



AU-SARO

African Union Southern Africa Regional Office
Special Publication



Celebrating



50th Anniversary of the OAU/AU in Southern Africa

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Contents

4. Foreword

Dr Maxwell M. Mkwezalamba
Former AU Commissioner for Economics Affairs

6. Introduction

Dr. Salif Sada Sall
AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa

7. Towards the Establishment of the OAU/AU

- Penultimate step towards United States of Africa
- Heads of State During Formation of OAU
- Founding of the Organisation of the African Unity
- Chairperson of African Union Commission, H.E. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma
- Get to know the African Union Southern Africa Regional Office
- Heads of the African Union Southern Africa Regional Office

25. Socio-Economic Development in Southern Africa

- Regional Economic Communities, Building Blocks for integration
- Fostering integration in Southern Africa : AfDB
- Energy Situation in Southern Africa: AUC Energy Division
- Improving Animal Health in Southern Africa : AU/CTTBD
- Women, Gender and Development in Southern Africa: Progressing in Women Empowerment
- Southern Africa Country Profiles and Leaders

55. Development Partners in Malawi and Celebration of the 50th OAU/AU Anniversary

- AU-SARO Celebrating the 50th Anniversary in Lilongwe, Malawi
- Partners in Malawi and celebration of the 50th OAU/AU Anniversary
- African Union and African Development Bank Launch a Joint Forum to Celebrate OAU/AU 50th Anniversary in Malawi
- Towards a better future for China-Africa relations
- European Union and the African Union : Two Unions One Vision.
- Celebrating the Japan-Africa Partnership

67. Some of the AU-SARO Activities in 2013

- AU Southern Africa Regional Office gracing the 2013 Malawi African Public Service Day
- AU Regional Delegate briefs Malawi Local Committee of the Pan-African parliament (PAP)
- AU SARO Courtesy calls





H.E. Dr Maxwell M. Mkwezalamba

Former Commissioner for Economic Affairs, AU



The year 2013 marks fifty (50) years since the establishment of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)/the African Union (AU). Since its establishment on 25 May 1963, the OAU/AU has made steady progress in the pursuit of regional and continental integration. Some notable achievements include the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos in April 1980; the signing of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (AEC), the “Abuja Treaty”, in June 1991; the adoption of the Sirte Declaration in September 1999; the establishment of institutions such as the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights and the Pan-African Parliament; and the commencement of preparatory work on the establishment of the pan-African Financial Institutions, namely, the Africa Central Bank, the African Investment Bank and the African Monetary Fund.

Further achievements include the adoption of the Constitutive Act of the African Union (AU) in 2000, leading to the establishment of the African Union in 2001; the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) in 2001, as the African Union’s key socio-economic program; the Program on Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA); the African Charter on Statistics and Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa; and the adoption and operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture. Furthermore, the African Union Heads of State and Government decided in 2009 and 2011, respectively, to fully integrate NEPAD into the structures and processes of the African Union and establish a Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) by a tentative date of 2017.

The Regional Economic Communities (RECs) constitute the building blocs or pillars of Africa’s integration. Currently, there are eight RECs that are recognized by the African Union, in line with the decision of the Banjul July 2006 AU Summit Decision on the “Rationalization and Harmonization of the Regional Economic Communities”. These are: the Arab Magreb Union (AMU), *la communauté Sahelo-Saharienne* (CEN-SAD), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Some progress in accelerating integration has also been attained at the level of the RECs. For instance, Free Trade Areas have been established in several RECs (EAC, SADC, COMESA, ECOWAS); Customs Unions have been launched (EAC, COMESA); and substantial progress has been made towards establishing the EAC Common Market and promoting free movement of people in ECOWAS. In addition, three RECs (COMESA, EAC and SADC) agreed in 2008 to establish a Tripartite Free Trade Area; ECCAS and part of ECOWAS have established monetary zones, with a common currency; and EAC, SADC and the remaining part of ECOWAS have committed themselves to establishing monetary zones in the not too distant future, with the target date for SADC being 2016.

Despite the highlighted achievements, the results of regional and continental integration remain mixed. Whereas certain Regional Economic Communities (RECs) have achieved tangible outcomes, others have had relatively disappointing results, in terms of meeting the objectives of the Abuja Treaty. Thus, while the first stage of the Abuja Treaty involving the strengthening of the institutional framework of the existing RECs and the creation of new RECs, where they do not already exist, seems to have been achieved by the AU and virtually all the regions, there have been difficulties with regard to the second stage involving coordination and harmonization of activities and, in particular, the gradual elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers. IGAD, for example, is yet to attain the second stage and other RECs are hesitant to take the decisive steps to clearly cross into the third stage characterized by the creation of FTAs and Customs Unions (CUs). Even where FTAs and CUs have been established, these have not been fully operationalized (SADC FTA, COMESA CU and ECOWAS CU). Only EAC has unequivocally established a CU.



There are several reasons explaining the mixed achievements of regional and Continental integration in Africa. These include inadequate financial and human capacity; overlapping membership of the RECs; inadequate physical infrastructure, including roads, railways, energy, and information and communication technology (ICT); absence of national coordinating mechanisms of regional and continental integration; and non-application of the protocols and/or treaties on economic integration. Additional reasons are inadequate institutional infrastructure; inadequate coordination among the AU, Member States, the RECs, as well as other pan-African institutions; existence of situations of conflict and political instability in some parts of the Continent; failure to cede sovereignty to a supra-national body; and a general lack of political will.

It will, therefore, be critical that the African Union, Member States and the RECs collaborate in addressing these challenges. Clearly, the celebrations marking OAU/AU's 50th Anniversary provides an opportunity for further reflections on these challenges and the way forward, particularly, as the AU charts the African Union's Agenda for 2063 (AU Development Agenda 2063).

The issue of financing deserves special attention. The Continent's integration institutions continue to rely on contributions of Member States and Partners, which have tended to be unreliable and inadequate, to finance their programs, projects and activities. There will be need to inject momentum into the on-going discussions within the AU (work of the High Level Panel on Alternative Sources of Financing for the AU chaired by H. E. Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria) and some of the RECs (COMESA and EAC) on alternative sources of financing. Similarly, it will be necessary that work on the establishment of the Pan-African Financial Institutions as well as the establishment of Infrastructure Development Funds in RECs such as COMESA, EAC and SADC is accelerated.

Equally important will be the need to continue to engage Member States on the importance of ceding part of their sovereignty if the Continent is to make substantial gains in implementing its regional and continental integration and development agenda. The role of the AUC in coordinating and harmonizing the RECs on Africa's integration agenda cannot be over-emphasized. Enhancing the role of the AUC, including in ensuring that AU Regional Delegations to the RECs have the capacity to coordinate with the RECs, in this regard, will deliver dividends.

This publication of the AU Southern Africa Regional Office (AU- SARO), commemorating fifty (50) years' anniversary of the OAU/AU, contributes to this debate on the achievements, challenges and prospects of regional and Continental integration in Africa, with a focus on the Southern Africa Region. It is, therefore, a document that must be read by all, including policy makers, academics, private sector players, members of the civil society and the diasporas.



H.E. Dr Salif Sada Sall

AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa



This year, Africa and the world celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the African Union (AU). The first summit of the OAU in 1963 brought African leaders together in their quest to formulate a united vision for the continent and its future; central to this vision was the eradication of colonialisms and apartheid which had been a plight of Southern Africa in particular. The commitment towards the quest for African unity was further reinforced in 2001 when the OAU was transformed to the AU, the new vehicle through which regional integration, peace and security and socioeconomic development on the continent would be realized. The African Union Southern Africa Regional Office (AU-SARO) was opened in 2001 to popularize the African Union, and advance the principles of regional economic development and integration in Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in the Southern Africa.

In keeping with this mandate, this AU-SARO Special Publication highlights the work of the OAU/AU in the Southern Africa region over the past 50 years. The Member States in the Southern Africa Region are highly diverse in terms of natural and human resources endowment as well as socio-economic development and thus it would be difficult to articulate how the OAU/AU has impacted on each individual country. Thus, this publication looks at the role played by the OAU/AU in the eradication of colonialism and apartheid; its vision for regional integration and how this vision is taking shape in the region in areas such as infrastructure and energy, food security, gender and how the AU through use of strategic partnership are fulfilling its mandate.

This special issue showcases the AUC's energy and infrastructure development programme and its projects within the region as one of the key examples of regional integration in action. The developments of Infrastructure and energy capabilities are vital building blocs towards the achievement of regional integration and ultimately continental integration and are important components for economic, trade and human development for the countries and peoples of the Southern Africa Region.

Food security through agriculture is a priority for the AU and its Member States. Agriculture is still the main sector of employment and one of the main contributor to the GDPs of many economies in Southern Africa. This issue, therefore, features the work of the African Union Centre for Ticks and Tick Borne Disease (AU/CTTBD), based in Malawi. The centre works towards improving animal health in the region. It undertakes research and training on animal diseases, develop vaccines and through vaccination of livestock eradicate diseases which have a negative effect on food security in the region.

In terms of gender mainstreaming, Southern Africa Region is proud of having the first female Head of State in the region and second in Africa. The publication therefore features the work of AUC Gender Directorate and its efforts in mainstreaming gender equality in the region.

As part of ensuring Africa's collective future, in its engagement with the rest of the world, the OAU/AU over the past 50 years has developed common positions and has spoken with a unified voice especially on matters related to peace and security, trade, health and climate change and other areas related to development. This publication shares some of the thoughts of key partners such as the European Union, AfDB as well as individual countries including China and Japan.

In a nutshell, this publication highlights the positive contributions of the OAU/AU in Southern Africa over the past 50 years, and hope for the next 50 years of Africa's Development Agenda 2063.



Towards the Establishment of the OAU/AU





Penultimate step towards United States of Africa



Dr Desmond
Dudwa Phiri
Historian.

These days' African heads of state and government meet and make common resolutions under the umbrella of the African Union (AU). To visionaries this level of unity is the last but one step towards founding a super state called United States of Africa.

To most people the man whose name is identified with the concept of Pan- Africanism and United States of Africa is Dr. Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana but he was only the most fervent convert to the dream. The honour of originator of Pan- Africanist ideals must be accorded to such West Indian Africans as Henry Sylvester Williams and Marcus Aurelias Garvey, as well as the African-American Dr. W.E. B. Du Bois.

It was Henry Sylvester Williams, a Trinidadian barrister trained in Canada who coined the term Pan- African Congress while he was in London playing a leading role in an organization called African Association. Most members of this society were West Indies professionals of African descent who were deeply concerned with the problems of Africans in British colonies and the West Indies.

In 1899 while Williams was staying at a hotel in Dublin he made a speech in which he criticized the British Government for its failure to treat its African subjects according to their rights. He made particular reference to conditions under which Africans lived in South Africa. Perhaps he was not aware of what was happening in King Leopold's Congo Free State.

Though not much is known about Henry Sylvester Williams (his name reminds us of Dr. Eric Williams first President of independent Trinidad and Tobago) those who have written about him say he was a visionary intellectual and influencer. In the year 1899 the famous African-American educationist Booker T. Washington, of Tuskegee Institute Alabama happened to be in London when Williams, then thirty one years old persuaded him to attend a meeting of the African Association.

The first Pan- African Congress meeting was held in the Westminster Town Hall, London. It was attended by 33 men and women from Africa and those of African descent. The Bishop of London gave it a welcome address. One of the organisations represented from Africa was the Aborigines Protection Society of the Gold Coast (Ghana). Contrary to the belief of many people it was not Du Bois but Williams who was the dominant figure at that meeting. Due perhaps to Williams untimely death at the age of 42 thereafter the Pan-African congress was to be identified with the name Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois of the United States, who had obtained a doctorate in Sociology from Harvard University. He is also remembered as author of a book titled *The Souls of Black Folk*.

Attendees of that Pan-African Congress meeting were by no means fire brands judging by the resolution they passed. They just wanted to be treated as British subjects not necessarily to demand independence. At the 1884-5 Berlin conference of European colonial powers,

resolutions were passed concerning slavery in Africa and the humane treatment of the natives whose territories the European powers were going to seize. The meeting of the Pan-African Congress just wanted Britain to abide by the resolution of the Berlin Conference in its African and West Indies colonies.

Despite the moderate tone of the first Pan-African Congress Conference it inspired Dr. Du Bois to write in his book *The Souls of Black folk* words which have turned out to be highly prophetic.

The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the colour line, the question as to how far differences of race are going to be made hereafter the basis of denying to over half the world the right of sharing to their utmost ability the opportunities and privileges of modern civilization. In any case, the modern world needs remember that in this age... the millions of black men in Africa, America and the Islands of the Seas, not to speak of the brown and yellow myriads elsewhere, are bound to have great influence upon the world in the future by reason of their numbers and physical contact.

True enough the twentieth Century was the playground of those who indulged in racial arrogance, the worst form of which was apartheid in South Africa and those who bitterly opposed it. But the same century also saw the rebirth of two Asian nations soon after World War II, India and Peoples Republic of China that are now having a great influence upon the world. Ten years before the beginning of the twenty first century popular non-racial democracy triumphed in South Africa when the republic had its first black President in the name of Nelson Mandela.

The Second Pan African Congress

The second Pan-African Congress took place in Paris in 1919 at the very time the victorious allies in World War I were discussing how to treat the defeated enemies, especially Germany and what to do with its colonies.

The convener of this conference was Dr. Du Bois. At first the French Government sternly rejected Du Bois's request to hold the Pan-African Congress meeting there. It informed the American Secretary of State, Robert Lansing that Du Bois's conference wanted to discuss African rights to self-determination and that it (the French Government) would not let a conference with such an agenda to be held there.

The peace treaties following World War I dwelt a great deal on allowing each nationality or culture and linguistic group to decide for itself the form of government it wanted to have. This right, not only the French government, but even other colonial powers would not extend to Africans.

Du Bois was about to give up the conference and go



back to America when he learned of an influential Senegalese called Blaise Diagne. He was a member of the French Chamber of Deputies (Parliament) and commissioner for the French Republic's West African colonies. Diagne was regarded by the French people as an ideal African "evolué". They honoured him with medals for raising 680,000 African soldiers within one year and another 240,000 for labour.

On January, 1919 Du Bois addressed a confidential memo to Diagne and spelt out the objects of the second Pan-African Congress conference which was to discuss the development of autonomous governments in Africa according to native customs, eventually leading to an Africa for Africans. Despite the honours the French bestowed on him, Diagne did share the aspirations of the Pan-African Congress, only he knew better how to speak to the French. He assured the French government that the aims of the Pan-African Congress were in accord with the French Mission of Civilising Africans. At last the French government allowed Du Bois to proceed with the conference.

Africans of the Diaspora wanted to have a say in decisions concerning the future of ex-German colonies in Africa. When they learned that ex-German colonies were to be placed under the League of Nations under the mandatory system the Pan-African Congress Conference acquiesced in the resolution. But for the first time it had made reference to African self-determination and to reserving Africa for Africans. This was a stronger tone than that of the first conference. As we will see presently succeeding conferences passed resolutions in stronger terms.

The Third Pan-African Congress Conference

While the second Pan-African Congress Conference in 1919 took place close to the conference of the victorious powers in Paris the third conference in 1945 took place in Manchester, England remote from Potsdam, Berlin where American, British and Russian leaders were once more discussing how to treat Germany following its defeat in World War II.

This conference was jointly chaired by Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois and Jomo Kenyatta from Kenya, with Kwame Nkrumah from Ghana as Conference Secretary. Also visibly present were Dr. Hastings Kamuzu Banda from Malawi and Peter Abrahams a novelist from South Africa.

The tone of this conference minced no words about the emancipation of Africa from colonial rule. This had to come about in the shortest possible time.

When Nkrumah returned to his country Gold Coast, he founded a new party called Convention Peoples Party (CPP) with the slogan 'not in the shortest possible time but now' "After leading in civil disobedience which he called Positive Action, spending a spell of time in jail Nkrumah became Prime Minister of the Gold Coast in 1952 and President on independent Ghana in 1957, the first British colony in sub-Saharan to attain independence from the powers that had gathered in Berlin in 1884-5 to partition Africa.

All African People's Conference

In his autobiography which was published before Ghana's first Independence Day, Nkrumah wrote that the independence of Ghana would be meaningless unless it was linked with the independence of the rest of Africa. As a first step to realizing this goal Nkrumah invited political parties.

Associations and trade unions from the whole of Africa attended the All African Conference which was held in Accra from December 5 to December 13, 1958

Chaired by a brilliant Kenyan trade unionist Tom Mboya the conference which in a sense was the fourth Pan-African Congress Conference passed resolutions against foreign rulers of Africa in the toughest language. It said inter alia: *"That the All-African People's Conference in Accra declares its full support of fighters for freedom of Africa. To all those who resort to peaceful means of non-violence and civil disobedience as well as to all those who are compelled to retaliate against violence to attain national independence and freedom for their people, where such retaliation becomes necessary the conference condemns all legislation which considers those who fight for their independence and freedom as ordinary criminals."*

To cap it all the All-African Peoples Conference shouted a colonizers' scam "out of Africa". Delegates returned to their countries as if baptized by fire for soon Africa was a glow with acts of civil disobedience and armed resistance. The first follow-up on the Accra Conference was in Leopold Ville (Kinshasa) where clashes occurred between political parties and the gendarmerie. The next was in Nyasaland (Malawi) where acts of civil disobedience compelled the Governor to declare a state of emergency.

Africa was on the march. In 1958 Guinea (Conakry) unilaterally declared itself independent under its leader Ahmed Sekou Touriea friend of Kwame Nkrumah and Julius Nyerere of Tanzania. By 1960, Nigeria, Democratic republic of Congo and almost all French colonies in Africa became independent, Thanks to the logical mind of General Charles de Gaulle, the President of France, so what next?

Organisation of African Unity (OAU)

The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) was founded in 1963. Its architects were three heads of state, Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt and Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia who offered the capital of his country Addis Ababa as headquarters of the OAU. The first secretary of the OAU was Diallo Telli a national of Guinea (Conakry).

The OAU had three basic aims; the first was to promote peaceful co-existence between independent African states; secondly to assist nationalists of African countries which were not independent to achieve independence for their countries and; thirdly to cooperate in the development of Africa.

European colonial powers had partitioned Africa, haphazardly, dividing ethnic groups that formed one state, and bringing under one administration ethnic groups that had lived independently of each other, and sometimes had little contact with each other. As soon as some African countries got their independence they started talking about redrawing the boundaries and there was simmering





inter-state conflicts. The OAU passed a resolution acknowledging the boundaries drawn by colonizers as binding. This has contributed to a peaceful co-existence between African states; the OAU was required not to interfere in the internal affair of its members.

The remaining countries to be politically transformed were Portuguese colonies Mozambique, Angola, Principe and Sao Tome as Portugal was refusing to grant independence to these countries on the pretext that they were its overseas provinces and not colonies. The second group was that of countries where Africans were ruled by a racial minority namely South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia.

The OAU as a body and its individual members rendered material and financial support to Nationalists of these countries and pleaded for their cause at international fora such as the United Nations. When in 1990 President Fredrick de Klerk of South Africa released Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned leader of the African National Congress the OAU's mandate to liberate the remaining colonial enclaves had been completed.

The launching of the African Development Bank (AfDB) with its headquarters in Abidjan, Ivory Coast soon after the OUA had been founded can be attributed to OAU spirit even though the Bank is a separate entity.

African Union (AU)

With the mandate of liberating Africa over, African leaders now had to concentrate on consolidating both political and economic gains. To this end it was felt that a new organization was necessary to attain these new objectives.

The result was the replacement of the OAU by the African Union (AU). The AU was born with the paraphernalia of a United States of Africa such as the Pan African Parliament Pan-African Court of Appeal, Peace and Security Council and so on.

The main difference between OAU and AU is that whereas the OAU was forbidden by its charter from interfering in the internal affairs of member countries but the AU is mandated to intervene in the affairs of member countries so as to establish normal conditions. The tragedy in Rwanda in 1994 and the collapse of the state in Somalia may have influenced founders of the AU to modify their stand on non-interference.

In July, 2002, the fifty three heads of African states gathered in Durban for the inaugural conference of the African Union. The host President, Mr. Thabo Mbeki declared that was the moment of hope for the African continent; time had come for Africa to take its rightful place in global affairs, to end the marginalisation of AFRICA. "Through our actions, "went on the South African second black President "let us proclaim to the world that this continent is a continent of democracy, a continent of democratic institutions and culture indeed a continent of good governance.....and the rule of law" With AU came NEPAD – New Partnership for Africa's Development.

***Time had come for
Africa
to take its
rightful place
in global affairs,
to end the
marginalisation
of Africa "Through
our Actions***

Conclusion on Achievements

Have the OAU and AU achieved their objectives I dare say they have done quite well bearing in mind that most of the states are still struggling to develop and prosper.

The collapse of imperial rule in Africa has not been followed by inter-state violence as in Europe following the fall of the Roman Empire. With the AU, Africa is poised to achieve more now that its economy is performing splendidly.



Founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)



Emperor Haile Selassie making his speech at the 1963 Summit of Heads of States



African Heads of state at the inaugural Organization of African Unity Summit in 1963

Ideology underpinning the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

The Organization of African Unity was founded in Addis Ababa in 1963 by 32 independent Member States. The road to forming the new continental body was by no means easy as two groups, each with its own idea on how to pursue African unity emerged in the early 1960's. One group, which supported a gradual approach to African unity, was called the **Monrovia Group**. Originally made up of four African states that came together in 1961 in Monrovia, Liberia, this group eventually came to include another bloc of states, the Brazzaville group. Made up of independent African states that were former French colonies, the Brazzaville group was especially concerned about the liberation war in Algeria (1954–62) and wanted to find a way of mediating the conflict without alienating France.

The other major bloc, called the **Casablanca Group**— it originally met in Casablanca, Morocco. Made up mainly of socialist-leaning countries, the Casablanca group strongly advocated immediate political and economic unity among African states. This group was concerned about securing full independence for all African countries. Consequently the Casablanca group was more wary than the Monrovia group of the role that the colonial powers might play in opposing or compromising such independence.

During the early 1960s each group attempted to recruit newly independent African states. By 1963 leaders of the two groups sought reconciliation. Through the efforts of Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Selassie (1892–1975), who represented the Monrovia group, and President Ahmed Sékou Touré (1922–1984), of Guinea, acting on behalf of the Casablanca group, the leaders of 32 independent African states met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on May 25, 1963.

Signing of the OAU Charter

After two days of discussion and negotiations

culminating in the drafting of the OAU Charter, the document that would guide the relations between African States as well as their common vision for the continent , heads of state were now ready to sign the charter creating the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which was approved on 25 May 1963.

OAU Purposes and principles

The following purposes and principles are stated in OAU charter adopted in 1963 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The OAU objectives are stated in Article II of the CHARTER as follows ;

- to promote the unity and solidarity of the African States;
- to co-ordinate and intensify their cooperation and efforts
- to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa;
- to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity and independence;
- to eradicate all forms of colonialism from Africa; and;
- to promote international cooperation, having due regard to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

To achieve these goals Member States pledged themselves to harmonize their policies in the following fields.;

- Political and diplomatic cooperation; economic cooperation, including transport and communication;
- educational and cultural cooperation;
- health, sanitation, and nutritional cooperation; scientific and technical cooperation and;
- cooperation for defence and security.

The OAU principles are stated in Article II of the CHARTER as follows

- the sovereign equality of all Member states;
- non- interference in the internal affairs of States;



African Heads of State Summit convened to draft the OAU Charter in 1963



Leaders at the Casablanca conference from left to right, Ferhat Abba (Algeria) Kwame Nkulumah (Ghana), Mohamed VI (Morocco), Gamal Abdel Nasser (Egypt) Sekou Toure (Guinea), and Modibo Keita (Mali)

- respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State and for its inalienable right to independent existence;
- peaceful settlement of disputes by negotiation, mediation, conciliation or arbitration;
- unreserved condemnation in all its forms, of political assassination as well as of subversive activities on the part of neighbouring States or any other States;
- absolute dedication to the total emancipation of the African territories which are still dependent;
- affirmation of a policy of non-alignment with regard to all blocs.

In proclaiming OAU principles and objectives, the Founding Fathers of the Organization envisaged clearly a unity "that transcends ethnics and national differences."

Institutions

To achieve its aims the OAU was composed of the following institutions:

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government

The Council of Ministers i.e. Foreign Affairs Ministers (it meets twice a year, in February mainly on budgetary matters and in May/June prior to Summit.) Other Ministerial Sectoral Meetings are held every two years in different domains such as Labour, Information, Trade, Health, Culture, etc.

The General Secretariat

The General Secretariat is in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, headed by a Secretary General, who is elected by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for a term of four years. He has five Assistant Secretary Generals, each elected from a geographical region by the Assembly for a term of four years. The six may be re-elected.

The General Secretariat is constituted of:

- Office of the Secretary General under which operates his Cabinet, Protocol, Information, Security, Legal Affairs, Inspectorate, Budget Control and Afro-Arab Co-operation.
- Political Department ;
- Economic Co-operation and Development Department (EDECO) ;

- Education, Science, Culture and Social Affairs Department (ESCAS) ;
- Finance Department ;
- Administration and Conferences Department.

Regional and sub-regional Offices exist in New York, Geneva, Cairo, Brussels, Lagos, Niamey. Dar es Salam (hosts to the OAU liberation Committee).

Specialized Commissions:

Economic and Social Commission; Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Health Commission of Fifteen on Refugees Defence Commission; Mediation, Coalition and Arbitration Commission.

Autonomous Specialized Agencies working under the auspices of the OAU are:

- Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU)
- Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU)
- Pan-African News Agency (PANA)
- Union of African National Television and Radio Organizations (URTNA)
- Union of African Railways (UAR)
- Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU)
- Supreme Council for Sports in Africa .

The General Secretariat was the Permanent organ whose task was with servicing various OAU Meetings, implement decisions and resolutions adopted by the Summit and Council. It kept documents and archives and generally speaking conducted the daily work of coordination among Member States in all fields stated in the Charter.

Languages:

The official languages are: Arabic, English, French, Portuguese.

The OAU in the Southern Africa Region

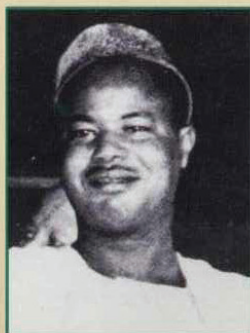
The OAU played significant role in the liberation struggles of countries in the region. At the time the OAU was established, several southern African states including

Heads of State during the formation of the OAU in 1963



H.M. HAILE SELASSIE

Emperor of Ethiopia: 1930 - 1974
Born: 1892 - Died: 1975
Independence: since 200 B.C.



H.E. AMADOU AHIDJO

President of Cameroon: 1960 - 1982
Born: 1924 - Died: 1989
Independence: January 1st 1960



H.E. FULBERT YOLOU

President of the Republic of the Congo: 1960 - 1963
Born: 1917 - Died: 1972
Independence: August 15th 1960



H.E. AHMED BEN BELLA

President of Algeria: 1963 - 1965
Born: 1918
Independence: July 1st 1962



H.E. DAVID DACKO

President of the Central African Republic: 1960 - 1966 and 1979 - 1981
Born: 1930 - Died: 2003
Independence: August 13th 1960



H.E. JOSEPH KASAVUBU

President of the Republic of Congo: 1960 - 1965
Born: 1910 - Died: 1969
Independence: June 30th 1960



H.E. MWAMBUTSA IV

King of Burundi: 1915 - 1966
Born: 1912 - Died: 1977
Independence: July 1st 1962



**H.E. FRANCOIS
TOMBALBAYE**

President of Chad: 1960 - 1975
Born: 1918 - Died: 1975
Independence: January 11th 1960



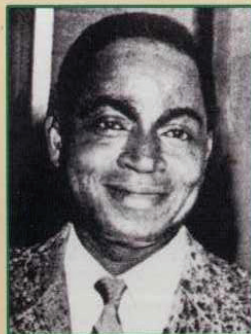
H.E. HUBERT MAGA

President of Dahomey, (Benin): 1960 - 1963 and 1970 - 1972
Born: 1916 - Died: 2000
Independence: August 1st 1960



H.E. LEON M'BA

President of Gabon: 1960 - 1967
Born: 1902 - Died: 1967
Independence: August 17th 1960



H.E. F. HOUPHOUËT BOIGNY

President of Côte d'Ivoire:
1960 - 1993
Born: 1905 - Died: 1993
Independence: August 7th 1960



**H.E. PHILBERT
TSIRANANA**

President of the Malagasy Republic
(Madagascar): 1960 - 1972
Born: 1910 - Died: 1978
Independence: October 14th 1960



H.E. KWAME NKUMAH

President Ghana: 1960 - 1966
Born: 1909 - Died: 1972
Independence: March 6th 1957



H.E. WILLIAM TUBMAN

President of Liberia : 1944 - 1971
Born: 1895 - Died: 1971
Independence: July 26th 1847



H.E. MODIBO KEITA

President of Mali: 1960 - 1968
Born: 1915 - Died: 1977
Independence: September 22nd 1960



H.E. SEKOU TOURE

President of Guinea: 1958 - 1984
Born: 1922 - Died: 1984
Independence: October 2nd 1958



H.M. KING IDRIS

King of Libya: 1951 - 1969
Born: 1890 - Died: 1983
Independence: December 24th 1951



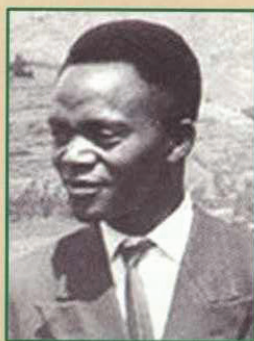
**H.E. MOKHTAR OULD
DADDAH**

President of Mauritania: 1960 - 1978
Born: 1924 - Died: 2003
Independence: November 28th 1960



H.M. KING HASSAN II

King of Morocco: 1961-1999
Born: 1929 - Died: 1999
Independence: March 3rd 1956



H.E. GRÉGOIRE KAYIBANDA

President of Rwanda: 1961 - 1973
Born: 1924 - Died: 1976
Independence: July 1st 1962



H.E. ADEN ABDULLA OSMAN

President of Somalia: 1960 - 1967
Born: 1908 - Died: 2007
Independence: July 1st 1960



H.E. HAMANI DIORI

President of the Republic of Niger:
1960 - 1974
Born: 1916 - Died: 1989
Independence: August 3rd 1960



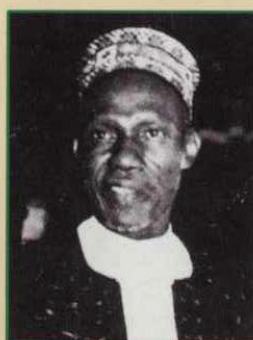
H.E. LEOPOLD SENGHOR

President of Senegal: 1960 - 1980
Born: 1906 - Died: 2001
Independence: June 20th 1960



H.E. IBRAHIM ABOUD

President of Sudan: 1958 - 1964
and 1 November, 1964 to
16 November, 1964
Born: 1899 - Died: 1983
Independence: January 1st 1956



H.E. Alhaji SIR ABUBAKAR TAFAWA BALEWA

Foreign Minister of Nigeria:
1960 - 1963
Born: 1912 - Died: 1966
Independence: October 1st 1960



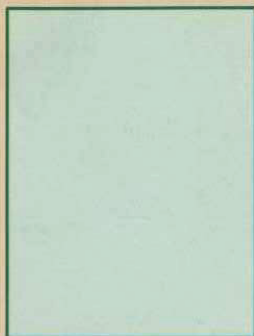
H.E. SIR MILTON MARGAI

Prime Minister of Sierra Leone:
1961 - 1964
Born: 1895 - Died: 1964
Independence: April 27th 1961

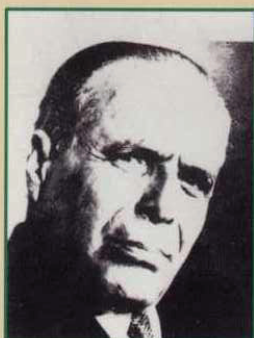


H.E. JULIUS K. NYERERE

President of Tanzania: 1964 - 1985
Born: 1922 - Died: 1999
Independence: December 9th 1961

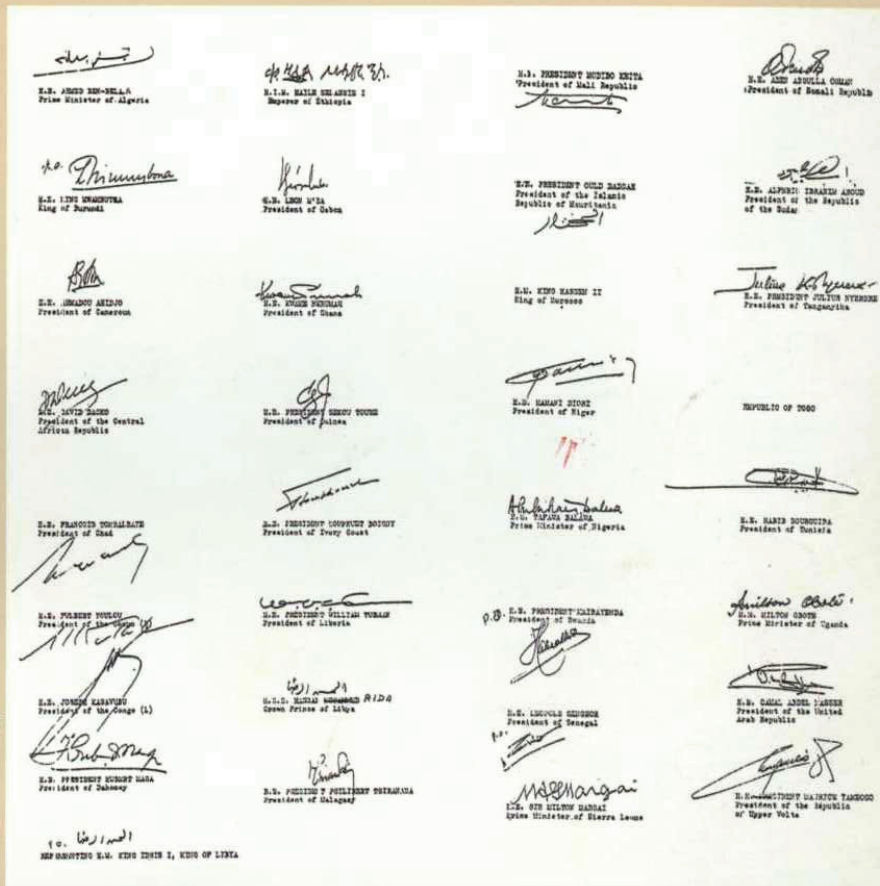


TOGO



H.E. HABIB BOURGUIBA

President of Tunisia : 1957 - 1987
Born: 1903 - Died: 2000
Independence: March 20th 1956



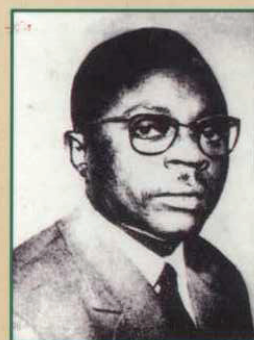
H.E. APOLLO MILTON OBOTE

President of Uganda: 1966 - 1971
and 1980 - 1985
Born: 1924 - **Died:** 2005
Independence: October 9th 1962



H.E Gamal ABDUL NASSER

President of Egypt: 1954 - 1970
Born: 1918 - Died: 1970
Independence: February 28th 1922



H.E. MAURICE YAMEOGO

**President of the Republic of
Upper Volta (Burkina Faso):
1960 - 1966
Born: 1921 - Died: 1993
Independence: August 5th 1960**

South Africa and Angola were under minority rule.

The OAU formed a liberation committee, hosted by Tanzania, and most liberation movements were based there at one time or another. The committee was established to defend and aid the interest of Independence movements while it looked after that of states that were already free from colonial rule. The OAU got involved in training and giving weapons and military bases to colonized nations battling for independence. The OAU assisted groups like the ANC and PAC who were involved in fighting apartheid and those struggling for the independence of Southern Rhodesia.

The OAU was instrumental in highlighting the injustices of the Apartheid regime, and supported sanctions against South Africa. The OAU also placed banned South African aircrafts from flying over African nations. The UN had to expel the South African government from international agencies like the World Health Organization (WHO).

Major Achievements of the OAU

Hampered by insufficient funds and instability in many of its Member States, the OAU nevertheless took action and laid the foundation for collective action in securing Africa's future in the ever changing global environment. OAU action was particularly significant in the following areas:

Decolonization

In this area of decolonization the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa organized diplomatic support and channelled financial, military and logistical aid to liberation movements. Through an OAU fund, international support was channelled to liberated areas in Guinea Bissau, in Angola and Mozambique. OAU initiated action with the International Court of Justice which declared that South Africa had no right to stay in Namibia. UN boycott was enacted against Rhodesia's minority regime until majority rule was attained.

Peace and Security Border conflicts

Within its first ten years of its existence, OAU was confronted with a number of boundary conflicts in North, East and Central Africa. The major practical achievements of the OAU were mediations in several border disputes, including those of Algeria and Morocco (1963–64) and Kenya and Somalia (1965–67). Thanks to OAU machinery and efforts, these conflicts were settled without outside intervention or interference.

The struggle against Apartheid

The OAU supported liberation movements against white-minority rule in Zimbabwe and Namibia, and it also successfully campaigned to bar South Africa from participating in the UN General Assembly.

Through action of the African group at the United Nations and appropriate information campaigns

Apartheid, the abhorred system of state imposed racial discrimination in South Africa, Rhodesia and the

International territory of Namibia (South West Africa), was universally. As a result of increased pressure from all quarters, Apartheid South Africa was forced out of the Commonwealth and a number of specialized institutions of the United Nations family including the World Health Organization. The OAU also welcomed the participation of African National Congress which was not widely recognized as legitimate governments. The African Liberation Committee also provided financial support to liberation movements colonial rule in Guinea-Bissau, Angola, and Mozambique. In world sports, Apartheid South Africa was barred from the Olympic Games and other international sporting event.

Defence of Member States' sovereignty and territorial integrity

Action undertaken by OAU in this concern will remain one of its greatest achievements ever:

- In the Congo: where imperialism threatened in its supply lines of strategic raw materials (uranium, and copper) vied for disintegration to set up a puppet state.
- In Nigeria: where a civil war flared up and threatened the Federal Republic of Nigeria to its very foundation. The ad hoc Consultative Committee of the OAU helped to prevent secession while maintaining the cohesion of its membership.
- In Republic of Egypt: which was in parts by occupied by Israeli forces in 1967.
- In Guinea: where Portugal's last ditch attempt at colonial reconquest failed. In the wake of this aggression OAU's offer of financial and military aid to Guinea.

In Equatorial Guinea: where OAU support enabled the Young Republic to reinforce its newly won independence.

Promotion of African Culture

OAU staged both the 1st All African Cultural Festival (Algiers August 1969) and the First Workshop on African Folklore, Dance and Music (Mogadiscio Somalia) in October 1970. The first momentous Pan-African Festival took place in Algiers, Algeria in August 1969. Never before, had African culture and arts given such a brilliant display of their richness, variety and genius. Above cultural and artistic achievements, this First Festival was the triumph of African solidarity and sense of purpose.

Fields of economic and social development, transport and telecommunication

During the 1980's OAU Member States turned their attention to the economic problems they faced as individual member states as well as a region. African countries harmonized their policies with regard to UNCTAD, IBRD, IMF, UNIDO, ILO and various other international institutions. Consequently, OAU Member States could better negotiate terms of trade and participated in international institutions. African countries were also now calling for debt relief of Africa's 200 billion dollar debt as it stood at 1987. African



countries asserted sovereignty over their natural resources and were pressed for a modification of International Law with regard to the continental territorial waters. During the 1990s the OAU also took greater interest in strengthening the economies of member countries. To that end, it encouraged the creation of regional partnerships across the continent. In 1997 OAU members established the African Economic Community (AEC). Envisioned as an African common market, the AEC signed an agreement with regional African economic groupings including the Southern African Development Community, the Economic Community of West African States, the Maghrib Arab Union, and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa.

Fields of Education, Science, Health

In these fields, OAU action may be credited with: pre-investment studies: fishery projects; an anti-rinder pest campaign that has vaccinated so far a billion dollars worth of cattle, a number of scientific investigations on plant protection, soils, animal health, all of which may be obtained from the OAU/STRC office in Lagos, Nigeria pilot projects in the field of earth science: geology, geophysics, the idea being to supply Africa with the most up-to-date know-how and limit the "brain drain"

Action in favour of African Refugees

A bureau for placement and education of African refugees was in operation at OAU headquarters since 1968. The bureau provided African refugees with educational and job opportunities. A convention governing aspects of refugee problems in Africa were adopted by OAU Heads of State in September 1969. To the terms of this convention, a refugee status and right of asylum are recognized to refugees by all independence Africa countries.

Transition from OAU to AU

The late 1980's and early 1990's was a considerable decade of change for Africa and the world. At the end of the cold war in the late 1989s with the fall of the Berlin wall and the breakaway of the states that made up the Soviet Union, a new world order was emerging. In Southern Africa in particular the most significant changes in Africa had taken place in the last decade of the 20th Century. Namibia gained its independence from South Africa after a 30 year occupation by its neighbor under a United Nations brokered agreement; In South Africa, the apartheid regime unbanned the ANC and other liberation movements in 1990; and in 1994 the country held its first democratic election. Other countries in the region experienced their own transitions towards multi-party democracy including Malawi, Zambia and Tanzania. The civil war raging in Mozambique was also drawing to an end in this period.

The main objectives of the OAU, to rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonization and apartheid; to promote unity and solidarity among African States; to coordinate and intensify cooperation for development; to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States and to promote international cooperation

within the framework of the United Nations had thus been largely accomplished by the 1990s.

African leaders were then able to focus their attention on revitalizing the continental organization to enable it to fulfil the economic, developmental and social aspirations of the OAU Charter and the treaty establishing the African Economic Community of 1991. The OAU made considerable progress towards the realignment of a continental body that would put citizens at the centre of Africa's development with the Charter on Popular Participation adopted in 1990. In terms of conflict resolution the Mechanism for the Prevention, Management and Resolution of Conflicts (1990) was adopted. Economic development and Africa's position with regards to international monetary organizations were honed in the Cairo Agenda for Action (1995): a programme for relaunching Africa's political, economic and social development; African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis (1997): a strategy for addressing the Continent's External Debt Crisis was created as well as The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) adopted in 2001. The Algiers decision on Unconstitutional Changes of Government (1999) and the Lome Declaration on the framework for an OAU Response to Unconstitutional Changes (2000); The 2000 Solemn Declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation: establishes the fundamental principles for the promotion of Democracy and Good Governance in the Continent addressed governance and the peace and security concern.

The foundation was therefore well set for the founding of the AU in Sirte, Libya in 1999 and its subsequent inaugurated in Durban, South Africa in 2002.

The vision of the AU is a united and strong Africa and on the need to build a partnership between governments and all segments of civil society, in particular women, youth and the private sector, in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion amongst the peoples of Africa.

As a continental organization it focuses on the promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent as a prerequisite for the implementation of the development and integration agenda of the Union.

The Objectives of the AU

- To achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and the peoples of Africa;
- To defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its Member States;
- To accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent;
- To promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its peoples;
- To encourage international cooperation, taking due account of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- To promote peace, security, and stability on the continent;





Heads of State at 2002 African Union Summit in Durban, South Africa

- To promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance;
- To promote and protect human and peoples' rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other relevant human rights instruments;
- To establish the necessary conditions which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations;
- To promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural levels as well as the integration of African economies;
- To promote co-operation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African peoples;
- To coordinate and harmonize the policies between the existing and future Regional Economic Communities for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the Union;
- To advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields, in particular in science and technology;
- To work with relevant international partners in the eradication of preventable diseases and the promotion of good health on the continent. Having established its objective the AU also established the following organs for it to be able to perform its mandate.

The Assembly

Composed of Heads of State and Government or their duly accredited representatives. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government is the supreme organ of the Union.

The Executive Council

Composed of Ministers or Authorities designated by the Governments of Member States. The Executive Council is responsible to the Assembly.

The Commission

Composed of the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson, eight Commissioners and Staff members; Each Commissioner is responsible for a portfolio.

The Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC)

It is Composed of Permanent Representatives of Member States accredited to the Union. The Permanent Representatives Committee is charged with the responsibility of preparing the work of the Executive Council.

Peace and Security Council (PSC)

Is responsible for the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa; Preventive diplomacy and the maintenance of peace; and Management of catastrophes and humanitarian actions.

Pan-African Parliament (PAP)

The PAP is composed of the presidency, bureau members who represent the five regions of Africa and 10 committees, which work on specific issues. Among the objectives of the PAP are to promote democracy, good governance and human rights in AU member states. The Parliament therefore helps to increase transparency and to strengthen the voice of the people and plays a fundamental role in implementing the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.

ECOSOCC

The Economic, Social and Cultural Council is an advisory organ composed of different social and professional groups of the Member States of the Union.

African Court on Human and Peoples Rights

The Court has jurisdiction over all cases and disputes submitted to it concerning the interpretation and application of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the (the Charter), the Protocol and any other relevant human rights instrument ratified by the States concerned.

The African Union also has a number of specialized committees dealing with various issues ranging from agricultural to education and human resources.

Furthermore, as Africa moves fully towards continental integration the AU's financial institutions



Heads of State posing in a family photograph after the opening of an AU Ordinary Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia © invest in Africa



established in the AU's Constitutive Act such as the African Central Bank, the African Monetary Fund and the African Investment Bank will play active roles in the economic development of the continent. It is envisaged that the African Central Bank will issue the common African currency, whilst the African Monetary Fund will assist Member States in the surveillance of macroeconomic prudence as envisaged African Monetary Union and will be managed by the African Central Bank. The African Investment Bank will act as financier of regional and country level development projects.

So far, the AUC recognizes eight Regional Economic Communities (RECs), considered as building blocs to the

Some Achievements of AU in 10 Years of its Establishment

Although the African Union is still in its formative stage, its significant achievements in the first decade of existence can be listed: the socio-economic development plan under the NEPAD umbrella; the establishment of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to strengthen governance and accountability and reduce impunity; and the setting up of key organs to underpin the African Union vision, including a Peace and Security Council to manage inter-African conflicts based on negotiations, dialogue and peaceful settlement of disputes.

The implementation of the integration agenda was started through the 2004-2007 Strategic Plan; followed by the 2009-2012 Strategic Plan. The 2009-2012 Strategic Plan of the African Union Commission was based on four strategic pillars namely, Peace and Security; integration, Development and Cooperation; Shared Values, and Institution and Capacity Building.

Peace & Security

The African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), whose main Pillar is the Peace and Security Council, Supported by the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS); the African Standby Force (ASF); the Panel of the Wise, and others, has been under implementation since 2004. A Security Sector Reform Policy has been adopted. Progress has also been made in terms of promoting and coordinating a program on Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development and engendering the APSA.

Development, Integration and cooperation

The AUC has taken measures to boost intra-African trade with Ministerial meetings and the dedication of the 18th Ordinary Session of the Assembly to boosting intra African Trade, and fast tracking the establishment of the Continental free trade Area (CFTA) by 2017. Good progress has been registered in advancing the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development (CAADP) agenda, in terms of mobilisation of political commitment, supporting the formulation of evidence-based policies and strategies including their harmonization and mobilization of investment resources for implementation as well as in successful implementation of other flagship programmes such as promotion of livestock health and productivity.

In the area of Infrastructure, the AUC, in partnership

with NPCA, ECA, AfDB, has developed the Program on Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) which covers transport, energy, and telecommunication/ICT and water sectors. Progress was also registered in developing and sustaining human capabilities through increased access to health, education, nutrition, shelter, sanitation and employment. The Commission has set up the Pan African University, established the Mwalimu Nyerere African Union Scholarship Scheme, put in place an African Regional Nutritional Strategy, launched the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal, Infant and Child Mortality in Africa (CARMMA), and stepped up follow-up actions regarding the Abuja Call for Accelerated Action Towards Universal Access to HIV/AIDs, TB and Malaria Services and other Infectious Diseases.

Youth Development and Women Empowerment has been promoted through the African Youth Charter, a Plan of Action of the Decade for Youth Development in Africa (2009-2018), a program on Youth Empowerment through Non-Formal and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), and African Women's Decade and Funds for African Women. The African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOST) has been established, including the development of Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA) and the establishment of African Union Research Grant Program. An African Charter on Statistics was also developed in 2009.

To strengthen continental integration, a decision of the Assembly in Banjul in 2006 reduced the number of inter-state bodies recognized as a REC from 16 to 8. This move seeks to promote the rationalization of the RECs, as well as promote the coordination and harmonization of their activities.

The AUC has also developed a Minimum Integration Program (MIP) with the RECs and an Action Plan. Areas covered under the MIP include: trade, infrastructure development, free movement of people as well as peace and security, but challenges remain with respect to implementation, and overlaps with other frameworks such as BIAT – thus the need to clarify the way forward.

The AUC has established extensive strategic partnerships across the world such as: Africa-India Forum, Africa-South America Partnership, Africa-European Union Partnership, Africa-Turkey Partnership, AUC-Australia Cooperation, AUC-USA Cooperation, Afro-Arab Cooperation, AUC-OIC Secretariat Partnership, AUC-OAS General Secretariat Partnership, Africa-Japan partnerships, Cooperation between the AUC and the Commonwealth Secretariat. Measures taken to promote African Common position in multilateral and regional forums include the development of African Common Position on the EPAs, WTO and AGOA, in close collaboration with the UNECA and other partners. This led to improved coordination and the development of common position during AU-EU dialogue and in the Doha Rounds of Trade negotiations and AU-UN Post 2015, Rio+20 and ICPD beyond 2014 and AU-USA etc.

However, enhancing Africa's share of global trade remains a monumental challenge especially with respect to increased exports of value added products, which highlights the nexus between trade policy and industrial policy. In this regard, the AU has endorsed the Action Plan for the



Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa (AIDA) as well as the Action Plan for the Africa Mining Vision which promotes the harnessing of mineral resources for sustainable development. North-South as well as South-South Partnerships provides an opportunity to implement continental frameworks such as CAADP, PIDA, AIDA, and BIAT in a prioritised and strategic manner.

Rinderpest, a disease which has caused havoc among livestock communities, has been eradicated from the World in general and Africa in particular with the internationally recognition of the contributions of the African Union Commission as a whole and the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture in particular through its Technical Offices, the Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR) and the Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (PANVAC), together with International partners: the OIE, FAO and IAEA, in the realization of this success.

Similarly, an African Common Position on Climate Change was developed in 2008, based on which Africa has since been negotiating in international climate change fora with a single voice facilitated by the streamlined coordination mechanism that is in place at technical, ministerial and summit levels. Such an experience was later to serve as a model for Africa to develop common positions which were advanced with a single voice. Together with RECs and partners, institutional mechanisms are in place to enhance Member States capacities in the areas of access to climate information, resilience and preparedness to disaster risk – the establishment in 2012 of African Risk Capacity as a specialised AU agency could be mentioned.

Shared Values

The Commission has established the African Governance Architecture and Platform as the overall political and institutional framework for enhancing coordination, interaction and synergies among AU organs, institutions and RECs in promoting good governance and democracy in Africa. The AGA Platform coordinates implementation of AU shared values instruments, review and assessment of compliance with AU norms and provision of technical support to Member states on governance and consolidation of democracy.

With regards to the rights-based approach to development, the Commission has put in place a number of instruments, including the Ouagadougou Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment and Poverty Alleviation and the AU Social Policy Framework which provides guidance to member states in the promotion of the rights and ensuring the welfare of marginalized and excluded groups. The African Union has developed a draft Humanitarian Policy Framework, aimed at promoting greater legal preparedness of member-states to overcome regulatory barriers to effective cross-border disaster assistance. The Commission has led efforts to develop and adopt a Program of Action for the implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (2006-2015) and the establishment of the *African Risk Capacity project*.

The Commission has sought to promote African Cultural Renaissance and the protection of Africa's cultural heritage. The AUC has drawn up a Charter for Cultural

Renaissance and a Plan of Action for Cultural and Creative Industries, and there are plans to translate the charter into cross-border African languages. In addition, a preliminary feasibility study on the establishment of the Pan African Cultural Institute has been conducted. The objectives of the Pan-African Media Network (PAMEN), which the AUC launched in Cape Town in 2011, include taking steps to rectify the distorted image of Africa. This followed earlier attempts by the Commission, in collaboration with Egypt, to establish Pan African Radio and Television station. An Africa Citizens Directorate, (CIDO), has been established and a Diaspora task team set up.

The African Union Youth Volunteer Corps was launched in 2010, under which over 200 young professionals (youths) have been trained for volunteer work and are being deployed in institutions, public sector including the AUC. In furtherance of youth participation and contribution the 17th Ordinary Session of the African Union Heads of State and Government was devoted to the theme '*Accelerating Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development*'; and its decision positioned Africa to deliver as one for youth through a Comparative Statistical database on the status of youth in Africa. Actions have also been taken to promote the ratification and entry into force of all outstanding legal instruments adopted by the Assembly of the Union.

Efforts to promote gender mainstreaming led to the adoption of AU Gender Policy in 2009, the declaration by the Assembly of 2010-2020 as the African Women's Decade, the development of the 10 Year Gender Action Plan and Road Map and the location of the Gender Directorate in the Office of the Chairperson of the Commission. Related initiatives include capacity building programs such as "Gender Response Economic Policy Making in Africa", aimed at promoting gender sensitive planning and programming at the national level. Furthermore, AU's commitment to fight gender based violence, as enshrined in the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) and a series of decisions and measures taken over the years, partially accounts for measures several member-states have taken to outlaw gender-based violence, although some cultural practices such as female genital mutilations remains a challenge across the continent.

Sources

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2. The Role of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as the Building Blocks of the African Union prepared by the South African Department of Foreign Affairs.
3. Presentation by Ms Bineswaree Aruna Bolaky Africa Section Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, 24 June 2011 titled Economic Integration for Africa's Development- Partners
4. The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Programme (CAADP) in Practice: Highlighting the Success, NEPAD Coordinating Agency, November 2010



Secretary Generals of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU)



Amara Essy,
2001-2003



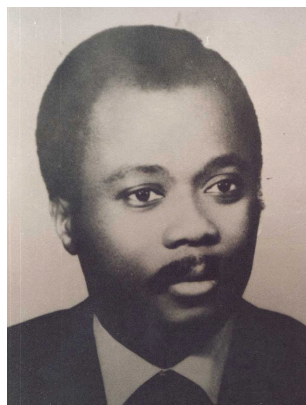
Salim Ahmed Salim ,
1989-2001



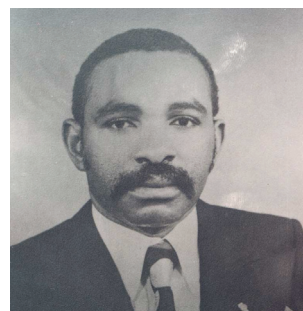
Ide Oumarou
1985-1989



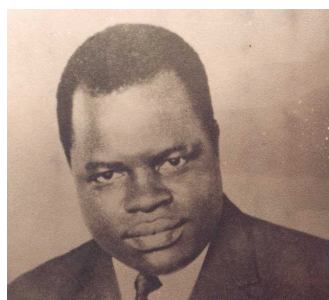
Dr. Peter U. Onu
1983-1985



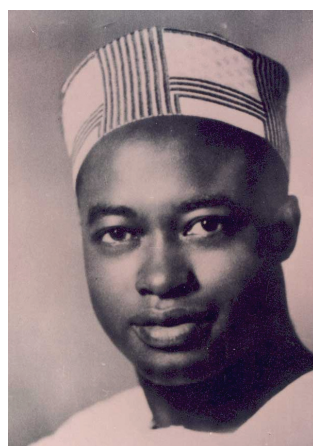
Edem Kodjo
1978-1983



William Eteki Mboumoua
1974-1978



Nzo Ekangaki
1972-1974



Diallo Telli Boubacar
1964-1972

H.E. Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Dr Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini Zuma became the first female Chairperson of the African Union Commission after her election to the position in 2013. Dr Zuma has held many notable positions among these she was the Minister of Health for South Africa from 1994-1998. Dr Zuma ably presided over the successful transformation of a racially divided national health system. Under her sterling leadership, Dr Dlamini Zuma brought unprecedented progressive health legislation that changed fundamentally the notion of healthcare in South Africa. From 1999 to 2009, Dr Dlamini Zuma, held the position of Minister of Foreign Affairs and served on many African Union panels, committees and forums during the transition from OAU to AU and served as Chairperson of the Post-Conflict Reconstruction Ministerial Committee of the Sudan. Dr Dlamini Zuma was appointed Minister of Home Affairs in 2009 to 2013. As Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Dlamini Zuma instituted improved policies regulating both South African and non-South African citizens' access to rights and benefits from the government. Dr Dlamini Zuma holds BSc in Zoology and Botany from University of Zululand; an MBChB from University of Bristol and Post Graduate Diploma in Tropical Child Health from School of Tropical Medicine, University of Liverpool.

On her appointment as Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr Dlamini Zuma in her address during the handover ceremony on 15 October 2012 highlighted her vision for the African Union Commission for the period of her term.

"While I am filled with humility and honour that I have been elected into this position, the magnitude of the task does not escape me. Let me therefore say from the onset that I expect to stand on the shoulders of the giants that preceded me, working together with member states and other partners to create a prosperous Africa, which is at peace with itself and the world.

As we approach the next set of hills, let us recall the vision for our continent as articulated by the African Union, and which guides the work of the Commission: **An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena.**

All these challenges require an organisational machinery that is equal to the task of implementing our vision of an integrated, prosperous, peaceful and people-centred Africa. There has been progress in strengthening and improving the capacity of the AU Commission, but we are not there yet, in the words of the Deputy Chairperson as he bid farewell to the outgoing Chairperson yesterday.

An urgent priority will therefore be to ensure that the African Union Commission is effective, responsive and efficient in its work, and that it represents the

organisational and shared values of collective leadership, hard work, inclusivity and a people-centred approach.

As I take this responsibility I would like to work very closely with United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank as we are three organisations with different but complementary mandates to advance the African agenda.

The African Union is founded on the building blocks of regions. We will therefore have robust and dynamic relations with the Regional Economic Communities and encourage the different Regional Economic Communities to work closer to share best practice and information. As building blocks of integration, we will work closely with the RECs on the issues of integration, peace-building and economic, social and human development across the length and breadth of the continent. Every decision taken by the policy organs of the AU is important and must be implemented. On our part as a Commission we will do our best to implement those decisions assigned to us. I am mindful however that the member states and the RECs are at the core face and main agents for implementation of the bulk of those decisions. The impact of the policies of the Union can only be measured by how they affect our people on the ground and this can only happen if these policies enunciated in the decisions of the AU are implemented.

The Commission is an instrument created by and for the member states of the Union. It does not exist in a vacuum and cannot work in a vacuum. It shall therefore maintain close contact with the member states through the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC), which plays a critical role in implementing the decisions of the African Union Heads of State and the vision of our continent.

I would like to reiterate that we should look at ourselves as a continent, not only as individual countries. We are a formidable force as a continent if we are united, but if we are divided we are weak. Nobody can ignore us united. Nobody can fail to see the continent as a force for global change, if we look at ourselves as a continent."

***While I am filled with
humility and honour
that I have been
elected into this
position, the magnitude
of the task does not
escape me***



Heads of the AU Southern Africa Regional Office

H.E. DR SALIF SADA SALL **AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa** **2010-To date**



Dr. Salif Sada Sall, Senegalese national, is the incumbent Regional Delegate to Southern Africa since 2010. Before, assuming this position, he served as Director of Strategic Planning Policy, Monitoring, Evaluation and Resource Mobilization (SPPERM) in African Union

Commission, in Addis Ababa – Ethiopia (2004-2010). He joined Organisation of the African Unity in 2002 as Trade Policy Expert in Policy Analysis Support Unit (PASU) of the OAU.

Prior to this, Dr Sall served his country in various capacities. After a Master in Economics and a Doctorate in Economics and Policy Analysis obtained in 1987 at the University of Lille (France), he began his Professional career as an academia in the Cheikh Anta Diop University (Dakar, Senegal) in his home country where he lectured Macroeconomics, Economic growth and fluctuations, Microeconomics, Public and Finance Economics, International Economics as Assistant Coordinator, and Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Economics and Management Sciences - University Cheikh Anta Diop (1987-2002). He also taught at the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENAM) in Senegal (1993-1994), and lectured at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure Universitaire de Technologie (ENSUT)-Senegal (1989-2002). He headed the Laboratory for Analysis and Economic Policy of the Centre for Applied Economic Research (CREA), Faculty of Economics and Management, University Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar-Senegal (1997-2000).

Between 2000-2002, he Chaired committee on Infrastructures, Human Capital and Economic Growth as member of the scientific committee of the Omega Plan of Senegal aimed to merge the, then, two continental initiatives (Africa Renaissance Plan of South Africa and the Omega Plan) leading to the consolidated New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). In civil service, in 2000 he was nominated Director of Development Strategies, Ministry of Economic Planning, Republic of Senegal and served as Director of Economic Development Strategies, between 2001- 2002 in the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Republic of Senegal.

Dr Sall has been also Economist Visiting Scholar at the Research Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in Washington-USA (August-September 1996 and November 1997) where he was working on a Monetary Model of the Balance of Payments of Senegal. He is also a Fellow of Ecole PARADI on Economic Development Policy Modeling (Laval University/ Quebec- CANADA) (1996-1997).

He participated in his capacity as Executive Secretary for Higher education teachers' Union Section-Droit-Economie

(SAES) and Assistant Professor to the National consultations on Universities and Higher Education (Dakar, June-July-August 1993) and later in 1994, was sent as Economist academic expert to represent the Faculty of Economics of Cheikh Anta Diop University in the Long-term development and Human Resources committee of the consultations on the National economy. He is also member of the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Network Nairobi-Kenya since 1993. The Government of Senegal has elevated him to the level of Ambassador.

PROF. RAPHAEL OMATAYO OLANIYAN **AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa** **2006-2010**



Professor Raphael Omatayo Olaniyan, Nigerian national, was the African Union Regional Delegate to Southern Africa from 2006 to 2010. Prior to that, he worked in the African Union in various capacities at the Permanent

Observer Mission of the OAU to the United Nations from 1992-2006. Among others, he served as Acting Executive Secretary 2004-2006 and Assistant Executive Secretary (Economic Affairs) in 1997-2004. Back home, he worked as academia as professor of international Economic Relations, Associate Research Professor in International Economic Relations and Head of the Division of international Economic Relations in the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs.

AMBASSADOR MS. SUSAN YOYO SIKANETA **AU Executive Secretary to Southern Africa** **2003-2005**



Ms. Susan Yoyo Sikaneta, Zambian, was the first African Regional Delegate to Southern Africa from 2003 to 2005, then the position was titled African Union Executive Secretary to Southern Africa. Before joining AU, she served

the Zambian government in various capacities including; Permanent Secretary (1998-2003); Deputy Ambassador of Zambia to Sweden; Deputy Ambassador of Zambia to India; Chairperson of Administrative Commissions at Cabinet Office; and Senior Private Secretary to the President during Kenneth Kaunda's regime.



Socio-Economic Development in Southern Africa





Chairpersons of the African Union Commission (AUC)



HE .Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma,
incumbent AUC Chairperson



Dr Jean Ping,
AUC Chairperson 2007-2002



Prof. Alpha Oumar Konare
AUC Chairperson (2002-2007)

Get to know the African Union Southern Africa Regional Office

Popularisation of the African Union (AU) and spearheading the regional integration initiative in Southern Africa are some of the mandates of the African Union Southern Africa Office (AU-SARO).

The African Union Southern Africa Regional Office (AU-SARO) was established in 2001. It is a representational office to develop and maintain constructive and productive relationship between the AU and Member States in the Region, as well as SADC and COMESA.

The core functions include the following:

- To represent the AU in the Southern Africa region ; and increase awareness about the AU, its mission and its work in the region;
- To establish working relationships with the Southern Africa Region;
- To monitor political developments of concern to African countries in the Southern Africa region;
- To ensure that Southern African activities on Refugees, Health, Immigration and Natural Disasters receive quick attention from the AU;
- To support the Exchange of Information between Southern African countries and the AU;
- To counter, when necessary, media distortions about developments and events in Southern Africa;
- To follow-up on issues relating to early warning systems in Southern Africa;
- To ensure regular consultations with the RECs in the region;
- To promote unity, solidarity and enhance Pan-African spirit in the Southern African Region;
- To liaise and harmonise specific policies in geo-political and socio-economic activities of the AU in the Southern African Region.

In the context of these core functions, the AU-SARO works closely with the following

- The AU Members States in Southern Africa;
- Regional Economic Communities, especially the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA);
- The Multilateral organizations including the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa- Southern Africa Office (UNECA-SO), African Development Bank (AfDB), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United

Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Health Organization (WHO) etc;

- European Union Delegation to Malawi;
- The African Centre for Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases (CTTBD);
- The Guidance, Counselling and Youth Development Centre for Africa (GCYDCA);
- Non-governmental organizations actively engaged in the promotion of economic growth and development in Southern Africa.
- AU-SARO has just forged a new partnership with the American National Board of Certified Counselors-Internal (NBCC-I).

In addition, the Office works closely with the African Ambassadors/High Commissioners accredited to the Republic of Malawi, on integration and development issues in the region.

There is continuous engagement and consultations with all stakeholders, including development partners, in the region to ensure that support for development programs are in conformity with the AU continental development agenda.

Institutional capacity building is also one of the programmes that AU-SARO has implemented to achieve the mandates. The office is working hand in hand with various academic institutions to build capacity of universities in Southern Africa through its AU model summit programme. Catholic university of Malawi is one of the institutions that AU-SARO has worked with.

It is a representational office to develop and maintain constructive and productive relationship between the AU and Member States in the Region, as well as SADC and COMESA



Regional Economic Communities, building blocks for Africa's Integration



*Ambassador Vijay S. Makhan
Former Assistant Secretary General of the OAU
For Economic Affairs (1995-2003)*

Integration and the quest for unity have preoccupied many African leaders since the early years of independence. Viewed as a tool for promoting economic growth and sustainable development and improving the living standards of the African people, the grouping of African countries banded together in 1963 to create the Organization of African Unity to fight the impact of colonialism and build a united Africa. The transformation of the OAU to the present African Union with a commentary secretariat structure, The African Union Commission (AUC) and other various organs of the AU, the vision for greater regional economic, development and integration region by region is being realized. Regional integration is not without its share of challenges but still present the most viable vehicle for Africa to realize its full economic potential, including the eradication of poverty among its people. Since its inception, significantly, new efforts have been put in place towards this goal. Recognizing the importance of regional integration to developing a strong and united Africa, the continent's leaders have established a number of initiatives. Key stakeholder including the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), The Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and the African Development Bank (AfDB) play an important role in integration.

I. History and Overview of Regional Integration in Africa

In July 1977 the Summit in Libreville endorsed the Kinshasa Declaration adopted by the OAU Council of Ministers in December 1976 concerning the establishment of an African Economic Community, which was to be attained in successive stages. The "Monrovia Declaration of Commitment on the Guidelines and Measures for National and Collective Self-reliance in Economic and Social Development for the Establishment of a New International Order" called for the creation of an African Common Market as a prelude to an African Economic Community.

In 1980 the OAU Extraordinary Summit adopted the Lagos Plan of Action as a major step towards the goal of integration. The commitments in this Plan and the Final Act of Lagos were translated into concrete form in Abuja in June 1991 when the OAU Heads of State and Government signed the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (popularly known as the Abuja Treaty) during the 27th ordinary session of the OAU. The Abuja Treaty came into force after the requisite numbers of ratification in May 1994.

The aim of the Abuja Treaty is to establish an African Economic Community to promote economic, social and cultural development, as well as African economic integration, in order to increase self-sufficiency and indigenous development and to create a framework for development, mobilisation of human and material resources and material.

The emphasis was placed on diversification of Africa's productive base by focusing on agriculture, mining and industry so as to increase locally-produced goods and services which will later give rise to increased intra-African trade.

The Treaty also speaks of the integration, rehabilitation

and modernization of the continent's infrastructural network so as to build a more efficient and operational intra-African transportation and communications system.

The Treaty provides for the African Economic Community to be set up through a gradual process, in 6 stages over 34 years, i.e. by 2028.

In 2000, the OAU/AEC Summit in Lomé adopted the Constitutive Act of the African Union, which formally replaced the OAU in 2002. The Constitutive Act of the African Union, is premised on the accelerated implementation of the Abuja Treaty in order to promote the socio-economic development of Africa and to face more effectively the challenges posed by globalisation. In terms of its legal status, the Abuja Treaty and its envisaged Protocols forms an integral part of the OAU Charter. Article 33(1) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union stipulates that the Act will replace the OAU Charter, while Article 33(2) stipulates that provisions of the Act will take precedence over and supersede any inconsistent or contrary provisions of the Abuja Treaty.

The AU Assembly adopted a Protocol on Relations between the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities. This protocol is intended to facilitate the harmonisation of policies and ensure compliance with the Abuja Treaty and Lagos Plan of Action time frames.

In accordance with Article 88 of the Abuja Treaty, the foundation of the Treaty is that the African Economic Community must be established mainly through the coordination, harmonization and progressive integration of the activities of the RECs. To this end, Member States have formed Regional Economic Communities to promote the coordination and harmonization of integration activities with the ultimate aim of realizing the AEC. RECs thus play a complementary the role of the



African Union.

2. The Southern African RECs: Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

In Southern Africa, the Southern African Development Community and the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA) are the two main Regional Economic Communities to which regional AU Member States belong. In some cases countries have membership of both RECs.

2.1. Implementation of Regional Integration Agenda in Southern Africa region

The boosting of intra-African trade and the deepening of Africa's market integration, by fostering competition among African countries, will assist in enhancing their capacity and prepare them to compete more effectively on the global market. However trade barriers remain one of the biggest challenges to regional integration. Only about 10 – 12 % of African trade is with other African nations by comparison, 40% of

North American trade is with other North American countries, and 63% of trade by countries in Western Europe is with other Western European nations. Whilst African countries have in the past 30 years worked on eliminating trade barriers much work must still be done to facilitate trade in commodities and services among nations. Regional trade will increase when countries increase their productive capacity and diversify production.

2.1.1. Boosting intra-African trade and deepening regional market

To enhance intra-Africa trade the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AU has adopted a number of important initiatives specifically aimed at boosting trade among African States. These include :

- The adoption of the Action Plan for Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) that is aimed at the enhancement of the continent's industrial capacities and capabilities;
- The African Productive Capacity Initiative (APCI); Action Plan for the Development of Science and Technology, and the Africa Technology 9 and Innovation Initiative (ATII);
- The Africa Mining Vision; and the African Agribusiness and Agroindustry Development Initiative (3ADI) ;
- The endorsement in 2012 by African Heads of State and Government of an African Union Plan for Boosting Intra-African Trade and fast tracking the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) by 2017 .Other initiatives to aid regional trade are Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and Minimum Integration Programme (MIP).

2.1.2. Intra-regional Trade in Southern Africa

Regional integration initiatives in Africa have a long history, dating back to the establishment of the South African Customs Union (SACU) in 1910 and the East African Community (EAC) in 1919, the SADC bloc has the highest intra-regional trade compared to the other African RECs (19.9% for export and 33.1% for imports), although it is mostly directed towards South Africa. SADC's trade with the rest of Africa is, however, the lowest(2.3% for export and 2.6% for import), while trade with the rest of the world is more important for the sub-region. Besides formal trade it is estimated that informal trade accounts for between 30 and 40 per cent of intra-SADC trade. Whereas the region's exports to the rest of the world are highly concentrated around a few products, intra-regional trade is much more diversified. The diversified nature of intra-regional trade, when compared with its exports to the rest of the world suggests that countries who trade more within the region will gain more from diversifying their production and moving towards manufacturing.

In SADC, the SADC Multi-country Agricultural Productivity Programme (SADC MAPP) is promoting agricultural technology generation and dissemination, and strengthening linkages among agricultural institutions in the SADC region in order to accelerate smallholder productivity. Through its Framework for African Agricultural Productivity (FAAP), SADC MAPP is focusing on the following programmatic themes for supporting activities within the MAPP: Farmer empowerment and market access; Research and technology generation; Farmer lead advisory services and innovation systems; Education, training and learning systems; Knowledge, information and communication; Institutional development and capacity building.

2.2. Infrastructure Developments in the Region

For oil and gas pipelines infrastructure development has occurred. The Mozambique–South Africa Natural Gas Project and the Mombasa–Nairobi petroleum products pipeline extending from Eldoret (in western Kenya) to Kampala (in Uganda), are all contributing to significantly lower prices for petroleum products in Burundi, Rwanda, and landlocked regions of northwestern Tanzania and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

2.3. Food Security and Land use

About 70 percent of the SADC population is rural based where agriculture and utilisation of natural resources are the main economic activities for food security and livelihood support. Agriculture is one of the largest users of land and contributes to about 35 percent of the regional Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

It is widely acknowledged that a well-performing agricultural sector is fundamental for Africa's overall economic growth, as well for as addressing hunger, poverty, and inequality. The New Partnership for Africa's



Development (NEPAD) – a programme of the African Union (AU), earlier on recognised the importance of agriculture and the weaknesses of Member States agricultural policies. NEPAD developed a special initiative, namely the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), to improve agricultural policies on the continent.

The CAADP was established by the AU assembly in 2003, CAADP focuses on improving food security, nutrition, and increasing incomes in Africa's largely farming based economies. In essence it aims to do this by raising agricultural productivity by at least 6% per year and increasing public investment in agriculture to 10% of national budgets per year. CAADP aims to help African countries reach a higher path of economic growth through agriculture-led development. CAADP's goal is to eliminate hunger and reduce poverty through agriculture.

The CAADP Pillars are CAADP's four key focus areas for agricultural improvement and investment. Each pillar is headed by a different pillar leader. These four key pillars 'Sustainable Land and Water Management'; 'Market Access'; 'Food Supply and Hunger'; and 'Agricultural Research'. Each pillar oversees various programmes working to achieve CAADP's goals.

In its first few years of CAADP implementation, the focus was on country level policy development. Countries thus developed policies and programmes that created a more positive policy environment for the agricultural sector at national level. Engagement with CAADP has provided technical assistance as well as donor and other financial inflows to the agricultural sector. Governments, by engaging with CAADP, have become better positioned to co-ordinate and manage external donor assistance to their agricultural programmes and expenditure. Engagement with CAADP has strengthened country participation in regional agricultural development initiatives and in agricultural research and policy development. Most importantly CAADP has encouraged the development of regional and continental expertise in the area of agriculture and food security. It has also brought together governments, practitioners, academics and farmers groups and private sector role players to chart the way forward from the agricultural sector. CAADP has also contributed to a more integrated approach to agriculture, which now also include the fishing and live stock farming industry as part of the bigger agricultural framework focusing countries away from cash crops and staple food production only. In terms of the regional dimensions of CAADP, COMESA has already taken steps to implement a Regional CAADP compact, whilst for SADC this is still at the discussion stage. More still need to be done within countries in the Southern Africa region to fill full the pledges that heads of states made in 2002.

2.4. The Way Forward for Greater Regional Integration

A number of decisions have been taken to give concrete shape to integration. But regrettably, in most

cases, they have remained at the level of intention. The greatest obstacle remains the non-implementation of these decisions within a time-bound frame. The African Union Commission is yet to devise a well-oiled mechanism to monitor effective implementation of decisions taken at the highest level. Each country should be enjoined to set up a cell within the government machinery to steer the implementation of continental decisions, principally those aimed at integration. The AU Commission should also have an effective Monitoring and Evaluation Unit to follow closely thereon. The financing of integration remains a difficult hurdle for the continent. Member states should imperatively consent to finance integration policies by mobilising domestic resources towards that end. Moreover, a number of practical steps can be taken almost immediately to give substance to the integration thrust by, among others, adopting visa abolition policies that would facilitate the free movement of persons; the issuance of an African Union passport; the harmonisation and rationalisation of economic policies to favour intra-African trade; the empowerment of the continental institutions, principally the African Union Commission; the pooling of sovereignty to enable the AU Commission to effectively assume its role of legal representative of the African Union in international trade negotiations. The projected All-Africa Free Trade Area benchmarked for 2017 is a step in the right direction but again, a constant monitoring and evaluation of progress towards that end is an absolute must, if that is indeed the objective we wish to achieve. An incremental form of integration will surely yield early dividends.

The emphasis was placed on diversification of Africa's productive base by focusing on agriculture, mining and industry so as to increase locally-produced goods and services which will later give rise to increased intra-African trade.



Fostering integration in Southern Africa



Dr. Andrew Mwaba, AfDB
Resident Representative,
Malawi

With a population of more than 161 million people and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of US\$ 429 billion, Southern Africa is faced with inadequate infrastructure, high production costs, low investment in energy production, limited backbone connectivity with high prices, challenging investment climate, low institutional capacity and poor regulatory frameworks, inadequate statistical capacity and high incidence of HIV/AIDS. It was further noted that between 1980 and 2008, Southern Africa's share of world trade was decreasing despite an increase in population. In efforts to facilitate regional integration and expand trade among member countries in the Southern Africa region and globally, a number of economic groupings were established including, SADC, COMESA, SACU, and the CMA.

Regional Integration was a major objective for the founding of the African Development Bank and continues to be a main priority of the Bank Ten Year Strategy. In fostering integration, the Bank has progressively set aside resources for financing regional operations; under the ADF XI, the Bank devoted 17.5% of its resources to regional operations, while for the ADF XII 20% of the resource envelope was allocated to regional projects.

The Bank is playing a key role in promoting regional integration and prepared the Regional Integration Strategy Paper (RISP) for Southern Africa covering the period 2011 to 2015. The RISP was one of the commitments in the Twelfth Replenishment of the African Development Fund (ADF XII) in terms of filtering projects for financing in the Southern Africa region. The goal of the Southern African Regional Integration agenda is to create a fully integrated and internationally competitive region with the overarching objective of poverty reduction. This goal will be achieved progressively through the creation of a Free Trade Area (FTA) which will grow into a Customs Union, Common Market, Monetary Union, and finally the creation of the African Economic Community (AEC). The RISP covers twelve countries of Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The other SADC countries which are not covered under Southern Africa RISP are included in the other regions.

The Bank continues to advocate for infrastructure development as it plays a key role in economic growth and poverty reduction. The lack of adequate infrastructure leads to higher production and transaction costs, which lessen the competitiveness of businesses export products. The strategic focus of the RISP for Southern Africa is therefore on two pillars. The first

pillar focusses on strengthening regional infrastructure including transport, energy and information and communication technology, while the second pillar focuses on capacity building including support to COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite process, strengthening of countries and RECs capacity with infrastructure focus and Trade and Transport Facilitation and Aid for Trade. The RISP also focuses on cross cutting issues including

***The Bank is playing a
key role in
promoting regional
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Regional Integration
Strategy Paper (RISP)
for Southern Africa
covering the period
2011 to 2015***



The Nacala Road Corridor: One of the AfDB infrastructure development project in Southern Africa

regional public goods, knowledge and macroeconomic convergence. The expected outcomes of the Strategy are connected markets, higher human capital and improved productivity.

***The Bank continues to
advocate for
infrastructure
development as it plays
a key role in economic
growth and poverty
reduction.***

In operationalizing its strategy for regional integration in the region, the Bank is supporting, among other initiatives, several flagship projects in the region including the construction of Kazungula Bridge which will facilitate connecting the three countries of Zambia, Botswana and Namibia. The Bank is also supporting the Nacala Road Corridor development which will facilitate the transfer of goods from three countries of Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia to regional and international markets. In trying to find economic and cheaper routes to the regional and international markets, the countries of Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia would like to explore the possibility of re-using Shire - Zambezi Waterway as a means of transporting goods. At the request of the three countries, the Bank through the African Water Facility is supporting the feasibility study for the Shire – Zambezi waterway project.

The Bank is also supporting the preparation of the investment programme including detailed designs for the Integrated Songwe River Basin between Malawi and Tanzania for the development of shared hydroelectric power, river stabilisation, water and sanitation, irrigation, and ecotourism. Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia are also exploring the possibility of developing the Mtwara Transport Development Corridor and the Bank will consider supporting the initiative. In the area of energy, the Bank will support the Power Interconnection project between Malawi and Mozambique in collaboration with other partners.

The Energy Situation in Southern Africa



Phillippe Niyongabo
Head of Energy Division
Infrastructure and Energy Department, AUC

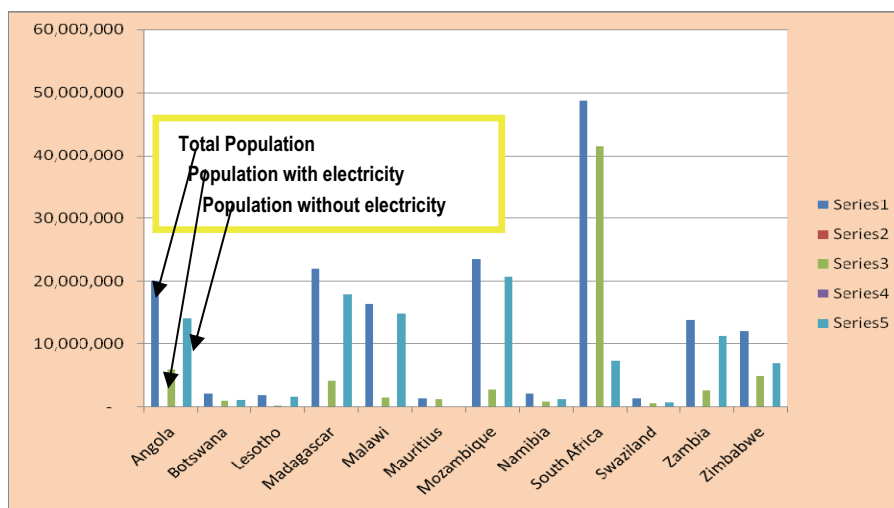
Energy Status Quo

The overall state of Energy in Africa shows that more than 500 million people on the continent do not have access to modern energy sources. In 18% of the countries in Africa energy access is still less than 10%. In Southern Africa the scenario is as follows:

Population with and without access to electricity in Southern Africa

Southern African Region		%	Pop.	%	Pop.
Country	Population	Access Rate	with e	Supply Gap	without e
Angola	20,139,765	30	6,041,930	70	14,097,836
Botswana	2,098,018	45.4	952,500	54.6	1,145,518
Lesotho	1,930,493	16	308,879	84	1,621,614
Madagascar	22,005,222	19	4,180,992	81	17,824,230
Malawi	16,323,044	9	1,469,074	91	14,853,970
Mauritius	1,313,095	99.4	1,305,216	0.6	7,879
Mozambique	23,515,934	11.7	2,751,364	88.3	20,764,570
Namibia	2,165,828	40	866,331	60	1,299,497
South Africa	48,810,427	85	41,488,863	15	7,321,564
Swaziland	1,386,914	45	624,111	55	762,803
Zambia	13,881,336	18.8	2,609,691	81.2	11,271,645
Zimbabwe	12,084,304	41.5	5,014,986	58.5	7,069,318
Total	165,654,380	41%	67,613,938	59	98,040,442

The Gross theoretical hydropower potential on the continent of Africa is about 4,000 TWh/year with technically feasible hydropower potential around 1,750 TWh/year of which only 5% is exploited. The total installed hydropower capacity in Africa is about 20.3GW currently generating 76 TWh/year only.





History of the main installations of electricity power stations in Southern Africa

1. 1960 – Kariba Dam South Hydropower plant on the Zambezi River in Mashonaland, Zimbabwe with design capacity of 750MWe.
2. 1976 – Cabora Bassa Hydroelectric power plant on the Zambezi River in Mozambique with a design capacity of 2075MWe.
3. 1978 – Kafue Gorge Dam Hydropower plant on the Kafue River in Zambia with a design capacity of 900MWe.
4. 1982 – Drakensberg Pumped Storage Hydropower plant in Kwazulu Natal South Africa with a design capacity of 1000MWe.
5. 1984/85 – Koeberg Nuclear power plant (2 units) in the Western Cape in South Africa with a design capacity of 1888MWe
6. 1987 – Hwange Coal Power plant in Hwange in Zimbabwe with a design capacity of 920MWe.
7. 1990 – Lethabo Coal Power Station in the Free State, South Africa with a design capacity of 3708MWe
8. 1993 – Kendal Coal Power station in Mpumalanga, South Africa with a design capacity of 4115MWe
9. 1999 – Capanda Hydroelectric power plant in Malanje, Angola with design capacity of 520MWe
10. 2001 - Majuba Coal Power station in Mpumalanga, South Africa with a design capacity of 4110MWe

Ongoing Initiatives

The Declaration adopted by the 12th AU Summit in Addis Ababa in February 2009, on the development of infrastructure and energy in Africa, the Heads of Governments and States emphasised, among others, “the urgent need to enhance access to energy infrastructure and services for the majority of the African population, as well as to enhance the inter-State trade in the energy sector by implementing major integrative hydroelectric power projects”

The African Union Commission in collaboration with its African partners including the African Development Bank (AfDB), the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) elaborated a Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (**PIDA**). This programme covers four (4) sectors that include energy, trans-boundary water, transport and ICT. The main components of PIDA are:

- ♦ A strategic framework for the development of

regional and continental infrastructure and energy.

- ♦ An infrastructure development programme articulated around priorities and time horizons;
- ♦ An implementation strategy and process including a priority action plan (PAP).
- ♦ In the implementation of the Priority Action Plan by 2020, 15 integrated energy projects were selected of which is important to highlight that 9 out these projects are related to hydropower generation.

The overall capital cost for delivering PAP by 2020 is about \$68 Billion of which about \$21 Billion is for Hydropower generation and about \$19 Billion is for Power transmission corridors and inter-regional connections.



PIDA Priority Action Plan includes the following projects in the Energy sector for Southern Africa

No.	Project	Estimated Cost	Countries covered	Stage of implementation
1	Mphanda-Nkuwa Hydropower plant on the Zambezi river in Mozambique with a capacity of 1,500MWe for export to the SAPP market.	\$2,400 Million	SAPP	Feasibility/needs assessment
2	Batoka Hydropower plant on the Zambezi river between Zambia and Zimbabwe with a capacity of 1,500MWe for the SAPP market.	\$2,800 Million	SAPP	Project promotion to obtain financing
3	Lesotho Hydropower plant for power supply to Lesotho and South Africa	\$800 Million	Lesotho and South Africa	Feasibility/needs assessment
4	North – South power transmission corridor that will cover South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi and through to Egypt via Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Sudan	\$6,000 Million	SAPP and EAC and IGAD (COMESA)	Feasibility/needs assessment

Trans-boundary water resource sector

No.	Project	Estimated Cost	Countries covered	Stage of implementation
1	Identification and preparation of multi-sectoral investments programmes in the Okovango River basin.	\$1,0 million	Angola, Botswana, Namibia	Early concept proposal
2	Water transfer programme supplying water to Gauteng Province in South Africa	\$1,100 million	Lesotho, South Africa,	Project promotion to obtain financing

A number of actions are taking place as part of PIDA and other complementary Renewable Energy measures like:

- ♦ The Africa-EU Energy Partnership that is taking a joint action to increase the energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in Africa by building 10,000MW of new hydropower facilities, 5,000MW of wind power and 500MW of solar power 2020.

Within the scope of the same AEEP under the Renewable Energy Cooperation Program, SADC is currently carrying out a scoping study for the establishment of a Regional Renewable Energy Centre and RERA is working on Policy

Options for Mini Grids using renewable energy and hybrid generation.

In SADC, South Africa is taking the lead where it has commenced wind power with a national pilot project in the Western Cape of approximately US\$12million funded jointly by the Danish International Development Agency, the Department of Minerals and Energy, and the Darling Independent Power Producing Company. The plant is supplying 13,200 GWh/year of energy since 2007.

- ♦ There are a number of different member states who have embarked on initiatives of large solar power generation plants in partnership with the



Cahora Bassa (Cabora-Bassa), converter station, in Mozambique

private sector. In the forefront is also the South African government which is interested in building a 5-gigawatt solar park in the Northern Cape and has hired Texas-based Fluor Corporation to make the plan predicted to cost about \$22 billion. (<http://cleantechnica.com/2010/10/26/worlds-largest-solar-park-to-be-in-south-africa/>)

- ♦ Also, economically viable and proven small scale hydropower technologies have been commercially developed and are available for generating both electrical and mechanical power for industrialization and development especially in remote rural areas. The Energizing Development (EnDev) Programme, a partnership of the Netherlands, Germany, UK, Australia, Norway, Switzerland and partner countries being implemented by the German International Cooperation (GIZ) has projects in 18 countries in Africa. The technologies and services predominantly promoted in EnDev's country programmes include photovoltaic, grid densification, micro-hydropower and energy-efficient cooking stoves.

Challenges

The economic growth of Africa is on the rise, being the fastest in comparison to other continents. The energy demand is increasing with the increasing economy and increasing population. Although the time is right for Africa to improve its infrastructure and eradicate the numerous constraints imposed on energy access, unfortunately the reality is the opposite. It is estimated that Africa needs 7,000 MW of new power generation capacity each year but it has been installing only an average of 1,000 MW annually in recent years. At the present rates of electrification most African countries will fail to reach universal access to electricity even by 2050.

The biggest challenge of the Energy sector is mobilising the financial resources for achieving the desired targets. It is imperative to include the Private Sector, Financial Institutions, Public-Private-Partnerships and NGOs to

combine efforts to mobilise the resources.

SADC is currently carrying out a scoping study for the establishment of a Regional Renewable Energy Centre and RERA is working on Policy Options for Mini Grids using renewable energy and hybrid generation

Improving Animal Health in Southern Africa : AU/CTTBD

*Biko Thindwa
AU/CTTBD Marketing Manager*

Establishment

Recognizing that across the developing world, livestock contribute significantly to the economic growth of a country, and that are essential means of livelihood to meet the most basic human needs such as food, education and healthcare. African countries, in 1967, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) regional programme under the then East African Community (EAC) established the African Union Centre for Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases (CTTBD) as a project in Southern Africa, based in Lilongwe, Malawi. The Centre was established to spearhead tick-borne disease (TBD) control efforts on the continent through production of quality assured vaccines for tick-borne diseases; assistance in the investigation and control of tick-borne diseases; training in epidemiology and livestock disease control strategies and research; and backup services to tick-borne vaccine application in the field.

Although the programme ended ten years later in 1977, the original donors and others undertook support for national and regional tick and tick-borne disease control programmes. This happened at a time when ticks and the diseases were becoming recognized as serious constraints to increased livestock productivity and the development of a profitable livestock industry in Africa.

Thus, in 1978, the OAU Council of Ministers adopted a resolution acknowledging this threat and agreed to set up three regional Centres located in North Africa, West Africa, and Southern and Eastern Africa, to spearhead

tick-borne disease (TBD) control efforts on the continent. The Government of Malawi offered to host the Centre for Southern and Eastern Africa and the Centre started operating that same year under the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) who were appointed coordinators of the regional programme for the control of ticks and TBD in Eastern and Southern Africa.

With the Assistance of the Governments of the Netherlands, Denmark and Belgium, the Centre was officially opened by the African Union /Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU/IBAR) in 1994. The centre was run under the leadership of AU/IBAR with the support of member countries from 1996.

She added that in 2001, CTTBD was registered with the Government of Malawi as a TRUST governed by a Board of Trustees. The Board is composed of Directors of Veterinary Services from all the SADC countries with Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi and SADC attending Board meetings as observers. AU-IBAR chairs the Board which meets annually to review the Centre's activities, approve budgets and provision of general oversight. The Centre operates as a legal entity in itself with the Board having powers to make independent and prompt decisions on the running of the institution.

Vaccine Production

The tick-borne disease vaccines and sero-diagnostic reagents produced at the Centre include; East Coast fever (ECF) vaccines; Heartwater (Ehrlichia) vaccines; Anaplasma/Babesia vaccines; Antigen slides. The ECF vaccine strains produced include; Muguga trivalent (cocktail) for East African countries including Malawi; Katete strain for Eastern Zambia; and Chitongo strain for Southern Zambia.



Cattle Farm at AU/CTTBD in Lilongwe, Malawi



Currently, emphasis is placed on production of ECF vaccines. This is because the African Union recognizes the economic losses of livestock due to the disease in Sub-Sahara Africa. In this light, the Centre is undergoing an expansion plan to prepare it for up scaling production of ECF vaccine production. The areas of expansion include staff training, equipment upgrading and refurbishments of laboratories. Staff has been trained in Business and Financial management, Intellectual Property Management, Contracting, Cost of Goods and various technical aspects pertaining to research. All this has been funded by GALVmed a not-for-profit organization based in Scotland.

Through GALVmed (Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines), a not-for-profit NGO, support of over US \$1.7 million was availed to CTTBD. This GALVmed support has boosted CTTBD's capacity and capability for commercial-scale and sustainable production of East Coast Fever-Infection Treatment Method (ECF-ITM) vaccine known as Muguga Cocktail Vaccine, and the in-house capacity and diagnostic expertise for quality assurance procedures and quality control checks on the stabilates.

Muguga Cocktail Vaccine Production:

Work towards production of a new batch of Muguga Cocktail Vaccine is in progress.

At full capacity CTTBD will be able to produce 2 million doses of ECF vaccine every 18 months for use throughout Malawi, East and Central Africa. In addition, not so much in the distant future other tick-borne disease vaccines will be added to the range of products at CTTBD.

Research and development Component

To cope with dynamic challenges and keep up with scientific improvements, CTTBD established a Research and Development Department whose mandate is to spearhead process improvement of vaccine production, service delivery and product quality.

Throughout the region, there are several research gaps in the field of animal health particularly tick and

tick-borne diseases. The CTTBD was mandated to seek collaborative work with reputable institutions pursuing various research topics particularly in the field of vector-borne diseases. Currently the CTTBD has collaborations with ITM (Antwerp, Belgium), University of Pretoria, Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (OVI), University of Zambia (UNZA), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), University of Malawi (Bunda College of Agriculture) and various government laboratories in the SADC region. The Centre also offers contract research services to international organizations. In the recent past, it has collaborated with Pfizer, Intervet, University of Karolinska/European Commission and Antwerp Institute of Tropical Medicine on various research trials.

Training and Capacity Building

Capacity building, being very crucial in development, is supported by the Centre through training which remains one of the Centre's priority activities. With the changing landscape of livestock diseases, introduction of new diseases to new areas as well as dynamics of science, refresher courses are important to revitalize and broaden the existing knowledge base of the participants.

Additionally, the courses bring together people from different areas and with different experiences and this enhances the knowledge base even further. The courses which are of short to medium-term duration are offered in French and/or English depending on the target group and the clients' needs. Courses include Veterinary Epidemiology; Livestock Economics (Animal Health); Advanced Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostics; Risk Analysis; Vaccine Production; and Quality Assurance. The centre offers the following courses Veterinary Epidemiology; Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostics for Technicians; Livestock Economics (Animal Health); Risk Analysis; Geographical and Information Systems. The following countries participated between 1999-2009. About 536 people from Angola, Botswana, Congo DR, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria; Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe have participated in the training.



Vaccine production in progress at CTTBD



AU/CTTBD Dr Nkwachi Gondwe explaining how the Lyophilization Machine works

In 2012, CTTBD conducted a number of trainings in animal health for the SADC TADS Project which attracted participants from five countries in which the project is operating namely Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia. The target group for these courses was government officials and other personnel involved in the livestock sector and they included veterinarians, animal production specialists and research personnel from both the field and laboratories.

CTTBD is now also offering Advanced Geographical Information System (GIS) course and expects to attract more participants. This programme will offer more advanced principals of data acquisition, management and analysis when working with a GIS.

CTTBD has so far trained several vaccinators in ECF-ITM Immunization procedure and will soon facilitate a campaign at creating awareness about availability of the vaccine in Malawi.

In order to create visibility and reach more people about CTTBD offerings, CTTBD developed a website www.cttbd.org which features different products and services that are offered.

CTTBD will soon launch its facilities and services where it expects several stakeholders to attend.

Infrastructure Development

The construction works for the new facilities, and refurbishment and remodeling of the existing building are now complete and in use. This is a complex that includes the Rabbit Breeding building capable of housing over 500 rabbits in cages, a Tick Unit building with separate rooms for 2 *Rhipicephalus appendiculatus* tick stocks and 5 *Theileria parva* stocks and a four chambered Cattle Isolation unit for parasite pick-up during vaccine production.

Laboratory Improvements

Laboratories have been equipped with new state of art equipment to enable CTTBD carry out various diagnostics services. In addition, refurbishment of the existing laboratories took centre-stage in the CTTBD activities in 2012.

A section of the Parasitology laboratory for the establishment of a molecular laboratory for the diagnosis of a range of tick-borne diseases and other livestock diseases using PCR was completed. The PCR laboratory diagnostic services are now in place equipped with modern facilities. Two members of staff underwent training in Molecular Characterization of *Theileria parva* at the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium, in June 2012 as part of capacity mapping. As a result, CTTBD is now able to carry out molecular diagnostics and characterization of tick-borne disease parasites.



Liquid Nitrogen Plant that produces Liquid Nitrogen which keeps the vaccine in the required cool temperature for preservation



Cattle vaccination at AU/CTTBD farm in Lilongwe, Malawi

Modern Equipment

CTTBD now has the necessary and state of the art equipment and all critical equipment that needed updating has been replaced with modern and appropriate technologies. New equipment includes an automatic straw filler, Lyophilizer machine and tick incubators amongst many others.

CTTBD also has a Liquid Nitrogen plant that produces 40 litres of Liquid Nitrogen per day with a storage capacity of 160 litres. Liquid Nitrogen is very critical and vital in the maintenance of the cold chain during storage, transportation and delivery of products that require a cold chain. It is also used for many other cooling and cryogenic applications such as preserving semen.

Farm

The Centre has a farm of 65 hectares whose primary function is to house sufficient disease free cattle for use in vaccine stabilate production, for conducting contract research and as a quarantine facility to generate income for the Centre. However, the farm is also used for training purposes when need arises. The farm has cattle holding facilities for up to 300 cattle. In addition, a rabbitry housing about 40 rabbits forms part of the animal quarters. This will soon be replaced by a bigger unit under construction which will house over 500 rabbits. There is also a tick-breeding facility for maintenance of the tick population which is used during stabilate production.

Research Institute (ILRI), GALVmed, Wellspring Malawi and Pfizer Global Development Fellows have conducted specialized in-house training at CTTBD. Specialized training included Conducting Clinical Trials, Muguga Vaccine Production theory, Cost of Goods, Intellectual Property Management and Business Management. Two collaborating institutions have been contracted to outfit CTTBD with custom made Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software

Strategic Alliances

Towards engaging stakeholders, CTTBD with the

support of GALVmed managed to invite pharmaceutical registration bodies from Kenya, Uganda, Malawi and Tanzania to visit CTTBD and provide input into the preparations for the production of the ECF and other TBD vaccines. So far, the National Drug Authority of Uganda, the ECF Task Force of Kenya and Malawi Pharmacy, Medicines and Poisons Board have been through CTTBD and have made valuable contributions after their inspections which have been taken into consideration, especially regarding refurbishment.

CTTBD is currently working on modalities aimed at registration and transfer of the ECF ITM vaccine distribution to private sector in source markets of eastern Africa and Malawi

In Malawi, CTTBD has made steps towards sustainable commercial distribution of Muguga Cocktail vaccine in the ECF endemic areas of the Central and Northern regions. Private distributors have been identified and will be part of the value chain in ensuring the Vaccine is readily available and affordable to the farmer at delivery point.

Human Capital Development

In line with its vision of being the leading center of excellence in Africa for the control of ticks and tick-borne diseases and production of animal vaccines, CTTBD has strengthened its human resource base through various training aimed at equipping its personnel with skills and competences both technical and managerial, and have led to improved internal management, accounting and administration resources, including stock and accounting control systems (a custom-made software has been developed to assist in these tasks) and quality assurance with expertise in East Coast fever- Infection and Treatment Method vaccine production.



Women, Gender and Development in Africa



Mrs. Litha Musyimi-Ogana,
Director of Women, Gender & Development, AUC

The Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD) of the African Union Commission was created in 2003 as part of the Maputo structure and placed in the Office of the Chairperson of the Commission together with other Policy and Strategic Directorates in the Commission. Furthermore, this decision was backed by the logic that Gender issues are cross-cutting by nature, therefore the Directorate work gender mainstreaming work has to cut across other Directorates in the Commission. It is mandated to mainstream gender equality and women's empowerment in the AU Commission and work with AU Organs, RECs and Member states.

Gender Architecture

Following the transformation of the Organization of the African Unity (OAU) into the African Union (AU), Gender and women issues have moved from the periphery to the center of the Unions agenda in general, and that of the Commission in Particular. The AU Constitutive Act, Assembly Decisions and Declaration have been instrumental putting in place an impressive normative framework for the implementation of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE), which constitutes the AU Gender Architecture and sits on the following 6 pillars:

- **The Constitutional Framework:** Under Article 4(L) of the Constitutive Act (2000) which enshrines the Gender Equality Principle
- **The Legal Framework:** Protocol to the Charter on Human and Peoples Rights in Africa (2003),
- **The Reporting framework:** Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA)(2004)
- **The Policy Framework:** AU Gender Policy
- **The Implementation Framework:** The African Women's Decade.
- **The Financing Mechanism:** Fund for African Women

Programmes and Activities of the WGDD

1. The African Women's Decade

The AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government declared 2010 to 2020 as the African Women's Decade (**Assembly Decision AU/DEC.229(XII)**). The Decade, which has been a flagship product in the 2009-2012 Strategic Plan, is envisaged as a platform to accelerate the implementation of global and Regional Commitments on Gender and Women's Empowerment, including the Beijing and Dakar Platforms for Action, the AU Protocol on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, the Solemn Declaration for Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) and the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), among others.

2. The AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA)

The AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SD), which was adopted by The Heads of State and Government of Member States of the African Union

during the Third Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in July 2004, is a product of a broad-based and highly consultative process and concerted efforts of all stakeholders working on gender and development, including members of the civil society.

In operative paragraph 12 of the Solemn Declaration, the Heads of States and Government commit themselves to report annually on progress made in gender mainstreaming and to support and champion all issues raised in the Declaration, both at the national and regional levels, and to regularly provide each other with updates on progress made during Ordinary Sessions of the Assembly.

To date, the Commission has received reports from 41 Member States on the progress they are making on gender mainstreaming at the national level; with several Member States submitting more than once. The reporting on the SDGEA by Member States helps the Commission to present best practices from different countries on gender mainstreaming. This sharing of experiences boost the political will of other countries and encourages other countries that are yet to submit their reports to so.

3. The AU Gender Policy

One of the landmark achievements of the WGDD was the development of the African Union Gender Policy. The AU Gender Policy is a Policy Framework with an objective to accelerate the realization of gender equality and women's empowerment. This policy is a tool to facilitate the advancement of Africa's political and socio economic integration to guarantee that gender issues are included in the African Agenda through the acceleration of gender mainstreaming. The AU Gender Policy was adopted on 2009 and WGDD has developed an Action Plan as a framework for gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment in Africa.

4. The Fund for African Women

The Commission's Strategic Plan 2009-2012 selected the Fund for African Women as a flagship product alongside the Decade. This Fund was launched in implementation of the AU Assembly Decision Dec.277 (XVI) of January 2007 on the adoption of the AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa. Member States have approved the contribution of 1% to the Fund from their contribution to the budget of the AU, thus paving way for the Assembly to launch the Fund under the name "Fund for African Women" at the January 2010 Summit. This Fund, whose activities fall



squarely in the Development Pillar of the Commission's 2009-2012 Strategic Plan, will be instrumental in implementing the activities proposed under the ten (10) Themes of the African Women's Decade.

5. The AU Course on Gender Responsive Economy Policy Making in Africa

The AU Course on Gender Responsive Economy Policy Making in Africa is a key capacity building activity of the Women, Gender and Development Directorate. This Course is a two weeks intensive course for policy makers of Ministries of Economic, Planning, Budget and Gender Affairs from AU Member States. The course has the objective of filling the capacity gap for African economic policy makers, budget planners, development practitioners and policy advocates in designing and implementing gender sensitive economic policies and programmes. It also seeks to bridge the knowledge gap of the economists on gender issues and to improve the economic literacy of gender experts. The AU Course on Gender Responsive Economy Policy Making in Africa enables participants to better understand the importance of gender mainstreaming in economic policy formulation in Africa, which will contribute to accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular MDG 3 on gender equality and women's empowerment, by taking into account the different needs and roles of women and men and their contribution to national economic growth.

6. The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa

As of 20th November 2012, 35 Member States have ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa. The main objective of the Protocol is to ensure that African women's human's rights are promoted and protected at continental, regional and national levels.

7. The AU Gender Training Manual for AU Peacekeepers

The WGDD has developed the Training Manual for AU Peacekeepers. The Manual will serve as a strong Training tool for the AU in training of AU Peace Support Operations on the issue of violence against women and women's vulnerability in armed conflict and post-conflict situation.

Overall Achievements and Challenges

I. Achievements in Gender Equality

I.1 Reporting, Outreach and Advocacy

- 41 SDGEA National reports have been submitted to the Assembly;
- 7 AU Gender Pre-Summits held on the theme of the Summit and Decade;
- 6 Meetings of African Union's Women's Committee held;
- 36 MS have ratified the Protocol on women's rights.

I.2 Achievements in Gender Mainstreaming, Capacity Building and Policy Harmonization

- Developed AU Gender Policy and 10 Year Action Plan

- Developed Road Map for African Women's Decade
- Conducted 6 Economic Policy Courses for Economists, Planners and Budget experts from AU Member States since 2005 to build their capacity in gender issues, engender economic policies and mainstream gender budgeting

I.3 Achievements in Gender Mainstreaming Capacity and Peace Building

- Held 3 Open Sessions of AU Peace and Security on Women and Children
- Developed Tools for engendering AU Peace Keeping Operations in general and the African Stand-by-Force in particular, in collaboration with PSD
- Developed Gender Training of Trainers Manual for training AUPSOs
- Championed the developed a Code of Conduct for African Stand-by-Force jointly with PSD
- Jointly with UN Women, launched the Africa UNITE Campaign to end Violence Against Women in advocacy campaigns against VAW

I.4 Achievements in Women's Empowerment

I.4.1. Launching and Implementation of African Women's Decade

- Successfully facilitated the launch of the African Women's Decade in 2010
- Successfully Implemented theme 3 of the Decade themes
- Currently implementing Theme 10 of the Decade
- Successfully organized the 1st Heads of State's Luncheon at the margin of the July Summit to popularize the Decade and raise fun for the 2012 theme
- Participated or involved by Member States in over 15 launches of the Decade at the National level.

I.4.2 Launching and Implementation of Activities Under the Fund for African Women

- Successfully facilitated the launch the Fund for African Women in 2010
- Successfully operationalized the Fund
- Funded projects under Theme 3 of the AWD (53 projects approved from 106 from 27 Member States)
- Currently mobilizing additional resources for implementing Theme 10 of the Decade
- Successfully advocated for 1% of Member State's contribution to the Fund
- Successfully mobilized voluntary contributions to the tune of US Dollars 600,000 at the Heads of State Luncheon.

I.4.3 Implementation of UN Resolution 1325 which is Article 2 of the SDGEA (WRs)

- Jointly with PSD, trained close to 100 TOTs for AU PSOs
- Jointly with SOAWR, lobbied for the Ratification of the Maputo Protocol by 36 Member States.
- Jointly with PSD, convinced the AU Peace and Security Council to include Gender Experts in AU Liaison Offices structure and currently in process of recruiting the first 5 Experts.



Southern Africa progressing in Women Empowerment



SADC Chairperson, H.E. Joyce Banda (L), AUC Chairperson, H.E. Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma (C), Mozambican President Armando Guebuza (R) viewing displays during AU gender conference in Lilongwe, Malawi.

To facilitate the attainment of the AU's vision of "An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in global arena" the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is working towards durable peace, freedom and social justice, equitable development and sustained economic prosperity for the people of Southern Africa. Hence SADC Member States undertook, in the SADC Treaty Article 6(2), not to discriminate against any person on the grounds of inter alia, sex or gender. SADC Member States have committed to mainstreaming gender into the SADC Programme of Action and Community Building initiatives as a prerequisite for sustainable development.

SADC believes that the goals to deepen regional integration and strengthen community building can only be realised by eliminating Gender inequalities and marginalisation of women throughout the SADC region. The organization, therefore, came up appropriate policies, legislation, programmes, projects and activities aimed at ensuring gender equality and women's empowerment are implemented in all SADC Member States.

The region has gender Mainstreaming programmes and Gender Based Violence programmes that have helped integrate gender into all sectors of regional integration. Additionally, it also has Women in Politics & Decision-making initiatives aimed at promoting women's representation and participation in all political and decision making positions in SADC. This has seen SADC women from the grassroots to the elites holding decision making positions.

Speaking during the 33rd SADC Summit in Lilongwe, Malawi, the SADC Chairperson, H.E. Dr Joyce Banda said SADC is progressing well in women empowerment.

She singled out few iconic women that have broken the odd such as the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, South African; the just elected Executive secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Dr Stergomena Tax, Tanzanian; herself, the President of the Republic of Malawi and the 2013/2014 Chairperson of SADC; the Vice President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Right Honourable Joice Mujuru, and the Executive Director for UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is South African. She also acknowledged the former Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, Dr Asha-Rose Migiro from Tanzania.

Women Economic Empowerment Programme are also carried out across SADC targeting the grassroots to eradicate Poverty and promote of Women Economic Empowerment in SADC.

The signing of the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development by SADC heads of State in August 2008 has facilitated implementation of various programmes on gender equality. Out of the 13 Member States that have signed, 11 have already ratified the Protocol. The Objectives of the Protocol are among others to provide for the empowerment of women, to eliminate discrimination and to achieve gender equality and equity through the development and implementation of gender responsive legislation, policies, programmes and projects. It also seeks to harmonise the various international, continental and regional gender equality instruments that SADC Member States have subscribed to such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Beijing Declaration and its Platform of Action, The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, and the Millennium Development goals (MDGs) amongst others.



Some Women in leadership positions in Southern Africa



H.E. Dr Joyce Banda,
President of the Republic of Malawi and the 2013/2014 SADC Chairperson
© AFP



H.E. Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma,
AUC Chairperson



H.E. Joice Mujuri,
Vice President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, since 2004



Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka,
UN Women Executive Director



Dr Stergomena Tax,
SADC Executive Secretary

Southern African Country Profiles and SADC Leaders





REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA



H.E. José Eduardo Dos Santos
President of Angola

The Republic of Angola covers 1,247,000 km² in the western region of Southern Africa. It is the second largest country south of the Sahara after the Democratic Republic of Congo. The country contains six major geomorphologic areas: Coastal area, marginal mountain chains, the old tableland, Zaire basin and the basins of the Zambezi and Cubango. Angola has two seasons, the rainy and dry (cacimbo) seasons, with an average annual rainfall of 400 mm and lowest and highest average temperatures at 18°C and 35 °C respectively.

Angola's population is estimated at 17,992,000 (latest census). The official language is Portuguese, with approximately 100 different ethnic languages spoken, of which Umbundu, Kimbundu, Kikongo, Tchokwe and Ovambo are the dominant national languages. Luanda is the capital city; other main towns, all offering varied potential for investors looking for new business opportunities include: Cabinda, Benguela, Huambo, Lobito, Lubango and Namibe. Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975. Following this, a civil war engulfed the country, with a government of national unity being installed in 1997. The president is the Head of State.

The oil industry is presently the backbone of the economy. Oil and fishing are the main sectors that have attracted foreign investment in recent years. The upstream oil industry is the country's major source of foreign exchange, and oil production and its supporting activities contribute about half of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 90% of exports.

Although the development of the tourism sector has not yet begun in earnest, Angola has significant tourism potential, with tropical climate, beaches, mountains, wildlife and many cultural attractions. Once such example is Kissama National Park, located about 75 km from Luanda, which includes a wide variety of wildlife.

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA



H.E. Ian Seretse Khama,
President of Botswana

Botswana is a completely landlocked country in the centre of Southern Africa., sharing borders with South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The country covers an area of about 582,000 sq.km² and is relatively flat, at roughly 900 meters above sea level, with gentle undulations and occasional rocky outcrops. The Kalahari Desert occupies more than 70 % of the country, with valleys and pans etched across the landscape. Gaborone is the capital city and is located in the south east of Botswana. Other major towns include Francistown, Lobatse, Selebi-Phikwe and Jwaneng. There are sixteen Administrative Districts and associated Councils. The total population size and density as per the 2011 Census are 2,024,904 and 3.5 persons per square kilometre respectively. The population is concentrated in the eastern parts of the country where it is better suited for arable production.

Setswana is the national language, while English is the official language. There are also some indigenous languages which includes several ethnic groups dominated by those who are Setswana speaking. Christianity is the main religion and there are a number of indigenous religions throughout the country.

The mining sector, and in particular diamond mining, is the major contributor to the export base. The livestock industry contributes about 80 % of agriculture's share of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Tourism continues to play an increasingly significant role in the diversification of the economy. Botswana is a multi-party democracy, with elections held every five years. The president is the Head of State.

The country's wildlife resources are the foundation on which the tourism industry has been built. Botswana's most famous wildlife habitat is the Okavango Delta, which covers some 16,800 km², and is a unique area of lagoons, reed-fringed waterways and islands. Other major attractions of Botswana's pristine beauty can be found in the Kalahari Game Reserve, the Makgadikgadi Pans, the Chobe National Park, the Tuli block and the Tsodilo Hills Monument, a World Heritage Site with its collection of pre-historic art.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



H.E. Joseph Kabila Kabange
President of Democratic Republic of Congo

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), formerly known as the Republic of Zaire, is geographically the largest state in Southern and Central Africa. It is situated at the heart of Africa, and lies on the Equator, covering an area of 2,345,095 km². The DRC has 37 kilometres of coastline and a geography characterised by a vast central basin low-lying plateau rising to volcanoes and mountains in the east. More than half, the country is covered by dense tropical rainforest. The country is traversed by numerous rivers with the Congo River being the largest.

The DRC has a tropical climate with two distinct seasons; the 'dry season' (18 to 27°C) called 'Congolese Winter', which is from June to August. The 'rainy season' (22 to 33°C) runs from September to May with its heavy, monsoon rains. Temperatures are hot and humid in the central region, cooler and drier in the southern highlands, and cooler and wetter in the eastern highlands.

The population is estimated at 75,259,000 (2011), and is divided into ten provinces and one city, namely, Kinshasa – the capital. The provinces are Bandundu, Bas-Congo, Equateur, Kasai-Occidental, Kasai-Oriental, Katanga, Maniema, Nord-Kivu, Orientale and Sud-Kivu. French is the only official language, with four national languages; Lingala, Kingwana, Kikongo and Tshiluba. The DRC has over 200 African ethnic groups, of which the majority is Bantu.

Congo became independent on 30 June, 1960. In addition to the capital city of Kinshasa, other major population centres include Lubumbashi, Kisangani, Matadi and Goma. The president is the Head of State.

The DRC's economy is primarily based on the mining sector. It has abundant mineral resources including copper, cobalt, cadmium, petroleum, industrial and gem diamonds, gold, silver, zinc, manganese, tin, germanium, uranium, radium, bauxite, iron ore and coal as well as timber, and vast hydropower potential. The DRC is potentially one of the richest mining countries in Africa.

The country has seven major national parks: Virunga; Kahuzi-Biega; Garamba; Maiko; Kundelungu; Upemba; and Salonga.

KINGDOM OF LESOTHO



H.E. Dr Motsoahae Thomas Thabane,
Prime Minister of Lesotho

The Kingdom of Lesotho is situated in the south eastern region of Southern Africa, covering an area of 30,355 km² and is entirely surrounded by South Africa. Lesotho's geographical formation is characterised by high mountains and deep valleys, and it is the only country in the world to have all its entire territory located at more than 1,000 metres above sea level. More than 75 % of Lesotho is mountainous, with only 25 % considered lowland.

Lesotho has a continental climate, with four distinct seasons and extremes of temperature. Spring is from August to October, summer extends from November to the end of January. Autumn, which runs from February to April, is harvest time in Lesotho and lastly winter months from May to July bring snow with dry, sunny days and cold nights. The population of Lesotho is about 1,879,000 (2011). The vast majority of the population is Basotho with small groups of Europeans and Asians. Lesotho is inhabited by the Basotho people and the official languages are Sesotho and English. The capital is Maseru, with other major population centres being Mafeteng and Roma. In October 1966, Lesotho gained independence from British rule. The democratic elections held in 2002 installed a new government focused on good governance, accountability, transparency, and the participation of people in the decisions that affect their lives. The King is the Head of State.

The manufacturing subsector, mainly driven by textile and clothing industries, has since 2001, dominated Lesotho's exports destined mainly for the United States and South Africa. This sub-sector is the pillar of Lesotho's economy. Nearly 85 % of Basotho households live in rural areas and about 70 % derive part of their income from agriculture.

Lesotho has significant mineral deposits including diamonds, uranium, base metal, high quality stone and



clay. Which has a marginal contribution to GDP.

The Lesotho Highlands are the country's main tourist attraction. Spectacular cliff formations and deep gorges are found in the Maloti and Drakensberg mountain ranges in the south of the country. The Maloti/ Drakensberg, a world heritage site, are home to some 2,500 species of plants and contain the world's richest concentrations of Stone Age rock art, with more than 30,000 individual paintings recorded. Landmarks in Lesotho include Mount Qilone, and Thaba Bosio, a fortress stronghold where the kings of Lesotho are traditionally buried. Thabana Ntlenyana, at 3,483 metres, is the highest mountain in Southern Africa, whilst Maletsunyane Falls is one of the tallest single-drop waterfalls in the region plunging for 192metres and Sehlabe-Thebe National Park.

REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR



Madagascar

The country of Madagascar is an island situated 400 km off the east coast of Africa, separated from the mainland by the Mozambique Channel. It is the fourth large island, stretching 1,580 km from north to south and 600 km from east to west, with a coastline of about 5,000 km.

There are two major seasons in Madagascar. Summer is hot and rainy, and extends from October/November to March/April with temperatures ranging between 13 and

30 degrees Celsius. The winter season is cold and dry, from March/April to September/October, and has temperatures between 0 to 10 degrees Celsius.

The population of Madagascar is estimated at 20.696 million (latest census), and is divided into six provinces namely, Antananarivo, Antsiranana, Fianarantsoa, Mahajanga, Toamasina, and Toliary. French is the official language, while Malagasy is the national language.

Madagascar became independent on 26 June, 1960. Antananarivo is both the administrative and commercial capital of the country; Fianarantsoa is another main centre providing for transportation of products to Tuléar in the southern part of the island. The president is the Head of State.

Agriculture contributes about 14 % of the GDP and within the agriculture sector, food producing cultivation constitutes 98 %, of which rice is 44 %, cassava and potato are 14% each, and maize is 9 %. Traditionally Madagascar is a producer of tea and coffee but with low market prices this industry has declined over the years. Madagascar is a key producer of fish, contributing sales of crabs, prawns, mussels and other seafood to the economy. Other contributors to the economy include industries focused on the areas of processing of meat and seafood, soap, brewery products, tanneries, sugar, textiles, glassware, cement, automobile assembly, paper and petroleum.

The main tourist attractions in Madagascar are Ambohimanga, Montagne d'Ambre National Park, Andasibe, Antsirabe, Isalo, Nosy Be, Nosy Boraha, Taolanaro, Toamasina and Toliary. The capital, Antananarivo, is a city built on a Y-shaped granite mountain surrounded by rice fields. Its main sights include the royal fort, which houses a historical museum of the ancient Malagasy kings and queens, Zoma the largest open air market in the world, and Tsimbazaza a botanical and zoological garden with various specimens of Malagasy flora and fauna. Madagascar is world famous for its natural beauty, richness in biodiversity and preserved cultural heritage. The country is home to 5 % of the world's plant and animal species, 80 % of which are unique to Madagascar. Among its most notable examples of biodiversity are the lemur family of primates, three endemic bird families and its famous baobab trees.

REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

H.E. Mrs Joyce Banda,
President of Malawi

Malawi is a landlocked country located in southern central Africa along the western part of the Great Rift Valley of Africa. Covering a total area of 118,484 km², it stretches some 900 km north to south, and between 90 and 161 km east to west. Malawi is bordered by the United Republic of Tanzania to the north east, Mozambique to the east, south and south west, and Zambia to the west. The country is divided into three regions: Southern; Central; and Northern regions. Lake Malawi is the third largest lake in Africa, spanning a length of 568 km and a width of between 16 and 80 km.

Malawi has a subtropical climate with the rainy season lasting from November to March. The highlands and plateau in the north are temperate with temperatures averaging between 20 and 27 degrees Celsius, with cool nights all year. Winter temperatures can however drop as low as 4 degrees Celsius. In the lowland areas of the south it is more tropical and very hot during the rainy season with temperatures rising as high as 39 °C. Mean annual rainfall varies between 635 mm and 3,050 mm.

Malawi has an estimated population of 14,389,000. The main ethnic groups are the Chewa, Tumbuka, Yao and Ngoni. English is the official and business language in Malawi, with Chichewa as the national language. The capital of Malawi is Lilongwe, and other major population centres include Blantyre and Zomba. The country gained independence in 1964, and became a Republic within the British Commonwealth. In 1994, Malawi became a multiparty democracy, with the president being the Head of State.

Agriculture is the largest sector of the Malawian economy, contributing more than a third of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and generating more than 90 % of total export earnings. The major exports include tobacco, tea and sugar.

The principal tourist attraction in the country is Lake Malawi, which is set among rolling hills covered in tropical vegetation. The Lake has one of the highest

diversities of freshwater fish in the world. Around Cape Maclear, there are excellent snorkeling and diving spots. Birdlife at Lake Malawi is also plentiful and birds such as African fish eagles, Palmnut vultures and Pel's fishing owls are prolific among the flood plains and reed swamps. There are five national parks in Malawi notable for their spectacular scenery, unspoilt beauty and rich diversity of wildlife. Of note are Nyika National Park, Kasungu National Park and Liwonde National Park. Malawi is also home to herds of elephant, hippos, waterbuck, reedbuck and sable antelope. The country has one of the largest numbers of orchid species in Africa and Zomba Mountain is one of the best places to see orchids and other native flora.

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

H.E. Rajkeswur Purryag,
President of Mauritius

The Republic of Mauritius is situated in the south West Indian Ocean, approximately 2,400 km from the south east coast of Africa, located just to the north of the Tropic of Capricorn. The island is only 67 km in length and 46 km at its widest point, with a total land area of 2,040 km², owing its origins to submarine volcanic activity. As a political entity, the Republic includes not only the island of Mauritius but also the tiny island of Rodrigues some 563 km to the east, as well as the Cargados Carajos Archipelago (St. Brandon) and the two virtually uninhabited Agalega islands, 400 km to the north east and 1,000 km to the north of Mauritius rely.

Mauritius has a maritime climate, tropical during summer and sub-tropical during winter. The summer months extend from November to April with temperatures varying from 22 to 29 °C. The coldest months are July and August with temperatures ranging from 18 to 23 °C. Rainfall varies from 1,150mm per annum on the west coast to 2,300mm on the plateau. Cyclones are active in this corner of the Indian Ocean from January through to April. Although the island is vulnerable, cyclones are not an annual event.

With a total population of approximately 1,291,456 (2012), the island is divided into nine administrative



districts, and Rodrigues forms the tenth. English is the official language, while French and Creole are widely spoken. Port Louis is the capital of Mauritius and the other main centre is Rodrigues, which is home to people from African, European and Asian descent.

Mauritius gained independence from Britain on 12 March 1968. The President is the Head of State and Commander-in-Chief. Full executive power rests with the Prime Minister, who is the head of government. Mauritius is a parliamentary democracy, with government by coalition as a standard feature of Mauritian politics and elections are held every five years.

The financial services sector is emerging as one of the most important contributors to the Mauritian economy, representing 13% of GDP and directly employing over 15,000 highly skilled professionals. Over 27,000 global business companies operate from Mauritius which is increasing seen as a safe, trusted and secure International Financial Centre. Other sectors are rapidly developing namely knowledge, life sciences, healthcare, renewable energy, film-making, marinas and high-precision manufacturing.

range from 13 to 24 degrees Celsius during the dry season, which is May to September, and from 22 to 31 degrees Celsius during the wet season, namely October to April.

The total population is approximately 20,579,265 (latest census). There are different ethnic groups in Mozambique, the largest being the Makua-Lomwe, which accounts for around 40 % of the population, with others including the Shona and the Tsonga. The official and business language is Portuguese. English is widely spoken in business and academic circles, especially in Maputo. Local languages include Emakua, Shangane, Bitanga, Xitswa, Chope, Ronga, Elomwe, Chuabo, Sena, Shona, Ndau, Nyandja, Kimwani and Chimakonde. Maputo is the capital of Mozambique, and other major population centres includes Beira, the second largest city, which also acts as the business and transport hub for the central region of the country. Mozambique became independent on 25 June, 1975 and the first multi-party elections were held in 1994, and the president is the Head of State.

Agriculture is the backbone of the economy providing employment for over 75 % of the workforce and contributing an estimated 26.2 % to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2005. The cash and export crops include sugarcane, cotton, tea and tobacco. The fisheries sector is also another major source of foreign exchange earnings. Mozambique has several tourist attraction areas such as the 2,515 km of Indian Ocean coastline dotted with sandy beaches and clear water, colonial hotels, an abundance of some of the world's most exquisite seafood. Other major tourist attractions include the Ibo Islands and the city of Pemba in the north of the country. Mozambique Island, also in the north, is a major historical and cultural attraction reflecting indigenous African culture and architecture as well as Arab and Portuguese influences.

REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE



H.E. Armando Emílio Guebuza
President of Mozambique

Mozambique lies on the east coast of Southern Africa, measuring a total of some 799,380 km² in area. The country borders the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Swaziland. The country's extensive coastline stretches 2,515 km along the south east and east coast of Africa. The Zambezi and Limpopo rivers, two of Africa's major rivers, flow through Mozambique to the Indian Ocean. The climate varies from subtropical to tropical and is influenced by the monsoons of the Indian Ocean and by the warm current of the Mozambique Channel. Temperatures

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



H.E. Hifikepunye Lucas Pohamba
President of Namibia

Namibia is situated on Africa's south-western seaboard. Its neighbouring countries are Angola to the north, Botswana and Zimbabwe to the east and South Africa to the south. The country is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean in the west. The country covers 825,615 km² (almost four times the size of the UK and twice that of Germany).

Following independence from South African mandate on 21st March 1990, the country was divided into 13 regions as determined by the Delimitation Commission and proclaimed in March 1992. These are Omusati, Oshana, Ohangwena and Oshikoto in the north, Kunene in the North West, Kavango and Caprivi in the north east, Erongo, Otjozondjupa, Omaheke, Khomas and Hardap in the central part of the country and Karas in the south.

Namibia is a secular state, but over 90% of population is Christian. The system of government is multi-party democracy, with checks and balances exercised through the state organs of the executive, legislative and judiciary. General, presidential, regional and local elections are held every five years. The president is both the chief of state and head of government. English is the official language with Afrikaans as common language of most of the population and about 60% of the white population, German 32%, indigenous languages include Oshivambo, Herero, Nama) 1%.

In September 1993, Namibia introduced its own currency, the Namibian dollar (N\$). It is linked to and on par with the South African rand (ZAR), which is also legal tender in Namibia.

Windhoek serves as the administrative, judicial and legislative capital of Namibia and has a population of approximately 365,000. The capital has a moderate climate and is situated in the central highlands of the country at 1,650 m above sea level.

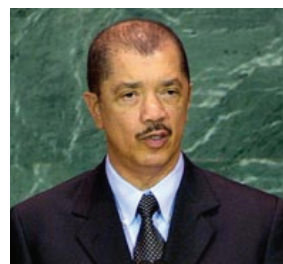
The economy is heavily dependent on the extraction and processing of minerals for export. Mining accounts for 8% of GDP, but provides more than 50% of foreign exchange earnings. Rich alluvial diamond deposits make Namibia a primary source for gem-quality diamonds. Marine diamond mining is becoming increasingly important as the terrestrial

diamond supply has dwindled. Namibia is the world's fourth-largest producer of uranium. It also produces large quantities of zinc and is a small producer of gold and other minerals.

Second only to mining in terms of foreign revenue earned, tourism offers tremendous potential for growth. Different players are involved in tourism. They include investors, private owners, parastatals such as Namibia Wildlife Resorts, Government, represented by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, and communities, mainly through Community-Based Natural Resource Management programmes are involved in tourism. Tourism comes in many different guises, and the hospitality business, sightseeing, hunting, and trophy hunting all offer lucrative business opportunities.

Namibia falls in the GMT + 2 time zone. The country switches to a different time zone during the winter months: winter time is set at GMT + 1 and runs from the first Sunday in April to the last Saturday in August.

REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES



H.E. James Alix Michel
President of Seychelles

The cosmopolitan Seychellois are a colourful and harmonious blend of different races, which stem from African, European and Asian roots all of whom have brought something of their own customs and way of life to the islands. The result is a charming Creole culture enriched from the melting pot of many continents.

There are three official languages – English, French and Creole. Creole is spoken by everyone and is an adaptation of 17th Century French with additional words and expressions coming from African languages and from Madagascar. It has been elevated to national language status, earning the same respect as English and French. Today Creole is a written as well as a spoken language, which has resulted in an outburst of creativity in plays, poetry and prose.

The population of Seychelles stands at 87,000 of which 78,000 live on Mahe, in particular around the capital Victoria, some 7,000 on Praslin and the remainder on La Digue and scattered among the rest of the islands.

Roman Catholicism is the dominant religion, but there are also Anglican and Protestant churches together with smaller Muslim, Hindu and Baha'i communities based on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue.



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



H.E. Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma

The Republic of South Africa occupies the southernmost part of the African continent stretching from the Limpopo River in the north to Cape Agulhas in the south. Covering an area of 1,219,090 km², the country shares borders with Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe in the north, and with Swaziland and Mozambique in the north east. It also entirely surrounds the Kingdom of Lesotho. To the west, south and east, South Africa borders the Atlantic and southern Indian oceans. Lying 1,920 km south east of Cape Town in the Atlantic Ocean are the isolated Prince Edward and Marion islands, which were annexed by South Africa in 1947.

Summer in South Africa is from October until March and temperatures average between 15 °C at night and 35 °C at noon. Winter is from April to September with temperatures ranging from 0 °C or less at night to 20 °C at midday. South Africa is a semi-arid country with a mean annual rainfall of 464mm per annum, compared to the world average of 857mm per annum, with snowfall limited to the highest mountain peaks of the Maluti-Drakensberg mountain range.

It has an estimated population of 50,586,000. There are 11 official languages: English, Afrikaans, Ndebele, Pedi, Sotho, Swati, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa and Zulu, each of which is the first language for many of South Africa's people. The first democratic elections were held in 1994 and South Africa was then divided into nine new provinces including the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, North-West, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and the Northern Province. Pretoria is the administrative capital of South Africa, other main centres are Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town. Democratic elections are held every five years and the Head of State is the President. The last elections were held in 2004.

The South African economy is based on manufacturing sector including chemicals, food, transport equipment, and iron and steel. Modern and sophisticated metal and engineering industries represent one-third of the manufacturing sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Some 325,000 people are employed by over 9,000 companies.

The tourism industry is rapidly developing into an

important generator of employment opportunities. It is presently the fourth largest economic sector in South Africa with around 700 hotels, 2,800 guest houses, and more than 10,000 restaurants. The fastest-growing segment in the industry is ecotourism, including photographic safaris, bird watching, botanical studies, mountaineering, snorkelling and hiking. There are 17 national parks in South Africa, the largest being Kruger National Park in the Northern Province and Mpumalanga. Major tourist attractions include Table Mountain and the cable way, Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens, Oudshoorn, Karoo National Park, Sea World, Howick Falls, Drakensberg, Umfolozi Game Reserve, Natal National Botanical Gardens, St. Lucia Game Reserve, Pilgrim's Rest, Gold Reef City, Pretoria National Botanical Gardens, Warmbaths, Sun City, Lost City and Pilanesberg National Park.

KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND



H.M. King Mswati III,
King of Swaziland

The Kingdom of Swaziland is a small, landlocked country covering a total area of 17,364 km² and is located in the southern part of Africa bordered by the Republic of Mozambique to the east and the rest by the Republic of South Africa. The Kingdom has four topographical and climatic areas ranging from 400 to 1800 metres above sea level, each with its own unique characteristics. The 2012 population projections indicate Swaziland has 1,080,337 people.

Mbabane is the administrative capital of Swaziland while Manzini is another major city and Matsapa the industrial town. The SiSwati and English languages are official languages which are widely spoken in the country.

The country economy is largely based on agriculture. The agricultural sector is the main source of income for more than 70 % of Swazis, particularly in the rural areas. The main export products are sugar, coca-cola concentrate, cotton, citrus fruits and canned products and maize.

Tourism remains a vital contributor to Swaziland's economy, and the strong cultural heritage, tradition



and biodiversity are strong attractions for tourists. The cultural heritage is deeply rooted with traditions carefully protected and sustained and colourful ceremonies regularly take place to mark special occasions. The two main rituals are the Umhlanga or Reed dance, and the Incwala or First fruit ceremony. The Umhlanga, which is held during August or September, involves young maidens who, dressed in colourful beaded skirts and accessories, travel to the royal kraal (village) to honour the Queen mother, and perform traditional dances. The Incwala ceremony involves direct participation by the king and everyone is invited as the culmination is in dances at the Royal palace between December and January as it takes place over a three week-period with actual dates selected by astrologers who monitor the moon phases to determine the ideal time.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete
President of Tanzania

The United Republic of Tanzania includes the Indian Ocean islands of Pemba and Zanzibar and the mainland territory, covering a total area of 1,021,090 km², and is located on the east coast of Africa between the great lakes of the African Rift Valley system in the central part of the continent and the Indian Ocean. Tanzania has a common border with Kenya and Uganda to the north; Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west; and Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique to the south. Tanzania is a tropical country that includes four main climatic zones: the hot, humid coastal plains; the hot, arid zone of the central plateau; high, moist lake regions; and temperate highlands. The climate is governed by two monsoons. The north east monsoon from December to March brings the year's hottest temperatures, and when the winds shift to the south from March to May, they bring the heavy intermittent rains of the south west monsoon, which extends from June to September bringing relatively cool, dry weather. A smaller wet season occurs in November and December. Rainfall varies from an annual average of 1,250mm in the wettest 3 % of the land area, the south eastern slopes of the great volcanoes, to below 600mm in the central area of the country.

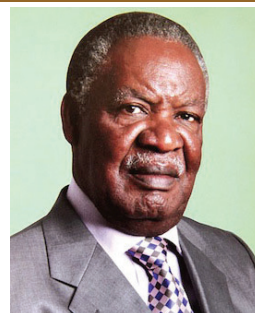
The total population of Tanzania is estimated at

50,586,000 (latest census). There are over 120 ethnic groups, each with its own language or dialect. Indigenous Tanzanians make up 99 % of the population, while other ethnic groups include Asians, Europeans and Arabs. Kiswahili is the official, universally-spoken language in Tanzania. English, also an official language, is the language of commerce. The capital has been Dar es Salaam since 1974, and is the largest city with a population of about 2,500,000, and serves as the main port, dominant industrial centre, and the focus of government and commerce. President is the Head of State for a maximum of two terms in office.

Tanzania is heavily dependent on agriculture, which accounts for 46 % of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), provides 75 % of exports and employs 80 % of the total workforce. Agriculture is the backbone of the Tanzanian economy, with principal cash crops including cotton lint, cashew nuts, tobacco, coffee and tea. The country has diverse mineral deposits, including precious minerals such as gold, diamonds, tanzanite and rubies as well as industrial minerals such as iron, tin, copper, nickel, cobalt, lead, limestone, titanium, vanadium, uranium, phosphate and gypsum. It also has deposits of coal and natural gas.

Tanzania is considered to be one of the premier tourism destinations in Africa. The country has bountiful natural resources, including extensive tracts of wilderness and a rich diversity of scenery. There are 12 National Parks, including the famous Serengeti, 34 Game Reserves, and 38 Game Controlled Areas. The prime tourist attractions include Mount Kilimanjaro, Zanzibar's historic Stone Town, the Olduvai Gorge archaeological site and clean white sand beaches fringed by palm trees.

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



H.E. Michael Chilufya Sata
President of Zambia

Zambia is an entirely landlocked country covering an area of 752,612 km². To the north it is bordered by the Democratic Republic of Congo and the United Republic of Tanzania, to the west by Angola, to the south west by Namibia, to the east by Malawi and Mozambique, and to the south by Zimbabwe and Botswana. Zambia sits on a gently undulating plateau, which is between 900 and 1,500 metres above sea level. Zambia has three distinct



seasons, the hot, dry season runs from September to October when temperatures range from 27 to 32 °C.

Zambia's population is approximately 13,459,000 (latest census) and most of the people are African, with small Asian and European minorities. English is the official language and is widely spoken throughout the country. There are seven main vernacular languages: Nyanja, Bemba, Tonga, Lozi, Luvale, Lunda and Kaonde, with more than 70 dialects spoken across the country. Lusaka is the capital city and is believed to be the fastest growing city in Central Africa. Livingstone is another main centre, the former capital of Zambia, located eight kilometres from Victoria Falls. In 1972, Zambia was declared a one party State, but reverted back to multi-party democracy in December 1990 and with general elections held in October 1991. The President is the Head of State.

Mining and quarrying account for a large proportion of Zambia's merchandise exports and have traditionally contributed the largest proportion of the country's total Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Zambia is presently the world's fourth largest producer of copper and has around 6 % of the world's known reserves. The tourism sector has consistently demonstrated growth due to a rich natural heritage, including great waterfalls, rivers, lakes, and a wealth of wildlife roaming in its vast sanctuaries. The most stunning geographical feature is the Victoria Falls, on the southern border with Zimbabwe, and is one of the natural wonders of the world. Zambia has 19 national parks, and 34 game management areas, some of the highlights are Luangwa and Kafue National Parks, Lower Zambezi National Park, Victoria Falls, Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park and Lochinvar National Park. Zambia also has beach resorts on Lake Tanganyika at Kasaba, Nkamba and Ndole bays, and Lake Kariba, a man-made lake.

which traverses Africa.

The climate of Zimbabwe is temperate. The winter season from May to August is cool and dry, with temperatures between 13 to 20 degrees Celsius. Summer, which is from December to February temperatures vary between 25 and 30 °C and the rainy season normally stretches from November to March. Parts of the country suffer regular periods of drought. The average monthly rainfall is 196mm in summer and 10mm in winter.

Zimbabwe has a population of 12,754,000 (latest census). The official and business language is English, with Shona and Ndebele also widely spoken. Harare is the capital city of Zimbabwe, a vital commercial and industrial business Centre; other centres include Bulawayo and Mutare. Formerly Southern Rhodesia, Zimbabwe attained independence from Britain in 1980. Elections are held every 5 years and the President is the Head of State.

Zimbabwe's economy is dependent on agricultural products including tobacco, cotton and sugar cane. Major export commodities are tobacco and horticulture. The sector is an important contributor to the country's export activities, with markets in America, Europe, Africa and the Far East. Mining contributes 4.3 % to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employs 7 % of the country's labour force and earns 40 % of the foreign exchange. Zimbabwe is richly endowed with mineral resources, over 40 different types of minerals are mined in the country, including the major minerals gold, chrome, asbestos, coal, iron ore, nickel, copper, diamonds and platinum. Other contributors to the economy are industry and cattle farming. The principal manufactured exports include ferro-alloys, clothing, metal products, chemicals, plastics and cotton-lint. Livestock agriculture (cattle) is one of the country's foremost economic activities. At present Zimbabwe is facing severe socio-economic difficulties including hyper-inflation, negative real interest rates, and a chronic shortage of foreign exchange.

Tourism contributes about 5 % of GDP and directly and indirectly employs over 83,000 people. Zimbabwe has one of the more diversified tourism resource bases in the SADC region. However, despite all its tourist attractions, very limited development has occurred since 1996 owing to inadequate support and few promotional activities for the sector. Wildlife and ecotourism are the mainstays of the sector but, in addition, the majestic Victoria Falls, the Great Zimbabwe National Monument, home to the ancient rulers of Zimbabwe, the Matopos National Park, Lake Kariba, Mana Pools, and the scenic Eastern Highlands are some of the most favoured tourist sites.

REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE



H.E. Robert Gabriel Mugabe
President of Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe occupies 390,757 km² of land in south central Africa, between the Limpopo and Zambezi rivers. The land-locked country is bounded by Mozambique to the east, Zambia to the north and north west, South Africa to the south, and to the south west by Botswana. It lies wholly within the tropics and is part of the great plateau





**Celebration
of
the 50th OAU/AU
Anniversary
in
Southern Africa**





AU-SARO Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the OAU/ AU in Lilongwe, Malawi



British High Commissioner to Malawi Michael Nevin (L) EU Head of Delegation to Malawi, Alexander Baum (C) and AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa Dr Salif Sada Sall (R) at Capital hotel during the OAU/AU 50th Anniversary, in Lilongwe, Malawi

The African Union Southern Africa Regional Office (AU-SARO) celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the OAU/AU on 25th May with host country Malawi, African Member States represented in the country, as well as the broader African and international community at the occasion held at Sunbird Capital Hotel in Lilongwe.

The occasion started with an address by Her Excellency Ms. Thandiwe Dumbutshena, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and High Commissioner of Zimbabwe in Malawi. Reflecting on the past and looking to the future, in her speech Her

Excellency remarked that “five decades after the formation of the OAU, Africa is on the rise politically, economically, culturally and socially. At the same time, the continent is aware of and addressing the challenges it faces; and of the need to seize this opportunity to rejuvenate its mission, through Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance.”

AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa, Dr Salif Sada Sall, delivered the message of AUC Chairperson, Her Excellency Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma highlighting the sense of the celebration and introduced the theme “Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance”. Guests listened enthusiastically and took in particular note of the AU’s 2063 Development Agenda to be adopted in 2014.

In response the Guest of Honor the Minister of Defence of Malawi, Honourable Ken Kandodo, M.P., representing the Vice President of the Republic of Malawi, Right Honourable Khumbo Kachali, spoke on the role Malawi has played within the Organization for African Unity. He commented that Malawi was committed to the OAU from its inception and highlighted the role its founding president Dr Kamuzu Banda played in encouraging other African leaders to focus on liberating the continent from colonialism at the signing of the OAU Charter in 1963. He further added that “Pan-Africanism remains an inspiration to Africa.”

The gathering concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by His Excellency Mr. Billy Munyumbwe, High Commissioner of the Republic of Zambia to Malawi.

Media took special interest in the celebration and the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) as well as the Daily Times covered the gathering for the respective media organizations. AU-SARO held its celebratory function simultaneously with our Headquarters in Addis Ababa and thus organized live streaming of celebration activities for guests in Malawi.



Crosscutting members of diplomatic corps during the celebrations at capital Hotel, in Lilongwe, Malawi



Partners in Malawi and the 50th OAU/AU Anniversary Celebration

Africa's Strategic Partnerships

In the period between 2004 and 2008, Africa developed a number of ground breaking partnerships with the rest of the world aimed at enhancing cooperation and consolidating growth of the continent. These include the Africa-South America, Africa-India, and Africa-Turkey partnerships. During the same period, existing cooperation between Africa and its traditional partners were re-defined, invigorated and strengthened. These include Africa-Europe Partnership, the China-Africa Forum and the TICAD process led by Japan.

The philosophy underpinning Africa's new partnerships is predicated on specific objectives with pre-determined "Win-Win" outcomes for the mutual benefits of the parties involved. It is based on the principle of trust, equality and mutual respect.

These partnerships are consistent with the clearly defined vision and development strategy of the African Union (AU), with particular emphasis on speeding up industrialization, development of infrastructure, development and acquisition of technology and know-how and development of human capital.

(i) Africa-European Union (EU) Partnership

The Africa-EU partnership, institutionally, began with the first Africa-EU Summit in Cairo, Egypt, in 2000, followed by the 2nd Summit that took place in Lisbon, Portugal, in December 2007, which adopted an Africa-EU Joint Strategy (JAES) and its Action Plan. The third AU-EU Summit was held in Tripoli, Libya, in November 2010.

Significantly, this partnership is one of the most productive and has produced concrete outcomes in the areas of peace and security; democratic governance and human rights; trade; migration, mobility and employment; climate change, as well as regional integration and infrastructure.

(ii) The Africa-South America Summit (ASA)

The Africa-South America Summit (ASA) is relatively new and gradually gaining momentum. The first ASA Summit was held in Abuja, Nigeria, on 30 November 2006 while the second one took place in Isla de Margarita, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on 27 September 2009.

(iii) China-Africa Cooperation Forum (FOCAC)

The China-Africa Cooperation Forum is a platform established by China and friendly African countries for collective consultation and dialogue and as a cooperation mechanism among developing countries. It aims at strengthening consultation and expand cooperation within a pragmatic framework and second, to promote political dialogue and economic cooperation with a view to seeking mutual reinforcement and cooperation.

(iv) Africa-Japan (TICAD) Process

The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) began as a Japanese initiative. The

initial design was to create a consultative forum to provide development assistance to Africa. It was launched in 1993.

(v) Africa-US (AGOA)

The African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA) was signed into law in May 2000 by the President of the USA. The Act offers tangible incentives for African countries to continue their efforts to open their economies and build free markets. It is the most bilateral access to the U.S. market available to any country or region with which the United States does not have a free Trade Agreement. It supports U.S. business by encouraging reform of Africa's economic and commercial regimes, which will build stronger markets and more effective partners with U.S. firms.

(vi) Partnership between Africa and the Arab World

Formal relations between Africa and the Arab world were launched in March 1977 with the Cairo Summit in Egypt. The solidarity between the two sides is necessary, especially as Africa is home to about two-thirds of the world's Arabs.

(vii) Africa-India Partnership Forum

The Africa-India Cooperation was launched in New Delhi, India, from 8-9 April 2008 by a Summit of African and Indian leaders. Commitments made under it are capable of delivering substantial benefits to the peoples of the two sides, as they have been backed with concrete projects and earmarked funding.

(viii) Africa-Turkey Partnership

The Summit establishing the Africa-Turkey Partnership was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 18-20 April 2008. The first Summit adopted two outcome documents, namely the Istanbul Declaration and the Framework for Cooperation, which spelt out the areas of cooperation between the two parties.

(ix) Africa-Korea Partnership

It is recalled that the Republic of Korea decided to organize the first Korea-Africa Partnership Forum immediately after the China-Africa Summit in November 2006. This took place in Seoul on 8 November 2006 and was attended by five African Presidents and Ministers from 25 African countries. The Forum was crowned with a Declaration, which, among other things, decided that it would hold every three years, at Ministerial level.

(x) Institution to Institution Partnership/ Relationship

The African Union, through its Commission, also has partnerships or relationships with institutions and bodies similar to the African Union. These include:

(i) The League of Arab States (LAS); (ii) The Organization of American States (OAS); (iii) The Organization of Islamic Cooperation; (iv) The Commonwealth; (v) La Francophonie.



African Union and African Development Bank Jointly Organise a High Level Forum to Celebrate 50th OAU/AU Anniversary in Malawi



Participant to the joint African Development Bank and African Union Southern Africa Regional Office High Level Forum, where the two institutions launched the AfDB Group Strategy for 2013-2022; the Malawi Country Strategy Paper 2013-2017; and AU Wide Strategic Plan and 2063 Development Agenda. in Lilongwe, Malawi

The African Union (AU) and sister institution The African Development Bank (AfDB) hold very similar visions for a transformed Africa. Both institutions seek to have solid and robust democracies and prosperous and competitive African economies. It is against this background that the AU and AfDB held a joint event on 12 June 2013 at Sunbird Capita Hotel, Lilongwe where the African Union presented, in the context of the celebration of the 50th Anniversary, its **AU Wide Strategic Plan and the 2063 Development Agenda** which frames the African Union's vision for Africa for the next five decades. The AfDB officially launched and presented its **Strategy for the period 2013-2022 as well as the Malawi CSP covering 2013-2017**.

Minister of Finance of the Republic of Malawi Honourable Dr. Ken Lipenga, MP was the Guest of Honour at The Forum, also attended by Honourable Deputy Minister of Economic Planning and Development, Mr. Khwauli Msiska and other stakeholders from the development community.

In his statement, Dr Salif Sada Sall, the Regional Delegate to Southern Africa contextualised the forum as the translation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the three continental institutions namely the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (ADB) and the African Union Commission (AUC) in which the organizations agreed to review progress in the implementation of the African development agenda issues as well as sharing information and assessing the prevailing

political, social and economic trends in Africa. Since the cooperation arrangements is guided by the Vision of the AU it is therefore important for all parties to understand the policy and strategic orientation pursued by the AU and implemented by the Secretariat of the AU, the African Union Commission (AUC). The AUC will provide overall leadership oversight and the other partners should provide technical backstopping and specific leadership in areas of their comparative advantage. He added that "The Forum, we are co-organising today is indeed a translation of this agreement at the Southern Africa regional level."

He added that the vision for Africa in the context of the celebration of the 50th Anniversary is to "build an integrated Africa, a prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena."

Dr Sall emphasized that "growth rates experienced by countries, are real economic revolutions that we must preserve each step of the way, protecting each step won by further diversifying our economy sectors, gaining more control over the exploitation of our mineral resources, mastering new technologies, creating infrastructure that opens up our economies and eases trade between us, accelerating and strengthening regional and sub-regional integration policies for the benefit of our economies."

Dr Andrew Mwaba, AfDB Country Representative in Malawi, reiterated the Banks commitment to Regional Integration, as a partner to the African Union and its member states in realising the integration of the continent. Noting that the strategy is comprehensive, Dr Mwaba added that new Strategy reflects the priorities of the



***The new Strategy
reflects the priorities
of the African
Development Bank's
long term strategy in
regional member
Countries and policy
frameworks
including the Southern
Africa Integration
Strategy and Private
Sector Development
Policy.***

African Development Bank's long term strategy in regional member countries and policy frameworks including the Southern Africa Integration Strategy and Private Sector Development Policy. He added that the Bank's Country Strategy for Malawi for 2013-2017 also reflect Malawi's regional integration priorities. In particular the Strategy addressed the country's infrastructure bottlenecks, improving Malawi's competitiveness with the aim of enhancing private sector investment and trade, as well as promoting good governance. .

Honourable Dr Lipenga, in turn thanked the two continental institutions for organizing this Joint Forum in Malawi. Reflecting on Africa's remarkable economic progress over the past decade, as evidenced by high growth rates averaging more than 5 % derived from the

commodities boom, sound macro policies and improvement in governance, the Minister however also noted that improvement in growth, progress in poverty reduction has been slow. This he said "underscore why we should now focus on the quality and sustainability of growth to ensure more inclusive growth." He welcomed the Bank's 2013-2022 strategy which builds on the development gains achieved by Regional Member Countries of the Bank and added that "The support provided by the Bank has benefitted Malawi and other Regional Member Countries in key areas such as infrastructure development, agriculture and food security and governance."

The joint event underscored the importance of partnership in addressing the challenges facing the African continent. This Forum not only served as a springboard to expound on the Bank's and AU plans for the African continent and Malawi in particular, but also an opportunity to discuss the Bank's and the AU's role in the drive for structural change towards prosperous and competitive African economies.

***AU Wide Strategic
Plan and the
2063 Development
Agenda frames
the African Union's
vision for Africa for
the next five decades***



Towards a better future for China-Africa Relations



*H.E. Pan Hejun
Ambassador of the People's
Republic of China to
the Republic of Malawi*

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the African Union. At this moment, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations and best wishes to the dear African Leaders.

Africa is a cradle of mankind. It boasts a long history, rich natural resources, brilliant cultures, talented and courageous people. Achieving renaissance of Africa has long been an aspiration of the African people. From the rise of pan-Africanism in the early 20th century to the establishment of the Organization of African Unity in 1963, and to the birth of the AU in 2002, the people of Africa have made unremitting efforts on the path of strength through unity and achieved remarkable deeds. Over the past decade since its inception, the African Union has made great efforts to strengthen institutional and capacity building and played an active role in safeguarding peace and stability, promoting economic and social development and advancing the integration process in Africa. Today the AU has become an important force for peace, stability and development in Africa and the world as a whole.

Despite the vast geographical distance, China and Africa enjoy a long-standing friendship and a natural feeling of kinship to each other. China and African people have sincerely supported each other in fighting colonialism and imperialism, achieving independence and liberation, and pursuing national development. In this process, a fraternal bond was formed. China will never forget that it was the African brothers that supported China's resumption of legitimate seat in the United Nations, and China-supported Tanzania-Zambia railway is well-heard among African people as epitome of China-Africa sincere friendship.

The 21st century has ushered in a new epoch in China-Africa relations. With the establishment of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), China and Africa have established a new type of strategic partnership featuring political equality and mutual trust, economic win-win cooperation and cultural exchanges. China and Africa have stepped up coordination and collaboration and effectively upheld the common interests of developing countries. China-Africa cooperation in various fields has yielded notable results. In 2012, China-Africa trade approached US\$200 billion. There were over 1.5 million mutual visits between the two sides. China's cumulative direct investment in Africa topped US\$15 billion. In March 2013, the newly-elected Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Africa countries in his very first state visit abroad.

China always attaches great importance to its relations with the African Union. In recent years, China and the AU have maintained close cooperation and coordination on important international and regional issues. China and the AU also strengthened strategic mutual trust and result-oriented cooperation. During the senior official meeting of FOCAC held in October 2011, the AU Commission was admitted into the FOCAC as a full member. The China-AU strategic dialogue mechanism has been operating well and the two sides have launched the diplomatic policy consultation mechanism. China has held two seminars and provided many multilateral training opportunities for AU officials, in diplomacy, public administration, anti-terrorism and poverty reduction. China has promised to provide NEPAD with US\$1.5 million of cash aid for the training of nurses and midwives, and the money is being channeled in several installments. In the field of peace and security, China has provided the AU with RMB30 million yuan of military grants first in 2010 and then in 2011, and provided a total of US\$ 1.2 million of cash aid for the AU mission in Somalia in 2010 and 2011.

In January 2012, the AU Conference Center built with Chinese support was completed and handed over to the AU. Inaugurated by Mr. Jia Qinglin, then Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, this magnificent building is the second largest Chinese-supported infrastructure projects built in Africa, only second to the Tanzania-Zambia railway and marked a new milestone in China-African friendship.

Africa today is a land with faster economic growth and rising influence in international affairs. China's development is also keeping sound momentum. It is the common wish of Chinese and African people to push forward China-Africa cooperation. And, greater China-Africa cooperation represents the trend of the times and the will of the people.

China will always put unity and cooperation with African countries as an important foundation for China's foreign policy. China insists on equality among all countries, regardless of their size, strength and wealth. China and Africa should continue to support each other on issues involving their core interests and major concerns. China will continue to firmly support African





The new AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

countries' just position on regional and international affairs, and safeguard the fundamental interests of developing countries.

China will continue to promote China-Africa cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit. China believes the fate of China and Africa are closely linked. While developing itself, China has provided support to African friends to the best of its ability. China believes that every country is entitled to self-development and sustainable development. Countries should explore development paths that suit their own national conditions and China is ready to increase exchanges of governance experience with African countries.

China will place greater emphasis on people-to-people and cultural exchanges between China and Africa so as to improve mutual understanding and expand public support for the China-Africa friendship. To develop China-Africa relations is a cause that calls for unremitting efforts of youths from generation to generation. Therefore, both sides should vigorously promote youth exchanges so that China-Africa friendship will be carried forward and remain full of vigor and vitality.

China will place greater emphasis on people-to-people and cultural exchanges between China and Africa so as to improve mutual understanding and expand public support for the China-Africa friendship



European Union and the African Union: Two Unions, One Vision



H.E. Alexander Baum
EU Head of Delegation to the
Republic of Malawi

The Africa-EU Partnership

In our ever changing world, one thing is sure: Africa and Europe will remain each other's closest neighbour. Africa's 54 countries and the European Union's soon-to-be 28 member states have a shared neighbourhood, history and future. It was in this spirit that Africa and Europe came together at the Lisbon Summit in December 2007 to create the Africa-EU Partnership, based upon a strong political relationship and close cooperation in all areas. Our Partnership aims to bridge the development divide between Africa and Europe through closer economic cooperation and the promotion of inclusive and sustainable development in both our continents, living side by side in peace, security, prosperity, solidarity and human dignity.

The Partnership on the move

Since the Lisbon Summit, the world has seen further massive changes, notably the global financial crisis and the Arab Spring, which have left their mark on both Africa and Europe. At the same time, our Partnership has steadily gained momentum, delivering solid results across a number of key areas. We are working particularly closely together in the area of peace and security to strengthen Africa's capacity to prevent and resolve crisis situations and maintain peace. We also have major programmes in agriculture and rural development, infrastructure and energy, environment, research and development and student mobility. Our two continents have also reinforced cooperation on global issues such as climate change and counter terrorism.

The next Commission to Commission (C2C)

The last meeting of the AU-EC College-to-College meetings took place in Brussels in June 2011. The 2013 edition of the C2C in Addis Ababa is a key opportunity to review the results of our cooperation since June 2011, and to provide the necessary political impetus in new areas of mutual interest. The meeting will also kick-start the preparations for the 4th Africa EU Summit in April 2014 in Brussels, for which the two Commissions will be the key drivers.

Based on our shared vision, the Joint Strategy defines eight thematic partnerships in the areas of:

- Peace and Security,
- Democratic Governance and Human Rights
- Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure
- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- Energy
- Climate Change and Environment,

- Migration, Mobility and Employment
- Science, Information Society and Space

Implementing the Partnership

African and European leaders meet at Africa-EU Summits, held every three years. The Summits set the overall agenda for the Partnership. The last Summit was held in Tripoli in November 2010. The next Summit is scheduled for April 2014 in Brussels.

Commission to Commission (C2C) meetings bring the AU and European Commissions together each year, with the most recent meeting in Addis Ababa in April 2013.

The Africa-EU Joint Task Force meets every six months to review implementation of the Partnership. The most recent JTF meeting was held in February 2013 in Addis Ababa.

Key deliverables

Since the 2010 Africa-EU Summit, the EU and Africa have been active in supporting the implementation of the second Joint Action Plan 2011-2013.

Under the Africa-EU Partnership, solid progress has been made across the Partnerships, in a range of areas such as peace and security, democratic governance and human rights, agriculture, infrastructure, climate change and many other areas.

A few key examples are highlighted below:

The African Union Support Programme (AUSP)

Through the AUSP the EU has allocated €55 million to support capacity building of the AU institutions, notably the African Union Commission (AUC) and assist in the Institutional Reform Process. This support has enabled the AU Commission to effectively play its role as "motor" of the African integration process and to facilitate the deepening of the partnership between the AU and the EU.

The African Peace Facility (APF)

The APF is the operational tool of the Africa-EU Partnership on Peace and Security. Through this instrument, the EU supports the AU and other African regional organisations in finding 'African solutions to African problems'. The missions financed by the Facility are led and staffed by Africans.

Since the creation of the APF in 2004, the EU has committed more than €1 billion. The two ongoing peace support operations are AMISOM (the AU Mission in Somalia) and MICOPAX (the Mission for the Consolidation of Peace in the Central African Republic).

At the EU Foreign Affairs Council on 17th January 2013, the EU announced that €50 million would be provided under the APF to support the African-led International Support Mission to Mali (AFISMA).

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)

The objectives of the APRM are to foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated subregional and continental economic integration through experience sharing and reinforcement of successful and best practices, including identifying deficiencies and assessment of requirements for capacity building.

The European Commission has contributed €2 million to the UNDP-managed Trust Fund to support the APRM Secretariat.

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)

The EU has provided €15 million to support African Institutions (AUC, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Agency and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in the implementation of the CAADP process at continental, regional and national level.

CAADP is an Africa led initiative working to boost agricultural productivity in Africa based on four pillars: Sustainable Land and Water Management, Market Access, Food Supply and Hunger and Agricultural Research.

The EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund (ITF)

The ITF aims to increase European and African investment in infrastructure and related services. It blends grants and loans to increase the total funding available for large-scale regional infrastructure projects across Africa.

The cumulative total of approved Grant Operations increased from €15.5M in 2007 to €342.7M in 2012, covering 70 approved Grant Operations throughout Africa. Each euro in ITF Grant Operations supporting projects in their investment phase is expected to generate about 13 euro in total investments.

ITF represents a significant European blending mechanism to support the substantial increase of investments in infrastructure and energy under Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and Sustainable Development for All (SE4All).

The EC has also earmarked a total amount of €745M for the Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF) (North Africa) for the 2007-2013 period (complemented by direct contributions from Member States). To date, the NIF contributes €417.7M to infrastructure and private sector projects, leveraging a total project volume of more than €14 billion.

Climate to Development in Africa (CLIMDEV Africa)

The EU has contributed €8 million to CLIMDEV Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). This continental

initiative aims to enable Africa to be better prepared for climate challenges (droughts, changes in rainfall patterns, extreme weather events etc.) by adapting agro-ecosystems, better managing water resources, preserving genetic variability in local species, and addressing the need for improved climate information in Africa and strengthening access to and the use of such information by decision-makers and key stakeholders (e.g. to anticipate future changes; be it slow-onset events such as shorter rain seasons or sudden shocks such as hurricanes or storms).

The next Africa-EU Summit

The 4th Africa-EU Summit will take place in April 2014 in Brussels. This will be the opportunity to take stock of progress on the Africa-EU Partnership and map out our future joint priorities and action plan for the future.

SADC Countries under the EU-Africa Partnership Infrastructure

The AUC, in association with the RECs, identified a number of projects to support strategic/priority projects and key policy objectives. A key objective of the preparatory actions and studies was to lead projects to maturity and funding by regional development funds, including the EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund, and the private sector.

More concretely to the SADC region, the "Beira-Lobito Corridor" was selected as an important support to regional integration. The "Beira-Lobito Corridor" forms the "Trans-African Highway (TAH) n°9", linking the Eastern African coast on the Atlantic Ocean at Lobito in Angola with the Western African coast on the Indian Ocean at Beira in Mozambique, and passing also through the countries of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia and Zimbabwe. The corridor links the mining areas of the "copper belt" in the DRC, Zambia and Zimbabwe and the farming regions of Angola, Zambia and Mozambique with the ports of Beira and Lobito and with the countries of southern, eastern and central Africa.

After years of prolonged conflict in the region, notably in Angola, the western section of the corridor in Angola and southern DRC has fallen into disrepair and has remained impassable for many decades. As a result, regional traffic, notably from southern DRC and Zambia, predominately uses the eastern section of the corridor for trade and commerce, and notably to the ports in Tanzania, Mozambique and South Africa.

The study has assessed the options and viability of the rehabilitation of the western section of the "Beira-Lobito Corridor", including the alternative southern route through Northern Zambia (connection with the TAH 9 at Chingola)."

Science, Information Society and Space

Several SADC member states are active participants in the EU's 7th Framework programme (2007-2013) and are well ranked among African participants: South Africa (1st), Tanzania (7), Mozambique (15), Malawi (17)



and Zambia (19).

Examples of FP7 projects involving research teams from SADC countries:

Health

"AVECNET African Vector* Control: New Tools" (* vectors of disease: eg mosquitos)

Led by Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK), with 8 other European partners and 6 African partners in Burkina Faso, Kenya, **Malawi** and **Tanzania** (3).

EU contribution: €12 million from Feb. 2011 to Jan 2016.

"PREPARE: promoting sexual- and reproductive health among adolescents in southern and eastern Africa, mobilising parents, schools and communities."

Led by University of Bergen (NO), with 4 other European partners and 4 African partners in Uganda, **South Africa** (University of Cape Town & University of Limpopo) and **Tanzania** (Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences).

EU contribution: €3 million from Feb. 2010 to July 2014.

"PATHCO: Pathogen COinfection: HIV, TB, Malaria & Hepatitis C virus".

Led by University of Amsterdam (NL), with 8 other European partners, China and **South Africa** (University of Cape Town).

EU contribution: €5.9 million from Nov. 2012 to Oct. 2017.

Agriculture

"ICONZ: Integrated control of neglected zoonoses: improving human health and animal production through scientific innovation and public engagement"

Led by University of Edinburgh (UK), with 12 other European partners and 9 African partners in Kenya, Mali, Morocco, **Mozambique**, Nigeria, **South Africa**, **Tanzania**, Uganda and **Zambia**.

EU contribution: €6 million from April 2009 to March 2014.

"EAU4FOOD: EU and AU cooperative research to increase food production in irrigated farming systems in Africa"

Led by Wageningen University (NL), with 4 other European partners and 7 African partners in Ethiopia, Mali, **Mozambique**, **South Africa** (CSIR & Stellenbosh University), Tunisia and **Zambia**, as well as Sri Lanka.

EU contribution: €4 million from July 2011 to June 2015.



PRESS RELEASE

European Union Delegation to Malawi joins AU-SARO in Celebrating the OAU/AU 50th Anniversary

The year 2013 is special to the EU delegation to the African Union with the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the Organization of African Unity. The European Union congratulates its partner African Union, and looks forward to a colourful celebration as reflected recently by Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, who said:

"These reflections are opportune because the year 2013 has been declared the Year of Pan Africanism and the African Renaissance. It is our view that this year has the potential of being a watershed year, since never before in our history has so much been in our favour. Never before have we had so much potential and growth. Never before, has the continent been favoured with such a young, vibrant and relatively more educated population. It is these comparative advantages that must be turned into meaningful opportunities towards a shared prosperity and lasting peace"



Celebrating OAU/AU 50th Anniversary and the Japan-Africa Partnership



H.E. Fujio Samukawa
Japanese Ambassador to
the Republic of Malawi



Heads of State and Government pose for a group photo at TICAD IV in 2008. *Courtesy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan*

Japan is elated to join one of its key partners- the African Union in celebrating 50 years filled with successes and achievements and therefore extends its hearty congratulations to the African Union. Coincidentally, Japan's socio-political and economic cooperation with Africa spans over five decades and has also resulted in countless success stories. This cooperation was significantly heightened in 1993 with the launch of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), which is held every five years and is aimed at enhancing Africa's development by promoting Africa's self help efforts through strategic partnerships.

On the other hand, it is worth noting that the 50th anniversary of the African Union coincides with the inclusion of the African Union Commission (AUC) as a co-organizer of TICAD alongside Japan; the United Nations (UN); and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - the traditional co-organizers of TICAD. The inclusion of the AUC as a co-organizer significantly consolidates Africa's role in the TICAD process and further promotes Africa's development since the TICAD process has become an established road map for Africa's development.

Then again, it is also interesting to note that this year also marks the 20th anniversary of TICAD as a major global platform for the development of Africa. Further to that, the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) will be convened from 1 to 3 June, 2013 in Yokohama, Japan. In fact, a TICAD ministerial-level follow-up meeting was held recently in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 15 to 17 March, 2013 to review the progress of the TICAD process and to renew political will and commitment to the TICAD process in the lead up to TICAD V.

In view of the many significant events taking place in relation to Africa this year, Japan has dubbed 2013 the 'Year for Africa.' To this effect, Japan has continued to affirm its steadfast commitment to supporting Africa for its

development. And in an effort to ensure sustainable development, Japan has also relentlessly promoted and pursued the notion of ensuring human security in all its elements, which incidentally is one of the guiding principles of development underpinning the TICAD process. In this connection, Japan recently announced that it has committed US\$550 million towards ensuring peace and stability in Africa during the TICAD ministerial-level meeting in Ethiopia.

Japan has also placed emphasis on assistance through the TICAD process being aligned to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); individual country development policies; and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), which is a blue print for Africa's peace and socio-economic development and is an initiative of the African Union. It is worth noting that TICAD's affirmation to support NEPAD at the third TICAD summit in 2003, has ably facilitated the incorporation of the African Union's guiding principles of development into the TICAD process. Furthermore, the strong collaboration between TICAD and NEPAD has seen various development partners including Japan cooperating with the African Union, individual African countries, and regional economic communities such as the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

Suffice to say that all the development partnerships have resulted in countless developmental activities being implemented across the three pillars of 'Consolidation of Peace'; 'Human Centred Development'; and 'Poverty Reduction through Boosting Economic Growth, which



Fruits of Japan's assistance: a newly constructed science lab at Mseche Community Day Secondary School. *Courtesy of Japanese Embassy to Malawi*



A staff member gets a feel of the new navigation system .
Courtesy of Japanese Embassy to Malawi

were agreed upon at the fourth TICAD summit in 2004. One noteworthy example of the cooperation in terms of 'Poverty Reduction through Boosting Economic Growth,' is the doubling of Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) to US\$1.8 billion by the year 2012 from an average of US\$0.9 billion disbursed during the period from 2003 to 2007. The year 2010 actually registered a record high Japanese ODA disbursement of US\$2.05 billion.

Another example is the doubling of Japan's direct investment to Africa to US\$3.4 billion from an average of US\$1.7 billion during the period from 2008 to 2012. As of December 2010, Japan's direct investment to Africa reached US\$5.2 billion thereby surpassing the US\$3.4 billion benchmark. The Japanese investments have mainly been made in the construction; renewable energy; manufacturing; telecommunications; automotives; and pharmaceuticals sectors.

With regard to Japan's cooperation with individual countries, though assistance is channelled through the TICAD process, it is based on Japan's country assistance policy for each country. For instance, Japan's assistance to the Republic of Malawi incorporates nine (9) key priority areas outlined in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II (MGDS II), which is the country's road map for national development. The nine key priority areas in order of priority are as follows: agriculture and food security; irrigation and water development; transport infrastructure development; energy generation and supply; integrated rural development; prevention and management of HIV and AIDS; education and technology development; climate change, natural resources and the environment; and youth development and capacity building.

An example of Japan's recent grant aid assistance to Malawi in terms of transport infrastructure development is the provision of a state-of-the-art air navigation system including solar power equipment costing a total of 778 million Japanese Yen. Another example is the construction of the 994 million Japanese Yen worth South Rukuru Bridge on Main I (M1) Road, which is the main road that connects Malawi to neighboring countries in the northern part of the country. Also worth mentioning is the ongoing

improvement of the 7.9 km Chipembere Highway, which is one of the main roads in the country's business capital city of Blantyre.

In the education sector, Japan is engaged in a 2.3 billion Japanese Yen worth community day secondary school reconstruction and expansion project, which is being implemented in 12 schools across the country to address the issue of limited capacity and insufficient facilities. Whilst with regard to irrigation and water development, a grant of 563 million Japanese Yen was recently awarded for the construction of water supply facilities in selected market centres and also for the rehabilitation of 300 boreholes aimed at serving a population of more than 57,000 people. A total of 350 million Japanese Yen was also disbursed to fund medium scale irrigation projects.

Japan has also strived to enhance Malawi's development through technical cooperation. This has involved the dispatch of Japanese volunteers who live and work in rural communities with a view of facilitating two-way transferring of skills and knowledge and also promoting cultural exchange. It has also involved the dispatch of Japanese experts in various fields who are attached to various institutions to also transfer skills and knowledge. On the other hand, countless Malawians have been sponsored on long and short term courses in various fields in Japan.

This is but a brief synopsis of progress that has been achieved through the Japan-Africa cooperation. As such, it is hoped that continued and enhanced cooperation with Africa can therefore only result in greater accomplishments, which will ultimately birth a new Africa characterised by resilient and sustainable societies. So long live to the African Union and long live to Africa!

**The inclusion of the AUC
as a co-organizer
significantly consolidates
Africa's role in the
TICAD process and
further promotes Africa's
development since the
TICAD process has
become an established
road map for Africa's
development.**



Some of the AU-SARO Activities in 2013





African Union Southern Africa Regional Office gracing the Malawi 2013 African Public Service Day



AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa welcoming the Malawi Vice President, Right Honourable Khumbo Kachali at the function

The African Union Southern Africa Regional Office (AU-SARO) this year graced the Malawi government's celebrations marking the commemoration of the African Public Service Day which falls on 23 of June and celebrated by all African nations.

This year, the Day was commemorated on the theme "African Public Service in the Age of Open Government: Giving a voice to Citizens". This continental theme emphasized on the need for effective citizen engagement in government affairs in order to reconcile their multiple interests with national aspirations.

It is believed that for proper participation, there is need for giving voice and political space to the citizens through partnerships with non-governmental and civil society organizations, business communities, and labour unions amongst others.

Such engagement helps to deepen democracy, strengthen social capital, promote pro-poor initiatives, sustainable growth and socio-economic development, equity and social justice as well as to facilitate efficiency. Speaking at the commemoration day Civil Service Stadium in Lilongwe, Malawi, African Union Regional Delegate Southern Africa, H.E. Dr Salif Sada Sall said that an ethical and productive public service, and culture were some of the core values of an ethical public service. "Enhancing an ethical and productive public service implies however a clear understanding of some of the basic standards and principles for public service by public servants", said Dr Sall.

The AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa commended Malawi for celebrating the Day and urged Malawi and all AU Member States in the Region who had not yet done so, to sign and ratify the *African Charter on Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration*. He added that the charter is an important legal instrument which sets the values and characteristics for an ethical and effective public service and encourages

greater openness and interaction between governments and their citizens.

He said the Pan African Conference of Ministers of Civil Service held in Namibia in 2001 adopted the Africa Public Service Charter (APSC) to set standards that would restore prestige and dignity to the public service and raise performance levels and competence in governments.

"The Charter defines a framework to guide the public services in Africa in taking such legislative, regulatory, technical and practical measures as may be required to create favorable conditions for the proper functioning of the public service and improve the quality of its services" he said.

Among others, principles and rules of conduct in the Charter include; equality

of treatment of citizens, neutrality in service delivery along the objectives of the government of the day; legality in terms of administrative decisions conforming to laws and regulations; continuity in terms of ongoing service delivery to customers; proximity and accessibility of services, participation, consultation and mediation; quality; effectiveness and efficiency; evaluation of services; transparency and information; speed and responsiveness; and reliability and confidentiality of information concerning citizens.

This according to Dr Sall, means that for all African countries that are signatories to this Charter, the administration shall respect the fundamental and universal principles of the public service.

Malawi celebrated African Civil Service day for the first time and the day also marked the of launch *the Malawi Public Service Charter* and *the Code of Conduct and Ethics* for the country's civil service.

The Vice President of Malawi, Right Honourable Khumbo Kachali presented awards to the five best performing ministries and departments in Malawi.

The occasion also showcased the work of various government ministries and departments and included exhibition stalls, and a float procession depicting the work of key service delivery institutions including the judiciary, police, military, health, education, social welfare and housing departments.

Malawi dedicated one week for celebration of the Africa Pubic Service Day across the country with exhibitions and various public information programmes on television and radio.

Africa has celebrated the Africa Public Service since its recognition in 1994. The African leadership endorsed the day after recognizing that significant contributions by public service organizations in ensuring a livable and habitable continent, where humankind develop their potentials to the fullest in peace and security.

AU-SARO briefs Malawi Representatives of the Pan African Parliament (PAP)

It should never be assumed that everyone in Africa knows the mandate of the African Union (AU). Neither should it be taken for granted that leaderships at different levels are aware of how and why this organization exists. However, the popularisation of this continental organization is two folds. Pro-activeness of the AU to disseminate information about the organization, and willingness of individual citizens or institutions seeking for information from the AU.

It is from this understanding that on 31st July 2013, the Malawi Parliamentary Committee members of Pan-African Parliament (PAP) through the Malawi parliament invited the African Union Southern Africa Regional Office (AU-SARO) to brief them on the mandate of the AU representational office in Southern Africa. The **AU-SARO Communications Officer, Brenda Kok** accompanied the **AU Regional Delegate, H.E Dr Salif Sada Sall** to the Malawi Parliament Building where he briefed Malawi Parliament representatives of PAP and she shares what transpired during the meeting.

The AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa, Dr Salif Sada Sall, was invited to brief the Malawian Parliamentary Committee composed of representatives of the Pan African Parliament (PAP) in August 2013. Malawi is a Member of the Pan African Parliament and have since its inception had representatives from its legislature represented at the PAP. The Malawi Parliament formed the committee specifically to look at PAP related matters in relation to Malawi. The Committee invited AU-SARO to make a presentation on the work of the African Union to some of its new representatives to PAP as well as to discuss how to strengthen the relationship between AU-SARO and the Malawi Parliamentary Representatives of PAP.

Dr Sall in his remarks thanked the Committee and commended the Malawi Parliament for forming a committee at parliamentary level specifically to look at PAP related matters. He added that in doing so, “Malawi’s has demonstrated its commitment to the ideals of the Pan African Parliament”. Dr Sall presented an overview of the African Union Commission, its organs and structures as well as the work of the African Union Southern Africa Regional Office (AU-SARO) in Lilongwe and in the region. In particular Dr Sall, highlighted to the representatives some of the AU Treaties, Conventions, Protocols & Charters Malawi has not yet ratified. He also indicated that ratification of Charters is not enough but that domesticating the various Charters and including these in the laws of member countries are the real challenge.

The Chairperson of the Committee Hon. H.P. Chikaonda, MP in turn thanked Dr Sall for his

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AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa, H.E. Dr Salif Sada Sall (L) with Malawi Parliamentary Committee members of PAP at Malawi Parliament Building in Lilongwe.

presentation and opened the floor for questions and discussions. Notable questions came from representatives who wanted to know how the AU-SARO could assist the Committee in the execution of its duties namely to ensure Malawi ratifies AU Charters and also domesticate these in its legislation. Also how AU-SARO could assist representatives to reach out to other members of parliament and the population in general about the Pan African Parliament. Members also enquired about how information sharing between AU-SARO and the Committee could be supported.

Dr Sall reiterated that AU-SARO would be happy to assist the Committee in its duties and would be able to provide information that representatives may require about important decisions of the AU Heads of States and Government Summits, the status of AU Treaties, Conventions, Protocols & Charters and in general assist with the free flow of information to the Committee. In this regards, AU-SARO will undertake to brief the Committee after each summit to keep representatives informed about AU decisions and relevant information pertaining to PAP. AU-SARO would also monitor and send regular updates to the Committee regarding the status of Treaties, Conventions, Protocols and Charters. Further, AU-SARO would as part its outreach provide the Parliamentary Library with its

Bulletins and other publications to keep parliament well informed about the African Union. AU-SARO further under took to invite the Committee to all its activities thereby ensuring that representatives are fully kept abreast of AU-SARO activities in Malawi.

The meeting also discussed the possibility of joint outreach activities in future which was welcomed by both AU-SARO and the Committee.

This briefing was the first step in building a long term relationship with Malawian Representatives of the Pan African Parliament and AU-SARO hopes in future to expand this type of briefing to other Pan African Parliament Representatives from countries in the region.

The **Pan-African Parliament**, is the legislative body of the African Union, it exercises oversight, and has advisory and consultative powers at present and will progress to exercise full legislative powers in future. It is composed of 235 Parliamentary representatives from the 47 PAP member countries. Each member country elects members from its legislatures to serve at PAP. PAP is composed of The Bureau of the Parliament which has a President and four Vice-Presidents as well as Ten Permanent Committees created to deal with different areas including Justice and Human Rights, International Relations and Conflict Resolution and Monetary and Financial Affairs. The Parliamentarians are assisted by the Secretariat of the Pan-African Parliament which is situated in Midrand, South Africa.



AU-SARO Courtesy Calls



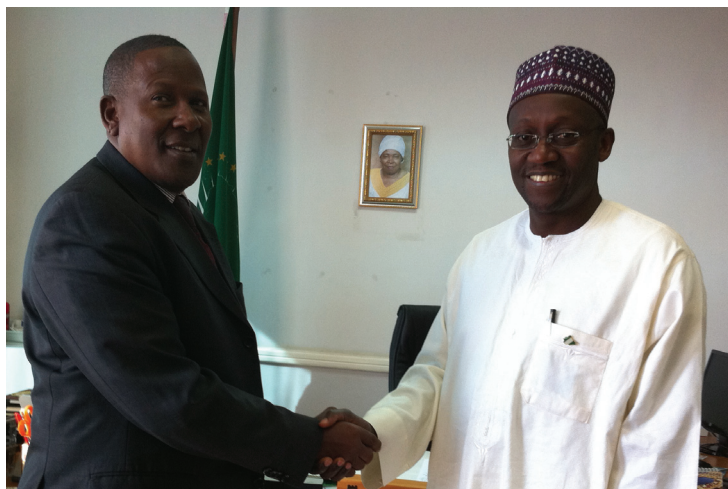
Chairperson of Malawi Human Rights Commission, Ambassador Sophie Kalinde (L) during her courtesy call to AU-SARO.



UNDP Resident Representative to Malawi, Mia Seppo (R) during her courtesy call to AU-SARO.



Zambian High Commissioner to Malawi H.E Charles Romel Banda (L) when he paid courtesy call to AU-SARO.



Nigerian Ambassador to Malawi H.E. Mohammed Lawan Gana (L) during his courtesy call to the AU-SARO



The old AU headquarters, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



January 2012 AU Summit in Addis Ababa

2013

AU-SARO special publication celebrating the 50th anniversary of the AU/OAU in Southern Africa, 25 May 1963-25May 2013

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