



Constitution Hill, Johannesburg: In 1902, while the Old Fort was incarcerating white prisoners, additional sections, known as Numbers Four and Five, were established to house black prisoners. Political prisoners included Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo, Mahatma Gandhi, Robert Sobukwe and Albert Luthuli.

In the spirit of Ubuntu

credits

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ON THE COVER

The image, Two Red Shoes, by Clint Strydom is part of the solo exhibition, Hidden Shadows and Silent Voices of Prison Number 4, which is on show until 27 August 2017 at Constitution Hill, Johannesburg (see page 100). The prisoners incarcerated at Constitution Hill only received shoes after spending a year in the prison. These shoes were something of value, a powerful visual representation of the conditions that the prisoners had to endure and a reminder of the person who used them. A total of 156 people, including South Africa's first democratically elected President, Nelson Mandela, and the country's pioneer diplomat, Oliver Reginald (OR) Tambo, were arrested and held at the prison complex before the historic Treason Trial in 1956. Two years later, 2 000 women were detained after protesting the pass laws. Today, South Africa's highest court, the Constitutional Court, is situated at Constitution Hill. It is a living museum that tells the story of South Africa's journey to democracy. Between 1994 and 1996, South Africa's first fully democratic Parliament, sitting as the Constitutional Assembly, drew up South Africa's new Constitution, which took effect on 4 February 1997. This year, Parliament celebrates the 20th anniversary of South Africa's Constitution, which is the supreme law of the land. It is one of the most progressive in the world and enjoys high acclaim internationally. 2017 also marks the centenary of OR Tambo.

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The year 2017 has been declared by our government as the Year of OR Tambo, one of the most outstanding leaders of the liberation struggle who mobilised international solidarity against apartheid and contributed to shaping the vision of a post-apartheid democratic South Africa.

During the State of the Nation Address earlier this year, President Jacob Zuma reflected on Oliver Tambo's role in setting our foreign policy outlook. The President recounted OR's words at the first congress of the People's Movement for the Liberation

of Angola (MPLA) in Luanda in 1977 when he said: "We seek to live in peace with our neighbours and the peoples of the world in conditions of equality, mutual respect and equal advantage." In this regard, OR, as he was affectionately known, mobilised the largest truly global solidarity movement rooted on the African continent and extending to the global South and the North. His legacy continues to guide the values of South Africa's foreign policy, namely: Patriotism, Loyalty, Dedication, Ubuntu, Equity, Integrity and Batho Pele. As we celebrate the centenary of OR Tambo, we draw inspiration from his exemplary leadership and vision which

accorded him the accolade of an international statesman and an astute, consummate diplomat.

Between 1994 and 1996, South Africa's first fully democratic Parliament, sitting as the Constitutional Assembly, drew up South Africa's new Constitution. Parliament has set aside 2017 for celebrating 20 years of South Africa's world-acclaimed Constitution, as well as the National Council of Provinces (NCOP). The Constitution was signed into law by the first democratically elected President, Nelson Mandela, on 10 December 1996, and came into effect on 4 February 1997, followed by the inaugural session of the NCOP on 6 February 1997.

The celebration of the Constitution and the NCOP is a watershed moment for every sector and every individual in South Africa. It marks the coming of age of South Africa's constitutional democracy, which demonstrated high levels of resilience and maturity, sometimes, under trying conditions.

The department took a conscious decision to deliver its Budget Vote in Parliament on 25 May, Africa Day, to reaffirm our commitment to contribute to a peaceful and prosperous Africa.

Our foreign policy is guided by the Government's apex strategy, the National Development Plan (NDP), which sets out a long-term vision that seeks to address the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality, and put South Africa on a path towards long-term development and prosperity. In this regard, Chapter Seven of the NDP envisions an active role for South Africa in the region, the continent and the world. We therefore seek to build strategic partnerships for development to advance our national interests and promote the enduring values that define our nation, namely: democracy, human rights and good governance.

This enjoins us to continue pursuing regional, political and economic integration and promote Africa's development through sustained South-South solidarity and mutually beneficial relations with the North. We are conscious that this can be fully achieved within a reformed, just, fair and equitable global system of governance.

Our international programme is executed in a volatile, uncertain, complex and an ambiguous global environment. This environment is characterised by the rise of nationalism and populism, fueled by growing inequality and unemployment. We believe that a people-centred development agenda based on the recently adopted sustainable development goals should be the basis for

South Africa will take over the Chairship of the BRICS from 1 January to 31 December 2018 and we will host the 10th BRICS Summit. During our tenure, we will focus on deepening BRICS cooperation for common development, enhancement of global governance to jointly meet our shared challenges ...

addressing the myriad of challenges that confront nations across the globe, instead of a retreat to short-term populist solutions. The onset of a multipolar world we live in today increases the prospects for an equitable diffusion of global power and for mutually beneficial relations among nations.

The ever-changing environment requires us to constantly recalibrate the contours of our foreign policy to ensure the continued effective execution of our mandate. In this vein, we have consistently adapted our economic diplomacy strategies which continue to yield tangible dividends that benefit all South Africans.

During the 2016 Budget Vote Speech, we indicated that our development was inextricably linked with that of our region and our continent and as such, we placed a strong emphasis on industrialisation efforts in the region. Accordingly, the process of boosting the productive capacity of the region's economies is underway with a focus on developing and boosting its manufacturing capacity.

As incoming Southern African Development Community (SADC) Chair of Summit for the 2017 to 2018 period under the theme: "Partnering with the Private Sector in Developing Industry and Regional Value Chains", we will focus on harnessing the participation and involvement of the regional private sector in the implementation of the SADC Regional Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap.

Efforts are also underway to accelerate the implementation of the SADC-Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa-East African Community Free Trade Area, which will enhance intra-Africa trade and build towards the achievement of the Continental Free Trade Agreement.

The year 2017 has been declared by the African Union Heads of State and Assembly as the year of "Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investment in the Youth". This provides an opportunity for the continent to leverage the youth bulge to propel its

socio-economic development. There is a need for an integrated approach to improve youth development across the continent and to ensure their full participation in economic activities. In this regard, it is incumbent upon us to invest in young citizens to address the high levels of unemployment and poverty,

For our part, we have been hard at work in sourcing educational opportunities for South African students abroad. I am happy to report that, among many others, we have secured, in 2016, 200 fully funded scholarships for South African students in the Americas and Europe regions. Under the aegis of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development's Africa Business Education initiative, 80 South African students are currently studying for Master's degrees in highly technical fields in Japan, which will be followed by internships at Japanese companies.

Our Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) membership has consolidated our position globally and within emerging markets. This partnership is yielding fruitful benefits in which our people are already benefiting from the New Development Bank – which recently announced the allocation of funds for renewable energy.

South Africa will take over the Chairship of BRICS from 1 January to 31 December 2018 and we will host the 10th BRICS Summit. During our tenure, we will focus on deepening BRICS cooperation for common development, enhancement of global governance to jointly meet our shared challenges, carrying out people-to-people exchanges to support BRICS cooperation and institutional improvements, among others.

Our participation in the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation is realising tangible results, as noted through the outcomes of last year's Second Investing in Africa Forum held in China. The Memorandum of Understanding on exploration on various infrastructure development initiatives, which includes the

Moloto Rail Development Corridor, will have a direct impact on the lives of our people.

Moreover, we will assume the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Chairship in August 2017. IORA is a strategic formation that creates a platform for countries in the Indian Ocean Rim to deepen cooperation in areas such as ocean economy for shared prosperity.

Our commitment to the pursuit of the African Agenda enjoins us to place it high on the G20 Agenda.

Through our Co-Chairship of the Development Working Group of the G20, we will continue to promote the principle of inclusivity for the benefit of our continent and the global South. Thus, our efforts are geared at ensuring that the trajectory of the support from the G20 is aligned to Africa's development agenda.

The United Nations (UN) with its near universal membership and vast agenda remains the most important multilateral institution and the centre of global governance. Our key priority is advancement of the reform agenda in order to strengthen the UN.

In its current status, the UN has failed to curb unilateral actions by powerful nations which undermine its founding principles. These practices risk the reversal of gains made by the collective, including the implementation of the Paris Climate Change Pact.

The international community regards climate change as the single biggest threat to well-being, health and socio-economic development facing humanity this century. Its impacts are widespread, unprecedented and disproportionately burdens to the poorest and most vulnerable.

South Africa therefore expressed its profound regret over the decision of the United States of America (USA) to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, which reflects the multilateral agreement to keep global temperature increases to well below 2 degrees Celsius.

South Africa has full confidence that the momentum of the collective effort to address climate change will only accelerate. We recognise the outstanding contribution made to the fight against climate change in the USA by past administrations, states, cities, scientific organisations, civil society, business and individual citizens. South Africa therefore calls on the USA to reconsider its position and to re-commit to the multilateral process.

We reaffirm that we shall spare no effort in contributing to a better life for all South Africans, a better Africa, in a better world. 卐

**Minister of International Relations and Cooperation
Maite Nkoana-Mashabane**

Bloubergstrand in the Western Cape is one of the world's most popular kitesurfing destinations, also offering surfing, windsurfing and a variety of other outdoor sports. Each year, this popular beach attracts kitesurfing professionals and enthusiasts from countries such as Germany, the Netherlands and the United States, to name just a few of the most devoted.





The article published in *Daily Maverick* ahead of the recent African Union (AU) Summit: "Absence of Zuma and Ramaphosa raises eyebrows" on 27 June 2017 argued that "since [Dr Nkosazana] Dlamini Zuma stepped down from the [the position of] AU Commission Chair, South Africa had shied away from occupying other important AU posts".

The article quoted a consultant at the Institute of Security Studies, who said South Africa was "ceding power to other players on the continent, such as Rwanda's President Paul Kagame and the current AU Chairperson, President Alpha Condé of Guinea".

The notion that South Africa is disengaging from the AU and the continent is misinformed. In all our work, we remain committed to our vision of championing an African continent, which is prosperous, peaceful, democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and united and which aspires to a world that is just and equitable.

On the perception that South Africa is "ceding" power to individual leaders within the AU, it must be said that such a view is misplaced. President Kagame was assigned a specific task by the Assembly of Heads of State in July 2016, held in Kigali, to undertake a study aimed at reforming the AU and its organs.

In all our work, we remain committed to our vision of championing an African continent, which is prosperous, peaceful, democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and united and which aspires to a world that is just and equitable.

South Africa will continue to lead the multifaceted discourse on the future of the African Union (AU). In August, we will assume the role of Chair of the 15-state Southern African Development Community, one of the AU's most dynamic regional economic communities (RECs). The AU cannot operate optimally if the RECs are not operating likewise.

The reforms are aimed at addressing some of the challenges facing the AU, such as "failure to implement decisions", "overdependence on partner funding," "underperformance of some organs" and "inefficient working methods".

President Kagame was given this task by the Assembly and South Africa fully supports the initiative to revitalise the AU. Indeed, the decision of the July 2016 Summit to institute the reforms was not taken overnight.

Dr Dlamini Zuma had already initiated some of the reforms, including an improvement in the working methods and financial self-reliance.

On the need for African states to take greater responsibility in funding the AU, the summit held in June 2015 in South Africa decided to establish the AU Foundation, a vehicle for resource mobilisation on the continent.

Through the establishment of the foundation, the AU undertook to work with the African people, including the private sector, to explore innovative sources for funding. At the last summit, we saw President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe make a donation of US\$1 million through the foundation. South Africa is not in competition with leaders of the AU who are assigned specific roles by the AU. The Chair of the AU, President Condé of Guinea, assumed this role in January 2017 and will hand over to a new Chair in January 2018. All AU member states, including South Africa, will continue to support President Condé for the duration of his tenure. At the same time, South Africa continues to play an active role in the AU through various ways, including as a member of the AU Peace and Security Council. In this role, we are at the forefront of efforts to bring lasting peace and stability to the continent, particularly in countries such as Libya, South Sudan, Sudan (Darfur), Somalia and Western Sahara.

South Africa will continue to lead the multifaceted discourse on the future of the AU. In August, we will assume the role of Chair of the 15-state Southern African Development Community (SADC), one of the AU's most dynamic regional economic communities (RECs). The AU cannot operate optimally if the RECs are not operating likewise.

When President Kagame presented his report on institutional reforms of the AU, he emphasised that "there should be a clear division of labour between the AU, RECs, regional mechanisms, member states and other continental institutions, in line with the principle of subsidiarity".

Having made the transition in 2002 from an Organisation of African Unity that was formed to lead the struggle against colonialism and apartheid to an AU that is waging a new struggle for Africa's economic independence, South Africa believes that its own economic development depends on growing regional and international economic cooperation in an independent world. Accordingly, our country is fully behind efforts by the AU to launch the envisaged Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA). On 7 July, the Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Rob Davies, signed the agreement establishing the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) at a meeting held in Kampala, Uganda. The meeting was attended by the trade ministers and officials from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC) and SADC. Once the TFTA enters into force, it will reduce tariffs on goods traded between the tripartite countries, creating new opportunities for exports as well as regional value chains.

South Africa will continue to amplify Africa's voice globally. The outcome of the G20 Summit, held in Germany, saw the leaders of some of the world's biggest economies acknowledge that any cooperation with the continent must be on the basis of "African ownership" and "equal partnership".

Our country's development is intrinsically connected to that of the southern African region and the continent as a whole. As such, Africa will remain at the core of all our foreign policy endeavours. 🇿🇦

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OR Tambo respected and honoured worldwide

"It is our responsibility to break down barriers of division and create a country where there will be neither whites nor blacks, just South Africans, free and united in diversity."

By the Department of Arts and Culture

The South African Government has declared 2017 as the Year of OR Tambo to honour this international icon of our liberation struggle. If the late President of the African National Congress (ANC) was still alive, he would have been celebrating 100 years on 27 October 2017.

History tells us that the best leaders are from humble beginnings. Oliver Reginald Kaizana Tambo was born in the village

of Kantolo, Bizana, in the Mpondoland (eQawukeni) region of the Eastern Cape, on 27 October 1917. On completion of his primary and secondary schooling, he went on to study at the then-named College of Fort Hare, known as the University of Fort Hare today, where he joined the Students Christian Association.

Tambo graduated his BSc degree in Mathematics and Physics at Fort Hare and further enrolled for a Diploma in Higher Education. On 24 July 1951, Tambo qualified

as an attorney. In the early 1940s, Tambo joined the ANC, an organisation founded in 1912 that opposed white supremacy. In 1957, Tambo was elected Deputy President of the ANC.

Subsequent to the Sharpeville Massacre on 21 March 1960, Tambo embarked on a "Mission in Exile" to gain international support for the South African liberation movement.

During 1963 and 1964, Tambo made a number of high-profile speeches to present the ANC to the world, the most prominent being the one made to the United Nations (UN) in October 1963. This speech inspired the UN Resolution 18 of 11 October 1963, calling on the South African government to release all political prisoners. As President of the ANC, OR Tambo was afforded international status equivalent to a head of state during the liberation struggle. He mobilised the international community

to support South Africa to fight against apartheid and was at the forefront in establishing ANC offices in various countries. He engineered one of the most sophisticated liberation struggles that saw a coordinated expression of the mass movement, underground units, armed struggle and international solidarity.

For many decades, he was at the forefront in providing leadership for both the external and internal structures of the liberation movement against apartheid oppression and repression.

OR Tambo is respected throughout the world as an embodiment of the highest values. He is recognised as an eminent leader who succeeded in mobilising his people and the international community to the national cause of South Africa and to the international cause of fighting racism, xenophobia and the consolidation of an international human rights movement.

As the major driving force behind the unity of the progressive forces in South Africa, he advocated for radical political changes in South Africa through a revolutionary overthrow of the apartheid regime and the reactionary Bantustan political systems.

The agenda led by ANC President OR Tambo reinforced struggles against racism, colonialism and oppression, which were fought elsewhere in the world and his efforts also determined the balance of political and economic forces within the global political and economic order.

He was an intellectual of note, who reinforced continuing discursive engagement, analytical description of the different phases of the liberation struggle and provided clearer understanding of the advances and political achievements of the liberation movement.

Layers of political, military, cultural and economic leaders under the tutelage of President OR Tambo were developed to occupy strategic leadership positions, and they are still inspired by the teachings and influence of this great African leader.

The South African Government holds in high esteem his works as a negotiator, peacemaker, calm force and brilliant strategist.

The National Order of the Companions of OR Tambo, bestowed by the President of South Africa, to foreign citizens who have promoted South African interests and aspirations through cooperation, solidarity

For many decades, he was at the forefront in providing leadership for both the external and internal structures of the liberation movement against apartheid oppression and repression.



and support, is testament to this. During the ANC Conference held in Durban in 1991, Tambo declined to stand for any position. The position of National Chairperson was created in his honour. Nelson Mandela was elected President of the organisation.

The freedom enjoyed today can be attributed to his political zeal, his vision and his unique leadership qualities, which kept such a huge political movement together, keeping that extensive network of freedom fighters together, focussed on achieving victory over the apartheid regime and preparing cadres of the movement to take over the running of their beloved country.

27 October 2017, which marks the Centenary of OR Tambo, will be one of the important dates in the history of South Africa and the world. On this historical day, the South African Government will host an august event which will attract the international community. It will be preceded by a series of build-up events hosted in South Africa and abroad.

South Africans and the international community will reflect on the life of this great and selfless leader, visionary, patriot

and great freedom fighter and celebrate the principles and the ideology he espoused, hailing his relentless leadership which led to the demise of the apartheid regime and inspire young people as future leaders.

The OR Tambo Centenary is being implemented under the auspices of the South African Government's Resistance and Liberation Heritage Route (RLHR) Project which is the National Chapter of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation/African Union Roads to Independence Programme.

The RLHR provides an opportunity for the collection of stories about the movement and the continuity of the liberation struggle, the continuity of actions, exchange of ideas and it sets the context for critical reflection on the road traversed, the dialogue and engagement across the country and the transboundary coordination of the liberation struggle.

It will also link with existing freedom trails.

During the early hours on 24 April 1993, Oliver Reginald Tambo passed away, and on that day our country lost the son of the soil.

His legacy is alive, and it is still a fountain with fresh waters which quench the thirst of present and future generations.

His epitaph reads in his own words: "It is our responsibility to break down barriers of division and create a country where there will be neither whites nor blacks, just South Africans, free and united in diversity".

The South African Government holds in high esteem his works as a negotiator, peacemaker, calm force and brilliant strategist.

Let us create the Africa we want to live in

The future we are building today must leave Africa integrated, prosperous and peaceful, for current and future generations.

By Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma

Former Chairperson of the African Union Commission

The year 2017 is heralded by some important developments.

Last year, Cuba, Africa and the world bid farewell to the greatest revolutionary and internationalist of our time, Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz. He played a critical role in the global struggle against colonialism and imperialism, and for non-alignment and unity of the countries of the South.

His sustained contributions to Africa are legendary: the support to liberation movements; to newly-independent states; in the development of African education and health systems; the training of health personnel; all in the spirit of solidarity, friendship, internationalism and mutual respect.

As Castro said about the Cuban solidarity in his address to the South African Parliament in 1998: "The Cuban soldiers who fought in Angola (and I might add for the freedom of Namibia and South Africa) did not take anything home, except their dead".

Our greatest tribute to Fidel Castro is to continue our friendship and solidarity with the Cuban people, for the full lifting of the economic embargo and the return of Guantanamo Bay to the Cuban people.

This year marks a number of historical milestones.

Firstly, 2017 marks 55 years since the formation of the Pan-African Women's Organisation (PAWO) in 1962, a year before the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

The women came from newly independent states and liberation movements, determined to play their role, side by side with the menfolk, in liberating Africa.

The women's movement, as we celebrated the OAU/African Union (AU) Golden Jubilee in 2013, recognised the role of the founder mothers, when they declared:

"... African women and their Diaspora sisters played a critical role in the evolution of Pan-Africanism, through their contributions to the anti-slavery, anti-colonial and liberation struggles."

Through their efforts, women ensured that African struggles for freedom, dignity, development, peace and self-determination also addressed our aspirations for women's emancipation, gender equality and women's empowerment.

In tribute to the founding mothers, it is therefore appropriate that the assembly recognises PAWO as a specialised agency of the AU.

The task of PAWO today is to continue the struggle for the empowerment of girls and women, through education and skills, in the political, social, cultural and economic spheres. They must continue to advocate and work for a peaceful and safe Africa for all its people.

Without this mobilisation of women, progress on Agenda 2063 will be slow.

The year 2017 also marks a centenary since the birth of a pre-eminent freedom fighter, Pan-African, scientist, diplomat, teacher and democrat, Oliver Reginald Tambo, who was born in 1917.

After the Sharpeville Massacre in 1961, Tambo was given the responsibility to seek support among African countries, to take forward the struggle from exile. He diligently pursued this mission for over three decades, until South Africa was free.

As the longest-serving leader of the African National Congress, he led the armed struggle, the campaign to isolate apartheid and worked with the OAU and its Liberation Committee. He was passionate about women's emancipation, about education as both a Science teacher and lawyer, about young people, and about peace and democracy.

It is perhaps appropriate that the centenary of his birth coincides with the African Year

of Youth, as he said: "The children of any nation are its future. A country, a movement, a people that does not value its youth and children, does not deserve its future."

As we celebrate this Year of Youth, we must indeed commit to value our youth and deserve Africa's future.

The future we are building today must leave Africa integrated, prosperous and peaceful, for current and future generations.

It is befitting that our theme for 2017, "Harnessing the Demographic Dividend, through Investment in African Youth", is about building this future today.

The continent has 200 million young men and women aged 15 to 24 years. By 2025, a quarter of the world's youth under 25 will be African. As the rest of the world ages, Africa will remain a young continent. This is the comparative advantage we have, which must be translated into a demographic dividend.

To harness this resource, we must provide all African boys, girls and young people with opportunities to be in school, complete secondary education, have access to vocational training and universities, and to expand their knowledge of Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology. Within this, we must pay special attention to creating opportunities for girls and young women, so that we use the full potential of all our resources.

At the African Economic Platform, held in Mauritius from 20 to 22 March 2017, we engaged the business and academic sectors to close the gap between industry and education systems. Strengthening this link will help eradicate the skills mismatch to stop graduate unemployment and address the shortages of engineers, agricultural scientists, biologists, geologists and a host of other skills.

We must support the call by civil society, for an African Decade of Reading, so that the new generations may learn from and renew Pan-Africanism.

Since 60% of the unemployed are young, with their unemployment rate double that of adults, we must resolve to decisively tackle youth unemployment.

Our programmes of beneficiation and economic diversification, of agricultural modernisation and the development of agro-processing, must of necessity target the creation of jobs and economic opportunities for young entrepreneurs.

In this regard, we welcome the African Development Bank Strategy for Jobs for Youth in Africa 2016 – 2025, which aims to create 25 million jobs and impact on 50 million youth. The bank estimates that "reducing Africa's youth unemployment rate to that of adults, would translate to a 10% to 20% increase in the continent's gross domestic product".

We must ensure that African children, young men and women see the blue ocean economy as part of their natural heritage and for possible career paths. The same goes for our celestial space and careers in the space sciences.

To unlock their full potential, we should do more to involve young people. This is economically prudent, and a democratic imperative, since they constitute the majority of our population.

By involving young people, they have a sense of ownership and stake in the future. By facilitating the full participation of girls and young women, we secure the future.

The future of Africa belongs to youth, but the quality of that future will be determined by what they do with it today. Youth, therefore, have responsibilities to learn, read, serve, participate, innovate, build and create.

They have a responsibility to be organised, at local, national and continental levels, so they can help drive Agenda 2063.

On our part, we will this year appoint a Special AU Envoy for Youth to mobilise and advocate for the youth during this year of harnessing the demographic dividend.

Despite the challenges we face, we have countless examples of governments leading society, acting decisively in building a better life for current and future generations.

We congratulate Egypt for being the first African country to start an ultra-modern connection of 900 km of high-speed rail between Alexandria and Aswan. Egypt is showing us that the dream of a Pan-African integrated high-speed rail network that connects all African capitals and commercial centres, can be realised.

The future of Africa belongs to youth, but the quality of that future will be determined by what they do with it today. Youth, therefore, have responsibilities to learn, read, serve, participate, innovate, build and create.





delivering freight reliably

It includes countries such as Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, The Gambia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe, which have launched campaigns to end child marriages, to give girls the opportunity to stay in school, to be healthy and to reach their full potential. We hope other countries who still have this practice, will join the campaign.

It includes the sterling organisation by the women who travelled from across the continent to gather on the slopes of the majestic Mount Kilimanjaro, and who adopted their Charter on Land Rights.

It also includes the Women in Maritime Africa, which is asserting women's right to be part of the blue ocean economy, as ship-owners and builders, port and logistic management. They contributed to the Lomé Charter on Maritime Security, Safety and Development, and are working with the AU on the annexures.

It includes Ethiopia, DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, Mozambique, Tanzania and Rwanda, which are recording the fastest compound growth on the continent and are among the fastest-growing economies in the world.

These countries, along with those who set the target of reaching middle-income status in the coming decade, are contributing towards eradicating poverty in one generation.

It also includes the 13 countries that made the solemn commitment to lead in launching the Single African Aviation Market in 2017, as per the Yamoussoukro Declaration.

The countries that made the start to open their skies to fellow African countries, like Rwanda, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa, are helping to lead the way in Africa claiming its airspace. We must encourage all countries to join them to open their airspaces to all African countries.

They recognise that Africa will be the fastest-growing aviation market in the coming 20 years.

Already in 2013, it transported over 70 million passengers annually and supported 6,9 million jobs.

The countries that made the start to open their skies to fellow African countries, like Rwanda, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa, are helping to lead the way in Africa claiming its airspace.

We must encourage all countries to join them to open their airspaces to all African countries.

It include the steps taken by Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal and others on industrialisation, beneficiation and value addition, as well as the initiatives to build regional value chains, as we are poised to start the Continental Free Trade Area.

It also includes the good examples of progress on free movement of persons, following the launch of the African Passport in Kigali last year.

And it includes Benin, Comoros, Ghana, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia,

Rwanda, Seychelles, Togo and Uganda, which are already offering visa-free access or visa on arrival for all Africans. We hope that they too will be joined by others.

It includes the work we do with the Diaspora, as an integral part of the African Renaissance and the global struggle against racism and intolerances. It includes the ongoing work to put the AU on the route to self-reliance, and to build a union of people that is effective and responsive to the aspirations of the African people.

It includes the progress we make on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Last, are the examples of work by regional economic communities on infrastructure development, economic integration, free movement of people, as well as on democracy, human rights, peace and security.

Across the continent, there is progress in silencing the guns.

More must be done to achieve this goal faster.

The fight against terrorism remains a challenge, and we must all unite to defeat this scourge that threatens our collective security.

It is with much concern that we learn that sporadic fighting continues in South Sudan.

The people of South Sudan need peace.

We again call on all the parties involved to honour the agreement, in order to ensure peace, reconciliation, healing and justice.

It is clear that globally we are entering turbulent times.

For example, the very country to whom our people were taken as slaves during the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, have decided to ban refugees from some of our countries. What do we do about this? Indeed, this is one of the greatest challenges and tests to our unity and solidarity.

The Year of Youth must provide a basis for advancing the social contract, Agenda 2063, between our generations and the younger and future generations, for the benefit of all Africans.

Let us imagine and create the Africa we want to live in, so that we can bequeath a united and better Africa to future generations. 🌍



Chad's Foreign Minister, Moussa Faki Mahamat, was elected the new Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission.

Leaders of AU member nations elected Moussa Faki Mahamat on Monday, 30 January 2017, in a heavily contested vote from five candidates vying for the post during the 28th AU Summit at the continental body's headquarters in Addis Ababa. Mahamat replaces South Africa's Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, who decided not to seek a second four-year term.

Mahamat was Prime Minister of Chad from 2003 to 2005. He has also been a president of Chad's Economic, Social and



Cultural Council from 2007 to 2008, and had served as its Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The election of the AU Commission Chairperson was postponed after no candidate managed to secure the required number of votes to win the race during the election held at the last AU Summit in July 2016. In order to be declared a winner, a candidate should obtain at least two-thirds of the vote, which is 36 votes. However, after three rounds of voting, no candidate was successful during last July's voting. Mahamat won with 39 votes. The Kenyan Foreign Minister, Amina Mohamed, a strong candidate to replace Dlamini Zuma, congratulated the new AU Commission Chairperson and pledged to work with him for a better Africa.

Ghanaian Kwesi Quartet was elected Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission.

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Celebrating Africa Day on a continent with hope

The celebration of Africa Day is an affirmation of our love for our continent and our commitment to ensure that Africa succeeds in all her endeavours.

By President Jacob Zuma

On 25 May, we commemorated the founding of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), which championed unity and the struggles for the decolonisation of our beautiful continent. We also marked the formation of its successor, the African Union (AU), which was launched on 9 July 2002 in Durban.

The celebration of Africa Day is an affirmation of our love for our continent and our commitment to ensure that Africa succeeds in all her endeavours. On this day, we take stock of progress we have made in building an Africa whose inhabitants have hope for a better and brighter future, an Africa without despair.

This year, we celebrated this day under the theme: "The Year of OR Tambo: Building a Better Africa and a Better World". The celebration was in honour of our liberation stalwart and selfless hero, the former President of the African National Congress (ANC), Oliver Reginald Tambo, who would have turned 100 years old this year, had he lived.

A selfless Pan-Africanist, he led the ANC during a difficult period in exile, and shaped this country's foreign policy through forging strong links and solidarity with many countries on the continent and the world. President OR Tambo and President Nelson Mandela

attended the founding conference of the OAU. President OR Tambo gave us a clear direction on our relationship with Africa and the world at the First Congress of the Angolan ruling party, the MPLA, in Luanda in 1977.

He stated: "We seek to live in peace with our neighbours and the peoples of the world in conditions of equality, mutual respect and equal advantage".

A key milestone for Africa this year is the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Ghana. Ghana was instrumental in leading the decolonisation agenda for the continent and the promotion of African unity.

On 24 May 1963, 32 independent African states and leaders of liberation movements of countries that were still fighting for their freedom, met in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, to find ways to unite the continent. In that historic meeting, President Kwame Nkrumah declared:

"We meet here today not as Ghanaians, Guineans, Egyptians, Algerians, Moroccans, Malians, Liberians, Congolese or Nigerians, but as Africans."

Indeed we are one people with one destiny.

We are grateful to our forebears for their commitment to the liberation of every inch of African soil.

This was stated boldly by President Nkrumah who said at the dawn of the independence of Ghana that: "Our independence is meaningless unless it is linked up with the total liberation of Africa".

The OAU Liberation Committee worked tirelessly to take this vision forward, until the liberation of Namibia and South Africa. However, the mission is not complete.

The people of Western Sahara are still yearning for freedom and self-determination that the rest of the continent enjoys. We must do everything possible to ensure that they too are liberated. Africa has made a lot of progress since the formation of the OAU. The promotion of democracy on the continent has taken root. This is visible through the democratic elections that take place at the end of terms of governments, which have led to peaceful transitions from one government to another in many countries on the continent.

The zero tolerance for coups d' état and the action that is taken against leaders who refuse to accept the outcomes of democratic elections by AU leaders have set a new tone on the continent with regard to promoting constitutional changes to governments.

The AU programme, the African Peer Review Mechanism, remains a key instrument of promoting democracy and good governance, and is one of the key innovations of our continent. The loss of life and displacement of thousands of people who remain refugees in a decolonised Africa, remain of serious concern and require more effort from AU member states. As the AU, we have thus committed ourselves to ending conflicts and silencing the guns on the continent by the year 2020, so that our people can live in peace.

The challenge of terrorism and extremism in some parts of our continent is another key concern of the AU and enjoys ongoing attention. Working with partners in other regions beyond our continent, this goal of peace and stability in every corner of the continent can be achieved.

South Africa continues to humbly contribute troops for peace-making, peacekeeping and in mediation efforts on our continent. We are proud of our soldiers who are always ready to be deployed for peace.

Africa has made progress at social level as well. The continent has produced acclaimed authors, academics, musicians, performers, poets and scientists who are respected all over the world. We have also produced outstanding political leaders, some of whom have played a leading role on the world stage, including at the United Nations (UN) as secretaries-general.

Indeed, we continue to make progress in building a better Africa. As Africa changes, so too must the instruments of global governance. That is why we continue to call for the reform of the UN Security Council (UNSC) to include Africa.

The membership of the UNSC must reflect the fact that Africa is now made up of independent countries and not colonies. The whole system of international governance should thus be much more democratic and rules-based. While such progress is being made, we also acknowledge that we still have a long road to travel towards full economic emancipation on the continent. A number of countries are growing above 6% per annum and foreign direct investment inflows continue to rise. However, serious socio-economic challenges remain in many countries.

Africa has a plan to meet the developmental challenges, the AU's Agenda 2063. It provides a framework to address unemployment, in particular youth unemployment, inequalities within economies, jobless economic growth as well as the need for peace and security.

To address unemployment and poverty, initiatives aimed at boosting economic growth are critical. In this regard, Africa has prioritised regional integration as well as investment in infrastructure over the past decade.

The infrastructure development programme is championed by African heads of state and government. We want to produce modern transport and telecommunications networks connecting Africa. We need roads, bridges, railway lines, trains and modern aviation systems. Africa must not be left behind in the fourth industrial revolution. We all have a responsibility to ensure that this time, Africa is definitely not left behind.

I was given the privilege to lead the Presidential Infrastructure Championing Initiative for the AU, and to champion the North-South Corridor, focussing on road and rail, under the auspices of the New Partnership for Africa's Development. Some progress has been registered in some key North-South

Corridor projects, such as the Grand Inga Hydro Project, the Lesotho Highlands Water Project Phase 2, the Beit Bridge Border Post and linked roads.

The Continental Free Trade Area negotiations are also underway, which will bring together a market of millions of people and help boost intra-Africa trade.

Within our Southern African Development Community region, we are actively promoting industrialisation, agriculture, tourism and other key sectors to boost economic growth.

We also need to move beyond principle to action as Africa with regard to the beneficiation of our minerals. Africans need to derive meaningful benefit from the minerals that are extracted from the belly of the Earth on our rich continent. All these programmes are important and with effective implementation, we will achieve the better Africa we envisage.

Africa has a young population and a growing labour force, which is a highly valuable asset in an aging world. Our biggest challenge is that unemployment among the African youth is significantly high and it will increase as our population increases.

The AU Heads of State and Government decided at the 26th Summit in Addis Ababa in January last year to devote 2017 to the theme: "Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in the Youth".

In our own country, we continue to invest in education and skills development and to improve the general living conditions of our people in general and the youth in particular, as an investment towards the future of our continent.

As the AU, we are also advocating softer borders to enable better movement of people and goods within the continent. The promotion of legal migration within the continent is thus important, including easier movement to enable tourism, skills exchanges and business and business cooperation.

For Africa to develop, she needs resources. It is of serious concern therefore, that billions of dollars are taken away from the continent illegally by multinational corporations. These illicit financial flows deprive Africa of the

much-needed economic resources to uplift her economies in order to provide basic services, build infrastructure and provide basic healthcare and access to affordable and quality education and other social services.

South Africa remains committed to continue supporting efforts and initiatives by the international community to combat these financial crimes committed against our continent.

Africa Day for South Africa is about celebrating the cosmopolitan nature of our country. South Africans have always lived in peace and harmony with brothers and sisters from other African countries in many communities.

South Africa has always been home to nationals from sister countries from Mozambique, Rwanda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Burundi, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Tanzania, Namibia, Malawi, Swaziland, Botswana, Algeria, Uganda, Kenya and others, even at the height of apartheid oppression.

They have lived in peace and friendship with South Africans and should continue to do so. We urge all communities to isolate criminal elements whose behaviour causes tensions at times among our peoples.

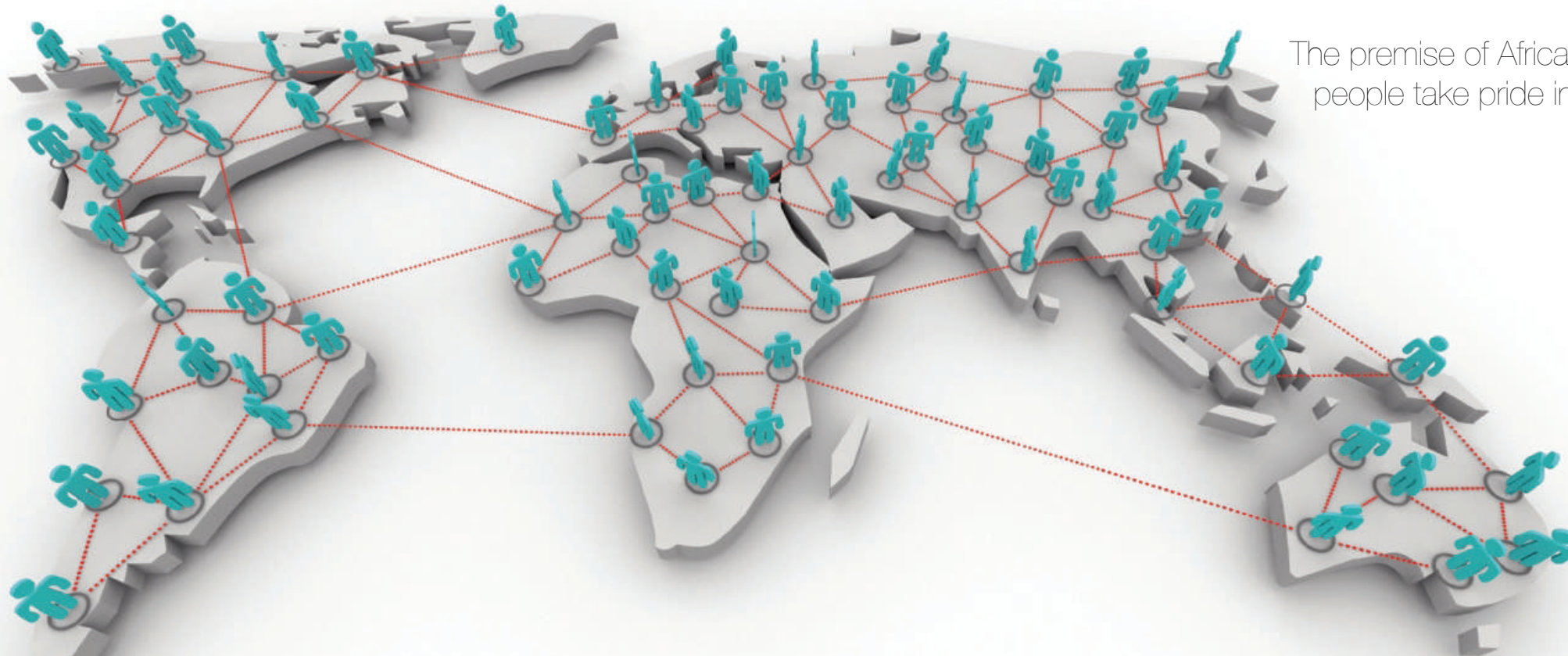
They must unite against serious crimes such as human trafficking, child prostitution, forced prostitution and others, which have become serious challenges in our country.

Perpetrators of such crimes must be reported to the police, regardless of nationality.

We also urge employers to stop causing tensions among our peoples, through employing illegal immigrants. The South African Government continues to work tirelessly to remove all these sources of tension, working with our people.

We are truly happy indeed to celebrate Africa Day in an Africa that has a clear vision of the future. While serious challenges remain, much progress is being made, which makes ours a continent of hope. We thank our international partners for supporting Africa's march to the future. 🌍





Internationalisation and social cohesion

"Independence is only a prelude to a new and more involved struggle for the right to conduct our own economic and social affairs; to construct our society according to our aspirations."

By **Luwellyn Landers**

Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

On 25 May, we commemorated the formation of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), which has been transformed to our present-day African Union (AU).

Our forbears such as Kwame Nkrumah did not just envision a united continent which is at peace with itself, but worked hard to promote social cohesion and an internationalist approach to development. During his OAU inaugural speech, this iconic leader shared his vision of an independent Africa and stated:

"Independence is only a prelude to a new and more involved struggle for the right to conduct our own economic and social affairs; to construct our society according to our aspirations."

These aspirations have not been lost nor forgotten; in fact, they are embodied in Agenda 2063 which builds on these legacies.

The AU's Agenda 2063 is therefore a shared vision that seeks to enhance socio-economic transformation of our continent to improve the living conditions of all its citizenry.

We aspire to an African continent which is inclusive and influential on the global stage. In this regard, South Africa's foreign policy was shaped by proponents of social cohesion, Pan-Africanism and internationalism such as OR Tambo. Accordingly, President Jacob Zuma has declared 2017 as the Year of OR Tambo who would have turned 100 years old this year.

President Tambo was also passionate about education and championed the establishment of educational institutions which would impart knowledge to young South Africans in exile. He established relations with institutions of learning in various countries in order for them to accommodate our young patriots who joined the struggle against the evil system of apartheid.

When the ruling party assumed leadership in 1994, our primary role was to reconnect with the world in order to grow this country as an active global citizen that occupies a rightful place in a globalised and interdependent world. This undertaking has yielded significant results, especially in growing the economy and building the reputation of South Africa as a formidable figure in the international community. As such, we have been bequeathed with a number of leadership roles, which have seen us grow in stature and influence.

This marked an era of commencing to rebuild our educational system and reverse the apartheid era structure, which was exclusive by design and robbed our people of opportunities to fully realise their potential. The exchange of intellectual ideas and information-sharing give our students and country a competitive edge. We can ably compete and interact in a variety of forums

such as in the fields of science, culture, economics and many more as our students would be better equipped.

The importance of internationalisation cannot be overstated, especially in aiding Africa's integration agenda. The premise of Africa being central to our foreign policy necessitates that our people take pride in their collective identity and work together as Africans in pursuit of a shared destiny.

In essence, we need to share expertise and knowledge, particularly with other higher education institutions on the continent. For us to realise Agenda 2063, we must invest in skills development and innovation in science, technology, maritime, engineering and other scarce skills.

This has been in part a focus area of our foreign policy, particularly in supporting countries emerging from conflicts through capacity-building and reconstruction programmes (post-conflict reconstruction and development) in partnership with South African higher learning institutions.

A case in point was the Department of International Relations and Cooperation's (DIRCO) partnership with the University of South Africa and the Government of South Sudan in providing Public Service Administration courses to its public service as that country emerged from civil war. This greatly contributed to the building of their institutions and rebuilding their country.

This has not been an isolated case; we have received numerous requests for bilateral cooperation with a number of higher learning institutions to partner with South African universities. This is in recognition of not only

The premise of Africa being central to our foreign policy necessitates that our people take pride in their collective identity and work together as Africans in pursuit of a shared destiny.

our capable institutions but also the need to share knowledge and expertise.

In this regard, this cooperation partnership in education also finds expression in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) strategic documents such as the SADC Protocol on Education and Training. South Africa is a proud signatory to this protocol, which paves the way for educational institutions in southern Africa to deepen cooperation.

It is within this context that South African universities, in addition to local students, admit students from neighbouring countries. The SADC Protocol therefore encourages institutions of higher learning in the southern African region to:

- reserve at least 5% of admissions for students from SADC nations
- facilitate the mobility of their staff and students within the region for purposes of study, research, teaching and other pursuits relating to education and training
- treat SADC students as local students for purposes of fees and accommodation
- establish institutional partnerships with other institutions of higher learning in SADC
- encourage the establishment of collaboration agreements between their components.

In the context of the broader South, we supported and contributed towards the establishment of the Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) Think-Tank Council in 2013.

The council provides an important and interregional platform for academia and business leaders to share expertise and knowledge in various fields.

We believe that international relations are not the exclusive domain of government and as such, this council complements the work of the South African Council of International Relations (SACOIR). SACOIR provides advice to the Executive on issues that affect South Africa in the international sphere.

Moreover and at national level, our endeavours in this regard are guided by the Government's apex policy document, the National Development Plan (NDP), as well as the National Plan for Higher Education (NPHE of 2001), which was published by the South African Department of Education.

The NDP requires us to build an educational system that will enable us to address the challenge of poverty in our communities, thereby contributing towards a resilient economy.

Furthermore the NPHE policy framework seeks to build research capacity both in South Africa and in the rest of the African continent by, among others, encouraging South Africa's higher education institutions to recruit and train postgraduate students from the continent as well as other developing countries.

Most importantly and directly linked to internationalism, the plan also recognises the role international students can play in enriching the life experiences of local students on South African campuses, thus proposing that their presence will "enrich the educational experience of South African students and broaden their understanding of the social, cultural, economic and political ties that underpin the people in the SADC".

The NPHE further addresses the need by South African higher education institutions to constantly strive for employment equity in their campuses by recruiting black and female staff from the rest of the African continent.

Moreover, it will promote multiculturalism and multiracialism, which will contribute to social cohesion not only among South Africans but with our fellow brothers and sisters from the continent and elsewhere.

One should, however, also recognise the challenges that we are faced with with regard to the funding of education in South Africa. Government is working together with partners and various stakeholders to find a solution to this matter of national importance.

DIRCO's missions abroad are hard at work in trying to source opportunities for our youth through, among others, exchange and scholarship programmes. We have identified a variety of scholarship opportunities which a significant number of South African youth are benefitting from and others are in the process of being finalised.

We have students studying in countries such as Ireland, Cuba, Japan, China and many more. It is important that we utilise our institutions of higher learning as centres to achieve and promote social cohesion between our people. The benefits for our country will contribute positively in placing our learners and professionals in a position where they are at par with their counterparts globally. 🌐

South Africa strengthens ties with BRICS partners

By Maite Nkoana-Mashabane

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

BRICS has become a credible and constructive grouping in our quest to forge a new paradigm of global relations and cooperation. At the core of the BRICS partnership is our shared vision of intensifying development, integration and industrialisation.

South Africa continues to consolidate ties with its partners in the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) formation through a series of diplomatic engagements aimed at solidifying the place of BRICS in our foreign policy.

One such engagement saw us hosting the Brazilian Minister of External Relations, Aloysio Nunes Ferreira, recently.

The visit was a reaffirmation of the strong bonds of friendship that exist between the two countries.

South Africa and Brazil enjoy strong relations at bilateral and multilateral levels.

In April, we hosted Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong on the occasion of the launch of the South Africa-China high-level People-to-People Exchange Mechanism (PPEM).

The PPEM was held with the objective of deepening mutual understanding between the peoples of South Africa and China and to enhance people-to-people exchanges and cooperation in areas of, among others, culture, international relations, education, communication, health, science and technology, sports, tourism, women

affairs and youth. In February, we marked the 25th anniversary of the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between South Africa and Russia. South Africa and Russia share common values in terms of their respect for the rule of law in international relations, multilateralism, the central role of the United Nations (UN) in global governance, the primary role of the UN Security Council in the maintenance of global peace and security as well as respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states.

It was significant that this landmark occasion of the 25th anniversary coincided with the conclusion of a 90-day mutual Visa Waiver Agreement for ordinary South

African and Russian passport holders. The coming into operation of the agreement will give impetus to increased people-to-people contact as well as better prospects for growth in two-way tourism.

In August 2016, when Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was in South Africa on an Official Visit, the two countries agreed to enhance cooperation and coordination within BRICS with a view to improve global political and economic governance, and to redouble the voice of emerging markets in international affairs.

South Africa joined the important BRICS bloc of emerging economies in December 2010, in line with our country's foreign policy to strengthen South-South relations. We

are earnestly preparing for the next BRICS Summit, to be held in September in Xiamen, China, under the theme: "BRICS: Stronger Partnership for a Brighter Future".

The next summit will focus on the following areas:

- deepening BRICS cooperation for common development
- enhancing global governance to jointly meet challenges
- carrying out people-to-people exchanges to support BRICS cooperation
- making institutional improvements and building broader partnerships.

These identified areas are aligned to South Africa's recent engagements with its BRICS

The *Cairo Review of Global Affairs* noted in one article that: "The BRICS nations not only reflect the shifting trends of the new global economic order but are increasingly shaping it".

partner countries, particularly in the areas of reforming institutions of global governance and taking practical steps to enhance people-to-people exchanges.

BRICS has become a credible and constructive grouping in our quest to forge a new paradigm of global relations and cooperation. At the core of the BRICS partnership is our shared vision of intensifying development, integration and industrialisation. The *Cairo Review of Global*

Affairs noted in one article that: "The BRICS nations not only reflect the shifting trends of the new global economic order but are increasingly shaping it". South Africa is at the centre of these shifting trends and is consolidating its relations with BRICS partners as we seek to realise our foreign policy vision of "championing an African continent which is prosperous, peaceful, democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and united and which aspires to a world that is just and equitable".



In April 2017, a high-level People-to-People Exchange Mechanism (PPEM) between South Africa and the People's Republic of China was launched in Pretoria. The PPEM aims to enhance mutual trust, friendship and strategic partnership and further deepen cooperation between the two countries, especially in the areas of culture, education, communication, health, technology, sports, tourism, women advancement and youth. On 25 April, a cultural evening was held at the State Theatre in Pretoria, which featured performances by South African and Chinese artists, including the Chinese Kung Fu and Shaolin culture, as well as an Acrobatic, Singing and Dancing Troupe from China. The theme of the event was: "China and South Africa Hand in Hand".





IORA bound together by a strategic resource

Given that we have the ocean as a strategic resource, it is only natural that we should invest in the Ocean Economy.

By President Jacob Zuma

South Africa is very proud to belong to the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and to have been a founding member.

This year's celebration of the 20th anniversary of the association is an important tribute to the memory of former President Nelson Mandela.

He was one of the pioneers of the organisation and believed in its importance and role in uniting nations that were bound together by the Indian Ocean in particular, and South-South cooperation in general.

He saw value in bringing us together for the socio-economic development of the people of our region.

The IORA remains significant because it is the foremost entity that brings together Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Australasia, through the Indian Ocean. The vision of President Mandela and other founding leaders still

In March 2017, President Jacob Zuma attended the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Leaders' Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia. Speaking at the conclusion of the summit, he said the IORA had celebrated a significant milestone in the history of the association, namely 20 years of existence.

"With the adoption and signing of the IORA Concord and its Action Plan for implementation that the Council of Ministers will take forward, we are well placed to take IORA into the next decade.

"The concord has greatly elevated the status of the association. We look forward to all the members signing the document in due course.

"South Africa welcomes the key outcome of the Business Summit, which was the declaration signed between the chambers of commerce and business communities of IORA member states.

"Their support and involvement is critical to us achieving our goals of greater economic cooperation that are enshrined in the IORA Charter. "We look forward to welcoming members of IORA to South Africa when we assume the IORA Chair from Indonesia."

The IORA is an international organisation with 21 member states: Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

IORA was formally launched at the first Ministerial Meeting in Mauritius from 6 to 7 March 1997. This meeting adopted the IORA Charter, and determined the administrative and procedural framework within which the organisation would develop.

remains valid and relevant to the goals we face, of building inclusive economies, ensuring peace and stability in the region and advancing the socio-economic development of our peoples.

We are bound together by a strategic resource, the Indian Ocean. It possesses a variety of natural resources that are vital for the well-being of our people, safe trade and environmental stability.

Half of the world's trade travels through this region.

The IORA's vast coastline also holds two-thirds of the world's oil reserves, carries half of the world's container ships and one-third of the bulk cargo traffic.

The region also produces goods and services worth over one trillion US dollars, with intra-trade amounting to some US\$777 billion. This is a highly significant grouping indeed.

Given that we have the ocean as a strategic resource, it is only natural that we should invest in the Ocean Economy.

It will help us to diversify our economies from heavy reliance on mineral production and consumption.

Gender empowerment is a key priority for the association. We must therefore ensure that our programmes and interactions also empower women, especially through the fledgling small and medium ocean economy enterprises.

The position of IORA in supporting the Ocean Economy is in line with that of the African Union (AU).

The AU has declared 2015 to 2025 as the Decade of African Seas and Oceans, and the Blue Economy is now officially referred to as the new frontier of Africa's Renaissance.

Let us commit ourselves to making the Indian Ocean Rim a zone of peace and stability.

South Africa has decided to actively promote economic development from the oceans since 2014. It launched Operation Phakisa Ocean Economy, bringing together business, labour, academia and government to intensively work together to develop a national programme to further develop and expand the country's ocean economy.

It is estimated that the Blue Economy in South Africa could contribute around US\$13 billion to the country's gross

domestic product and create a million jobs by 2033. The priority sectors identified within this programme are marine manufacturing and marine transport, aquaculture, oil and gas exploration, marine protection and governance.

To date, the overall progress of South Africa's Ocean Economy drive includes unlocking investments amounting to more than R7 billion in the Ocean Economy.

This has created close to 7 000 jobs in various sectors.

It is an essential part of Africa's 50-year industrialisation and development plan, Agenda 2063.

In South Africa, we have also embraced the Ocean Economy, because it has the potential to contribute more than US\$13 billion to our economy and create approximately one million jobs by 2033.

Our Operation Phakisa Ocean Economy programme, modelled on Malaysia's Big Fast Results economic implementation programme, is already bearing fruit.

It is unlocking the potential of the oceans and creating jobs, generating investment, developing our infrastructure and protecting our ocean space.

We look forward to cooperating with partners in IORA in harnessing benefits from the Ocean Economy programme.

Acts of terrorism, contested maritime spaces, piracy, drug trafficking and human trafficking, among others, remain issues of concern in the region.

Let us commit ourselves to making the Indian Ocean Rim a zone of peace and stability.

We should also not lose sight of the need to continue the fight against global inequality and economic exclusion, which also pose serious threats to peace and stability in IORA.

South Africa takes over the Chair from Indonesia later this year, and we are committed to work closely with member states and our dialogue and other partners, to take the IORA forward.

We will be building on a firm foundation laid by President Joko Widodo and other IORA leaders.





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The struggle for independence of Western Sahara from Morocco

By Luwellyn Landers

Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

Throughout his life, OR Tambo was a staunch supporter and ardent campaigner for the Western Sahara cause.



The year 2017 has been declared the Year of Oliver Reginald Tambo. OR Tambo was the longest-serving African National Congress (ANC) President and shaped South Africa's current foreign policy and the principles of international solidarity with oppressed nations, including Western Sahara. This international solidarity is now an integral part of our foreign policy.

Throughout his life, OR was a staunch supporter and ardent campaigner for the Western Sahara cause. In his address to the Heads of State and Governments of the Non-Aligned Countries in 1979 in Havana, Cuba, he said:

"The experience of the people of Western Sahara is the first kind of experience that we can think of since the struggle for decolonisation started in Africa. No African country that we know of has done what has been done to the people of Western Sahara

"Saharawis who express pro-independence views, who work on human rights activities, or who defend the territory's natural resources against plunder continue to face a particular pattern of harassment, political imprisonment and judicial abuse."

... We have no doubt that the struggle of the people of Western Sahara will be victorious."

Morocco's territorial claims to Western Sahara date back to the late 1950s. After gaining independence from France in 1956, Morocco embraced an expansionist ideology that sought to create a "Greater Morocco".

As the Spanish were preparing to leave Western Sahara in the early 1970s, Morocco turned its attention to Western Sahara. Since the mid-1960s, the United Nations (UN) had denounced the colonial domination of the then Spanish Sahara, and to allow its people to exercise their right to self-determination.

However, the conclusion of the Madrid Accord in 1975 between Spain and Morocco ensured Spain's withdrawal from Western Sahara and provided an opportunity for Morocco to claim, annex and invade parts of Western Sahara.

Inevitably, this provoked the resistance war by the people of Western Sahara through the Polisario Front.

The rest is history.

In 1975, the International Court of Justice in The Hague issued a ruling that neither Morocco nor Mauritania had any right to occupy the territory of Western Sahara. In 1983, the Organisation of African Unity



(OAU) adopted, among others, the Peace Plan that sought to bring to an end the armed conflict as Polisario continued to fight for its

people's right to self-determination. However, the Polisario Front accepted the settlement proposals which were presented by the UN, in line with the African Union (AU) Peace Plan, with the hope of ending the stalemate. In 1991, the UN established the UN Mission for the Referendum on Western Sahara (MINURSO) and the Polisario ended its armed conflict in lieu of the referendum.

Democratic South Africa has always supported the decisions of the UN (referendum for self-determination) and AU, including the latter's appointment of former President Joaquim Chissano as Special Envoy for Western Sahara.

It is a known fact that Morocco continues to violate international law and the civil, political and socio-economic rights of the Saharawi people, including, freedom of expression, association, land and self-determination.

The refusal by Morocco to implement the UN and the AU decisions on the Western Sahara referendum is in itself a human rights violation. This is compounded by the continued exploration and exploitation of natural resources in the occupied territories while the majority of the Saharawi people languish in poverty.

During his address at a High-Level Event on the sidelines of the UN Human Rights Council on 1 March 2017, the AU's Special Envoy on Western Sahara, former President Chissano stated: "Saharawis who express pro-independence views, who work on human

rights activities, or who defend the territory's natural resources against plunder continue to face a particular pattern of harassment, political imprisonment and judicial abuse."

This is in contravention of the December 2016 ruling by the Court of Justice of the European Union (EU), which stated, among others, that agreements between the EU and Morocco on trade liberalisation will exclude resources of the occupied territories of Western Sahara. The African Commission on Human and People's Rights and the UN Security Council as well as other international human rights organisations have also condemned this state of affairs.

South Africa's support for the freedom of the Saharawis dates back to our own struggle against apartheid. Our own experiences of struggle, international solidarity and transition are what inform our policy position on the Western Sahara conflict.

When addressing the 53rd UN General Assembly, former President Nelson Mandela said:

"We also look forward to the resolution of the outstanding issues of Western Sahara ... convinced that it is possible to take these matters off the world agenda on the basis of settlements that meet the interests of all the peoples concerned."

Since we took a decision to recognise the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), South Africa has continued to render support to and lobby for the Saharawi cause on all

South Africa's support for the freedom of the Saharawis dates back to our own struggle against apartheid. Our own experiences of struggle, international solidarity and transition are what inform our policy position on the Western Sahara conflict.

United Nations peacekeepers mark stones as part of practical training on unexploded ordnance identification and marking





"We remain unwavering in our support for an independent and free Western Sahara. We shall continue to offer concrete support and solidarity for the programmes of the Polisario Front."

multilateral platforms such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC); AU; UN; G77; Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa; and Non-Aligned Movement, among others.

We have also provided technical and humanitarian assistance to the SADR through our African Renaissance Fund.

Through the Department of Arts and Culture, South Africa has supported the Western Saharawi Film Festival and also signed an agreement with the Government of the SADR in the fields of arts.

Earlier this year, President Jacob Zuma hosted President Brahim Ghali of the SADR during his Working Visit to South Africa and reaffirmed our solidarity and unity with the Saharawi people. The ANC statement of

8 January 2017 was unequivocal on our future engagements and position on the resolution of the Western Sahara issue: "We remain unwavering in our support for an independent and free Western Sahara.

"We shall continue to offer concrete support and solidarity for the programmes of the Polisario Front".

As a government, we welcome the decision by the UN to extend MINURSO's mandate to include monitoring and reporting on human rights developments.

We call for the return of its civilian staff following their expulsion by Morocco. By mid-March 2017, of the approximately 80 staff members, only 25 had returned to discharge their mission. "We will continue to utilise our membership of the Geneva Support Group

for Western Sahara to mobilise international support. This forum consists of the permanent representatives to the UN Human Rights Council from like-minded countries as well as a member of the American Association of Jurists.

We will continue to mobilise the international community to call for the expediting of the referendum on self-determination.

Furthermore, we will continue to assist and share our experiences in the peaceful settlement of conflict because any further delay in finding a lasting solution has consequences for peace and security in Africa.

Morocco left the OAU in 1984 in protest against the OAU's recognition of the SADR.

In 2016, it decided that it wanted to become part of the AU.

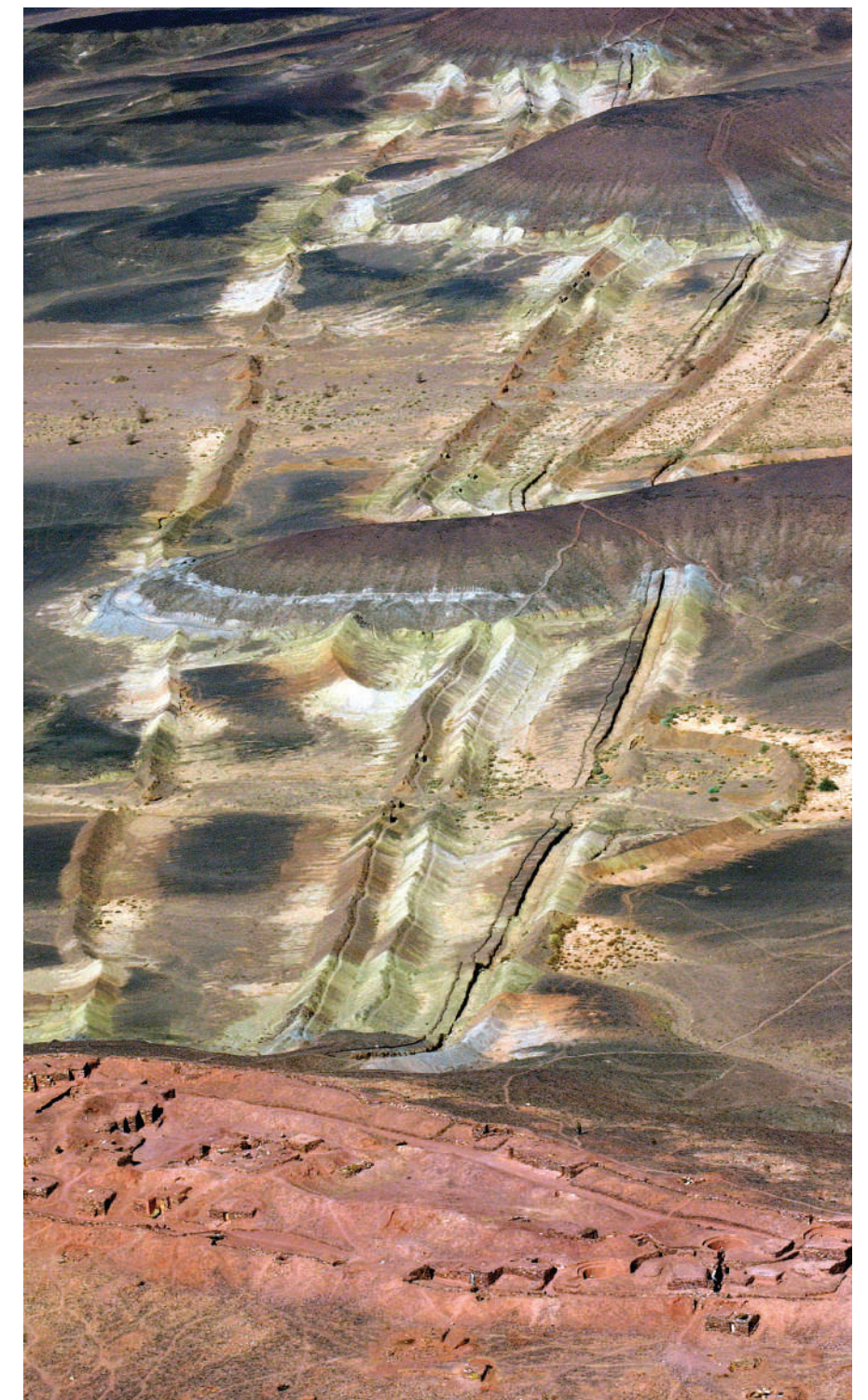
South Africa together with mainly SADC countries, Algeria and Uganda opposed its application on the basis that it needed to first comply with articles three and four of the AU Constitutive Act, i.e. recognition of the SADR and its inalienable right to self-determination.

The majority of the AU supported Morocco's application even though there was still no indication that its position on the issue of independence and self-determination had changed. The majority of AU member states believed that it would be better to persuade Morocco from within the AU.

However, it remains to be seen whether Morocco will abide by the provisions of the AU Constitutive Act, particularly articles three and four, which promote sovereignty and mutual and peaceful coexistence of members of the AU.

All indications are that Morocco's decision to be part of the AU was not an overnight Damascian change in favour of the Saharawi's right to self-determination. Rather it was a tactical one, precipitated by the December 2016 decision of the EU Court of Justice, in which Morocco wants to use this multilateral forum to argue its position and win the AU over to its position of non-recognition of the SADR.

The admission of Morocco to the AU presents new opportunities for the international solidarity movement in support



of the Western Sahara's right to self-determination.

As governments, we must seize the moment and ensure that the admission of Morocco propels us to expedite the resolution of the Western Sahara impasse within the AU. To this end, President Zuma stated in his State of the Nation Address in February 2017: "... we hope that the admission of Morocco to the AU should serve as a catalyst to resolve the Western Sahara issue".

The current environment also requires the international solidarity movement (governments and civil society) to work more closely and with greater synergy and energy.

We must review, change and strengthen our tactics and strategies to address these current changes.

For example, the SADR needs to drastically increase its Friends of Polisario Campaign internationally and it needs to learn from the successes of organisations and campaigns such as the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions and even South Africa's International Anti-Apartheid Movement.

Failure to move with speed to resolve this conflict is detrimental to the well-being and the needs of the people of Western Sahara, Africans and the global community. 🌍

20 years of the Red Fort Declaration: A cause for celebration

By Dr Anil Sooklal

Deputy Director-General: Asia and Middle East

Department of International Relations and Cooperation

South Africa and India share a dynamic history with both countries having produced two of the 20th century's greatest icons, Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi.

The year 2017 marks the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Red Fort Declaration, which laid the foundation for the Strategic Partnership between South Africa and India. The year 2017 is also particularly special for India as it celebrates 70 years of independence from British colonial rule.

India played a leading role in South Africa's fight for freedom and democracy and was at the forefront of isolating the apartheid government at international level. Following the dismantling of apartheid, full diplomatic relations with India were restored on 22 November 1993. In 1997, the first visit by a South African head of state to India took place when President Nelson Mandela and Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda entrenched the strong historical relationship between the two countries with the signing of the Red Fort Declaration. This visit was followed by several high-level visits: President Jacob Zuma visited India in 2010 and President Pratibha Patil visited South Africa in 2012. President Zuma attended the Third India-Africa Forum Summit, held in New Delhi in October 2015, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid an Official Visit to South Africa in July 2016.

South Africa and India share a dynamic history with both countries having produced two of the 20th century's greatest icons, Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi's stay in South Africa from 1893 to 1914 not only had an impact on resistance to the apartheid regime but also influenced the political path of India towards independence as well as other liberation movements in southern Africa and across the world. India and South Africa also share close cultural ties through the Indian

community who first arrived in South Africa in the 19th century as indentured labourers to work on sugarcane plantations. The Indian Diaspora has contributed significantly to the democratisation and economy of South Africa and forms an integral part of South Africa's vibrant rainbow nation.

The bond between South Africa and India is not only entrenched through a shared history and people but also its common vision on a wide range of global issues and domestic challenges. As two leading nations of the global South, South Africa and India share relations both in structured bilateral form, as well as multilateral groupings, be it in the trilateral grouping of India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA); the formidable economic partnership of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS); or as climate-change crusaders in Brazil, South Africa, India and China (BASIC); and advocates for global change in the G20 and Non-Aligned-Movement. South Africa values India's contribution to the continent through the India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) Partnership and both countries played instrumental roles in recognising the importance of inclusive sustainable development and ensuring that no one is left behind.

Bilateral relations

India and South Africa's bilateral relations are structured through a Joint Ministerial Committee (JMC) and Foreign Office Consultations (FOC), which act as a review mechanism of the implementation of decisions taken during the JMC. The last session of the JMC took place in 2015 during which both countries adopted the Five-Year Strategic Programme of Cooperation and

agreed to expand cooperation to include finance, infrastructure, the defence sector, deep mining and agro-processing. This was followed by the Official Visit of Prime Minister Modi in July 2016, which reaffirmed South Africa's strategic importance to Indian diplomacy.

India's economy is currently one of the fastest-growing major economies in the world. It is South Africa's second-largest trading partner in Asia and ranks among South Africa's top six trade partners. Both countries possess certain comparative and competitive advantages and complementarities, which offer a wide scope for cooperation in trade, investment and technology. While trade between both countries have shown a steady growth and exceeded the R94-billion mark, there is scope for further strengthening trade and investment. South Africa is looking to diversify its product base with regard to greater value addition in agro-processing and growth in manufacturing and the services industry.

In 2016, Prime Minister Modi announced reforms in the form of lifting the caps on foreign investment in certain sectors, which should improve the ease of doing business in India – a challenge that was faced by South African business in the past. Lifting caps on foreign investment in the defence and financial sectors also provides investment opportunities for South African companies. South Africa is seeking to align its trade initiatives with the Nine-Point Plan to accelerate growth and tap into the highly lucrative domestic Indian market. Currently, there are more than 100 Indian companies investing in South Africa, including TATA (automobiles and hotels), Mahindra (automobiles), Sahara Computers (information and communications technology [ICT]), Cipla (pharmaceuticals) and the Bank of India while 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.



The Red Fort, New Delhi, India

South Africa and India also cooperate in various other sectors, having signed memoranda of understanding in, among others, science and technology, arts and culture, ICT, agriculture and tourism to give impetus to political decisions.

Fostering more meaningful people-to-people contact is one of the hallmarks of the partnership and finds expression in the vibrant tourism sector where expansion of the Indian middle class has resulted in India becoming a significant growth market for the South African tourism industry. Coupled with the beautiful African landscape and picturesque coastal cities, South Africa is fast becoming a destination of choice for the discerning Indian traveller.

Tourist arrivals are up as stringent visa regulations are being addressed through a simplification of the visa process currently under discussion between the two countries.

Multilateral relations

South Africa and India's relations are multi-faceted and dynamic as both countries are deeply committed to upholding democracy, promoting principles of human rights, challenging the prevailing global governance system, alleviating poverty, advancing sustainable development, strengthening South-South cooperation and working tirelessly for the betterment of its people.

Advocates of the global South, India and South Africa are committed to developing a new development paradigm that seeks to promote economic and cultural cooperation on the basis of mutual interest and respect. Both countries are committed to addressing global inequalities and inequities in trade negotiations at the World Trade Organisation and are at the forefront of pushing for reform of the United Nations system to ensure that it is truly representative and reflective of

Advocates of the global South, India and South Africa are committed to developing a new development paradigm that seeks to promote economic and cultural cooperation on the basis of mutual interest and respect.

contemporary global dynamics. They are equally committed to combating international terrorism, religious extremism and trans-border organised crime and illicit trafficking in arms and narcotics.

IBSA

Both countries cooperate under the trilateral partnership of IBSA, which is a powerful mechanism to drive the global South's reform agenda. The successful IBSA Fund is an important source of development funding in the South, supporting numerous projects with the goal of poverty alleviation and the elimination of hunger in accordance with Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

BRICS

South Africa and India are both valued members of the BRICS grouping and, together with its like-minded partners, are at the forefront of promoting inclusive economic partnerships and equitable participation in the global systems and decision-making structures.

Close cooperation between India and South Africa in the changing global environment has seen a greater political and economic role for the African continent and other emerging powers.

India chaired the BRICS Summit in 2016, during which the Prime Minister called for the doubling of intra-BRICS trade, enhancing business opportunities and promoting ease of business.

Continuous engagement will boost growth prospects in their respective regions.

Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

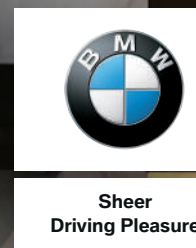
South Africa and India also played influential roles in shaping IORA into a vibrant organisation, committed to making sustainable use of the oceans. The Ocean Economy has been identified as a major driver for sustainable economic growth and employment generation under Operation Phakisa, which is South Africa's flagship project. South Africa is surrounded by vast oceans, which have the potential to contribute significantly to the country's gross domestic product. Taking over chairship of IORA this year, South Africa is committed to leading the organisation towards increased cooperation in identified priority areas such as maritime security and safety within the IOR region, trade and investment facilitation, fisheries management, disaster risk reduction, academic and science and technology cooperation, tourism promotion, cultural exchanges and gender empowerment.

IAFS

India is a strong supporter and friend to Africa and the establishment of the IAFS provided the opportunity for Indian diplomacy to better align with the needs of rapidly growing African markets. India is seeking to position itself as a key partner to Africa.

Among the most important outcomes of the IAFS were the fast-tracking of the implementation of the Duty Free Tariff Preference Scheme offered by India aimed at increasing trade between Africa and India, financial assistance through grants and soft credit, the support of small and medium enterprises to promote employment creation and the promotion of public-private partnerships to encourage Indian businesses to set up skills development units in African industrial zones. There is indeed great cause for celebrating the signing of the Red Fort Declaration, which set the trajectory for sound bilateral relations across various fields and strong multilateral cooperation to influence the shifting sands of global dynamics.

South Africa and India are sister nations who have both inspired the world through their fight for democracy and respect for human rights. 🇮🇳 🇿🇦



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President Barack Obama's African legacy

President Obama recognised the demographic dividend in Africa, which held both opportunities and challenges for the continent in the years ahead.



Former President Barack Obama will always hold a special place in the relations between Africa and the United States of America (USA). Not only was he the first African-American President, but he was also the first President who was a direct first-generation African descendant through his Kenyan father. In his commitment to Africa, President Obama did not only build on the initiatives that had been launched by previous administrations, such

as the President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Relief and the African Growth and Opportunity Act, but also launched significant additional initiatives that will define his African legacy and which will further strengthen the ties between Africa and the USA.

President Obama hosted the first-ever gathering of African leaders with the USA in August 2014, the US-Africa Leaders' Summit. Other key legacies which flowed from his visits to Africa, was the announcement of the Power Africa and the Young African

Leaders Initiative (YALI). Power Africa stemmed from a recognition that energy is a crucial element in the continent's objective to stimulate industrialisation and foster regional integration. Power Africa, in fact, complements the African Union's own Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, which has energy as a key component.

The YALI was a welcome contribution by President Obama to invest in the continent's youth. This is achieved through offering training, mentorship and exposure to the talented young men and women who will become the continent's future leaders and who will drive the economy of the future. Over 40% of Africa's working-age population are between the ages of 15 and 24, making it the youngest continent in the world. President Obama recognised the demographic dividend



The Obama Administration further showed a willingness to support the African Union objectives with regard to peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction and development and at a multilateral level, his Administration demonstrated a preference for multilateral diplomacy and negotiation in resolving international concerns.

in Africa, which held both opportunities and challenges for the continent in the years ahead.

On the economic front, the USA remains a key trade and investment partner for Africa and a significant investor and source of development assistance, technology, tourism and skills training. During the US-Africa business forums that were held in 2014 and 2016, President Obama, among others,

announced US\$7 billion in new financing to promote US exports to and investments in Africa under the Doing Business in Africa Campaign.

The Obama Administration further showed a willingness to support the AU objectives with regard to peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction and development and at a multilateral level, his Administration demonstrated a preference

for multilateral diplomacy and negotiation in resolving international concerns.

As we celebrate President Obama's African legacy, South Africa is also looking forward to working closely with the new Administration of President Donald Trump to further strengthen our bilateral relations and to promote peace and prosperity in Africa as well as in the rest of the world. 🌍

Ubuntu Awards 2017: "Celebrating OR Tambo ... In his Footsteps"

"Let the footprints of OR Tambo serve as an inspiration to all and let us work together in fulfilling his vision and ideals. Our individual and collective efforts can indeed make the world a different place to live in."



The annual Ubuntu Awards, hosted by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, are held to celebrate South African citizens who play an active role in projecting a positive image of South Africa internationally through their good work.

The third annual Ubuntu Awards were held on Saturday, 11 February, at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, under the theme: "Celebrating OR Tambo ... In his Footsteps". This year's awards marked the centenary of struggle icon, Oliver Reginald Tambo, who was the longest-serving President of the African National Congress (ANC). Born in 1917, the late struggle stalwart, who passed away in 1993, would have turned 100 years old this year.

Addressing guests at the glittering event, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, said the ceremony had over the past three years proved to be an important and popular programmatic activity that followed the State of Nation Address.

"It resonates well with our people and our collective desire to celebrate our very own leaders and citizens who go beyond the call of duty in their respective industries to contribute to the betterment of this country as well as its general populace."

Reflecting on the theme of the event, Minister Nkoana-Mashabane said: "We are proud to celebrate the life and times of this national icon, a revered statesman and a gallant fighter of our liberation struggle. He worked with his generation to shape our country's vision and constitutional value system as well as the foundations and principles of our domestic and foreign policy outlook. OR was an individual epitome of the spirit and vision of the very occasion we are celebrating today".

The Minister said the nominees had gone beyond the call of duty and were exemplary of active and responsible citizenry. Their passion and dedication, she said, should serve as an inspiration to all South Africans.

"This aptitude should indeed be a culture that permeates throughout communities and society in general."

In the spirit of celebrating extraordinary South Africans, the Minister also expressed warm congratulations to Dr Nkosazana



Dlamini Zuma for the sterling work she did during her tenure as the African Union Commission Chairperson.

"She has made all of us as South Africans, particularly women, very proud. She not only pioneered her own path but also followed through the footsteps to our great giant OR. She worked hard in unifying the organisation towards a common goal of collective prosperity."

The Minister also paid tribute to national sports icon, former Springbok captain Joost van der Westhuizen, who passed away earlier in the week.

"Let the footprints of OR Tambo serve as an inspiration to all and let us work together in fulfilling his vision and ideals. Our individual

and collective efforts can indeed make the world a different place to live in," the Minister concluded.

2017 Winners

Sasol: Winner of the Ubuntu Economic Diplomacy Award (Africa) and Ubuntu Economic Diplomacy Award (Global)

Sasol now holds the record as the first organisation in the history of the Ubuntu Awards to win in two categories. The Economic Diplomacy Awards are given to South African businesses operating in at least two countries on the continent (Africa) and operating on several continents (Global) in a way that displays good business practice and governance, creates jobs and invests in corporate social responsibility programmes in the countries in which they operate.

Sasol has gone from being just a South African fuels company to become an international integrated energy and chemicals company with over 200 chemical products being sold worldwide. These products are



used in the production process of numerous everyday products made worldwide and benefit the lives of millions of people around the world. This organisation operates in 33 countries and employs over 30 000 people across the globe. Listed on the JSE as well as the New York Stock Exchange, Sasol is recognised globally for its outstanding innovation in the energy space.

Siyabulela Xusa: Winner of the Ubuntu Youth Diplomacy Award

The Youth Award is given to an individual, between the ages of 15 and 35, who through his or her actions, activities and achievements, has promoted South Africa as a dynamic country with an enabling environment for youth to thrive in and contribute to making South Africa and the world a better place. Siya Xusa has accomplished more by the age



of 28 than many have in a lifetime – including having a planet named after him, in honour of his work in developing a record-breaking rocket and creating safer, more energy-efficient rocket fuel.

He is an Energy-Engineering Harvard University graduate with a passion for

harnessing the power of the sun for clean affordable energy. One of his earlier projects won gold at the National Science Expo and the Dr Derek Gray Memorial Award for the most prestigious project in South Africa, which led to an invitation to the International Youth Science Fair in Sweden in 2006, where he presented his project to the King and Queen of Sweden and attended the Nobel Prize ceremony in Stockholm.

In 2010, he was elected as a fellow of the African Leadership Network, a premier network of those individuals poised to shape Africa's future over the next 10 to 20 years, consisting of the most dynamic, influential and successful leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa and its Diaspora. In 2011, he was invited to the United Nations (UN) and the New York Stock Exchange in recognition for being one of the world's emerging business leaders and to offer strategies for solving the world's energy crisis.

His credibility was further endorsed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration-affiliated Lincoln Laboratory,





which was so impressed by the young engineer's achievement that it named a minor planet after him. Planet 23182, discovered in 2000, is now known as Siyaxuza and is found in the main asteroid belt near Jupiter.

Pretty Yende: Winner of the Ubuntu Arts and Culture Diplomacy Award (Youth) – Public Vote

This award was established last year to honour young people in the arts and culture space who have shone on the international stage and as a result made South Africa shine. Pretty Yende is a world-renowned opera singer from Piet Retief, Mpumalanga, who has worked in London, Milan, New York and Vienna. Representing South Africa on a global stage, she has risen to the top of the opera world with unparalleled speed, having performed starring roles in the world's grandest opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera in New York City and the Royal Opera in London.

Among her many achievements, she is the only singer to have ever won all the main prizes at the renowned Belvedere Singing Competition in Vienna. Pretty is a global inspiration, groundbreaker and has truly displayed excellence in her chosen field.

Esther Mahlangu: Winner of the Ubuntu Arts and Culture Diplomacy Award (Veteran) – Public Vote

The award is given to an individual or organisation that has promoted a positive image of South Africa through arts and culture and/or facilitated cultural exchanges between South Africa and no fewer than two other countries for a minimum of 20 years.

Esther Mahlangu is most well known for her bold large-scale Ndebele inspired artworks, MKHARIBO!!! She recently collaborated with John Legend to design the limited-edition Belvedere Vodka bottle for the #MakeADifference campaign, using her Ndebele tribal art style to raise money for HIV prevention.

In October 2016, Ms Mahlangu signed a BMW luxury automobile and made it into a work of art that the public could bid on. The vehicle was on display at the renowned Freize Art Fair in London. This iconic collaboration comes 25 years after she created a BMW Art Car, which was the first to be signed by a woman.

Babies Behind Bars: Winner of the Ubuntu Social Responsibility Award

The Social Responsibility Award celebrates the acts of kindness that have been done unto others by South African non-governmental organisations.

Babies Behind Bars, founded by Romy Titus, a South African radio and television personality, is a not-for-profit organisation (NPO) based in Johannesburg. They look after babies from birth to two years old while they are living with their mothers in prisons across the country.

The organisation has also expanded into correctional facilities beyond South Africa's borders, having managed to assist 14 prisons in South Africa, four in Namibia and one in Swaziland as well as prisons in Mozambique and Kenya. Babies Behind Bars also conducts weekly visits to correctional services with the aim of providing some relief and encouraging health and safety for the children.

Romy Titus, founder of Babies Behind Bars, accepted the award

Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation: Winner of the Ubuntu Social Responsibility Award

The Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, housed within the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre (DTHC) at the University of Cape Town (UCT), is committed to the pursuit of excellence in research, treatment, training and prevention of HIV and related infections in southern Africa.

The foundation, supported by the Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu and his wife, Leah, has been in existence as an NPO since 2004.

The DTHC is an accredited research grouping within the UCT and is supported in its work by the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation.

The research, clinical and community outreach staff of the foundation share a common-agreed purpose to lessen the impact of the HIV pandemic on individuals, families and communities, through innovation and their passion for humanity.

Fully self-funded by grants and other raised funds, its shared vision for the future includes the continuation of current TB/HIV-related work of treatment, care, prevention and

education, particularly in the most vulnerable populations, while staying abreast of new developments and continuing to contribute to cutting-edge information in HIV and TB public health, social and clinical research.

Riaan Beukes, accepted the award on behalf of the foundation.

Caster Semenya: Winner of the Ubuntu Sports Diplomacy Award

Since winning a gold in the women's 800-m final at the 2009 World Championships with a time of 1:55.45, Caster Semenya has not looked back. She earned a silver medal in the 800 m at the 2012 Olympic Games in London – becoming the first black South African woman to win an Olympic medal in the field.

There are few who can dispute that 2016 was Caster's year, seeing her snatch the Gold medal in Rio de Janeiro in the 800 m.

Caster has captured the mind, heart and spirits of people across the entire world. Her determination to triumph against all odds, her sheer willpower and the grace in the face of tribulation have made her one of South Africa's all-time favourite sportspeople.

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Republic of South Africa, TIAN Xuejun: Winner of the OR Tambo Excellence in Diplomacy Award

Minister Nkoana-Mashabane awarded the OR Tambo Excellence in Diplomacy Award to a diplomat residing in South Africa who has contributed immensely to the upliftment of the South African people over and above the traditional channels of diplomacy.

Winnie Madikizela Mandela: Winner of the OR Tambo Lifetime Achievement Award

Winnie Madikizela Mandela is known for her constant fight for justice and triumph over tribulation. Her name is synonymous with the struggle for liberation in South Africa and she is lovingly referred to as the Mother of the Nation.

She attended primary school in Bizana and matriculated at Shawbury High School, where she distinguished herself as a person with exceptional leadership qualities. In 1953, she was admitted to the Jan Hofmeyr School of Social Work in Johannesburg. She completed her degree in Social Work in 1955, and was offered a scholarship for further study in the United States of America. However, she turned it down and opted for a challenging position as the first qualified black medical social worker at the Baragwanath Hospital in Johannesburg instead.

She became interested in politics while working at the hospital. In the mid-1950s,



she became involved in the ANC. In 1957, she met Nelson Mandela. At the time he was on trial, along with 155 other people, in the now infamous Treason Trial following the civil disobedience campaigns of the early 1950s.

They were married on 19 June 1958 in a Methodist service in the Transkei, after which Winnie settled in Mandela's home in Soweto.

From 1962, Winnie was subjected to a virtually uninterrupted series of legal orders, which prevented her from living, working and socialising. She was banned under the Suppression of Communism Act, 1950 for her part in the struggle and was restricted to the Orlando Township in Soweto. She started to work clandestinely for the ANC, which included participating in underground meetings and the printing and circulation of pamphlets.

In 1969, she was detained under the Terrorism Act, 1967 and was placed in solitary confinement for 17 months. In 1970, she was placed under house arrest. She repeatedly flouted this order and was charged on a number of occasions.

During the 1976 youth uprisings, she established the Black Women's Federation and the Black Parents' Association. She fought gallantly throughout the 1970s and 1980s, undergoing constant harassment, arrest and banishment from the apartheid regime.

Just before the advent of freedom in 1993, she was elected president of the ANC Women's League (ANCWL), a position that she held until 2003. She was voted onto the ANC National Executive Committee (NEC) in Polokwane.

The award was accepted on her behalf by her granddaughter, Lindo Zici Mandela.

Gertrude Shope: Winner of the OR Tambo Lifetime Achievement Award

The second Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to the freedom fighter, stalwart and fierce feminist, Gertrude Shope. Mme Shope was born in Johannesburg, and grew up in Zimbabwe. She was trained as a teacher and when she was 29 years she decided to join the ANC. Soon afterwards, she left teaching as part of the campaign to boycott

Bantu Education. She was the chairperson of the Central Western Jabavu Branch of the Federation of South African Women.

In 1966, the ANC convinced her to leave South Africa and join her husband, Mark Shope, in exile. While in exile, Gertrude and her husband lived in Prague, Botswana, Tanzania, Czechoslovakia, Zambia and Nigeria. From 1970 to 1971, she was secretary to the head of the ANC's Woman's Section, Florence Mophosho.

Together these two women started the publication, *Voice of the Women*. Mme Shope then became the ANC's chief representative in Lusaka and in 1981, was promoted to head of the Women's Section. She became a member of the NEC of the ANC in 1985. In 1991, Shope was elected president of the ANCWL – a position she held until 1993. She worked together with Albertina Sisulu in convening the ANC's Internal Leadership Corps Task Force from 1990 to 1991. In 1994, Ms Shope became a Member of Parliament in the Government of National Unity.

The OR Tambo Lifetime Achievement Award is named after DIRCO's patron saint, as he is fondly known.

The Oliver and Adelaide Tambo Foundation was established in 2011, with the aim to promote and popularise the legacies of both Oliver Reginald Tambo and Adelaide Tshukudu Tambo. The foundation's mandate is to promote the legacies of these two patriots by supporting and addressing issues of socio-economic upliftment and advancement, education, women and youth empowerment, and the promotion of arts, culture and heritage.

The year 2017 marks an important era as the foundation celebrates Oliver Tambo's centenary. To celebrate his life, the foundation has embarked on a campaign to promote his legacy and highlight his values in addressing challenges and aspirations held by both South Africans and citizens across the world.

Minister Nkoana-Mashabane commissioned the development of a work of art by the young artist Setlamorago Mashilo and this was handed over to Linda Vilakazi from the Oliver and Adelaide Tambo Foundation during the Ubuntu Awards. 🇿🇦

Minister Pandor wins 2016 AAAS Science Diplomacy Award

"Under Minister Pandor's leadership, South Africa has become a catalyst for developing scientific capabilities across the African continent."

On 17 February 2017, the Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor, received the 2016 Award for Science Diplomacy from the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) at a ceremony during the 183rd AAAS Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts.

The Minister was honoured by the AAAS not only for integrating science in policy-making within South Africa, but also for her advocacy for young scientists and women scientists by supporting initiatives that encouraged international collaboration for both groups.

"Science not only enables us to more decisively respond to major societal challenges," Minister Pandor said, "but also plays a critical part in helping to foster international partnerships, friendship and solidarity." She explained that the role of science diplomacy was more important than ever, and said she was humbled and honoured to receive the award.

"Under her leadership, South Africa has made numerous contributions to building science structures in organisations such as the African Union (AU) and the Southern African Development Community, to strengthening the science granting councils of other African countries, and to expanding the role of the Global Research Council," wrote Tom Wang, AAAS' Chief International Officer and Director of the Centre for Science Diplomacy, in a letter to the AAAS Board of Directors.

Minister Pandor has promoted and expanded the South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI). The programme, established in 2006, is designed to attract and retain excellence in research and innovation at South African public universities through the establishment of research chairs at the institutions. In 2015, the Minister announced

20 new research chairs designated for women applicants, and the percentage of women in SARChI chairs has increased from 23% to 39%.

The Minister also helped to initiate and host Science Forum South Africa (SFSA) in 2015. The event was the first of its kind on the continent and drew over 1 300 participants in its first year. The forum aims to provide a platform for debate on the role of science, technology and innovation in society, as well as to promote international science partnerships. Minister Pandor hosted the 2016 forum, which built on the success of the inaugural meeting and drew over 2 000 participants from around the globe.

SFSA 2016 focussed on how to strengthen scientific engagement and collaboration across the continent of Africa.

Minister Pandor was nominated for the 2016 AAAS Award for Science Diplomacy by Jean Lebel, the President of Canada's International Development Research Centre. In a letter of support, Lebel wrote that the Minister had worked tirelessly to connect research with sustainable development goals (SDGs). Lebel also noted that Minister Pandor was leading numerous efforts to promote research capacities of young and emerging scientists, particularly female scientists. "Under Minister Pandor's leadership, South Africa has become a catalyst for developing scientific capabilities across the African continent," Lebel wrote.

Klaus Streicher, the Deputy Head of Mission of the German Embassy in South Africa, also submitted a letter of support. Streicher wrote that Minister Pandor received the Grand Cross of Merit with Star and Shoulder Ribbon of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, one of the highest possible recognitions in Germany. Streicher explained that the Minister received the award to honour her commitment to promoting German-South African relations, particularly through scientific

and technological cooperation. "Naledi Pandor is an outstanding woman committed to scientific advancement and cooperation not only in her own country, but with a global perspective," Streicher wrote.

Minister Pandor was selected to receive the award by an advisory committee, comprising experts in science, international cooperation and diplomacy. The committee noted that she had worked to integrate science in policy-making within her own country, and that she had launched numerous initiatives to promote collaboration regionally and with other countries. Minister Pandor also led the implementation of South Africa's Ten-Year Innovation Plan and the National Research and Development Strategy.

The AAAS Award for Science Diplomacy was approved by the AAAS Board of Directors in 2010 (it was formerly the AAAS International Scientific Cooperation Award, established in 1992). It recognises an individual or a limited number of individuals working together in the scientific and engineering or foreign affairs communities, making an outstanding contribution to furthering science diplomacy. The award consists of a plaque and an honorarium of \$5 000.

In accepting the award, Minister Pandor told the audience that the award was being keenly followed in South Africa.

"We are deeply honoured in our country to have one of us recognised in this way, because we regard this as recognition of the entire people of our country and the efforts that we had begun to make since 1994 when we began to build our very new and young democracy."

The Minister added: "The Department of Science and Technology is dedicated to enhancing science and technology in South Africa, to building human capital, particularly young women and black people, but to also promoting the establishment of sustainable

science initiatives and institutions throughout South Africa and the African continent."

"We believe the position you occupy is not predetermined in anyway and that everybody who has talent should be allowed to bloom. And that's the only reason that I believe everybody should say that all countries can do well in science, technology and innovation," the Minister said.

The Minister also addressed an earlier panel discussion titled, *AAAS Networks of Diasporas in Engineering and Science Forum*. The discussion focussed on the role of diasporas in achieving the SDGs.

During her address, Minister Pandor asserted that Africans must close the research gap with the rest of the world. African research lags behind the rest of the world in most science disciplines. The overall stats are well known. With 13,4% of the world's population, the continent is home to only 1,1% of the world's scientific researchers. It has about one scientist or engineer per 10 000 people, compared with 20 to 50 in industrial nations.

"We know where the problems lie. There's too little regional collaboration among African countries.

"There's too little public support for sustainable development. There's too little focus on programmes to mobilise science and technology for sustainable development," said the Minister.

The Minister added: "In South Africa, we have tried to put in place the right policies. We have a separate department to prioritise research. We have made science and technology a national priority."

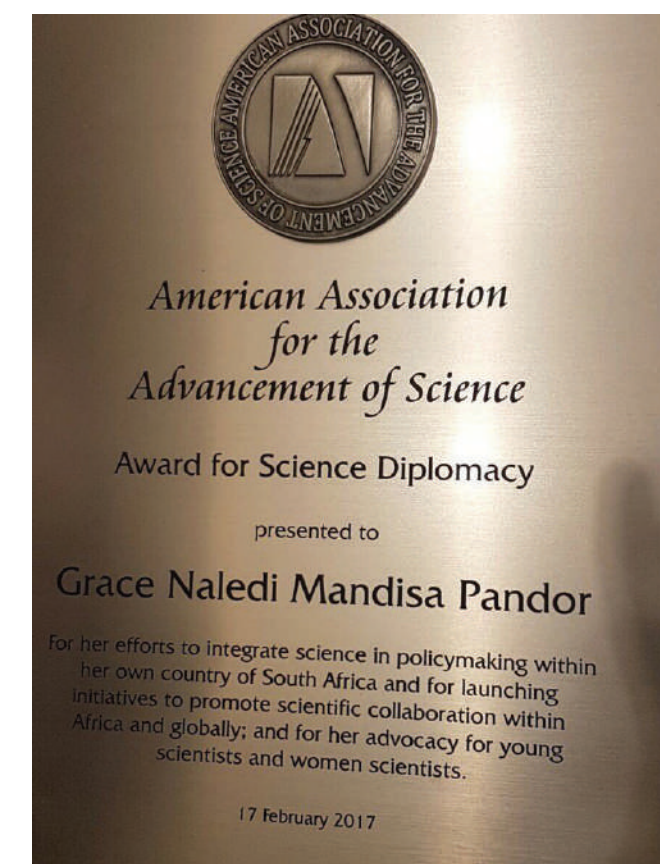
Minister Pandor also asserted that: "African governments must take the lead in pushing for science-led development: Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics should be a strategic priority".

Science is at the heart of the AU's Agenda 2063. Minister Pandor said that little would come of this plan unless each African country adopted a policy of science-led development and put an efficient government department in place to pursue it.

"Only then will our grand plans be able to leverage private and philanthropic participation – like the Alliance for Accelerating Excellence in Science in Africa (AESAI), an initiative of



ADVANCING SCIENCE, SERVING SOCIETY



the African Academy of Sciences and the New Partnership for Africa's Development." The AESA platform was established with initial funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Wellcome Trust and the United Kingdom Department for International Development.

It will run two new research initiatives: a US\$70-million grant to support seven African scientists and Grand Challenges Africa, which supports 400 researchers to find solutions to health and development problems.

"Africans must keep their scientists at home," said Minister Pandor as she raised her final point.

"I am often struck by the number of Africans I meet working in laboratories and science

institutes outside Africa, contributing to the innovation strengths of countries in the North. I know that research is international and collaborative, but I want the international to mean from Africa by Africa-based scientists too," said the Minister.

The Minister added: "Our friends in the world do not have the same interest we do in addressing our health services, food insecurity, climate change, inadequate infrastructure, low skills development and technology hunger". According to Minister Pandor, these problems should be addressed by African and Africa-based researchers. "We must create partnerships that have a clear purpose, a well-crafted agenda of science-based initiatives and public funding that adequately resources researchers and their institutions. The mandate for our research, development and innovation must be unequivocal – find solutions to our problems, create and respond."

The Minister emphasised that: "Africa must do science in Africa, for Africa and finally free itself from the belief that someone out there cares more about our problems than we do".

The Minister was honoured by the AAAS not only for integrating science in policy-making within South Africa, but also for her advocacy for young scientists and women scientists by supporting initiatives that encouraged international collaboration for both groups.

Female diplomats empowered

By Andre Groenewald

Director: Mediation Support Unit, Department of International Relations and Cooperation

This initiative forms part of a partnership with Norway (Norwegian Embassy) and represents South Africa's commitment to the African Agenda.



The Department of International Relations and Cooperation's (DIRCO) Mediation Support Unit and the International School of the DIRCO Diplomatic Academy hosted a Capacity-Building Programme on Conflict Resolution, Negotiation, Mediation and Constitution Drafting for 16 senior women diplomats from 16 different African countries, as well as 18 officials from the relevant International Cooperation, Trade and Security Cluster departments (including DIRCO; the departments of communications, home affairs and justice; the South African National Defence Force; and South African Police Service) from 20 February to 10 March 2017.

This initiative formed part of a broader partnership with Norway (Norwegian Embassy) and represents South Africa's commitment to the African Agenda, including regional and continental efforts to address conflict and the challenges of the post-conflict reconstruction and development process (PCRD).

The broader partnership with Norway included the hosting of three capacity-building programmes on Conflict Resolution, Negotiations and Mediation. During Youth

Month in June 2016, a programme was hosted for 37 Student Representative Council members from 18 South African institutes of higher learning to assist them with knowledge and capacity when negotiating.

During Women's Month in August 2016, a programme was hosted for 60 South African women from civil society. The Mediation Support Unit also hosted the Second Gertrude Shope Annual Dialogue Forum on Conflict Resolution and Peace-Making with high-level female peace-builders from the Nordic countries (Norway, Sweden and Finland), as well as Africa (Burundi, Somalia and Democratic Republic of Congo). The capacity-building programme and the Gertrude Shope Annual Dialogue Forum commemorated the 60th anniversary of the Women's March to the Union Buildings in 1956.

The third programme was hosted for African diplomats during February/March 2017 to commemorate International Women's Day and to give effect to the international obligations from United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.

It will be recalled that South Africa committed herself to the 50th anniversary of the Solemn Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union

(AU), assembled at the Golden Jubilee of the Organisation of African Unity-AU, which called for the development of Agenda 2063 through a people-centred process. This process recognised the invaluable role of women, youth, the private sector, academia, labour and civil society as critical stakeholders responsible for implementing Agenda 2063, to assume a leading role in shaping and charting the future course and destiny of the continent and its people.

The Training Programme on Conflict Resolution, Negotiation, Mediation and Constitutional Drafting covered a wide range of issues within the framework of PCRD, mediation, peacekeeping, negotiation, international relations and diplomacy. The programme was furthermore aimed at not only improving an understanding of these issues, but to also provide participants with the necessary diplomatic and other skills to perform as diplomats for their countries. A number of site visits to complement the substance and presentations by experts also formed part of the training schedule.

The programme concluded on 10 March 2017 with a graduation ceremony, which included the celebration of International Women's Day (8 March 2017). 

37th SADC Summit

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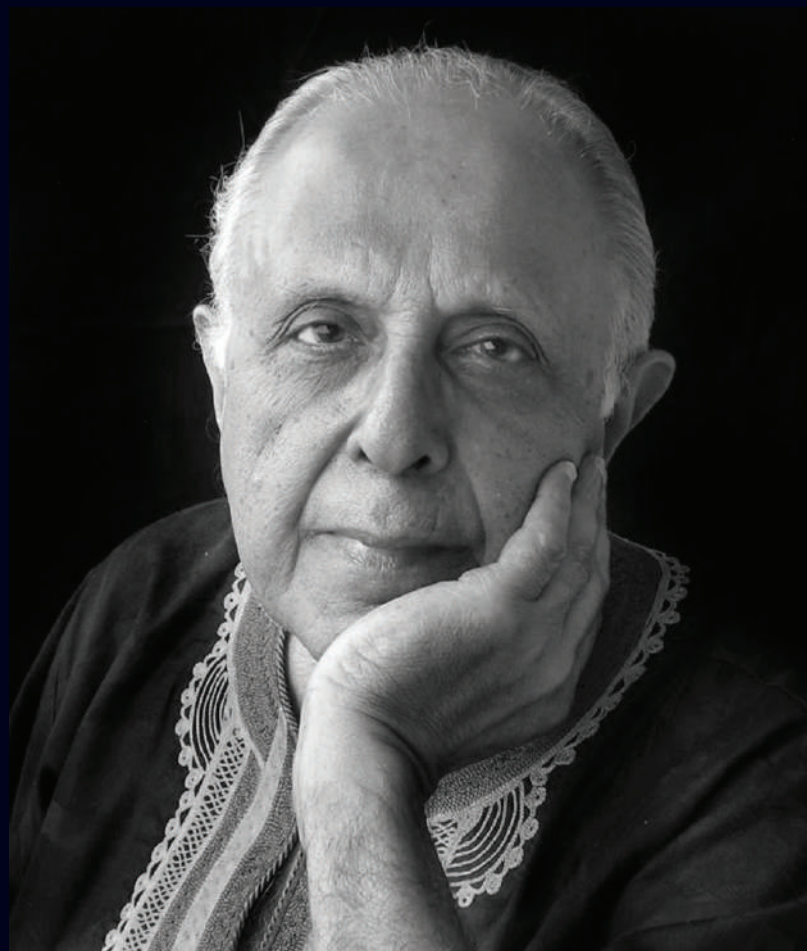
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LIBERATION HERITAGE

Ahmed Kathrada



On 28 March 2017, struggle veteran Ahmed Kathrada, 87, passed away peacefully at the Donald Gordon Medical Centre in Johannesburg after a short illness. He was admitted to hospital for surgery related to blood clotting in the brain earlier the month.

An activist to the end, Kathrada has had an illustrious political career having served between 1994 and 1999 as the parliamentary counsellor to late President Nelson Mandela.

He was born on 21 August 1929 in rural Schweizer-Reneke in the North West and was introduced to politics as a young boy when he joined a non-racial youth club run by

the Young Communist League. At the tender age of 17, Kathrada participated in the 1946 Passive Resistance Campaign led by the South African Indian Congress. He was part of 2 000 resisters who were arrested and imprisoned for defying a law that discriminated against Indian South Africans.

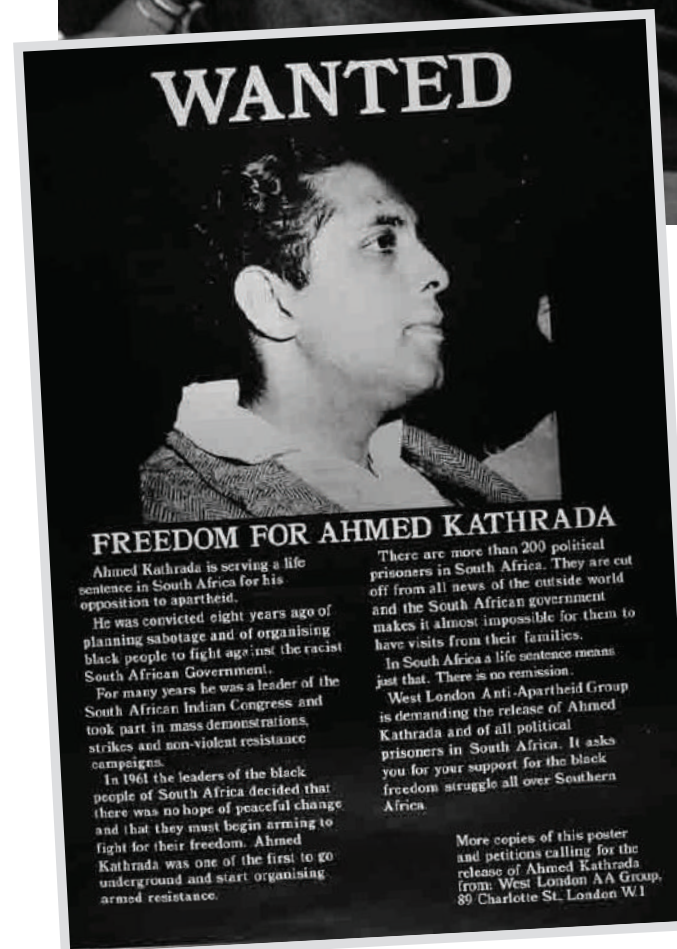
Under the tutelage of Transvaal Indian Congress leader, Dr Yusuf Dadoo, Kathrada later befriended emerging African National Congress (ANC) leaders such as Walter Sisulu, Nelson Mandela and Oliver Tambo.

In 1952, Kathrada was in a group of 20, including Mandela and Sisulu, who were sentenced to nine months in prison with hard labour – suspended for two years – for organising the Defiance Campaign against

six unjust apartheid laws. The campaign was jointly organised by the ANC and SA Indian Congress.

In 1954, he was placed under restrictions by apartheid security police and was arrested several times for breaking his banning orders. In 1956, he was among the 156 Congress activists and leaders charged with High Treason. The trial continued for four years, after which all the accused were acquitted. Kathrada, Mandela and Sisulu were among the last 30 to be acquitted.

While they were on trial in 1960, the ANC and Pan-Africanist Congress were banned. In 1962, Kathrada was placed under “house arrest”. The following year, Kathrada broke his banning orders and went underground to



An activist to the end, Kathrada has had an illustrious political career having served between 1994 and 1999 as the parliamentary counsellor to late President Nelson Mandela.

Committee (NEC). Until 1994, he headed the ANC's Public Relations Department.

At its conference in 1997, Kathrada declined nomination to the NEC.

In 1994, Kathrada was elected to Parliament and served as President Mandela's parliamentary counsellor. He was chairperson of the Robben Island Museum Council from 1997 until his term expired in 2006.

In 2008, the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation was launched with the aim of deepening non-racialism.

Khatrada was an active participant in the foundation's work, which includes promoting constitutional ideals and human rights, youth leadership and development, challenging racism and preserving and promoting liberation history.

Khatrada is survived by his wife, Barbara Hogan, also an ANC stalwart and veteran, who once served as the Minister of Public Enterprises. 

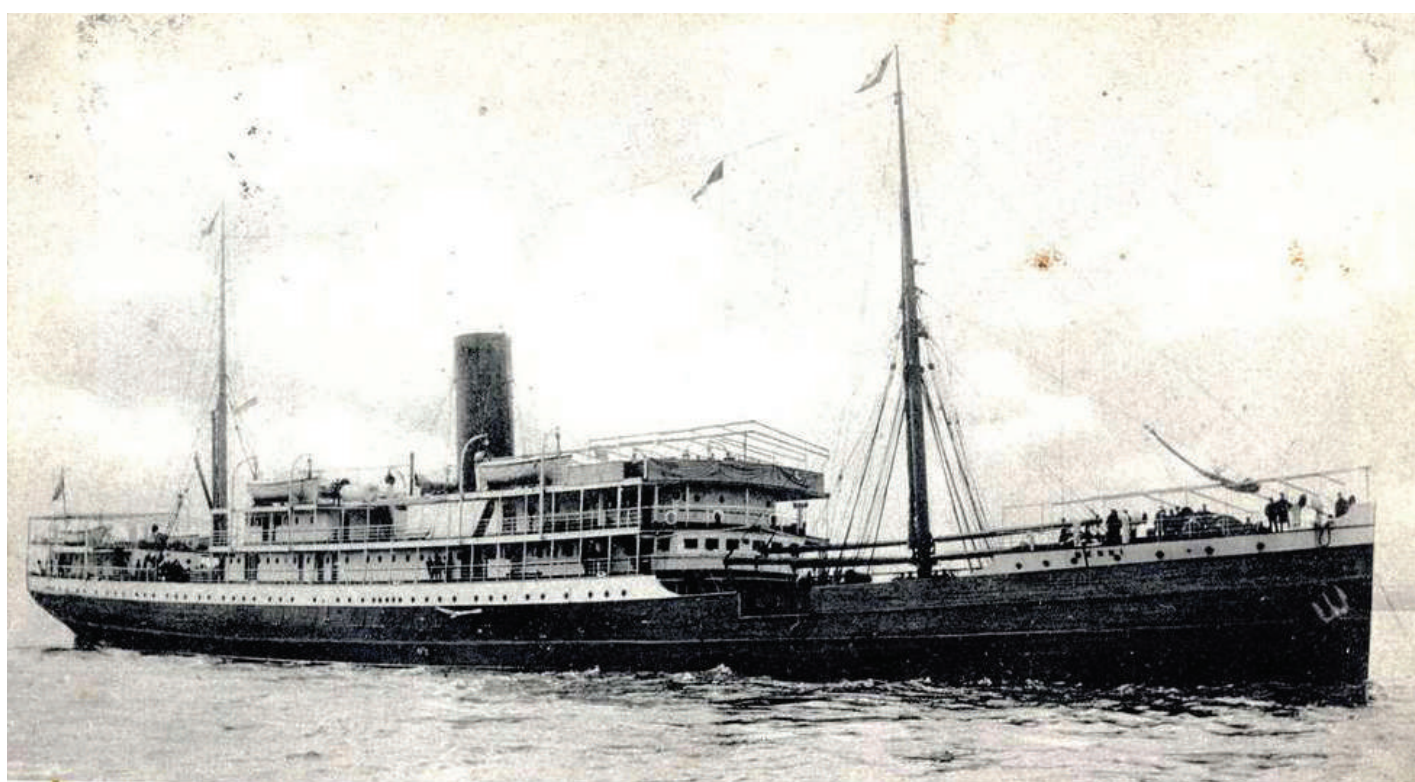
continue his political and military work in the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe.

In July 1963, the police swooped on Liliesleaf Farm in Rivonia, a Johannesburg suburb where Kathrada and other banned persons had been meeting secretly. This led to the famous Rivonia Trial in which eight accused were sentenced to life imprisonment with hard labour on Robben Island. His fellow prisoners included ANC leaders such as Mandela, Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Denis Goldberg, Elias Motsoaledi and Andrew Mlangeni. Kathrada spent 26

years and three months in prison, 18 of which were on Robben Island. In 1982, Mandela, Sisulu, Kathrada, Mhlaba and Mlangeni were transferred to Pollsmoor Prison in Cape Town.

While in prison, he obtained four university degrees, namely BA (History and Criminology), B Bibliography (African Politics and Library Science), BA Honours (History) and BA Honours (African Politics).

Soon after his release on 15 October 1989, the ANC was unbanned. At its first legal conference in South Africa, Kathrada was elected onto its National Executive



R. M. S. "Mendi" British & African Steam Navigation Co.

SS Mendi – One of SA's most heart-wrenching tragedies

By Nathi Mthethwa
Minister of Arts and Culture

We commemorate and honour all those who perished on the *Mendi*, regardless of race, creed, ethnicity or rank, because this is a story of supreme courage and sacrifice.

One of the most heart-wrenching tragedies in our country's recorded history is the sinking of the *SS Mendi*, the troopship that was sent to the icy depths of the English Channel 100 years ago.

Carrying well over 800 servicemen, the majority of whom were black South Africans, the *SS Mendi* was struck by another South African vessel, the *SS Darro*, which was travelling at a recklessly high speed on the morning of 21 February 1917.

Being much larger than the *Mendi*, the *Darro* survived the collision, and as it sailed nonchalantly away, its captain unmoved and unperturbed, 616 South Africans, 607 of them black troops, and 30 crew, died at sea on the *Mendi*'s final voyage.

On 8 August 1917, a British court found *Darro*'s master, Henry W Stump, guilty of having travelled at a dangerously high speed in thick fog, and of having failed to ensure that his ship emitted the necessary fog sound signals. The triumphant Stump must have heaved a sigh of relief when his licence was suspended for only a year.

History had recorded that Stump did receive a report that he had collided with a ship which was transporting native troops aboard, and that it was sinking, but he chose to sail full steam ahead.

Having set sail on 16 January 1917, when the *Mendi* troopship left Cape Town en route to La Havre harbour in France, the men were supposed to serve in World War I, but this being the time when dispossession and racism were entrenching their claws in the fabric of South African society, the African troops had

been refused training in modern weaponry. The reason, they had been told, was that "the war was a white man's war".

The South African Native Labour Corps (SANLC), as they were called in apartheid parlance, were recruited exclusively as a labour force to dig trenches, provide logistical support, offload tons of ammunition and do odd duties during World War I.

Even out at sea, apartheid racism reigned supreme. They had been misled to believe that in return for their services, they would receive their liberation back home after the war. It was not to be.

However, as we look to the past, so too must we cast our sights to the future, determined to draw lessons from our history in order to craft a cohesive nation where human solidarity, justice, dignity and compassion are the core of our national DNA.

As we grapple with social blights such as racism, sexism and xenophobia, we must remember the profound words of one of the men on the *Mendi*, Isaac Williams Wauchope, an interpreter who had previously served as a minister in the Congregational Native Church of Fort Beaufort and Blinkwater. As he sought to calm the sinking shipload of men, he raised

his arms and declared: "Be quiet and calm, my countrymen. What is happening now is what you came to do ... you are going to die, but that is what you came to do. Brothers, we are drilling the death drill. I, a Xhosa, say you are my brothers ... Swazis, Pondos, Basotho ... so let us die like brothers. We are the sons of Africa. Raise your war cries, brothers, for though they made us leave our assegais in the kraal, our voices are left with our bodies".

We are reminded that among those who perished in the deep during the sinking of *SS Mendi* were some prominent men, such as the Pondoland chiefs Hendry Bokleni, Dokoda, Richard Ndamase, Mxonywa Bangani and Mongameli, and the Reverend Isaac Wauchope Dyobha. In 2006, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission launched an education resource, called:

Let us Die like Brothers, to highlight the role played by black South Africans during World War I. Treated as inferior while alive, in death they have been accorded the same dignified recognition as all other Commonwealth war dead.

The tragedy of the *Mendi* is also a stark reminder that conflict is a misfortune not only for the fallen, but for their families and for broader society. In the case of the men on the *Mendi*, their widows were not immediately informed about the fate of their husbands and partners when they were offered black mourning clothes. It was not until a while later that they were told the ship had sunk.

In the centenary of OR Tambo, we celebrate the memory of these legends whose bodies could not be retrieved, save for those few who were washed ashore on British soil, with some

buried in Portsmouth, Littlehampton, Hastings and East Dean.

We commemorate and honour all those who perished on the *Mendi*, regardless of race, creed, ethnicity or rank, because this is a story of supreme courage and sacrifice.

As we salute these men who died together like brothers, what better tribute can there be but to commit, each one of us as South Africans, to the quest for a non-racial order.

The story of the *Mendi* is also a challenge for our filmmakers, novelists, playwrights, musicians, fashion designers and others, to immortalise not only the legend of the *Mendi*, but the many other moments of awe and wonder our rich history has to offer.

When they do so, they will find a government willing and eager to partner in the business of the arts and the celebration of our heritage.

They will also find a global audience ready to share in our magic. 

This article was first published on *Independent Online*.

On 21 February 2017, South Africa honoured and remembered members of the South African Native Labour Corps (SANLC) who lost their lives during the sinking of the *SS Mendi* a 100 years ago. The event was commemorated as part of Armed Forces Day in KwaZulu-Natal at the Moses Mabhida Stadium.

President Jacob Zuma was one of the high-profile citizens who graced the event, which displayed the South African National Defence Force's (SANDF) fire power and equipment.

A full mechanised parade of 300 military vehicles, including tanks and 4 000 soldiers from the SANDF, participated in the parade.

On 20 February 2017, the Minister in The Presidency responsible for Planning,



Monitoring and Evaluation, Jeff Radebe, was in the United Kingdom to pay tribute to the soldiers who perished.

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

Speaking at a memorial service at Southampton's Hollybrook Cemetery, Minister Radebe said that South Africans had many lessons to learn from the soldiers.

He said they temporarily suspended all their demands for equality so that the human race could be saved from itself. SAnews.gov.za



National Orders are the highest form of recognition that South Africa bestows on deserving citizens. The President of the Republic as the Grand Patron of the National Orders, awards these orders, which are inclusive and represent all South Africans.

The Order of Mendi for Bravery is awarded to South African citizens who have distinguished themselves by displaying extraordinary acts of bravery through which their lives were placed in great danger or who have lost their lives, including trying to save the life of another person or by saving property, in or outside the Republic of South Africa.

Fittingly, the central motif of the design of this order is the oval shape of a traditional African shield, usually made from animal hide woven into a rigid and durable armour and used for protection in close combat. The band, which renders the shape of the shield, is punctuated with the spoor of the lion, representing vigilance, power and bravery, and symbolising

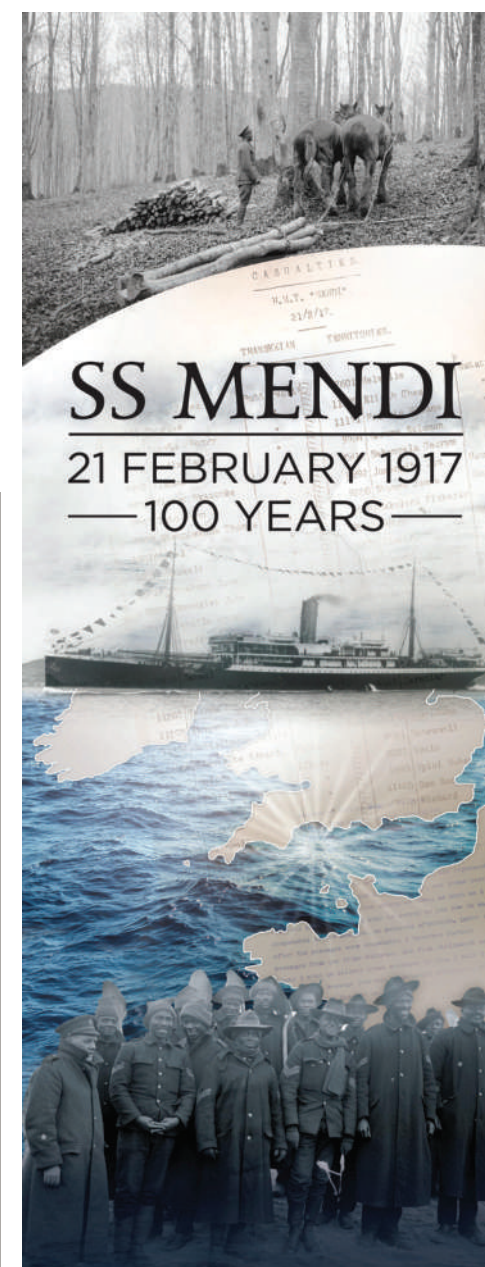
South Africa's efforts at protecting its borders and the country. The band is criss-crossed with the tips and bases of a knobkierrie and a spear; traditional symbols of defence and honour.

The central image within the shield is an image of the *SS Mendi* sailing on the waters of the English Channel.

The depiction of the blue crane in flight above the *SS Mendi* symbolises the departing souls of the drowned soldiers.

The feathers of the blue crane were traditionally conferred to adorn brave warriors during the time of colonial wars.

The central image is sealed above by a green emerald; which is surrounded on three sides by renditions of the bitter aloe, a hardy indigenous South African plant used in traditional medicine. The three bitter aloes represent resilience and survival and also serve as symbolic directional pointers, showing the way when rendering assistance to those in need during natural disasters.





Five globally important archaeological sites in Africa

The number of unearthed archaeological sites across Africa has given the world insights into the history of the continent and the world.

Lalibela Churches, Ethiopia

From pyramids in the north, to cryptic stone cities and ancient civilisations further south, these sites offer many mysteries, as they do answers. Lying untouched and hidden for thousands of years, they can sometimes provide us with some understanding of who we are, as Africans, today.

The Stone Circles of Senegal and Gambia
The Senegambia Stone Circles are one of Africa's most significant archaeological discoveries.

Spread across thousands of miles in Senegal and Gambia, these four large stone constructions, also referred to as the Senegambian stone circles, date back to 300 BC. Judging by the discovery of graves and evidence of communities, the construction of the site shows evidence of a prosperous

and organised society based on the amount of labour required to build such structures.

They consist of over 30 000 laterite stones, 17 000 monuments and 2 000 home sites.

Experts believe that much like obelisks, the stones were arranged purposefully for either religious or communal reasons. Finding, transporting and shaping the laterite, it is understood, would have required some kind of understanding of geology and intricate tool work.

At the largest of the sites, at Sine Ngayene, Senegal, evidence of iron smelting and quarries was unearthed. Layered evidence in the ground indicates a timeline of more than 700 years when communities lived, worked and worshipped in the area.

Meroë, Sudan

An ancient city of palaces, iron production and pyramids along the east bank of

the Nile, Meroë dates back to 800 BC. Embracing sophisticated Egyptian culture and possessing fertile land and abundant iron deposits, the city became a prominent trading post, renowned as far as Rome, Greece and Persia.

It is mentioned in the book of *Genesis* (by the name *Aethiopia*) as a prominent yet vulnerable centre of commerce. The city traded with the Roman Empire, and it has been suggested by archaeologists, even with early Indian and Chinese explorers. Residents even farmed elephants to be exported for foreign armies.

Its vulnerability and prominence made it a regular target for marauding armies over seven centuries. Eventually losing its Egyptian influence and culture, Meroë developed its own language, religions and customs that were all lost to history when the city was finally destroyed in AD 330.

It lay untouched and undiscovered until 1821, when archaeologists excavated the first of its 200 distinctive Nubian pyramids. The written language of Meroë remains one of the world's greatest undeciphered languages.

Great Zimbabwe Stone Houses, Masvingo, Zimbabwe

Dating back almost a millennium, the three-compound stone construction covering 18 000 acres was built using a sophisticated form of stone masonry not found in the surrounding region at the time. The complex was home to 18 000 people and is believed to have taken 300 years to construct. Operating as a proto-city, Great Zimbabwe contains evidence of a monarchy, religion, commerce and mining.

Mystery surrounds its decline, with some experts speculating that the rapid depletion of nearby gold mines may have



The Stone Circles of Senegal and Gambia



Meroë, Sudan





Great Zimbabwe Stone Houses,
Masvingo, Zimbabwe

been the ultimate cause. Great Zimbabwe is recognised as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation World Heritage Site.

Lalibela Churches, Ethiopia

Once considered one of the holiest places in Africa, the 11 Lalibela churches were built in the 12th century for the burgeoning popularity of Christianity in the region. Inspired by their connection to King Solomon, early African Christians, unable to make pilgrimages to Jerusalem, were able to travel here to pay homage. The design of the complex resembles parts of Jerusalem.

The site consists of monolith churches of varying sizes, each carved out of volcanic basalt and intricately decorated with early Christian iconography. The largest of the churches, the impressive Bete Giyorgis (Church of Saint George), is considered to be the most finely executed and best preserved church in the world.

While Lalibela was partially destroyed by Muslim armies in the 16th century, much of the site survived intact and has grown over the past 400 years to become a medium-sized town.

Bakoni Ruins, South Africa

The Bakoni Ruins of Machadodorp, Mpumalanga, is one of the world's greatest unsolved archaeological puzzles.

Dating back more than 200 000 years, this "lost city of Africa" is a large collection



Bakoni, Ruins, South Africa

of complex stone terraces with evidence of settlements, fields and roads, as well as signs of advanced technological and agricultural innovation that existed long before the arrival of Europeans in the region.

Case in point is the site's most prominent feature: Adam's Calendar, a 30-m stone circle with positioned monolith rocks within it. The monoliths are aligned to match the movement of the Orion's Belt star formation, and are presumed to be an early indicator of charted time.

Viewed from the air, the ruins create a vast design of mazes and passages intricately connected over hundreds of kilometres. Needless to say, archaeologists

are bewildered by the site. One of its few provable theories is that the age of the ruins indicates that the ancient Bakoni people who built the complex settlement may have been around much earlier than first believed.

The site, its age and designs are, however, popular with so-called pseudo-archaeology theories, including the idea that it might have been constructed by an ancient alien civilisation. Whatever the theories, the Bakoni Ruins supplement the more provable theories surrounding the Cradle of Humankind in the North West province that the southern region of Africa was inhabited by early humans much earlier in prehistory than first thought. www.brandssouthafrica.com



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Transformation and unity crucial for a sustainable tourism sector

By Sisa Ntshona
Chief Executive Officer, SA Tourism

Tourism has been identified as a major economic driver in South Africa and other countries across the world. In 2015, South Africa's travel and tourism industry directly supported 703 000 jobs, which translated into 4,5% of the total employment rate.

This year of Oliver Reginald Tambo 2017 asks of us to deeply interrogate how we are using our efforts to achieve unity and eradicate inequality in our society. His commitment to this vision for his country is aptly tied to our

journey as one of the key players in the tourism sector. We understand that the realisation of his vision in our space demands of us to set the economic inclusivity and transformation agenda in all our efforts and engagements.

The drive to eradicate unemployment and inequality in all industries lies in our ability

as South Africans, the public and the private sector at large, to realise that there is an urgent need for creating jobs at a faster rate. But, there is no creation of jobs without the actual growing of the economy. Unemployment is sitting at 27,1% of the population, meaning that there are approximately 500 000 potential

entrepreneurs that should be brought into the economic fold. Transformation and economic inclusivity require the absorption and the enablement of new these players into the field.

The responsibility is, just like opportunities abound, to step out of the mundane and adopt a radical and structural shift in how we approach economic development and growth.

The crux of our transformation agenda at South African Tourism rests on: How do we get more black people to participate in the tourism sector, both through their businesses (especially small, medium and micro enterprises [SMMEs]) and by travelling around the country; and what are the existing systematic barriers in the sector needing to be flattened. Both these require deliberate interventions. And these interventions require a concerted and collaborative effort from all players: associations, established businesses, private and public partners as well as aspirant new players.

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President Jacob Zuma, in his State of the Nation Address in February 2017, mentioned that tourism was one of the focus areas in the Nine-Point Plan to reignite growth so that our economy can create much-needed jobs. This focus is deserved, acknowledging that tourist arrival numbers for the period of January to December 2016 increased to nine million, an increase of just over one million arrivals from 2015, representing a 13% growth in tourist arrivals.

This I believe can move into a double digit figure if there is a fundamental shift.

We too are mindful that South Africa's tourism sector, in order to surpass this, needs to adopt a developmental and capacity-building approach to thrive, and this has to come from the industry as a whole, not just government.

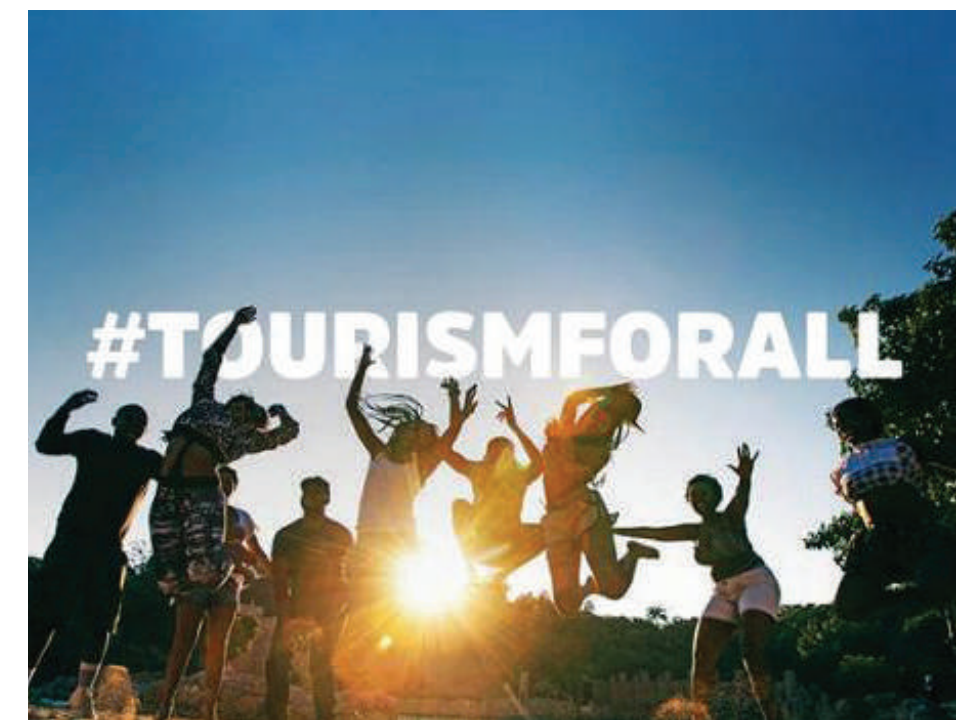
In staying true to our economic inclusivity and transformation agenda, at South African Tourism we continuously forge partnerships

with various organisations that provide SMMEs in the tourism sector with intensive training, mentoring and upskilling required to help make their business grow.

We also provide market access opportunities for these businesses through our strategic exhibitions to be showcased, marketed and enjoyed by different markets around the world. There is great untapped potential to groom new entrants and make this a diverse, vibrant and multifaceted tourism economy.

Ours is to work at growing this tourism pie and not splitting the little that exists. Here at home, we need to inculcate the value of tourism and get people to see it as a matter of national pride, something to experience and engage with. Once we get people – ordinary people like you and I – to travel our country, then we will understand that our role in this sector is immense.

Unity, the eradication of inequality and transformation need to be deliberately addressed in order to be sustainable. 



Business tourism thriving and more to come

By the Department of Tourism

The United Nations World Tourism Organisation is confident that international tourist arrivals in Africa will grow by between 5% and 6% in 2017.

Meetings Africa 2017 was held at the Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, from 27 February to 1 March 2017. It is South Africa's premier business tourism event and mirrored the success and achievement of the tourism industry in 2016. Meetings Africa is an important event on South Africa's tourism calendar. It is driven by a determination to raise the volumes for business and leisure tourism on the African continent. It is a key lever for the economic success of all our countries and for the well-being of all our people.

Every product and service on offer there represented opportunity: opportunities to

do more business, opportunities to create linkages to an extended value chain – food and wine, creative and cultural industries – and real opportunities for tourism to make a greater impact on South Africa and the African continent.

Africa is on the rise. Africa is innovating. Africa is at the forefront of scientific endeavour. Africa is constructing the most powerful radio telescope in the world, which will generate discoveries and new knowledge on a massive scale. In 2016, 58 million international tourists arrived in Africa – an increase of 8% over 2015.

Sub-Saharan Africa led the growth, with an 11% increase, and there has been a gradual recovery in North Africa. The United Nations

World Tourism Organisation is confident that international tourist arrivals in Africa will grow by between 5% and 6% in 2017.

Travel and tourism now contribute around 3,3% to Africa's gross domestic product and supports over nine million jobs directly, or 3% of total employment. The World Travel and Tourism Council forecasts that the number of jobs in tourism will grow this year.

The Department of Tourism is committed to working together with colleagues in sister countries to capture a greater share of international conferences and events.

Tourism is experiencing healthy growth in South Africa – international tourist arrivals broke through the 10-million mark last year. Arrivals from our sister countries in Africa grew by 11%, while overseas arrivals grew by a remarkable 18%.

Tourism is a significant economic sector around the world, and it now comprises 30% of all global service exports. About 1,2 billion international tourists travelled the world in 2016, and this trend is likely to continue

in the years to come. By working together and packaging Africa's unique offer more effectively, a very significant share of these travellers will visit these shores.

In the Budget Speech on 22 February, the former Minister of Finance, Pravin Gordhan, announced that the Department of Tourism had been allocated an additional R494 million to promote tourism over the next three years. This allocation indicated government's confidence in the great potential of the sector to grow, to support more jobs and small businesses, and to continue making such a meaningful contribution to the economy through our diverse value chain.

This money will be used wisely and effectively to promote tourism in a way that achieves inclusive, transformative growth.

South Africa already has a vibrant, established local travel industry. Leisure tourism and the business events industry hold massive potential to play an even more meaningful role in the economic transformation of South Africa and the continent.

Business events are already making an impact on the South African economy.

The South Africa National Convention Bureau commissioned an extensive three-year study to determine the economic value of the business events industry. The estimated total direct spend of

business tourists in South Africa was R42,4 billion in 2015. This is big money – more than R40 billion injected into the economy from one niche segment of tourism in a single year. And it is growing.

It is estimated that meetings, incentives, conventions and exhibitions supported about 280 000 direct and indirect jobs in South Africa in 2015. This includes jobs in the transport, infrastructure and other sectors. It comes at a time when creating jobs is one of the biggest challenges facing South Africa.

Some of the other interesting findings show that:

- The United States is South Africa's largest source market for business-event delegates, making up 12,5% of the total in 2015. The United Kingdom, Turkey, Nigeria, India and Australia also feature strongly in hosting business events here.
- Of all the business delegates coming to South Africa, about one-third travel around the country to experience some of its many attractions. This trend boosts the leisure tourism industry.
- Most business delegates — about 40% — are aged between 35 and 44 years. The likelihood of a return visit with family and friends is very high.
- Destinations such as Pilanesberg, Hermanus, Kruger National Park, Namaqualand, Sun City, Soweto, the Drakensberg and Port Elizabeth are starting to feature strongly on the leisure itineraries of delegates attending business events.
- More business events are being held outside the major centres. This is an encouraging trend, because we want to spread tourism geographically across all regions of the country, so that venues and communities in some of the lesser-known areas also benefit from tourism.

These insights into how the business events segment is developing can help spur it on to even greater heights.

Government is working in close partnership with the private sector to enable new entrants to come in and contribute to the tourism industry's diversity. In particular, the department is focussing on upskilling small tourism enterprises that create jobs, especially for the youth and women living in South Africa's rural areas.

These efforts support government's "5 in 5" strategy to attract five million additional



domestic and international travellers to South Africa in the next five years – including business travellers.

There is so much untapped potential for the entire African continent to grow as a premier destination for business events.

It's time for Africa to show its immense value to the rest of the world as a business event destination. We must strike while the iron is hot. It's an exciting and invigorating space to be in, with lots of good news coming out of tourism. As part of the increased budget allocation, National Treasury has approved a Bidding Fund to help attract more business events to South Africa. This groundbreaking fund will enable the country to bid aggressively for international association conferences, meetings, incentives and exhibitions.

National Treasury has allocated R20 million for the next financial year (2017/18) and R90 million for the following three years for the Bidding Fund. The fund will be a catalyst that propels the business events industry to a higher league.

It will enable the National Convention Bureau and provincial and city convention bureaus to support bidding processes, and will greatly enhance South Africa's chances of winning the rights to host business events.

African regional meetings and conferences have been identified as potential quick wins, and the Bidding Fund will give the department muscle to attract them.

The fund will focus on business events that are aligned with the priority economic sectors that government has identified for development. These include manufacturing, mining and metals, business process outsourcing, creative industries, life sciences and information and communications technology. Hosting major events in these sectors will reap rich macro-economic benefits for South Africa.

The Bidding Fund will also help boost delegate numbers at conferences and meetings that have already been secured.

Research shows that delegates want to experience South Africa's attractions before and after the events they attend here. They must be enticed to come here earlier, stay longer and bring more people with them to experience South Africa's abundant tourism offerings. The fund will help attract these high-value business tourists; so it's a giant step forward for the business event industry, and for tourism. 



Knowledge-based solutions to Africa's challenges

By Manusha Pillai

Director: Stakeholder Relations and Communications
Human Sciences Research Council

Knowledge derived from research outputs can drive innovation, which is described as the ability to translate research outputs into social innovations, novel products, processes and methods.

When we talk about impediments to national and African growth and development, the list of challenges is endless. These include the youth dividend and being able to leverage this meaningfully for development: water, food and energy security; climate change; leadership; quality healthcare; and most importantly, inclusive growth and development.

It is often said that we must collectively stop lamenting the challenges and begin to implement our plans and programmes to ensure that we can turn these challenges into opportunities to enable Africa to take its place, as a developed continent and economy, among the global community of nations.

In Africa, we have Agenda 2063 – the continent's first long-term plan for socio-economic development. In South Africa, we have the National Development Plan (NDP). The continent's development will be built on the growth and development of all 55 countries. Our NDP must therefore be implemented with deeper vigour and focus.

We must, in addition, begin to increasingly base our plans on knowledge-based trends and analyses. To this end, the Human Sciences Research Council has just concluded its Seventh Annual African Unity for Renaissance Conference, which brought together academics from around the continent to deliberate on the research trends and outcomes on a range of developmental issues. More than 100 established and emerging African researchers and scholars deliberated on emerging theories and practice in the fields of sustainable development, science and technology, green economy and

renewable energy, economics, environment and systems science.

Knowledge derived from research outputs can drive innovation, which is described as the ability to translate research outputs into social innovations, novel products, processes and methods. Herein will lie durable solutions to some of our most persistent challenges which are only gaining in intensity.

Although we are making progress in developing the knowledge base to support these solutions, work remains to be done.

Analyses of African outputs indicate that the number of research papers with at least one African author published in scientific journals has quadrupled from 1996 to 2012 while at the same time the share of the world's articles with African authors increased from 1,2% to 2,3%.

In South Africa during the 2015/16 period, 7 158 web of science publications originated from National Research Foundation-funded South African researchers, an increase of 10,3% from the previous year.

These figures can increase if the right investments are made in our human capital. We should not, however, be merely chasing the numbers of graduates, publications or papers.

The value of our academic investments must lie in the development of our continental intellectual and human capital to drive the solutions we so urgently require.

Recognising this, and with a view to bringing young minds into the conversation to enable their contribution to the solutions we must develop, and more importantly, implement, the 2017 conference included a PhD Colloquium. It also served as a capacity-building and skills-transfer opportunity with more established researchers and

academics engaging with younger emerging social scientists.

While the PhD is acknowledged as the best qualification for individuals in high-end research roles, it is equally known that we are not leveraging our youth dividend to produce sufficient numbers of such graduates who can lead our journey towards a knowledge economy which can benefit the almost one billion citizens on the continent.

In this regard, at the beginning of 2015, South Africa was producing about 38 PhD graduates per million of its population while most developed countries produced well over 100 PhDs per million.

This number was even lower in Africa. By increasing the numbers of PhDs, particularly at public education institutions, Africa will not only be able to increase its research capacity but also be better positioned to train the next generation of researchers.

Knowing what we know, are we willing to walk the walk and support the development of our human capital resources?

More importantly, will we value our human and intellectual capital and mobilise these to drive our collective development?

At the inauguration of the Organisation of African Unity in 1963, Kwame Nkrumah articulated his vision of Africa: "We shall accumulate machinery and establish steel works, iron foundries and factories; we shall link the various states of our continent with communications; we shall astound the world with our hydroelectric power; we shall drain marshes and swamps, clear infested areas, feed the undernourished, and rid our people of parasites and disease.

It is within the possibility of science and technology to make even the Sahara bloom into a vast field with verdant vegetation for agricultural and industrial developments".

Fifty-four years, later these words remain a vision.

Investing in, harnessing and promoting our intellectual and human capital can move this vision closer to reality.

Agenda 2063



THE AFRICA WE WANT

Our Aspirations for the Africa We Want

- A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
- An integrated continent, politically united, and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism
- An Africa of good governance, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
 - 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

Agenda 2063 is gaining momentum. It is time for action.
Be part of the transformation!



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The Most Beautiful Object in South Africa

The conference has been the highlight of South Africa's creative calendar since 1995, and has not only contributed vastly to uplifting the South African design sector, but has also been named the best design conference in the world.



The Design Indaba Conference, which is held annually in Cape Town, is a three-day showcase of the world's best creative minds, providing endless inspiration, new perspectives and universal solutions.

The conference has been the highlight of South Africa's creative calendar since 1995, and has not only contributed vastly to uplifting the South African design sector, but has also been named the best design conference in the world.

This year's conference was held from 1 to 3 March.

Each year, the Design Indaba's search for the Most Beautiful Object in South Africa for the year challenges notions of beauty in design, asking the public to vote for the best of 10 nominations.

The Most Beautiful Object in South Africa is an annual competition aimed at facilitating discussions around beauty and the public's perception of it. Ten celebrity influencers nominate what they think is the Most Beautiful

Object in South Africa, and the public then vote for their favourite object.

Last year, nominators like fashion designer Sindiso Khumalo and television presenter Katlego Maboe nominated the Kassena Town Cabinets by Dokter & Misses and the See-Saw-Do social enterprise, respectively. However, it was the shawl created by Laduma Ngxokolo that took top honours. In 2015, it went to the Boomslang in Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden.

This year's winner was textile designer Nkuli Mlangeni's beautiful Sankara Rug. The rug, which was inspired by Ndebele patterns and the Reed Dance, was woven using traditional methods by local artisans. It was important to Mlangeni that she created a modern, culture-rich design that still managed to celebrate and promote the traditional art of weaving.

Bielle Bellingham, Afro-optimist and Creative Director of Cordova Productions, nominated the Sankara Rug. The piece was designed by Mlangeni, founder of The Ninevites, a collaborative project and platform

to explore and celebrate black aesthetics. Bellingham said that the unique rug elegantly weaved tradition and the future, craft techniques and technology, "Africaness" and global appeal.

The other nominations and nominators were:

- Artwell Nwaila nominated the *Kariba* animated film trailer by Blue Forest Collective. The founder of the award-winning platform SA Creatives, Artwell Nwaila, threw his weight behind Blue Forest's *Kariba*, a viral teaser created ahead of a feature length film that promises to be completed in 2017. Based on a graphic novel that harnesses both mythology and history, *Kariba* has captured the imaginations of storytellers around the world. "I think it's fascinating how few seconds of beautifully crafted animated material have sparked so much excitement. I also love the African story that is being told," said Nwaila.

- Arye Kellman nominated The Hawker's Rocking Chair by Thebe Magugu and Emile Millward. The women selling their wares in downtown Johannesburg inspired renowned fashion designer Thebe Magugu to create The Hawker's Rocking Chair. In collaboration with craftsman Emile Millward, Magugu designed a chair that ties into his fashion range in a poetic way. Its nominator, creative director and radio broadcaster at Cliff Central, Arye Kellman, says that the crossing of disciplines creates a seamlessly integrated message, which "exercises non-confined creativity in its purest form".
- Victor Dlamini nominated the Moroccan Magic Dress by Nandi Mngoma and Inga Madyibi. Writer and photographer Dlamini believed that the subtle hues of the Moroccan Magic Dress put it in the running for the Most Beautiful Object in South Africa. The Moroccan Magic Dress is an example of delicate sensibility. According to its designers, it's a singular look that is at once fresh, feminine and reinforces the importance of collaboration.
- Roger Ballen nominated the Rockpool Coffee Table by Caroline Vieira. The ceramic tabletop is one of a series of platters and tiles that play on the "rockpool" theme. Using her signature combination of oxides and glazes atop a ceramic surface, Vieira replicated the movement of seawater and foam over a rock surface to create this distinctive piece.
- Siba Mtongana nominated the Indalo Backpack by Inga Gubeka. Celebrity chef Mtongana found the utmost beauty in what media sources described as one of the most unique and interesting products in the country. The wooden cylindrical backpack called the Indalo Backpack was designed by Eastern Cape entrepreneur Inga Gubeka. All Gubeka's products are made out of eco-friendly woods and leathers.
- Media entrepreneur and presenter Jo-Ann Strauss nominated the Butterfly Wall Installation by KwaZulu-Natal artist Mark Rautenbach. Inspired by the concept of a late 19th century industrial, classy gentlemen's club, the installation is made up of entomological specimen boxes that explore the relationship between the sweetness of butterflies and the destructive nature of fire. The Butterfly

DESIGN
INDABAMOST BEAUTIFUL
OBJECT IN SA

Wall resides in Luke Dale-Robert's newest restaurant, The Shortmarket Club.

- Alinah Selokane Missouri nominated Gqama Ntyatyambo by Loyiso Mkize. Director of ASM Fashion Consultancy, Missouri's career has been shaped by her love for fine design. Visual artist Mkize's surreal artworks had caught her eye. When he isn't working on *Kwezi*, South Africa's first black superhero comic book, he is creating multimedia works such as "Gqama Ntyatyambo" that explores the complex nature of African culture.
- Hanneke Schutte nominated the Joe Slovo West community project by Kevin Kimwelle. Love Story, a non-governmental organisation in

Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape, launched a project to help build a crèche in the impoverished community of Joe Slovo. Designed and built by the architect studio Collectif Saga, in partnership with Indalo and Love Story, the new crèche is an example of how "innovative thinking, collaboration and beautiful design can transform the lives of an entire community," said its nominator.

- Johannesburg-based artist Nakhane Toure nominated a sculpture by renowned artist Mohau Modisakeng. The piece was crafted to represent Modisakeng's own likeness and forms part of a larger travelling series, *Lefa La Ntate*, that features self-portraiture and a full-length sculpture. [U](#)



African filmmakers discuss the state of African cinema

By Romaana Naidoo

Media Club South Africa

Brand South Africa partnered with RapidLion to celebrate African filmmaking, particularly South African cinema.

Five of Africa's top independent filmmakers participated in a discussion panel at the 2017 RapidLion South African International Film Festival, sharing their thoughts on the state of African cinema and its future.

From 5 to 12 March 2017, the RapidLion South African International Film Festival showcased the best films and filmmakers of Africa, its Diaspora, and BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) members at the Market Theatre in Newtown, Johannesburg.

The festival included screenings of films and documentaries, as well as panel discussions and an awards ceremony. The workshops focussed on deepening mutual understanding, strengthening collaborative relations and exploring opportunities for growth and investment in the filmmaking industry.

Brand South Africa partnered with RapidLion to celebrate African filmmaking,

particularly South African cinema. Under the theme of *Inspiring New Ways*, the partnership aimed at soliciting ideas and perspectives from filmmakers and industry players on how African – and the South African Nation Brand – stories can be communicated in visual form, through compelling storytelling.

During a panel chaired by festival director Eric Miyeni, a diverse group of African directors spoke about their experiences working in the industry, promoting their films to a global audience and finding the spirit of true African storytelling.

The discussion focussed specifically around the theme of *How Should Cinema Reflect Africa Today?*

The five filmmakers were:

- David Mboussou, Gabonese director of the documentary series, *I am Congo*.
- Arthur Musah, United States (US)-based, Ghana-born documentary maker. His film, *Naija Beta*, follows Nigerian undergraduates returning home to host a robotics summer camp for high schools.
- South African documentarian Vincent Moloi. His documentary, *Skulls of My People*, is an in-depth look at the history of German colonialism in Namibia and its effect on the country's indigenous people.
- Steve Gukas, Nigerian director of the highly praised Ebola drama, *93 Days*, which stars Danny Glover.
- South Africa's Daryne Joshua, director of the critically acclaimed prison drama, *Noem My Skollie*.

Combating the legacy of Western voyeurism

Miyeni opened the discussion, highlighting the challenges of being an African filmmaker attempting to take African stories to the rest of the world. With a legacy of these stories

being told through a more Western/European lens, African filmmakers, he said, had a responsibility to represent the continent and its people more accurately. Filmmakers also needed to find the stories that have yet to be told, and take those stories to the world.

Mboussou concurred, aptly using an African proverb – “until lions are able to tell the story, hunters will always be the winners” – to encourage the sharing of ideas and knowledge between the continent's filmmakers and finding common ground to get more African stories told globally.

Musah, as American-Ghanaian, said it was important to get the stories he told right through diligent, honest research.

Gukas reiterated that African stories needed not fulfil conventional Western film narratives, but focussed on the human experience. “Africans can find any story to tell, good or bad, as long as it was mindful of the right sensibilities and responsibilities of telling those stories.”

Joshua, who with *Skollie* attempted to tell a different kind of story about South Africa's coloured community, said it was important to get the narratives right through cooperation and collaboration with the community whose stories filmmakers were attempting to tell.

What challenges exist within African cinema?

Miyeni asked panellists what they considered were the issues negatively impacting African storytelling in film.

Across the board, the panel agreed that combating African stereotypes in film was imperative.

Musah said as a filmmaker working in Africa and the United States of America, it was a difficult to not be influenced by the usual Western film tropes that characterised Africa in film. His role as filmmaker, in general, was to fight clichés and champion realism in the stories he told.

Moloi said that filmmakers, particularly documentarians, needed to treat their subjects with respect. Joshua added that even though it was sometimes challenging to find a positive angle in telling real stories,



audiences responded well to uplifting, optimistic storytelling even when dealing with difficult themes. Gukas said the most prevalent challenge to making great African cinema was overcoming the “white saviour complex” in films. Not only did the notion of idealising Western convention over realistic African stories impact the way the world sees the continent, more importantly, watching “Hollywood heroes” coming to Africa's rescue impacted the way African audiences see themselves.

From a marketing point of view, panellists agreed that filmmakers and audiences needed access to more platforms to see diverse products from small, independent African filmmakers who often got lost in the larger global cinema marketing machine.

More specialised film festivals were also needed with better access to online video platforms to get the word out and create a buzz around films, no matter how small, and to boost audiences.

How to make African cinema world class

Wrapping up the panel, Miyeni asked the filmmakers how the African film industry could compete with international film markets.

Joshua said that even with the exceptional technical skills the continent had built up



The feature film, *Noem My Skollie*, was South Africa's official selection to the 89th Annual Academy Awards in the category for Best Foreign Language Film Award.

The film tells the story of a young man in 1960s Cape Town who ends up in jail and barbers his skills as a storyteller to avoid being forced into the number gangs. It is based on the life of the scriptwriter John W Fredericks who is now 70 years old. This is a heart-lifting story of redemption that sends the audience on an action-filled roller coaster with a massive emotional impact. It is a film that delves with great authenticity into the culture of the coloured people of the Western Cape but it is a film for all to enjoy regardless of colour, creed or language.

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over the last few years, a focus must now be on writing and storytelling. While finding resources was easy – “all it takes is a pen and a page” – nurturing African writers with good, original and diverse stories was important.

Moloi repeated a call for not only finding new markets for African film, but to create our own markets. “Embrace new media, like online video sharing,” and find ways to control the editorial direction of the art form.

Also, as agreed by the entire panel, new funding models needed to be found that emphasised content over commerce.

Movie fans, journalists, bloggers and other influencers need to “be champions of African film and stories”, said Gukas. This kind of exposure will change the narrative of the African film industry and change global attitudes. The films are slowly being made, the world just needs to be told about them.

From a technical standpoint, Musah thought specialisation was key. “Perfect the craft, find new ways of doing things using the tools available.”



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.

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.





SA charity wins Laureus Sport for Good Award

The award was presented in front of a room packed full of the world's leading sport stars who rose to their feet to applaud the accolade.

In February 2017, the local charity, Waves for Change (W4C), received the Laureus Sport for Good Award presented by HSH Princess Charlene of Monaco at the annual Laureus World Sport Awards, in Monaco.

The Laureus Sport for Good Award is awarded to an organisation or individual who, in the opinion of the members of the Laureus World Sports Academy, has used the power of sport to overcome violence, discrimination

or disadvantage. The academy believes W4C has made an outstanding contribution to society through the medium of sport; making a significant impact on the lives of young people through their surf therapy programme.

The award was presented in front of a room packed full of the world's leading sport stars who rose to their feet to applaud the accolade. Collected by a delighted Tim Conibear, founding director of W4C, and Guyver Ngeyake, assistant site manager at the W4C Monwabisi Centre, Conibear spoke about the honour of receiving the award:

"On behalf of the Waves for Change team I want to say a huge thank you. The support Laureus has given us over the years has been invaluable, enabling us to develop the Waves for Change Programme and establish surf therapy as a legitimate way to help children from unstable communities struggling with

mental health issues. Having this recognition from Laureus reaffirms that what we are doing is working and inspires us to keep growing our efforts across the world."

Sean Fitzpatrick, Chairperson of the Laureus World Sports Academy, explained the academy's decision:

"The work being done by Tim and his team at Waves for Change is inspirational to say the least. Disadvantaged youth who are in desperate need of support and direction are given a new lease on life through surfing. It's an incredible success story and my fellow academy members were inspired by the work of the programme."

W4C, which is supported by Laureus Sport for Good, is pioneering surf therapy as a way to help young people from violent and unstable communities cope with the stress of their lives. Post-traumatic stress is common among South African youth but the W4C programme provides safe spaces, access to caring adults and weekly surf therapy sessions, which in turn build confidence and self-esteem in the children who participate, helping making them resilient to the trauma they face.

Since 2011, W4C has reached over 1 000 children and helped over 50 coaches achieve qualifications and skills in surf coaching, lifesaving, child protection, trauma counselling and computer training. When the programme first began, there were no female participants; now one third of the children taking part are girls.



Laureus is a global sports-based charity that works to improve the lives of young people.

The first Patron of Laureus was former President Nelson Mandela. At the inaugural Laureus World Sports Awards in 2000, President Mandela said: "Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. Sport can awaken hope where there was previously only despair". This has become the philosophy of Laureus and the driving force behind its work.

Laureus combines Laureus Sport for Good, the Laureus World Sports Academy and Ambassadors Programme and the Laureus World Sports Awards to form a unique organisation that uses the inspirational power of sport as a force for good.

Laureus was founded by its patrons, Richemont and Daimler, and is supported by its global partners, Mercedes-Benz and IWC Schaffhausen.

Since its inception, Laureus Sport for Good has raised over €100 million and supported over 150 projects worldwide, which use sport to tackle violence, discrimination and disadvantage. Laureus Sport for Good has helped to improve the lives of millions of young people in over 35 countries and is proving that sport can change the world. www.laureus.com



Surfing has since become one of the most popular sports in the township communities and young people are becoming mentally and physically healthier as a result.

The success of the programme has seen the W4C operation expand from one site to six – five in South Africa and one recently launched in Liberia. W4C are dedicated to continuing the work they do across the globe, reaching communities where mental health services are underresourced or stigmatised. www.waves-for-change.org

www.sport24.co.za / www.waves-for-change.org

SA hosts prestigious global event for entrepreneurs

GEC 2017 provided South Africa an opportunity to showcase its entrepreneurial prowess to the world. More than 6 000 delegates from 165 countries attended.

Every year, the Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC) gathers together thousands of entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, policymakers and other start-up champions to identify new ways of helping founders start and scale new ventures around the world.

At the week-long GEC, delegates make connections, gain insights, learn about new research and leave ready to renew their programmes, policy ideas or firm founder skills.

South Africa hosted the 2017 GEC from 13 to 16 March 2017 in Johannesburg. This was the first time this prestigious international event for entrepreneurs was held on the African continent. GEC 2017 provided South Africa an opportunity to showcase its entrepreneurial prowess to the world. More than 6 000 delegates from 165 countries attended.

Previous host cities include Medellín, Milan, Moscow, Rio de Janeiro, Liverpool, Shanghai, Dubai and Kansas City where it was launched in 2009 by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. The GEC featured a wide variety of sessions to explore what's next in a variety of topic areas, such as:

- innovative entrepreneurship education and support programmes to create that entrepreneurial mindset necessary to accelerate the growth of high-potential startups
- the power of data to serve as both a fuel for entrepreneurs as well as guide to shape the policies that help them flourish

- how start-ups are beginning to solve major global challenges such as with food and water
- identifying new trends in increasing the availability of early-stage capital
- exploring efforts to unleash the untapped potential of women and youth and more.

Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa officially opened the GEC on 14 March 2017, at the Sandton Convention Centre.

He said the congress provided many benefits for the African continent.

"It provides a unique opportunity for African entrepreneurs to interact with potential global partners; it enables entrepreneurs to engage with policymakers and business leaders; it is an avenue for mentorship, knowledge exchange and investment; and showcases African entrepreneurs, innovators and inventors alongside their global counterparts."

He said rapid changes ushered in by technological advances were transforming human experience and business culture everywhere.

"The theme for this congress – 'Digital Disruption' – is opportune and appropriate for a continent that is familiar with rapid change.

"We must recognise that digital disruption is a cornerstone of a modern, diversified economy. It is digital disruptors who redefine the competitive landscape as they strengthen knowledge-based economies," Deputy President Ramaphosa said.

"They enhance customer experiences of products and services, offering something fundamentally different and better. In Africa, they serve as development partners who

exploit digital innovation to bring improved basic services to communities in remote rural areas and impoverished urban settlements," he added.

Deputy President Ramaphosa said the GEC was about networking and collaboration.

"It recognises that there is no such thing as the ideal entrepreneur, just as there is no single model for entrepreneurial development. "But, there are common needs

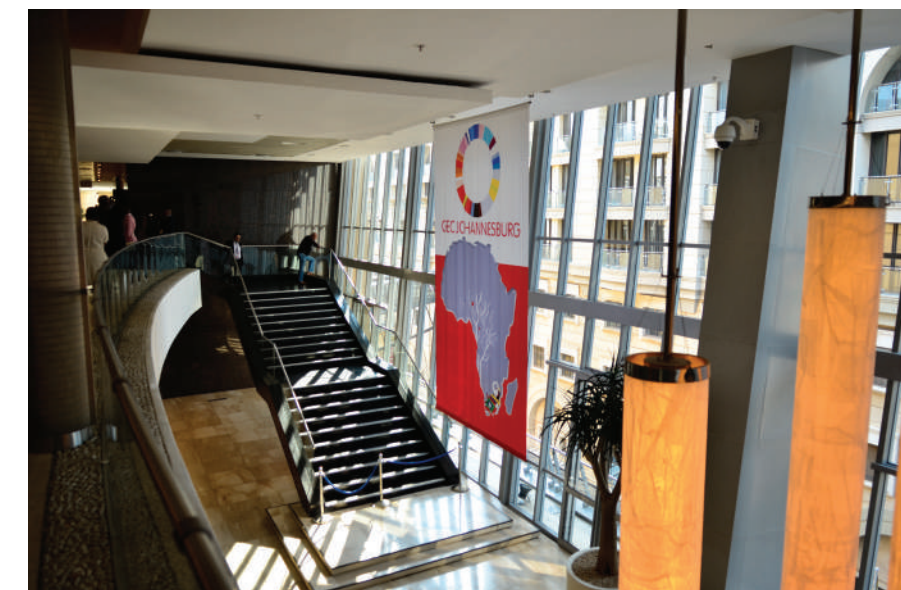


and interests. This congress goes a long way in connecting our entrepreneurs to the best resources and networks.

"It serves as an opportunity to enhance an entrepreneurial culture among our youth, women and people with disabilities and allows us to share new developments in start-up financing.

"Ultimately, we must foster an African Entrepreneurship Network where participants will collaborate well beyond this event in promoting intra-African trade."

The Deputy President invited entrepreneurs from the African continent and the world to collaborate with entrepreneurs in South Africa to start sustainable, profitable businesses that would create jobs. "We



urge you, our creative and courageous entrepreneurs, to apply your minds to the challenges of our continent."

The GEC was hosted by the Global Entrepreneurship Network, Sustainable

Entrepreneur Accelerator (SEA) Africa and the City of Johannesburg. SEA Africa is also custodian to the Global Entrepreneurship Network-South Africa (GEN-SA) chapter. [U](#)



"We must recognise that digital disruption is a cornerstone of a modern, diversified economy. It is digital disruptors who redefine the competitive landscape as they strengthen knowledge-based economies."

South African treasures: Celebrating our rich genetic resources and cultural heritage

By Pragashnie Adurthy

Formerly attached to the Geneva Mission in Switzerland (Global Governance and Continental Agenda),
Department of International Relations and Cooperation

Ancient crafts have flourished for many centuries in South Africa, together with a long history that has been transmitted verbally from one generation to another ...





In many ways, South Africa is a microcosm of the world. Together with sister nations on the African continent, South Africa is the library of the history of the Earth". (President Thabo Mbeki speaking at the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site in 2002)

With these powerful words, the former Minister of Home Affairs, Malusi Gigaba, opened the 2016 World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) General Assemblies, which was held from 3 to 11 October 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland. This was followed by the loud crescendo of African drums and energetic traditional dance, providing delegates with a tantalising glimpse of the rich cultural heritage of South Africa

South Africa hosted an exhibition under the theme: *Treasures of South Africa*, which showcased how its engagement in the activities of WIPO found expression in the management of national intellectual property.

The highly anticipated exhibition reflected South Africa's multicultural artefacts from which many artists and culture practitioners make a living. Ancient crafts have flourished for many centuries in South Africa, together with a long history that has been transmitted verbally from one generation to another

and the exhibition was an embodiment of the assimilation of indigenous cultural expressions that had retained their original uniqueness.

With growing international interest in the potential of cultural and creative industries, South Africa is increasingly drawing inspiration from its past and ever-evolving cultural industries as viable contributors to economic growth and job creation.

On display were authentic African craft products such as ilala baskets, fire-pebbled ceramics and ethically inspired fashion from South African indigenous designers who are firmly placing South Africa on the international fashion map. Inspired by cultural heritage and tradition, Africa comes alive through their creativity and imagination.

Pulsating African rhythm and storytelling
WIPO delegates were also treated to spectacular African dance, showcasing ancient and sacred traditions such as *Ingoma*, which was considered one of the most purist forms of Zulu dance performed to a chant during transition ceremonies, such as coming of age, weddings and pre-hunt or pre-battle time periods. The *Ingoma* is frantically danced and incorporates high kicking motion. Another famous dance

performed was *Indlamu*, the traditional male warrior dance that shows off muscular strength and mock fighting. Accompanied by energetic Tsonga and Tswana dances, South African pride in their cultural heritage was on full display. The troupe rounded off their dancing with *Septapa* and *Tsutsube* – unique, rhythmic and expressive dances used for storytelling and healing. It often takes the form of a trance dance, where a religious ritual is performed for healing the ill by clapping, dancing and chanting.

Fashion forward, Africa has arrived

The collections on display celebrated South African fashion designers who were embracing and reclaiming Africa's pride through the medium of fashion.

Designers drew inspiration from their natural environment and incorporated elements from forest plantations in the Natal Midlands to the oceans off Cape Town. Bold colours, textures and designs, steeped in cultural heritage and tradition, dominated the collection.

Laduma Ngxokolo is one of Africa's finest knitwear designers and a fashion-forward innovator. Drawing from his Xhosa heritage, he produced an inspired knitwear brand called MAXHOSA by LADUMA. Laduma

established the brand in 2011 with the desire to explore a knitwear design solution that would be suitable for the *amakwala* (Xhosa male initiates) traditional dress. As a person who had undergone the ritual, he felt the need to develop a premium knitwear range that celebrated traditional Xhosa beadwork aesthetics, using South African mohair and wool. Laduma is an agent of change, shifting and evolving with the changing times and engaging in dialogue that pushes Xhosa culture to the future.

Designer Hangwani Nengovhela brought a subtle African opulence to each collection with a continued commitment to design excellence and Rubicon Clothing presented their autumn collection using the shaginat material, inspired by the Mapungubwe landscape.

Ceramic creativity

Not to be left behind, South African ceramic artists were driven by the vision of sharing and reflecting the richness of African culture and its traditions. Thoughtfully and creatively put together, each piece was a masterpiece, reflecting the beauty of ancient African pottery methods. South African pottery artists are pushing traditional boundaries with their creative and innovative designs, using different kinds of clay to create intricate and delicate designs. Following centuries-old firing techniques, pots are pebbled-smoked to produce its sophisticated and glossy finish.

Jabu Nala, the eldest daughter of Nesta Nala, who learned the art of pottery from her mother, has been pushing boundaries with her recent collection of pots, breaking away from traditional Zulu beer containers

With growing international interest in the potential of cultural and creative industries, South Africa is increasingly drawing inspiration from its past and ever-evolving cultural industries as viable contributors to economic growth and job creation.

to more sculpted forms. Her latest collection of ceramic vessels demonstrates innovative design and form and strikes a fine balance between traditional Zulu and contemporary shapes. Made with red and grey clay, hand-dug and ground with a traditional Zulu grinding stone, Jabu's pots are all hand-coiled and smoothed before being burnished with river pebbles and decorated with incised patterns or added warts of clay using an ancient design called "Amasumpa".

Indigenous Rooibos wine

South Africa also introduced the international community to Rooibos wine, which has been referred to as a "game-changer" in the alcoholic beverage industry as it contains no sulphites or preservatives.

It is low in calories, contains high levels of antioxidants and no caffeine and has low levels of tannin. Using toasted indigenous woodchips of the Honeybush and Rooibos plant, which are only grown in the Western



The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) is the nodal point for intellectual property (IP) and was created in 1970 to replace the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property. Its primary objective is the promotion and protection of IP. Joining the United Nations family in 1974, WIPO has steadily undergone transformation, becoming more development-orientated and cognisant of the needs of its broader membership. Two-thirds of WIPO members are developing countries which successfully called for change in the status quo through the adoption of the Development Agenda in 2006, which mandated the organisation to mainstream development considerations throughout the work of the entire organisation. Once the domain of the developed world pushing narrow selfish interests, WIPO is heeding the calls of the South to ensure that is a fully representative and member-driven organisation.

In line with this paradigm shift, South Africa is also working on a Draft National Policy on IP, which calls for reforms to South Africa's IP laws and the adoption and implementation of substantive examination.



Cape, the wine has a distinctive local flavour. Patent applications have been lodged in 83 jurisdictions worldwide and currently, the European Union recognises both Rooibos and Honeybush as geographic indicators, which bodes well for the local industry and the facilitation of sustainable development and job creation.

We are “All-From-One”

South Africa is home to the Cradle of Humankind, which provides cogent evidence that humans and their ancestors evolved in Africa before migrating across the world. Buried deep within the limestone caves of Sterkfontein, Swartkrans and Kromdraai lie fossil records that tell the life story of our ancestors millions of years ago. Well-preserved and boasting rare complete fossils, it provides the earliest record of human evolution, laying to rest arbitrary theories of racial supremacy.

Minister Gigaba reminded the delegates that: “Evidence of the early civilisations and way of life of our ancestors are being uncovered daily, restoring to our people a great and profound pride at the knowledge that our ancestors were not only the sources of primitive life, but above all else they were the sources of early knowledge, science, mathematics and other civilisations. Rapidly, the lie, spread over centuries and enforced viciously through propaganda, that the African people had no role in civilisation and development, and had no culture, is being exposed by science and the truth”.

The *All-from-One* Exhibition provided scientific evidence about our shared human origins and the shared origins of all life forms in order to challenge commonly held ideas about humankind and our place in nature.

While we are unique, the exhibition highlighted that we all shared strong bonds of similarity with other people based on a deeply rooted common humanity.

As a species, we are but one twig among millions on the tree of life that sustains us all.

The exhibition celebrated South Africa’s innovation in the sciences with regard to the origins of humanity and showcased the novel ways in which science could be used around the world to promote tolerance, diversity, social cohesion and inclusive, sustainable conservation of our Earth’s natural biodiversity.

It was fitting that South Africa could remind the international community that all living humans originated from one ancestor in Africa and that contrary to popular belief, Africa, especially South Africa, was indeed the library of the history of the world.



Work of WIPO

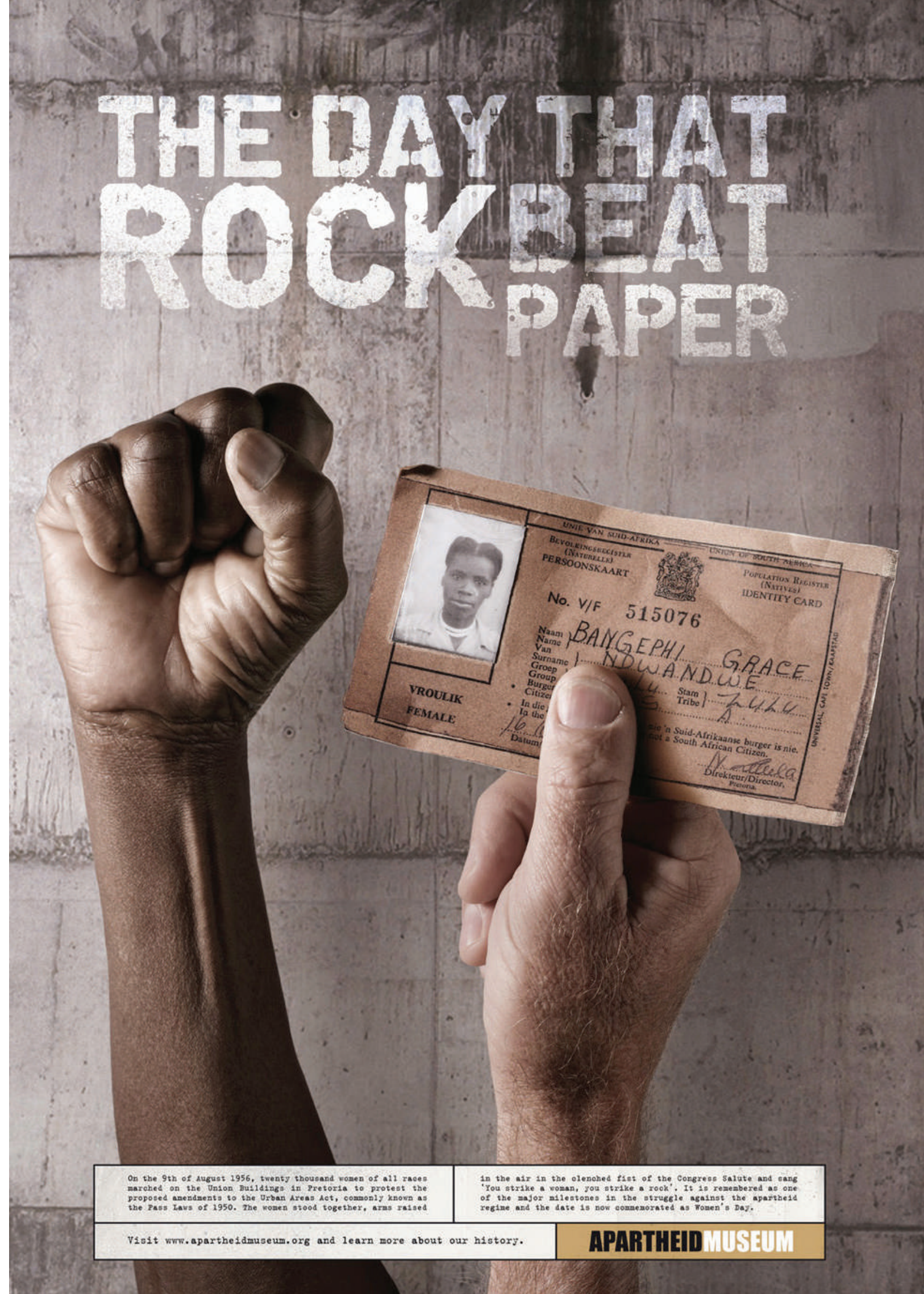
The exhibition was successful in drawing attention to the importance of the promotion, preservation and protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions and Traditional Knowledge (TK), which was the oldest form of knowledge known to mankind. It also highlighted the critical need to prevent the misappropriation of genetic resources. The current Intellectual Property Regime does not adequately protect TK as much of it is owned by the community and is passed on from generation to generation. However, due to sustained pressure from developing countries, especially the African Group and Latin American States, WIPO has recognised the need to protect TK through the adoption of a legal instrument.

A fierce advocate within the developing country bloc, South Africa has played an active and instrumental role in drawing attention to the importance of preventing the misappropriation of secret and sacred knowledge as well as pushing for Disclosure of Origin of genetic resources and associated

TK in patent applications and other forms of intellectual property claims. The Intergovernmental Committee on Genetic Resources, TK and Traditional Cultural Expressions is currently working on finalising discussions on the text which, if agreed by consensus, would lead to a diplomatic conference to adopt a legal instrument.

As we look towards creating a sustainable world and promoting development and economic growth, we can often draw on our rich cultural heritage which has grown exponentially in value. Standing on the threshold of the Knowledge Economy, Africa may be the richest of them all when it comes to ancient TK.

In order to capitalise on this treasure trove, we need to pay heed to Minister Gigaba’s poignant words: “Those of us alive today are an important link between the past and the future, ourselves repositories of the great knowledge of our origins as well as of the future treasures of tomorrow’s generations”.



On the 9th of August 1956, twenty thousand women of all races marched on the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest the proposed amendments to the Urban Areas Act, commonly known as the Pass Laws of 1950. The women stood together, arms raised

in the air in the clenched fist of the Congress Salute and sang 'You strike a woman, you strike a rock'. It is remembered as one of the major milestones in the struggle against the apartheid regime and the date is now commemorated as Women's Day.

Visit www.apartheidmuseum.org and learn more about our history.

APARTHEID MUSEUM

South African Mint reveals new colour coins



Collectable coins, such as the new colour coin range, are a great way of celebrating and commemorating significant events, people and the overall heritage of a nation.



The South African Mint revealed the first-ever South African colour coins at the highly successful inaugural Cape Town Flower Show, held from 27 to 30 October 2016, at the Castle of Good Hope. The crown-sized coins are a first-of-a-kind innovation in South Africa that sees colour applied to coins.

In 2015, the South African Mint launched the UNESCO Man and Biosphere coin range, celebrating the rich diversity of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve. It was this inaugural range that inspired the creation of the new colour coins, which depict the fauna and flora of the Kogelberg area.

This latest range consists of two R5 (1 oz) sterling-silver coins depicting flowers and two R10 (1 oz) sterling-silver coins depicting birds – all in colour. Only 500 of each coin will be minted. The first R5 coin features a beautiful flowering blue-bearded disa, while the second coin depicts the striking Hermanus cliff gladiolus, situated in its natural habitat of rocky sandstone outcrops

and cliffs. The first R10 coin features the vibrant orange-breasted sunbird displaying its colourful plumage of bright metallic blue, violet, olive green, orange and yellow. The second R10 coin features a male Cape rock-jumper with its dark rufous breast and belly.

On the common obverse of the four coins is a map of South Africa indicating the location of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve.

The coins were launched at the well-attended Cape Town Flower Show, where the South African Mint sponsored the Floral Theatre, Leon Kluge's Origami Garden and the popular Master Florist competition. The Floral Theatre showcased the beautiful world of cut flowers with curated, floral displays in four themes: wedding, gifting, celebration and indigenous.

The Master Florist competition was a popular feature of the flower show, where 12 floral artists, ranging from amateur to professional-level, were pitted against each other over the four days. The 12 finalists, shortlisted from a nationwide search that began months before the event, were

challenged to show their flower design skill for the main prize of R20 000 and their very own sterling-silver colour coin, sponsored by the South African Mint.

"Through coin-making, we view ourselves as narrators of the rich heritage of our country," said Tumi Tsehlo, Managing Director of the South African Mint. "This is a role we take seriously as the official mint of South Africa, and one that has provided us with opportunities to innovate."

"We proudly present an aspect of our natural heritage, for the first time in glorious colour."

"These collectable coins are not only for avid coin collectors; we are thrilled to see how well they were received by the general public, both young and old, at the Cape Town Flower Show."

Collectable coins, such as the new colour coin range, are a great way of celebrating and commemorating significant events, people and the overall heritage of a nation.

The South African Mint has invested in the technology which makes the manufacturing of these special colour coins a reality and ensures that the entire product is manufactured locally.

These collectable colour coins are available for purchase at the South African Mint retail store in Centurion, Gauteng. 🇿🇦

The South African Mint has invested in the technology which makes the manufacturing of these special colour coins a reality and ensures that the entire product is manufactured locally.



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Flying the SA flag

Pretty Yende shines in New York

South African singing sensation, Pretty Yende, started 2017 off with a bang! The soprano's successful international career took another positive turn in New York when she unexpectedly stepped in to perform in Bellini's *I Puritani* at the Metropolitan Opera after lead Diana Damrau, revered as one of the greatest singing actresses, fell ill.

The press and opera fraternity raved, saying Yende's performance was "a triumph" and "spectacular in every way". It was even more notable

as she had only sung the role once before, in a non-traditional production last year in Zurich. In February 2017, Pretty Yende was the winner of the Ubuntu Arts and Culture Diplomacy Award (Youth).

The annual awards, hosted by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, are held to celebrate South African citizens who play an active role in projecting a positive image of South Africa internationally through their good work.

www.channel24.co.za



SA tourist guide appointed as President of WFTGA

In February 2017, the World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations (WFTGA) appointed a South African tourist guide as its new President.

Alushca Ritchie, a registered tourist guide in the Western Cape, was appointed to head the internationally recognised body at the 17th biennial World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations Convention, which took place in Tehran, Iran.

Ritchie has been a wine specialist for the last six years.

She owns and manages a tourism business and has served as the Chairperson of the Cape Tourist Guides Association, a director on the Cape Town Tourism Board and as the Western Cape Representative of the South African Travel Services Association.

The WFTGA is a not-for-profit, non-political organisation comprising tourist guide associations, individual tourist guides, educational institutions and other members who have a direct or indirect association with tourist guides. It is an Affiliate Member of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation.

The President of WFTGA serves for a two-year term and is supported by an Executive Board made up of delegates from Australia, Iran, United States of America, Canada and the United Kingdom.

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

"I look forward to representing all tourist guides on an international platform. This will be a great opportunity to learn and to promote



a sector which is very rarely recognised as a profession, although it is an integral component of the tourism value chain," Ritchie said. www.brandsouthafrica.com

Minister Radebe appointed to WEF Stewardship Board

MINISTER RADEBE JOINS THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM STEWARDSHIP BOARD

Minister in the Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and Chairperson of the National Planning Commission, Jeff Radebe has been appointed to the Stewardship Board of the World Economic Forum (WEF) System Initiative on the Future of Education, Gender and Work (EGW).



In January 2017, the Minister in The Presidency responsible for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Jeff Radebe, was appointed to the Stewardship Board of the World Economic Forum (WEF) System

Initiative on the Future of Education, Gender and Work. Minister Radebe was invited to join the board which comprises 20 to 40 global leaders drawn from the public and private sectors.

According to the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, the opportunity came along the lines of South Africa's trusted partnership with WEF. He will be expected to provide leadership on selected issues relating to education, gender and work.

"I am pleased to be part of a board that seeks to cultivate collective leadership on public-private initiatives, with the objective of ensuring that eight billion people worldwide can live up to their full potential by developing and deploying their talent for maximum benefit to the economy and society," said Minister Radebe.

The WEF annual meeting gathers leaders from all sectors of society to discuss the global economy and look for solutions to challenges through public-private cooperation. SAnews.gov.za

Stellenbosch Wine Routes become triple champion



The Stellenbosch Wine Routes organisation has again been singled out from its peers in leading wine regions of the world.

Having claimed titles in 2014 and 2015, Stellenbosch Wine Routes was again named winner of the category for Best Promotional Body in the competition organised by the respected journal, *Drinks International*.

The award recognises Stellenbosch Wine Routes for its commitment and excellence. The judges paid particular attention to consumer-facing initiatives that enticed visitors to the region. The championship seeks to recognise innovation and excellence while the categories reflect the

strategy, proposition, investment and creativity required to turn a region into an attractive long-term tourist attraction.

"The achievement is as significant for Stellenbosch as it will be for the wider South African wine tourism industry. The Stellenbosch Wine Routes network itself represents more than 200 wine and grape producers in the boundaries of the Stellenbosch Wine of Origin classification," shares Stellenbosch Wine Routes Manager, Elmarie Rabe.

A cornerstone attraction to millions of tourists every year, Stellenbosch has made its influence felt in numerous fields, including history, culture, natural beauty, sport and education, around the globe. As for a premium wine offering, Stellenbosch has had one of the longest associations with viticulture in the country. When it launched the wine route in 1971, it was the first in the country to establish such an organised network.

The Stellenbosch Wine Routes now include five sub-routes that each have their own characteristics in terms of prominent wine styles, climates and geographical location.

As part of the Cape Winelands, the Stellenbosch Wine Routes are part of the six most popular tourist attractions in South Africa and are also connected to the global Great Wine Capitals Network.

www.iol.co.za

SA celeb chefs wins "Best English Cookbook by a Celebrity Chef"

TV chef and cookbook author, Zola Nene, recently scooped "Best English Cookbook by a Celebrity Chef" at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards. This means that she now qualifies for the next "Gourmand Best in the World" competition to be held in China in October. The cookbook that stole the show was Zola's *Simply Delicious*,

which was launched in February 2016. The book is a celebration of her food philosophy and focusses on various stages of the chef's life.

She came out tops against other top chefs from the United Kingdom, United States of America, Australia, Bangladesh, India, New Zealand and Sweden. www.food24.com



Top honours for SA diplomat



South Africa's former ambassador to the United Nations, Ambassador Kingsley Mamabolo, has been appointed as Joint Special Representative and Head of the African Union (AU)-United Nations (UN) Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

Ambassador Mamabolo's appointment was announced on 4 April 2017 by UN Secretary-General, António, Guterres, and AU Commission Chairperson, Moussa Faki. Ambassador Mamabolo had been serving UNAMID as Acting Joint Special Representative since the departure of Martin Ihoeghian Uhomobhi of Nigeria on 4 January 2017.

The UN and the AU said Ambassador Mamabolo brought "first-hand experience in dealing with the situation in Darfur, as well as expertise from his distinguished career in the diplomatic service". Since 2016, he had served the mission as Deputy Joint Special Representative for Pillar I, overseeing political, human rights and legal aspects of UNAMID's activities.

Flying the SA flag

CNN lists La Tête as one of 2017's top new restaurants



Early in January 2017, CNN released a list of 18 new restaurants across the globe that food lovers should be visiting this year – and a Cape Town eatery cracked the nod.

La Tête restaurant on Bree St was listed as one of the “best new restaurants for 2017”. The article rounded up the top new restaurants openings around the world in places as far flung as Switzerland, New York, Japan, Los

Angeles, Mexico and New Zealand. The entry for La Tête in the CCN article went as follows: ““Brothers Giles and James Edwards are behind this new French bistro which is all about nose-to-tail eating.

“Situated in Cape Town's increasingly popular Bree Street restaurant landscape, part of their goal is to get diners to embrace otherwise unfamiliar parts of the animal.

“It's no surprise that Giles worked for years with the godfather of nose-to-tail chefs, Fergus Henderson, at London's peerless St John restaurant. The menu changes daily but will include plates such as crispy pig tails.”

Giles Edwards, Chef Patron at La Tête, commented: “It's great to get such recognition so early on from a media organisation with CNN's reach and influence.

We've already had international visitors flocking in, and going away and satisfied with what we do. Our style of cooking seems to have hit the spot.”

He added that the locals were also discovering and enjoying his nose-to-tail cuisine. “We've had a great response from locals.

“Our food is simple, the freshness and honest flavours are paramount in each dish.”

www.bizcommunity.com

"TIME" names Trevor Noah one of the “Next Generation Leaders”

TIME Magazine recently revealed its list of Next Generation Leaders that included South African comedian Trevor Noah.

The list comprises 10 young innovators and rising stars that run the gamut from innovative artists and impressive athletes to risk-taking activists and groundbreaking entrepreneurs.

The magazine praises Noah for his impressive rise to fame and his work as host of *The Daily Show*, which has seen a massive rise in international viewership.

South Africa's Trevor Noah is one of the most successful comedians in Africa and is the host of the Emmy and Peabody Award-winning *The Daily Show* on Comedy Central.

This year, *The Daily Show* was nominated for a Writers Guild Award (Comedy/Variety Series). Noah joined *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart in 2014 as a contributor.

www.channel24.co.za



Player of the Tournament Award for Junior Bok



In June 2017, Junior Springbok No 8, Juarno Augustus, was named the World Rugby U20 Championship Player of the Tournament as the curtain came down on the three-week tournament at a glittering function in Tbilisi, Georgia. Augustus, fondly known as “Trokkie”

by his teammates, crossed the tryline in each of the team's five matches in the international spectacle to finish the tournament with a grand total of seven tries. This marked the most tries by a player in the 2017 tournament.

Augustus touched down twice against France in their opening match of the tournament, with his second try being the vital try to draw the match, while he scored once against Georgia and Argentina, twice in the semi-final against England and added another in the bronze playoff against France on Sunday.

He went up against England captain Zach Mercer and his teammate Gabriel Ibotye, and New Zealand's Tiaan Falcon and Will Jordan

for the prestigious award. “It is a surreal feeling to win this award,” Augustus said. “I didn't think I would win it.

“It is an honour and privilege for me, and certainly a highlight in my career.

“I'd like to thank my teammates, coaches and the public who voted for me. I'd also like to thank my family for their unwavering support throughout my career. This is a very special moment.”

The Junior Boks finished third in the tournament after beating France 37-15 in the bronze playoff.

New Zealand's Baby Blacks were crowned champions after thumping England 64-17 in the final. www.sport24.co.za

“Modder en Bloed” wins award at American Film Festival

Modder en Bloed won the prestigious Audience Choice Award – Best Feature Drama – at the annual Sedona International Film Festival in Phoenix, United States of America, in February 2017. Writer, director and producer, Sean Else, was in Sedona to accept the award and hailed it as a tremendous team effort from all involved with this film.

He said: “It's great to get the recognition and appreciation from an audience outside of South Africa; these awards mean the most

as they are voted for by the public.” This was the fourth international film festival where *Modder en Bloed* was selected in the Official Competition Section. This is also the first Competition Award.

Producer, Llewellynn Greeff, said: “Playing in festivals around the world is a wonderful tribute to all involved with the production, and it certainly helps with international sales and distribution. We are incredibly proud of everyone”. www.sapeople.com



SA adventurer powers to new world record



In March 2017, South African Big Wave Surfer and Guinness SUP World Record Holder, Chris Bertish, completed the first, solo, unsupported Transatlantic SUP Crossing.

Bertish set off on the greatest ocean adventure ever attempted from the coast of Morocco on 6 December 2016 and traversed 4 050 nm/7 500 km, paddling 1 944 000 strokes across the Atlantic Ocean for 93

days, to reach the finish in English Harbour, Antigua.

Bertish paddled to the English Harbour shores to receive a hero's welcome and flotilla on the water to guide and encourage him to the finish line. Chris' brothers, locals and project supporters from around the globe turned out to watch the dramatic arrival take place.

As the nearly 20' specialised SUP craft, the *ImpiFish*, shoved to shore for the first time in three months, after much cheering, hugging and tears of joy, Chris commented: “If you truly believe in yourself and persevere, anything is possible, and here we are. After over three months solo on the open ocean, I am here, on land again with friends and family – my feelings of accomplishment and extreme gratitude for everyone that made this incredible journey possible are beyond words”.

The SUP Crossing will continue raising funds for several charitable organisations, including The Lunchbox Fund, Operation Smile and Signature of Hope. Bertish personally committed to funding one operation for a child in Africa through Operation Smile for every world record he achieved on this epic transatlantic journey.

And he achieved many of them, including a new world record for a 24-hour solo unsupported and unassisted open ocean distance SUP. www.news24.co.za

SA scientist recognised at 19th L'oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science Awards

The 19th edition of the L'Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science Awards International Rising Talent gala dinner took place in March 2017 in Paris. Dr Stephanie Fanucchi was one of 15 young female scientists recognised for her innovative research in cancer and auto-immune diseases.

She is a postdoctoral researcher at the Biomedical Translational Research Initiative, an initiative of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and the University of Cape Town.

“Winning this award has been surreal,” said Dr Fanucchi, “and being exposed to such great scientific

talent has been a life-changing experience. Having the platform to discuss the importance of having more women in science has been a highlight for me. In addition, we get to celebrate phenomenal female scientific achievements, which can inspire young girls who want to enter science.”

In congratulating Dr Fanucchi, the Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor, said: “It is pleasing to see our young scientists being recognised internationally for the sterling research they do. This is proof that we are as good as anybody else in the world, if not even better”.

www.dst.gov.za



Flying the SA flag

Nandi Zama becomes first black woman to command C-130 Military Cargo Plane

Nandi Zama (31) has recently flown into the history books by becoming the first black woman commander (the equivalent of a civilian captain) to fly the C-130 military cargo plane.

Nandi made her maiden journey on Friday, 24 March 2017, when she flew the C-130 from the Democratic Republic of Congo to Waterkloof Air Force base in Gauteng, South Africa.

The South African-born pilot said in an interview four years ago that she had joined the military in 2004 straight from high school, and then “there was a year of military training”, followed by aerodynamics.

In 2006, she received her wings after attending central flying school, and in 2007 she was transferred to 41 Squadron.

She is now in 28 Squadron.

Lieutenant Colonel Ntsikelelo Mantshongo, SA National Defence Force spokesperson, said Nandi’s history-making command of the four-engine military plane C-130 came



with major responsibility. He said: “If there’s a mission and she needs to take the aircraft, she needs to assemble a team that includes specialists on board.

The plane can take up to 160 people.” Nandi has already been flying the aircraft

for four years, but this was her first time as commander.

She described the experience as something that could not be explained in words. “You just have to be there to experience it,” she said.

www.sapeople.com

British Ecology Award for UCT student



At the end of March 2017, University of Cape Town (UCT) ecologist, Gabriella Leighton, won a British Ecological Society Young Investigator Prize.

One of only five awarded each year, it recognises the best research papers

published in society journals by early-career scientists.

Leighton, 23, won the Robert May Prize for the best paper in methods in ecology and evolution in 2016 for “Just Google It: Assessing the Use of Google Images to Describe Geographical Variation in Visible Traits of Organisms”.

The prize, which includes a year’s British Ecological Society membership plus a year’s subscription to the journal, will be presented at the society’s annual meeting in Belgium, in December.

It is awarded for an important contribution in converting one aspect of field ecology to a desktop science, and Leighton’s paper shows how Google can help make ecology cheaper, faster and safer in the future.

Leighton analysed online image data across a range of species, from black bears in western North America to black sparrow

hawks in South Africa, comparing data on their colour collected by fieldworkers with data from Google images, and found the online images are reliable.

To make the method accessible, Leighton’s paper includes a web application, Morphec, that allows the approach to be widely implemented.

Leighton is reading for her Master’s degree at UCT, where she completed her Honours in Biological Sciences, supervised by Dr Arjun Amar, a co-author of her paper.

“I am extremely honoured, I never thought I would get this award. I am only at the very beginning of my career. It is a huge accolade.”

She said her passion for ecology grew from her love of animals. “I decided to study zoology at a young age. I love animals and nature, and have an appreciation for all kinds of animals, especially cats.”

www.lol.co.za

Terry Pheto wins international film award

Terry Pheto recently took home the award for Best Supporting Actress at the National Film Awards UK for her role in *A United Kingdom*.

On the news of her win, Terry expressed her excitement and thanks on Instagram. Alongside a picture of her with her award she wrote, “I won. I won. I won. Thank you #NationalFilmAwardsUK”.

The ceremony was held at the Prochester Hall in London at the end of March 2017 where Terry walked the carpet in a dazzling Thula Sindi design. www.channel24.co.za



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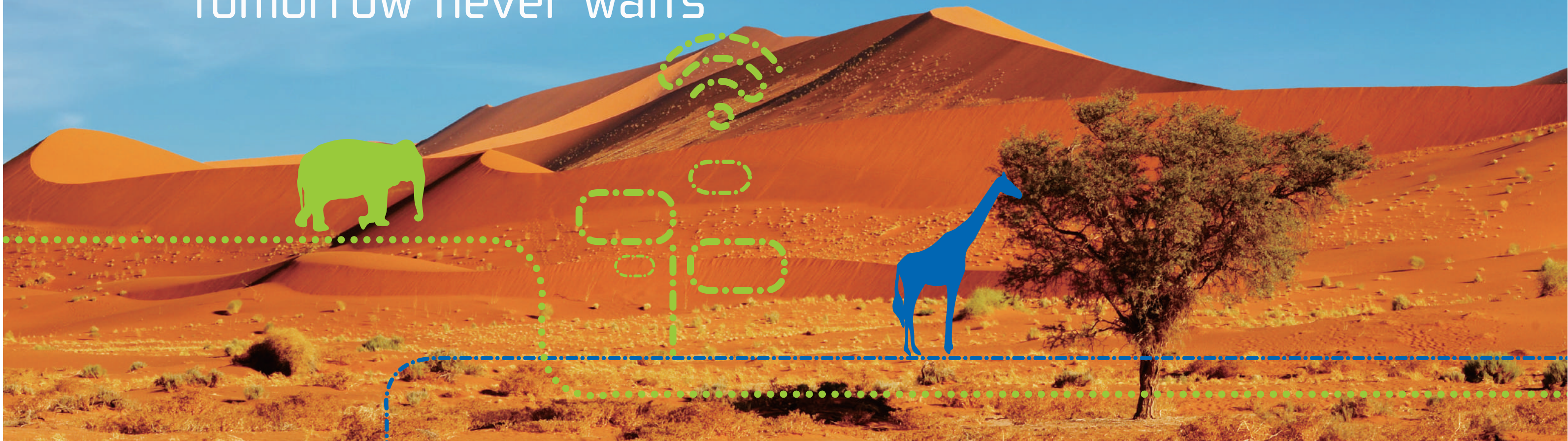
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Minister Zulu launches French South African tech labs

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

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

The primary goal of this partnership is to transform ideas and projects into sustainable businesses and to create dozens of jobs in the next few years.

This launch was a build-up to the Global Entrepreneurship Congress, which was held in March this year – for the first time on the African continent.



ACSA ranked among 10 most punctual in the world

The Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) has recently been ranked among the 10 most punctual airports in the world.

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

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

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

OAG Aviation Worldwide tracks a minimum of 80% of the flights that operate at an airport for it to be included in the Punctuality League. According to the league, the top 20 airports in the large airport category ensured that 83,9% arriving and departing flights operated under 15 minutes of their scheduled arrival and departure times last year. [SAnews.gov.za](#)



Cape Town International voted Africa's best airport

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

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

These include comfort, services, security and cleanliness as well as free wifi, pay-to-use lounges and budget-friendly food options.

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

Travellers were consistently happy with the terminals' cleanliness, simplicity and helpful, friendly staff as well as perks such as free wifi.

While no African airports made it into the world top 10, three South African airports are in Africa's top 10.

Johannesburg's OR Tambo came in at number four and Durban's King Shaka International was at number six.

[www.timeslive.co.za](#)



Table Mountain Cableway welcomes its 26 millionth visitor in record time

Table Mountain Cableway recently welcomed its 26 millionth visitor to the mountain, with the latest million visitors having taken a record-breaking 11 months to reach!

On a busy morning at the Lower Station Ticket Office, Elbie Mattheus from Cradock, Eastern Cape, stood unsuspecting as the numbers ticked closer to the million mark.

Surprised by fanfare and balloons, Elbie (accompanied by boyfriend Morne Viljoen) received a prize from the Cableway, including Cableway tickets, a Table Mountain Café voucher, Shop at the Top merchandise, a Monopoly Cape Town set and a Jiva Grande Spa signature treatment followed by a delicious Afternoon Tea for two at the prestigious Taj Cape Town Hotel. "This is my first time going up the mountain, so what an amazing surprise to be Cableway's 26 millionth visitor," said Elbie. "With limited time in Cape Town, this is definitely a must-do experience. I cannot wait to take in the views from the top." Cableway Managing Director, Wahida Parker, said it had taken 28 years for the Cableway to record its first millionth visitor – in 1957. But thanks to consistent visitor numbers throughout 2016 and an increase in visitors during the usually quiet, colder months of winter, the Cableway was able to celebrate reaching the latest million visits in just 11 months.

"As proud custodians of South Africa's New7Wonder of Nature we not only look forward to welcoming many more visitors to the Cableway but aim to showcase this magnificent attraction with continued excitement, respect and passion," said Parker. [www.sapeople.com](#)



Feeling at home at Jamie's Italian in South Africa

Famed British chef Jamie Oliver has made another addition to his Jamie's Italian restaurant chain. The newest branch, in Johannesburg, opened to diners in December.

The spacious setting can seat up to 300 people, but it is easy to feel at home with the warm, earthy tones of the décor, the wooden tables, the rustic chandeliers in the private dining area and the assortment of pictures hanging on the walls. Jack de Wet, head of design and development for the Jamie Oliver Restaurant Group in the United Kingdom, has drawn influence from South Africa's heritage for the design. Originally from the Western Cape, De Wet has a postgraduate degree in Architecture from the University of Cape Town.

"South Africa has an abundance of material to work with," he says. "The centre of it all, Joburg, is known as the city of gold with a nod to the industrialisation of the gold-mining industry.

"We have used these elements in the materials, patterns and detailing of the design, without it being too obvious. This can be seen in the intricate metalwork balustrade and screen details."

Leanne van Wyk, the Marketing Manager, says the Jamie's Italian restaurants all over the world incorporate regional touches into their design. "By drawing inspiration from indigenous prints, national colours and key industries, Jamie's Italian aims to become part of the culture and vibe of South Africa but also contribute to it," she says.

Its doors officially opened on 15 December 2016 after months of hype and anticipation, Van Wyk says. [www.brandsouthafrica.com](#)



dti to spend R216 million on upgrading industrial parks

A R216-million upgrade of five industrial parks would have a positive impact immediately with most of the labour and construction materials being procured from local areas, the Department of Trade and Industry (the dti) said recently.

The department said in a statement that it had identified a need to revitalise industrial parks around the country, mainly in the former homelands, as part of efforts to promote industrialisation, manufacturing and job creation.

The first phase of revitalisation of the Nkowankowa, Ekandustria, Bodirelo, Phuthaditjhaba and Garankuwa industrial parks had been approved late last year. The department said the programme would be implemented in four phases, with the first being the upgrading of security infrastructure.

The Minister of Trade and Industry, Rob Davies, said: "We would like to see these parks operating as centres of excellence and beehives of economic activity, contributing to the growth and diversification of our economy.

"The revitalisation process will ensure that the upgraded parks appeal to private investors, provide a conducive environment and attract investments that will create jobs and assist in promoting economic transformation," Minister Davies added. – Africa News Agency





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Joburg zoo gets world accreditation

Midrand's Lory Park Animal and Owl Sanctuary has received its Pan-African Association of Zoos and Aquaria accreditation, making it one of only six institutions in Africa to be accredited.

"By being an accredited member, we go through a gruelling auditing process where absolutely everything is scrutinised. Auditors look at all aspects of the work done at the zoo.

"This includes, but is not limited to, safety, veterinary care provided for the animals, diets, husbandry, enrichment practices and all procedures put in place by the facility," said the assistant park manager, Kara Heynis. Lory Park did not only attain accreditation but has also been given a spot with the International Zoological Educators, of which there are only four on the continent.

The park was founded by Edward van Eck, who retired from his construction company to start a bird park in Midrand.

It was launched in April 2000, and many people began bringing injured and trapped animals, which eventually turned it into a sanctuary and not just a bird park.

"We are truly so proud and honoured to have achieved this for the second time and look so forward to continuing to build on this success," said Heynis. Caxton News Service



Two Oceans Aquarium awarded SA's third Heritage Environmental Star

Cape Town's Two Oceans Aquarium has been awarded the prestigious Diamond status by the Heritage Environmental Rating Programme, becoming only the third establishment to achieve such status in South Africa.

The classification is awarded to participants in the Heritage Programme who have maintained Platinum status for five consecutive years and have shown continued improvement in their sustainability efforts.

The Table Mountain Aerial Cableway and Tsogo Sun's Drakensberg Sun Resort are the only two other Diamond status properties in South Africa, which received their honours in 2015 and 2013, respectively.

According to Two Oceans Aquarium CEO, Michael Farquhar, the new status cements the aquarium's aim to advocate sustainability.

"We are on a sustainability journey and this award is an affirmation that we are on the right track, not that we have reached the end. There is just no time to sit back and polish our diamond," he says.

The Two Oceans Aquarium aims to raise awareness of environmental issues and promote conservation. This is in line with its vision of abundant and healthy oceans and its mission to inspire support for their future well-being.

Through its environmental charter, which includes aspects of legislation, resource usage and communication, the aquarium clearly outlines its sustainability goals.

Two Oceans Aquarium Communications and Sustainability Manager, Helen Lockhart, also says with the sustainability journey, it has been "extremely gratifying and inspiring to see the shift in people's attitudes and behaviour over the years and to see sustainability move from being on the fringe of the business to now being a core focus area". Traveller24



SA telescope helps reveal seven new planets

Data from the South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) telescope was recently used to discover seven Earth-sized planets orbiting a star 40 light years away.

Three of these planets are in the star's "habitable zone". This means they could have liquid water on their surface, which increases the chances of them hosting life.

SAAO's 1-m telescope was used to take observations of the planetary system over several nights in June and July last year, said Amanda Sickafoose, Head of Instrumentation at SAAO. The telescope is equipped with the Sutherland high-speed optical camera, which can take up to 70 images a second.

"This system is quite different from our solar system, which also raises new questions. The SAAO is proud to have played a small role in this advancement in our understanding of planetary systems," Sickafoose said.

Other telescopes used include the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Spitzer Space Telescope and ground-based telescopes in Chile, Morocco, Hawaii and the Canary Islands. www.timeslive.co.za



Eskom scoops prestigious technology award

Eskom has been awarded the 2017 Technology Transfer Award. The award, given by United States-based Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), is in recognition of research the power firm conducted in shaping the future of electricity.

Eskom scooped top honours in the same category in 2016. The focus was in the field of distribution planning with distributed resources.

"This award testifies to the groundbreaking research conducted by our Research and Development team, which continues to create unique opportunities for the future of electricity," said Eskom's Interim Group Chief Executive at the time, Matshele Koko.

He said the entity had prioritised research activities under the Eskom Power Plant Engineering Institute Programme, which had produced over 100 graduates at MSc and PhD level since its inception in 2012.

"We have the most versatile and robust engineering capabilities on the African continent and are well on our way to claim our place globally. We are extremely proud of our team for consistently achieving excellent results that put Eskom back on the global map," said Koko.

EPRI conducts research and development relating to the generation, delivery and use of electricity for the benefit of the public. SANews.gov.za



Boeing opens new offices in South Africa and Kenya

The Boeing Company continues to expand its international presence as they announced the opening of two new offices in South Africa and in Kenya.

Boeing's most recent *Current Market Outlook* report predicts that air traffic to and from Africa is expected to grow by about 6.1% annually over the next 20 years, which means there will be a need for 1 150 new airplanes.

"Taking the necessary steps to establish a firm presence on the continent was an obvious choice," says Miguel Santos, Managing Director, Sub-Saharan Africa, Boeing International.

"Africa is not new territory for Boeing. Since the introduction of the jet airplane, Boeing aircraft have formed the backbone of the continent's commercial fleet and Boeing continues to be one of the largest United States-based companies doing business on the continent," he says.

Santos added that the aerospace industry needed to start paying closer attention to Africa, because the continent was on the move economically and all the trends were pointing in the right direction for the expansion of the sector. Traveller24



Famous French boulangerie Paul opens in Joburg

Famed French boulangerie and patisserie Paul has officially opened its first branch in South Africa.

Most South Africans who've travelled will be aware of the chain which has outlets at many airports around the world and is present in over 35 countries.

South Africa's first branch opened its doors in Melrose Arch, Johannesburg, recently.

More Paul outlets are planned for the future in the country. This isn't Paul's first foray into Africa – it already has branches in Morocco, the Ivory Coast and Reunion.

The SA Paul seats 180, and apart from the café service also has a larnier restaurant where meals like coq au vin are served. www.sapeople.com



Invest South Africa One Stop Shop launched

President Jacob Zuma on Friday, 17 March 2017, officially launched the Invest South Africa One Stop Shop (Invest SA OSS) at the offices of the Department of Trade and Industry in Pretoria, which has been established to improve the ease of doing business in South Africa.

Business people had informed government on many occasions of the difficulties and delays they experienced when having to move from one department or institution to another to obtain licences and other services.

The groundbreaking programme will enable investors to use one centre to obtain services and to shorten and simplify administrative procedures and guidelines for the issuance of business approvals, permits and licences. This should help remove bottlenecks faced by investors in establishing and running businesses in the country.

The Invest SA OSS will further serve to coordinate provincial OSS investment centres, incorporating the special economic zones, provincial investment agencies, local authorities and the relevant government departments involved in regulatory, registration, permits and licensing matters.





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Cape Town International voted Best in Africa

The awards, held in Amsterdam recently, are among the most prestigious accolades in the aviation industry, seeing Cape Town International Airport (CTIA) clinching 19th spot in The World's Top 100 Airports - 2017.

CTIA has not only been voted the best in Africa at the 2017 Skytrax World Airport Awards, but the airport, which facilitated its highest volume of passengers in 2016, in excess of 10 million passengers, has managed to climb three spots higher than last year from 22nd to 19th in the top 100 list.

Durban's King Shaka retained the same ranking at 35th spot in the top 100 Airports list, and was also voted the best Regional Airport in Africa.

King Shaka, which also saw recordbreaking arrivals in 2016, was voted the sixth Best Regional Airport for 2017, with Japan's Centrair Nagoya clinching Top Regional Airport spot. Three of South Africa's other regional airports also featured on the list, with East London ranked second, Port Elizabeth ranked third and Bloemfontein ranked fourth – boding well for domestic travel all round.

Johannesburg comes in at 37th position in the top 100 airports list overall, slipping some seven spots when compared to last year's ranking. However, it ranks considerably better than the United States' equally busy JFK Airport, which came in at 67th position on this year's list.

These awards are significant because they are based on customer satisfaction, as voted by travellers. The 2017 Awards are based on 13,82 million airport survey questionnaires completed by 105 different nationalities of airline customers during the survey period. www.news24.co.za

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Trans African Locomotive launched

On 4 April 2017, President Jacob Zuma officially launched the Trans African Locomotive in Pretoria.

This is the first-ever train that has been designed, engineered and manufactured locally by the state-owned entity, Transnet, which will serve the African continent.

The locomotive is specifically customised to African conditions and is suitable for use on branch lines and in shunting yards.

Transnet designed the original underframe, superstructure, bogies, body and locomotive control system to withstand the African environment and is needs-specific to the continent.

Through the Trans Africa Locomotive, Transnet has heeded the resolution taken at the 2015 Heads of State and Government Summit of the African Union in Addis Ababa, for South Africa to champion the manufacturing and supply of rail stock in Africa.

Other intended benefits of the Trans Africa Locomotive for South Africa and the continent include:

- regional integration
- localisation
- industrialisation
- skills development
- road-to-rail migration.

The prospective socio-economic spin-offs of the project are crucial in enabling government to address the triple challenge of unemployment, poverty and inequality in the country, in line with the National Development Plan and Vision 2030.



SEZ programme attracting billions

South Africa's Special Economic Zone (SEZ) programme is attracting billions in foreign direct investment, says Trade and Industry Minister, Rob Davies.

There are eight designated zones in the country, namely: Saldanha Bay in the Western Cape; Dube Trade Port and Richards Bay in KwaZulu-Natal; East London and Coega in the Eastern Cape; the soon-to-be launched Maluti-a-Phofung in the Free State; as well as the recently added Musina in Limpopo.

"The Musina-Makhado SEZ has been designated as the first zone under the new SEZ Act, 2014. It will be established in the Vhembe region in Limpopo and will focus on four major industrial clusters, which are energy and metallurgical, agro-processing, petro-chemical, and trade and logistics," said the Minister.



The new zone has so far attracted investment interest from Chinese consortia.

The total investment is currently estimated at approximately R56,9 billion.

"There has been a substantial increase in the number and value of secured but not yet operational investments. The total number increased from 47 to 72, while total value increased to R41,2 billion. At least 13 of these investments are expected to be operational within the next 12 months, as soon as infrastructure development is completed," said Minister Davies.

The Minister highlighted some of the individual achievements of the SEZ such as the R11,5-billion China's Beijing Automotive Group Co. Ltd (BAIC) automotive investment in Coega; the R1,3-billion agreement with CIPLA to produce biosimilars at Dube Trade Port; the R260-million new investment covering horticulture and metal refining at the OR Tambo Independent Development Zone (IDZ), as well as the 2 000-MW Gas IPP awarded to the Richards Bay IDZ.

The SEZ Act, 2014 has been operational since 9 February 2016, and the work of the SEZ Advisory Board has since started.

The board is responsible for advising the Minister on policy and strategy issues as well as evaluation of the new applications for the designation.

The SEZ programme is one of the critical instruments that the Department of Trade and Industry is using to accelerate industrialisation in the country.

The programme, which has entered a full implementation phase, is important for attracting foreign direct investment, creating decent jobs, establishing new industrial centres, as well as developing and improving the existing infrastructure. SAnews.gov.za



Ndalo Media secures landmark South African publishing licence for Elle magazines

In a milestone for South African publishing, Ndalo Media, publisher of the popular *Destiny* magazine, is the new local publishers of international fashion magazine brand *Elle*, making it the first wholly black-owned media company to secure exclusive licensing for one of the world's oldest and most popular magazine brands.

Ndalo Media, owned by Khanyi Dhlomo, announced on 4 April 2017 that it had secured the South African licences for the *Elle* and *Elle Decoration* magazine brands. For the first time in Elle's 21-year history in the country, the Paris-based media brand will be published by a 100% black-owned media company.

In announcing the news, Dhlomo said her company's licence for one of the longest-running fashion and lifestyle brands was a milestone in South African publishing.

Despite tough competition in the global magazine market – an industry often dismissed as in decline against growing digital migration – Dhlomo said the *Elle* brand's "relevance, global leadership position and longevity" made it a solid investment for South African readers. Ndalo has the exclusive licence to Elle's print, digital and events extensions in South Africa. Brandsouthafrica



Garden Route declared biosphere reserve

The Minister of Environmental Affairs, Edna Molewa, has welcomed the approval of the Garden Route as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Biosphere Reserve.

"The positive response to the application to declare the Garden Route a biosphere reserve is most encouraging, not just for us, as a country, but also for the people of the region," said Minister Molewa.

Biosphere reserves are learning places for sustainable development whose aim is to reconcile biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources.

According to the Department of Environmental Affairs, UNESCO members voted in favour of the inclusion of the Garden Route as a biosphere reserve at a meeting in Paris, France, recently.

"The Garden Route, one of South Africa's prime tourism regions, is an area rich in terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems where conservation of the rich biodiverse region is ably reconciled with sustainable use practices," she said.

UNESCO states that biosphere reserves are nominated by national governments and remain under the sovereign jurisdiction of the states where they are located.

Their status is internationally recognised.

The Garden Route Biosphere Reserve (GRBR) is the ninth such reserve to be declared in South Africa.

"The GRBG is located within the Cape Floristic biodiversity hotspot region along the southern coast of part of the country.

"With a total area of 698 363 ha and a population of 450 624 people, the area includes the Tsitsikamma, Goukamma and Robberg marine protected areas; Wilderness Lake Ramsar Site; Garden Route National Park; and two components of the Cape Floral Region Protected Areas World Heritage site: the Nelson Bay Cave and the Langkloof Valley, the latter being critically endangered," the department said.

The official launch of the GRBG will take place later in the year. SAnews.gov.za





"Hidden Shadows
and Silent Voices of
Prison Number 4"

Clinton Strydom, in collaboration with Constitution Hill, and co-curator, Gaisang Sathekge, released a powerful new body of contemporary photographs on the Number 4 Prison Section in May 2017.

The exhibition, titled: *Hidden Shadows and Silent Voices of Prison Number 4*, narrates the fascinating story of this nefarious prison. The Number 4 Prison Section was restricted to male prisoners and was home to Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, Robert Sobukwe, Oliver Tambo and thousands of other people who were incarcerated here. This infamous section is notorious for some of the worst

atrocities that happened within the Old Fort Prison. Few know about the long tunnels and tiny cells that lie beneath the streets of the City of Johannesburg, the punishment racks, the naked prisoners, the food deprivation, the dirt and the cold.

The exhibition speaks to the fact that the cells are now empty, the doors lie open and the prisoners are free. However, the silent voices hidden in the shadows remain custodians of the memories, ensuring that we never forget and never go back. As one walks through the empty cells, the haunting presence hovers in the thick musty air.

"The Old Fort Prison is a powerful place of history – storied with a complex painful narrative of South Africa's brutal past.

Strydom's work, using the high-res technology of a Hasselblad camera, captures the essence of the prison, portraying the shadows and recording the silent cries that once roared through the thick walls of incarceration.

"It's a spirit-evoking body of photographs, accentuating the history of the prison," says Sathekge.

Hidden Shadows and Silent Voices of Prison Number 4 will help to give a voice to those shadows who have remained silent for so long.

"For this reason, I have agreed to donate several of the works to Constitution Hill's permanent collection," said Strydom.

The exhibition launched at Constitution Hill on 18 May and will run until 27 August. [u](#)

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This year, Constitution Hill is launching the *We the People* Campaign, a nationwide advocacy programme designed to promote the Constitution and the values it represents. It will encourage public participation and ownership of the Constitution by the citizens of our nation.

The campaign invites South Africans to contribute their stories (past), their reflections (present), their hopes and aspirations (future). The campaign focusses on bringing out the voices of ordinary people. It is an invitation to all South Africans to take a pledge for the Constitution and support the rights enshrined therein.

It is aimed towards creating awareness and dialogue around the highest law of the land to ensure that all citizens can enjoy the liberty and protection espoused in the Constitution.





"A New Wave" showcases
SA's design talent. ▶



A *New Wave*, a group exhibition of the newest local collectible design talent, which first premiered at Southern Guild Cape Town in August last year, was recently on show at the platform's Johannesburg gallery.

The initial show was a huge success, with some of the pieces subsequently on exhibit at Design Miami 2016, with others auctioned at Christie's London Design Auction in April 2017.

The exhibition was the curated result of a five-month-long process of finding never-before-seen design pieces, guiding and advising younger and emerging designers and pushing them to take their work in more interesting and groundbreaking directions. Pieces produced for *A New Wave* included

Following the gallery's call for submissions for new work by designers under the age of 40, Southern Guild received over 75 applications for *A New Wave*.

furniture, lighting, ceramics, decorative art and jewellery. "*A New Wave* was a catalyst for the eruption of new talent, challenging designers to push themselves in ways they had not done before to produce work that has since been recognised on the international stage," says Southern Guild co-director, Trevyn McGowan.

A New Wave included works by: Chuma Maweni, Douglas & Company, Eric Loubser, Erika Wessels, Geraldine Fenn, Gone Rural, Jan Bekker (Sirkel Jewellery), Kurt Pio, LeRoux Hofmeyr, Madri van Zyl, Martine

Jackson, Morné Visagie, Neil Grantham Studio, Nicole O'Reilly for Studio Studia, Nora Kovats, Studio August, Studium, Trevor Potter and others.

Following the gallery's call for submissions for new work by designers under the age of 40, Southern Guild received over 75 applications for *A New Wave*. Almost 40 designers were shortlisted, after which they produced their once-off or limited-edition pieces with the guidance of Southern Guild founders. southernguild.co.za



Ester Mahlangu pays tribute to Madiba

Esther's contribution to South African contemporary art and the impression that she has left on so many people globally, as she travels adorned in the beautiful traditional Ndebele dress, makes her a national treasure.



On 1 March 2017, internationally renowned artist, Esther Mahlangu, joined Dr Makaziwe Mandela and invited guests to unveil an important collection of artworks inspired by former President Nelson Mandela at the Melrose Gallery in Johannesburg.

Esther created this important body of work in 2004, and says that it remains one of the most rewarding collaborations of her long and illustrious career. The paintings were created by embellishing prints of drawings created by Madiba in 2001 in her own style.

Dr Mandela, eldest daughter of the late icon, and CEO of The House of Mandela,

said: "We are proud to be joining Mam Esther Mahlangu to unveil her exquisite collection for the first time. We are certain that these artworks will work to contribute to and celebrate my father's legacy at a time in which the world desperately needs his message of peace, love and respect for all".

Esther celebrated her 81st birthday in November 2016, ending off a very busy and exciting year with collaborations with BMW at the Frieze Contemporary Fair in London, John Legend and Belvedere Vodka. From 27 October 2016 to 26 February 2017, she also exhibited at the British Museum as part of the *South Africa – Art of a Nation* Exhibition.

Esther has exhibited with many of the most renowned artists in the world. In 1991, she

was invited to be the 12th artist to paint a BMW as part of the Art Car Collection, thereby becoming the first woman and first African to do so, joining an illustrious list of artists who participated in this project, including Andy Warhol, David Hockney, Roy Lichtenstein and Frank Stella, among others.

Esther's successful career has included receiving the Order of Ikhamanga in Silver in 2006 for her excellent contribution to the development of the indigenous Ndebele arts; a collaboration with American artist, Sol LeWitt, at the fifth Biennale in Lyon France in 2000; and being commissioned by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts for two major works for their permanent collection in 2014, to name a few.



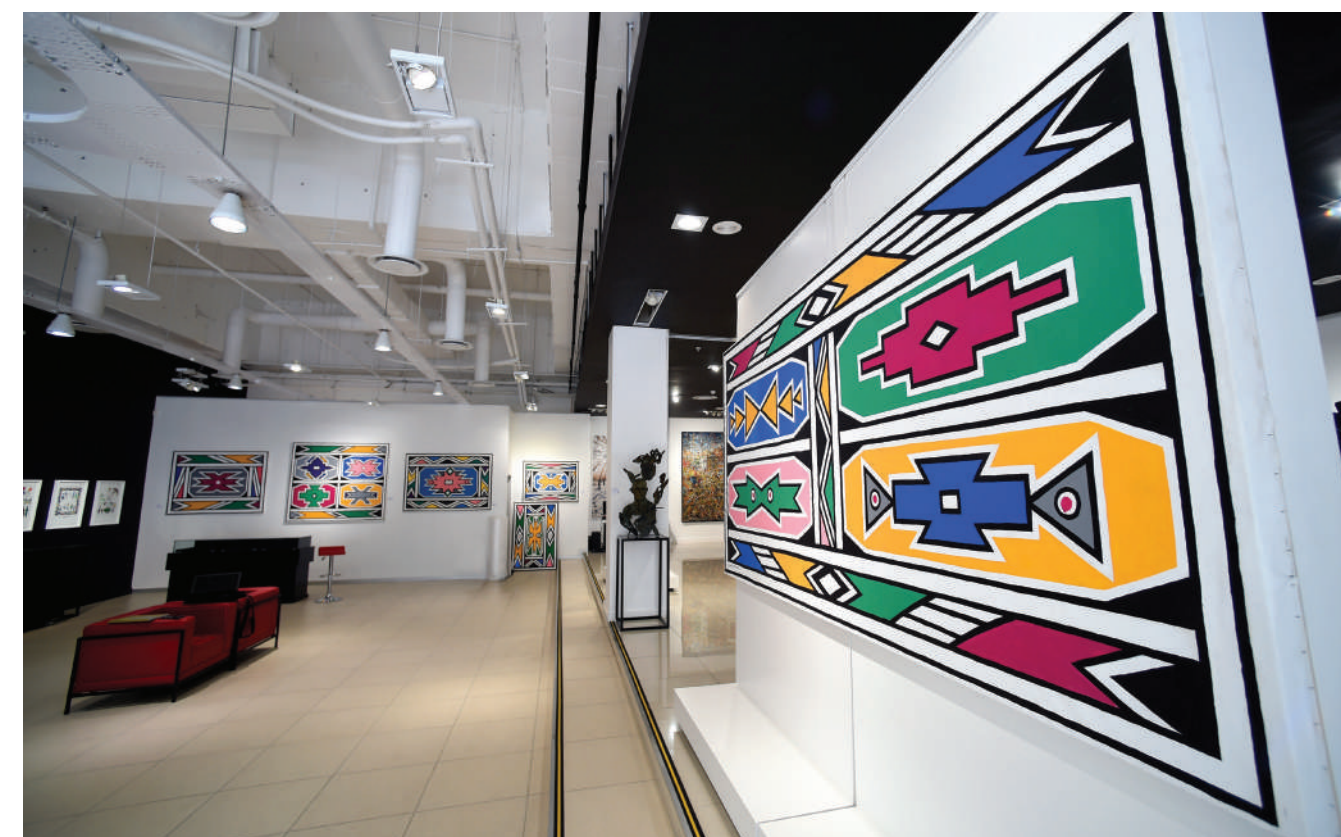
On 11 February 2017, Esther received the Ubuntu Arts and Culture Diplomacy Award (Veteran) – Public Vote. The award is given to an individual or organisation that has promoted a positive image of South Africa through arts and culture and/or facilitated cultural exchanges between South Africa and no fewer than two other countries for a minimum of 20 years. The annual awards,

hosted by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, are held to celebrate South African citizens who play an active role in projecting a positive image of South Africa internationally through their good work.

Born on 11 November 1935, Esther lives in the Mabokho Village of Weltevrede (Afrikaans for "well satisfied") in the KwaMahlanga

district in Mpumalanga. Esther's contribution to South African contemporary art and the impression that she has left on so many people globally, as she travels adorned in the beautiful traditional Ndebele dress, makes her a national treasure.

The exhibition, which ran until 2 April, also included several other paintings that had recently been created by Esther. 



Another Michelin for JAN Restaurant

"From kneading dough in the farmhouse kitchen during childhood in Mpumalanga, South Africa, to running his own restaurant in Nice, France, Jan-Hendrik's journey has taken many unexpected turns."



Acclaimed South African chef, Jan Hendrik van der Westhuizen, was delighted to learn recently that his restaurant JAN has retained its Michelin star for 2017. In 2016, he became the first South African to earn a Michelin star for his eatery, which is based in Nice in the South of France.

Speaking from Nice, he said: "Since JAN received its first star in 2016, the pressure was clearly on and, like in the movie *Burnt*, our natural instinct was to fear every guest.



The *Michelin Guide* is published annually and is the oldest European restaurant guide which awards selected establishments with Michelin stars for excellence. Every year, the guide sends unannounced inspectors – anything ranging from couples to a party of six, who then anonymously report back to Michelin, re-evaluating restaurants and making sure that what they serve is worthy of the star. However, restaurants have to maintain very high standards in order for their Michelin star to be "re-awarded" annually.

<http://crushmag-online.com/> / www.janhendrik.com

That's how bad it gets. The psychological pressure is so intense that everything has to be perfect".

"The retention of the star becomes a mind-occupation morning, noon and night and, after putting your head on the pillow, it sometimes continues into dreamland," he laughed.

When asked if he now has his sights set on a second star, Jan Hendrik said: "I am not pushing myself or my team towards a second star, but we are pushing ourselves to higher and better. This is just what we do."

For JAN, they are looking forward to a busy season which might include a few more South Africans joining the team in the kitchen. JAN currently boasts three South Africans working at the restaurant, including Kevin Grobler, Rutger Eysvogel and Scott Armstrong.

"We will also be getting a permanent valet service to take care of the small narrow street parking problem all of Nice struggles with," says Van der Westhuizen who is a stickler for ensuring every guest's needs are met. This will also attract more regulars from Monte Carlo, Cannes and the rest of the Riviera."

Apart from making certain that he includes the best South African wines on his wine list, he persistently looks at ways to reinvent South African dishes that will appeal to a wider market and a more refined palate; introducing South African flavours and foodstuffs to French and international diners.

Dishes on his menu include an edible candle made with kaiings and pork lard and a dish called "mieliepap and truffles", which plays on the humble maize ingredient paired with what he calls "the diamond of the kitchen". Dishes such as braaied marshmallows, sago pudding and the famous beskuit, are also big favourites on the JAN menu. According to Jan Hendrik's website, his understanding of the world was forged in the kitchens of his mother and grandmothers.

"From kneading dough in the farmhouse kitchen during childhood in Mpumalanga, South Africa, to running his own restaurant in Nice, France, Jan-Hendrik's journey has taken many unexpected turns."

Every story has a beginning. "Mine started at the tables of my mother and grandmother, where the notion of true South African hospitality seeped into my consciousness to become the foundation on which I would later build Restaurant JAN," says Jan-Hendrik.

"As with so many creative souls, Jan-Hendrik felt a strong calling for Cape Town. After completing an Advanced Diploma in Culinary Arts and a subsequent Master's in Pastry, he made the leap into aesthetics, enrolling for a Bachelor's degree in Applied Design with a focus on photography. Spending a lot of time in the surrounding winelands of the Stellenbosch region, he discovered a love for wine and spent a few years plying his trade in the South African wine industry. At the same time, he continued to foster his love for the visual arts by hosting a few solo painting and photography exhibitions in Cape Town.

"Jan-Hendrik's unique skill set led to a stint as a contributing food editor and stylist at *ELLE* South Africa, after which he packed his bags to join the ranks at the test kitchens of *ELLE* International's Head Office in Paris. This career move afforded him the opportunity to co-found COORD Event Direction and launch Champagne PIAFF in Eprenay.

"Today, Jan-Hendrik spends his time between the South of France and South Africa, plying his trade as a chef, creative and photographer. His main focus, however, is JAN."

A NEW ERA FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN WINE

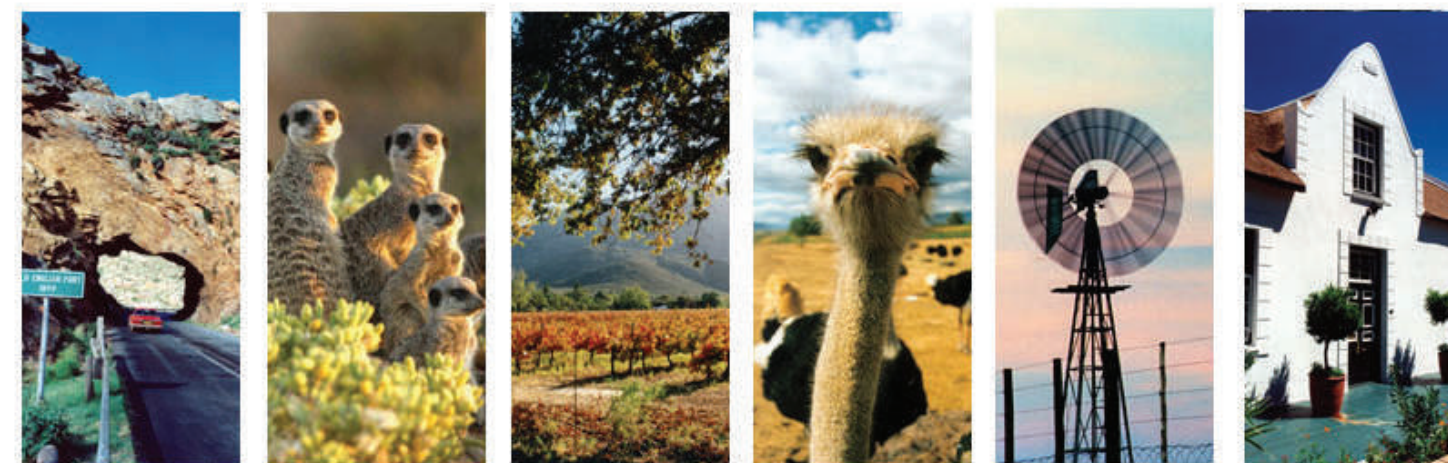
It's been over two decades since South Africa became a democracy. In that time our wine industry has taken quantum leaps forward. Plant improvement programmes have been accelerated, and we are establishing vineyards with clones and varieties carefully chosen to suit our specific climatic conditions, some in new cooler climate areas. Older heritage vineyards have been found and restored.

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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."

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South Africa's Route 62 world's best road trip

Like the rest of South Africa, the Route 62 region is rich in and famous for its variety of flora and fauna, from the world-famous Garden Route bloom in September to the ostrich industries of Oudtshoorn.

A CNN Travel poll, as voted by tourists and travel journalists, puts the scenic and fun-filled road between Cape Town and Oudtshoorn, Route 62, as the top road-

trip destination in the world, beating a host of legendary global grand tours, including Canada's Alcan Highway and the Ticlio Pass in Peru.

While Route 62 primarily connects Cape Town to Oudtshoorn, and ultimately

the Garden Route further east, a host of attractions and activities along the road, and off its beaten path, incorporate smaller towns in the area, including Montagu, Humansdorp and parts of the Klein Karoo. CNN calls the road "a journey to the unexpected", with

something for everyone, highlighting the natural beauty of the region's "fauna, rivers, valleys and plains" and the diversity of activities available that turn the seemingly mundane commute into an adventure.

Everything and anything from wine tours and safari drives, heritage and art tours, hiking and mountain climbing, water sport and fishing, or just quiet contemplation while watching one-of-a-kind views with a cold drink and a good meal, Route 62 has it all.

It is also the world's longest wine route. Incorporating hundreds of small, up-and-coming winemakers and larger, more established wine farms, Route 62's world-class wine route centres on the industry's de facto capital – the town of Robertson – where not only can you visit the Klipdrift brandy plant and see how this South African magic is made, but you get to taste some of the country's award-winning wines. The town's annual Wacky Wine Festival (between April and June) is a must-attend event, gathering the best wines of the region for wine fans with a sense of humour and a taste for the adventurous.

Just beyond Robertson, the mountain town of Montagu is not only the home of South Africa's dried fruit and nut industry, but it also has a popular natural spring spa and some of the best rock climbing in Africa.

The route is also home to the Cango Caves. Located inside the foothills of the Swartberg range and just outside Oudtshoorn, this extensive limestone system of tunnels and chambers dates back millions of years, and reaches almost 300 m underground.

Visitors can choose to see the caves as part of a conventional walking tour, or do something more daring in the Adventure Tour. It offers guided climbing tours through the caves' darkest, narrowest and deepest chambers.

Like the rest of South Africa, the Route 62 region is rich in and famous for its variety of flora and fauna, from the world-famous Garden Route bloom in September to the ostrich industries of Oudtshoorn. Here, visitors can ride an ostrich, buy ostrich curios and even sample the famous ostrich steak. There are a number of wildlife reserves, both private and public, including the Touwsberg

Nature Reserve, near the town of Ladismith, and the Sanbona Reserve. The latter offers both a heritage tour of the area's indigenous San culture and there's a chance you'll see the only free-roaming white lions in the world.

Animals that can be spotted regularly in the area include smaller buck: klipspringer, steenbok, duiker and springbok, as well as larger game such as wildebeest, kudu, giraffe, gemsbok and the Cape mountain zebra. Predators include leopard, rooikat and jackal.

Meerkat Magic, also outside Oudtshoorn, is a one-of-a-kind research reserve, dedicated exclusively to studying the habits of wild meerkats. Open to the public, visitors can join guided tours of meerkat colonies with knowledgeable guides, and even learn how these popular creatures communicate.

From the dusty hum of the Klein Karoo and the lush, rolling valleys of the Breede River to the never-ending Swartberg mountain massifs in-between, while Route 62 might offer the best food, drink and roadside entertainment, there is still nothing that compares to just stopping anywhere along the route to appreciate the peaceful beauty of the region's diverse landscape. 🇷🇺

CNN / www.brandsouthafrica.com / www.route62.co.za

The Orlando Towers bungee in Soweto has become a popular attraction, combining adventure and township tourism. The experience includes a bungee jump, a tower swing (the world's first between two cooling towers) and an internal tower swing and base jumping, all off the top of the west tower, some 100 m up. The Orlando Towers played a significant role in Soweto's history. To mark this, it has been painted to reflect the famous sons and daughters of Soweto as well as traditional township scenes. It's believed to be the biggest mural in South Africa and adds a creative edge to this historic landmark. The mural on Soweto's Orlando Towers was hand-painted and took six months to complete.



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KZN makes Top 20 best-kept travel secrets in the world list

While the lush green fields, unspoilt beaches and rich cultural heritage of KwaZulu-Natal might not be a travel “secret” for South African travellers, the rest of the world is yet to discover this magnificent province on South Africa's east coast.

In a recent travel wanderlust list put together by tourism company Kuoni, KwaZulu-Natal flies the South African flag on the global Top 20 best-kept travel secrets in the world.

Kuoni surveyed 303 experts and 2 000 travellers to compile their complete list, saying "South Africa is an extraordinarily diverse country, yet many visitors stick to Cape Town, the Garden Route and a safari experience.

"But beyond this, KwaZulu-Natal offers an area rich in nature and history, with poignant battlefields, dramatic mountains, game reserves and golden beaches."

Apart from KZN, South Africa's neighbouring country of Botswana also makes the list, with a special mention of the country's lesser-known zebra migration.

"The Great Migration of Kenya and Tanzania is well known," Kuoni says. "But home to the second-largest zebra migration in the world is Botswana. Twenty-five thousand zebra migrate to the Boteti River in the dry

winter months from their summer grazing ground along the edge of the Makgadikgadi Pans ..."

KZN and Botswana are featured alongside other secret spots like Jaffna in the north of Sri Lanka, El Nido Pangulasian Island in the Philippines and the ancient Mayan city of Yaxchilan in Mexico.

According to Kuoni spokesperson, Rachel O'Reilly, it's the quiet spots that make for the best experiences, especially for the new generation of travellers.

"While the Grand Canyon, the Great Wall of China and the Taj Mahal attract thousands of visitors per year between them and remain high on people's wish lists, a generation of travellers are now seeking more secluded beauty spots.

"Beyond the main tourist attractions the world has so much to offer and we're seeing a trend for people looking for alternative places and experiences away from the famous well-trodden hotspots."  Travel24



King Shaka Memorial, Stanger



Sheffield Beach, North Coast



Isandlwana Battlefield

Africa's grandest gathering

The largest music event in sub-Saharan Africa, now in its 18th year, again boasted a star-studded line-up that captivated jazz purists, world music fans, fusion lovers and soul nostalgics.

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MANU DIBANGO and MOREIRA CHONGUICA MOZ/ CAMEROON | ESCALANDRUM ARGENTINA
GRETCHEN PARLATO USA | DEEPAK PANDIT, MARCUS WYATT, RANJIT BAROT INDIA/ SA
LAURA MVULA UK | TUNE RECREATION COMMITTEE SA | SEKUNJALO EDUJAZZ BAND SA
ERNIE SMITH SA | TAYLOR MCFERRIN and MARCUS GILMORE USA | DARREN ENGLISH SA/ USA
DOPE SAINT JUDE SA | JONAS GWANGWA and FRIENDS SA | VUDU SA
JAZZ FUNK SOUL with EVERETTE HARP, JEFF LORBER and PAUL JACKSON Jr. USA

www.capetownjazzfest.com

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Affectionately referred to as “Africa’s Grandest Gathering”, the Cape Town International Jazz Festival (CTIJF) was held from 31 March to 1 April 2017 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

The largest music event in sub-Saharan Africa again boasted a star-studded line-up that captivated jazz purists, world music fans, fusion lovers and soul nostalgics.

The festival annually boasts five stages with more than 40 artists performing over two nights. The programming, unique to the CTIJF, is made up of a 50/50 split between

South African artists and international artists respectively. The festival hosts in excess of 37 000 music lovers over the two show days. Commenting on the CTIJF’s 2017 showcase, Festival Director, Billy Domingo, reflected: “We are undergoing a musical renaissance, where different musical genres and performers are collaborating to create new sounds for new audiences who may come from different walks of life, but who all appreciate what music has to offer.

“The CTIJF has led the live musical journey on the African continent for the past 17 years, and now in our 18th we are continuing to showcase new talent, new sounds, while staging them alongside music masters.

“I couldn’t be happier with this line-up as it’s a reflection of where we have come from, where we are now and where we are going.”

The Minister of Arts and Culture, Nathi Mthethwa, pointed out that: “The CTIJF, now in its 18th edition, continues to attract the best musicians from South Africa and abroad; and the musical collaborations that result from this rich engagement produce music that captures the cultural imagination of our people, builds continental cohesion and speaks to the world at large”.

Artists at this year’s festival included: Darren English (SA/United States of America (USA), Deepak Pandit /Marcus Wyatt/ Ranjit Barot (India/SA), Dope Saint Jude (SA), En Vogue (USA), Escalandrum (Argentina), Ernie Smith (SA), Gretchen Parlato (USA), Jonas Mosa Gwangwa & Friends (SA), Jazz Funk Soul With Everette Harp, Jeff Lorber & Paul Jackson Jr (USA), Judith Sephuma (SA), Laura Mvula (UK), Siya Makuzeni (SA), Soweto String Quartet (SA), Taylor Mcferrin And Marcus Gilmore (USA), Jameszoo (Netherlands), Jokko (Senegal), Mango Groove (SA), Pops Mohamed (SA) and Sonik Citizen (SA).

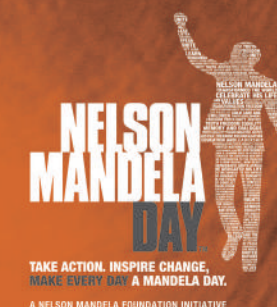
The official sponsors for the 18th annual CTIJF were the Department of Arts and Culture, Independent Media, Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa, and host city, the City of Cape Town. Other sponsors included Johnny Walker, Amstel and South African Tourism.

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South Africa is home to the largest wine cellar in the world. According to the *Guinness World Records*, the KWV cellars in Paarl cover an area of 22 hectares (54 acres) and have a capacity of 121 million litres. The Cathedral Cellar features a barrel-vaulted roof, stained glass windows, and granite and wood inlaid floors. It was built in 1930 and restored to splendour in 2005. South Africa has the longest wine route in the world. Route 62 stretches over 850 km from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth, making it the longest wine route in the world. The road takes one through many small but picturesque towns such as Paarl, Robertson, McGregor, Oudtshoorn and Ceres.