the affairs of the organisation in the past decade.

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DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT UN PLAY KEY ROLE IN ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES | DIPLOMACY

Developing countries at UN play key role in addressing global challenges

By Luwellyn Landers
Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

> … South Africa is concerned that we are losing momentum with the continued delays in presenting a coherent and well-reasoned UN implementation plan and budget request for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



World leaders gathered in New York in September 2016 for the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA71) under the theme: "The Sustainable Development Goals: A Universal Push to Transform our World".

Last year's session of the UNGA took place at a time when the world continued to face growing interconnected global challenges, which included growing instability brought about by continued conflict, increased terrorism and violent extremism, large-scale movement of refugees and migrants, global health crises, economic stagnation and underdevelopment.

It is clearly evident from all these challenges that developing countries are the ones most severely affected.

In 2015, the Group of 77 and China (G77), a group of 134 developing countries, was at the forefront of historic multilateral outcomes, which would guide global economic, social and environmental development for the next several years.

The collective unity, cohesion and vision of the G77 and China made certain that we were able to ensure that these outcomes positively reflected the interests of developing countries.

The G77 and China was a key player in the negotiations of the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs), which led to the adoption of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015.

The SDGs are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

These goals, which are interconnected, build on the successes of the millennium development goals (MDGs), while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities.

The 2030 Agenda allows for a synergistic approach as it draws on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, the Paris Climate Change Agreement and the outcomes of other multilateral meetings to achieve its objectives.

Over the next 14 years, with these new goals, we will mobilise to end all forms of poverty and address inequality, while ensuring that no one is left behind.

South Africa endorses the transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development without any reservations. The triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality that the development agenda seeks to address is the primary focus of the South African Government and people.

The SDGs are aligned to South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) and the African Union's Agenda 2063. Firmly guided by our constitutional values, the NDP, which guides our policies and programmes and aims to move South Africa forward, is our enabling and implementation platform to ensure the domestication of the SDGs.

The realisation of the SDGs will only be achieved if the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development focusses on adequate means of implementation and also recognises the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities. This will recognise our different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respect our national policies and priorities.

One area of focus for the success of the SDGs will be the means of implementation.

MDG 8 – "Develop a Global Partnership for Development" – was one of the MDGs that had seen the least progress.

Official Development Assistance (ODA) continues to fall short of commitments.

Most member states of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development continue to ignore their long-standing commitment as member states of the UN to disburse 0,7% of their gross national income (GNI) in ODA.

As a group, total ODA reached only 0,29% of the combined GNI of DAC countries in 2014, which implies a delivery gap of 0,41% when compared with the target.

It is important that the follow-up and review process for the goals should also focus on whether the means of implementation have been achieved and whether developed countries have kept to their commitments. As countries move towards implementation, another area of importance is to effectively address illicit financial flows and the negative consequences that occur as a result.

This scourge has diminished the benefits that developing countries could derive from trade, primarily in commodities, which is a driver for investment, economic growth and social development. We therefore stress the importance of effective policies to address the challenges of illicit financial flows at global, national and regional level.

While efforts undertaken by some international organisations to address this issue are commendable, the establishment of an inclusive, intergovernmental structure to ensure collective responsibility and cooperation in the fight against illicit financial flows is essential. Furthermore, key to the implementation of the SDGs is an adequately resourced, relevant, coherent, efficient and effective UN system. The G77 and China must therefore continue its collective commitment to improving the efficient and effective functioning of the UN, in particular through calling for adequate resourcing of the organisation to deliver on its mandates.

In this regard, South Africa is concerned that we are losing momentum with the continued delays in presenting a coherent and well-reasoned UN implementation plan and budget request for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As we embark on the arduous task of implementing the momentous agreements that we adopted in the last year, the Group of 77 and China needs to continue to show resilience and unity to ensure that the collective interests of the South are realised.

SOUTH AFRICA'S STRATEGIC APPROACH TO THE G20 | DIPLOMACY

South Africa's strategic approach to the G20

> As South Africa's economic prosperity is linked to the global economy, it is important for our country to advance its national economic interests within the framework of the G20.

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

The summit of the Group of 20 (G20), which took place in China from 4 to 5 September 2016, emphasised the urgent need to increase multilateral cooperation for the recovery of the global economy, bring stability to the global financial system, promote long-term sustainable growth and strengthen global economic governance.

As South Africa's economic prosperity is linked to the global economy, it is important for our country to advance its national economic interests within the framework of the G20.

South Africa further seeks to use its participation in the G20 to promote and strengthen the interests of Africa and countries of the South, on the understanding that, if managed carefully, the G20 presents meaningful opportunities for advancing much-needed global governance reforms and orienting the international development agenda.

While South Africa is appreciative of the leadership the G20 has demonstrated in helping to achieve progress in multilateral institutions, we maintain that the G20 is not a substitute for the United Nations (UN) system, but should support and add value to what is being done within the UN context.

Apart from championing the interests of our continent and the broader developing world, South Africa's engagement within the G20 is to advance the objectives of our National Development Plan. Our work in the group is underpinned by our national priorities, including reducing inequality, eliminating poverty and addressing unemployment.

President Jacob Zuma stated at the summit that industrialisation, infrastructure development, intra-Africa trade and curbing illicit financial flows were crucial goals for the development of the African continent as stipulated in Agenda 2063. In this regard, South Africa's proposal that illicit financial flows from trade mispricing be studied by the World Trade Organisation was accepted. This challenge, if addressed, has the potential to unlock millions of dollars that could be used by African governments for the implementation of the sustainable development goals and their development programmes. As co-chair of the G20 Development Working Group, we therefore seek to advance issues that are key to fast-tracking the development of low-income countries, particularly those in sub-Saharan Africa. A noteworthy initiative introduced by the Chinese G20 Presidency is for the group to support industrialisation in Africa and least developed countries, as well as a G20 Action Plan in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

> While South Africa is appreciative of the leadership the G20 has demonstrated in helping to achieve progress in multilateral institutions, we maintain that the G20 is not a substitute for the United Nations (UN) system, but should support and add value to what is being done within the UN context.

In this context, South Africa sought to advance the African Union's (AU) priorities by coordinating closely with African observers in G20 meetings, such as the AU Chair and the New Partnership for Africa's Development Chair in an effort to strengthen the voice of Africa within the G20.

Furthermore, South Africa also continues to assess approaches to influence multilateral development banks to assist with the financing and preparation of transformational regional infrastructure projects, especially green-field energy projects.

In the area of governance reform in the International Monetary Fund (IMF), we have consistently advocated for improving the voice of sub-Saharan Africa in the IMF Board of Executive Directors. In this regard, South Africa will continue to call for a third chair to be awarded to sub-Saharan Africa on the IMF Board. Peace and development are mutually reinforcing. As there cannot be development without peace, nor peace without development, the promotion of a peaceful and prosperous world, necessitates that both the economic and security challenges confronting the globe receive equal attention.

A prosperous and peaceful Africa and world must be based on inclusive growth and sustainable development. Our efforts of promoting global economic growth and stability must therefore be viewed from this perspective.

> As co-chair of the G20 Development Working Group, we therefore seek to advance issues that are key to fast-tracking the development of low-income countries, particularly those in sub-Saharan Africa.



SA a leader in conservation

CoP17 afforded Africa, and South Africa in particular, an opportunity to showcase our rich biodiversity and successful conservation initiatives.

By President Jacob Zuma

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an important agreement between governments as it regulates international trade in wild fauna and flora.

It is critical for governments to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Regulations must ensure that the trade of rhinos, for example, or wild ginger, is in a way that ensures that future generations continue to benefit from them, and that they do not become extinct.

Levels of exploitation of some animal and plant species are high and the trade is capable of heavily depleting their populations and even bringing some species close to extinction. The existence of an agreement to ensure the sustainability of the trade is important in order to safeguard these resources for the future.

From 24 September to 4 October, the 17th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP) to the Convention on International Trade in Species of Fauna and Flora was held on the African continent for the first time since 2000. CoP17 afforded Africa, and South Africa in particular, an opportunity to showcase our rich biodiversity and successful conservation initiatives.

This includes our sustainable use management practices, which have resulted in South Africa being one of the leading conservation countries today.

The sustainable use of the country's indigenous biological resources is fundamental to the development of South Africa's economy and social transformation.

In this regard, game farming, the hunting industry, eco-tourism and bio-prospecting play a significant role. The management interventions that we apply are therefore aimed at enhancing the livelihoods of the communities to whom they are entrusted.

South Africa is already running successful green and ocean economy programmes, as well as a biodiversity economy linked directly to the bio-prospecting and wildlife sectors.

What we are doing is in line with the continental strategy, Agenda 2063, which recognises the important role that natural resources play in Africa's development and socio-economic transformation.

In addition, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at the United Nations a year ago, also includes goals that promote the protection and sustainable utilisation of natural resources.

It is also important for all to remember that natural resources do not only sustain livelihoods of communities. They are also critical in promoting economic development.

Examples of this include the lawful trade in wildlife, including the practice of hunting, which is criticised by many. The hunting sector in South Africa generates well over one billion rand a year.

Our wildlife also contributes immensely to the gross domestic product through the tourism sector, anchored in the main on nature-based tourism with the Big Five. This is a big job creator in South Africa.

We preserve these animals because we are proud of our heritage, and because they generate much-needed revenue.

South Africa's proud and successful conservation record has saved important species, such as the black and white rhino, elephant, bontebok and Cape Mountain Zebra from near extinction in the past century.

Despite increased pressure due to poaching, South Africa hosts 70% of the world's rhino population and 30% of South Africa's white rhino population is in private hands.

South Africa also prides itself on its retention of its position as the last bastion of the rhino.

It is commonly known and recognised that a significant proportion of populations in developing countries depend on biological resources for shelter, food and health.

The commercial role of the bio-prospecting sector is evident in the biologically enriched cosmetics, personal hygiene products, oils, food flavourings and complementary medicines. This includes popular products such as Aloe Ferox, which is found in South Africa. South Africa is one of the largest global exporters of these products and contributes to their global production.

This is one sector that we intend to nurture and grow, thus improving the lives of millions of South Africans who are already the traditional knowledge holders of many of the biological products sought by the international markets.

The illegal trade in wildlife, including poaching, presents significant challenges and threats to the environment, including undermining the potential benefits arising from legal trade that contributed significantly to socio-economic upliftment and development.

It also affects communities, destroys livelihoods and aggravates crime while entrenching poverty in communities with limited resources. Without adequate measures to ensure the legal trade is well-regulated and conducted within the CITES framework as well as national legislative frameworks, endangered species could be over-exploited.

Unfortunately, we also have to consistently take strong actions to address the illegal trade in wildlife, which has various negative implications; as recognised in various resolutions adopted by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly and the UN Environment Assembly.

South Africa has responded to these international calls for action and recognises the significant threat of wildlife trafficking, not only to the conservation of our species, but also to this country's national security. We have worked hard and our security strategy has resulted in a visible reduction in the number of rhinos poached in 2016.

Our law enforcement agencies continue to work hard to break the illicit value chain of wildlife trafficking in South Africa and beyond.

We will also increase our efforts to engage and build partnerships with communities and other stakeholders, both in South Africa and abroad, so that we can fight wildlife trafficking on a national and global stage.

We will do this while at the same time emphasising the importance of uplifting communities living alongside wildlife areas, which continue to bear the brunt of wildlife trafficking and poaching. The CoP provided an important opportunity to discuss how parties could strengthen the role of the convention in advancing the social development goals.

The meeting was also tasked with ensuring that important decisions were taken on the rules of procedure for the CoP, especially since it was first CoP where the European Union, as a regional economic integration organisation, participated as a member of the convention.

Global governance is critical for our common success. This can only happen if we have a transparent and fair system that allows governments to meet their development imperatives which are intertwined with the



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The 17th Conference of the Parties (CoP) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was held from 24 September to 4 October 2016 at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg.

South Africa offered to host CITES CoP17 at the 16th CoP that took place in March 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand. It was the fourth to be held on the African continent since 1975, and the first on the continent since 2000.

CITES CoP 17 entrenched the role of CITES as the mechanism for regulating trade and not an anti-trade movement.

A clear message was sent that responsible conservation management goes together with sustainable use and beneficiation; and that those that do well will be rewarded. What was also an important outcome was a recognition of the need to address the underlying causes of species loss being, habitat loss, poverty, human wildlife conflicts, lack of enforcement, governance and institutional challenges.

Parties agreed to measures and actions to be implemented within the mandate of the convention to ensure legal international trade remains sustainable and illegal trade is eradicated.

Parties agreed to recognise that people needed to benefit from the sustainable utilisation of its natural resources, including from legal international trade.

An outcome of the conference was that proposals were considered based on the listing criteria and sound scientific information. An example of this was reflected in the decision made relating to the proposed uplisting of African elephant populations of Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe from Appendix II to Appendix I.

These populations do not meet the criteria to be listed in Appendix I. It is important for the credibility of the convention to ensure that the criteria are consistently applied across all the taxa.

A population must meet specific criteria to be included in Appendix I of CITES and these include that the populations must be in decline or the populations must be small and fragmented. South Africa's elephant population is still growing with a current population of more than 28 000 elephants. The populations of other Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries are also stable or increasing and therefore the criteria were not met.

Another outcome was the adoption of resolutions that will improve the common interpretation of the convention or the application of its provisions. As a Party to CITES, South Africa was satisfied that its expectations were met.

All South Africa's own proposals were agreed to:

- having the Cape Mountain Zebra downlisted from Appendix I to Appendix II because it no longer meets the biological criteria for inclusion in Appendix I
- listing the wild ginger on Appendix II to enable South Africa to regulate international trade more effectively and through the CITES provisions
- uplisting Temminck's ground pangolin from Appendix II to Appendix I – in fact all eight species of Pangolin were uplisted.

There were also a number of other issues that attracted public and media attention; notably, the plight of African lions. There was a proposal to uplist African lion populations from Appendix II to Appendix I. Most SADC countries, including South Africa, did not support this proposal. Negotiations on this issue led to an amended proposal that was adopted retaining all lion populations in Appendix II, but with a condition to restrict the trade in bone to captive breeding operations in South Africa – with national export quotas. This means that South African bone trade can continue with government setting an annual quota. This decision is better that the initial proposal to uplist lions to Appendix I. A decision was also adopted to support the conservation and management of lions in Africa.

The African lion populations of the SADC region have increased by 12% over the past 21 years.

Other populations outside SADC experienced a decline of more than 60% between 1993 and 2014.

Important resolutions relating to illegal trade in wildlife include the following:

- a resolution on prohibiting, preventing, detecting and countering corruption
- a resolution aimed at addressing cybercrime.

Important decisions that have been adopted include:

- decisions to address CITES and livelihoods and engaging rural communities in CITES processes
- decisions on the conservation and management of African grey parrot, including decisions to facilitate the registration of breeding operations (South Africa breeds significant numbers of African grey parrots)
- decisions on compliance and enforcement matters, including the development of guidelines for ivory stockpile management
- a decision on cycads (document submitted by South Africa) to collaborate on matters relating to illegal trade in cycads
- decisions relating to rhino matters, including missions to Vietnam and Mozambique by the CITES Secretariat to assist them in terms of activities to be implemented.

Decisions of CITES COP17 will come into force 90 days after adoption by the COP.

Outcomes of the Eighth BRICS Summit

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

> Leaders once again confirmed their commitment to the founding principles which underpin their cooperation, as enshrined in the 2011 Sanya Declaration, namely: openness, solidarity, equality, mutual understanding, inclusiveness and mutually beneficial cooperation.



The Eighth BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Summit marked the 10th anniversary since the first meeting of BRICS foreign ministers, held in New York in 2006, which instituted the partnership. The BRICS leaders convened in Goa, India, from 15 to 16 October 2016 under the theme: "Building Responsive, Inclusive and Collective Solutions".

Leaders once again confirmed their commitment to the founding principles which underpin their cooperation, as enshrined in the 2011 Sanya Declaration, namely: openness, solidarity, equality, mutual understanding, inclusiveness and mutually beneficial cooperation. The principles were carried into the Goa Declaration, the primary outcome document of the summit together with its Action Plan.

Host and current BRICS Chair, India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, proposed to set a target to double intra-BRICS trade from the current US$250 billion to US$500 billion by 2020. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Customs Cooperation, which was concluded at the summit, was further seen as an important step in this direction.

> The BRICS leaders decided to propel forward the proposals for the creation of a BRICS Credit Rating Agency, a BRICS Railway Research Network, an Agriculture Research Platform and a BRICS Sports Council.

Leaders also emphasised the importance to ensure the implementation of the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership and notably the implementation of its Action Plan and Road Map of projects.

In this regard, the South Africa chapter of the BRICS Business Council developed a publication containing priority projects.

The first-ever BRICS Trade Fair was also held in New Delhi and the South African pavilion attracted many visitors.

BRICS leaders have fully embraced the regional outreach engagement, an initiative started by President Jacob Zuma in 2013 when he invited the African leadership to meet with BRICS leaders.

Prime Minister Modi invited the leaders and his fellow members of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation comprising Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

In terms of the reform of global governance institutions, pertinent issues deliberated on included support pledged for the coordinated effort by the emerging economies to ensure that the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) 15th General Review of Quotas, including the new quota formula, will be finalised within the agreed timelines, as well as to ensure that the increased voice of the dynamic emerging and developing economies reflects their relative contributions to the world economy, while protecting the voices of least developed countries, poor countries and regions.

In this regard, it was emphasised that the two chairs on the Executive Board of the IMF and its reform should strengthen the voice and representation of the poorest members of the IMF, including sub-Saharan Africa.

Leaders also warmly welcomed and acknowledged China's milestone achievement, namely the inclusion of the RMB into the Special Drawing Rights' currency basket.





In respect of the reform of the United Nations (UN), leaders again recalled the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and reaffirmed the need for a comprehensive reform of the UN, including its Security Council, with a view to making it more representative, effective and efficient, and to increase the representation of the developing countries so that it can adequately respond to global challenges.

China and Russia reiterated the importance they attached to the status and role of Brazil, India and South Africa in international affairs and supported their aspiration to play a greater role in the UN.

The substantive measures undertaken by the UN membership to make the process of selecting and appointing the UN Secretary-General (SG) more transparent and inclusive were also welcomed.

The leaders conveyed their gratitude to the former UN SG, Ban Ki-moon, for his contribution to the UN during the past 10 years.

They also congratulated António Guterres on his appointment as the UNSG, expressed their support and undertook to work closely with him. President Zuma was notably encouraged by the synergies between his stated priority areas and South Africa's foreign policy objectives.

BRICS leaders underscored the importance attached to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its sustainable development goals, as well as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

BRICS leaders continued the tradition that was started at the Sanya Summit in 2011, to pledge solidarity as well as support to the African Union's agenda and programmes as reflected in the declaration.

The operationalisation of the Africa Regional Centre of the New Development Bank was welcomed as a mechanism for cooperation between BRICS and the African continent.

Leaders noted the operationalisation of the BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement as a mechanism of strengthening the financial safety net.

An MoU was also concluded on the BRICS Agriculture Research Centre, which testified to the institution-building programme of BRICS continuing to impact on the critical needs of its members.

An MoU among BRICS Diplomatic Academies was also concluded.

The BRICS leaders decided to propel forward the proposals for the creation of a BRICS Credit Rating Agency, a BRICS Railway Research Network, an Agriculture Research Platform and a BRICS Sports Council.

The BRICS leaders once again reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring that this strategic grouping, which provides an amplified voice for the core interests of emerging and developing economies, will continue to be innovative in its approaches to finding meaningful and sustainable solutions to the shared challenges of the modern era, while at all times maintaining the interests of the their people at the core of all BRICS undertakings.



Building a better connected world

Huawei is a global leader of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) solutions. Continuously innovating, based on customer needs, we are committed to enhancing customer experiences and creating maximum value for telecoms carriers, enterprises and consumers. Our telecoms network equipment, Information Technology (IT) products and solutions, and smart devices are used in 170 countries and regions. Huawei ranked 228th on the Global Fortune 500 based on its revenue in 2014. In 2014, the company's revenue reached approximately USD 46,5 billion.

We invest over 10% of our annual sales revenue into research and development (R&D) and more than 45% of our 170 000 employees engage in R&D. Leveraging our experience and expertise in the ICT sector, we help bridge the digital divide and promote high-quality broadband connectivity for all. As an advocate of socio-economic sustainability, we make every effort to support secure and stable network operations, and help customers and industries improve efficiency to drive low-carbon economic growth. By localising our operations and building a global value chain, we help local innovators maximise their global value and share win-win outcomes.

A better connected world is on the horizon. Working closely with partners, we endeavour to build an efficient and integrated digital logistics system, which will enhance interconnectivity and interactivity – between people and people, people and things, and things and things – to spark infinite opportunities and potential for everyone everywhere and to move the world forward.

Growing with Africa

In Africa, Huawei has established three regional headquarters, namely Northern Africa, Western Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa. These regions consist of 47 subsidiaries, covering more than 60 countries. We have seven centres providing training to more than 30 000 trainees annually. In total, 71 000 Huawei employees, of whom 65% are local employees, contribute to set up half of the wireless base stations and 50 000 km of optical fibre on the continent.

Corporate citizenship
Huawei's key strategies in Africa include customer-centric, green innovation and social responsibility. Huawei is committed to being a globally responsible corporate citizen, contributing to the sustainable development of different categories, including the environment, health, education and community.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Strategy and Management
Huawei is dedicated to ensuring that all people can enjoy the basic rights of communications and information services. During our commercial activities, we also attach great importance to the sustainable development of society and the environment and continuously enriching people's lives through communications.

Bridging the digital divide
Huawei applies its professional experience in the IT field to bridge the digital divide so that people can enjoy communications services and experiences anytime, anywhere through any terminal.

Environmental protection
Environmental deterioration and accelerated global warming have posed great challenges to the sustainable development of the world economy. In the telecoms industry, energy-saving and emission-reduction measures have become imperative.

Supply chain
Huawei insists on ethical and green procurement approaches and improves CSR management in its supply chain to ensure that product procurement meets CSR requirements and realises our strategic goals.



BREXT: HOW CAN AFRICA BENEFIT? | DIPLOMACY



Brexit: How can Africa benefit?

The Brexit vote marked a historic shift in the United Kingdom's (UK) trade relationship with the world. For countries which trade with the European Union (EU) or the UK, these are uncharted waters.

By Sulaiman Philip
Media Club South Africa

Africa may benefit from Brexit, but it must be through technological advancement and not through its commodities.

Finance ministers of the G20 grouping concluded a meeting in Chengdu, China, in July 2016. Discussions between Britain and China can be used as a road map for Africa as we look to benefit from the recent vote to leave the EU. Oil from Nigeria, Zambia's copper, Kenya's flower growers or South African wineries will all suffer if a recession follows the UK's exit from the EU. That is the common wisdom. However, African economies have been dealing with a slowdown in the Chinese economy and depressed prices for commodities.

At the G20 meeting, the English Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond, began discussions with China on a free trade deal agreement, the first by a European nation with China. While there is no guarantee that the new Government in London will trigger an exit, the turmoil in international markets is a sign of concern. Hammond believes that beginning talks now with possible trading partners will stabilise the global economy.

As he told the BBC: "What we now need to do is get on with it in a way that minimises the economic impact on the UK economy in the short term and maximises the benefit in the long term.

"The mood music that I have heard here is very much that this will mean more opportunity for countries like China that are outside the EU to do business with Britain," Hammond said.

Repercussions of Brexit

The global economy contracted by US$2 trillion (R28,7 trillion) on the morning of 24 June 2016, after British voters chose to leave by a slim margin. The Dollar strengthened and gold-mining stock increased in value as investors looked for a safe haven for their money. South African miners AngloGold Ashanti and Gold Fields saw double digit gains as the price of gold increased to US$1,358 per ounce, its biggest increase since 2008.

The Brexit vote marked a historic shift in the UK's trade relationship with the world. For countries which trade with the EU or the UK, these are uncharted waters.

Douglas Rowling, a vice president at ratings agency Moody's, wrote: "The next few months will likely be bumpy for the gold and currency markets as Brexit effects materialise. AngloGold Ashanti and Gold Fields' credit profiles remain well positioned to accommodate any volatility over this period given their deep liquidity sources and strong credit metrics".

Most economists predict a recession if the UK triggers Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, which allows a country to exit the EU. As European borders are closed to UK goods, and new tariffs are negotiated, Britain's trade with Europe will decrease and, if it can't find new markets, its economy will shrink.

During the Brexit referendum, the Vote Leave Campaign emphasised that trade with the rest of Europe had grown by 3,6% a year since 1999, but trade with other partners (especially China) grew by 6% every year.

"One thing that will change if we vote leave is that we will be able to forge trade deals with the economic powerhouses of the future – the emerging markets – which we are currently forbidden from doing by the EU," said Matthew Elliott, chief executive of the Vote Leave Campaign.

"That's why we will not only be stronger and more secure if we vote to leave the EU, we will also be more prosperous."

Africa can benefit from Brexit

In June 2016, the Minister of Finance, Pravin Gordhan, said: "The volatility and uncertainty (of Brexit) could have a serious impact on us as a country".

Britain's exit from the EU would mean that all trade deals and aid agreements would have to be renegotiated. It is too early to predict how Africa would benefit, but African governments have a strong hand to play when negotiations begin.

It will take at least two years for the UK to exit the common European market and longer for the full economic impact to ripple through the market. What matters now is that Africa makes a place for itself at the table as deals are negotiated.

When Britain joined the European Economic Union in 1973, African countries in the Commonwealth were given preferential trading agreements with the EU because of their relationship to Britain. For the UK and its African Commonwealth partners, stronger trade relationships are mutually beneficial.

African leaders understand that working as an AU trading bloc, the continent could negotiate better deals. Strategically, it would be in Africa's interest to seek access to the larger and more diverse European market.

British officials have suggested that African farmers could benefit in any new trade deal with the UK because they could sell their produce at rates that would be attractive to the UK market. For Kenya and South Africa, whose roses and wine are popular in the UK, Brexit could mean an end to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The policy allows subsidised European farmers to dump goods in Africa while imposing tariffs to prevent equitable trade in the other direction.

With more than 60% of Africa's economically active population working in agriculture, the subsidies take an important toll on the livelihoods of a majority of Africans.

Renegotiating trade deals would have another important benefit.

The CAP and the Cotonou Agreement (which binds the EU with 48 sub-Saharan countries on shared rules in development cooperation, politics and trade) have, according to Calestous Juma, Professor of the Practice of International Development at Harvard, suppressed "technological innovation and industrial development among African countries".

Prof. Juma has argued that the belief Africa will suffer from the fallout from a Brexit is based on the outdated view of Africa as a source of commodities. Africa, he contends, is building a future tied less to commodity exports and more to technological advancement. "When Africa's potential for innovation and entrepreneurship is taken into account, a long-term perspective indicates a much brighter future."

When the African Union (AU) adopted Agenda 2063, one of its aims was to build learning economies across the continent. Agenda 2063 and the Science, Technology, and Innovation Strategy for Africa, adopted by the AU in 2014, is a road map for building a diverse education and innovation-driven continental economy.

In June 2016, the EU signed an Economic Partnership Agreement with South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia and Swaziland. These Southern African Development Community (SADC) partners increased trade with the EU from R151 billion in 2011 to R216 billion in 2015. While this agreement still needs to be ratified by the EU and the SADC countries, the African trading bloc would gain preferred access for sugar, ethanol and wines.

African leaders understand that working as an AU trading bloc, the continent could negotiate better deals.

Strategically, it would be in Africa's interest to seek access to the larger and more diverse European market.

Working together as a bloc will become easier once the AU concludes its Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) negotiations in 2017.

The CFTA agreements, when signed, will remove trade barriers between African nations and increase intra-African trade, allow for free movement of people and boost investment in infrastructure.

It will create a US$3-trillion dollar market with a population of one billion people that should reshape Africa's trade relationship with the world.

Negotiating as a bloc would strengthen Africa's position.

Or as Michael Froman, a United States trade representative, pointed out when talking about Britain.

"We have no FTA (Free Trade Agreement) with the UK, so they would be subject to the same tariffs – and other trade-related measures – as China, Brazil or India. We're not particularly in the market for FTAs with individual countries.

"We're building platforms … that other countries can join over time."

Before Britain voted to leave, the UK Minister for Africa, James Duddridge, told a French reporter that a Brexit would allow the UK to focus "more on our bilateral relationships with Africa".

In a globalised economy, Britain needs to act quickly to duplicate the trade agreements they will lose should they actually leave the EU.

Africa's Commonwealth partners could benefit but this is also a "blood in the streets opportunity".

Africa wields the power of being in the right place at the right time.

The continent has a unique opportunity to demand an equitable share of global trade. Or as Warren Buffet once put it, this is the time to be "greedy when others are fearful". U

The Kigali Convention Centre (KCC), an ultra-modern facility located in Kimuhurura, Gasabo District, in Kigala, Rwanda, hosted the 27th African Union Summit in July 2016.



27th AU Summit reaffirms human rights as a collective responsibility

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

> Human rights, especially women's rights, remain a cornerstone of South Africa's policy frameworks such as the National Development Plan, which is in line with the African Union's Agenda 2063 Vision that there will be women's empowerment and gender equality in all spheres of life.

Between 15 and 18 July 2016, President Jacob Zuma attended the 27th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union (AU Summit) under the theme: "2016 African Year of Human Rights with a Particular Focus on Women's Rights" in Kigali, Rwanda. Human rights, especially women's rights, remain a cornerstone of South Africa's policy frameworks such as the National Development Plan, which is in line with the AU's Agenda 2063 Vision that there will be women's empowerment and gender equality in all spheres of life.

In this regard, South Africa received a country award for achieving economic emancipation of women during an awards ceremony at the conclusion of the AU Summit.

The assembly adopted a declaration on the theme of the summit, whereby the AU heads of state and government reaffirmed that human rights and the rights of women in particular, were a collective responsibility of all in Africa.

"In addition to the theme, AU heads of state and government discussed strategic and urgent matters at the summit, namely peace and security on the continent, especially in South Sudan; sustainable financing of the AU; regional integration and progress on achieving the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) by 2017; and United Nations (UN) reform, among others," said President Zuma on his return.

Chairperson's term extended

Elections to appoint a new chairperson of the AU Commission (AUC) also took place but since the candidates were not able to achieve a two-thirds majority, the assembly decided to postpone the elections to the 28th AU Summit scheduled for January 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Chairperson of the AUC, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, continued to chair the commission until January 2017 when AU member states elected and appointed a new AUC comprising a new chairperson, deputy chairperson and eight commissioners. The terms of the Deputy Chairperson and commissioners were also extended.

South Sudan

Regarding the situation in South Sudan, President Zuma attended an urgent meeting of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to deal with the conflict between the rival parties: the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)-in-Government, led by President Salva Kiir, and the SPLM-in-Opposition, led by Vice President Riek Machar.

> The assembly adopted a declaration on the theme of the summit, whereby the African Union heads of state and government reaffirmed that human rights and the rights of women in particular, were a collective responsibility of all in Africa.

Representatives attending the meeting agreed that the conflict could not be allowed to continue and that African leaders should ensure that the peace process and the people of South Sudan be protected.

It was further decided that the two rival military forces should be separated and disarmed.

President Zuma stated that the issue of South Sudan was a priority for South Africa partly because the SPLM had been very close to the African National Congress and other former liberation movements on the continent.

Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa is the President's Special Envoy to South Sudan and South Africa participates in the AU High-Level Implementation Panel for Sudan and South Sudan, which works closely with IGAD.

"As the youngest country on the continent, we should continue to assist South Sudan in nation-building," said President Zuma.

Peace and security

With regard to peace and security matters on the continent, the assembly considered the report of the chairperson of the commission on the state of peace and security in Africa.

President Zuma stated that AU leaders reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the continent's capacity to deal with crises and conflicts in a speedy, efficient and coordinated manner, under the leadership of the AU, and with limited dependence on outside support.

In this regard, South Africa will continue to support all efforts aimed at the full operationalisation of the African Standby Force and its Rapid Deployment Capability.

Financing the African Union

President Zuma participated in a retreat on financing the AU.

The AU heads of state and government reaffirmed the need to ensure that the AU was financed in a predictable, sustainable, equitable and accountable manner with the

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full ownership of its member states. In this regard, the assembly decided to, among others, institute and implement a 0,2% levy on all eligible imported goods to the continent to finance the AU operating, programme and peace and security operations budget from 2017. The AUC will put in place strong oversight and accountability mechanisms to ensure the effective and prudent use of resources.

On the AU Peace Fund, each region of the AU will contribute US$65 million from the levy to support the AU Peace Support Operations Budget.

Integration of the continent

AU leaders also discussed the integration of the continent and fast-tracking the establishment of the CFTA by 2017. Infrastructure development and intra-Africa trade were also the focus of discussion during consultations between the New Partnership for Africa's Development Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee.

President Zuma stressed that: "Regional integration constitutes an important aspiration of the AU's Agenda 2063 and remains a critical component of the continent's efforts to ensure sustainable economic and inclusive growth, through the creation of a larger regional market and improving Africa's integration in the global economy.

"The envisaged establishment of the CFTA by 2017 offers an opportunity to create larger economies of scale and a bigger market. South Africa is committed to a coordinated strategy to boost intra-Africa trade and build an integrated market in Africa that will see a market of over one billion people."

The assembly decided to establish a high-level panel of five eminent persons (one from each region) to champion the fast-tracking of the CFTA.

E-passport

Also of significance during the summit was the launch of the electronic passport (e-passport), a flagship project of Africa's Agenda 2063, which aims to facilitate free movement of persons, goods and services around the continent to foster intra-Africa trade, integration and socio-economic development in the spirit of Pan-Africanism.

The assembly requested the AUC to provide technical support to member states to enable them to produce and issue African passports to their citizens and to put in place an implementation road map for the development of a Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in Africa by January 2018, which should come to an immediate effect in member states. The assembly also called on other countries and regions of the world to recognise the African Passport issued by the AUC and AU member states.



Reform of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

The AU leaders considered the Report of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government on the Reform of the UNSC, particularly given the fact that Africa was still not represented after 10 years of negotiations.

President Zuma indicated that AU heads of state and government strongly reaffirmed commitment to the African Common Position on UNSC Reform, namely the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration.

In this regard, the assembly reiterated its position that reform of the UN must be all-inclusive and encompass all components of the UN, including the General Assembly and the Security Council and that Africa be fully represented in all the decision-making organs of the UN. Full representation of Africa in the UNSC means not less than two permanent seats, including the right to veto and five non-permanent seats.

The assembly requested AU member states to include the issue of UN reform as part of their foreign policy priorities in their engagements with non-African partners.

The Committee of Ten will remain seized with its mandate until Africa achieves its objectives on the reform of the UNSC.

President Zuma held bilateral talks on the margins of the summit with his counterparts from Rwanda, Chad and the Central African Republic and discussed issues of mutual concern on bilateral and regional matters.



South Africa-India ties cemented

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

South Africa and India share common values and objectives, which were forged during the struggle against colonialism and for liberation and democracy in South Africa. India played a leading role in isolating the apartheid regime, resulting in a shared history of friendship and solidarity.



The Official Visit to South Africa by Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India in mid-2016 cemented and strengthened the excellent bilateral relations which existed between South Africa and India. South Africa and India share common values and objectives, which were forged during the struggle against colonialism and for liberation and democracy in South Africa. India played a leading role in isolating the apartheid regime, resulting in a shared history of friendship and solidarity.

India also provided consistent support to the liberation movement during South Africa's struggle for democracy and was at the forefront within multilateral fora such as the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in promoting international efforts towards South Africa's liberation. The great Mahatma Gandhi's stay in South Africa not only had an impact on resistance to the apartheid regime, but was also the beginning of the evolution of his own philosophy of Satyagraha and Ahimsa (pressure for social and political reform through passive resistance), which influenced the political path of India towards independence. Gandhi's philosophy and teachings also impacted on the liberation struggle in South Africa and were an inspiration for millions of South Africans, as witnessed by the mobilisation during the 1952 Defiance Campaign.

Full diplomatic relations were established in November 1993. In 1997, the first visit by a South African head of state to India took place when President Nelson Mandela laid the foundation of a Strategic Partnership between the two countries, with the signing of the Red Fort Declaration. This visit was followed by several high-level visits and President Jacob Zuma also attended the India-Africa Forum Summit, held in New Delhi in October 2015. It was during this summit that he extended an invitation to Prime Minister Modi to pay an Official Visit to South Africa.

Trade with India exceeded the R94-billion mark in 2015, with South Africa exporting R41 billion worth of goods and importing R53,7 billion. Although bilateral trade has increased steadily over the past few years, considerable scope exists to grow trade figures.

There are more than 100 Indian companies that have invested in South Africa, including TATA, Mahindra, Sahara Computers, Cipla and the Bank of India. Some major South African companies have also invested in India, including Sasol, FirstRand, Old Mutual, Airports Company South Africa, Shoprite, South African Breweries and Nando's.

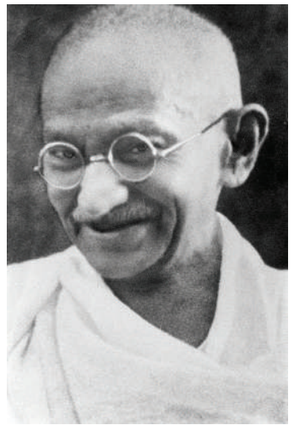
South Africa also benefits from training and scholarship opportunities provided by the India Government in terms of the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme, as well as by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations.

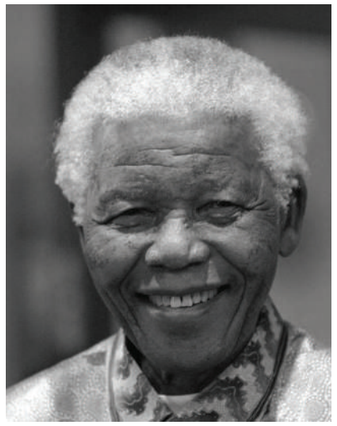
Given the legacy of apartheid and skills requirements that exist in specific fields, especially in the technical professions and in the areas of medicine and mathematics, there are specific areas of skills development and training opportunities in India from which South Africa can benefit. It is of course important that our skills requirements are aligned to the skills training on offer.

South Africa and India enjoy a strong partnership in the field of science and technology and 2016 was the 20th-year celebration of collaboration in this field.

This has been a very fruitful collaboration. Relations in this field were formalised through the signing of a Bilateral Agreement on Scientific and Technology Cooperation in July 1995, which is implemented through a Programme of Cooperation, which is renewed every three years.

On the political front, the countries remain ever-friendly and many of the foreign policy objectives which both countries share are pursued both bilaterally and multilaterally, especially through South-South initiatives. South Africa and India are both committed to the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) mechanism; the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA); the BASIC group of countries with regard to climate change; the G-77 and China; the NAM; and BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa).





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Addressing the media at the Union Buildings in Pretoria on Friday, 8 July, President Jacob Zuma said South Africa was looking to increase and diversify its exports to India. President Zuma said the Official Visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi enabled the two countries to build on their existing trade, investment and commercial relations.

"We have identified new areas for market access, including in the defence, deep-mining, renewable energy and health sectors.

"Future sectors identified for possible cooperation include agro-processing, pharmaceuticals, mining, water and waste management, retail, financing and infrastructure development," said President Zuma.

He said South Africa also highly regarded its cooperation with India in the field of skills development.

"A number of our youth study in India. We are keen to explore further opportunities for training opportunities in India as part of youth empowerment and development.

"We have agreed to expand and improve people-to-people contact through promoting tourism between the two countries," he said.

India and South Africa, President Zuma said, played an instrumental role in shaping the Indian Ocean Rim Association into a vibrant organisation.

"We have identified the Ocean Economy as a major driver for sustainable economic growth and employment generation under South Africa's Operation Phakisa: Ocean Economy initiative," he said. South Africa estimates that its oceans will contribute more than R20 billion to the gross domestic product by 2019.

This is expected to increase to R177 billion by 2033, with just over one million jobs created.

Prime Minister Modi said India and South Africa had through centuries nurtured strong people-to-people ties.

"We stood together in our common fight against racial segregation and colonialism," he said, paying homage to Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Ghandi.

The Prime Minister said in their joint discussions with President Zuma, they reviewed the full spectrum of their engagement. He said Indian companies hold strong business interests in South Africa.

He said India had interest to enhance investment in mining and minerals and pharmaceuticals, among other sectors, in South Africa.

"India is also ready to share its experiences and capacities for development of small and medium businesses in South Africa," said Prime Minister Modi.

He said the two countries could also partner in the field of defence and security.

During the visit, the following agreements and memoranda of understanding (MoUs) were signed by the two sides:

- MoU on Information and Communications Technology
- MoU on the Establishment of Grassroots Innovation in the area of Science and Technology
- MoU on Tourism
- Programme of Cultural Cooperation. SAnews.gov.za



Finding our way again: South Africa's AIDS journey

By Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa
and co-chair of the South African National AIDS Council

> It is clear that having the largest treatment programme on the planet isn't enough. We must remember that it is only through education that we will find our path towards an AIDS-free generation.

HIV is a powerful enemy. If we want to defeat it, we must continue to be on guard.

Seventeen years ago an 11-year-old South African boy, tiny for his age, stood alone on a huge stage. He had a microphone in his hand and a smile on his face. And he spoke truth to power. "I hate having AIDS because I get very sick," he said. "I get very sad when I think of all the other children and babies that are sick with AIDS … Babies are dying very quickly ..."

The occasion was the 13th International AIDS Conference, held in Durban in July 2000. The boy was Nkosi Johnson. He died just a few months later.

In 2016, South Africa hosted the International AIDS Conference for the second time – in Durban again, from 18 to 22 July – and it was worth reflecting how different Nkosi Johnson's story would have been today. Since then, South Africa has done much to tackle HIV, rolling out the world's largest treatment programme to its citizens and improving primary healthcare. Seventeen years ago HIV infection was a death sentence, particularly for the poor and vulnerable – and especially children. In 2000, in South Africa, the lifetime risk of dying of AIDS was as high as 50%.

Today, HIV is a chronic condition, controlled as many chronic conditions are – such as diabetes – with medication. Children like Nkosi Johnson, infected at birth, now live, flourish and grow into healthy adults.

This progress, and the lives saved, is borne out by South Africa's life expectancy. After years of steady improvement in the late 20th century, it suddenly dropped to a low of 51,7 years in 2005. At the same time, countries such as India and Brazil continued their steady rise. Thanks to our HIV treatment programme, life expectancy has begun to rise again. Today, Statistics South Africa puts our life expectancy at 60,6 years for men and 64,3 years for women.

Why the change? What happened in 2005? In 2005, South Africa embraced the problem with energy, rolling out a massive antiretroviral treatment programme through its public health system.

Today, our response to HIV is framed by broad global policy – including our own National Development Plan, the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations' sustainable development goals – to vigorously provide comprehensive treatment and care to as many as possible.

We know treatment alone is not enough. Our policies and programmes also aim to change risky behaviour and find solutions to the social and economic conditions that make people vulnerable to HIV infection.

In 2010, the fight against the epidemic was ramped up with the launch of the world's biggest programme to test for infection, the HIV Counselling and Testing Campaign. Within 18 months of the launch of the campaign, which is ongoing, 18 million South Africans, over a third of the country's population, had tested and knew their HIV status.

Today, about 10 million South Africans take the test every year. Testing is a major weapon in the fight against HIV. Simply knowing they are HIV-positive, makes people far less likely to risk infecting others. The fruits of South Africa's decade-long fight against HIV can also be found elsewhere. AIDS-related deaths declined from 345 600 in 2005 – when the disease claimed half of all deaths in the country – to 151 000 in 2014, when 29,2% of all deaths were AIDS-related.

Significantly, the transmission of the virus from mother to child during or after birth dropped from 70 000 babies in 2004 to fewer than 7 000 in 2015.

In 2000, when South Africa hosted the International AIDS Conference for the first time, people living with HIV had no access to treatment and the country was under attack by the global community for its stance on HIV and AIDS.

Today, we have more than three million people on publicly funded antiretroviral treatment. We aim to have 4,2 million people on treatment in the next two years. However, HIV is a powerful enemy. There are still problems to be unearthed and tackled. One is a worrying prevalence of new HIV infection in adolescent girls and young women. It is estimated that some 2 000 young women aged 15 to 24 are infected by HIV in South Africa every week. This is by far the highest rate of infection in any age or sex category – and one of the highest infection rates in the world. HIV thrives in conditions of ignorance and poverty, and in situations of gender inequality. This infection rate is intertwined with other critical social problems directly experienced by South Africa's young people: high rates of teenage pregnancy, high school drop-out rates, widespread sexual violence and high youth unemployment. In an effort to tackle the problem, in late June 2016, South Africa launched the National Campaign for Girls and Young Women. This aims to fight practices that put adolescent girls and young women at risk of HIV, such as unsafe sex, destructive behaviour and drug and alcohol abuse.

Another goal is to build adolescent girls and young women's confidence and resilience, and give them greater economic opportunities.

It will also target men, encouraging them to help effect the crucial, fundamental change in South Africans' sexual behaviour.

Working with non-governmental organisations and local AIDS councils, the campaign will encourage men – both young and older – to use condoms, stick to one sexual partner and not prey on young girls and women.

It will task men with joining the call for safer sexual behaviour and an end to violence and the abuse of women.

The project is supported by over US$140 million in funding from the United States and German governments and the Global Fund.

It will be rolled out over the next three years to 51 municipalities with the highest incidence of new HIV-infections. At its core is the principle that our best weapon in South Africa's new battle against HIV and AIDS is knowledge and education. It is clear that having the largest treatment programme on the planet isn't enough.

We must remember that it is only through education that we will find our path towards an AIDS-free generation.

This article was first published in *Daily Maverick*.

South Africa hosted the AIDS 2016 Conference at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre Complex in Durban from 18 to 22 July 2016. South Africa previously hosted the conference in 2000.

The theme of AIDS 2016, "Access Equity Rights Now", was a call to action to work together and reach the people who still lacked access to comprehensive treatment, prevention, care and support services.

Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the South African National AIDS Council, led the South African Government delegation to the conference, which was attended by about 18 000 delegates from around the world.

The conference, which had more than 500 sessions, workshops and programme activities, attracted some 1 000 journalists, representing 180 countries.

The conference provided South Africa with an opportunity to outline progress that the country had achieved since 2000 in its efforts to combat HIV and TB challenges.

South Africa is renowned for its ability to successfully host major international events such as the 2010 FIFA World Cup, Commonwealth Heads of Government Summit, COP17 Conference and the BRICS Summit, to mention a few.



Nkosi Johnson



Embracing international migration for development

> As a people who hold Ubuntu as a core tenet and value of our culture, we understand as deeply as anyone that our own humanity reflects in how we treat and value others.

By Malusi Gigaba
Minister of Home Affairs

Peter Sutherland, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for International Migration, has described international migration "as the moral, political and economic issue of our time".

Migration is of course a moral issue, concerning as it does, how we treat our guests in the form of visitors as well as regular and irregular immigrants, as well as vulnerable asylum-seekers and forced migrants. As a people who hold Ubuntu as a core tenet and value of our culture, we understand as deeply as anyone that our own humanity reflects in how we treat and value others.

Politically, a country's ability to determine who may enter and exit its territory, and on what terms, is a core aspect of national sovereignty which all of the 200 or so countries in the international state system retain. Individuals visiting, transiting and residing in the territory of a country are entitled to the protection of as well as humane treatment by the host country. By virtue of their presence in a territory, they may also make various claims on the host state, and thus destination countries are entitled to know who a prospective visitor is, and what their needs, circumstances and intentions are before they enter a country's territory.

People can also become citizens of other countries through naturalisation. So, when governments manage migration, they do so in the awareness that they are not merely considering entry of a temporary resident, but also a potential future citizen. The movement of people is a core issue of regional integration, in Africa and other regions globally.

In recent months, we have seen the European Union – one of the models of regional integration efforts – come under significant strain over immigration issues. Meanwhile, the emigration out of the African continent of her best and most able and talented skills has continued unabated, and scores of these have perished as they sought to flee their political and socio-economic circumstances in pursuit of better stability, economic opportunities and a better life in Europe.

International migration is a critical issue economically because fundamentally, it is people who work, trade, spend and invest. In a globalised world of dynamic, interconnected economies, the ability to manage the flow of people is critical to economic competitiveness. Increasingly, the ability of a country to attract and facilitate the easy entry of tourists, businesspeople, conference attendees, skilled workers and investors is a key component of economic competitiveness.

However, international migration is not just about the affluent strata of the economy. It is a development issue. African migrants sent approximately US$35 billion home in 2015, an amount almost equalling the total amount of development aid Sub-Saharan Africa received from Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries the previous year (US$36 billion in 2014), and only 25% less than Africa received from all countries (US$47 billion in 2014). And these are only the officially reported remittances; the actual numbers may be significantly higher when taking into account informal and unrecorded remittances. In other words, Africans living and working outside of their home countries send financial resources home which match or even exceed development aid.

International migration is an enormously important issue with far-reaching implications for countries. It is an issue which has increased in prominence in recent years, not only internationally, but in South Africa as well. According to the World Bank, there are 250 million international migrants in the world; 3% of the world's population, more than ever before.

Home Affairs: South Africa's custodian of international migration

The Department of Home Affairs is mandated to manage immigration to ensure security, promote development and fulfil our international obligations. As part of our mandate, we are responsible for policy development on international migration, working in close consultation and partnership with sister government departments, the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs in Parliament and the Select Committee on Home Affairs in the National Council of Provinces.

South Africa last articulated policy on international migration 18 years ago with the 1999 White Paper, with resulting legislation including, notably, the Immigration Act, 2002 and subsequent amendments. During this time, there have been legislative and regulatory changes, but no comprehensive review of policy. In the intervening period, the landscape has changed significantly.

Key developments include:

South Africa has become a major destination and entry point to the continent and the world. Most of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) nationals are transiting through South Africa to the continent and the world. Further, world leaders, including politicians and business persons, travel through South Africa to the region, and low-skilled, working-class migrants both travel to South Africa and transit through the country to other destinations. South Africa has become a preferred destination for investors. This has led to major conglomerates in the manufacturing and service industries establishing their regional offices and/or assembly plants in South Africa.

South African companies are increasingly expanding their businesses into other countries in Africa. Similarly, foreign companies seeking to invest in Africa are also increasingly using South Africa as a base to explore business opportunities in other African countries.

Migrants from the African continent, as far as the Horn of Africa, are transiting through South Africa to their destination countries in Europe and North America. This has been exacerbated by the tightening of borders and political instability in North Africa (the Arab Spring). South Africa continues to receive a high number of asylum seekers from almost all the regions of the world, including from countries that are generally considered to be politically stable.

South Africa attracts tourists from all the regions of the world because of its natural beauty, vibrant culture and various tourist attractions; and it has become a major venue for conferences and international events.

African countries continue to liberalise their immigration regimes in line with the continental regional integration strategies and the African Union's Agenda 2063 Vision. For instance, East African Community and Economic Community of West African States' member states have implemented visa-free travel for citizens of the respective regions.

Many South Africans have taken advantage of globalisation and have migrated to various developing and developed countries. The South African Diaspora abroad can contribute to the achievement of national goals more so than is presently the case. Quite clearly, South Africa has become a become a major source, transit and destination country for mixed-migration flows, which need to be managed more robustly if the process is to have clear and tangible benefits for the country in terms of economic development, social cohesion as well as security.

Among others, what is evidently lacking in the current international migration framework is that:

- it lacks a management approach that does not treat migration as a nuisance or a laissez-faire process, but rather as an inevitable process that can richly benefit our country and whose risks, if better managed, can be minimised
- it lacks a framework to deal with economic migrants
- asylum-seeker management processes are easy to abuse by economic migrants who resort to this mechanism in the absence of a policy that addresses that particular phenomenon
- it lacks a bold and robust approach to the recruitment and retention of critical skills in a world where they are so intensively pursued.

A new vision for international migration

The department's *Green Paper on International Migration* must provide South Africa with the vision and policy tools to better manage international migration now and in the future, given these and other developments. The Green Paper must balance the primary imperatives of economic development, national security, and international and constitutional obligations.

All of these are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. South Africa's economic competitiveness and status as a leading destination in Africa for trade, tourism and investment, are enhanced by the security and stability that domestic and international actors rely on. People feel safe here, and so they feel comfortable trading, spending, working and investing here.

Similarly, contributing to the economic development of our region and continent as a whole, in line with our long-standing, Africa-oriented foreign policy, is in our enlightened self-interest. Regional growth and cooperation will contribute to stronger neighbours, who will be more effective partners in addressing transnational risks such as organised crime, terrorism and human trafficking, which threaten our national security.

The vision that we are proposing, is one which holds that South Africa should embrace international migration for development. The Green Paper contends that it is neither desirable nor possible to stop international migration. International migration is a natural, largely positive phenomenon – which if well managed – can, does and will make a crucial

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> International migration is part of what makes us human: we are by nature mobile and move in search of safety or opportunities.

contribution to growing our economy and transforming Africa as envisioned in Agenda 2063. International migration is part of what makes us human: we are by nature mobile and move in search of safety or opportunities. All nations today are a product of historical migration flows that were partly influenced by earlier decisions taken by leaders of states.

In general, nations flourished where people with different origins, skills, resources and cultures were able to live, work and trade peacefully. The paper sets forth some core principles which should inform our nation's management of international migration.

Firstly, South Africa has a sovereign right to manage international migration in its national interests. The national interests of South Africa should be defined in accordance with constitutional principles, socio-economic development objectives and national security.

We must manage international migration in a way which promotes human rights, advances the National Development Plan, takes into consideration our circumstances and resource constraints, and ensures all persons residing in South Africa – citizens and foreign nationals alike – are and feel safe.

Secondly, South Africa's international migration policy must be oriented towards Africa.

International migration policy must speak to a nation's foreign policy. Our foreign policy throughout the democratic period has recognised South Africa as an integral part of the African continent, and our national interest as being inextricably linked to Africa's stability, unity and prosperity. South Africa is committed to regional economic integration through its participation in the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), SADC and the African Union (AU).

We are an enthusiastic supporter of Agenda 2063 – adopted by African heads of state, including President Jacob Zuma, in 2015 – as formulated by the AU Commission under the leadership of Chairperson Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, herself a former Minister of Home Affairs.

Our future lies, together with others, in being part of the African continent that has a knowledge-driven industrial base, thriving trade and a free flow of people, goods, information and capital. In this regard, it is important to note three significant developments that have implications for future international migration Africa. Along with Agenda 2063's call for a continent-wide visa free regime by 2018, negotiations for the establishment of the Tripartite Free Trade Area and Continental Free Trade Area have highlighted the importance of freeing movement on the continent.

Our policy must equip us to work with regional partners, to progressively liberalise movement, in line with the aspirations of the people of our continent, for Africans to be able to move freely in Africa.

Thirdly, South Africa's international migration policy must contribute to nation-building and social cohesion. As mentioned earlier, the migration policy shapes the future composition of the South African population. We must expand our narrow conceptions of who is a South African, previously confined to black, white, Indian or coloured people as defined by the apartheid state, to include new South Africans originating from all over Africa and the world.

We must expand our discourse on nation-building and social cohesion to recognise the enormous social and economic contributions of immigrants in our country, and welcome and integrate them into our communities.

A diverse nation can build its knowledge base by attracting new knowledge, experiences, cultures and synergies. This gives it a critical advantage in a world economy that is knowledge-driven and highly connected and dynamic.

Fourthly, South Africa's international migration policy must enable South Africans living abroad to contribute to national development priorities. Like many other developing countries, South Africa loses a significant proportion of its skilled workforce every year. This has both negative and positive consequences that must be managed. South Africans who have migrated to other countries can be a source of development in terms of skills, capital and connections.

Countries that are confronted with a similar challenge have established various institutional mechanisms for engaging with their respective diasporas. This is a critical point. If you listen to South Africans discuss immigration, it seems many of us think it is a one-way phenomenon, of foreigners coming to South Africa. Hundreds of thousands of South Africans travel, live and work abroad for various lengths of time.

Not only must we think of ways to leverage our Diaspora, but we must ensure we treat guests in our country the way we would like to be treated, not if but when, we ourselves travel abroad.

Finally, the efficient and secure management of international migration is the responsibility of individual countries, all countries collectively as well as regional structures.

International migration is a phenomenon with profound implications for all areas of government and society. Its effective management likewise requires a "whole government-whole society" approach.

On the domestic level, the policy attempts to set out the responsibilities of the State, civil-society partners, individual citizens and foreign nationals living in South Africa with regard to migration.

Towards a new, progressive dialogue on international migration

The Green Paper represents the culmination of years of institutional experience and policy development work with respect to immigration specifically, and international migration more broadly.

It is not perfect, but we do believe it sets out many, if not all of the important questions South Africa must consider to effectively manage international migration in a globalised world, and in an increasingly integrated, developing and dynamic African continent.

International migration is an emotive issue, with far-reaching implication for society.

We expect robust debate on our proposals, and are convinced that the input of civil-society formations, stakeholders and ordinary citizens will strengthen our proposals and point the way to the most appropriate and feasible solutions.

In the coming months, we will use all communication platforms and avenues available to us, to engage South Africans across the country on these issues.

Ultimately, for our nation to effectively manage international migration, we need the understanding and support of the vast majority of South Africans from all walks of life.

We must have a thoughtful and inclusive national discussion, which respects the views, perspectives and concerns of all stakeholders.

Working together, we can and will manage international migration for the development of our country, region and continent.

> The vision that we are proposing, is one which holds that South Africa should embrace international migration for development.

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Intra-African trade, a catalyst to continental growth and development

A developed Africa is our collective destiny and legacy. It cannot be the sole responsibility of leaders to ensure that the Africa we bequeath to generations of the future is prosperous and developed.

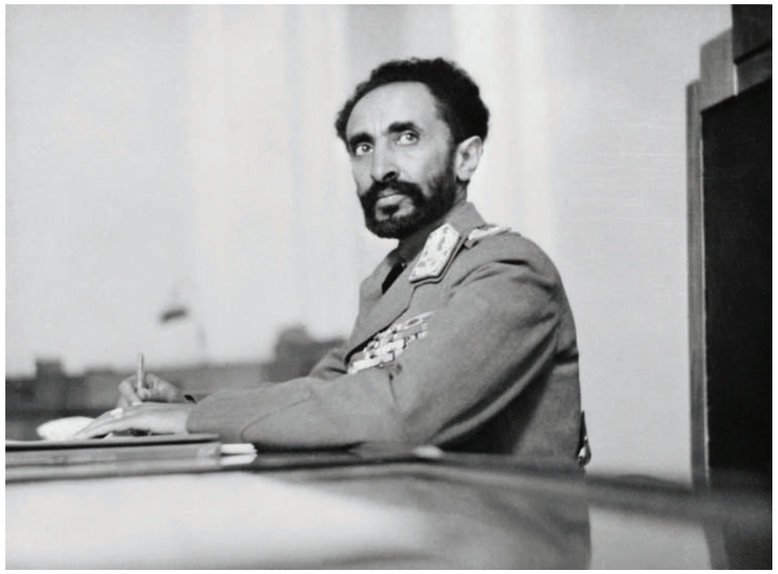
By Manusha Pillai
General Manager: Communications, Brand South Africa

The day 25 May is now commonly referred to as Africa Day and commemorates the day on which 32 countries of the continent came together to form the then Organisation of African Unity (OAU). This was a momentous day for the continent when the leaders of these 32 countries resolved to build a united continent – one which was able to leverage its vast and unexploited natural resources to improve the lives of the then 250 million African citizens.

Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia delivered an emotive and still relevant address. Among others, he proclaimed that the role of the OAU was to establish:

"A specialised body to facilitate and coordinate continent-wide economic programmes and to provide the mechanism for the provision of economic assistance among African nations is thus required. Prompt measures can be taken to increase trade and commerce among us. Africa's mineral wealth is great; we should cooperate in its development. An African development programme, which will make provision for the concentration by each nation on those productive activities for which its resources and its geographic and climatic conditions best fit it, is needed. We assume that each African nation has its own national development programme, and it only remains for us to come together and share our experiences for the proper implementation of a continent-wide plan."

Fifty-two years later, during which the OAU was transformed into the African Union (AU), leaders of the continent once again took a momentous step when they adopted Agenda 2063, which had as its centre the:



"Mobilisation of the people and their ownership of continental programmes at the core; the principle of self-reliance and Africa financing its own development; the importance of capable, inclusive and accountable states and institutions at all levels and in all spheres; the critical role of regional economic communities as building blocks for continental unity; and holding ourselves and our governments and institutions accountable for results."

In essence, Agenda 2063 aims to build on achieving the Pan-African vision of "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena". The vision of Emperor Selassie and many other forefathers of our continent are encapsulated in Agenda 2063. What is now of utmost importance is for Agenda 2063 to be implemented.

Each of the now almost one billion citizens of this continent has a role to play in ensuring that the promise this continent holds for prosperity and development becomes a reality.

A developed Africa is our collective destiny and legacy. It cannot be the sole responsibility of leaders to ensure that the Africa we bequeath to generations of the future is prosperous and developed.

African citizens represent, what is referred to at the World Economic Forum, as the largest expected "demographic dividend". Within 20 years, the number of sub-Saharan citizens reaching working age (15 to 64) will exceed that of the rest of the world combined. And by 2040, half of the world's youth will be African.

African citizens have the potential to become a motive force for change. A people-centred developmental agenda must therefore necessarily be at the heart of Africa's growth and development programmes. This must include nutrition, healthcare, education and skills development.

What can be done to ensure that we can translate rhetoric into action? What is the one thing that can be done which will unlock the immense potential of the continent – both from an economic and a human capital perspective? The continent and its people have been waiting 53 years since Emperor Selassie declared "Our Armageddon is past. Africa has been reborn as a free continent and Africans have been reborn as free men", for economic freedom to match political freedom.

Intra-continental trade

Even in 1963, Emperor Selassie identified the need for the continent to improve intra-African trade. Today, Africa remains the only continent in the world which does not leverage its vast resources to create opportunities for intra-continental trade.

Trade within the continent amounts to a mere 12% of total trade volumes and perpetuates colonial trade patterns. This is contrary to other regions which the *Financial Times* contextualised in June 2015: "By contrast, intraregional exports accounted for about 50% of the total between 2007 and 2011 in developing Asia, 21% in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 70% in Europe, according to a 2013 report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)".

In looking at this situation, UNCTAD in 2015 noted that "these statistics show that intra-Africa aggregate trade and share in total African trade is low when compared to other parts of the world and relative to Africa's trade potential".

UNCTAD further surmises that a Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) can "also help in creating the conditions for African countries to take advantage of existing and new regional value chains. An integrated African market would facilitate the integration of different countries in the various stages of production according to their competitive advantages, thus fomenting also the creation of new regional value chains that could eventually become part of global ones. Developing regionally integrated value chains and markets is both feasible and important for Africa".

Looking at this assessment leaves no doubt that the one thing that must be done which will bring a chain reaction of human development and economic growth is intra-African trade.

It is pleasing that political will is aligned with this vision, as evidenced by the agreement by heads of state and government at their annual summit in 2015 who agreed that a CFTA must be established by 2017.

Steps are being taken towards achieving this. Twenty-six African nations agreed to establish a Tripartite Free Trade Area in June 2015, which is expected to create a market of US$2,6 trillion, with a combined population of over 600 million.

A range of instruments confirm that Africa is among the fastest-growing regions in the world. This presents an opportunity that must not be wasted. While the continent is an oft-sought region by international investors, this must be translated into creating the policies, infrastructure and mechanisms to create enabling conditions to support intra-African trade, economic growth and development.

In 1963, Emperor Selassie said: "Africa was a physical resource to be exploited … Africa was the market for the produce of other nations and the source of the raw materials with which their factories were fed". It is up to the continent's leaders, politicians, civil society, businesspeople and citizens to ensure that this does not remain the reality for our continent into perpetuity.

In 1963, Emperor Selassie said to his counterparts: "The task on which we have embarked, the making of Africa, will not wait. We must act, to shape and mould the future and leave our imprint on events as they slip past into history".

In 2016, while the making of a prosperous and developed Africa continues, we must know that our citizens may not wait another 53 years for reality to match rhetoric. Will history judge us kindly? The time for us to act is now. U

A range of instruments confirm that Africa is among the fastest-growing regions in the world. This presents an opportunity that must not be wasted.

REVIVING THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS – AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS A TWO-STATE SOLUTION | DIPLOMACY



Reviving the Middle East Peace Process – an important step towards a two-state solution

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

South Africa fully supports the French Initiative following the worrying silence and lack of dialogue since 2014. This initiative is like a first raindrop after a long drought and we hope it will nourish the peace process.

In June 2016, South Africa participated in the conference in Paris aimed at reviving the Middle East Peace Process (MEPP), which collapsed in 2014 with the outbreak of what had become known as the 50-Day Gaza War.

The MEPP remains one of our foreign policy priorities.

Over the past two years, envoys appointed by President Jacob Zuma, namely, former Minister Zola Skweyiya and former Deputy Minister Aziz Pahad, visited a number of countries in the Middle East region and interacted with leaders and opinion-makers, soliciting views on how to revive and take forward the two-state solution.

South Africa fully supports the French Initiative following the worrying silence and lack of dialogue since 2014. This initiative is like a first raindrop after a long drought and we hope it will nourish the peace process.

In the past, South Africa initiated dialogue between different groups of Palestinians and Israelis, during which we shared South Africa's experience in negotiations, peace-building and constitution-building processes, and the transition to democratic transformation.

Since 2014, we have watched with horror the destructive and deadly Gaza War, the sporadic acts of violence and counter-violence and the heavy-handedness of the security establishment. We have listened to threats and counter-threats.

South Africa holds the view that negotiations between Israel and Palestine should have a clear, mutually-agreed framework with a reasonable timetable for implementation of agreed processes, which will translate into a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

The central responsibility for peace is in the hands of the Palestinians and Israelis. The rest of the international community is ready to support and encourage the peace process. We believe that dialogue is still possible. In fact, dialogue is the only way. The two-state solution, with all its shortcomings, is still the only way.

The conference in Paris was part of the French Initiative on the MEPP.

It is expected that another, broader international conference will be held that will bring in more countries, including Israel and Palestine. That conference is expected to re-ignite a negotiation process between Israel and Palestine.

The conference in Paris was therefore a preparatory platform for the broader conference scheduled for later. At the conference, South Africa, together with the foreign ministers of over 29 countries, including the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), and members of the Quartet and the Arab Quartet, led by the Arab League, reaffirmed their support for a just, lasting and comprehensive resolution to the outstanding Israeli-Palestine conflict.

South Africa appeals to all sections of the two nations to come back from the precipice and seek a peaceful outcome. If this initiative fails, we may live to regret the consequences.

They reaffirmed that a negotiated two-state solution was the only viable solution to achieving enduring peace, with the two states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security.

We participated in the conference, cognisant of the challenges engulfing the Middle East region, especially Israel and Palestine.

The two-state solution is under direct threat because of continued acts of violence and the ever-expanding settlements on Palestinian land that the international community has described as illegitimate and contrary to international law.

The participants at the conference called on both Israel and Palestine to demonstrate a genuine commitment to the two-state solution to rebuild trust and create the conditions for the resumption of meaningful direct negotiations aimed at ending the occupation that began in 1967 and resolving all permanent status issues.

There is a body of reference that has been recognised by the international community as constituting the framework for such negotiations. These include several UNSC resolutions spanning the years 1967 to 2008. In addition, the Madrid Principles of 1991, the Arab Peace Initiative of 2002 and the Quartet Road Map of 2003 provide sufficient guidelines to move the process forward.

An open-ended approach becomes an unaffordable luxury as it would be oblivious to the reality on the ground and the constant risks of escalation.

South Africa appeals to all sections of the two nations to come back from the precipice and seek a peaceful outcome. If this initiative fails, we may live to regret the consequences. Our country is committed to making whatever contribution we can to ensure that this initiative becomes a success.

Centenary of the Battle of Delville Wood rewrites history books

By President Jacob Zuma



Tuesday, 12 July 2016, was a very important day in the history of South Africa.

On that day, we gathered to honour South Africans who sacrificed their lives during the Battle of Delville Wood, 100 years ago, regardless of race, colour or creed. We gathered at Delville Wood, France, to honour in particular, black people who fell in this war, who were not accorded the respect and recognition they deserved, and which was equal to that of their white compatriots.

The Battle of Delville Wood was the first major engagement entered into by the South Africans on the Western Front during the First World War, also known as the Great War.

In July 1916, a century ago, the South African first infantry brigade was engaged in one of the bloodiest battles ever fought. For six days and five nights, a soldier was killed every minute, with one South African soldier dying every three minutes. The brigade was tasked to "break through the enemy lines by any means necessary".

The commander, Brigadier General Henry Timson Lukin, received the order to "take and hold the wood at all costs".

They suffered losses of 80% and yet they managed to hold the wood as ordered. This feat was described as "the bloodiest battle of the hell of 1916".

Of the 3 153 men who entered Delville Wood, only 142 survived.

As we mark 100 years of the battle of Delville Wood, we have to continue to correct past wrongs. Of the South African contingent who served in France during World War I, most were drawn from the South African Native Labour Contingent (SANLC).

Yet, the role played by the SANLC has received hardly any attention in South African military history. The main involvement of this contingent was to provide logistical support, offloading millions of tons of ammunition and supplies necessary to continue the war on the Western Front.

As black people, they were not allowed to bear arms for two main reasons.

First, giving black and white South Africans the same roles in the war was seen to accord black people the same status as whites, contrary to the then dominant political ideology.

Secondly, General Louis Botha and the ruling white elite feared that training blacks in the handling of firearms would empower them to, in future, use such military expertise to fight white supremacy.

However, more than 25 000 members volunteered for service in France during the Great War.

What it is that led thousands of black men, at the time under the yoke of colonial domination and oppression, to volunteer to take part in the Great War?

The answer to this is best found in the inscription on the stone, not far from Delville Wood, set in the peaceful cornfields on the hills surrounding the town of Arques La Battaille (Arch la Bataee), where 260 graves of men from the SANLC are found.

Therein inscribed in English, Sesotho and isiXhosa are the words:

"To the memory of those natives of the South African labour corps who crossed the seas in response to the call of their great King George V, and laid down their lives in France, for the British Empire, during the Great War 1914 – 1918, this memorial is erected by their comrades."

This inscription tells the chilling story of how oppressed South Africans at the time believed they could, through their participation in the Great War, receive their liberation in exchange back home. We know this did not happen and the oppressed had to eventually take up arms to achieve their freedom, decades after the Great War.

The Delville Wood Memorial was inaugurated in 1926. In 1952, a stone was added to commemorate those South African soldiers who died during World War II. However, only white South African soldiers were buried at Delville Wood.

The fallen black South Africans who served during the First World War are buried elsewhere in France.

The injustice that we had to redress was that the Delville Wood Memorial Museum in the past reflected a very biased South African military history.

The representation of Africans during the war was minimal and it distorted the important role they played in the various sites of the war. The transformation of the Delville Wood Memorial was therefore necessary to ensure that it would reflect an objective, just and authentic South African military history.

It now portrays and honours all South Africans – regardless of race, creed or rank – who died for their country in World War I and World War II.

The first phase took place in 2014, presided over by Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, with the burial at Delville Wood of the remains of Private Myengwa Beleza, a black soldier.

The transformation project further comprises the construction of a memorial wall bearing the engraved names of all South African Forces who fell during World War II, in alphabetical order, to ensure that the historical role played by South Africans of all races in the first and second world wars is accorded the necessary recognition. It also includes the creation of a Garden of Remembrance for those who fell but whose remains were never recovered.

In addition, a permanent exhibit within the Delville Wood Museum is being installed. Care has been taken that the new murals in the museum will depict the involvement of the SANLC in the Great Wars, as well as the sinking of the *SS Mendi.*

The transformation of the Delville Wood Memorial will therefore represent a powerful message of reconciliation and provide some redress that will further consolidate the diversity of our South African nation.

The bravery of Delville Wood laid the foundation upon which the integrated South African National Defence Force, as an instrument for peace and stability, remains prepared to protect the country's territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

We will remember our fallen heroes in every one of our towns, cities and villages, for that is whence they came.

Let all South Africans stand proud of what the men of Delville Wood of all races sacrificed for their country. Let their ideal be our legacy and their sacrifice our inspiration.



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In July 2016, President Jacob Zuma paid a State Visit to France, which served to advance relations between the two countries.

President Zuma held talks with his French counterpart, President François Hollande, and the two leaders reaffirmed the need to enhance the strategic partnership encompassing political, economic, social and defence matters.

Agreements were signed during the visit to deepen cooperation between the two countries in the fields of energy, agriculture, higher education and training, as well as arts and culture.

The two sides also signed the renewed Partnership Framework Document on development cooperation for the period 2016 to 2019, which provides for collaboration in the promotion of national priorities.

Underscoring the importance of boosting trade relations and economic cooperation, President Zuma also met French CEOs and addressed the South Africa-France Business Forum.

In the meeting, President Zuma impressed upon the private sector to explore investment opportunities in South Africa.

Two-way trade stands at R33 billion in favour of France. There are about 350 French companies doing business in the country, while only 30 South African businesses are operating in France.

The President also officiated at the centenary commemoration of the Battle of Delville Wood in Somme, France, a ceremony that ended 100 years of the marginalisation of black soldiers who died in the First World War.

Government has built a memorial in France that recognises all soldiers regardless of race.

During the visit, President Zuma also received the digitised Rivonia Trial dictabelts. The deteriorating audio recordings of the 1963 to 1964 court case were restored by France's National Audiovisual Institute.

President Zuma thanked France for safeguarding "an invaluable part of South Africa's history for generations to come".

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Our Arctic future

By the Embassy of Denmark, Pretoria

The developments that are occurring in the Arctic region hold the potential for new opportunities alongside a number of challenges. The region is opening up and presenting new opportunities in areas such as trade, research, tourism and mining.

In 2016, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation's Head Office in Pretoria hosted the exhibition, *Our Arctic Future,* featuring a rather large polar bear towering over a number of white walls, all portraying beautiful photos of the Arctic nature and wildlife, climate and energy as well as the communities living in the Arctic region.

The exhibition was set up by the Embassy of Denmark in Pretoria and formed part of a global focus on the Arctic region from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It has also been showed in Germany, the United Kingdom, China and Iran.

The question of "why Denmark?" might arise.

The answer is that the Kingdom of Denmark includes Greenland and the Faroe Island, and therefore, Denmark is a nation with large land masses in the Arctic. However, to the observant reader, this will most probably only raise further questions, because why is it that this small country at the northernmost tip of Germany is able to count the Greenlandic people and the Faroese as their countrymen? To answer that, one has to take a step back and dig into the Danish and indeed the Nordic history.

The Norwegian born Viking Erik Torvaldson – a hot-tempered, red-bearded man, better known as Erik the Red – was the first to reach the shores of Greenland in the late 900s after having been declared an outlaw in his adopted home of Iceland on account of several murders.

Erik reached the southern shores of Greenland during summertime and therefore named it for the green landscape that he first encountered, which might seem contradictory to the usual portrayal of Greenland as a snow-covered and icy landscape. After exploring this new land for some years, he returned to Iceland, and told the story of the green land.

He told the story so convincingly that some years later he sailed off towards Greenland again, this time accompanied by approximately 500 men and women. While the journey was tough and many lost their lives along the way, this group of people came to create the first settlements in Greenland, that are still there today – Qassiarsuk and Nuuk.



In the middle of the North Atlantic Ocean – where the warm waters of the Gulf Stream meet the cold waters of the Arctic – lie the Faroe Islands. Many suggest that the Norse settlers, who came to the Faroe Islands around the 9th century, were not the first to settle here. In fact, it seems that the first settlers were Irish monks around AD 565.

They were, however, the reason why this small subarctic island territory was made part of the medieval Norwegian Kingdom.

Both Greenland and the Faroe Islands became part of Danish territory, when Norway was united with Denmark under Queen Margrethe I in 1388.

This large union held stand some 400 years, after which Norway became part of Swedish territory. Greenland and the Faro Islands, however, remained Danish, and therefore form an integral part of the Danish history. These days, both Greenland and the Faroe Islands have extensive self-government. Under the self-government arrangements, political competence and responsibility are transferred from the Danish political authorities to the Faroese and the Greenlandic political authorities. On some issues like foreign, defence and monetary policy, the responsibility has remained with Denmark and are decided by the Danish Parliament (Folketinget), where both the Faroese and the Greenlandic people are represented, each with two permanent seats.

The three parts of the Kingdom of Denmark share a number of values, interests and responsibilities broadly and in the Arctic region in particular.

The developments that are occurring in the Arctic region hold the potential for new opportunities alongside a number of challenges. The region is opening up and presenting new opportunities in areas such as trade, research, tourism and mining.

All parts of the Kingdom of Denmark are committed to reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Harnessing renewable-energy sources plays a crucial part in this effort. At the same time, estimates place large amounts of the world's undiscovered oil and gas reserves in Arctic territory.

The continuous melting of the sea-ice and permafrost will make such resources more readily available for exploitation in the future. If and when this happens, exploitation must take place with a constant regard for the environment. Therefore, being an Arctic nation, Denmark and the governments in Greenland and the Faroe Islands are tasked with a special responsibility to ensure that the policies that now and in the future will govern the Arctic region will protect the Arctic people, wildlife and resources. For this reason, the Arctic is now a central pillar in Danish foreign policy.

A central issue is the claim that the Kingdom of Denmark and other arctic states are making to the waters surrounding the arctic coastlines. According to international law, the states can all claim an exclusive economic zone (EEZ), which can extend up to 200 nautical miles from the coast.

Furthermore, the coastal states have the option to lay claim to parts of the continental shelf beyond the EEZ.

There are some overlapping claims with regard to this, since there are large scientific and economic interests in the area. The claims are being settled in accordance with international law and are generally characterised by cooperation as all relevant states understand the importance of strong collaboration between the parties as a fundamental element in the development of sustainable policies.

In total, eight states have Arctic territories, namely the United States of America, Canada, Russia, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Kingdom of Denmark. In a time of rapid change, collaboration between these eight states is crucial to protect the interests of the people who live and work in the region – and to protect the natural environment.

The eight Arctic states have formed the Arctic Council as a forum for cooperation on common issues.

In addition to the member states, the Arctic Council includes six organisations representing indigenous peoples. These organisations take part in the council's negotiations and decisions as permanent participants.

The Arctic Council is the only intergovernmental organisation in the world to include indigenous peoples as members alongside member states.

In addition to the members, 12 non-Arctic states, nine intergovernmental and inter-parliamentary organisations and 11 non-governmental organisations also participate as formal observers in the Artic Council.

It is the hope that the exhibition, *Our Arctic Future*, will create awareness about the future possibilities and challenges that lie ahead with regard to the changes that are occurring in the Arctic region and engage people from all over the world in a dialogue on sustainable development.

After the exhibition's stay in DIRCO, it went on tour in the rest of the country and hopefully inspired even more people to engage in the dialogue about the Arctic future.



LIBERATION HERITAGE: SOPHIA WILLIAMS DE BRUYN | FEATURE

LIBERATION HERITAGE

Sophia Williams de Bruyn



Sophia Theresa Williams de Bruyn was the youngest of the women who led the Women's Day March on 9 August 1956. She was just 18.

Williams de Bruyn was born in 1938 in Villageboard, a mixed area that had different nationalities living side by side. She was raised in the home of her grandparents with her older brother and sister. When her grandparents died, her father, Henry Ernest Williams, bought property at number 17 Thumbler Street, in Villageboard with his older brother.

She started primary schooling in Villageboard and went on to attend the Saint Patrick Catholic School in North-End Port Elizabeth. When her father joined the army to fight in World War II, Sophia's mother, Frances Elizabeth, moved out of the family house with the children to a new housing development,

Sophia attended the local Saint James Catholic School, where she continued with her primary education.

During her primary education, she started working during the school vacations so she could have pocket money when school terms started. As she was doing this, almost every school term, the workers at Van Lane Textile Factory singled her out to solve their problems with factory bosses.

She later became shop steward, and increased her involvement in representing and articulating the grievances of the workers. She continued working in the factory and never returned to school.

At the textile factory, she rose to become an executive member of the Textile Workers Union in Port Elizabeth, working alongside people such as Raymond Mhlaba, Vuyisile Mini, Govan Mbeki, and others.

She became the founder member of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, predecessor of the Congress of South African Trade Unions.

Her trade union work interacted with mainstream political movements of the day, such as the African National Congress (ANC). The Congress Alliance (Indian Congress and the ANC) at the time was grappling with issues such as the Group Areas Act, 1950; and the Bantu Education Act, 1953; among others. It was then that the Coloured People Congress (CPC) was formed.

In 1955, Sophia was appointed as a full-time organiser of the CPC in Johannesburg.

The ANC and the Transvaal Indian Congress had offices in the basement of the Market Theatre and they gave the CPC office space in the same basement. When the Coloured Population Act was put forward, Sophia was assigned by the congress to work with the lawyer Shulamuth Muller, an attorney whose husband, Mike Muller, was secretary-general of the Textile Workers Union and was already banned. Together, they helped to organise the women around pass issues with women such as Helen Joseph, Lillian Ngoyi and Rahima Moosa.

At the same time, Sophia was at the forefront of the Congress of the People in Kliptown. She led the Women's March to the Union Buildings in 1956 and is the only surviving leader of the historical event. ⊍

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> She led the Women's March to the Union Buildings in 1956 and is the only surviving leader of the historical event.

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Veteran of the 1956 Women's March, Sophia Williams de Bruyn, said she was proud to be South African and had her spirit revived at the National Women's Day celebrations.

Addressing the celebrations on 9 August 2016, she said she was pleased to see so many people gathered on the southern lawns of the Union Buildings to mark 60 years since the iconic 1956 Women's March against the discriminatory pass laws, which had restricted the movement of black people in the country.

"You display the discipline and the dignity that is deeply impressive, that was also displayed in 1956," she said to the cheerful crowds. Sophia said the launch of the Women's Living Heritage Monument, which depicted leaders of the Women's March, had touched her.

"My heart was overwhelmed when I saw the statues of the women stalwarts.

"I think they are smiling wherever they are and I am proud to be a South African," said Sophia.

The march to the Union Buildings by 20 000 women was not only against the extension of carrying passes to Africa women, but also about the challenges and the oppressive system that sought to deepen inequality in terms of race and gender, which resulted in the current triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality which burden women the most.

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Remembering the voices of the women of 1956

By Romaana Naidoo
Media Club South Africa

The year 2016 marked the 40th Anniversary of the historic Women's March.

Every year in August, South Africans celebrate Women's Month by commemorating the 20 000 brave women who marched on the Union Buildings in Pretoria on 9 August 1956, protesting the apartheid pass laws being extended to black women.

The year 2016 marked the 40th Anniversary of the historic Women's March.

The crowd marched to Pretoria to deliver to then Prime Minister JG Strijdom a petition protesting their freedom being restricted by the passes.

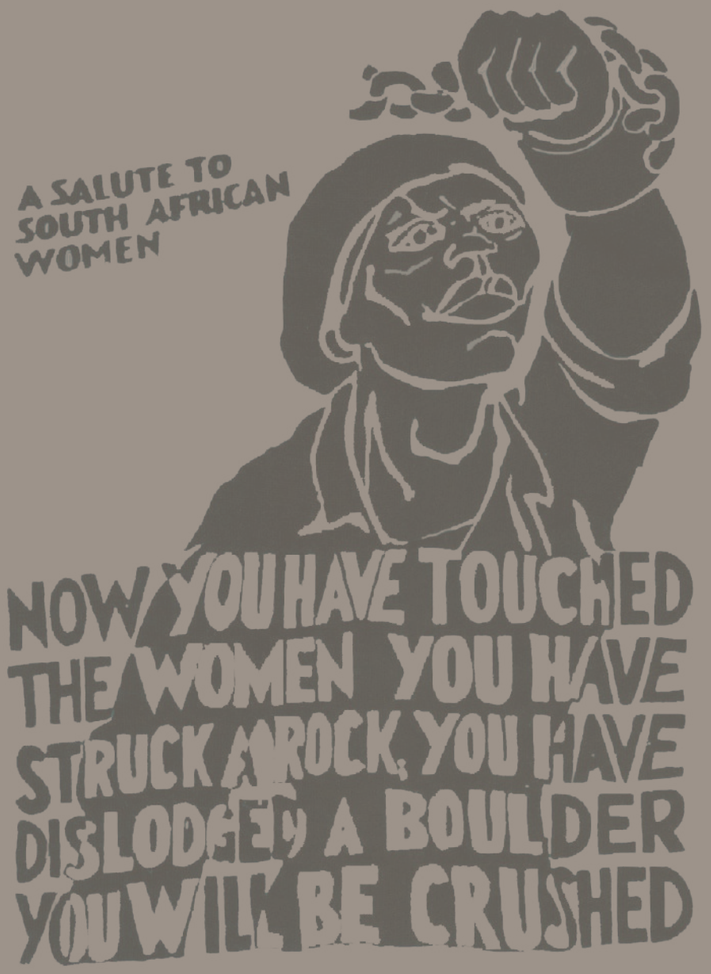
Organised by the Federation of South African Women (Fedsaw), the march was led by Helen Joseph, Rahima Moosa, Sophia Williams de Bruyn and Lilian Ngoyi.

Among those incredible women of all races and ages, from all walks of life, was Amina Cachalia. Cachalia (28 June 1930 – 31 January 2013) was a South African anti-apartheid activist, women's rights activist and politician.

She was married to political activist Yusuf Cachalia and was also a long-time friend and ally of the late former President Nelson Mandela.

Born Amina Asvat in Vereeniging, she began campaigning against apartheid and racial discrimination as a teenager and went on to become a women's rights activist. She spent some 15 years under house arrest throughout the 1960s and 1970s because of her anti-apartheid activities.

Cachalia was the treasurer at Fedsaw, a leading supporter of the Federation of Transvaal Women and a member of both the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress and Transvaal Indian Congress during the apartheid era.



Memories of the Women's March

Before her passing in 2013, Cachalia spoke about the day with a broad smile and said that, for her, it was, "a significant day and a day remembered every year and all year. It was a truly splendid day, weather-wise not so great – it was a cold winter's morning.

"We planned it [the protest] for quite a few months ahead. The executives of Fedsaw took it upon themselves and organised this demonstration and march."

She recalled that the organisers faced many obstacles. As public gatherings were out of the question, it was decided that every woman would get an individual petition as they arrived at the Union Buildings. These petitions were to indicate why the women were going to Pretoria.



Cachalia, who was heavily pregnant at the time, was advised by doctors not to march because of a heart condition. So instead, she was taken by car to Pretoria early that morning. She recalled that she waited in the clock tower and then, suddenly, a group of women wearing colourful blankets came into view and walked to the amphitheatre, where they sat on the grass, silently.

"It was a wonderful sight; it meant that the women were coming," she said.

You strike a woman, you strike a rock

After leaving the petitions at the door, on windowsills and in the passageway of the minister's empty office, Ngoyi said that the minister had run away, Cachalia recounted, with a laugh. During the march, Ngoyi led the women in a song, the words – "Wathint'Abafazi Wathint'imbokodo", meaning "You strike a woman, you strike a rock" – now an infamous reminder of their strength as the bedrock of their families and communities.

The women stayed at the Union Buildings for about an hour or so before quietly retiring.

"There were no police difficulty and there were no incidences of violence.

"Everything went off absolutely beautifully," Cachalia said.

The Act further made it clear that black women would, for the first time, be required to carry reference books. This outraged South African women and posed a threat to their freedom of movement. It added fuel to the Anti-Pass Campaign.

Anti-Pass Campaign

The 1956 Women's March was a culmination of several years of defiance and activism.

South African History Online explains: "In 1952, the Native Laws Amendment Act, 1952 tightened influx control, making it an offence for any African (including women) to be in any urban area for more than 72 hours unless in possession of the necessary documentation.

"The only women who could live legally in the townships were the wives and unmarried daughters of the African men who were eligible for permanent residence."

In that same year, the Abolition of Passes and Coordination of Documents Act, 1952 was passed. Under this Act, the many different documents black men were required to carry were replaced by a single one – the reference book – that gave details of the holder's identity, employment, place of legal residence, payment of taxes and permission to be in the urban areas.

The Act further made it clear that black women would, for the first time, be required to carry reference books.

This outraged South African women and posed a threat to their freedom of movement. It added fuel to the Anti-Pass Campaign.

During one of the protests, Dora Tamana, a member of the African National Congress Women's League (ANCWL) and later a founding member of Fedsaw, said: "We women will never carry these passes.

"This is something that touches my heart.

"I appeal to young Africans to come forward and fight.

"These passes make the road even narrower for us.

►►



Fedsaw aimed to bring South African women together to secure equal opportunities regardless of race and colour and to remove social, legal and economic disabilities.

"We have seen unemployment, lack of accommodation and families broken because of passes. We have seen it with our men. Who will look after our children when we go to jail for a small technical offence – not having a pass?"

Tamana (née Ntloko) was born in 1901 in Hlobo, Transkei. She married John Tamana, who was injured in the Bulhoek Massacre. The Tamana family had to move to Cape Town where they rented a converted stable in District Six.

After parting ways with her husband, Tamana got involved in the politics of the region when the government wanted to clear and re-house squatters living in Blouvlei.

The meeting held by the Blouvlei community was attended by over 500 residents and addressed by a number of leading Communist Party members. In 1942, the Communist Party of South Africa became the first of many organisations that Tamana joined, ostensibly because of the threat to her home.

Over the next few years, Tamana became increasing drawn into political activity, becoming an executive member of the Cape Town Women's Food Committee and a member of the ANC.

The Defiance Campaign

In June 1952, a cooperative group known as the Defiance Campaign exerted pressure on the government through radical acts of defiance. Women were prominent in conducting these acts, notes South African History Online.

One of these women was Fatima Meer. Meer was arrested for her defiant behaviour along with Ngoyi, who later became president of the ANCWL and Fedsaw.

In 1946, Meer joined many other South African Indians in a passive resistance campaign against apartheid. It was at this



time that she started the Student Passive Resistance Committee and helped establish the Durban District Women's League, an organisation to build alliances between Africans and Indians after riots between the two race groups in 1949.

After the National Party gained power in 1948 and started implementing its apartheid policies, Meer's activism stepped up; she was one of the founding members of Fedsaw.

Fedsaw was launched on 17 April 1954 in the Trades Hall on Rissik Street, in central Johannesburg. It was the first attempt at establishing a national, broad-based women's organisation. A group of 146 delegates, representing 230 000 women from across the country, attended the inaugural conference to pledge their support.

Fedsaw aimed to bring South African women together to secure equal opportunities regardless of race and colour and to remove social, legal and economic disabilities.

According to South African History Online, a draft Women's Charter was presented and called for the enfranchisement of men and women of all races; for equality in employment opportunities; for equal pay for equal work; for rights in relation to property, marriage and children; and for the removal of all laws and customs that denied women such equality.

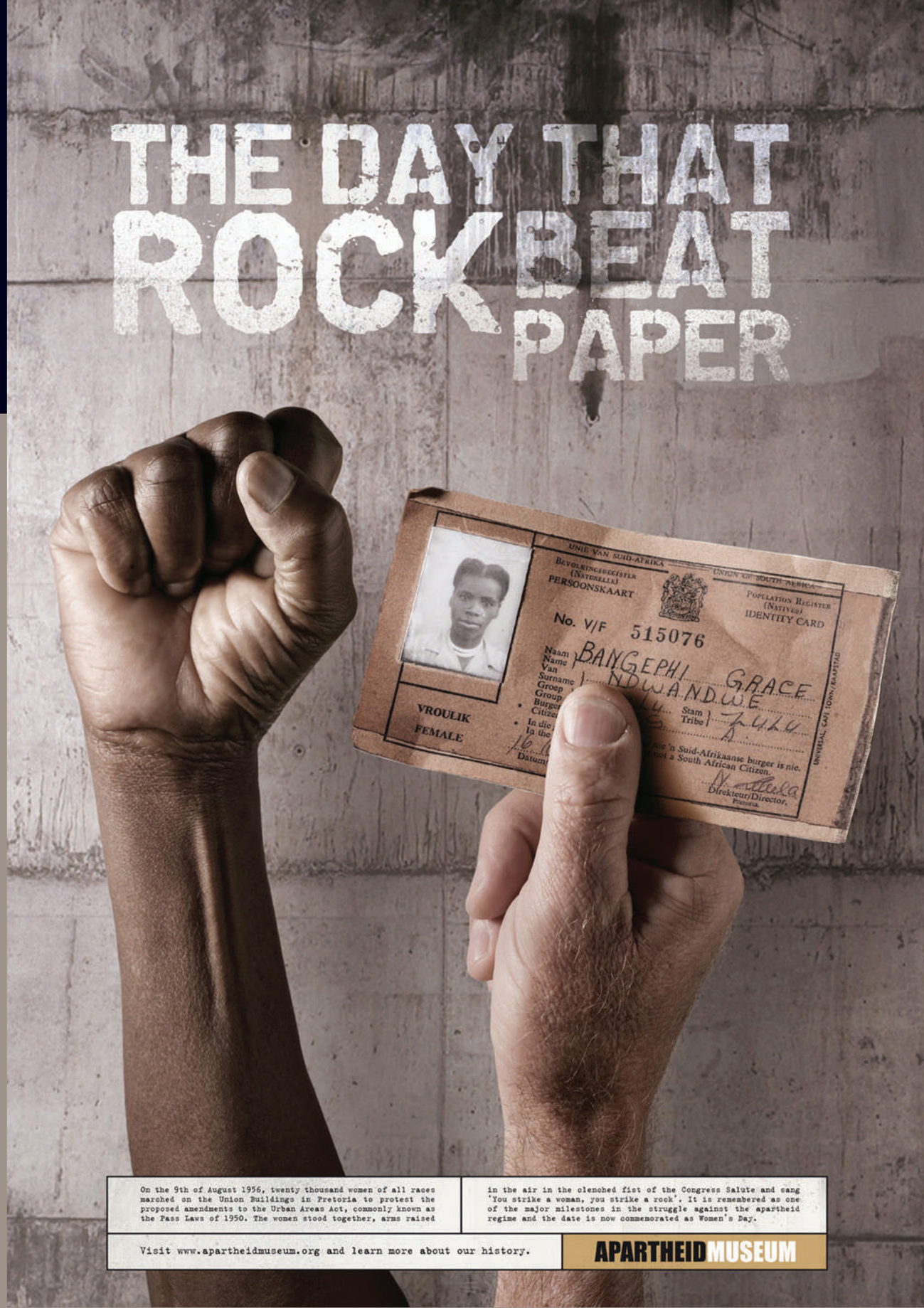
The Freedom Charter

These demands were later incorporated into the Freedom Charter, adopted by the Congress of the People in Kliptown, Soweto, on 25 and 26 June 1955.

In the run-up to the Kliptown gathering, in August 1954, the Congress Alliance asked Fedsaw to help organise the Congress of the People and the women agreed. They successfully helped to organise local bodies and conferences in 1955 and lobbied for the incorporation of some of their demands into the Freedom Charter.

In September 1955, the issue of passes came to a head after the government announced that it would start issuing the reference books to black women from January 1956. Several protests were held, culminating in the mass march to Pretoria in August.

In commemoration of the bravery of these women, and in tribute to them, the country now celebrates National Women's Day each year on 9 August. U





Kennedy and Luthuli: 50 years of memory

By Nathi Mthethwa
Minister of Arts and Culture

Robert F Kennedy's five-day visit to South Africa and his 70-minute meeting with Chief Albert Luthuli, insignificant as it might seem within the broader context of history, unquestionably had its own ripple effect.

The year 2016 marked the 50th Anniversary of the meeting between Senator Robert F Kennedy and Chief Albert Luthuli in Groutville, Durban.

The commemoration of the anniversary of this meeting provided opportunity to revisit our history as South Africa within the context of renewed public discourse efforts aimed at filling all the historical gaps and broadening the scope of interpretation pertaining to our struggle for freedom from apartheid repression.

South Africa's freedom from apartheid in 1994 was achieved through national and global efforts – all merged in the quest for and belief in the dignity of humanity, human freedom and an equitable and just society.

The rippling effect of these efforts created and sustained change and brought hope for a better tomorrow. Robert F Kennedy's five-day visit to South Africa and his 70-minute meeting with Chief Albert Luthuli, insignificant as it might seem within the broader context of history, unquestionably had its own ripple effect. His visit to South Africa at the behest of the National Union of South African Students, took place at the height of apartheid oppression when all political organisations were banned; activism restricted; and freedom fighters imprisoned or exiled.

The decade of the 1960s was a difficult one indeed, especially for those who believed in the universality of human rights, peace and social justice for all.

Chief Albert Luthuli, then President-General of the African National Congress; a Nobel Peace Laureate; a man who fought for the betterment of his people and the coexistence of societies, irrespective of race, colour or creed; was himself banned and placed under severe restrictions.

On 31 May 2016, the Kennedy family visited the Luthuli grave in KwaZulu-Natal.

During the occasion, Kerry Kennedy, the daughter of assassinated United States (US) Senator Robert F Kennedy, described growing up with a photograph of Chief Albert Luthuli in her home.

Describing the visit as a "deeply spiritual experience", Kennedy, who was leading a large family pilgrimage to South Africa to commemorate 50 years since her father's historic visit to the country in June 1966, said she was awed by the experience.

Senator Kennedy met with Chief Luthuli and delivered his historic "Day of Affirmation" speech in Groutville on 8 June 1966.

Kerry was joined by her three daughters, 23 nieces and nephews, as well as seven members of the US Congress, who were retracing Kennedy's footsteps in South Africa.

During her visit to the Luthuli Museum on the KwaZulu-Natal north coast, Kennedy clapped to the sounds of drums beating and Zulu dancers who welcomed the delegation.

Kennedy said it was a spiritual journey and an enormous honour to be with family and members of the congress.

"When I was a child, the photo that hung on the wall of our home was of my father and Chief Luthuli.

"To come here and read his beautiful words on the side of the church and to be at his grave was deeply spiritual, especially for me and all Robert Kennedy's grandchildren.

"They are also getting to understand the situation and their grandfather better.

"It is an extraordinary experience to share with my daughters," she said.

Dignitaries at the event included the Minister of Arts and Culture, Nathi Mthethwa; Inkatha Freedom Party leader, Mangosuthu Buthelezi; and then US Ambassador to South Africa, Patrick Gaspard.

Minister Mthethwa announced that bronze statues to commemorate the historic meeting of Chief Luthuli and Senator Kennedy would be erected at the museum to commemorate the meeting.

Earlier, the eldest daughters of the two leaders, Albertina Luthuli and Kerry Kennedy, laid a wreath at Luthuli's grave at the Groutville Congregational Church.

Albertina said that Kennedy's visit to South Africa, then "the pariah of the world", was a fact-finding mission on which he not only sought talks with the oppressive government, but more importantly, to hear what the oppressed majority themselves and their banished leader, Chief Luthuli, had to say.

Ambassador Gaspard said Kennedy's visit was not only an act of defiance against the apartheid government, but a defiance of accepted American government policies.

"In his journals, Senator Kennedy noted that when he looked at Chief Luthuli, he saw eyes that danced with the kind of charisma that drew him in, but he also said that Chief Luthuli's eyes hardened when he spoke of the circumstances his people were being made to suffer under," Ambassador Gaspard said.

www.timeslive.co.za / www.iol.co.za



Back in the United States of America (USA), Robert F Kennedy was a leading candidate for the Democratic Party presidential nomination in the 1968 election.

As Attorney-General, he fought against organised crime and corruption and was an advocate for civil rights for African Americans; in all, he stood for a better America and a better world.

According to Prof. Larry Shore who co-produced a documentory, *A Ripple of Hope: RFK in the Land of Apartheid,* Robert Kennedy's visit gave opponents of apartheid – both black and white – hope and courage to challenge the apartheid system at a time when they felt isolated and few in the outside world knew what was happening in South Africa.

By the time Senator Kennedy visited South Africa in 1966, Dr Martin Luther King Jnr had publicly linked the Civil Rights Movement in the USA and the struggle against apartheid repression in South Africa in his 1964 and 1965 speeches. Also in 1962, Chief Luthuli and Dr King Jnr issued a joint statement for sanctions against apartheid South Africa under the title, *Appeal for Action against Apartheid.*

This anniversary event, remembering and celebrating their lives, offered an opportunity to rekindle and reignite our commitment to fight and stand for what they believed in and died for. And that is a better South Africa, a better America and a better world.

Celebrating a centenary of academic excellence on the African continent

100
YEARS OF
ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE

UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE
100 YEARS
1916-2016

Although it operated in an environment of racial segregation, even long before apartheid was formally introduced, the South African Native College (SANC) epitomised a more racially tolerant and inclusive South Africa by admitting African, coloured and Indian students.

Originally called the SANC, the University of Fort Hare (UFH) in Alice, in the Eastern Cape, was established in 1916. The religious tradition at the heart of Fort Hare's origin, shared by black and white students alike, symbolised "plain living and high thinking", and an education that was undeniably Eurocentric. However, it did not make the assumption, central to the Bantu education implemented in South Africa from the 1950s, that black Africans required and deserved a different, inferior education.

The UFH is an institution with a distinctive and illustrious past, producing graduates from South African and from as far afield as Kenya and Uganda. Some of the institution's well-known and politically active alumni include Oliver Tambo, Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Robert Sobukwe and Mangosuthu Buthelezi in South Africa; Robert Mugabe and Herbert Chitepo in Zimbabwe; and Eliud Mathu and Charles Njonjo in Kenya. Among the many non-South Africans who spent formative years at Fort Hare were Zimbabwe's first black medical practitioner, Dr Ticofa Samuel Parirenyatwa, and the historical, novelist and politician, Stanlake Samkange. In the arts, Fort Hare has released from South Africa poet Dennis Brutus, *Drum* journalist Can Themba, sculptor and painter Ernest Mancoba and Xhosa author and scholar Archibald Campbell Jordan.

Although it operated in an environment of racial segregation, even long before apartheid was formally introduced, the SANC epitomised a more racially tolerant and inclusive South Africa by admitting African, coloured and Indian students. The SANC's mainly white staff was complemented by black academics such as legendary figures ZK Matthews and DDT Jabavu. The students' indigenous home languages included, among many others, isiXhosa, Sesotho, isiZulu and Afrikaans.

In 1959, the National Party government forced Fort Hare into an ethnic college for Xhosa speakers. Outspoken staff members were expelled and a new administration, conspicuously loyal to the apartheid government, was installed. In a parody of true academic maturity, the values and traditions of Fort Hare were embattled after 1960. The apartheid state made a determined attack upon the institution and did immense damage. However, some continuities of its unique and proud historical traditions of non-racism, critical debate and aspiration towards educational excellence were never eliminated and these are now being nurtured and developed

The tradition of excellence survived, firstly, among the students and also among a small but growing number of progressive academics. Many rejected the attempt to turn Fort Hare into an ethnic institution, and from various directions – political, religious and cultural – people kept alive a spirit of opposition. In the 1960s, various African National Congress (ANC) and Pan-Africanist Congress-aligned organisations emerged and were quickly suppressed. Subsequently, Fort Hare became a stronghold of the black consciousness-oriented South African Students' Organisation. Later still, there were constant protests by students, brutally suppressed, against the Ciskei homeland



regime. Fort Hare became self-governing and "independent" in 1970. Following the creation of the Ciskei in 1980, Fort Hare became the university of a micro-state recognised only by fellow Bantustans and by apartheid South Africa, in stark contrast to its previous status as the greatest centre of black higher education in southern and eastern Africa. The tradition survived through the affection and loyalty of people towards Fort Hare, and, when the opportunity arose after 1990 when the apartheid-era administration was expelled, many opted to work there.

Supporters included Sibusiso Bengu, the first black Vice-chancellor of the new dispensation, later Minister of Education and subsequently the University Chancellor; Makhenkesi Stofile, the Minister of Sport and Recreation; and Sipho Pityana, Registrar in the early 1990s.

It survived in the creation of a new Pan-Africanism and internationalism, with students from Zimbabwe to Eritrea, and staff from all over Africa and the world flocking to its doors. Many came because they knew of Fort Hare's historical reputation and wanted to contribute to its newfound opportunities towards renaissance. Many came because

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they knew of Fort Hare's historical reputation and wanted to contribute to its newfound opportunities towards renaissance. It survives in the remarkable archival records at Fort Hare, made up of the papers of the ANC and other liberation movements in exile.

The archives of the university itself record an extraordinary and sustained educational achievement, forming a corporate memory now made accessible to scholars from all over the world.

This tradition survived notably in the university's determination, under dynamic new leadership since 1999, to pull back from the brink of institutional collapse, to refute any misconceived national attempt at higher education rationalisation that would cause it to fade away or disallow its distinctive voice to be heard.

To contemporary Fort Harians, it is important to acknowledge, record and question its history, and to extract the most liberating, enriching and valuable elements thereof as building blocks towards a radically modernised institution. In the process, the institution is building on the foundational strengths of its historical inheritance, geographical locations, stakeholder constituencies and committed workforce, and does not rely on a nostalgic invocation of previous glory.

The university is redefining its role as the producer and disseminator of new knowledge, particularly focussing on its central place in the reshaping of post-apartheid South Africa. Following a decision by the Ministry of Education, the university has, since January 2004, been incorporating and integrating a new campus in the city of East London, formerly of Rhodes University, into UFH. This significant development in a new larger operating environment presents significant challenges as well as strategic opportunities for the calculated expansion of UFH into new markets, enabling it to play a stimulating and catalytic role in the development of the Buffalo City region. Hence, it is strategically planning to grow and develop programmes in a much wider student market and is re-profiling Fort Hare across the three campuses in Alice, Bhisho and East London.

The UFH is indeed more determined than ever to build on its distinctive and illustrious past. www.ufh.ac.za

> It survived in the creation of a new Pan-Africanism and internationalism, with students from Zimbabwe to Eritrea, and staff from all over Africa and the world flocking to its doors.

On 20 May 2016, the South African Government and stakeholders hosted a successful centenary celebration event at the University of Fort Hare (UFH) in Alice, where President Jacob Zuma gave a keynote address.

The centenary alumni address was delivered by President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe. The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, also delivered a message of congratulations.

The event was attended by alumni, students, community members and dignitaries from across southern Africa.

"On behalf of all South Africans, government wishes the UFH well as it embarks on the next centenary where it will continue to contribute to the intellectual advancement of the African continent," the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) on Fort Hare Centenary Celebrations said in a statement.

The IMC said the centenary celebrated the values and traditions that placed the UFH at the centre of African intellectual pursuit and selfless service to her people.

Events to commemorate the university were expected to continue until February 2017.



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Medical tourism: Why South Africa?

Since legendary surgeon Christiaan Barnard put South Africa's healthcare services on the map by performing the world's first heart transplant in Cape Town in 1967, the country's reputation for medical excellence has gone from strength to strength.

South Africa is one of the most popular destinations for medical tourism, boasting some of the best doctors and facilities in the world as well as many tourist attractions and should not be overlooked.

Among its many attractions, the country offers highly affordable medical treatments as well as some of the world's best doctors and healthcare facilities, together with vacation options that are unrivalled anywhere else in the world.

Since legendary surgeon Christiaan Barnard put South Africa's healthcare services on the map by performing the world's first heart transplant in Cape Town in 1967, the country's reputation for medical excellence has gone from strength to strength.

Today, the country is ranked by the Southern African Development Community as the leader in the African market for health tourism, and is a major hub worldwide alongside nations such as India, Singapore and Thailand.

South Africa offers a wide range of low-cost treatments, together with a level of professionalism and quality that set its healthcare providers apart from the competition.

In addition to essential treatments, South Africa is well known for affordable cosmetic surgery procedures as well as fertility treatments, breast enlargements, cosmetic dentistry and others, creating a thriving medical tourism industry.

Many patients also choose to stay in the country for longer periods and take advantage of the abundant sunshine, world-class beaches, exciting sports, shopping and a variety of other attractions that make South Africa a truly unique tourist destination.

A large number of medical tourists come from other countries within Africa, particularly for affordable infertility treatments.

Many other patients also come from the United States of America, Australia, Germany, Italy, Britain, the Netherlands and other parts of Europe. However, there's more on offer than just medicine. Many popular "surgeon and safari" packages combine affordable treatments at a cosmetic plastic surgery clinic with exciting features such as five-star accommodation in and around Cape Town.

Also popular is a recovery programme in a spa or a resort, and a safari tour, all included in a very affordable and attractive price.

Many patients also choose to stay in the country for longer periods and take advantage of the abundant sunshine, world-class beaches, exciting sports, shopping and a variety of other attractions that make South Africa a truly unique tourist destination.

Some of the many reasons that South Africa is one of the world's most popular medical tourism destinations include:

- Modern living: Unlike many other African countries, urban South Africa, and especially Cape Town, offers a modern, cosmopolitan experience for medical travellers.
- Facilities: Medical tourists can expect to find highly trained doctors working in modern, accredited hospitals and clinics with state-of-the-art equipment.
- Natural beauty: Those who want to take in the country's rich natural beauty and get away from the cities won't be disappointed either. Beautiful scenery countrywide, the opportunity to see wild animals in their natural habitats and a variety of tranquil, natural settings all promote relaxation and recovery following a medical procedure.
- Language: English is widely spoken in most of the country, and especially in major cities like Cape Town, simplifying communication.
- Jetlag: As an added bonus, those coming for treatment abroad from Europe and Africa at large will experience very little jetlag, making the journey an easier one.

Among its many attractions, the country offers highly affordable medical treatments as well as some of the world's best doctors and healthcare facilities, together with vacation options that are unrivalled anywhere else in the world.

All in all, South Africa is a unique and attractive destination for medical tourism, boasting world-class plastic surgeons and facilities to attend to all medical needs.

These outstanding healthcare services come together with five-star tourist attractions to make a holiday worth remembering. U

www.medicaltourismsa.com

RESEARCH-LED INNOVATION SUPPORTS ECONOMIC GROWTH | FEATURE

Research-led innovation supports economic growth

By Naledi Pandor
Minister of Science and Technology

Government will continue to work hard to promote relationships with global partners and to leverage foreign investment in science and technology in South Africa.

Government has recognised that research-led innovation has immense potential to support job creation, new company formation and economic growth.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is working with science councils, universities and the private sector to ensure effective implementation of South Africa's research, development and innovation contribution to growth.

The following examples contribute to government's Nine-Point Plan.

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) investment in innovation

Over the past few years, the CSIR's R300-million Technology Localisation Programme has assisted over 140 manufacturing companies. An example of the success of this programme is the R6,3-million Casting Simulation Network that was launched in 2015 at the Vaal University of Technology. The majority of South African foundries are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which are often family-owned businesses. The cost of the simulation software is outside the means of most of these SMEs. The CSIR's R500-million Industry Innovation Partnership encourages the private sector to invest more in research and development. It includes satellite manufacturing, titanium powder development, information and communications technology (ICT) and nanotechnology. The new Nano-Materials Industrial Development Facility provides the capabilities the industrial-scale production of nano-structures and nano-applications require for industrial testing.

The CSIR's Industry Innovation Partnership also enables strategic partnerships with small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs). Biotechnology SMMEs are using the recently launched R90-million biomanufacturing facilities at the CSIR. Support from CSIR scientists and engineers ensures that products meet the needs of the market. Examples of products developed are cosmetics incorporating natural extracts, magnetic microsphere technology used in life-science applications, extracts from olives that are used in cosmetics and nutraceuticals, porridges that incorporate beneficial natural ingredients and cell culture reagents.

Square Kilometre Array (SKA)

Government's innovation interventions include global initiatives.

The SKA project is a sterling example of the value of global science partnerships.

The SKA is a €1,5-billion collaboration between South Africa and Australia to build the world's largest radio telescope.

While 10 member countries are the cornerstone of the SKA, around 100 organisations across about 20 countries are participating in the design and development of the SKA.

World-leading scientists and engineers are designing and developing a system that will require supercomputers faster than any in existence, and network technology that will generate more data traffic than the entire Internet.

Funding for the SKA project in 2016/17 alone (mostly for construction of Meerkat), amounts to R1 billion from the DST's budget.

The SKA works with international partners to build its dishes and develop its big data infrastructure. The R630-million tender for the manufacture of the 64 MeerKAT antennas was awarded in 2014 to Stratosat Datacom (Pty) Ltd, a South African company, in a joint venture with United States firm, General Dynamics SATCOM Technologies.

Almost 75% of the contract value will be spent in South Africa, including qualification testing, tooling design and virtually all of the manufacturing, resulting in benefits and opportunities for local industry.

In 2015, the Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy in Bonn, Germany, invested €11 million (R150 million) in building new sets of radio receivers, which will be deployed on the MeerKAT antennas.

SKA SA and NMC Civils announced recently that they had partnered with Absa in a R34,5-million enterprise and supply-chain initiative to develop and support SMEs in the Northern Cape through the SKA programme.

This specifically involves building the road between Carnarvon and the SKA SA Losberg construction site.

Foreign investment in science and technology

The DST supports government's efforts to make South Africa a preferred destination for foreign investment in science, technology and innovation.

The work being done to encourage international companies to establish their research and development facilities in South Africa is achieving positive results.

We applaud General Electric for its R500-million investment in a customer innovation centre in Gauteng.

We welcome its decision to invest a further R200 million to support South African SMMEs through technology transfer.

We also applaud IBM for its R700-million investment over 10 years in ICT research and development.

We applaud Cisco for its R66-million investment to increase the company's research and development activities in South Africa.

Government will continue to work hard to promote relationships with global partners and to leverage foreign investment in science and technology in South Africa.





CAPE TOWN NAMED BEST IN AFRICA FOR BUSINESS TOURISM EVENTS | FEATURE

Cape Town named best in Africa for business tourism events

The number one city in Africa for business tourism events is Cape Town, according to the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA) Country and City rankings released in May 2016.

The city once again retained its number one position in Africa for hosting association meetings, with 48 international association meetings hosted across the continent. Cape Town managed to retain its position ahead of Johannesburg, Marrakech and Nairobi – each hosting 17 meetings.

Corne Koch, Head of Wesgro's Cape Town and Western Cape Convention Bureau, accepted a Member's Choice Award for Wesgro for a third year running saying: "Over the past year, the team has secured 17 conference bids with an estimated delegate attendance of 28 280 and estimated economic impact of R374 million for the province".

The ICCA rankings are seen as one of the most important benchmarks used in the international meetings market for identifying and comparing destinations."Over the past five years, the estimated economic impact of the conference bids secured by Wesgro's Cape Town and Western Cape Convention Bureau is R1,5 billion for the province," says Judy Lain, Wesgro's Chief Marketing Officer Tourism, "making business tourism events such as association meetings an important economic contributor and job creator for the region".

The bureau secured its largest bid to date, winning the World Ophthalmology Congress for 2020, with an estimated delegate attendance of 15 000 and estimated economic impact of R224 million.

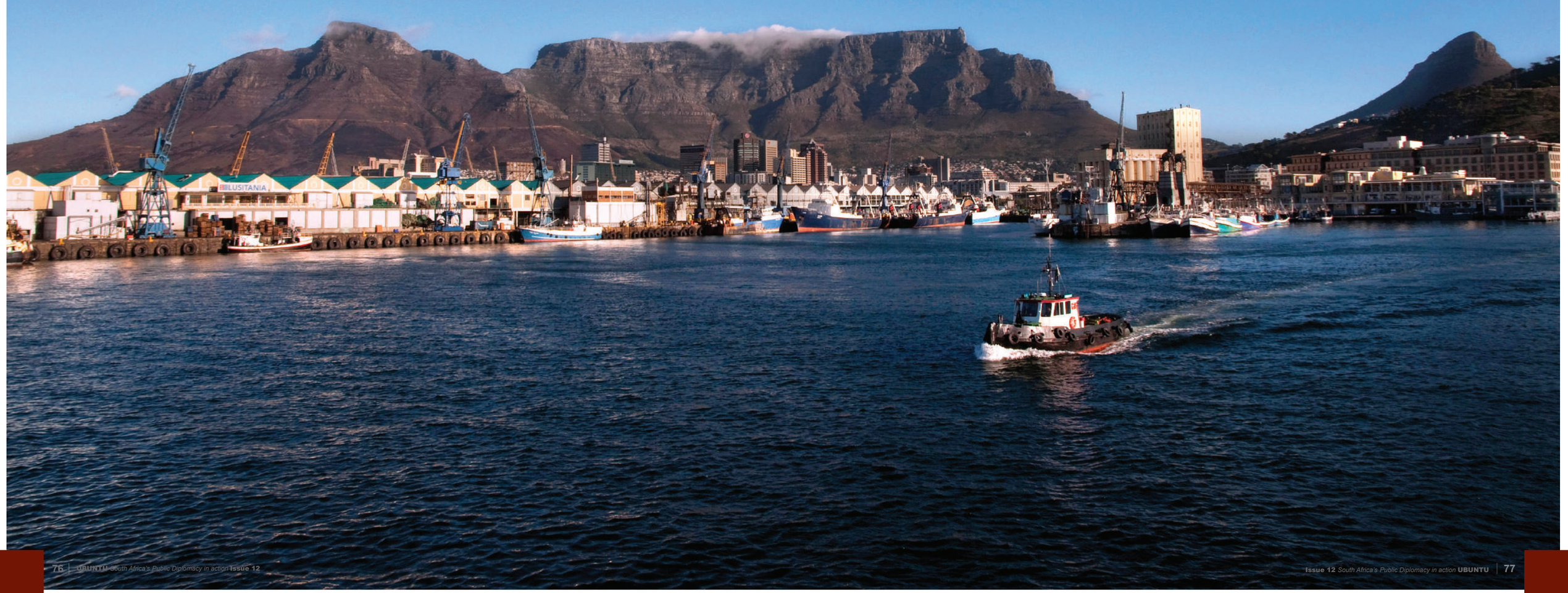
The South African business events industry has been growing steadily over the last 10 years, and it has contributed significantly to tourist arrivals in the country. In 2015, South Africa hosted 140 international meetings and conferences, which attracted about 80 000 delegates to the country. These events generated just over R1 billion in economic impact.

Speaking at the 30th South African Association for Conference Industry in June 2016, the Minister of Tourism, Derek Hanekom, said South Africa attracted 70 000 association professionals to the country in 2014 and 2015, and it remained the number one meetings destination in Africa and the Middle East.

For the next five years, starting in 2017, South Africa has already secured 66 international association conferences and meetings. These events are guaranteed business for the country's tourism and hospitality industry, and will contribute about R1,4 billion in economic impact.

They will attract 108 000 association professionals, who will also be exposed to South Africa's tourism offerings, and will spread the word of the amazing value for money it offers to the world.

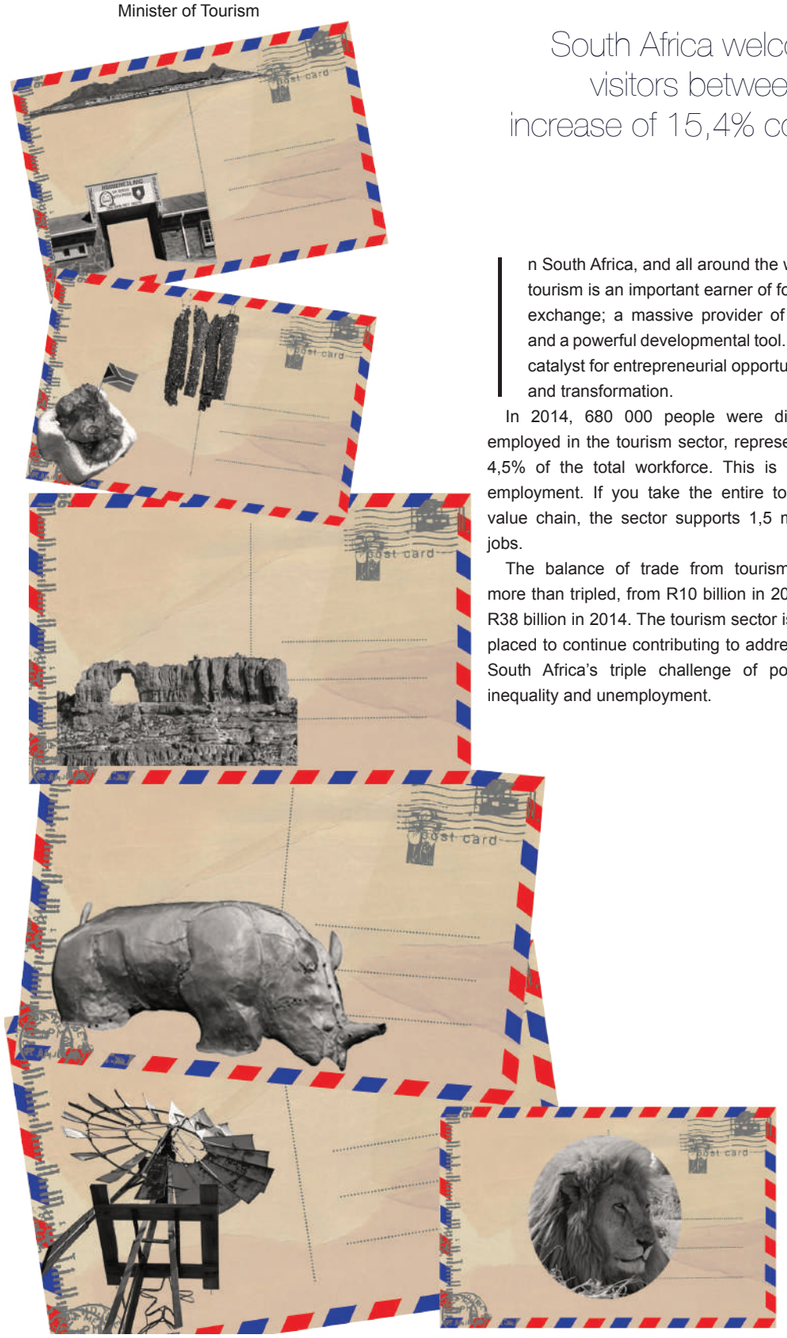
In addition, 45 bids are still pending for the next five years. These events have the potential to attract 112 000 delegates and can potentially contribute a further R1,5 billion to South Africa's economy.



TOURISM: A POWERFUL DRIVING FORCE FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH | FEATURE

Tourism: A powerful driving force for economic growth

By Derek Hanekom
Minister of Tourism



South Africa welcomed five million international visitors between January to June 2016, an increase of 15,4% compared to the same period in 2015.

In South Africa, and all around the world, tourism is an important earner of foreign exchange; a massive provider of jobs; and a powerful developmental tool. It is a catalyst for entrepreneurial opportunities and transformation.

In 2014, 680 000 people were directly employed in the tourism sector, representing 4,5% of the total workforce. This is direct employment. If you take the entire tourism value chain, the sector supports 1,5 million jobs.

The balance of trade from tourism has more than tripled, from R10 billion in 2010 to R38 billion in 2014. The tourism sector is well placed to continue contributing to addressing South Africa's triple challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment.

Furthermore, the value of tourism goes far beyond its economic value – it crosses the boundaries of diversity and brings people together. It is the best way to learn more about the world we live in, and it most certainly brings better understanding among people.

South Africa offers truly unique experiences, and we have untapped resources in abundance. We have all the ingredients to be one of the world's top tourism destinations. All our nine provinces are blessed with great attractions: beautiful landscapes, wildlife and biodiversity, leisure and adventure options, and warm and welcoming people who are steeped in cultural tradition.

Tourism took a knock in 2015. Thankfully though, by the end of the year, the clouds had started to lift.

South Africa welcomed five million international visitors between January to June 2016, an increase of 15,4% compared to the same period in 2015.

Tourists from the world's top source markets such as China are finding it easier to get visas, and are no longer deterred by the false fear of Ebola.

The best news is that the positive effect of growth in tourism is most certainly felt by people living in communities in all the country's provinces.

Those who come into direct contact with tourists in remote rural areas, or in shops, restaurants and hotels will feel the benefits of more business, more demand for the products and services, and more opportunity. And those who are not directly involved in tourism will benefit from the significant contribution that our sector makes to the gross domestic product.

The World Travel and Tourism Council estimated that tourism in South Africa would contribute over R380 billion to our economy in 2016.

The success of the national tourism industry starts with success at every establishment that serves tourists.

This is why much of the department's budget will go towards enhancing our attractions and training our people: we want to improve the experience of local and international tourists in our country.

In May 2016, Durban hosted the premier trade show, Indaba. It attracted over 1 000 exhibits of the most diverse and compelling attractions from Africa and all our provinces. There were over 1 600 buyers from around the world. All the MECs for Tourism were there to personally promote their provinces.

Indaba showed how the people of Africa could come together and work together with a common goal.

The United Nations World Tourism Organisation forecasts that tourist arrivals in Africa will reach 130 million by 2030. I am convinced that we can do even better than this by making the right policy choices, investing and marketing wisely and collaborating with each other.

Our task is to get more tourists to visit our country, through ever better marketing and by making it easier for people to come here.

We must continuously improve our destination and enhance the visitor experience so that visitors come back and spread the word.

We must invest in our people so that they are able to offer the best possible service.

We must support our small businesses in particular, because they are the mainstay of our tourism industry, and we must create opportunities for our own people to travel and experience our country and all it has to offer.

We have an incredible country with a rich cultural and historical heritage. Working with various partners, the Department of Tourism is building on this natural and cultural heritage.

Robben Island is without a doubt one of our country's most iconic sites.

We are working closely with the Department of Arts and Culture and Robben Island Museum to make the visitor experience a more profound and unforgettable one. We are refurbishing the restaurant and visitor facilities, and training guides to relate the powerful story of Robben Island with all its meaning and significance. We are also digitising important historical records so that they are preserved for future generations.

We will enhance four iconic national heritage sites that depict significant milestones in the life of our former President Nelson Mandela: the Nelson Mandela statues at the Union Buildings and Freedom Park in Gauteng, the Nelson Mandela Capture Site in KwaZulu-Natal, and the Groot Drakenstein Prison in the Western Cape, where Madiba spent his last years of imprisonment on his own.

This is where critical negotiations took place, which led to the unbanning of political parties and to his own release, and ultimately to the freedom we all enjoy today.

The department has started with its energy retrofitting programme, and is assisting a number of our major destinations to convert to renewable sources.

This will significantly lower their operational costs, contribute to our country's climate change commitments and improve the image of the industry.

Travellers are becoming more environmentally conscious, and they factor this into their travel choices. We intend to expand this programme to the private sector.

The department's Social Responsibility Implementation (SRI) Programme creates and improves tourism infrastructure in rural areas to boost the rural economy and benefit local communities. In the process, it also creates local jobs and develops the skills of our youth. In 2016/17, the SRI Programme will provide 7 000 work opportunities across our country.

We have started shifting the focus of the Expanded Public Works Programme by employing 200 young people who will keep 50 Blue Flag beaches clean and safe. This is the beginning of the new Working for Tourism Programme, and it will be expanded during the Medium Term Expenditure Framework to include hiking trails and even some urban precincts.

South Africa's tourism industry is made up of thousands of small businesses. The support we are providing to small businesses through our enterprise development programme is expanding through more training interventions, and the setting up of tourism business incubators near Pilanesberg and Kruger National Park.

The department will also promote access to selected government-owned attractions through negotiated discounted rates. We want more South Africans to be able to afford to visit our botanical gardens, game reserves, world heritage sites and other places which have cultural and historic significance. This project will target learners, youth, pensioners, people with disabilities and others who cannot afford to go to these places.

Domestic tourism is critical to the future of tourism in the country. SA Tourism has been allocated R110 million to promote domestic tourism in 2016/17. A media campaign has been launched, which includes a series of television commercials telling the stories of South Africans travelling for the first time, and how much it means to them.

Transforming the tourism sector is central to our aspiration for inclusive growth. The tourism industry was among the first to have its amended sector code gazetted in 2015. The new Tourism Charter Council will be tasked with developing transformative strategies, as well as monitoring and reporting on the state of transformation in the industry.

The success of tourism as a shared competency relies heavily on collaboration and alignment between all three spheres of government. This is absolutely essential. Local government is not only at the coal face of service delivery, but it also provides facilities and opportunities for tourism at local level.

If we want tourism to succeed, we must consistently improve our tourism offer with good infrastructure, effective signage and a clean, safe and secure environment. If we get these things right, tourism will grow and jobs will follow.

Harmonisation of policy and strategy is essential within government. We work closely with other government departments to promote our country. Together with National Treasury, several working groups have been established with industry partners that are addressing issues like destination improvement and skills development across provinces.

If all of us, in every sphere of government, work together, and join hands with our partners in industry, tourism will continue to make a significant contribution towards eliminating poverty, unemployment and inequality in our country.

The success of tourism as a shared competency relies heavily on collaboration and alignment between all three spheres of government. This is absolutely essential.

Blue Flag status for SA beaches

To achieve Blue Flag status, as many as 33 different criteria spanning over four aspects of coastal management have to be met: water quality, environmental education and information, environmental management, and safety and services.

Hobie Beach, Port Elizabeth

Fifty-eight blue flags will be proudly flown at coastal sites around South Africa over the forthcoming 2016/17 South African Blue Flag season, which opened officially on 1 November. This was announced by the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) at the national Blue Flag launch event that was held at Marina Beach on KwaZulu-Natal's South Coast in October 2016.

Earlier in 2016, applications for the prestigious Blue Flag eco-label were reviewed by a rigorous multi-stage approval process involving both national and international assessments.

The announcement of the 2016 International Blue Flag Jury results revealed that a total of 45 South African beaches had been awarded Blue Flag status, along with five marinas and eight sustainable tourism boats.

The Western Cape has achieved the highest number of Blue Flag sites, with 29 of the beaches, all eight boats and four of the five Blue Flag marinas falling in the province. KwaZulu-Natal has nine Blue Flag beaches for the 2016/17 season.

Seven beaches and one marina have been awarded this eco-label in the Eastern Cape.

An additional 22 beaches across the three provinces have been given Pilot Blue Flag status – an important developmental stage for potential Blue Flag sites, during which WESSA works with beach managers towards the longer-term goal of achieving full status.

Internationally, almost 4 300 beaches, boats and marinas have been awarded Blue Flag status for the 2016/17 season.

The annual Blue Flag Awards also celebrate the sustained partnerships that WESSA has built with key municipalities around the country, which have recognised the value of Blue Flag not just to environmental management and education, but also to tourism, economic development and job creation.

Their commitment to the programme is evident in the fact that 26 beaches have been on the programme for five or more consecutive years, while nine beaches have achieved Blue Flag status for more than 10 consecutive years.

Marina Beach, which provided the idyllic backdrop for the launch event, celebrates a remarkable 16 consecutive years on the programme this year.

Humewood Beach in Port Elizabeth and Grotto Beach in Hermanus have participated for all 17 years that the Blue Flag programme has been running locally.

The event also marked the launch of an exciting new coastal tourism project to be managed and implemented by WESSA in partnership with the National Department of Tourism.

The announcement of the 2016 International Blue Flag Jury results revealed that a total of 45 South African beaches had been awarded Blue Flag status, along with five marinas and eight sustainable tourism boats.

The Tourism Blue Flag Project aims to improve tourism facilities and services offered at Blue Flag beaches across South Africa, while also providing youth employment opportunities.

Through this project, 200 participants will be employed in the role of "Beach Stewards" and hosted by local coastal municipalities at Blue Flag sites.

The participants will also receive accredited training in environmental education and practical work experience, with the ultimate aim of developing them for further employment in the coastal tourism sector (the Blue Economy).

Says Mandy Noffke, Tourism Blue Flag Project Manager: "Blue Flag International and WESSA representing Blue Flag in South Africa are excited by this opportunity to partner with national government and to contribute both to the social upliftment of local communities as well as to the quality of our beaches."

An exciting development in the Blue Flag Programme internationally has also been the expansion of Blue Flag accreditation programme to acknowledge sustainable boating operators in the tourism industry.

In the past, sustainable boating operators have simply signed a code of conduct with Blue Flag around operating sustainably, but now operators offering boating activities – such as bird, seal and whale watching, cage diving, recreational diving and recreational fishing – can be awarded formal accreditation if they comply with Blue Flag's newly defined set of strict boating criteria.

South Africa is at the forefront of this new development as one of only three Blue Flag member countries to have received accreditation for sustainable boating operators in the 2016/17 season.

Since its launch in 1987 in France, the Blue Flag Programme has continued to grow, not only with regard to the number of member countries and sites involved, but also in its range of expertise within marine and freshwater environments.

Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa

ⓘ

Blue Flag is the prestigious, voluntary eco-label for beaches, boats and marinas that is recognised as a trusted symbol of quality and is regarded by the World Tourism Organisation as the most well-known global eco-label.

The Blue Flag Programme, which has been running internationally since 1987, is focussed on the conservation of marine and coastal habitats, and is designed to raise environmental education and awareness, and increase sound environmental practices among tourists, local populations and beach management.

To achieve Blue Flag status, as many as 33 different criteria spanning over four aspects of coastal management have to be met: water quality, environmental education and information, environmental management and safety and services.

The criteria are set by the international coordinators of the Blue Flag campaign in Europe, the Foundation for Environmental Education.

Each Blue Flag site is compelled to conduct several environmental education activities during the year, and to practise effective and efficient conservation management. The detailed criteria and award process are available on Blue Flag's international website *www.blueflag.global*.

In South Africa, the Blue Flag Programme is managed by the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa and participating coastal municipalities. In the Southern Hemisphere, the Blue Flag season runs from 1 November to 31 October each year.

Beaches are required to apply for Blue Flag status each year and the Blue Flag standards are only enforced at the beaches over the participating beach's stated season, which varies from just two months of the year to the full 12 months.

BLUE FLAG BEACHES

Region	Municipality	Beach	Consecutive Awards
WESTERN CAPE	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Silwerstroomstrand	6
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Clifton 4th	13
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Camps Bay	9
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Llandudno	6
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Muizenberg	1
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Strandfontein	9
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Mnandi	6
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Bikini	13
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Melkbosstrand	1
	CITY OF CAPE TOWN	Fish Hoek	1
	OVERSTRAND	Kleinmond	11
	OVERSTRAND	Hawston	11
	OVERSTRAND	Grotto	16
	HESSEQUA	Witsand	7
	HESSEQUA	Preekstoel	4
	HESSEQUA	Lappiesbaai	12
	MOSSEL BAY	Gouritzmond	4
	MOSSEL BAY	Santos	8
	MOSSEL BAY	De Bakke	4
	MOSSEL BAY	Hartenbos	8
	EDEN DISTRICT	Klein Brak	3
	KNYSNA	Wilderness	1
	KNYSNA	Buffalo Bay	1
	BITOU	Brenton on Sea	1
	BITOU	Robberg 5	8
	BITOU	Keurboomstrand	6
	BITOU	Nature's Valley	5
	BITOU	Lookout	3
	BITOU	The Dunes	5
EASTERN CAPE	KOUGA	Dolphin	5
	NELSON MANDELA METRO	Humewood	16
	NELSON MANDELA METRO	Kings	4
	NELSON MANDELA METRO	Hobie	3
	AMATHOLE	Hamburg	3
	NDLAMBE	Kariega	8
	NDLAMBE	Kelly's	12
Region	Municipality	Beach	Consecutive Awards
KWAZULU-NATAL	RAY NKONYENI	Marina	15
	RAY NKONYENI	Trafalgar	8
	RAY NKONYENI	Lucien	7
	RAY NKONYENI	Southport	5
	RAY NKONYENI	Umzumbe	7
	RAY NKONYENI	Ramsgate	4
	RAY NKONYENI	Hibberdene	2
	ETHEKWINI	Westbrook	2
	ETHEKWINI	Ushaka	2



BLUE FLAG BOATS

Region	Sustainable Tourism Boating Operator	Boat
WESTERN CAPE	Offshore Adventures	Robberg Express
	Offshore Adventures	Oceanic Express
	Dyer Island Cruises	Whale Whisperer
	Dyer Island Cruises	Dream Catcher
	Ocean Odyssey	Oyster Catcher
	Ocean Odyssey	Sousa
	Ocean Odyssey	Dolphin II
	Marine Dynamics	Slashfin

BLUE FLAG MARINAS

Region	Marina	Consecutive Awards
WESTERN CAPE	Thesen Islands	5
	False Bay Yacht Club	6
	The Water Club	6
	Yachtport SA	6
EASTERN CAPE	Royal Alfred Marina	6

KOYO® Elevator

Bear Your Happiness

South Africa complex of a Chinese enterprise

As a Chinese enterprise, KOYO has special South Africa complex: The 2010 football carnival still fresh in the heart of South Africa's people, Not only the glorious appearance in the world for South Africa people, but also the first time showing in the world significant event for KOYO. The main board and controller designed by KOYO is the first time used in this event. Through the excellent performance in the Charlotte Maxeke Hospital and Johannesburg Football main stadium of World Cup, Bank of Lisbon, 69 Presient, 30 Simmons. KOYO comprehensively attend the construction of South Africa: municipal hall, hospital, bank, etc. By such kind of cooperation, Gradually this is Chinese team, not only increase the understand to south Africa, but also enhance the feeling to this land.



South Africa Sun City

"I am falling in love this country, it's full of hope and vitality same as my homeland"

——The CEO of Mrs Zhang expressed her feeling.
With the following cooperation, we believe more and more KOYO people will deeply love this land.



69 President Building



Bank of Lisbon - Department of Housing



30 Simmonds-office of the Premier



Custom House

Apparently, KOYO team loves South Africa so much that they are not satisfied about the cooperation, KOYO is also planning to establish a school to provide training on elevator technologies to local people and the elevator manufacture factory to create more job opportunities to local people. Instead of gaining pure business profit, KOYO expects more to work with South Africa people to achieve our common dreams and goals together. In this process, we will establish a friendship like a battle partner . We will be touched by ourselves when we fight for the better future of our countries together. Now, we want to shoulder the construction of a stronger and beautiful country for South Africa to do the honorable mission.



Rahima Moosa Mother and Child Hospital



Edenvale Hospital



Tambo Memorial Hospital

Culinary tourism a growing niche market across the globe

By Tokozile Xasa
Deputy Minister of Tourism

> Food and travel are so interlinked, and one cannot help by associating pasta to Italy, foie gras to France, paella to Spain, risotto to Milan, fegato to Venice and the old-fashioned braai to South Africa.

Africa's food blends the traditions of many cultures and influences. Food is central to many things that we do as a nation and a continent. We celebrate with food, we go through bereavement with food, we negotiate over food and we build families with food. Food feeds the soul and is the single great unifier across cultures.

South Africa is fast becoming a culinary hotspot. Not only does the country boast world-class tourism products but we are also firmly establishing ourselves with our diverse lifestyle offerings. Culinary tourism is a subset of cultural tourism and contributes significantly to the tourism experience, which promotes cultural diversity and social cohesion.

Food and wine are some of the best ways to explore the culture of any country, and culinary travel or tourism is a growing travel passion for many travellers. Every tourist eats at least three times a day, making food one of the fundamental economic drivers of tourism.

Cuisine tourism is a growing niche market across the globe. Food and travel are so interlinked, and one cannot help by associating pasta to Italy, foie gras to France, paella to Spain, risotto to Milan, fegato to Venice and the old-fashioned braai to South Africa.

Culinary has a significant role in the tourism sector for various reasons. Nearly 100% of tourists dine out when travelling; dining is consistently one of the top three favourite tourist activities. Tourists and travellers are also among the highest paying patrons, since they are highly motivated to experience unique and memorable dining experiences.

They dine at specifically selected establishments and restaurants which have been decided on beforehand, as they are more likely to research and plan their trips using available marketing material. Thus, culinary plays a significant economical element to the industry.

The Caribbean Food Emporium reports that: "Food and drink festivals constitute the sole instance where the decision to travel is taken solely on the grounds of the culinary experiences offered. These are becoming more prevalent, in particular in Europe. While this segment is growing, at present, there are estimated to be no more than one million international culinary tourists travelling each year".

Over the years, places like Franschhoek (the culinary capital of South Africa) and the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands have become popular destinations, thanks to a reputation for superb cuisine based on a wealth of local produce. The local tourism market has a keen understanding that travellers are seeking an authentic gourmet experience and the value of a perfectly cooked Cape Malay curry, a designer bunny chow or a chisa nyama reinvented.

Festivals like the Mzansi International Culinary Festival (MICF), which was held

▸▸









South African cuisine: glossary of terms

Achaar
Imported to South Africa by migrant Indians, achaar is a spicy pickle made of mango and oil.

Amanqina
A hoof of a cow, pig or sheep. It is boiled, then spiced for taste. It is very delicious but sticky.

Biltong
Dried and salted raw meat similar to the beef jerky made in the United States of America. An older Afrikaner delicacy, can be made of ostrich, beef, kudu or anyother red meat.

Bobotie
Of Malay origin, made with minced meat and curried spices. An egg sauce is poured on top of this and it is then baked.

Boerewors
A traditional spicy South African sausage made of beef or lamb. Popular at open-air braais (barbecues), where it is grilled over charcoal.

Bunny chow
Delicious food on the go, bunny chow is curry served in a hollowed-out half-loaf of bread.

Chakalaka
A salad of Indian/Malay origin made of onion, garlic, ginger, green pepper, carrots and cauliflower spiced with chillies and curry.

Chotlo
A delicacy of the Tswana people, this is meat cut into extremely small pieces with the bones removed. The meat is first boiled, then ground before being put back into the pot and stirred until it becomes very fine.

Frikkadel
Traditional South African meatballs. Made from tomatoes, onion, minced beef and other ingredients, and shaped into round balls.

Gherkin
A small pickled cucumber, often sliced thinly and used in salads or on hamburgers.

Koeksister
Traditional Afrikaner, plaited dough cakes. They are syrupy, sweet but sticky.

Mala
Intestines, especially those of chicken. They are thoroughly cleaned, cooked in boiled water, then fried. Eaten with pap.

Malva pudding
A sweet pudding of Cape Dutch origin. It contains apricot jam and has a spongy caramelised texture. A cream sauce is often poured over it while it is hot. Usually served hot with custard and/or ice-cream.

Maotwana
Legs of a chicken boiled to remove the hard skin. Thoroughly washed, salted, then fried.

Mashonzha worms
Similar to caterpillars in appearance.
These establish their habitat in and around mopani trees found in the Lowveld areas of Mpumalanga and Limpopo. Popular with the Shangaans, Vendas and Bapedi of Limpopo.

Mogodu
Tripe, thoroughly cleaned then boiled for two to three hours. Once softened, allowed to simmer before being served with pap.

Morogo
Wild spinach, the most popular being thepe; delicious when boiled, softened and served with stiff porridge.

Pap
Boiled corn meal, often served with *sous* – a sauce, usually featuring tomato and onions.

Potjiekos
Traditional Afrikaner food, generally a rich stew, cooked in a three-legged cast-iron pot over a fire. The word means "little-pot food" in Afrikaans.

Rooibos tea
A popular South African herbal tea made in the Cape from the *Cyclopia genistoides* bush. Rooibos is an Afrikaans word meaning "red bush". Rooibos has no caffeine and less tannin than tea.

Samoosa
A small, spicy, triangular-shaped pie that has been deep-fried in oil. Made by the Indian and Malay communities, samoosas are popular with South Africans in general.

Serobe
A dish of the Tswana people. Thoroughly washed, then boiled as a mixture of tripe, intestines and lungs. They are cut into small pieces before being spiced to add taste.

Snoek
This is a popular and tasty fish, caught off the Cape coast and often eaten smoked. A snoek braai is a real South African treat.

Skop
Head of a cow, sheep or goat. The head is first scrubbed with a sharp instrument like a razor to remove skin and unwanted parts like ears and the nose are then cut out. The head is then boiled and allowed to simmer.

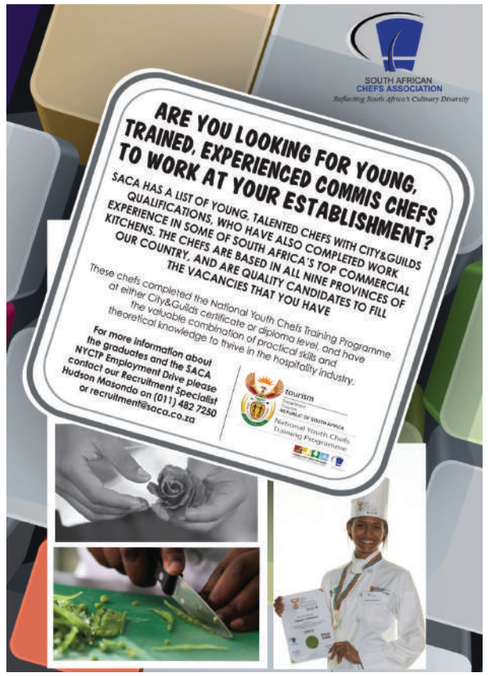
Ting
A dish favoured by the Tswanas in both South Africa and Botswana. It is a sour porridge made of sorghum.

Umngqusho
A delicacy among the Xhosa people, this is samp (maize kernels) mixed with beans. It is boiled over three hours then mixed with beans. Salt and oil are then added and the dish is allowed to simmer.

Vetkoek
Fried dough bread common in Afrikaner cookery but popular among all South Africans. It can be filled with, among others, cooked mince, syrup, honey, or jam. www.southafrica.info

The local tourism market has a keen understanding that travellers are seeking an authentic gourmet experience and the value of a perfectly cooked Cape Malay curry, a designer bunny chow or a chisa nyama reinvented.







in May 2016 in Kayalani, Gauteng, have therefore become a platform for showcasing the diverse cuisines and local produce from South Africa and the African continent to locals and other communities, to sample local dishes and foodstuffs. Culinary festivals such as these are also big drivers of domestic tourism and not just aimed at foreign tourists.

The culinary sector still faces challenges of gender inequality, racism and poor levels of culinary education.

To overcome this, the National Department of Tourism (NDT) is making use of platforms such as internships and early skills development to develop a thriving culinary tourism industry. In April 2011, the department launched the National Youth Chef Training Programme (NYCTP) to train 800 young people from across the country to become professional chefs.

An investment of R25 million was made by the NDT, which would enable youngsters with a passion for cooking to be trained as professionals through the NYCTP.

The initiative is facilitated by the South African Chefs Association (SACA).

The programme was developed to address the challenges of job creation and scarce skills, in order to introduce qualified chefs of the highest calibre into the hospitality industry.

The Culinary Tourism Programme was implemented later that year and is running annually, producing a new cadre of super-chefs. Since the inception of the programme, NYCTP has received 16 000 curriculums vitae, interviewed 8 000 candidates, engaged 1 760 in the programme of whom almost 1 400 have completed the programme with a certificate, diploma and advanced diploma – achieving a pass rate of 82%.

By the end of May 2016, over 700 of the graduates had taken up full-time employment after graduating from this programme.

The NDT together with SACA showcased some of the dishes cooked by chefs that graduated from this programme during the MICF, which highlighted the cultural diversity of our people and was a celebration of our Africanness through a culinary multisensory experience.

A **NEW ERA** FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN WINE

It's been over two decades since South Africa became a democracy. In that time our wine industry has taken quantum leaps forward. Plant improvement programmes have been accelerated, and we are establishing vineyards with clones and varieties carefully chosen to suit our specific climatic conditions, some in new cooler climate areas. Older heritage vineyards have been found and restored.

Our exports more than doubled between 2005 and 2015. This growth has been driven by an exponential increase in quality, with each year delivering exciting new wineries, more innovative young winemakers and even better wines.

Today, South African wines have achieved international recognition and been deemed among the most exciting in the world, with adjectives like 'rule-breaking', 'trailblazing', 'captivating', 'daring' and 'original' increasingly linked to them by influential critics and sommeliers.

As UK wine writer and judge Tim Atkin MW remarked in his South Africa 2015 Special Report: "South Africa – with its diverse terroirs, old vines and pure winemaking talent – is one of the most dynamic and exciting winemaking countries in the New World."

Wines of South Africa
welcome to our world of discovery
www.wosa.co.za

Will Punt | Peartree Photography

Wosa Ads.indd 16 2016/04/13 6:58 PM



"Rainbow Concert" showcases African talent

By Felix Schmidt, Embassy of Austria

The idea behind this event was that young musicians from townships around Pretoria and Johannesburg, together with diplomats from Pretoria, play music together and by doing so span a "musical rainbow" from South Africa to the rest of the world.

In May 2016, a "Rainbow Concert" of the Diplomatic Corps in Pretoria, which was initiated by the Austrian Embassy and called "African Talent and Diplomats", was performed for the first time. The concert followed a tradition of "Diplomats in Concert", which has been successfully hosted in Vienna, Austria, for many years. The idea behind this event was that young musicians from townships around Pretoria and Johannesburg, together with diplomats from Pretoria, play music together and by doing so span a "musical rainbow" from South Africa to the rest of the world. The concert also raised funds so that young and well-trained musicians from financially disadvantaged backgrounds could have access to musical instruments. Due to the kind support of the University of South Africa (UNISA), the "Rainbow Concert" was hosted at UNISA's Enoch Sontonga Hall. All 450 seats were fully booked.

After the opening remarks and a few words of gratitude by the Austrian Ambassador, Brigitte Öppinger-Walchshofer, to the sponsors, guests, participating diplomats and the musicians and dancers, the show started. The concert included Ghanaian drummers and dancers, the Anavarata dance institution of Johannesburg performing classical Indian and Bollywood dances, the Conwonitte Choir from Wonderboom in Pretoria, the Goede Primary School Marimba Band from Boksburg in Johannesburg, the TMP Jazz Band from Hammanskraal, the UNISA Music Foundation String Ensemble and the Mamelodi Brass Band.

The concert also raised funds so that young and well-trained musicians from financially disadvantaged backgrounds could have access to musical instruments.

The Diplomatic Corps was presented by, among others, the Deputy Chief of Mission, Matthias Radosztics, from Austria; Deputy Chief of Mission, Zsuzsanna Bernadett Rothschild, from Hungary; and John MacGregor, the spouse of the British High Commissioner. The latter on the piano and Deputy Chief of Mission Radosztics on the clarinet beautifully played Johannes Brahms' *Sonata Op 120 No 2*. John MacGregor on the cello and Deputy Chief of Mission Rothschild on the violin also participated in the UNISA Music Foundation String Ensemble's performance that was conducted by Berthine van Schoor. Diplomats from Switzerland, Denmark and the Netherlands participated in the concert.

The main sponsors of the event were the Diplomatic Association and three private enterprises (Steinhoff, Elliott and TelFree). The private Music University of Vienna sent musical instruments to add to the pool that would be at the disposal of the young musicians. Due to its great success and the will to support young African musicians, the "Rainbow Concert" will be an annual event from now on.





Gateway to space

The exhibition offered an impressive collection of hardware to enlighten and engage visitors while instilling a sense of awe. Among the highlights were a real moon rock, a life-size Mir space station core module, a Sputnik-1 model and an Apollo capsule model.

After a successful exhibition in Europe, *Gateway to Space: The Exhibition* was hosted at the Sandton Convention Centre from 1 June to 31 July 2016.

Gateway to Space introduced audiences to the people, technologies and circumstances that paid passage for human dreams to enter the realities of suborbital flight, moon missions and sustained life in space. The exhibition was assembled by the United States' Space and Rocket Centre, an official National Aeronautics and Space Administration Visitor Centre.

The exhibition offered an impressive collection of hardware to enlighten and engage visitors while instilling a sense of awe. Among the highlights were a real moon rock, a life-size Mir space station core module, a Sputnik-1 model and an Apollo capsule model.

Gateway to Space: The Exhibition, organised by *YOU, Huisgenoot* and *Drum* magazines, brought the great adventure of space exploration to South Africa for the first time.

Along with the wonder and the drama of this inspiring story of human accomplishment – going back to 1903 as well as future technology to take us to Mars and beyond – the exhibition showcased more than 60 space objects, making for an extraordinary collection of the instruments, artefacts and spacecraft that made a modern reality of ancient dreams.

The thrill of interactive flight simulators and other training could also be experienced.

The exhibition, which covered about 3 400 m² of floor space, travelled in 20 shipping containers.

Space suits were transported in atmosphere-controlled boxes and some 40 short videos explaining the various exhibits were included. gatewaytospace.co.za / www.you.co.za



South Africa is one of 70 countries that has its own space agency. Here are a few quick facts about the country's role in space research.

South Africa's Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory in Gauteng has supported several space missions, including Apollo 15 in 1972.

South Africa has already launched three of its own satellites, with a fourth one set for 2019. The South African National Space Agency monitors hundreds of satellites from Hartebeesthoek as they pass over Africa. If something goes wrong – for instance when a Soyuz rocket recently launched a satellite into the wrong orbit – they communicate with the satellite owner so the problem can be resolved.

South Africa's satellite technology makes it much easier to respond to disasters such as fires, earthquakes and floods. For instance, the country's eyes in the sky can show immediately where a flood has occurred, in what direction it is spreading, if people and homes are in danger and to what areas people can be safely evacuated.

Thanks to satellite information, it is easier to plan and develop new roads, mines and towns. That's because the pictures taken from space show exactly where current roads, farms, fences and settlements are located.

The use of Earth observation satellite data offers a better understanding of the drought in South Africa. By comparing satellite pictures they can see if the dry areas are expanding or decreasing.

The single largest telescope in the southern hemisphere, the Southern African Large Telescope, is near Sutherland in the Northern Cape. www.news24.co.za



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Tomorrow never waits

Flying the SA flag

Third round of South African students receive scholarships from Sweden

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) recently hosted South African students who were selected for the third round of the Swedish Postgraduate Scholarship Programme.

The students commenced their studies in August 2016. These young students from across South Africa will pursue their Master's studies in a wide range of fields, including Entrepreneurship, Economics, Law, International Health, Bioinformatics and Engineering.

This programme, at the initiative of DIRCO, in collaboration with the Government of Sweden, offers 10 scholarships per annum and is funded by the Swedish Institute.

At the Ninth Session of the South Africa-Sweden Binational Commission (BNC) in October 2015 in Stockholm, South Africa and Sweden agreed to extend the scholarship programme for a further three years.

This is in recognition of the centrality of education and skills development for the economic development in South Africa. The BNC is co-chaired by South Africa's Deputy President and Sweden's Deputy Prime Minister and takes place on a biennial basis.



Bilateral relations between South Africa and Sweden are excellent and have a strong historical basis with Sweden having supported South Africa's struggle for freedom and democracy. Present-day relations cover a number of partnerships in various areas such as water-resource management, science and technology cooperation, environmental protection and climate change, renewable energy and arts and culture.

Former Miss Earth SA participated in Obama's Mandela Fellowship in the USA



Former Miss Earth South Africa Catherine Constantinides – who started her first business at the age of 16 – was selected as one of the 2016 Mandela Washington Fellows. The young Play Your Part Ambassador's star keeps shining as she works to make South Africa and the world a better place. Constantinides is an international climate activist, passionate humanitarian and social entrepreneur.

In February 2016, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation awarded her the Ubuntu Youth Diplomacy Award for her outstanding work across Africa and the world.

No stranger to leadership platforms and thought leadership, Constantinides headed to the United States of America (USA) as part of the Department of State's Young African Leaders Initiative (Yali).

She left in June with fellows from across Africa for a six-week leadership training programme. This included an opportunity to hone her skills at an American higher education institution with support for professional development after she returned home. Constantinides said that ensuring human rights for all Africans would unlock the continent's potential. "We must be committed to succeed in ensuring that human rights are an integral part of our fabric with a unified commitment and energy to move Africa forward as an economically stable and viable global competitor," she said.

The Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders began in 2014 as the flagship programme of President Barack Obama's Yali initiative. Fellows are placed at US colleges and universities where they focus on developing skills in one of three areas: business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership, or public management.

Constantinides was placed in the civic leadership track and spent her time in Virginia at the Presidential Precinct.



SA wine wins Best Chardonnay in the World

It is a well-known fact that South Africa's wines are word-class.

The country's wines win countless awards year after year and although many of them aren't often publicised, every now and then an award makes the headlines – like Stellenbosch wine farm, De Morgenzon, winning Best Chardonnay in the World at the 2016 Decanter World Wine Awards with their Chardonnay Reserve 2015 vintage. It's the second time in a row that a South African wine farm has nabbed the top spot. In 2015, it was Groot Constantia that took home the prize for their 2013 vintage.

Food24's wine editor, Cathy Marston says, "I think this is a fabulous achievement by Carl, Wendy and the team at De Morgenzon but it shouldn't really come as that much of a surprise!

"South Africa has been making amazing Chardonnay for many years and DM is right up there with the best."

www.food24.com

Hank Mcgregor wins world's toughest surfski race for the third time

South African surfski paddlers dominated the 40th annual Maui Jim Molokai Challenge in Hawaii on 29 May 2016, with Jeep Team's Hank McGregor leading the charge to claim his third Maui Jim Title in relentlessly flat and windless ocean conditions.

McGregor finished the 53k-m surfski ultra marathon in 3h45, with fellow South Africans, Sean Rice and Jasper Mocke, finishing second and third respectively in 3h47 and 3h48. The Maui Jim Molokai Challenge is the world's oldest surfski race, and also one of the longest and toughest marathons, set across the Kaiwi Channel, between the Hawaiian islands of Molokai and Oahu. Called the "Channel of Bones" by Hawaiians, the channel is renowned for unpredictable, and often extreme, weather conditions that can change in seconds.

2016 was one of the toughest Maui Jim Molokai Challenges in recent years, with paddlers competing in uncomfortably hot and humid conditions, with no downwind to speak of, which saw the race turn into a strategic test of physical strength and endurance.

Said McGregor, "Last year, I came so close to winning, so to come back and win now is awesome, and everything that I had hoped for. It was hot and brutal out there – probably one of the toughest surfski races I've ever done, and yet again living up to its name. Congrats to all my fellow countrymen that did so well!" McGregor first won the race in 2009, followed by a second victory in 2014. In 2015, he led the field until the final two kilometres when Australians Cory Hill and Clint Robinson pipped him to the finish line. www.sagoodnews.co.za



Cape Town restaurant clinches Best in Africa and included In World's Best 50 List

The Test Kitchen is Africa's best restaurant, once again garnering international recognition and placing a spectacular 22nd in the 2016 World's 50 Best Restaurant Awards.

The Test Kitchen was awarded 22nd place at the ceremony, which was held in style in New York City at the Cipriani Wall Street recently.

Osteria Francescana, a restaurant in Modena, Italy, won the top prize in the 2016's 50 Best Restaurants list.

Chef-owner Luke Dale-Roberts says: "The award is an incredible vote of confidence for me and my team. I do what I love, with precision and artistry, and being awarded for this validates what I do every day!"

The Test Kitchen has become a mainstay on the foodie traveller scene in Cape Town – with the city recently named the *Condé Nast's* title of Best City for Food in the World – showcasing an experience where Dale-Roberts applies his expert technique, passion for true flavour and international inspiration in the creation of challenging and rewarding dishes. www.travellers24.news24.com



The restaurant with the best wine cellar in Africa



South African restaurant, Mosaic at the Orient, has won a top international wine list award.

Mosaic at the Orient, currently Restaurant of the Year (Restaurant Association of South Africa Rosetta Awards) and seventh-best restaurant in South Africa (Eat Out Awards), won the Best Overall in Region Award at the 2016 World's Best Wine Lists Awards, crowning it as having the best wine cellar in Africa and the Middle East and one of the best in the world.

The restaurant also took awards for:

- Best Champagne and Sparkling Wine List
- Best Dessert and Fortified Wine List
- Best By The Glass Wine List
- Best Hotel Wine List and a special Jury Prize.

The 2016 World's Best Wine Lists, run by The World of Fine Wine, are "rapidly becoming as coveted as Michelin Stars", according to World Sommelier champion, Gerard Bassett.

The awards celebrate the importance of a good selection of wine from around the world and are assessed by a panel of senior judges.

Mosaic, outside Pretoria, hosts one of the finest wine cellars in the country with some of the best and rarest wines from both South Africa and the world.

In January 2016, it was also announced that Restaurant Mosaic was one of only 14 South African restaurants to make it onto La Liste, a new selection of the 1 000 most remarkable restaurants across the globe. www.food24.com

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Flying the SA flag

Prof. Christof Heyns elected to United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNHRC)

Prof. Christof Heyns, former Director of the Centre for Human Rights and Professor of Human Rights Law at the University of Pretoria, was elected to the prestigious 18-member UNHRC in New York on 23 June 2016.

Prof. Heyns was nominated in March 2016 by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation as the country's candidate. Prof. Heyns served as the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions over the last six years, and has in that capacity been directly engaged with some of the major challenges of the international community of our time, such as the aftermath of the war in Sri Lanka and the war in Ukraine.

In addition to that, he is one of the three international experts who are conducting the UN Independent Investigation on Burundi (and he serves as the chair of that body).

Very few human rights experts in the world have held such a range of top human rights positions in the international system.

Prof. Heyns teaches Human Rights Law at the University of Pretoria, Oxford University, American University in Washington DC and the University of Geneva. He is the author of



numerous international publications on topics such as armed drones, the management of demonstrations, the use of force by law-enforcement officials, and human rights law in Africa.

Richard Murray wins World Championships



In June 2016, tenacious South African triathlete, Richard Murray, made a stunning comeback from injury, winning his maiden ITU Duathlon World title in Avile, Spain, two months after he broke his collarbone.

Murray finally added the senior title to his two junior championships-winning performances from 2007 and 2008, finishing the 10-km run, 40-km cycle and 5-km run event in 1 hour, 42 minutes and 18 seconds.

This was his first multidiscipline competition since crashing on the bike leg at the World Triathlon Series race in Gold Coast, Australia, in April when he broke his collarbone. "This is my first senior world title … kind of surreal," Murray said. "I could not be happier, not only with the title, but with the way my body responded.

"Now it is onwards and upwards from here, but first thing tomorrow I will be in the swimming pool working on the strokes."

Murray underwent surgery almost eight weeks earlier where he had a plate and screws inserted for the breaks in his shoulder.

He was in top form before the crash, defending his New Plymouth World Cup Title in the sprint distance triathlon race in New Zealand and finishing second at the World Triathlon Series opener in Abu Dhabi. Cape Times

SA students win major international supercomputing competition

Six South African students – four from Wits University and two from Stellenbosch University – were crowned as champions at the International Supercomputing Conference in Germany in June 2016.

The students participated in the international competition through the Centre for High Performance Computing's (CHPC) Student Cluster Competition Programme.

The South African team of Craig Bester, Sabeehah Ismail, Andries Bingani and Avi Bank from the Wits School of Computer Science and Applied Mathematics and Stellenbosch teammates, Ashley Naúde and Leanne Johnson, beat 11 other teams from Germany, China, Singapore, Estonia, Spain and the United States of America to clinch the title.

"We are extremely proud of our talented students who are at the cutting edge of technology. This global win demonstrates that the quality of our education is up there with



the best in the world," said Wits Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Adam Habib.

"We should also thank our partners – the Department of Science and Technology and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, as well as industry partners such as Dell and Intel for their contribution to the project. These kinds of innovative public-private partnerships will help us to move South Africa forward," Prof. Habib added.

The annual International Supercomputing Conference attracts close to 3 000 attendees from nearly 60 countries, and hosts an exhibition with some 150 companies and research organisations to showcase the latest technologies and services.

The conference's annual Student Cluster Competition is an opportunity to showcase student expertise and features small teams that compete to demonstrate the incredible capabilities of state-of-the-art high-performance cluster hardware and software.

www.timeslive.co.za

SA animation wins big at international festival

Stick Man, Triggerfish's collaboration with Magic Light Pictures, recently won Le Cristal at Annecy, the top prize for a TV production at the world's premier animation festival.

This is the biggest accolade yet for the acclaimed short film, which won Best Animation at both the BANFF World Media Festival and the Shanghai International Film and TV Festival, as well as two British Animation Awards. Based on Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler's much-loved children's picture book, *Stick Man* is the story of a happy-go-lucky father's epic journey to make it home in time for Christmas.

Stick Man was produced by Magic Light Pictures, an Oscar-nominated and BAFTA and International Emmy-winning production company in the United Kingdom, and animated in Cape Town by Triggerfish.

The 26-minute film was directed by London-based Jeroen Jaspaert and co-directed by South African Daniel Snaddon.

Voiced by the likes of Martin Freeman *(The Hobbit),* Hugh Bonneville (*Downtown Abbey*) and Jennifer Saunders (*Absolutely Fabulous*), the short film screened to nearly 10 million people on BBC1 during Christmas 2015.

"This was Africa's strongest showing at Annecy yet," says Triggerfish CEO, Stuart Forrest. "In addition to *Stick Man* winning the TV category, our collaborator Clea Mallinson won the *Animation du Monde* pitching forum for her short *Fairy Wheels*; South African Naomi van Niekerk's powder animation, *'n Gewone Blou Maandagoggend*, won the Jean-Luc Xiberras Award for a First Film in the Short Film Category; and *Adama*, a film set in West Africa, won the André-Martin Award for a French feature film.



We also had a great response to the four TV series we're developing from last year's Pan-African Triggerfish Story Lab, so it's exciting times for African animation." www.channel24.co.za

Black Coffee wins international award



South African DJ Black Coffee was named the Best International Act from Africa at the international BET (Black Entertainment Television) Awards, making history as the first South African artist to win an award in this category. It was his first nomination.

Black Coffee immediately tweeted: "Thank you Africa#thisoneisformypeople #southafrica #bestinternationalartist #BETAwards16."

Other nominees in the category were Wizkid and Yemi Alade (both Nigeria), AKA (South Africa), Serge Beynaud (Côte d'Ivoire), Mzvee (Ghana) and Diamond Platnumz (Tanzania).

The main award ceremony was held in LA on Sunday, 26 June, where Hollywood actor Samuel L Jackson was honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award, and tributes were held for musician Prince and boxer Muhammad Ali who both passed away.

United States hip hop star Akon was awarded BET's Global Good Award for his work, particularly in Africa.

In February 2016, DJ Black Coffee won the Department of International Relations and Cooperation's Ubuntu Arts and Cultural Award. www.sapeople.com



Pretoria lawyer elected to United Nations (UN) Committee on the Rights of the Child

Professor Ann Skelton, who helped write post-apartheid South Africa's laws to help children in trouble with the law and fights to protect the rights of children in a divorce case, a child mistreated at a children's home and refugee children in South Africa, has secured an international role.

She was one of nine members elected by the countries that ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child during the 16th Meeting of States Parties, to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 28 February 2017.

Director of the Centre for Child Law at the University of Pretoria's Faculty of Law, Prof.Skelton was nominated by the South African Government.

Pretoria University's law dean, André Boraine, said in a statement wishing her well at the time of her nomination that the Committee on the Rights of the Child was composed of 18 members of high moral standing and competence in the field covered by the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Prof. Skelton was also awarded the World's Children's Prize in 2012 for her then more than 20-year-long successful fight for the rights of children affected by the justice system. www.timeslive.co.za

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South African wins Africa's coveted Caine Literary Prize

South African Lidudumalingani from Cape Town won the coveted Caine Prize for African Writing for his story set in the Eastern Cape, *Memories We Lost*. Described as Africa's leading literary award, the story, published by Burnet Media in its 2015 collection, *An Incredible Journey: Stories that Move You*, was announced the winner at a dinner at Bodleian Library in Oxford.



Memories We Lost tells the emotionally charged story of a girl who acts as protector of her sister, whose serious mental-health problems cause consternation in a South African village. Her situation deteriorates as her care is entrusted to Nkunzi, a local man who employs traditional techniques to rid people of their demons. Judge Delia Jarrett-Macauley praised the story, saying, "The winning story explores a difficult subject – how traditional beliefs in a rural community are used to tackle schizophrenia.

"This is a troubling piece, depicting the great love between two young siblings in a beautifully drawn Eastern Cape. Multilayered and gracefully narrated, this short story leaves the reader full of sympathy and wonder at the plight of its protagonists".

Lidudumalingani (Mqombothi) is a Cape Town-based writer, filmmaker and photographer. He was born in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa, in a village called Zikhovane. Lidudumalingani has published short stories, non-fiction and criticism in various publications. His films have been screened at a number of film festivals.

www.sapeople.com

South African filmmaker wins at Cannes Film Festival



Cape Town filmmaker Dan Mace's two short documentaries, *Mine Sniffing Rats* and *Gift,* both won second prize in different categories at the Cannes Film Festival's Young Director Awards.

Self-described as an eternal student of human behaviour and creativity, Dan Mace tells African stories with his short films, two of which have won accolades at the Cannes Film Festival in June 2016.

Mine Sniffing Rats, a frenetically edited and succinct film about the explosive-detecting rats of Mozambique, won silver in the Changing the World Frame by Frame Category.

Gift, an energetic vignette about a brassy youth on the streets of Cape Town, came second in the Short Film Category.

Thrilled about the two accolades and recognition, Mace believes the short film format is growing in popularity. He attributed the growth to online channels like YouTube and the ease of technology needed to make films: "(There) are youngsters that shoot and edit pieces (that are) amazing. The level of film is increasing".

This accessibility and spirit of experimentation could offer opportunities for budding South African filmmakers to leave a global impact on the industry. www.southafrica.info

South African teen wins global Google Prize

In September 2016, 16-year-old South African teenager, Kiara Nirghin, won the Grand Prize at Google's Science Fair for her innovation – *Fighting Drought with Fruit* – which could hold the solution to the country's water woes … using just orange and avocado peels!

The awards were held at Google's headquarters in California. Kiara beat 15 international semi-finalists to win a $50 000 scholarship.

Before the awards, Kiara said that if she won she would use the prize to continue her studies in science and to "further the scientific development and application of my idea".

Kiara's innovation was inspired by the terrible drought which has gripped South Africa, its worst since 1982 – and involves using orange peels to create an absorbent material to retain water in soil.

She hopes that as it's a cheaper and more environmentally friendly alternative to non-biodegradable super-absorbent polymers, it can be useful to farmers to save money and crops.



Kiara, a St Martin's High School pupil in Johannesburg, revealed she had a natural curiosity and questioning nature which had led her down the path of science."I have always had a great love for chemistry since I was young," she told the Google Science Fair. "I vividly remember at the age of seven experimenting with vinegar and baking soda solutions in plastic cups."

The Google Science Fair is a global online science and technology competition for individuals and teams ages 13 to 18.

www.sapeople.com

South Africans named Queen's Young Leaders

Launched in 2014, the Queen's Young Leaders Programme honours young people across the Commonwealth who are contributing to the improvement of their societies. Two South Africans were among those who received awards at Buckingham Palace last year.

Two South Africans, Lethabo Ashleigh Letube and Jessica Dewhurst, joined the 2016 Queen's Young Leaders on 23 June 2016 at Buckingham Palace.

The awards are aimed at young people between the ages of 18 to 29 across the Commonwealth who are making a change for the better in their communities.

In attendance were, among others, Queen Elizabeth, Prince Harry, former English soccer star David Beckham, and former British Prime Minister John Major.

"You have already been an inspiration to so many; but I hope this award will inspire you to go out and achieve even greater things in the future, empowered by the network of leaders you now sit among," said Prince Harry to the honourees at the ceremony.

Beckham said he was thrilled "to be here once again to help Her Majesty the Queen in congratulating a new group of inspiring young leaders". He was looking forward to following the progress of the class of 2016. "I have no doubt we will be seeing a lot of this year's exceptional group of young people as they continue to make lasting change in their communities."

"Winners of this prestigious award will receive a unique package of training, mentoring and networking, including a one-week residential programme in the UK during which they will collect their award from Her Majesty the Queen," reads the website.

"With this support, award winners will be expected to continue and develop the amazing work they are already doing in their communities."

Letube grew up in the Langa township in Cape Town and works with Project Playground, which provides a safe space for children to go after school. It offers engaging activities and meals.

She is also the chairwoman of a violence and crime prevention programme called, Great Corner Lugna Gatna, according to the Queen's Young Leaders website. Through the programme, young people are able to attend classes that empower them to turn their lives around from drug and alcohol abuse.



Being selected as a Queen's Young Leader was a dream come true, said 24-year-old Dewhurst. She described the Queen as "incredibly friendly and knowledgeable about all of her young leaders and the work we do".

At 15, Dewhurst began volunteering at NGO camps to support refugees, children living with HIV and AIDS and victims of physical, emotional and sexual abuse. By the age of 18, she had become the youth coordinator for the Edmund Rice Network for South Africa, training young people to start community-based projects.

In 2013, she started the Social Justice and Advocacy Desk for South Central Africa, which offers skills courses to help young people find jobs. It also offers training and mentorships, and knowledge about human rights.

mediaclubsouthafrica.com

Stellenbosch University (SU) Choir wins big at International Choir Games



The University Choir of Stellenbosch under the baton of André van der Merwe, was the biggest winner at the eighth International Choir Games held in Sochi, Russia, recently. With this achievement, the SU Choir keeps its first place on the Interkultur list as best international non-professional choir – a position the choir has been holding since 2012. The choir won first places and gold medals in three categories. In the category for Sacred á Capella, it got 92%; in the category for Spirituals, 94%; and in the category for Contemporary Music, it got 98%.

This is the highest point given in any of the 27 categories in which choirs competed.

A further bonus was the special CD contract for the coveted *Choirs of the World* series.

The International Choir Games are held biannually and this year more than 300 choirs from 36 countries competed.

This is the biggest choir competition in the world.

The SU Choir consists of 120 students and André van der Merwe has been leading the choir for 12 years.

www.channel 24.co.za

Moonyeenn Lee becomes first South African to join The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

Local casting director Moonyeenn Lee has been chosen to become a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which manages awards ceremonies such the Oscars.

Moonyeenn is the only South African to be chosen among the 683 film professionals invited to become members of the Academy.

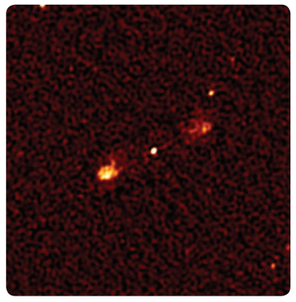
"Having been chosen as a member is an incredible honour. I honestly believe that this would never have happened without the incredible talent of South African actors," she said in a press statement.

With over 43 years of experience in the industry, Moonyeenn is well-known for having worked on cinematic masterpieces like *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*, *Life Above All, Hotel Rwanda* and *Tsotsi*. Her casting ability for numerous films has seen her play a critical role in them being nominated for, and winning, Academy Awards, Golden Globe Awards and Golden Horn Awards.



www.timeslive.co.za

SKA South Africa unveils "First Light" image from outer space



The Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio telescope project, near the town of Carnarvon in the remote Northern Cape, recently revealed the first image of space taken using the project's first phase of 16 fully-functioning MeerKAT receptor units.

Named "First Light", the image was presented at an onsite function held on 16 July 2016.

The presentation formed part of a tour of the SKA facilities by other ministers and 11 government deputy ministers, invited by the Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor.

SKA's chief scientist, Dr Fernando Camilo, unveiled the "First Light" image during the ministers' visit, beginning with some background about how radio wave technology worked and how it was evolving as SKA itself advanced.

Even operating at a quarter of its eventual capacity, South Africa's MeerKAT radio telescope showed off its phenomenal power, revealing 1 300 galaxies in a tiny corner of the universe where only 70 were known before.

The image was the first from MeerKAT, where 16 dishes were formally commissioned the same day.

MeerKAT's full contingent of 64 receptors will be integrated next year into a multi-nation SKA, which is set to become the world's most powerful radio telescope.

When fully up and running in the 2020s, the SKA will comprise 3 000 dishes scattered around several countries, allowing astronomers to peer deeper into space in unparallelled detail. www.news24.co.za

Medicine "ATMs" coming to SA



South Africans will soon get their medication from self-service "ATM-style" machines.

This was one of the announcements made by the South African Ministry of Health at the 21st International AIDS Conference that took place in July 2016 in Durban.

The Pharmacy Dispensing Unit (PDU), currently being piloted at Thembalethu clinic in Johannesburg, is a self-service machine where patients can obtain their medication in the same way people withdraw money at an ATM.

To use the machine, all a patient needs to do is register for the service, after which they receive a card that is similar to a bank card. To "withdraw" their medication, users simply insert their card into the PDU machine, enter their PIN and select the medication they require from their prescription list.

The PDU also allows patients to communicate directly with a trained pharmacist directly from the machine using a built-in video conferencing function.

Addressing the delegates at the AIDS Conference, the Minister of Health, Aaron Motsoaledi, said South Africa was running the biggest HIV treatment programme in the world. In three decades, he said, the number of patients on treatment had increased from 400 000 to over 3,4 million. SAnews.gov.za

French artist Matisse's works shown at Johannesburg gallery



The first exhibition in Africa by French impressionist artist, Henri Matisse, was recently held at the Standard Bank Gallery in Johannesburg.

The exhibition was accompanied by an extensive educational programme taking in primary and high school pupils, their teachers and the public.

Matisse is regarded, with Pablo Picasso and Marcel Duchamp, as one of the revolutionary artists of the 20th century.

He is known for his use of colour and his fluid original draughtsmanship. Best known as a painter, his works include printmaking, sculpture and remarkable paper cuttings.

The exhibition, from July to September, was brought by Standard Bank and the French Institute with French corporate sponsors. It followed exhibitions at the Standard Bank Gallery by Joan Miro, Marc Chagall and Picasso. www.sapeople.com

ARVs for anyone with HIV



Any HIV-positive person is now able to get antiretroviral medicine irrespective of their CD4 count.

National Treasury has allocated an extra R1 billon to finance this "universal test and treat" (UTT) Programme, the Minister of Health, Aaron Motsoaledi, announced during his Budget Vote in Parliament.

Government decided to adopt UTT after research showed that it would save money in the long term, mainly because it radically reduced the chance of an HIV-positive person passing the virus to others when they were on treatment and their viral loads were undetectable.

The health department has also launched an application that anyone can download to address medicine stock-outs.

About 60% of all clinics have already started to use the stock visibility system, which monitors medicine stocks.

Patients who download the app and experience stockouts can simply press a button and notify Pretoria, said Minister Motsoaledi.

He added that he had started to negotiate with Roche, which produces the breast cancer medicine, Herceptin, to try to reduce its price. It currently costs R500 000 for a year's treatment.

Government is also launching a three-year campaign focussing on young women, aimed at reducing HIV, teen pregnancy and gender-based violence. Health-e News

Toyota manufacturing plant launched in Durban



President Jacob Zuma recently officially opened a new Toyota Hilux and Fortuner manufacturing plant in Prospecton, Durban.

The opening of the plant, which will manufacture new Toyota Hilux and Fortuner models, is part of Toyota's injection of a R6,1-billion investment into South Africa's manufacturing industry and the country's local vehicle production.

During the State of the Nation Address in February 2016, President Zuma announced that the support provided by government through the Department of Trade and Industry had attracted investments of over R25 billion in the automotive industry in the past five years and that the investment was beginning to bear fruit.

The investment by the Japanese manufacturer Toyota is a demonstration of the continued confidence that global automotive producers has in South Africa as an investment destination and the supportive policy environment that the country offers.

The investment in the production of the new Hilux and Fortuner vehicle models will support more than 4 000 jobs while total employment in the plant already exceeds 8 000 jobs.

South Africa wins gold at Chelsea Flower Show



South Africa's exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show has won a gold medal, the country's 34th in 41 years of participation at the prestigious annual event in London.

The exhibit, which showcased the flora of the Harold Porter National Botanical Garden in Betty's Bay in the Western Cape, used flowers from the coastal fynbos. It was intended as a "gateway" to the wider Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, which is at the heart of the Cape Floral Kingdom.

"The reserve is a place of such natural beauty and complex floral diversity to be recognised as perhaps the world's greatest biodiversity hot-spot. It was a privilege to be able to recreate such bounty here at Chelsea," South African National Biodiversity Institute CEO, Tanya Abrahamse, said.

The win marked a rebound for designers David Davidson and Ray Hudson, who had created South Africa's exhibits for 23 consecutive years.

The gold medal and the exhibit's popularity at the show, which drew about 150 000 visitors, are a boost for the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, whose management hoped to drum up interest and possible investment at the show. TMG Digital and BDlive

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Cape Town and eight SA hotels in Top US travel magazine's best-of lists

Cape Town has come in 10th out of the world's top 15 cities named in the *2016 Travel & Leisure* (T&L) magazine awards, and is the top city in Africa and the Middle East. Although it was higher than Rome in the top 15, it came off below Florence. The number one city was Charleston, South Carolina. Among the world's top 100 hotels, South Africa had eight.

These were the Cape Grace (at 97); Singita Kruger National Park (95); Madikwe Safari Lodge tied 84th (with La Casa Que, Canta, Mexico); the Saxon Hotel, Villas and Spa (75); La Residence in Franschhoek (70); Lion Sands Game Reserve (60); Singita Sabi Sand (18); and Londolozi (13). Singita's Grumeti in Tanzania came 11th, Tongabezi Lodge in Zambia 36th, and Mombo Camp and Little Mombo in Botswana 29th.

In the Best Safari Lodges in Africa Category, South Africa was way ahead. Said T&L, "South African properties made up about two-thirds of the list, with a full four lodges — andBeyond Kirkman's Kamp, Lion Sands Game Reserve, Singita Sabi Sand, and Londolozi — located in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve area, bordering renowned Kruger National Park."

www.sapeople.com

Emirates opens new lounge at Cape Town International Airport



Emirates' premium customers can now look forward to even greater levels of swag, hospitality and convenience with the opening of the airline's new two-level premium lounge at the Cape Town International Airport in South Africa.

The lounge follows after an investment of over R45 million by the airline, which also includes a complementary chauffeur drive service in Cape Town.

All Emirates First Class and Business Class customers, as well as Skywards Platinum and Gold members travelling from Cape Town to Dubai will have complementary access to the new facility, which has the capacity to accommodate 123 people comfortably.

It is conveniently located in the international departures corridor next to Emirates' preferred boarding point at Gate A3.

Cape Town has become Emirates' 39th lounge in its network of over 150 global points and the 14th destination to feature the airline's new lounge design concept, which includes Italian marble floors, leather armchairs and walnut wood finishes, creating an upmarket contemporary space with a fresh relaxing atmosphere.

It offers a dedicated dining area with a choice of bar seating, an extensive menu of complementary hot and cold gourmet foods served buffet style, including local dishes, and a beverage service, which includes a premium selection of champagne, spirits and South African and international wines. Traveller24

Four small SA hotels win big

Four boutique hotels have been selected for top awards by TripAdvisor users in its 2016 Traveler's Choice Awards, as has the increasingly famous Test Kitchen in Woodstock, Cape Town.

TripAdvisor calls the awards announced recently "The Very Best of Travel Chosen by Millions of Travellers".

The Garden House in Franschhoek came 25th in the Top 25 B&Bs and Inns. Situated in a building that dates back to 1881, it is a 15-minute walk from downtown Franschhoek. Villa Afrikana Guest Suites in Knysna came 11th in the Top 25 Small Hotels, with its locally named suites like Noetzie, Phantom (after the nearby forest) and Spitzkop.

The 2Inn1 Kensington in Cape Town was 16th, also coming 21st in the Best Hotels for Romance. Nestled below Table Mountain, the boutique hotel has standard, luxury rooms and a luxury apartment, as well as a spa.

Also in Franschhoek, the Akademie Street Boutique Hotel & Guest House won 18th in the Best Hotels for Romance. It has six rooms in five "unique" buildings in the perfect setting.

Even though Cape Town came 20th out of the Top 25 Destinations – London won – it was ahead of Sydney and Tokyo. Luke Dale-Roberts' Test Kitchen was a predictable winner in the top dining awards. www.sapeople.com

First African biofuel flight lands in Cape Town



In July 2016, the first sustainable biofuel flight in Africa landed in Cape Town after taking off from Johannesburg.

The flight was powered by a blend of biofuel made from tobacco and jet fuel.

South African Airways (SAA) teamed up with international partners, Boeing, SkyNRG and Sunchem Chemicals, to get the project off the ground.

The flight was powered by a blend of biofuel made from tobacco and jet fuel.

SAA acting Chief Executive Officer, Musa Zwane, says the crop used to make the biofuel is home grown. "We are taking something that Dr [Aaron] Motsoaledi is trying to get rid of, tobacco, and we are using it to fly to Cape Town." www.ewn.co.za

SAA, Kulula, Mango named Best in Africa in 2016 World Airline Awards

Proudly South African carriers South African Airways (SAA), kulula and Mango are flying the flag on the African continent after being named as the Best in Africa at the Skytrax World Airline Awards for 2016.

SAA was crowned the overall best airline in Africa, while kulula and Mango placed in seventh and eighth places, respectively.

This was the 14th consecutive year that SAA was named Best Airline in Africa.

Kulula and Mango also ranked in the Best Airline Staff Category, in seventh and eight place, respectively.

Kulula was also named as the overall best low-cost carrier in Africa, followed by Mango in the second position.

Overall, the Emirates took the top laurels as the very best airline on the globe. On the overall Top 100 list, SAA placed in the 41st position, down seven places after last year's 34th ranking. Kulula currently sits at number 93, after not even making the list in 2015. However, Mango, which placed 96th in 2015, moved down two places to number 98 in 2016. www.news24.co.za

Tshwi-Fi scores international award

The City of Tshwane has received international recognition at the World Wi-Fi Day Awards for Most Innovative City or Government Programme to bridge the Digital Divide.

The award was bestowed during a ceremony in England at the Wireless Global Congress, held in Liverpool. The awards celebrate the success stories across the world that are connecting the unconnected and contributing to global socio-economic development.

An award in this category recognises cities, governments and organisations that develop local and national plans to bridge the digital divide. Shortlisted projects must evidence the successful implementation of comprehensive Wi-Fi solutions, which innovatively overcome the challenges and complexities associated with these large-scale projects.

The Tshwane Free Wi-Fi (knowns as TshWi-Fi) has brought 1,8 million citizens in the capital city online in the biggest deployment of municipal Free Wi-Fi on the African continent. The roll-out has been made possible through the city's collaborative partnership with Project Isizwe. Together, Tshwane and the South African NGO have built relationships and developed innovative and feasible financial and technical solutions to make the roll-out possible.

The City of Tshwane, with Project Isizwe as the implementing partner, was shortlisted in this category alongside Intersection and Liquid Telecom – two internationally recognised providers in the deployment of Wi-Fi.

Project Isizwe was also shortlisted in the category: Best Wi-Fi Deployment to Connect the Unconnected in Rural Environment for the organisation's Limpopo Project. The prize in this category was awarded to Liquid Telecom for their Free Wi-Fi Project in Nakuru County, Kenya. www.SAnews.gov.za

Cape Town ranks as 11th Best Vacation Destination in the world

"If Cape Town was a person, it would be that Hollywood starlet we all secretly envy ..."

This is how the United States *News & World Report* described the Mother City in its Best Places to Visit List, released in June – a list on which Cape Town ranked in the number 11 spot. "The Mother City is unlike any other destination in Africa," the report states. "Separated from the rest of the continent by a ring of mountains, Cape Town stands as a glittering metropolis

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juxtaposed with one of the world's most breathtaking natural landscapes. "But good looks aren't the only thing Cape Town has going for it. You'll fall in love with this city's khaki-coloured beaches, rolling vineyards, sizzling cuisine, thriving nightlife, and, of course, the spectacular Table Mountain."

Cape Town narrowly missed the Top 10, ousted by big names like the Great Barrier Reef, Paris and Bora Bora, which places in first, second and third spots respectively.

Despite placing in the number 11 position, Cape Town is still the number one destination on the African continent – mostly, because of its diversity, culture, food and people.

The *US Ranking Report* agrees. "Cape Town is by far the most cosmopolitan city in South Africa, as it hosts a hodgepodge of cultures that contributes to the city's eclectic music, food, and festival scenes." www.news24.com

General Electric (GE) invests R500 million in innovation centre in Joburg

The investment of a R500-million innovation centre in Johannesburg by the United States multinational, GE, was recently welcomed by Cabinet.

This demonstrates GE's long-term commitment to both the continent and to finding innovative solutions to Africa's infrastructure and healthcare problems.

Cabinet noted that it was a demonstration that South Africa and the continent were viable investment destinations.

This is the group's 10th such centre globally and its first in Africa. The building is also the new headquarters for GE Healthcare, which showcases various healthcare technologies. This demonstrates GE's long-term commitment to both the continent and to finding innovative solutions to Africa's infrastructure and healthcare problems.

The centre aims to enhance the career aspirations of over 100 engineers from previously disadvantaged backgrounds. Space has also been allocated for collaborative projects and solution prototyping with Transnet partnering with GE on various rail localisation projects. The centre also aspires to support the development of small businesses capable of supplying the local market and potentially GE's global supply chains.

Tshwane to host World Choir Games

The World Choir Games, the "Olympic Games" of the global choral community, will be hosted by the City of Tshwane in 2018.

The announcement of Tshwane as the official host city was made by Interkultur, the organising body of the games. The World Choir Games, held every two years, is the largest choir competition on the international calendar.

According to the organisers, this is a prestigious event not only for the capital city but for South Africa and the continent. This is the first time an African country will host the games.

"Since its beginning, choirs from South Africa have been fascinating the audience and singers from all over the world at the Interkultur events ... South Africa is a land of choirs, a land of singing," said Interkultur President Günter Titsch, announcing the City of Tshwane as the 2018 host city.

This is a perfect fit with the National Development Plan and Tshwane Vision 2055, which talk of creating spaces that are liveable, resilient and inclusive. The capital city has set out a long-term path, Vision 2055, which emphasises the building of a strong, socially cohesive community and ensuring that all citizens are included in all facets of life in the city.

The City of Tshwane believes this international event, starting from 4 to 14 July 2018, will play an invaluable role in providing opportunities to celebrate arts and culture in the city, nationally and across the continent.

With some 20 000 visitors attending the games, the City of Tshwane expects a boost to its national and local economy and the opening up of opportunities for job creation. SAnews.gov.za

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- A peaceful and secure Africa
- An Africa with a strong cultural identity, Common Heritage, values and ethics
- An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential offered by African People, particularly its women and youth, and with well cared for children
- Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner

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NATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL: PROMOTING SOCIAL COHESION AND NATION-BUILDING | LIFESTYLE

National Arts Festival: Promoting social cohesion and nation-building

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The 42nd National Arts Festival was held from 30 June to 10 July 2016 in Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape.

The 11-day festival saw more than 600 productions staged in a variety of theatres and inventive venues.

The programme was rich in theatre, dance, music, visual, performing and public art, comedy, cabaret, poetry, film, literature, debate and more was presented in venues throughout the small city.

"The festival's diverse and exciting programme for 2016 was a textured and engaging representation of the country's creative mood," said Festival CEO, Tony Lankester. "Politics, identity, the quest for change and healing were very much at the forefront of this year's works but there were, of course, many light and entertaining moments, so plenty for audiences to simply escape into."

The festival brought an important mid-winter economic boost (valued at around R350 million) to the Eastern Cape region.

The annual festival is a highly visible creative networking space for the country's established and emerging artists. Scouts from international festivals also make their rounds of the shows.

Grahamstown has been associated with carnivals and festivals for more than 180 years as British immigrants established the tradition of celebrating landmark anniversaries on a grand scale.

When a movement gained ground last century to erect a memorial to these pioneers, it was agreed that it should be a "living" monument presenting festivals, conferences and other gatherings.

An inaugural festival was held in 1974 when the 1820 Settlers National Monument was officially opened, and with the exception of 1975, a festival has been organised every year since then.

The festival was a project of the Grahamstown Foundation for 28 years and in 2002 became a Section 21 Company with an independent board of directors.

It, however, still operates out of the 1820 Settlers National Monument where it rents office space and the performance facilities.

From the beginning, the programme was not confined to one venue and other facilities in the city were also used – a trend that developed as the festival grew and today, approximately 50 venues are scattered throughout the Grahamstown area.

The 2016 programme comprised, among others, the multidisciplinary Standard Bank Young Artist Awards, which featured 2016 awardees Jade Bowers, Themba Mbuli, Mohau Modisakeng, Avigail Bushakowitz and Siya Makuzeni, Ringo Madlingozi, AKA, the 2016 Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz Siya Makhuzeni, Simphiwe Dana, Prime Circle, Guy Buttery and the Odeion String Quartet, The Muffinz, Chris Chameleon and the ever-popular Gala Concert.

> South Africa's oldest jazz festival – the Standard Bank Jazz festival – attracted 150 of the world's biggest jazz innovators from 14 countries.

South Africa's oldest jazz festival – the Standard Bank Jazz festival – attracted 150 of the world's biggest jazz innovators from 14 countries.

Hot ticket productions included *The Firebird* (produced by Janni Younge and choreographed by Jay Pather) and the works of this year's Featured Artist, Lara Foot (including a premiere of *The Inconvenience of Wings)*.

At the closing of the festival, the 2016 Standard Bank Standing Ovation Award was presented to the French Institute of South Africa and the Embassy of France for two decades of supporting visionary collaborations and exchanges between South African and French artists.

A Standard Bank Standing Ovation Award was also presented to Gary Gordon to honour his longstanding creative energy in South Africa's cultural life and his enormously significant contributions to the vitality of the National Arts Festival's Main, Fringe and Arena programmes.

A surprise Standing Ovation Award was presented to Ismail Mahomed, who ended his tenure as Artistic Director of the National Arts Festival at the end of July 2016.

Speaking at the announcement CEO Lankester recognised the nine-year commitment that Mahomed had made to the festival, saying that he had "transformed the programme, filled it with richness and left a lasting legacy of excellence".

The 2016 Adelaide Tambo Award for Human Rights was presented to Drama for Life, a global leader in the integrated approach to arts for social transformation and healing.

Their performances and public engagement initiatives explore, serve and grow the role of arts for social change.

At the 2016 National Arts Festival, Drama for Life presented *Afri-Queer*, a production that brought together artists from across South Africa's borders to give a voice that humanises and gives dignity to those who continue to be oppressed.





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Speaking at the media launch of the National Arts Festival, the Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture, Rejoice Mabudafhasi, said the National Development Plan advocated that: "Arts and culture open powerful spaces for debate about where a society finds itself and where it is going. Promoted effectively, the creative and cultural industries can contribute substantially to small business development, job creation, and urban development and renewal".

She said that in its 42 years of existence, the festival continued to attract more and more audiences both locally and internationally.

"In both its diversity and scale, the National Arts Festival is the only of its kind in the country and it seeks to unleash the economic potential of the arts sector towards job creation, nation-building and social cohesion.

"The Department of Arts and Culture supports a number of flagship projects and festivals in every province of the country. We provide funding for 22 national and regional festivals and over 80 other cultural events.

"The Department of Arts and Culture has signed a three-year agreement with the festival organisers and committed an amount of R17 million.

"The National Arts Festival is one of many annual festivals supported through the Mzansi Golden Economy (MGE) Strategy across the country, which includes both small- and large-scale festivals such as: Mangaung Cultural Festival (Macufe) in the Free State; Cape Town International Jazz Festival; Diamonds and Dorings Festival in the Northern Cape; Marula Festival in Limpopo; and Buyela'khaya Festival in the Eastern Cape, among others.

"Through the MGE Open Call process, we are establishing a debut fund that creates opportunities for young artists to publish their first book, produce their first play, cut their first album or host their first exhibition.

"The fund will make quarterly awards, to a maximum value of R300 000, providing opportunities to develop new local content and for that all important 'break' in their career.

"As we ensure that communities become places for engagement and where arts and culture can flourish, there are 250 community art centres throughout the country.

"In order to nurture these centres in becoming vibrant spaces for the arts, the refurbishment of a number of centres has begun. Through a continued focus on community arts, more centres will be refurbished and programming supported across the country."

Drama for Life has also devised and executed the Festival's 2016 Remix Laboratory programme.

The Standard Bank Ovations Awards are only given to new productions on the National Lottery Fringe.

Once a production has been awarded an Ovation Award, the company is invited to propose a new work for the following year's Arena programme.

The National Lotteries Commission contributed R10 million to the Fringe this year, and assumed naming rights to the event.

Of the more than 318 productions and performances submitted to the National Lottery Fringe this year, 232 were premiers and eligible for consideration for an award.

Says Standard Bank Ovations Awards Chairperson, Tracey Saunders,

"The new productions on this year's programme ranged from the staging of familiar South African texts to established international scripts, deeply personal monologues to epic family sagas and some groundbreaking new texts straddling the terrain in between."

The sponsors for this year's National Arts Festival were the National Lotteries Commission, the Department of Arts and Culture, Eastern Cape Provincial Government, M-Net and Standard Bank of South Africa. U

10 African designers wowing the world

As more and more celebrities like Beyoncé, Rihanna, Kim Kardashian – and even former United States (US) First Lady Michelle Obama – wear their African designs, South African and other African designers are turning heads in the fashion world.



From Ankara print dresses to Xhosa-inspired cardigans, these hip designs are not just hitting the catwalks but also store shelves. While designers Gert Johan Coetzee, David Tlale, Gavin Rajah and Sam Mensah are great examples of African talent, the following 10 designers – two of them South African – are also making their mark internationally.

Thula Sindi, South Africa

Thula Sindi's self-titled brand has been described as simple, sophisticated, yet modern. His clothes mirror the modern urban woman that is bold and elegant, according to South African Tourism (SAT). But these descriptions are merely a reflection of the designer himself, who SAT said "exudes the effortless style and confidence of a young African designer with international flair and reflect the ever-changing mind and style of the South African woman".

Laduma Ngxokolo, South Africa

Laduma Ngxokolo looked to Xhosa culture for inspiration for his designer knitwear.

His label, *MaXhosa,* uses traditional Xhosa beadwork motifs and patterns to create knitted clothing distinctive from the rest. Ngxokolo won the 2015 Vogue Italia Scouting for Africa Prize to showcase his collections at the Palazzo Morando Show in Milan.

Lisa Folawiyo – Nigeria

Celebrities Kelis, Thandie Newton and Angela Simmons have been seen in Lisa Folawiyo's designs. She has perfected the art of wearing Ankara, a local West African fabric, formerly known as *Jewel by Lisa.*

Her collections have been shown at New York Fashion Week.

Taibo Bacar – Mozambique

Worn by the likes of South African singer Lira, Taibo Bacar's designs embody a woman's strength and femininity. "I make clothing for women. By that I mean the feminine woman," he told Australian journalist Jayson McNamara. "The one who knows how to express her femininity in all contexts, who knows how to walk, talk and act like a woman. Imagine even a woman in the military. I do it for her."

Pooja Jeshang – Tanzania

Go to Pooja Jeshang's bio on her website and she is still referred to as an upcoming fashion designer. However, Jeshang has been in the business since 2011, when she launched her *Saffron* label. Her bright designs are not just limited to clothing. They can be found on cushions and clutch bags, the latter inspired by African print and Indian embroidery.

Ayaan and Idyl Mohallim – Somalia

Though regarded by some as Somali, twin sisters and founders of Mataano Ayaan and Idyl Mohallim were born in the US state of Alabama to Somali parents. They moved to Somalia at an early age and spent nine years there. However, when the civil war started, their family returned to the USA. It was a move that would lead to them becoming sought-after designers. Mataano, which means twins in Somali, is noted for its elegance.

Adama Ndiaye – Senegal

Adama Ndiaye is well known in Africa's fashion scene for her label, *Adama Paris*. Born in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, to Senegalese parents, she moved to Europe with them. She left a banking career to pursue a career in fashion design in Senegal. In an interview with *Vogue Italia,* Ndiaye said her designs were inspired by cities and globalism. "Much of my inspiration comes from the big cities. My aim was and still is sharing with all modern women one fashion without borders."

Duro Olowu – Nigeria

Duro Olowu has become Michelle Obama's darling. Not only has the former US First Lady been spotted wearing some of his designs, she also asked him to design White House decorations for Christmas in 2015. Born and raised in Lagos, Nigeria, Olowu launched his first women's wear label in 2004. According to *International Business Times*, his designs are



known to have "offbeat patterns, rich textures and eclectic colours". It's no wonder he is a regular at international fashion festivals and in magazines such as *Vogue.*

Lanre Da Silva Ajayi – Nigeria

Lanre Da Silva Ajayi's label, *LDA,* has hit the catwalks of Europe. It captures what *Vogue* calls the feminine sophistication of 1940s couture.

In a *Daily Mail* article, she described her work as, "Very African and younger Jackie Kennedy Onassis, so it's classic but also young and edgy".

Intisaar Mukadam – Zimbabwe

After completing her fashion design studies at De Montfort University in Leicester, United Kingdom, Intisaar Mukadam returned to her home country, Zimbabwe, and decided to open a fashion house. It proved to be the right move.

According to Fashion Walk Africa, Mukadam's label, *IntisaarM*, is inspired by the rich and historical African tribal traditions.

She mainly uses locally sourced Zimbabwean batik and African Java, says the fashion blogger Petronella Tayamika Mahachi.

Mahachi describes Mukadam's style as "fresh, vibrant and very trendy for the super chic kind of girl about town".

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Team SA does country proud



Reinhardt Hamman


Caster Semenya



Kevin Paul

On 23 August 2016, Team SA arrived to a heroes' welcome at OR Tambo International Airport, following their return from the Rio Olympic Games.

Rio 2016 was a memorable year for Team South Africa, as it ended with 10 medals, which tied them with the most medals won in an Olympic tournament, matching the 10 won in 1920 in Antwerp and in 1952 in Helsinki.

At the end of the Rio Games, South Africa ended 29th on the medal table with two gold, six silver and two bronze medals.

South Africa's most successful sporting code was athletics, with four medals, while swimming came second with three.

On 15 August, Wayde van Niekerk broke Michael Johnson's 17-year-old 400-m world record to sensationally win Olympic gold.

The 24-year-old finished in 43.03 seconds, 0.15 quicker than the time Johnson clocked in Seville in 1999.

Medal winners included:

- Cameron van der Burgh: Silver in the men's 100-m breaststroke
- Chad le Clos": Silver in the men's 200-m freestyle
- Lawrence Brittain and Shaun Keeling: Silver in the men's coxless pair


Charl du Toit

- Blitzboks: Bronze in the men's rugby sevens tournament
- Chad le Clos: Silver in the men's 100-m butterfly
- Luvo Manyonga: Silver in the men's long jump
- Wayde van Niekerk: Gold in the men's 400m
- Sunette Viljoen: Silver in the women's javelin throw
- Henri Schoeman: Bronze in the men's triathlon
- Caster Semenya: Gold in the women's 800m.

The 2016 Paralympic Games was held from 7 to 18 September in Rio. The spectacular opening ceremony on 7 September was held at the iconic Maracana Stadium, the same stadium used for the Olympic Games last month. Javelin thrower Zanele Situ carried the South African flag at the opening ceremony.

Team South African ended their 2016 Games with 17 medals – seven gold, six silver and four bronze. That put them 22nd on the medals table. Four years ago in London, Team SA won 29 medals (eight gold, 12 silver and nine bronze), which put them 18th on the rankings. South Africa's gold medal winners were:

- Charl du Toit: Athletics men's 100m and T37 and athletics men's 400m – T37
- Dyan Neille Buis: Athletics men's 400m – T38
- Reinhardt Hamman: Athletics men's javelin throw – F38
- Hilton Langenhoven: Athletics men's long jump – T12
- Ernst van Dyk: Cycling road men's road race H5
- Kevin Paul: Swimming men's 100m breaststroke – Sb9.

Silver medal winners (six):

- Ndodomzi Jonathan Ntutu: Athletics men's 100m – T12
- Hilton Langenhoven: Athletics men's 200m – T12
- Ntando Mahlangu: Athletics men's 200m – T42
- Ilse Hayes: Athletics women's 100m – T13
- Ilse Hayes: Athletics women's 400m – T13
- Anrune Liebenberg: Athletics women's 400m – T45/46/47.

Bronze medal winners:

- Fanie van der Merwe: Athletics men's 100m – T37
- Dyan Neille Buys: Athletics men's long jump – T38
- Tyrone Pillay: Athletics men's shot put – F42
- Ntombizanele Situ: Athletics women's javelin throw – F53/54.

On 20 September 2016, hundreds of fans gathered at OR Tambo International Airport to welcome home their heroes.

www.news24.co.za / www.southafrica.info / www.sascoc.co.za

> In November 2016, South African track sensation, Wayde van Niekerk, received a special recognition from the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) for his spectacular performance at the Rio Games in August.
>
> His runaway performance, which saw him clocking 43.03 seconds to win gold and set a 400-m world record at the quadrennial showpiece event, helped 24-year-old Van Niekerk claim the Best Male Athlete of the Games at the ANOC Awards Ceremony in Doha, Qatar.
>
> "This award is a tremendous honour for Wayde, which once again shows that he has established his place among the top athletes in the world," said Aleck Skhosana, the president of Athletics South Africa.
>
> "We are proud of Wayde for receiving this accolade, and we congratulate him and his coach Anna Botha, for receiving this worthy recognition for all his hard work.
>
> "I have no doubt that his growing achievements and performance will continue to inspire other athletes in South Africa and awake Africa to take its rightful place as the leading continent in the world of athletes." Africa News Agency



Wayde van Niekerk





Skateistan's first skate school opens in SA

Tim Moolman

By Caroline Emma Troen
Royal Danish Embassy, Pretoria

> Through the combination of skating and education, the Danish Embassy believes Skateistan can reach the disadvantaged youth in South Africa and help alleviate some of the challenges they continue to face.

On the morning of 14 August 2016, the Royal Danish Embassy, including Ambassador Trine Rask Thygesen, attended the opening of Skateistan's first skate school in South Africa.

The Embassy of Denmark has been involved with Skateistan since 2009. In 2013, the former Ambassador approached the founder, Australian skater Oliver Percovich, inviting him to South Africa to investigate whether a Skateistan project could be commenced in Johannesburg.

The Embassy sponsored the initial feasibility study, which involved assessing how Skateistan could benefit underprivileged youth in South Africa.

This also included finding a location, assessing local needs and identifying potential partners.

In September 2013, the Danish Embassy facilitated a luncheon with potential sponsors and businesses partners to increase awareness of and funding for the project in Johannesburg.

Following this, the Embassy agreed to a three-year partnership with Skateistan, sponsoring the organisation with over R4 million to build the skate park in the Maboneng Precinct Johannesburg.

Skateistan

Skateistan is a non-governmental organisation, founded by Percovich in 2007. The organisation uses skateboarding as a "hook" to better engage marginalised and at-risk youth in education. Through this unique approach, skateboarding is "used as a tool for empowering youth, to create new opportunities and the potential for change".

The organisation provides a safe learning environment for disadvantaged children to develop the necessary life skills to take ownership of their own lives.

In 2009, Skateistan opened its first skate school in Kabul, Afghanistan.



Why sports?

The Convention on the Rights of the Child states that every child is entitled to "relax and play, and to join in a wide range of cultural, artistic and other recreational activities".

Moreover, the right to play and pursue recreational activities is imperative for the development of children.

Such activities can help promote health, social integration, peace-building and gender equality while also increasing social capital and economic development (United Nations Sport for the Development of Peace).

For Skateistan, sport is used to mitigate the struggles at-risk youth face in their everyday lives. Skateboarding furthermore becomes a catalyst for establishing friendship between children from different socio-economic backgrounds and creating a shared identity based on their passion for skating.

"In Denmark, we also know of the significance sports can play in bringing people together," says Ambassador Thygesen.

"Children from poor backgrounds are helped out of isolation through participating in sports and activities with their peers."

Afghanistan remains one of the most discriminating societies against women and girls. Strong patriarchal structures prevent girls from participating in the general public and sports are solely associated with their male counterparts.

However, as skateboarding was a newly introduced sport in Afghanistan, Skateistan managed to operate outside the established patriarchal cultural and societal norms.

As a result, skateboarding emerged as a "loophole" where girls could be included, despite the limited socio-cultural context. From this, the very idea of skating became a new way of challenging the discriminating patriarchal structures and promoting gender equality in Afghanistan.

Emphasis on school

In combination with skating lessons, Skateistan now offers three different educational programmes: "Skate and Create", "Back to School" and "Youth Leadership".

"Skate and Create" is an arts-based curriculum, teaching self-expression, critical thinking and problem-solving.

"Back to School" is an accelerated learning programme, focussing specifically on preparing out-of-school youth to re-enter the schooling system. The "Youth Leadership" Programme encourages students to become volunteers or staff members of Skateistan, assisting in skating and classroom lessons and playing an active role in developing new programmes. Youth leaders therefore come to act as role models for their fellow students and are furthermore encouraged to initiate positive change within their communities.

Beyond Afghan borders

In 2011, Skateistan expanded beyond Afghanistan and built a school in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

In 2013, another school was opened in Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan. Today, the two schools in Afghanistan are the largest indoor sporting facilities in the country.

The skate schools work with children aged five to 18 years of whom 50% are street-working children – children that spend most of their time on the streets, fending for themselves – and over 40% are girls.

Through the combination of skating and education, the Danish Embassy believes Skateistan can reach the disadvantaged youth in South Africa and help alleviate some of the challenges they continue to face.

We encourage everyone to "Keep Skateistan Rolling" and support this organisation! U

For more information, please see: https://www.skateistan.org

SA ARTIST'S "MORPHOUS" ON DISPLAY IN NEW YORK | LIFESTYLE



SA artist's "Morphous" on display in New York

> "This particular piece evokes a question of time, of past and future, and the balance point at which the country finds itself as it embarks on the next chapter of a post-apartheid and post-Nelson Mandela South Africa, a future South Africa."

Cape Town artist Lionel Smit's large bronze sculpture, "Morphous", was installed in New York's Union Square in mid-June 2016 and will remain there for 10 months, New York gallery, Cynthia-Reeves, said in a statement.

The installation is in collaboration with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, Art Miami/Art New York, the Union Square Partnership, business improvement district and a not-for-profit local development corporation. It is Smit's first public art installation in the United States of America (USA). It can be seen in the square, at an important and historic Manhattan intersection.

"Morphous" will be in the square until 30 April 2017, longer than the usual six months for a public installation.

According to Smit, it is one of a set of four, with one bought by English jeweller Laurence Graff for the Delaire-Graff Wine Estate in the Stellenbosch area, another in a private South African collection and the third "still in casting".

Cynthia-Reeves said Smit exhibited "… an ongoing fascination and respect for the indigenous people of his country, notably the Cape Malay peoples. Both his paintings on canvas and his sculptures, done in bronze or in painted resin, offer us an entry point into the variety and richness that lies beneath every face – a task Smith undertakes with great sensitivity."

The New York City Art in the Parks Programme has since 1967, "consistently fostered the creation and installation of temporary public art in parks throughout the five boroughs", Cynthia-Reeves said.

"It's such an honour to welcome renowned sculptor Lionel Smit's first public installation in the USA to Union Square during our 40th Anniversary celebration year," said Union Square Partnership executive director, Jennifer Falk. "As we reflect on four decades of creating partnerships and serving this area, we appreciate just how far Union Square has come and how our past has shaped this neighbourhood's bright future. Lionel Smit's inspiring piece is sure to captivate the hundreds of thousands who visit Union Square every day."

Morphus was "an exploration of hybrid identity and its ever-changing nature within South Africa's social landscape", Cynthia-Reeves said.

"This particular piece evokes a question of time, of past and future, and the balance point at which the country finds itself as it embarks on the next chapter of a post-apartheid and post-Nelson Mandela South Africa, a future South Africa."

Smit said he was fascinated with portraiture and that the "combination of the representation of human form, and the mercurial quality of emotions, translated by colour, line and form, is what inspires the imaginative and abstract essence of the work".

Born in Pretoria in 1982, Smit started exhibiting straight after art school. He now lives and works in Cape Town. One of the "Morphus" sculptures was exhibited in Johannesburg at the Circa gallery in Rosebank in 2014.

The US public installation was complemented with an exhibition of Smit's work at the Cynthia-Reeves gallery on the campus of Massachusetts, Museum of Contemporary Art in North Adams, Massachusetts, in July and August this year. Based in Strand, Cape Town, Smit's process as an artist today remains adaptive, inventive and physically engaging.

Through this, he has achieved success all over the world, including sell-out exhibitions in London and Hong Kong. His work continues to inspire and captivate the minds of art novices and experts alike from Europe to America.

Smit's works have been exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery in London where it received the Viewer's Choice Award, as well as selected as the "face" of the BP Portrait Award 2013 for all campaigns. In recent years, he has also been honoured with a Ministerial Award from the Department of Culture for Visual Art.

A highlight of his career has been the publication of one of his paintings on the cover of a Christie's Auction Catalogue.

> Smit's works have been exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery in London where it received the Viewer's Choice Award, as well as selected as the "face" of the BP Portrait Award 2013 for all campaigns.



www.lionelsmit.co.za / www.cynthia-reeves.com / www.bdlive.co.za

DIRCO hosts fun-filled Diplomatic Fair

The Diplomatic Fair attracted over 60 foreign diplomatic missions, United Nations agencies, government departments and Proudly South African businesses, as well as thousands of visitors.

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), in partnership with Proudly South African, hosted the annual Diplomatic Fair on Saturday, 29 October 2016, at the Union Buildings, Pretoria, under the theme: "Celebrating the Life and Legacy of OR Tambo".

The Diplomatic Fair attracted over 60 foreign diplomatic missions, United Nations agencies, government departments and Proudly South African businesses, as well as thousands of visitors.

Hosted annually since 2006, the event serves as a key platform to educate the general public about diplomacy and South Africa's foreign policy objectives.

It brings together embassies, high commissions and international organisations accredited to South Africa to showcase and promote cultural diplomacy through creative expressions such as arts, music and cuisine from around the world.

The Diplomatic Fair also afforded government, business, the diplomatic community and other sectors the opportunity to engage and network. In this regard, DIRCO partnered with the Proudly South African Campaign to promote businesses that displayed local goods and services at the Diplomatic Fair. The day was fun-filled with cultural performances by the participating embassies and stars such as Bucie, Babes Wodumo, DJ Tira and Fiztaz Mixwell entertaining the audience.



















Springs Art Deco architecture priceless

By the Ekurhuleni Department of Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture

Springs is home to some of the best examples of the Art Deco building style in South Africa with immense architectural and historical value – a value the city hopes will soon be recognised internationally.

The City of Springs in Gauteng boasts the largest number of small-scale Art Deco design buildings in the world, outside of Miami, Florida, United States of America. The design style, which has become synonymous with the coastal town of Miami, is achieving more and more attention as a potential tourism money-spinner for Springs.

The Art Deco design style had its heydays between world wars one and two and achieved its prevalence in Springs, as this was also the period that characterised the greatest growth in the history of the town.

By the mid-1930s, Springs was one of the six largest towns in South Africa and was mentioned in the same breath as Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth. Particularly in the field of architecture, Springs took the lead away from the mining architecture of its origins into an industrial age of opportunity.

The Art Deco design style had its heydays between world wars one and two and achieved its prevalence in Springs, as this was also the period that characterised the greatest growth in the history of the town.

The term Art Deco had its origins with the international exhibition, *Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes,* held in Paris, France, in 1925. Shortened to Arts Deco, later to become known as Art Deco, the style developed principally from exotic African and Eastern art forms.

The style centred on designs of mysterious and romantic animals, the sun, fountains and organic motifs while cubists such as Picasso and Braque, futurists such as Severini, Boccini and Marinetti, and the surrealism of Dali and Cocteau, influenced Art Deco greatly.

In Europe and America, the development of radio, moving pictures, film and theatre, automobiles, ships, steam trains and aeroplanes bore the Art Deco style, while the unearthing of Tutenkamen's grave in 1921 also impacted on the European and America Art Deco style.

The horror of World War One was followed by an exuberance and renewed energy among the public at large, leading to the development of the Charleston and Swing dances, as well as jazz music. This was also a lead-in period into mass technology and scientific breakthroughs that would forever change the home and workplace.

Aspects of the machine such as the wings of aircraft, the portholes of ships and the wheel were used as inspiration. Although Art Deco is primarily known for its smaller items, it was in architecture that its full potential was realised.

Also in Springs, amid its own phenomenal growth of the gold mining era, Art Deco architecture developed with a character all of its own by combining the elements of streamlined, tropical and industrial Art Deco with the more reserved classical style.



Some of the best examples of the Art Deco building style is evident in the Central Fire Station, opened on 13 July 1938 and designed by a Mr Anifantakis.

It reminds strongly of the Johnson Wax Building in Winsconsin designed by renowned architect Frank Loyd Wright and was erected from 1936 to 1939.

Particularly striking in this building is the use of portholes and curved lines. The facade is designed in typical stair fashion to lend dimension and rhythm, while the characteristic "building around corners" style lends a softer appearance, than would the strict use of vertical and horizontal lines.

Vertical edging is used on the facade along with small, geometric windows rather than portholes, for practical purposes.

The original metal banister of this declared national monument has also been preserved.

Parapets and finials were used to advertise Art Deco buildings and the architects often ended the top-most portion of the building with decorative designs to accentuate individuality.

Renesta House was designed by the architects Kallenbach, Furner and Kennedy, and is a particularly good example of the use of parapets as well as decorative wall tiles. The entrance still retains the original marble finish and windows in which the geometric and cubist Art Deco designs can clearly be seen. Another element of Art Deco design is the use of decorative cubes, vertical or horizontal banding and streamlining. This was done particularly to draw attention to a certain aspect of the building. This divides the building into different levels lending Art Deco its multidimensionality. It is in this aspect, particularly, that the influence of the cubists is evident.

The frozen fountain effect, first seen in Paris, is incorporated beautifully into the facade of the old Casseldale Hotel (now the Selection Lodge). The Casseldale Hotel's architecture reminds strongly of the Cardoza Hotel in Ocean Drive, Miami.

With verticalism, rhythm and planes are created, as can immediately be seen in Renesta House, Nureef Building, Abeco Building, Regal House, Court Chambers, Springs Hotel, Glenshiel Building, Doreen Crescent and Jimmy's Club. The majority of the buildings in Springs have strong verticalism combined with downward lines.

All these buildings were erected to address the accommodation issue in Springs. Functionally, the flats, hotels and businesses were dominant in the centre of town. In those days, residents did whatever they could to live as close to the centre of town as possible. In today's times, however, the exact opposite is true. Residents do their best to live in the quieter suburbs. These buildings that played such an important role in the 30s are almost forgotten today.

Another important element of Art Deco buildings were door entrances. Here, it was almost as if a special kind of theatrical detail could be seen. The door became a figure-like entrance to the life inside the building. The entrance to the Southern Building in Third Street has marble work with Art Deco lights where circles and vertical lines meet. The lift has mirrors that are also of Art Deco design.

On Springs' Art Deco buildings, architects played around with different types of windows that were used in Europe and America. The Central Fire station has round portholes combined with practical smaller windows. Putting windows all around the building as can be seen on the Springs and Casseldale hotels, strengthens the Art Deco's building style.



Letter work gave Art Deco a very specific character. Graphic artwork originated in the 1920s and 1930s and typography became more geometrical and modern and fitted in well with the style of Art Deco. The best examples of this in Springs are the letter work of the Palladium Cinema, Renesta House, Nureef House and the Court Chambers.

The Palladium was built in 1937 and was one of the most luxurious theatres on the East Rand. The cinema industry started to prosper in 1934 due to the gold boom in South Africa's economy. The Palladium is a contemporary of the Colosseum in Johannesburg, which is surely one of the nicest examples of Art Deco in South Africa.
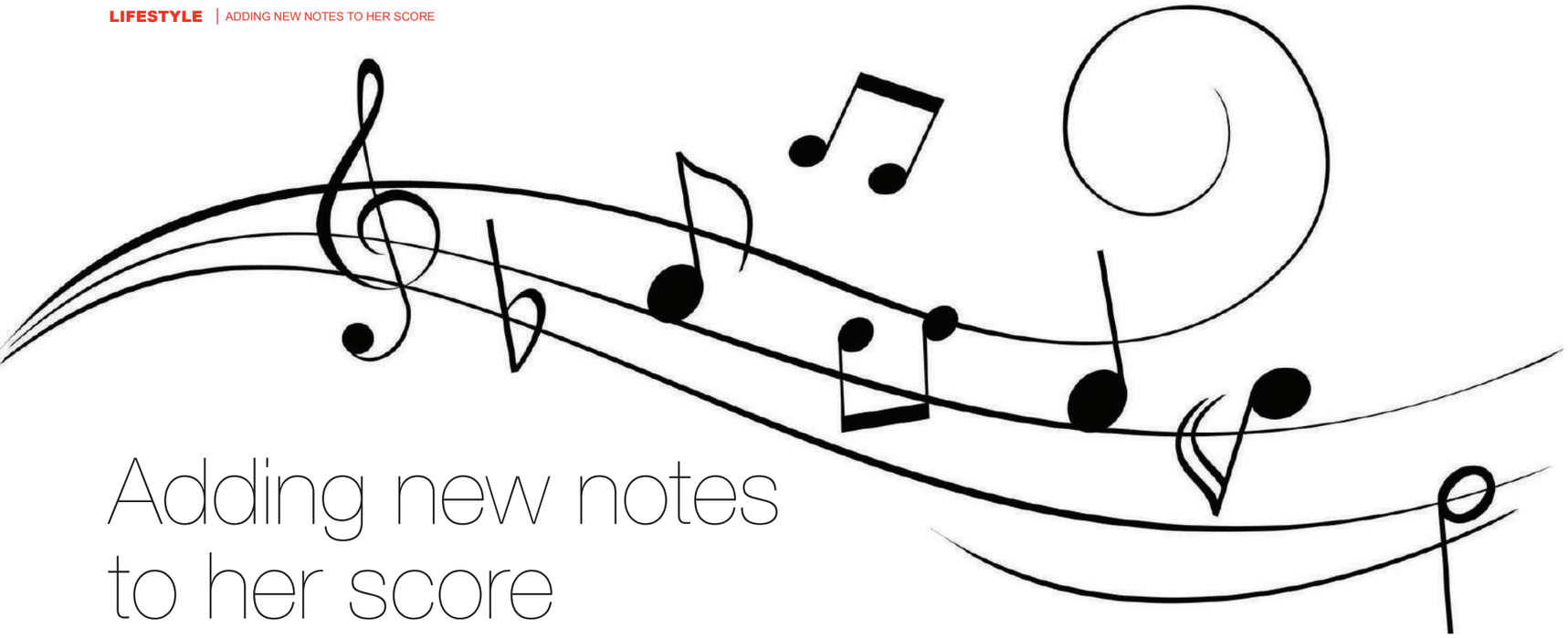
Some of the best examples of the Art Deco building style is evident in the Central Fire Station, opened on 13 July 1938 and designed by a Mr Anifantakis.

Two other buildings, Cray's Mansions and Shimwells, are good examples of the South African Art Deco where elements of the Classical and Cape Styles are mixed with elements of Art Deco.

This shows how local culture can have physical bearing on external influences in order to create true South African architecture.

Although Art Deco belongs to the entertainment, machine-era and post-depression years in America and Europe, its roots lay in Africa. Springs is home to some of the best examples of the Art Deco building style in South Africa with immense architectural and historical value – a value the city hopes will soon be recognised internationally. U www.theheritageportal.co.za

ADDING NEW NOTES TO HER SCORE | LIFESTYLE



Adding new notes to her score

By Sulaiman Philip
Media Club South Africa

> Malunga began playing classical piano at six, the cello a little later, and knew early on that classical orchestral music was always going to be an important part of her life.

A classically trained pianist and cellist who has put in years as an entertainment lawyer, Unathi Malunga, is adding new notes to her score.

She is studying orchestral conducting, and plans to be the first black African woman to conduct a professional orchestra.

There is a photograph of Unathi Malunga, taken on a plane, the score of the *Magic Flute* open in the cramped space between rows of seats. She is conducting an orchestra only she can hear. It captures so much of who she is: committed, enthusiastic, passionate and engaged, but most of all, a dreamer.

Her laugh is musical, charming and self-effacing. "It's a skill a conductor needs," she says, "to be able to read the music notes, musical line and know what it will sound like. I can hear the music when I read a score. I can auralise it, hear the whole orchestra in my head".

Malunga will become the first black African woman to complete the orchestral conducting course at Stellenbosch University. She is on track to become one of the few female conductors and, as far as we know, the first black woman to join the ranks of professional orchestral conductors.

Conducting an orchestra is about leading a team. It is the art of combining the interpretation and experience of many musicians, guiding that diversity to create a single harmonised experience. "What turns a score into a performance is not the notes. It's the shaping of the notes. Do you want to highlight the call and answer between the flute and the clarinet? The musicians can play the notes; it's the conductor who has a vision of how a particular performance should be interpreted, how to make it beautiful. It's about that team making the music."

Her personal story is a compelling one. In front of our bedroom mirrors is where most people's musical dreams begin. It is also where they usually fade. Not for Malunga, whose mother chose the schools she attended based on their ability to nurture her musical ambitions. She is a classically trained cellist and pianist, but she found success as an entertainment lawyer before answering the call to return to music. Malunga began playing classical piano at six, the cello a little later, and knew early on that classical orchestral music was always going to be an important part of her life. "I love the way instruments blend together. I love the way composers blend instruments. I just love the sound those instruments make."

It was always in her, this love of classical music. And she says it has everything to do with being exposed to it from an early age, and the way that the music is able to touch on eternal themes such as love, friendship and tragedy.

She – and she laughs as she says it – bought into the myth of the starving artist. After finishing Matric (with two music subjects, Subject Music and Cello Performance), she chose to study Law at Rhodes. "I'm ashamed to say I bought into the starving artist myth. I chose Law and Entertainment Law was the perfect way of blending the two."

Despite her success as a lawyer – she worked on the opening and closing ceremony of the 2010 World Cup, on the African Union 50th celebrations and the movie *Blood Diamond* – she was beginning to find music more compelling than the law, a score more interesting than a statute. Music, she says, is visceral. You can touch the emotion.

Something was missing from her life. "My friends were saying it was babies and I would say: 'No, it's not that'. It was music that was missing in my life. That was the call that was growing stronger every day." Malunga went back to Rhodes University to study Music Education and to retrain what she calls her ear, although she points out that she did not retrain her ear at Rhodes. "I'm retraining my ear now at Stellenbosch." It is the most important tool for any musician. One of her electives was conducting, which is when her path became clear.

She wants to be the first black African woman to conduct a professional orchestra, but would be just as pleased if another stole a march on her. She speaks passionately about widening the audience for classical music, about diversifying the voices and widening the conversation about its place in society. She wants to prove it's not an exclusive, restricted club.

She mentions a recent, well-supported performance by renowned soprano Pretty Yende sponsored by Wiphold (Women's Investment Portfolio Holdings Limited), the many orchestral programmes run in townships and the classical music heritage of some black families such as the Nkuna and Masote families.

There have always been black people who have loved classical music.

"I mentor young black women as an entertainment lawyer – not past tense! I still am one – women who now have someone to show them the way. I have seen the hunger. I have seen what it means to have someone show you it's possible. So, if I am the first black African woman conductor, great; if not, at least my journey, and it has been a painful personal journey, shows other women it is possible." One day, Malunga hopes she will get to conduct all the Beethoven symphonies – there are nine of them and just over six hours of music.

Along the way, she will discover new composers and be reminded old favourites. She will still continue to jive to kwaito or Motown, but it's not the kind of music that really moves her.

Asked whether she "sees the music" when listening to other genres, she answers: "I don't see the music; I just feel the beat. It doesn't get into my soul. It has purely entertainment value for me."

"Not like orchestral music. When they fly, when they take off together, an orchestra is truly moving. I had to make choices when I was growing up. While my friends played, I practised. As a child, it's difficult to see the end result of that sacrifice, but I see it now. And I wouldn't change anything."



NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION CAPTURES AFRICA'S FINEST | LIFESTYLE

Nature's Best Photography Exhibition captures Africa's finest

"Fairytale Forest" by Tracey Jennings



"Fishing Cat" by James Gifford

The winning images from Nature's Best Photography (NBP) Africa 2016, the premier annual African-focussed nature photography competition, was exhibited at the Iziko South African Museum from 22 June to 25 September 2016.

The annual competition invites photographers from across the globe to submit their images, taken in Africa, for judging by an expert panel of judges. The winners were announced at the gala awards ceremony at the Iziko South African Museum on 21 June. The combined value of the prizes – to some of Africa's finest wildlife environs – was approximately R1 million, making this one of the most prestigious competitions of its type in the world.

The competition consists of the following categories: African Wildlife Portfolio, African Image of the Year, African Landscapes, Wild Cats of Africa Behavioural, Wild Cats of Africa Portraits, Birds of Africa Behavioural, Birds of Africa Portraits, Mammals of Africa Behavioural, Mammals of Africa Portraits, Reptiles of Africa, Africa at Sea, Africa Up Close, Art in African Wildlife, and Youth Awards 18 years and under. The winner of the Landscapes Category was Nick van de Wiel from St Lucia, South Africa, for his beautiful image, "Spitzkoppe Arch"; African Wildlife Photographer of the Year was won by Pia Dierickx from Antwerp, Belgium; while Jorden Ralph from Pretoria, South Africa, walked away with the Youth Awards 18 years and under for "Pollinators".

"Iziko welcomes our continued partnership with Nature's Best Photography Africa in hosting the exhibition for the second year of the competition.

"Observing and photographing Africa's wildlife is much more than just recording particular species; it is about spending thousands of hours watching animals interacting with their environment and capturing special moments that create surprise and new understanding.

"My particular interest is in interactions between species and this year's exhibition features many amazing encounters such as a hippo fighting off a crocodile and a Ground Hornbill tossing a bird's egg into its mouth.

"The NBP Africa competition is playing an important role in promoting an appreciation of Africa's wildlife areas, with valuable spin-offs of promoting conservation, ecotourism, education and job creation," said Rooksana Omar, CEO, Iziko Museums of South Africa.

"The judges were extremely impressed by the quality of this year's entries.

This, when combined with an increase in entries of over 40%, bodes well for the future of NBP Africa," says Lou Coetzer, Director, NBP Africa and Head Adjudicator. NBP is a respected global brand, having run successfully in alliance with the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington DC for many years. A selection of winning images from NPB Africa will be included in the annual NBP exhibition at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

NPB Africa is registered as a South African non-profit entity, which has established this valuable platform for the promotion of photography, conservation and the continent of Africa, to a massive global audience.

NBP Africa, Iziko Museums of South Africa, the Da Vinci Institute and Nikon, will work together to launch and extend from year to year the educational component to promote photographic excellence, attract new audiences to photography and foster an appreciation for conservation of our natural resources. NGO partners include the African Wildlife Foundation and A Spring of Hope for community benefit and empowerment.

www.iziko.org.za



"Pollinators" by Jorden Ralph

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Iziko operates 11 national museums, the Planetarium, the Social History Centre and three collection-specific libraries in Cape Town. The museums that make up Iziko have their own history and character, presenting extensive art, social and natural history collections that reflect the diverse African heritage. Iziko is a public entity and non-profit organisation that brings together these museums under a single governance and leadership structure.



"Spitzkoppe Arch" by Nick von der Wiel



"Reflections" by Charl Senekal

The rocky headland of Cape Agulhas in the Western Cape is the place where the Indian and Atlantic oceans meet. A stone plaque marks the official southernmost tip of the continent of Africa.