

The United Nations (UN) recognises participation in sport and recreation as a fundamental human right, which all governments should make available to their people.

South Africa was a signatory to the millennium development goals drawn from the actions and targets contained in the Millennium Declaration that was adopted by 189 nations and signed by 147 heads of state and government during the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000.

Sport has the potential to build social cohesion and national unity. South Africans were bound together when the country won the Rugby World Cup in 1995 and again in 2007, the African Cup of Nations in 1996 as well as when it won the right to host the 2010 World Cup in 2004.

Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA) is responsible for developing and implementing national policies and programmes regarding sport and recreation in the country.

The SRSA's objectives and key strategic areas are to broaden the base of South African sport within an integrated development continuum by:

- increasing the number of participants in sport and recreation
 - assisting to identify and develop talent that will address transformation
 - supporting national federations, individual athletes and teams
 - developing sport and recreation clubs
 - empowering the human resource base for sports development with special emphasis on a professional coaching infrastructure
 - uplifting sport in schools
 - contributing to social cohesion and peace and development
 - securing a proper development continuum and academy system
 - building basic sport facilities according to an approved National Sports Plan.
- The SRSA aims to maximise South Africa's chances of success in world sport by:
- improving the success rate of South Africa in international competitions
 - identifying priority sports codes
 - contributing to making the 2010 Soccer World Cup the best ever
 - assisting in the preparation of the 2010 national soccer team
 - co-ordinating government's responsibilities regarding the 17 guarantees signed with FIFA for the 2010 Soccer World Cup
 - assisting in making the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ an African event
 - making a meaningful contribution to the 2010 legacy

- supporting role models in sport
- establishing scientific infrastructure to support elite athletes.

The SRSA aims to raise the profile of sport and recreation and address issues of national importance, by:

- building a case for sport and recreation
- contributing towards government priorities through sport and recreation
- using sport as a medium to address issues of national importance
- supporting good governance to contribute to a case for sport and recreation
- supporting a co-ordinated and aligned sport system through committed collaboration and communication
- updating and enforcing a code of ethics for South African sport (including World Anti-Doping Agency [WADA] activities)
- strengthening South Africa's continental and international relations
- identifying and hosting well-organised major sports events in South Africa
- contributing to the promotion of sports tourism in South Africa.

The SRSA aims to streamline the delivery of sport by means of effective support systems and adequate resources, by:

- ensuring that systems are in place to accomplish business excellence within the department
- developing a regulatory framework for the department to fulfil its obligations
- endeavouring to unlock the resources required to achieve the objectives of the SRSA
- providing the legislative framework for the delivery of the SRSA objectives
- benchmarking world best practice in the delivery of sport and recreation
- ensuring that the department is correctly represented at forums that could contribute to the achievement of SRSA objectives.

Programmes Sport Tourism Project

In May 2006, the SRSA launched the Sport Tourism Project at the Durban Tourism Indaba.

The primary objective of the project is to attract foreign visitors to play and watch sport and experience traditional tourism attractions such as wild-life and cultural heritage, to boost sport's contribution to the country's gross domestic product. The

project focuses on rugby, cricket, running, cycling, golf and the 2010 World Cup.

Tourism is widely recognised as a major growth sector internationally and it is estimated that internationally 30% of all tourism comprises sports tourism.

The project has produced a number of information products aimed at increasing awareness of sport in South Africa. These include a sport atlas showing the location in the country of sport events and infrastructure; an interactive multimedia CD-Rom with text, photos and video clips; a nine-minute presentation DVD; an electronic exhibition kiosk; and a full-colour brochure.

The SRSA aims to enhance the sustainability of the project by:

- promoting “home-grown” events such as the Dusi Canoe Marathon, Pick ‘n Pay *Argus* Cycle Tour, Midmar Mile (swimming), Berg and Breede river canoe marathons, and the Comrades and Two Oceans marathons, which attract large numbers of international participants and spectators
- working closely with South African Tourism and the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism to promote attractive tourist packages for spectators who want to accompany touring sports teams to South Africa
- assisting agencies to attract major international sports events to South Africa.

Mass participation

The Siyadlala Mass Participation Programme (SMPP) is the cradle of community sport in South Africa. The programme was launched in 2005 to facilitate access to sport and recreation by as many South Africans as possible, especially those from historically disadvantaged communities. The SRSA launched the programme with a budget of R20 million.

The budget has since increased to more than R290 million with the inclusion of school sport and legacy development. Sport hubs (geographical centres of activity within five-kilometres walking radius) increased from 36 to 451 in 2007, with over three million participants in various activities ranging from indigenous games to rugby, soccer, netball, baseball, general gymnastics, hockey, aerobics, handball, boxing, cricket, swimming, dance sport, volleyball and basketball. The eventual aim is to ensure that no child has to walk more than five kilometres to access an activity hub anywhere in the country.

In February 2008, almost 200 delegates attended Sport and Recreation South Africa's (SRSA) conference on training and education in sport, which resulted in the formation of a national quality forum on training in sport.



The purpose of the conference was to give role-players an update on the status of the SRSA's training initiatives and to decide on a way forward for further development.

Presentations delivered at the conference included one on the role of the South African Qualifications Authority in developing qualifications and unit standards for sport and recreation and the status of the SRSA's Volunteer Training Programme.

The idea is to establish at least one hub in every ward in every municipality across South Africa.

The SMPP is expected to enable the sport sector to contribute to the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa. Trained youth will then be employed as activity co-ordinators.

Research conducted in the hubs indicates that small stipends given to these co-ordinators contribute to feeding up to eight families in some instances.

By mid-2007, the SMPP had trained more than 2 000 young volunteers in sport-and-recreation administration, over 1 500 entry-level coaches, over 1 200 referees and more than 2 000 people in event management and first aid.

Women and Sport

This project aims to address the gender imbalances in sport and recreation both at participation and administrative level, by:

- gender mainstreaming
- equity, access opportunities, diversity, legacy, active participation, research, leadership and skills development
- sustainable programmes through tested practice initiatives, including girl-child programmes
- making available resources and capacity
- developing mentorship programmes and role-modelling.

The programme also seeks partnerships with relevant stakeholders such as the Department of Education.

As part of the 2008 Women's Month celebrations, the SRSA hosted the Women in Sports Colloquium in August.

The conference, the first of its kind, created an opportunity for women to interact on various topics relating to sport and encouraged active participation of women and girls at all levels, including administration and governance.



Mass Mobilisation Programme

In January 2009, the South African Government in partnership with the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ Organising Committee launched the 2010 Mass Mobilisation Programme at Galeshewe Stadium in the Northern Cape.

Some 300 schoolchildren and community members gathered there to learn how they can make the most of South Africa's hosting of the world's foremost sporting event and use the 2010 World Cup to leave a lasting legacy for the province.

The Mass Participation Programme also aims to ensure that all South Africans are part of the 2010 World Cup excitement by encouraging and supporting sport in communities throughout South Africa.

In the spirit of the 2010 World Cup, the SRSA launched the South African Schools Soccer World Cup together with the Department of Education, the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) and the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ Organising Committee. This tournament for under-14 and under-18 boys and girls will mobilise communities until the 2010 World Cup. This project is linked to other 2010 legacy projects such as the Super-sport One Million Ball Project for schools, which, in addition to the training of volunteers, will contribute to a lasting legacy.

Indigenous games

Together with the provincial departments responsible for sport and recreation, the SRSA annually hosts the Indigenous Games Festival in celebration of Africa's cultural diversity and in an effort to revive indigenous games. The revival of these

In April 2008, the Gary Player Country Club and the Lost City Golf Course at Sun City, North West, committed to reducing the impact of their operations on the environment by joining the Fairways Environmental Rating Programme.

Managed by Heritage SA, an independent environmental management company, the Fairways Programme is aimed at creating awareness around environmental best practices within the golfing industry. The programme offers cost-saving environmentally friendly solutions to some of the industry's biggest environmental challenges.

The two Sun City courses now join the Wild Coast Sun Golf Course in being the first three South African golf courses to commit to more responsible golf-course management.

The programme offers operational management guidelines and information on a range of issues and innovative ways of saving costs through a more environmental and organic approach to business operations.



games in South Africa evolved as a response to the national call to embrace the African Renaissance.

This revival is intended to popularise those cultural activities that have a particular appeal to vast sectors of the South African society, particularly traditional rural people. Because sport and recreation activities are predominantly practised in urban areas and are largely Eurocentric, the revival of indigenous games is essential to get more South Africans more active.

Indigenous games are a fundamental part of the SMPP, which focuses on both vertical and horizontal sport development. Apart from indigenous games, the programme also incorporates, among other things, an active inner-city programme, Women and Sport, and corporate recreation.

The indigenous games are: ugqaphu/kgati/ntimo, diketo/upuca/magave, morabaraba/mlabalaba, ncuva/ntijwa/tsoro/tshimaya/moruba, dibeke/diwiki/snuka/skununu/umabhorisha, jukskei, kho-kho and iintonga/melamu/iziduku.

Recreation Rehabilitation Programme

The project focuses on inmates and aims to promote sport and recreation participation in correctional centres. It also aims to empower inmates in event management and to become activity co-ordinators in the following activities: general gymnastics, indigenous games, netball, soccer and handball.

Legacy and Mobilisation

The programme focuses on galvanising all sectors of communities, including schools, to support the 2010 World Cup by:

- building a general climate of positive opinion among South Africans and abroad
- building sustainable activities
- creating activities not only to preserve football and 2010 but to celebrate pride and social cohesion.

External Mobilisation

Projects for 2008/09 included the:

- Foreign Mission Programme
- Latin American countries' football tournaments
- Caribbean countries' football tournaments
- Africa Youth Participation Indaba
- international exhibitions and summits
- international exchange programme.

Domestic Mobilisation and Legacy

Projects included:

- Walk for Peace and Development



- community festivals
- internal staff mobilisation
- roadshows
- mass displays
- development of music and dance
- broader football, baseball, basketball, netball, and hockey outreach initiatives
- supporter clubs
- skills development
- institutional capacity-building (clubs, schools, and communities).

School sport

School-sport events include national schools aquatics; national schools athletics; and the South African schools' winter games, summer games and cross country.

In 2005, a framework of collaboration, entitled *“Co-ordination and Management of School Sport in Public Ordinary Schools”*, was signed by the ministers of sport and recreation and education.

The framework document describes the common understanding that the SRSA and the Department of Education have about the important role of physical activity and sport in schools. Besides emphasising the importance of providing all children with access to physical activity at school, the document also touches on teacher capacity-building, sports facilities and the importance of linking school sport to issues of national importance such as HIV and crime prevention.

The framework describes the responsibility of each of the two government departments as far as school sport goes. It matches levels of responsibility with specific activities and target groups. In broad terms, the Department of Education is responsible for:

- intracurricular activities, including Physical Education in schools
- intraschool activities, including afterschool sports activities
- interschool activities and competitions below regional level

In March 2008, South Africa hosted the 2008 World Croquet Championships at the Kelvin Grove Croquet Club in Newlands, Cape Town. Some matches were played at the Helderberg and Somerset West croquet clubs.

It was the first time that a World Croquet Championship event was held in South Africa, which is a founder member of the World Croquet Federation. The tournament featured 64 competitors from 17 countries.



- regional and intraprovincial activities and competitions, in collaboration with provincial sports and education authorities.

The SRSA has established the Directorate: School Sport within the Chief Directorate: Mass Participation. It consists of the Competitive School Sport and Mass Participation in School Sport programmes. It reaches about 1 600 schools nationally and focuses on capacity-building, providing sports equipment for use at events and sustaining the programme by supporting local sports assistants and local leagues and providing logistical support.

By mid-2008, a five-year school-sport programme, which was drafted for 2007 to 2011, and the co-ordinating structure were under review.

In September 2008, South Africa, Namibia, Swaziland and Botswana were represented at the Confederation of School Sport Associations of Southern Africa Ball Games Competition, which is held each year in a different Southern African Development Community (SADC) country.

The South African team walked away with four gold medals and one silver. The female teams did particularly well. Aside from the netball side, the basketball girls and boys' teams and the boys' volleyball teams won gold medals.

The SRSA contributed most of the cost of the team's participation, and played a leading role in organising and managing the team.

Sporting accolades South African Sports Awards

The SRSA and South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (Sascoc) are joint custodians of the South African Sports Awards, in partnership with the SABC. South African sports stars are presented with awards for their efforts to keep the passion for sport alive in the hearts of millions of South Africans through their achievements in local and international sports events.

The awards, held in November each year, recognise and honour individuals and teams that have excelled both on and off the field each year as well as the critical contributions made by coaches, technical officials and volunteers who continue to keep sport running.

The 2008 winners were:

- Sportsman of the Year: Khotso Mokoena
- Sportswoman of the Year: Natalie du Toit
- Sports Team of the Year: Team SA
- Disabled Sportsman of the Year: Hilton Langenhoven



South Africa's wheelchair racer Ernst van Dyk was chosen as a paralympic ambassador by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) in January 2008.



This was announced by the IPC at the launch of its Paralympian Ambassador Programme.

The aim of the programme is to create a roster of top past and present paralympic athletes to act as ambassadors of the paralympic movement, to be role models for young people with and without disability and act as awareness and communication tools for the movement to enhance and increase its public profile. Eleven paralympic athletes from all over the world were chosen: Verena Bentele (Germany, Nordic skiing), Hou Bin (China, athletics), Cheri Blauwet (United States of America [USA], athletics), Kirsten Bruhn (Germany, swimming), Muffy Davis (USA, Alpine skiing), Michael Teuber (Germany, cycling), Tanni Grey-Thompson (United Kingdom, athletics), Ernst Van Dyk (South Africa, athletics), Esther Vergeer (Netherlands, wheelchair tennis) Chris Waddell (USA, Alpine skiing), Henry Wanyoike (Egypt, athletics).

- Disabled Sportswoman of the Year: Natalie du Toit
- Disabled Sports Team of the Year: Team SA
- Newcomer of the Year: Itumeleng Khune
- Coach of the Year: Gavin Hunt
- Personality of the Year: Khotso Mokoena.

Legislation

The National Sport and Recreation Amendment Act, 2007 (Act 18 of 2007), aims to, among other things:

- create a new dispensation for sport and recreation via the recognition of the Sports Confederation as the national macro body for the promotion and development of high performance sport in South Africa
- improve the governance of sports federations
- allow the Minister of Sport and Recreation to intervene where the actions of federations threaten to bring sport into disrepute
- address transformation in sport.

The Act was promulgated in November 2007.

2010 World Cup

South Africa will host the FIFA World Cup in 2010. Five stadiums are being built from scratch for world football's showpiece event. They are the Greenpoint Stadium in Cape Town; Mbombela Stadium in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga; Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape; the Moses Mabhida Stadium, eThekweni, KwaZulu-Natal; and Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane, Limpopo.

The following five existing stadiums are being refurbished and upgraded: Soccer City and Ellis Park in Johannesburg; Loftus Versfeld in Pretoria; the Royal Bafokeng Stadium in Rustenburg, North West; and Free State Stadium in Bloemfontein, Free State.

Government has reaffirmed its state of readiness and commitment to host the 2010 World Cup. Between 2006 and 2010, government is expected to invest more than R400 billion in the country's infrastructure.

South Africa will take advantage of the World Cup opportunity to attract inward investment (construction, manufacturing and other sectors) and to stimulate new investment in stadiums, transport, airports, communications infrastructure, accommodation, broadcast and information technology, and financial services.

The projects are also expected to stimulate skills development and create jobs, develop soccer and its commercial base, and upgrade facilities to ensure South Africa is a competitive destination for major events.

Government will deliver according to the following deadlines:

- December 2008 to March 2009: construction work on selected stadiums complete (Confederations Cup stadiums)
- April to June 2009: preparation for Confederations Cup
- December 2009: stadium and supporting infrastructure complete
- June 2010: World Cup.

By January 2009, the construction of all stadiums was on schedule.

The International Broadcast Centre (IBC) will ensure television coverage across the globe and will cater for more than 2 000 journalists. The South African Cabinet has approved Johannesburg as the venue for the IBC.

On 22 September 2008, the official mascot for the 2010 World Cup was unveiled in Johannesburg. The mascot, a leopard, is called Zakumi and was designed and produced exclusively in South Africa. The name is a composition of "ZA", standing for South Africa, and "kumi" translating into "10" in various languages across Africa.

During the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement in October 2008, government allocated an additional R1,4 billion to cover cost overruns on World Cup stadium projects, and R600 million to cover the cost of last mile Internet (high-speed) connectivity between the stadiums and the national backbone network.



Government has also indicated that it will provide support for the migration to digital television to meet international broadcasting requirements for the 2010 World Cup and beyond.

Additional allocations to local government of R8,8 billion are being made to support expanded community access to housing, potable water, sanitation, electricity and public transport.

- Of the total additional amount of R8,8 billion
- R2,9 billion is allocated to the local government equitable share for increased costs of basic services, particularly electricity
 - R4,3 billion is earmarked for the Municipal Infrastructure Grant
 - R835 million is proposed for the Public Transport Infrastructure and Systems Grant to finance an integrated public transport network in large municipalities, including World Cup cities
 - R497 million is allocated for the completion of stadiums and to help host cities with operational requirements for hosting the 2009 Confederations Cup and 2010 FIFA World Cup Integrated National Electrification Programme Grant as an inflation adjustment to the baseline.

As government works to deliver its guarantees for the World Cup, it is using this opportunity to accelerate the improvement of social services in key areas, including immigration and health services. In particular, programmes to strengthen the

It is estimated that the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ will contribute R55,7 billion to South Africa's gross domestic product in 2010.

By 2008, the build-up to the 2010 World Cup had already created 80 000 job opportunities in the local hospitality sector. It is estimated that over the next three years a further 116 000 jobs will be created.

2010 is stimulating growth in the construction industry. By January 2009, 40 000 jobs had been created in the construction industry. The projected direct, indirect and induced impact of the total budgeted spend for the six new stadiums is R18,9 billion or 1,8 times the actual spend.

Of this R18,9 billion, around R2 billion will directly benefit low-income households and a further R7,7 million other households. The Organising Committee (OC) has agreed to procure 30% of the products and services it needs from small businesses and Black Economic Empowerment companies. Government and the OC have embarked on roadshows across the country to inform small business about the opportunities available from the World Cup.

The Minister of Trade and Industry decided on which trademarks to grant to FIFA through a public comment process to ensure the impact on local and small businesses was taken into account.

In January 2008, South Africans Alex Harris and Sibusiso Vilane made history when they became the first South African team to walk unassisted to the South Pole.

The duo set out on their 65-day journey on 10 November 2007, dragging 130-kilogram sleds almost 1 200 kilometres across some of the most hostile terrain on the planet.



provision of emergency medical services are being fast-tracked. Government's World Cup projects include faster development of an efficient, sustainable and affordable public-transport system that will benefit commuters and the economy in the years following the event.

Sports organisations South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee

Sascoc is recognised by the Minister of Sport and Recreation and is representative of sports bodies, including Olympic national federations.

It is the national co-ordinating macro body for the promotion and development of high performance sport in South Africa, including team presentation, and must consult with relevant sports bodies in this regard. Sascoc presents Team South Africa for all multicode sport participating in international games, including but not limited to the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Commonwealth Games and All Africa Games.

Government agencies

Two public entities deliver specific interventions in sports and recreation in accordance with the relevant legislation through which they were constituted, namely:

- Boxing South Africa (BSA), which was established through the South African Boxing Act, 2001 (Act 11 of 2001)
- the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS), established through the SAIDS Act, 1997 (Act 14 of 1997).

Boxing South Africa

BSA is partly funded with public money. Its functions are to promote boxing and protect the interests of boxers and officials. Its main responsibilities are to:

- consider applications for licences from all stakeholders in professional boxing
- sanction fights
- implement the regulations pertaining to boxing
- promote the interests of all stakeholders in boxing.



In 2008, the University of the Witwatersrand's Centre for Exercise Science and Sports Medicine became the first facility of its kind on the African continent to receive the FIFA Medical Assessment and Research Centre stamp of approval.

The centre, established in 2004, aims at integrating sports science and medicine to investigate sports injuries, sports performance, doping in sport, as well as chronic disease.



South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport

The SAIDS is the South African national anti-doping organisation, funded by the SRSA. Its mandate is to promote participation in sport, free from the use of prohibited substances or methods intended to artificially enhance performance, in the interest of the health and well-being of sportspeople.

The SAIDS is responsible for developing anti-doping policy and implementing a national anti-doping programme across all South Africa's sports codes.

By May 2008, it had 53 part-time, accredited doping-control officers based throughout South Africa, trained to international standards, who conducted in-and-out of competition doping controls on athletes from over 50 sports disciplines, with 53 trained and accredited chaperones to assist the doping-control officers.

The SAIDS is ISO 9001:2000 certified in compliance with the International Standard for Testing. This is the internationally recognised benchmark for quality assurance and excellence, and represents world best-practice in doping control in sport.

The SAIDS' key focus areas are:

- **Doping control:** The institute conducts a comprehensive, independent and effective national doping-control programme on South African athletes competing at regional, national and international level. In 2007/08, 2 541 doping controls were conducted. The SAIDS also conducts in-and-out-of-competition doping controls on international athletes on behalf of international sports federations and other international anti-doping organisations.
- **Education:** The SAIDS provides education, information and awareness resources and services for all its target groups, namely athletes, coaches, parents, sports organisations, members of the medical and pharmaceutical and sports-science professions, tertiary-education institutions and the public. It provides a telephone information service manned by qualified pharmacists (021 448 3888) that operates on weekdays, excluding

public holidays, and has a website with a database of prohibited and permitted products in sport that are available on the South African market (www.drugfreesport.org.za). The website also contains up-to-date news and information on national and international anti-doping issues.

- **Research:** The SAIDS conducts sociological research into the knowledge, attitude and use of performance-enhancing drugs among South African sportspeople, for the purpose of planning and implementing effective doping control and education programmes.
- **International collaboration:** South Africa is an active participant in the global effort to combat drugs in sport. The SAIDS collaborates closely with its counterparts throughout the world to achieve international harmonisation and the improvement of standards and practices in doping control. South Africa is a member of the International Anti-Doping Arrangement and of the Executive Committee of the Association of National Anti-Doping Organisations.

World Anti-Doping Agency

The Africa Regional Office of the WADA was established in Cape Town in 2004 to co-ordinate the anti-doping activities of the agency throughout Africa. This includes promoting and maintaining effective lines of communication between the WADA and all the relevant stakeholders, governments and public authorities, the broad sports movement, national anti-doping agencies and laboratories.

National Academy Programme (NAP)

The NAP seeks to improve sports performance and bring South Africa on par with other sporting nations by creating opportunities for talented athletes to exploit their potential to the full.

The NAP involves all tertiary institutions in the country that provide sports science and medical support to athletes identified by their federations and endorsed by Sascoc. The NAP also seeks to have a full-time residential programme and an insurance system for athletes as well as to provide life-skills training for them. The sports covered include priority sports for government and those in the programme for the Olympic, Paralympic, Commonwealth, All Africa and other identified multisport events.

International relations

The SRSA has embarked on a concerted effort to



In October 2008, President Kgalema Motlanthe awarded the Order of Ikhamanga: Category II Silver to the following:



- Bryan Habana: for excellent performance and for contributing to the improvement of the game of rugby in South Africa
- Shaun Pollock: for excellent contribution to cricket in South Africa and for being an inspiration to the South African cricket team
- Makhaya Ntini: for excellent achievement in cricket and for serving as an inspiration to up-and-coming black South African cricketers.
- Percy Montgomery: for excellent achievement in the game of rugby
- "Ace" Ntsoelengoe (posthumous): for his excellent achievement in the game of soccer locally and abroad and for contributing to the development of the game in South Africa.

promote relations with international parties in the field of sport and recreation. This is done through the two main subprogrammes of International Liaison and International Events.

International Liaison

This subprogramme is responsible for bilateral relations with international parties in the field of sport and recreation. In 2007, memoranda of understanding (MoUs) were signed with Bulgaria, China and the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea (DPRK) (North Korea), providing for exchanges of expertise by placing South African administrators, athletes and coaches on a short-term basis in centres of excellence in these countries.

South Africa renewed the Protocol of Action (PoA) with the United Kingdom (UK) in April 2007. In terms of these MoUs and PoA, South Africa also agreed to host nationals of these countries to share expertise with domestic teams and sports institutes.

Pursuant to the signing of the PoA with the UK in 2007, several coaches, administrators and athletes benefited from the UK-South Africa Sports Leadership Exchange Programme, conducted from January to June 2007. Other exchanges executed in the context of the PoA with the UK include the Leeds-Durban Sports Development Programme Joint Action Plan, which was finalised between Mangosuthu Technikon and Leeds Metropolitan University.

The UK has also been instrumental in driving the Cricket Development/Drug Awareness Programme in the Western Cape and has, in conjunction with

the SRSA, undertaken an audit of exchanges organised between the two countries since 1994 to eliminate duplication.

The two countries have further exchanged coaches in rowing, swimming and netball. As a sequel to the signing of the MoU with the DPRK, six officials from the SRSA and the South African Gymnastics Federation visited Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, to study best practices in staging mass displays during the Arirang Festival in September 2007. A team of experts from the DPRK paid a visit to South Africa in January 2008 to explore the possibilities of imparting the capabilities for organising mass displays to South African gymnastic teams, which could be used in preparations for the Confederations Cup and the 2010 World Cup.

South Africa also hosted ministers of sport of the DPRK.

With its commitment to using sport as a vehicle for advancing regional integration, promoting social cohesion and people-to-people cooperation in southern Africa, South Africa signed the Protocol Agreement with the Zone VI Region (which consists of 10 of the 14 SADC member countries) of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA) in May 2007. The agreement outlined the rights and obligations of South Africa as the host of the Zone VI Under-20 Youth Games, in Potchefstroom in December 2008.

In its efforts to contribute to strengthening the African Union (AU), South Africa was represented by the Minister of Sport and Recreation, Rev. Makhenkesi Stofile, at the inaugural meeting of the AU Ministers of Sport Conference, which

The Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA) Zone VI Under-20 Youth Games were hosted in December 2008 by the Tlokwe Municipality in the North West. The first of these biannual



SCSA Zone VI Games was hosted by Mozambique in 2004 and in Namibia in 2006. The 2008 edition of the games was the third and was hosted by South Africa. The next edition of the games will be hosted by Swaziland.

Competition took place in seven sport codes namely: athletics (including track events for the visually impaired); swimming; basketball; boxing (men only); soccer; netball (women only) and tennis.

The following countries participated: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

South Africa was the overall winner with a total of 85 medals, including 45 gold.



In May 2008, Bakers Mini Cricket established a Guinness World Record for the most children playing cricket at one time in a celebration to highlight its 25th anniversary. It is the longest developmental sport sponsorship in southern Africa.



Over 6 000 children between the ages of six and 12 years, participated in the mega festival across eight venues.

The festivities started with opening ceremonies attended by a host of dignitaries, including local cricketers, before the children took to the pitches, to start playing mini cricket at precisely the same time across the eight selected venues. They included Johannesburg (Liberty Life Wanderers), Cape Town (Sahara Park, Newlands), Paarl (Boland Park), Benoni (Willowmore Park), Kimberley (De Beers Diamond Oval), KwaZulu-Natal (Sahara Stadium, Kingsmead), Port Elizabeth (Sahara Oval, St Georges) and Pretoria (Supersport Park).

A dignitary at each event signed off the official documentation to verify the world record claim.

took place at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa in June 2007.

The International Liaison Unit further rendered, among other things, the following routine services:

- the execution of 18 exchange programmes involving 37 people
- the facilitation, in conjunction with the Department of Home Affairs, of 1 779 cases of support services to clients with regard to sport visas, sport work permits, South African passports, South African citizenship and permanent residence.

International Events

This subprogramme is responsible for the co-ordination and management of government's support services for the hosting of identified major sporting events.

This includes National Co-ordinating Committee meetings, which include representatives from the departments of home affairs, foreign affairs, health, transport, environmental affairs and tourism and the South African Revenue Service, the South African Police Service, the National Intelligence Agency and the Airports Company of South Africa.

Assistance to the various events is determined by the needs of the national sporting organisations.

Members of this unit are also appointed to the majority of organising committees for the various approved events, as well as representing the SRSA on the Bidding and Hosting Commission, which

falls under the auspices of Sascoc. The SRSA assists federations to host various events.

2008 sports highlights Paralympics

South Africa's paralympic team won 30 medals at the Paralympics in Beijing. Seventeen of those medals were gold. The "golden girl" was paralympic swimmer Natalie du Toit, who completed a clean sweep of victories in the five events she entered.

With 71% of South Africa's medals being gold, the team ended proudly in seventh place on the medal table. Natalie du Toit was also named winner of the Whang Youn Dai Achievement Award at the Paralympic Games.

Oscar Pistorius, after winning the T44 100 m, was a victor in the 200 m and 400 m. Another South African, Arnu Fourie, was sixth in 23,87 seconds.

Hilton Langenhoven struck gold twice; he scored a world record 3 401 points to win the men's P12 pentathlon and followed that by capturing gold in the long jump with a Paralympic record leap of 7,31 m. Ilse Hayes joined Langenhoven and Fanie van der Merwe as winners when she recorded a distance of 5,68 m to win the F13 long jump.

Teboho Mokgalagadi won bronze in the men's T35 100 m.

Ernst van Dyk, competing in his fifth Paralympic Games, captured gold when he won the road race for hand cycling class C. He finished the 48,4-km distance in one hour, 21 minutes and 40 seconds.

Phillipa Johnson won her second equestrian gold medal in the individual freestyle test grade four.

David Roos picked up a silver medal in the men's F46 long jump.

In September 2008, Oscar Pistorius won the 400 m gold in world-record time to complete a Beijing Paralympics sprint treble. The South African finished in 47,49 secs, ahead of America's Jim Bob Bizzell and British runner Ian Jones. His victory on the last night of track and field followed wins in the 100 m and 200 m earlier in the games.



Earlier in 2008, Pistorius won a court battle to take part in the Olympics and had proved himself a strong competitor against able-bodied athletes.

Among his best achievements against able-bodied athletes was a second in the 400 m event at the 2007 South African National Championships.



The South African Government launched a website (www.sa2010.gov.za) to provide information on preparations for the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. The site is complementary to the website of FIFA and the Organising Committee, and was set up in consultation with FIFA. It also provides information about the country and the continent in the context of the first African World Cup.



This is one of government's initiatives to take advantage of the World Cup communication opportunity for the benefit of the country and continent. South Africa has committed to being Africa's stage, and to making the World Cup part of a 21st century of African growth and development.

The site provides an entry point to other sources of information about the country, such as the South African Tourism and International Marketing Council gateway, and provincial and host-city websites.

Total medal count at the Paralympics, 2008

South Africa	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
	21	3	6	30

Fanie Lombard won bronze in the men's F42 shot put with a distance of 13,87 m. He is the most successful South African athlete in the history of the Paralympics with seven gold, two silver and two bronze medals.

Gavin Kilpatrick and Michael Thomson secured bronze in the sprint for blind and vision-impaired athletes.

Marius Stander finished just out of the medals in the men's T38 400 metres in a season's best 52,56 seconds.

Ernst van Dyk rounded off the Paralympics for South Africa with a bronze medal in the last event of the games when he finished third in the men's marathon T54.

Athletics

In March 2008, South Africa's Godfrey Mokoena won gold with a leap of 8,08 m in the long jump at the Athletics World Indoor Championships in Valencia, Spain.

In April 2008, South African wheelchair athlete Ernst van Dyk won the Boston Marathon for a record seventh time. His time was one hour, 26 minutes and 49 seconds.

David Grier and Braam Malherbe became the first to run around the entire coastline of South Africa. On 8 October 2008, they completed the "Cipla Spar Miles for Smiles Coastal Challenge" – a 100-day, 3 278-km run, around the southern African coastline from Namibia's Oranjemund to Ponto Do Ouro in Mozambique.

Canoeing and skiing

On 29 June 2008, Bridgitte Hartley won South Africa's first-ever gold medal at a sprint World Cup regatta when she clinched the women's 1 000 m A-final in Poznan, Poland.

On 20 September 2008, South Africa's tradition of excellence in canoe marathon competitions was confirmed at the World Championships held in the Czech Republic as the country won three medals, including gold in the men's K2 race.

Ant Stott and Cam Schoeman won gold at the Rainbow Nation's challenge championships in the men's K2 competition, just a day after Stott had won a bronze medal in the K1 event.

Biking

In August 2008, South African mountain bike downhill racer Greg Minnaar won the Mountain Bike World Cup in Canberra, Australia.

In September 2008, Tyla Rattray won the Motocross World Title when he clinched the MX2 category championship at the Italian Grand Prix in Faenza.

Bowls

In January 2008, South Africa's triples combination of Lorna Trigwell, Loraine Victor and Sylvia Burns were crowned world champions in Christchurch, New Zealand, when they defeated Australia 15-11 in the final of the World Bowls Championships.

Cricket

In February 2008, Shaun Pollock, after a 12-year international career, retired at the top, hitting the winning runs for South Africa in his final one-day international (ODI) match against the West Indies.

In March 2008, South Africa beat Bangladesh by an innings and 205 runs in the second test in Chittagong to complete a two-nil series whitewash.

On 21 July 2008, South Africa beat England by 10 wickets in the second test at Headingley to take a 1-0 series lead in the battle for the Basil D'Oliviera Trophy.

On 2 August 2008, at Edgbaston, South Africa claimed victory by five wickets in the third test over England to secure a 2-0 lead in the four-match series.

Khotso Mokoena won South Africa's only medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics on 18 August 2008 with a distance of 8,24 m to take silver in the long jump.



In April 2008, the *Wisden Cricketer's Almanack* – known as the cricketer's Bible – named South African all-rounder Jacques Kallis the Leading Cricketer in the World for 2007.



A few months later, South Africa wrapped up the second ODI against Kenya at the de Beers Diamond Oval by cruising to a seven-wicket victory, scoring the 223 runs needed with more than 14 overs to spare.

South Africa made history at the end of 2008 and the start of 2009 when they won the test and ODI series against Australia – on that country's home soil. The Proteas returned to South Africa as the number one ODI team in the world.

Freediving

In August 2008, Cape Town-based freediver Hanli Prinsloo excelled in the Nordic Deep Freediving Competition held off the west coast of Sweden, winning the competition and setting four new South African records in the process.

Freediving is the sport of diving deep for as long, or as far, as possible on one single breath of air.

Prinsloo first improved her mark in Free Immersion, which is a depth-discipline where the diver pulls herself down and back up a rope. The previous record was 42 m, but she lowered the mark to 50 m.

She began the pool disciplines with a Dynamic No Fins record in which the diver swims breast-stroke under water. Prinsloo destroyed the previous record of 78 m by swimming 126 m underwater. That new record places her among the top five women in the world for the discipline.

Golf

In January 2008, James Kamte scored a history-making breakthrough victory with an explosive five-birdie back nine to overhaul his rivals and win the R1,8-million Dimension Data Pro-Am at the Gary Player Country Club. Kamte became the first black South African to record a victory on the tough Summer Swing of the Sunshine Tour.

In March 2008, South Africa's Ernie Els rallied from three shots adrift to win the \$5,5-million Honda Classic and end his United States (US) victory drought. Els fired a three-under-par 67 for a six-under total of 274, one shot in front of England's Luke Donald.

A month later, Trevor Immelman survived a double-bogey at the 16th hole to become the first South African to win the US Masters in 30 years with a three-shot victory.

Immelman followed in the footsteps of Gary Player to secure the prized green jacket with a three-over-par 75, matching the highest closing score by a Masters winner set by Arnold Palmer in 1962.

In May 2008, Hennie Otto scored a victory in the Italian Open at the Castello di Tolcinasco Golf and Country Club in Milan on his European Tour.

Charl Schwartzel captured his third European Tour title and his second in Spain in October 2008 when he won the Madrid Masters by three shots with a total of 19-under-par 265.

On 1 November, Retief Goosen captured the Asian Tour's Iskandar Johor Open in Malaysia, with a final round lifting him to a two-shot victory after he had entered the last day four shots off the pace.

Motor racing

In February 2008, A1 Team South Africa's Adrian Zaugg produced a sensational drive in pouring rain to win the feature race at Eastern Creek just outside Sydney, Australia.

Giniel de Villiers started 2009 on a high when he won the Dakar Rally in January.

Rowing

At the start of 2008, South Africans Bill Godfrey and Peter van Kets won the 2 500-nautical mile Atlantic Rowing Race. The event began on 2 December 2007 in San Sebastian, La Gomera, in the Canary Islands.

Also in January 2008, in South Africa's Dusi Canoe Marathon, Michael Mbanjwa became the first black winner in the 57-year history of the event.

Rugby

In April 2008, South Africa's Sevens rugby team brought an end to New Zealand's season-long domination of the International Rugby Board (IRB) World Sevens Series when Neil Powell's side beat the Kiwis 15-7 to clinch the Adelaide Sevens.

South Africa finally ended their decade-long run

In February 2008, Graeme Smith and Neil McKenzie shared a record-opening stand during their second test against Bangladesh.

The South African skipper batted superbly for his unbeaten 223, while McKenzie scored a career-best 169. Their stand was the best ever for the opening wicket for South Africa – exceeding the 368-run partnership between Smith and Herschelle Gibbs against Pakistan in Cape Town in 2003.



without a win on New Zealand soil on 12 July 2008 with a 30-28 victory in the Tri-Nations Series.

In June 2008, South Africa's Sevens rugby team claimed the Plate title at the Edinburgh Sevens, defeating Scotland 14-5 to finish second in the IRB Sevens Series.

On 7 June 2008, Peter de Villiers got off to a winning start as South African coach when John Smit and his team beat Wales 43-17 in Bloemfontein. A week later, South Africa celebrated a 37-21 victory over Wales in Pretoria.

On 9 August 2008, the South Africans paid tribute to former President Nelson Mandela who was celebrating his 90th birthday with a 63-9 thrashing of Argentina in Johannesburg.

Later the same month, South Africa ended its Tri-Nations 2008 campaign with a record 53-8 victory over the Wallabies in Johannesburg.

Jongi Nokwe became the first Springbok to score four tries against Australia.

In November, the South Africans beat England 42-6 at Twickenham.

At the end of November, South Africa won the Dubai Sevens title by beating England 12-7.

Soccer

In March 2008, Bafana Bafana scored a 3-0 victory over world number 26 Paraguay at the Super Stadium in Atteridgeville, outside Pretoria. In the process of scoring one of three superb Bafana goals, Benni McCarthy broke the South African scoring record he had previously held jointly with Shaun Bartlett by recording his 30th international goal.

Bafana Bafana won 4-1 against Equatorial Guinea in a 2010 African Nations Cup qualifying match in Atteridgeville in June 2008.

Two months later, South Africa beat Mozambique 2-1 to retain the Cosafa Cup, now renamed the Cosafa Senior Challenge, in the final played at the Thulamahashe Stadium in Bushbuck Ridge, Limpopo.

On 15 October 2008, Bafana Bafana made it three wins in succession when they scored a 2-1 victory over Ghana in Bloemfontein.

In November, Bafana Bafana scored a dramatic 3-2 win over Cameroon in the Nelson Mandela Challenge played at Olympia Park.

In February 2008, following their performance in winning the 2007 Rugby World Cup and going through the tournament unbeaten, South Africa went on to win the 2008 Laureus World Team of the Year Award in Saint Petersburg, Russia.



In June 2009, South Africa will host the world's first-ever Social Rugby World Championship.

The Social Rugby World Championship 2009 will see 480 rugby players, representing 16 international teams, converge upon the city of Cape Town for a two-week festival of fun, friendship and rugby.

The inaugural event kicks off in Cape Town on 13 June 2009.

The 2009 tournament will also include a social outreach programme whereby each participating team will be given the opportunity to host a coaching clinic for youth in previously disadvantaged communities in Cape Town.



They started 2009 on a high note with 1-0 victory over Zambia in January.

South Africa will be hosting the Confederations Cup in June 2009. In November 2008, the draw took place in Sandton, Johannesburg. The following countries will participate: South-Africa, Iraq, New Zealand, Spain, USA, Italy, Brazil and Egypt.

Surfing

In April 2008, Team South Africa won the overall team crown at the 2008 International Surfing Association World Masters Surfing Championships in perfect waves at Punta Rocas in Peru.

Led by individual gold medalists Heather Clark (masters women), Marc Wright (kahunas) and Chris Knutsen (grand kahunas), South Africa blew away the competition to take their second consecutive team world championship.

They topped the standings with 10 500 points, 1 100 ahead of Australia in second, with Brazil, on 9 041, finishing in third, and hosts Peru rounding out the top four with 8 766 points.

In the same month, South African Davey Weare surfed to victory against the USA's Austin Ware in excellent surf at Ansteys on the Bluff near Durban to capture the Quiksilver Pro Durban title.

On 28 June 2008, Durban hosted the world's most prestigious surf ski event during winter when the Durban Surf Ski World Cup took place.

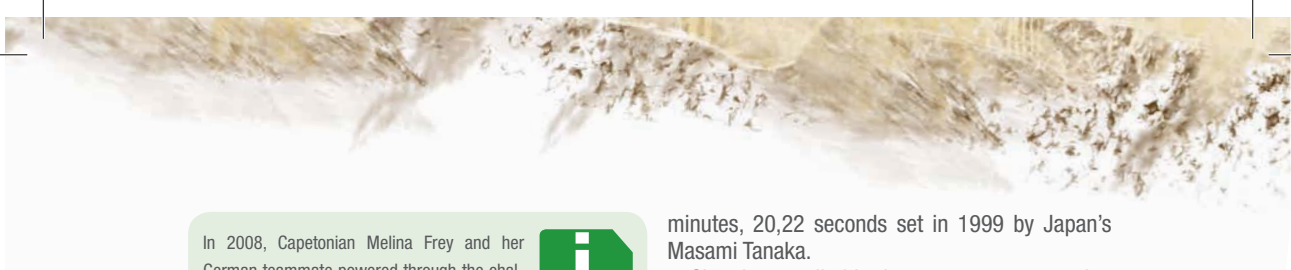
Sailing

In October 2008, South Africa's America's Cup Team Shosholoza was third across the finish line in a spectacular fleet of 2 000 yachts that competed in the 16-nautical mile Trieste Barcolana.

Swimming

In February 2008, veteran swimmer Ram Barkai of Cape Town completed a 1-km swim in an Antarctic lake in life-threatening sub-zero air temperatures. Barkai's swim is considered the most southerly





In 2008, Capetonian Melina Frey and her German teammate powered through the challenging terrains of Eastern Europe and Asia to become the first all-female team to complete the gruelling TransSyberia Rally.



Frey (26), principal driver of Team Suzuki/Maxi, and her co-driver/navigator Alexandra Hahn (28) were the only all-female team participating in 2008's competition, an event regarded as the ultimate endurance test for "man and machine".

The tough two-week competition began in Moscow, Russia, and ended 7 200 km later in the Mongolian capital city of Ulaanbaatar. In between, drivers had to traverse through Russia's Ural mountains, the swamps of the Siberian lowlands, the rugged peaks of the Altai mountains (with passes reaching up to 3 700 m) and the sandy dunes of the Gobi Desert.

swim in the world as it took place at 70 degrees latitude.

In the Arctic, Barkai faced air temperatures of minus 10 degrees Celsius and a water temperature of one degree.

In the same month, Suzaan van Biljon set a new championship record in the 200-m breaststroke at the Fina World Short Course Championships in Manchester, UK. Van Biljon clocked two minutes, 18,73 seconds to lower the previous mark of two

minutes, 20,22 seconds set in 1999 by Japan's Masami Tanaka.

She also excelled in the 100 metres, capturing bronze in an African record of one minute, 05,38.

On 20 August 2008, Natalie du Toit made history when she took to the water in the women's 10-km open water swim at the Olympic Games in Beijing. Du Toit booked her place in the Olympic Games by finishing fourth in the 10-km event at the World Open Water Swimming Championships in Seville in May. She became the first amputee to qualify for the Olympic Games.

One month later, Roland Schoeman broke the 50-m freestyle world record at the Telkom South African Short Course Championships at the Delville Swimming Pool in Germiston, Gauteng.

Schoeman powered his way to a world best of 20,64 seconds in the two-man showdown final against Gregor Widmer, who clocked 22,45 seconds.

There was further success in the breaststroke for South Africa when Cameron van der Burgh won silver in the men's 100 m. Igor Borysik took gold in 57,74 seconds, with Van der Burgh second in 57,92 seconds as the first three finishers bettered the previous championship record.



Acknowledgements

Beeld

South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport

Sowetan

Sport and Recreation South Africa

The Star

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