



## Chapter 11

# Foreign Relations

The primary objective of the South African Government is to develop a better life for all citizens by generating wealth and providing security. South Africa's foreign policy objectives are therefore essentially an outward projection of the country's domestic imperatives. South Africa's foreign policy objectives are to:

- promote democratisation and respect for human rights
- prevent conflict and promote peaceful resolution of disputes
- advance sustainable development and alleviate poverty.

Economic diplomacy is fast becoming the major focus of the activities of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

In recent years, Pretoria has become one of the busiest diplomatic capitals in the world.

South Africa's leadership roles in pursuit of its foreign policy objectives include:

- chairing the Non-aligned Movement (NAM) from 1998 to 2001, the Commonwealth from 2000 to 2001 and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in 2002
- hosting the World Conference on Human

Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in 2000, the NAM Conference and the United Nations (UN) World Conference Against Racism (WCAR) in 2001 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002

- supporting the establishment of the African Union (AU)
- promoting peace and stability in countries such as Sierra Leone, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire and Burundi
- promoting the interests of developing countries with regard to poverty reduction, debt relief and the democratisation of international relations in high-level interaction with developed countries through its work at the G-20 of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), discussions with the Group of Eight Industrialised Countries (G-8) at their summits, and initiatives at other UN fora.

(See chapter: *Economy* for information on South Africa's trade relations.)

## South Africa and Africa

### New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

In January 2001, President Thabo Mbeki unveiled a programme for Africa's recovery, then known as the Millennium African Recovery Programme (MAP), at the World Economic Forum's (WEF) meeting in Davos, Switzerland.

◀ The United Nations World Conference Against Racism (WCAR), Xenophobia and Related Intolerances was held in South Africa from 31 August to 7 September 2001, the first time it was held on the African continent. More than 10 000 delegates from all over the world attended the Conference in Durban.

The Programme was drafted by President Mbeki, Nigerian President Olusegan Obasanjo and Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika. The Programme entails moving away from the continent's broad reliance on loans and aid towards self-sustaining development and economic advance. During the 5th Extraordinary OAU/Africa Economic Community (AEC) Summit held in Sirte, Libya in March 2001, the MAP was integrated with the New Africa initiative presented by President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal. The programme was subsequently named NEPAD.

The programme of action will cover priority areas such as:

- creating peace, security and stability and democratic governance without which it would be impossible to engage in meaningful economic activity
- investing in Africa's people through a comprehensive human resource strategy
- harnessing and developing Africa's strategic and comparative advantages in the resource-based sectors to lead the development of an industrial strategy
- increasing investments in the information and communication technology sector without which Africa would not be able to bridge the digital divide
- developing infrastructure including transport and energy
- developing financing mechanisms.

At the end of February 2001, the three Presidents met the heads of the World Bank and the IMF in Mali's capital, Bamako, where agreement was forged on the working document of the African renewal plan. A follow-up meeting is scheduled to be held in a year's time to assess progress made and to prepare for the next phase.

### **Organisation of African Unity (OAU)/African Economic Community (AEC)/African Union (AU)**

The OAU was established on 25 May 1963 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The OAU Charter was signed by representatives of 32 governments.

A further 21 states have joined since, with South Africa becoming the 53rd member on 23 May 1994.

### **African Economic Community (AEC)**

Long before the establishment of the OAU, African leaders had recognised that co-operation and integration among African countries in the economic, social and cultural fields were indispensable to speed up transformation and the sustained development of the African continent. Since the early sixties, member states have been encouraged to combine their economies into subregional markets to form one Africa-wide economic union. In 1980, the OAU Extraordinary Summit adopted the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) towards the goal of in-tegration.

The commitments in the LPA formed the basis of the Treaty establishing the AEC in June 1991 in Abuja, Nigeria, when the OAU Heads of State and Government signed the Treaty.

Since May 1994, the OAU has been operating on the basis of the OAU Charter as well as the AEC Treaty, and the organisation is now officially referred to as the OAU/AEC.

The aim of the AEC is to promote economic, social and cultural development and African economic integration in order to increase self-sufficiency and endogenous development.

The AEC further aims to promote co-operation and development in all aspects of human activity with a view to raising the standard of life of Africa's people, maintaining economic stability, and establishing a close and peaceful relationship between member states.

The AEC Treaty (more popularly known as the Abuja Treaty) came into force in May 1994. It coordinates the activities of existing and future regional economic communities (RECs) in Africa. The RECs are regarded as the building blocks of the AEC. The existing RECs are:

- The Arab Maghreb Union
- Economic Community of Central African States



- Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa
- Southern African Development Community (SADC)
- Economic Community of West African States.

The Abuja Treaty is being implemented in six stages over 34 years, i.e. by 2028, as follows:

- Stage one: Strengthening existing RECs and creating new ones where needed (five years)
- Stage two: Stabilising tariff and other barriers to regional trade and the strengthening of sectoral integration, particularly in the fields of trade, agriculture, finance, transport and communication, industry and energy, as well as coordination and harmonisation of the activities of the RECs (eight years)
- Stage three: Establishing a free-trade area and a Customs Union at the level of each REC (10 years)
- Stage four: Coordinating and harmonising tariff and non-tariff systems among RECs, to establish a Continental Customs Union (two years)
- Stage five: Establishing an African Common Market and adopting common policies (four years)
- Stage six: Integrating all sectors, establishing an African Central Bank and a single African currency, setting up an African Economic and Monetary Union, and creating and electing the first Pan-African Parliament (five years).

It is evident from the Abuja Treaty that the concept of the AEC is closely related to the process of co-operation at regional level, as the RECs are perceived as the building blocks of the Community.

A Protocol on Relations between the AEC and the RECs was concluded and signed in February 1998. This Protocol serves as a framework for integration among the RECs on the one hand (horizontal) and between the AEC and the RECs on the other (vertical).

The Protocol enhances the status and role of the OAU Secretariat, which is also the

Secretariat of the AEC, in all matters pertaining to the implementation of the Abuja Treaty.

South Africa signed the Abuja Treaty on 10 October 1997, after which the Treaty was ratified by the South African Parliament on 3 November 2000.

### **Adoption of the Constitutive Act of the AU**

When the Committee on the Review of the Charter was established in 1971, it was realised that there was a need to amend the OAU Charter to gear it more accurately to the challenges of a changing world. However, despite numerous meetings, the Charter Review Committee did not formulate substantive amendments. The result of this was threefold:

- the Charter was 'amended' by augmenting *ad hoc* decisions of the OAU/AEC Summit such as the Cairo Declaration Establishing the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution
- it was realised that the OAU/AEC needed greater efficiency and effectivity
- the political activities of the OAU should be integrated with the economic and developmental issues as articulated in the Abuja Treaty.

An Extraordinary Summit of the OAU, held in Sirte, Libya on 9 September 1999, called for the establishment of an AU in line with the ultimate objectives of the OAU Charter and the provisions of the Treaty establishing the AEC. Following this, the Constitutive Act of the African Union was adopted during the Lomé Summit of the OAU on 11 July 2000. The AU will evolve from the OAU and the AEC into one unified institution.

In general, the AU objectives are different from and more comprehensive than those of the OAU. The objectives of the AU, as contained in the Constitutive Act, are to

- achieve greater unity and solidarity between African countries and the peoples of Africa
- defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its member states

- accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent
- promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its people
- encourage international co-operation, taking due account of the Charter of the UN and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- promote peace, security and stability in the continent
- promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance
- promote and protect human rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other relevant human rights instruments
- establish the necessary conditions to enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations
- promote sustainable development at economic, social and cultural levels as well as the integration of African economies
- promote co-operation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African people
- coordinate and harmonise the policies between the existing and future RECs for the attainment of the objectives of the AU
- advance the development of the continent by promoting research, particularly in science and technology
- work with relevant international partners in the eradication of preventable diseases and the promotion of good health on the continent.

The adoption of the Constitutive Act should be seen as the first step to streamline and rationalise the existing organisational framework of the continent, to make the AU relevant in the 21st century and to achieve the ultimate goal of complete African unity. The AU will build on the successes of the OAU, which developed into the political and economic fulcrum of Africa.

### **Transition of the OAU/AEC into the AU**

The Constitutive Act makes provision for a smooth and gradual transition of the OAU and AEC into the AU. The Constitutive Act will replace the Charter of the OAU. The Constitutive Act will come into force 30 days after ratification by two-thirds of the 53 member states of the OAU, replacing the OAU Charter of 1963. The Charter will remain operative for a transitional period of about one year to enable the OAU/AEC to devolve its assets and liabilities to the AU.

President Mbeki signed the Constitutive Act of the AU on 8 September 2000 in New York. The Act was ratified by the South African Parliament on 27 February 2001. In March 2001, President Mbeki led the South African delegation to the 5th Extraordinary OAU/AEC Summit held in Sirte, Libya from 1 to 2 March. At the Summit, a decision declaring the establishment of the AU, based on the unanimous will of the member states, was adopted. It was decided that the OAU/AEC Summit, held in Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001, should take the necessary decisions to transform the OAU into the AU, by preparing the draft protocols relating to the Organs and Institutions of the AU. The Heads of State and Government also adopted with minor amendments the draft Pan-African Protocol that was finalised by a meeting of African Parliamentarians held in Pretoria in November 2000.

South Africa deposited its instrument of ratification of the Constitutive Act of the AU on 23 April 2001 with the OAU General Secretariat and became the 35th member state to do so. South Africa's ratification as one of these member states means that it is a founding member of the AU.

On 26 April 2001, Nigeria became the 36th member state to deposit its instrument of ratification. The deposit of instruments of ratification by Nigeria concluded the two-thirds requirement by the Act, which entered into force on 26 May 2001.

South Africa became a member of the OAU/AU Troika with effect from July 2001, for a period of three years.



The last OAU Summit was held in July 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia.

### **Review of the Abuja Treaty**

The adoption of the Constitutive Act of the AU necessitates a structural process and content review of the Abuja Treaty. The AEC Treaty was negotiated before South Africa became a member of the OAU, which meant that South Africa did not have an opportunity to make any input in this crucial continental economic integration process. A review of the Abuja Treaty, which was scheduled to commence during 2001, will allow South Africa to contribute to the amended version of the Treaty.

### **The Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Co-operation in Africa (CSSDCA)**

In May 1991, President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, in his capacity as Chairman of the OAU, and President Olusegun Obasanjo, then Chairman of the African Leadership Foundation, invited African Heads of States to a meeting in Kampala on Security, Stability, Development and Co-operation. The meeting agreed on a unified strategy for development, linking the issues of security, stability, development and co-operation into a comprehensive and integrated strategy.

The result of the meeting was the Kampala Document, which encapsulated both the 1990 OAU Heads of State Declaration on the Political and Socio-economic Situation in Africa and the Fundamental Changes Taking Place in the World, and the 1990 African Charter for Popular Participation in Development. Essentially, the Kampala Document comprised four interrelated calabashes, which link security and stability to development and co-operation.

- the security calabash focuses on interstate relations
- the stability calabash addresses democratisation, good governance and popular participation within member states
- the development calabash focuses on strategies to improve general standards of living

- the co-operation calabash addresses regional integration processes and the development of vital sectors of the continent.

Each of the calabashes is of vital importance, and it is the linking provided by the CSSDCA that makes it a momentum-driver for the OAU/AU political and security process and the economic integration process of the AEC.

The Kampala Document also proposed a CSSDCA. The Document was presented to the OAU Summits in Abuja, Nigeria in June 1991; in Dakar, Senegal in June 1992; and in Cairo, Egypt in June 1993. However, the Kampala Document in the absence of input from member states could not be adopted.

During the OAU Summit in July 1999 in Algiers, Algeria, President Obasanjo called for a refocusing on the Kampala Document in the light of contemporary developments in Africa, and offered to take responsibility for starting the relaunch of the CSSDCA.

At the Extraordinary OAU Summit held in Sirte, Libya in September 1999, the Heads of State decided to convene an African Ministerial Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Co-operation as soon as possible. As such the CSSDCA initiative was fully endorsed by the policy-making organs of the OAU.

The 36th Ordinary Session of the OAU/AEC Assembly of Heads of State and Government, which took place in Lomé, Togo in July 2000, adopted the Report of the First Ministerial CSSDCA Meeting held in Abuja in May 2000. In its Declaration, the Summit acknowledged the CSSDCA process as creating a synergy between the various activities of the OAU/AEC, which should consolidate the work of the OAU/AEC/AU in the areas of peace, security, stability, development and co-operation. In this regard, the CSSDCA should provide a policy development forum for the elaboration and advancement of common values within the main policy organs of the OAU/AEC/AU.

While the CSSDCA is part of the OAU/AEC/AU process, it can also function parallel to the process. Success with one

process will obviously reinforce success in the other. To implement the CSSDCA in the framework of the OAU/AEC/AU and to ensure the sustainability of the process, a Standing CSSDCA Conference will be established, to convene every two years during the Summit. The Secretary-General was to initiate internal administrative arrangements for designating, within the OAU/AEC Secretariat, a unit to coordinate CSSDCA activities.

Detailed discussions are to be undertaken on the various calabashes in order to implement the CSSDCA process. The progress report on the CSSDCA process was reviewed during the Extraordinary Summit in Sirte, Libya in 2001, and the conclusions of the discussions on the various calabashes will take place at the Summit in South Africa in 2002.

### **South Africa and the CSSDCA**

From a South African point of view, the CSSDCA process underscores the important interplay between economic and social development, and stability, security and peace processes. It provides a holistic and integrated approach to peace-building and peace-making, regional integration, economic development and co-operation. This is seen as the key to the evolving South African policy on international relations and its organisational design as represented by the Cabinet Cluster Committee on International Relations, Peace and Security.

On 28 August 1999 in Abuja, Nigeria, the relaunching of the process within the context of the OAU was discussed. The emphasis was on working out acceptable methods for integrating the CSSDCA into the OAU process. The meeting agreed to establish a steering committee to work towards the adoption of the Kampala Document by the OAU and to relaunch the CSSDCA within the OAU Framework. Minister Penuel Maduna and Deputy Minister Aziz Pahad represented South Africa at this meeting.

The first meeting of the CSSDCA Steering Committee under the aegis of the OAU was

held in December 1999 in Arusha. South Africa was represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nkosozana Dlamini-Zuma. The meeting established an experts group from member states to draw up a working document for the CSSDCA.

The Group of Experts met in Addis Ababa early in 2000. South Africa was represented by Ambassador Jerry Mamabolo.

The second meeting of the CSSDCA Steering Committee was held in February 2000 in Pretoria, South Africa, at which Minister Dlamini-Zuma represented South Africa. The Steering Committee was addressed by President Mbeki, who underscored the fact that the enormous day-to-day problems confronting the people of Africa can only be addressed if governments and leaders empower their populations to be active participants in their governance and the decisions affecting their lives.

The Ministerial CSSDCA was held in Abuja, Nigeria in May 2000, during which the multifaceted challenges confronting the African continent in the areas of security, stability, development and co-operation were discussed. South Africa was represented by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence.

South Africa offered to host the Experts Meeting of the CSSDCA Development and Co-operation Calabashes during October 2001. The Bi-annual CSSDCA Standing Conference of Heads of State and Government will coincide with the 2002 OAU/AEC/AU Summit to be held in South Africa.

## **Southern Africa**

### **Regional approach**

South Africa's foreign policy with regard to the southern African region reflects a commitment to close diplomatic, economic and security co-operation and integration, adherence to human rights, the promotion of democracy, and the preservation of regional solidarity, peace and stability.



## Angola

South Africa remains in favour of a negotiated and peaceful settlement of the conflict in Angola. The Government adheres to all UN resolutions in relation to Angola, and calls on the international community to strictly apply the UN sanctions against UNITA.

The Government is furthermore concerned about the deteriorating humanitarian situation in that country, and has taken concrete steps to alleviate the plight of the Angolan people.

Financial contributions have been made to several UN organs to support their humanitarian programmes in Angola, and other assistance, such as the provision of vaccine, has been rendered.

The Government supports two-way co-operation and trade in goods, services and investment initiatives. It facilitates South African private-sector co-operation and engagement in the Angolan economic reconstruction and reindustrialisation processes, including the agricultural, mining and energy sectors.

In order to expedite the process of improving bilateral relations, the Government has signed an agreement to establish a Joint Commission of Co-operation with Angola.

## Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Since the beginning of the conflict in the DRC in August 1998, South Africa has played an active role in attempting to bring peace to this vast country and the Great Lakes region of central Africa. South Africa was a major role-player in negotiating and drafting the Lusaka Cease-fire Agreement, and was present when the documentation was signed on 10 July 1999. In 2000, South Africa participated in various bilateral consultations with parties to the conflict, in order to promote the peace process in the DRC.

### Information

In February 2001, singer Miriam Makeba was appointed South Africa's goodwill ambassador to the African continent.

Representatives of Angola, the DRC, Namibia and South Africa attended a Summit in Tripoli on the conflict in the DRC in November 2000. In fulfilment of the Lusaka and Sirte agreements, the Heads of State, governments and representatives of the countries present agreed that

- a neutral African force be deployed in the DRC immediately to guarantee the security of the borders of Rwanda and Uganda
- a neutral force would assess the size and magnitude of the IntraHamwe and other armed groups in the DRC with the objective of disarming, disbanding and resettling these groups, after which Rwanda and Uganda would withdraw their forces from the DRC
- all foreign forces be withdrawn from the DRC.

In November 2000, several African leaders gathered in Mozambique for high-level talks chaired by President Thabo Mbeki, to revive the collapsed peace process in the DRC.

On 18 January 2001, President Laurent Kabila was assassinated by a bodyguard. South Africa's Deputy President Jacob Zuma attended the funeral.

By the end of January 2001, President Mbeki held talks with the DRC's new leader, Joseph Kabila. President Mbeki visited the DRC capital, Kinshasa, on his return leg from Davos in Switzerland where he attended a meeting of the WEF.

In February 2001, Deputy President Zuma travelled to Uganda to hold talks with Vice-president, Specioza Kazibwe, on the peace process in the DRC. The two leaders discussed the role their countries could play in bringing stability and peace to Africa, particularly to the Great Lakes region. Ugandan forces have been in the DRC since 1998 when, along with Rwandan troops, they backed a rebellion to oust the regime of the late President Kabila.

In March 2001, South Africa sent the first six of 88 soldiers to the DRC, as part of a UN peace-keeping mission.

In May 2001, President Mbeki met with the UN Security Council Mission in Pretoria to discuss the peace process in the DRC.

On 29 August 2001 President Mbeki met with President Kabila, who was in South Africa for the WCAR, on a range of matters of mutual interest.

### **Lesotho**

The 22nd Session of the Interstate Defence and Security Committee (ISDSC) took place from 7–11 May 2001 in Maseru, Lesotho, where it reviewed defence and security matters in the region. Mr Pakalitha Mosisili, Prime Minister of Lesotho, opened the conference and highlighted the importance of the Committee in enhancing co-operation and regional integration, which are critical for peace and stability in the SADC.

South Africa and Lesotho celebrated the establishment of the Maluti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) with the signing of the historic Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries.

The Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Mr Valli Moosa, and his counterpart, Mr Mathabiso Lepono, signed the agreement at the Sehlabathebe Nature Park in Lesotho, just a few months after the establishment of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park previously known as the Gaza-Kruger-Gonarezhou Transfrontier Park between Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa. The Park stretches over 35 000 km<sup>2</sup>.

The transboundary initiative forms an important component of NEPAD, and provides both opportunities and challenges for the sustainable development of South Africa and Lesotho in particular and for the rest of southern Africa and Africa.

The Memorandum of Understanding establishes a framework for co-operation between the two countries to conserve biological diversity and promote regional economic and sustainable development of the area.

### **Botswana**

The South African High Commission in Gaborone, in collaboration with the South African business community in Botswana, hosted the first-ever South Africa Week from 12 to 15 September 2001, in Gaborone.

The Week aimed to foster bilateral relations between South Africa and Botswana, while strengthening working relations between South African companies in Botswana and the South African High Commission.

South Africa and Botswana have a unique relationship in the southern African regional context. The two countries, aside from a common border, have a shared history and culture, which necessitate close co-operation in all political and socio-economic spheres.

### **Malawi**

Malawi was the first independent African country with which South Africa established formal diplomatic relations in 1967. Upon South Africa's return to the Commonwealth, relations with Malawi were conducted at the level of High Commission. Current bilateral relations between the two countries are friendly.

Malawi is one of South Africa's main trading partners in the southern Africa region. Like other African trading partners, the trade imbalance with Malawi is in favour of South Africa.

### **Mauritius**

Mauritius is one of the largest importers of South African goods, and is a popular destination for South African tourists.

Bilateral relations are aimed at enhancing co-operation in and integration of the SADC region.

### **Mozambique**

Mozambique remains the second-biggest importer of South African goods in Africa. The rail and road connections between the two countries serve as the main arteries linking the respective economies.

The upgrading of the road, sea and rail links that form part of the corridors between Gauteng, the Northern Province, Mpumalanga and Mozambique is central to the economies of both countries.

Expanding these infrastructural links is a priority of government. The Maputo Corridor Development Project has already attracted substantial new investments in Mpumalanga,



and is expected to boost the Mozambican economy to an equal extent. The signing of the agreement between the governments of South Africa and Mozambique concerning natural gas trade between the two countries on 6 April 2001 paves the way for another important strategic project, which is expected to substantially benefit the economies of both South Africa and Mozambique.

In accordance with the SADC's current initiatives and efforts to bring about regional economic integration, South Africa, Mozambique and Swaziland have embarked on so-called 'Borderlands' initiatives, i.e. the Lubombo Spatial Development Initiative, the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, and the Beira and Nacala corridors, which are in various stages of development. The development of these corridors and borderlands is aimed at mutual advantages such as the sharing of infrastructure, facilities, natural and human resources, and enhanced capacity to market the region and lobby internationally for foreign investment in these projects. A 'Borderlands' programme has been initiated in the Maputo Development Corridor, whilst a 'Borderlands' Committee has been set up along with a number of sectoral task groups to investigate transboundary issues and opportunities. A number of immediate transboundary projects have been identified and are being implemented.

The South African Government supports the democratically-elected Government of the Republic of Mozambique under the leadership of President Joachim Chissano, and will continue with initiatives aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and the democratic reconstruction and development process under way in that country. The bilateral relations between South Africa and Mozambique are manifested in regular meetings at official, ministerial and Presidential level, and are enhanced by the huge South African business presence and commitments in Mozambique.

South Africa has successfully assisted Mozambique during flood disasters. In February 2001, President Mbeki authorised a defence force rescue mission to the flood-

ravaged country. By then, the floods had displaced 77 000 people and left some 50 dead. South Africa also provided food and medication.

In April 2001, President Chissano arrived in Pretoria for talks with President Mbeki. The talks concentrated on economic development, trade and investment. The leaders also discussed cross-border facilities and the Ressano Garcia border post between South Africa and Mozambique. The talks culminated in the signing of the agreement on cross-border gas trade.

### **Swaziland**

In February 2001, Deputy President Zuma paid an official visit to Swaziland aimed at strengthening relations between the two countries.

The Deputy President also visited the Manzini Industrial Training Centre, a joint venture between Swaziland and the South African Government. The Centre provides vocational training for young people in carpentry, panel beating, electrical skills, tailoring and upholstery, enabling them to enter the job market with concrete skills.

The Deputy President also had the opportunity to tour the Maguga Dam, a joint co-operation venture between South Africa and Swaziland at a height of 115 m.

### **Tanzania**

Bilateral and multilateral relations between South Africa and Tanzania are sound, with the emphasis on the continued expansion of trade between the two countries and regular political contact at the highest levels.

### **Zambia**

Long-standing Zambian support of the liberation struggle in South Africa led to the establishment of a deep mutual bond between the people of South Africa and Zambia. Trade between the two countries has increased rapidly since the establishment of formal relations. South African investors have moved into the Zambian market, and big firms have become active in that country.

Although the Zambian economy is unsettled by the one-sided flow of trade to Zambia from South Africa, there are also positive indications such as improved co-operation in a variety of areas, and South African investments, which in the long term should prove advantageous for the development of the subregion.

### **Zimbabwe**

Zimbabwe remains one of South Africa's largest main trading partners and rates amongst South Africa's 10 largest export markets in the world. The South African Government is actively engaged in assisting Zimbabwe in achieving sustainable economic development, including land reform.

In September 2001, President Mbeki and five other SADC regional Heads of State attended a two-day summit in Harare, aimed at resolving the conflict in Zimbabwe.

### **Development co-operation**

Although South Africa is not a donor country, development co-operation with countries in Africa is an integral part of South Africa's foreign policy. Assistance is wide-ranging and includes educational visits by agriculturists, the establishment of viable training centres, conservation of the environment, the rendering of medical assistance, and technology exchange programmes. Technical and financial assistance, with a view to capacity-building, especially to SADC countries, is a major instrument for promoting economic development, peace and stability, democracy and the African Renaissance on a regional basis.

### **Foundations for development co-operation**

South Africa's development co-operation programme offers various forms of assistance and is based on the following:

- South Africa has scientific and technological expertise in various fields, both within and outside the public sector.
- South Africa has highly developed training institutions and specialised research and development facilities.

- South Africa firmly believes that, considering the interdependence of African countries, especially in a regional context, co-operation in the building of collective self-reliance is imperative for survival and growth.
- Being an African country, South Africa has expertise applicable to African conditions and can therefore play a leading role in the development of the southern African region in particular.

### **Criteria**

- South African assistance is granted only on a government-to-government basis (e.g. parastatals must channel requests through the appropriate government department of the recipient country).
- Funds are paid to suppliers and contractors directly in order to attain optimum productivity and to avoid institutional delays.
- Projects which do not directly benefit the inhabitants are not supported.
- Multi-year financial assistance is gradually being phased out.
- Support is given primarily to projects that the recipient country will have the financial and managerial capability to maintain once the projects have been completed.
- All efforts are geared towards involving the private sector before government investment takes place.
- With South Africa being a developing country, care is taken not to create unrealistic expectations in respect of the financial and technical resources available.
- Owing to enormous domestic priority commitments, South Africa is eager to use funding assistance from third parties to export its expertise and know-how.

South Africa, and specifically the Department of Foreign Affairs, is actively engaged in developmental activities that aim to improve the general socio-economic conditions of the people of Africa and, especially, southern Africa.

By providing neighbouring and other states with technical assistance in respect of economically viable and sound projects, South



Africa aims to achieve a number of objectives, namely:

- improved bilateral and multilateral relations
- exchange of technology, information and expertise
- co-operation between police and armed forces to combat cross-border crime
- improved two-way trade and the formation of joint ventures
- joint cross-border projects to combat the spread of diseases, both human and animal
- conditions that allow people to become economically active in their own countries, thus discouraging illegal migration
- assistance with democratisation.

### **Human resources development**

Another vehicle through which technical assistance is rendered is the secondment of knowledgeable South Africans, from both the public and private sectors, to recipient countries, either to give them functional assistance or to train their own people, or both.

The aid provided in the field of human resources can be divided into five categories:

- the secondment of public servants
- the appointment of skilled human resources on contract with a view to placement in recipient states
- supplementing salaries of key personnel appointed by recipient states
- assistance with in-service training and organisation and method-study investigations
- initial secondments to manage certain development projects.

### **South Africa and the SADC**

The Government's vision for the southern African region involves the highest possible degree of economic co-operation, mutual assistance and joint planning, consistent with socio-economic, environmental and political realities. South Africa strives to achieve regional economic development through the SADC.

The aim of the SADC is to provide for regional peace and security, sector co-operation and an integrated regional economy. At the end of November 2000, the SADC Foreign Affairs Ministers agreed to a plan to create a stronger organisation.

The review exercise was duly completed in December 2000 and was presented to the Extraordinary Summit of the SADC in March 2001 in Windhoek, Namibia. The Summit endorsed the recommendations contained in the Review Report, and called for the restructuring to be implemented with immediate effect and to be completed within a two-year transitional period.

The sector-based decentralised approach is to be discontinued in favour of a centralised one at the SADC Secretariat Headquarters in Gaborone, Botswana. An Integrated Ministerial Committee has been constituted to devise a five-year Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan for the region together with the newly-created Department of Planning, Gender and Development and Policy Harmonisation. All SADC member states will be participating in this process through their national committees. The Integrated Ministerial Committee will oversee the implementation of the Strategic Plan and report on its progress.

Under the Department of Strategic Planning, Gender and Development and Policy Harmonisation will be four Directorates: Trade and Industry, and Finance and Investment; Infrastructure and Services; Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources; and Human and Social Development.

Implementation of the restructuring exercise is expected to be completed by December 2002. The restructuring should result in raising the effectiveness of this organisation. The major recommendations of the Report include a more streamlined and centralised structure for the organisation, which moves away from the sectoral approach of the past, in favour of an integrated and coordinated programme of activities for the region. The Organ on Politics, Defence and Security, which has been in exis-

tence since 1986 under the Chair of Zimbabwe, will henceforth be chaired on a rotational basis with the period of Chairpersonship of one year. The Chair of the Organ will not simultaneously hold the Chairpersonship of the SADC, and will be accountable to the chair of the SADC and Summit. Like the SADC, the Organ will also function on a Troika basis.

The successful conclusion of the restructuring exercise is certain to impact positively in the SADC region's quest to position the region favourably and to collectively address the myriad challenges ahead.

Originally known as the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), the organisation was formed in Lusaka, Zambia on 1 April 1980, following the adoption of the Lusaka Declaration. The Declaration and Treaty establishing the SADC, which has replaced the Coordination Conference, was signed at the Summit of Heads of State or Government on 17 August 1992, in Windhoek, Namibia.

The member states of the SADC are Angola, Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

To address national priorities through regional action, most member states had been allocated the responsibility of coordinating one or more sectors. This involved proposing sector policies, strategies and priorities, and processing projects for inclusion in the sectoral programme, monitoring progress and reporting to the Council of Ministers.

Until 2001, the sector responsibilities within the SADC have been as follows:

- Angola: Energy Commission
- Botswana: Agricultural Research, Livestock Production and Animal Disease Control
- Lesotho: Environment, Land Management and Water
- Malawi: Inland Fisheries, Forestry and Wildlife
- Mauritius: Tourism
- Mozambique: Culture, Information, Sport, and the Transport and Communications Commission

- Namibia: Marine Fisheries and Resources, and Legal Affairs
- South Africa: Finance, Investment and Health
- Swaziland: Human Resources Development
- Tanzania: Industry and Trade
- Zambia: Employment, Labour and Mining
- Zimbabwe: Crop Production, Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources

The DRC and Seychelles had no sector responsibility.

South Africa has been active in capacity-building and advancing the operability of security and humanitarian systems within the Interstate Defence and Security Committee.

South Africa has, furthermore, assisted in seeking ways of attaining a cease-fire and a negotiated settlement in the DRC, as well as a peaceful resolution of the constitutional crisis in Lesotho in co-operation with its SADC partners, Botswana, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Within the context of the SADC, the integrated development of the region as a whole is a priority. Despite vast disparities in the levels of development and structural features of the 14 SADC member countries, all members can potentially benefit significantly from regional integration and co-operation.

## Relations with central Africa

### Rwanda

South Africa established a residential embassy in Kigali during September 2000. Previously, the South African High Commission in Kampala, Uganda was responsible for maintaining bilateral relations.

President Mbeki paid a two-day State visit to Rwanda in October 2000. At bilateral level, the two Presidents reviewed matters of mutual interest, and expressed satisfaction with excellent relations existing between the two countries. They reiterated their determination to strengthen them further. In this respect, they recommitted themselves to foster ever-closer economic co-operation between the



two countries, particularly in the areas of human resource development, agriculture and livestock, energy, water, gas development, railways, airlines, and other infrastructure such as the proposed Great Lakes Corridor. Four bilateral agreements were signed, namely the:

- Agreement for the Establishment of a Joint Commission of Co-operation
- Agreement for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments
- Agreement on Institutional Co-operation in the Field of Agriculture
- Agreement on Co-operation in Education.

In June 2001, the first joint South African-Rwandan Joint Commission meeting was held in Pretoria. It was attended by the Rwandan Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Bumaya and his South African counterpart.

### **Burundi**

Since his appointment as facilitator of the peace process in Burundi, Mr Nelson Mandela has managed to place the Burundi conflict on the international agenda and to accelerate the process. Following several rounds of talks in Tanzania (Arusha), Burundi and South Africa, the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi was signed in Arusha on 28 August 2000. Unfortunately, the two major rebel groups did not sign the Agreement.

The Agreement provides for a transitional period to come into effect after a pre-transition period of three to six months, the creation of a new upper house of parliament (senate), judicial reform, a 50-50 ethnic division in the army, and the establishment of a commission to investigate past massacres. The Implementation Monitoring Committee, to oversee the Agreement, was also estab-

lished. The most crucial outstanding issues to be resolved by the parties/groups, including the rebel groups, are

- an agreement on transitional leadership. In this regard, they must reach consensus on who would lead the country during the transitional period of 36 months.
- a cease-fire agreement making provision for the cessation of hostilities. The absence of such a cease-fire is impacting negatively on the implementation of the Agreement as it fails to involve the rebel groups, complicates negotiations with the army, and prolongs the suffering of the Burundian people.

The facilitator has committed himself to mobilise international resources and energy to assist in the reconstruction and development of Burundi. In this regard, a Donors' Conference was held in Paris in December 2000, and US\$440 million was pledged to Burundi.

Deputy President Zuma has had several meetings with the Burundi Government, other role-players and the rebel groups in an effort to persuade the latter to agree to a cease-fire.

In July 2001, Mr Mandela announced details of the peace plan for Burundi after talks with various stakeholders in Pretoria. Burundi President Pea Buyoya, a Tutsi, will lead his country's transitional government for the first 18 months of its three-year period. Hutu leader Domotea Mdaeze would serve as deputy president for the first eighteen months. Their positions would be reversed in the second 18 months.

In October 2001, more than 200 South African soldiers arrived in Burundi on a peacekeeping mission. They were the first contingent of a force of 700 who will oversee the implementation of an agreement designed to end years of conflict in that country.

### **Relations with north and west Africa and the horn of Africa**

The countries of north and west Africa and the horn of Africa are becoming increasingly

#### **Information**

In August 2000, the SADC honoured former South African President Nelson Mandela for his contribution to peace, welfare and the unity of people in the region and the world. Mr Mandela is only the fifth recipient of the Seretse Khama SADC medal.

## Agreements concluded from January 2000 to March 2001

Date	Country	Title
5 January 2000	Netherlands	Protocol concerning Bilateral Co-operation in the Fields of Transport and Infrastructure Development
24 January 2000	Egypt	Protocol on Intelligence Co-operation
3 February 2000	EU	Financing Agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the European Community concerning SADC Regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance of Fishing Activities Programme. Entered into force: 3 February 2000
12 February 2000	Norway	Arrangement concerning Financial Support to the Destruction of Surplus and Redundant Small Arms of the South African National Defence Force
25 February 2000	Luxembourg	Bilateral Agreement on Development Co-operation in the Agricultural Education Sector in the Eastern Cape
25 February 2000	Luxembourg	Bilateral Agreement on Development Co-operation in the Health Sector in the Eastern Cape
27 February 2000	Yemen	Bilateral Air Services Agreement
1 March 2000	Brazil	Agreement on Technical Co-operation
13 March 2000	Sweden	Specific Agreement on Human Resource and Financial Management Co-operation. Entered into force: 13 March 2000
15 March 2000	Denmark	Agreement on Financial Assistance to the Project 'Regional Training and Technology Transfer Centre for Implementation of the Basel Convention in English Speaking Countries'
15 March 2000	Hungary	Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation between the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Development of the Republic of South Africa and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Hungary. Entered into force: 15 March 2000
16 March 2000	EU	Financing Agreement concerning 2000 Public Health-sector Support Programme. Entered into force: 16 March 2000
16 March 2001	EU	Financing Agreement concerning support to the Wild Coast Spatial Development Initiative Pilot Programme. Entered into force: 16 March 2000
16 March 2000	Mozambique	Co-operation Agreement in the Field of Defence
18 March 2000	Hong Kong	Agreement concerning Air Services
22 March 2000	Cuba	Declaration of Intent on Co-operation
23 March 2000	China, People's Republic of	Exchange of Notes concerning the Provision of Water Supply Materials. Entered into force: 23 March 2000
28 March 2000	Germany	Agreement concerning Financial Co-operation (Municipal Infrastructure). Entered into force: 28 March 2000
28 March 2000	Germany	Agreement concerning Financial Co-operation (Project: Study and Expert Fund). Entered into force: 28 March 2000
31 March 2000	Lesotho	Agreement concerning the Status of Armed Forces in the Kingdom of Lesotho Providing Assistance in the Establishment of a Sustainable Training Capacity within the Lesotho Defence Force. Entered into force: 31 March 2000
31 March 2000	Lesotho	Memorandum of Understanding concerning Defence Co-operation. Entered into force: 31 March 2000
31 March 2000	Multilateral	Agreement between the Parties contributing to the Southern African Development Community's Combined Task Force and the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho, Providing Military Assistance to the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho and regarding the Status of Their Armed Forces.
31 March 2000	Romania	Agreement on Bilateral Co-operation in the Field of Sport
25 April 2000	China, People's Republic of	Agreement on Co-operation in the Fields of Arts and Culture
25 April 2000	China, People's Republic of	Agreement on Maritime Transport
25 April 2000	China, People's Republic of	Agreement in respect of Police Co-operation
25 April 2000	China, People's Republic of	Agreement on Phytosanitary Co-operation



Date	Country	Title
25 April 2000	China, People's Republic of	Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income
25 April 2000	China, People's Republic of	Agreement on Co-operation in Animal Health and Quarantine
25 April 2000	China, People's Republic of	Pretoria Declaration on the Partnership between the Republic of South Africa and the People's Republic of China
25 April 2000	Vietnam	Trade Agreement
29 April 2000	Nigeria	Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains
29 April 2000	Nigeria	Trade Agreement
29 April 2000	Nigeria	Agreement on Co-operation in the Fields of Mining, Geology, Exploration and Beneficiation of Minerals and Energy
29 April 2000	Nigeria	Agreement on Educational Co-operation
29 April 2000	Nigeria	Agreement on the Establishment of a Binational Commission for Co-operation
29 April 2000	Nigeria	Agreement for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments
2 May 2000	Belgium	Air Services Agreement
3 May 2000	France	Administrative Arrangement between the Defence Department of the Republic of South Africa and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of France concerning the South African-French Defence Committee. Entered into force: 3 May 2000
10 May 2000	Commonwealth	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Commonwealth Secretariat with respect to Technical Co-operation Activities
10 May 2000	Spain	Specific Agreement on Grant Assistance for Protocol Training in the Office of the President and the Department of Foreign Affairs. Entered into force: 10 May 2000
11 May 2000	Australia	Agreement for the Reciprocal Protection of Classified Information of Defence Interest
12 May 2000	Finland	Agreement on Finnish Assistance in the Education Sector in South Africa. Entered into force: 12 May 2000
25 May 2000	Sweden	Specific Agreement regarding Support for a Project on Partnership between the Municipalities of Göteborg, Sweden and Port Elizabeth, South Africa 1 October–30 June 2003. Entered into force: 25 May 2000
31 May 2000	Iran	Agreement on Scientific and Technological Co-operation
2 June 2000	Sweden	General Security Agreement concerning the Exchange of Classified Information. Entered into force: 2 June 2000
2 June 2000	Sweden	Agreement concerning Defence Co-operation. Entered into force: 2 June 2000
6 June 2000	EU	Financing Agreement concerning Capacity-building and Institutional Development for the South African Police Service and Department of Safety and Security. Entered into force: 6 June 2000
6 June 2000	EU	Financing Agreement concerning SADC Regional Drug Control Programme. Entered into force: 6 June 2000
6 June 2000	EU	Financing Agreement concerning Support Programme for Social Housing: Institutional Development and Capacity-building. Entered into force: 6 June 2000
6 June 2000	EU	Multi-annual Indicative Programme: A Framework for Co-operation between South Africa and the European Community
22 June 2000	European Investment Bank	Framework Agreement for Financial Co-operation
23 June 2000	Turkey	Agreement on Co-operation in the Field of Tourism
23 June 2000	Turkey	Protocol on Consultations
26 June 2000	Netherlands	Memorandum of Understanding: Dutch Co-operation Programme for Emerging Markets South Africa 2000–2002. Entered into force: 26 June 2000
27 June 2000	Russian Federation	Agreement concerning Defence Intelligence Co-operation. Entered into force: 27 June 2000
30 June 2000	Botswana	Agreement for the establishment of a Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security. Entered into force: 30 June 2000

Date	Country	Title
3 July 2000	Spain	Agreement on Grant Assistance for the Establishment of a South African Tourism Institute (SATI). Entered into force: 3 July 2000
18 July 2000	Czech Republic	Declaration of Intent on Political Dialogue between the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Africa and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
18 July 2000	Kuwait	Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of Bilateral Consultations. Entered into force: 18 July 2000
18 July 2000	Switzerland	Agreement concerning support for the Project Greater Tjokville Upgrading in Port Elizabeth. Entered into force retroactively on 1 Nov. 1998
20 July 2000	Egypt	Agreement in respect of Police Co-operation
20 July 2000	Egypt	Agreement on Phytosanitary Measures
20 July 2000	Egypt	Agreement regarding Animal and Veterinary Public Health
2 August 2000	US	Declaration of Intent regarding Collaboration on Disease Prevention and Control
7 August 2000	Netherlands	Arrangement on Sectoral Budget Support 2000–2003. Entered into force: 7 August 2000
16 August 2000	Multilateral	Agreement between the Republic of South Africa, the Republic of Mozambique and the Kingdom of Swaziland on Co-operation with regard to the International Interconnector
22 August 2000	Iran	Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism Co-operation
23 August 2000	Japan	Exchange of Notes in respect of the Promotion of Cultural Activities in the Republic of South Africa (Lighting Equipment for the Market Theatre). Entered into force: 23 August 2000
24 August 2000	US	Co-operation Accord. Entered into force: 24 August 2000
24 August 2000	US	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the United States of America regarding Mutual Assistance between their Customs Administrations
30 August 2000	Belgium	Arrangement concerning the Presence of the Belgian Air Force in the Territory of South Africa. Entered into force: 30 August 2000
6 September 2000	China, People's Republic of	Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation between the National Prosecution Authority of the Republic of South Africa and the Supreme People's Procuratorate of the People's Republic of China. Entered into force: 6 September 2000
8 September 2000	Namibia	Agreement regarding the Coordination of Search and Rescue Services. Entered into force: 7 December 2000
8 September 2000	US	Project Grant Agreement Amendment Number Seven for the Equity in Integrated Primary Health Care Project (USAID)
8 September 2000	US	Grant Agreement - Workforce Development Programme (USAID)
8 September 2000	US	Grant Agreement for Fiscal Management of Urban Environmental Infrastructure (USAID)
8 September 2000	US	Grant Agreement Amendment Number Four for the Primary Education Results Package (USAID)
8 September 2000	US	Project Grant Agreement Amendment Number Five for the Tertiary Education Linkages Project (USAID)
8 September 2000	US	Grant Agreement Amendment Number Three for the Support to Tertiary Education Project (USAID)
8 September 2000	US	Grant Agreement Amendment Number Three for the Support for Economic Growth and Analysis and Mandela Economics Scholars Programme (USAID)
8 September 2000	US	Project Grant Agreement Amendment Number Three for the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Framework (MIIF) Programme (USAID)
8 September 2000	US	Grant Agreement for the Increased Commercial Viability of existing Small and Medium Agribusiness (USAID)
15 September 2000	US	Project Grant Agreement Amendment Number Six for the Administration of Justice Project (USAID)



Date	Country	Title
15 September 2000	US	Project Grant Agreement Amendment Number Four for the Institutional Development Programme under the Shelter and Urban Development Support Project (SUDS) and Environmentally Sustainable Housing and Urban Development Project (ESHUD). (USAID)
15 September 2000	US	Grant Agreement Amendment Number Two for the Local Governance Support Programme (USAID)
18 September 2000	Ukraine	Memorandum of Understanding between the South African Council of Geoscience and the Ministry of Environmental and Nature Resources of Ukraine. Entered into force: 18 September 2000
20 September 2000	Czech Republic	Agreement regarding Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters
22 September 2000	Algeria	Agreement on the Establishment of a Binational Commission of Co-operation
23 September 2000	Algeria	Agreement on Co-operation in the Fields of Mining and Energy
23 September 2000	Bulgaria	Trade Agreement
24 September 2000	Algeria	Agreement on Economic Co-operation and Partnership
24 September 2000	Algeria	Agreement on the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments
24 September 2000	Algeria	Trade Agreement
24 September 2000	Algeria	Memorandum of Understanding on Information and Communications Technologies. Entered into force: 24 September 2000
26 September 2000	Jordan	Agreement concerning Co-operation in the Field of Defence and Defence Equipment
27 September 2000	India	Agreement on Defence Co-operation. Entered into force: 27 September 2000
18 October 2000	China, People's Republic of	Memorandum of Understanding on Public Health and Medical Sciences
19 October 2000	Rwanda	Agreement and Protocol for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments
19 October 2000	Rwanda	Agreement on the Establishment of a Joint Commission of Co-operation. Entered into force: 19 October 2000
19 October 2000	Rwanda	Agreement on Institutional Co-operation in the Field of Agriculture and Livestock. Entered into force: 19 October 2000
19 October 2000	Rwanda	Agreement on Co-operation in Education
24 October 2000	Belarus	Protocol on Co-operation. Entered into force: 24 October 2000
26 October 2000	Botswana	Declaration of Intent
20 November 2000	Angola	Agreement on the Creation of a Joint Commission of Co-operation. Entered into force provisionally: 20 November 2000
1 December 2000	Spain	Memorandum of Understanding on Consultation. Entered into force: 1 Dec. 2000
3 December 2000	Mali	Memorandum of Understanding relating to Co-operation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs. Entered into force: 3 December 2000
3 December 2000	Mali	Agreement on the Establishment of a Joint Commission of Co-operation
5 December 2000	WHO	Basic Agreement on the Establishment of Technical Advisory Co-operation Relations
13 December 2000	Brazil	Agreement to Establish a Joint Commission. Entered into force: 11 May 2001
9 January 2001	Japan	Exchange of Notes in respect of the Japan Overseas Co-operation Volunteers in the Republic of South Africa. Entered into force: 9 January 2001
27 January 2001	Iran	Air Transport Agreement
3 February 2001	United Arab Emirates	Agreement for Air Services between and beyond the Respective Territories
5 February 2001	Cuba	Agreement on the Establishment of a Joint Commission
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement on Institutional Co-operation in the Field of Agriculture
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement on Co-operation in the Fields of Arts and Culture
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement on Defence Co-operation. Entered into force: 14 March 2001
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement in respect of Police Co-operation
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement on Scientific and Technological Co-operation
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement in respect of Police Co-operation
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement on Scientific and Technological Co-operation

Multilateral Conventions ratified since December 1999

Date	Title
8 April 1979	Constitution of the UN Industrial Development Organisation. South Africa acceded 24 October 2000
11 July 1990	African Charter on the Rights and the Welfare of the Child. (OAU) South Africa signed on 10 October 1997 and acceded on 7 January 2000
1 March 1991	Convention on the Marketing of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection. South Africa acceded on 1 December 1999. Entered into force: 30 January 2000
24 August 1996	Protocol on Trade in the Southern African Development Community Region. South Africa ratified on 24 December 1999
17 July 1998	Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. South Africa signed on 18 July 1998 and ratified on 27 November 2000

important trading partners for South Africa, as well as important partners within the context of the OAU/AEC.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs attended a Ministerial Conference of the Franco-Africa Summit in Cameroon in January 2001. The biennial Summit was also attended by Heads of State and Government.

The Summit convened under the theme: *Africa and the Challenges of Globalisation* and discussed among other things:

- human rights, rule of law, democracy and good governance
- peace and security

- economy
- regional integration and African unity
- international co-operation with a view to strengthening North-South co-operation.

Minister Dlamini-Zuma then proceeded to Dakar, Senegal where she represented South Africa at the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the WCAR.

**Algeria**

At the end of September 2000, President Mbeki visited Algeria. The visit, which coincided with the holding of the first Session of the Binational Commission for Co-operation, was part of the tradition of permanent consultation and dialogue between leaders of the two countries.

President Mbeki and his counterpart Abdelaziz Bouteflika held talks on bilateral relations and regional and international issues of common interest. In October 2001, the South Africa-Algeria Binational Commission met in Pretoria.

**Egypt**

Bilateral political and economic relations between Egypt and South Africa have improved greatly in recent years. These improvements were underlined in April 1996, with the convening of the First Annual Joint Bilateral Commission Meeting in Cairo.

The South Africa-Egypt Bilateral Commission held its fourth session in July 2000. A number of agreements were signed between the two countries. The fifth session was held in Egypt in October 2001.

**Information**

The WCAR was held in South Africa from 31 August to 7 September 2001, the first time it was held on the African continent.

More than 10 000 delegates from all over the world attended the Conference in Durban. The Conference itself was preceded by the WCAR Non-governmental Organisation (NGO) Forum at the Kingsmead Cricket Stadium.

On 21 August, on the eve of the Conference, Torches of Tolerance were lit country-wide to symbolise South Africans' commitment to the eradication of racism, intolerance and all forms of discrimination.

Although international media focused predominantly on issues which were the subject of intense debate at the Conference, in particular issues relating to the Middle-East and to reparations for slavery and colonialism, the final declaration of the Conference represented a broad consensus expressing the commitment of the international community to take practical action to deal with racism and other forms of discrimination and intolerance. Amongst other things, the declaration laid emphasis on the importance of development in combating these evils.



## Nigeria

Having actively supported the transition from a military to a civilian government embarked upon and carried through by the former Nigerian Head of State, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, South Africa is committed to the support of and close co-operation with the Government of President Olusegun Obasanjo.

Relations between South Africa and Nigeria entered a new phase with the establishment of the South Africa-Nigeria Joint Commission, the inaugural session of which was held in the Nigerian federal capital Abuja in October 1999.

The main objective of the Commission is 'to lay a firm foundation for co-operation and partnership between both countries within the broader objectives of the OAU'. In a multilateral context, co-operation between South Africa and Nigeria focuses on bringing Africa into the mainstream of global political, social and economic developments.

The main focus of bilateral co-operation will be the promotion of trade between the two countries, which already amounted to more than R730 million in 1998.

During President Mbeki's visit to Nigeria late in 2000, he met with President Obasanjo, attended Nigeria's 40th independence celebrations, and held a meeting with Nigerian traditional chiefs. The third session of the South Africa-Nigeria Binational Commission was held in Abuja, Nigeria in March 2001.

## Ghana

Ghana represents an island of stability in a troubled west African subregion. Relations between Ghana and South Africa continue to improve. South African imports from Ghana and exports to Ghana have steadily increased

in recent years, making Ghana one of South Africa's leading trading partners in the region. Both countries maintain High Commissions in each other's capitals.

During President Mbeki's visit to Ghana in October 2000, he met with former President Jerry Rawlings, addressed the Ghanaian Parliament and witnessed the conclusion of an agreement on defence training and technical co-operation. Mr Mbeki also attended the launch of the Ghana-South African Business Chamber.

President John Kufuor of the Republic of Ghana visited South Africa from 5 to 8 June 2001. The principal aims of his visit were to hold bilateral discussions with President Mbeki in Durban, as well as attending the Southern Africa Summit of the WEF in the city.

The visit was the first paid by President Kufuor to South Africa since his inauguration as Ghana's President in January 2001. The inauguration was attended by Deputy President Zuma.

## Senegal

During President Mbeki's visit to Senegal in October 2000, he held talks with President Abdoulaye Wade. The talks focused on regional conflict and development issues as well as means of improving bilateral relations between the two countries.

President Wade paid a State visit to South Africa in July 2001.

## Tunisia

In April 2001, the Minister of Foreign Affairs co-chaired the Third Session of the Joint Bilateral Commission between South Africa and Tunisia with the Tunisian Foreign Minister, Habib Ben Yahia, in Tunis.

## Relations with Asia and the Middle East

### Asia

Asia is a priority area in South Africa's foreign relations. South Africa has 13 residential missions in Asia and many non-residential accreditations.

### Information

At the end of January 2001, a search and rescue team consisting of 31 experts and two dogs left South Africa for the earthquake-ravaged Indian province of Gujarat. The team also took specialised search equipment, including mini video cameras that can be used remotely up to 90 m underground.

For South Africa, as part of the Indian Ocean Rim (IOR), which encompasses the eastern African coastal countries, the Arabian Peninsula, South-east Asia, Australia and the Indian subcontinent, the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Co-operation (IOR-ARC) is considered an important regional economic entity. The IOR-ARC Initiative, currently backed by 19 countries including South Africa, creates an opportunity for countries of the South to serve their economic interests.

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Aziz Pahad, visited Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam during September 2000 with a view to expanding relations, particularly trade and investment.

An important focus is the promotion of small and medium enterprise development in South Africa. South Africa's bilateral trade with Singapore is already substantial with 1999 trade amounting to R2,6 billion. Singapore is the second-biggest investor from South-east Asia in South Africa, after Malaysia.

Mr Pahad's visit to Thailand came in the wake of this country becoming South Africa's largest trading partner in South-east Asia with bilateral trade reaching R2,66 billion in 1999.

Thailand currently chairs the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), after having taken over the Chair from South Africa in April 2001.

Vietnam is playing an increasingly important role in South-east Asia and has vast economic potential for mining, infrastructure development, and agricultural and manufacturing companies to do business. Bilateral trade with Vietnam in 1999 amounted to R127 million. Vietnam has also established an embassy in Pretoria.

Economic relations with Malaysia and Indonesia remain very important owing to Malaysian investment in South Africa and the size of the Indonesian market.

In March 2001, a delegation of South African government officials visited New Delhi, India to attend the fourth South

African-Indian Joint Ministerial Commission. The Minister of Foreign Affairs led the delegation. On the agenda, among other things, were Indian support for economic reforms in Africa and co-operation among countries of the South. Science and technology, and in particular the exchange of Information Technology and Information Communications Technology development and capacity-building, received priority attention. Trade between the two countries is approaching R4 billion with the balance in South Africa's favour. The visit also served to promote the further expansion of trade, investment and tourism into South Africa.

South Africa maintains active and mutually beneficial relations with Australia and New Zealand, and non-residential accreditation in Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Samoa and the Cook Islands.

South Africa is Australia's most important trading partner and fastest growing market on the African continent. Cultural, institutional, political and trade relations have expanded rapidly since 1994.

In the multilateral field, the two countries are members of most of the major southern hemisphere organisations and share similar views on most international issues such as disarmament, agriculture and trade in food products, fishing, protection of marine resources, Antarctica and fair international trade.

Australia and New Zealand are both eager to strengthen relations, especially trade and investment with South Africa. This will also be pivotal in enhancing relations with southern Africa. New Zealand maintains a High Commission in Pretoria while the High Commission in Canberra represents South Africa. The establishment of a resident High Commission in Wellington is expected in future.

Bilateral relations with the People's Republic of China (PRC) have expanded substantially since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1998. Four of the top five leaders in both the Government and the Chinese Communist Party have all paid suc-



successful visits to South Africa. President Jiang Zemin paid a State visit to South Africa in April 2000.

A broad range of agreements to formalise relations has been concluded between South Africa and the PRC. Of specific importance was the signing of the Pretoria Declaration between President Zemin and President Mbeki in April 2000. The Declaration *inter alia* established a high level binational commission between the two countries.

Total bilateral trade between China and South Africa reached R11 billion in 2000 with the balance still in favour of the PRC.

During 2000, the historically friendly relationship between China and the developing world – and with Africa in particular – was taken further through the China-Africa Ministerial Forum held in Beijing in October 2000. More than 40 African countries attended the Forum and Dr Dlamini-Zuma led the delegation. The main aim of the Forum was to consolidate the political and economic relationship between China and Africa. At the conclusion of the Forum, the Beijing Declaration and Programme of Action of China-Africa Co-operation were adopted.

Notwithstanding the absence of diplomatic relations, South Africa and Taiwan continue with trade, scientific, cultural and other relations, and Taiwanese investors in South Africa continue to enjoy full protection under South African law and all the other benefits extended to foreign investors.

In January 2001, Prime Minister Yoshio Mori of Japan visited South Africa. It was the first time in history that a serving Japanese Head of Government paid a visit to the country. During his visit Mr Mori made a keynote speech on Japan's African policy. Japan granted South Africa an overseas development assistance package of \$1,5 billion in 1994 and again in 1999. Japan is one of the world's top foreign donors. South Africa's bilateral trade with Japan in 2000 totalled R24,2 billion with the balance in Japan's favour. Direct Japanese investment in South Africa is worth more than \$500 million.

In October 2001, President Mbeki made his first official visit to Japan and met Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and Emperor Akihito to strengthen bilateral relations.

South Africa is supportive of Japan's TICAD (Tokyo International Conference on African Development) process, which focuses on African ownership of the development process.

South Korea is an important trade partner of South Africa. In 2000, bilateral trade was in the amount of R7,6 billion, with the balance in South Africa's favour. South Korea has assisted South Africa in the human resources capacity field.

## The Middle East

In the Middle East, the Department of Foreign Affairs distinguishes between two clearly identifiable subregions. On the one hand, there is the Levant, which comprises Israel, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria, and on the other hand, the Arabian/Persian Gulf Region, consisting of the member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council, namely Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Iran and Yemen. The Middle East is an important economic region as it occupies a unique geopolitical position at the tricontinental hub of Europe, Asia and Africa. It is the source of 67% of the world's petroleum reserves and commands two of the most strategically important waterways in the world, namely the Arabian/Persian Gulf and the Red Sea, giving access to the Asian hinterland via the Gulf of Aqaba. South Africa places strong emphasis on the expansion of representation and activities in this region where formally it was underrepresented, particularly in the area of trade, which has grown significantly since 1994.

South Africa has diplomatic missions in Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iran and Kuwait. It has non-residential accreditation to Bahrain, Yemen, Qatar, Syria and Oman. With the exception of Bahrain, all the countries in this region are now diplo-

matically represented in South Africa. The South African Consulate-General in Jeddah, in addition to performing important functions related to the promotion of trade, also serves the South African Muslim community on their annual pilgrimage to Mecca.

In November 2000, President Mbeki addressed the opening session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Doha, State of Qatar in his capacity as Chair of the NAM.

Before 1994, South Africa's relations with the Middle East were characterised by a lack of region-wide representation with a concentration only on links with Israel. After the advent of the new Government in 1994, this has changed significantly to the point where today South Africa is accepted as a meaningful political interlocutor in the region. South Africa supports and encourages a just and equitable solution to the Middle East Peace Process that involves Palestine and Israel as well as Israel's two northern neighbours, Syria and Lebanon. Based on its own experiences, South Africa continues to maintain that violence can never provide solutions to intractable conflicts. In as much as this applies to Palestine and Israel, it is also applied to the situation in Iraq. A just solution that involves co-operation between Iraq and the UN is an objective which South Africa continues to work for in its interaction with all the parties involved.

It is South Africa's objective to utilise its political access in the region in order to enhance, broaden and consolidate its commercial and technical links with the region. The Middle East retains great potential for South Africa as an export market, and at the same time serves as a potential strategic source of FDI, which is essential NEPAD is to succeed.

### Information

In September 2001, the South African Government condemned the terror attacks in New York and Washington, US. It also called on the international community to unite against global terrorism.

By 26 September, one South African was still reported missing in the US.

One South African was killed in the attacks.

Overall bilateral trade between South Africa and the Middle East nearly doubled in Rand terms during 2000 to R32,059 billion. Unfortunately, because of South Africa's energy imports from the region, South Africa has a large deficit in respect of trade with the Middle East. In 2000, South Africa's trade with that region represented 3,075% of the total of South Africa's international trade.

South Africa's leading trade partners in the region are Saudi Arabia, Iran, Kuwait, Qatar, Israel and the UAE.

Major South African companies continue to establish subsidiaries in the Middle East, particularly in the Gulf region. In the UAE there are over 30 major South African companies now successfully established, mainly in Dubai. In the Gulf region alone there are now well over 10 000 South African expatriates working in technical and medical fields.

The importance of the Middle East to South Africa can also be seen in the growing number of bilateral agreements that are being concluded between South Africa and countries of the region. These cover the fields of civil aviation, double taxation, protection of investments, scientific co-operation and defence agreements. Not only do these agreements indicate the degree of normalisation between South Africa and that region but they also facilitate the growing links between South Africa and the region.

The increasing number of South African Ministers visiting the Middle East is further proof of the raised profile that the region now enjoys in the overall picture of South Africa's foreign relations. In March 2000, President Mbeki visited the UAE and in November 2000 he was invited to address the OIC Summit in Doha, Qatar. Both the Minister and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs make frequent visits to the region.

The number of tourists visiting South Africa from the Middle East increases annually to the point where South African Tourism saw the need to open a new office in Dubai in June 2001.



## Relations with America

### United States of America (US)

Since 1994, business and personal links between South Africa and the US have been burgeoning, and a strong and long-term South Africa-US working partnership has been established. This has led to the cultivation of a special bilateral relationship, as exemplified by the Binational Commission, which was established in 1995. The expansion of trade and investment, and the deepening of substantive co-operation in spheres such as agriculture, justice and anti-crime, defence, energy development, health, human resource development, housing, science and technology, and conservation and environmental matters are significant elements of the two countries' interaction.

Since 1994, four State visits between the US and South Africa have taken place, further solidifying the relationship, as well as the close personal relationships between the respective leaders. Former President Nelson Mandela visited the US in October 1994, former President Bill Clinton visited South Africa in March 1998, and President Mbeki visited the US in May 2000 and June 2001, when he met President George W Bush. The two Presidents issued a joint statement, committing themselves to strengthening the already excellent ties between the US and South Africa.

A bipartisan Congressional delegation led by the Speaker of the US House of Representatives, Dennis Hastert, visited South Africa in April 2001. This was the first-ever visit to South Africa by a US Speaker of the House. These visits have served to increase mutual understanding, and allowed for the further expansion of areas of co-operation.

The US is one of South Africa's key trading partners in the world today. The bilateral trade relationship has maintained a consistent pattern of expansion since 1994. According to statistics, total trade has increased from R14,8 billion in 1994 and currently stands at some R38,68 billion for 2000 (R31 billion in 1999), making the US South Africa's largest single trading partner in the

world. In 2000, South African exports to the US totalled R16,75 billion (R11,66 billion in 1999), with imports from the US amounting to R21,93 billion (R20 billion in 1999).

Since 1994, the US has also consistently been the largest foreign direct investor in South Africa. According to available statistics, in 1999 the US invested R21,5 billion (39,8%) of the total FDI amount of R58,38 billion since 1994. Through new and returning investments, the number of US companies in South Africa now exceeds the pre-sanctions period. While in 1994 (when US sanctions were lifted), the number of US companies in South Africa was 104 (256 having left), it is estimated that there were 386 active US companies in South Africa in August 1999.

South Africa is also a beneficiary of the US's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) that grants duty-free treatment to more than 4 650 products imported into the US. According to the US Commerce Department, the value of South African exports under the GSP programme amounted to some US\$583,2 million in 2000. This figure is expected to rise as South Africa expands its exports to the US under the GSP programme through the granting of GSP benefits to an additional 1,783 products under the African Growth and Opportunity Act. Annual development assistance to South Africa currently stands at \$47 million and totals more than \$600 million since 1994.

The sound bilateral relationship between South Africa and the US is expected to continue to mature under the new administration of President Bush.

### Canada

South Africa and Canada have good relations, and bilateral trade continues to increase.

Canada is one of the largest providers of development assistance for South Africa. The Canadian Government, through the Canadian International Development Agency, provides assistance in various areas, particularly those of good governance, human resource development, strengthening civil society and

economic development. Canada has also rendered valuable assistance in the fields of education and training, the environment and justice, to name but a few.

Canada granted South Africa the benefit of its General Preferential Tariff. During 2000, South Africa's exports to Canada totalled R1,52 billion, compared with imports from Canada amounting to R1,73 billion.

Since 1995, the following important agreements have been signed: Foreign Investment Protection Agreement; Non-double Taxation; a Memorandum of Understanding on Development Co-operation; a Trade and Investment Co-operation Arrangement; an Extradition Treaty; a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty; a Memorandum of Understanding on Sport; and a Transport Agreement.

Indications in Canadian political and economic circles are that interest and involvement in Africa and South Africa are on the increase, demonstrated by a number of initiatives launched by the private sector and the Canadian Government. Canada launched its 'Africa Direct' initiative in May 2000. The initiative's objective is to help build closer economic and political ties between Canada and the 'emerging countries of sub-Saharan Africa', with a view to providing broader policy dialogue and improving Canada's understanding of Africa.

In view of its receptive approach towards the African Renaissance, South Africa views Canada as an important partner in many areas of intervention.

## The Caribbean

The South African High Commission in Kingston, Jamaica opened in September 2000. From here diplomatic relations with all the independent member states of the Caribbean community are maintained.

These include Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

## Latin America

South Africa's relations with the countries of the South American region are entering an important and dynamic period of development. South Africa maintains formal diplomatic relations with all the countries of Latin America, except the Dominican Republic. There are diplomatic missions in eight of these countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and Uruguay) and honorary consuls have been appointed in many of those countries where resident missions are not maintained.

Evidence of the expansion of relations with Latin America can be seen by the large number of official visits to and from the region, as well as a significant increase in trade and tourism.

Latin America's population of about 300 million, as well as its various economic blocs, such as Mercosur (Southern Common Market) and the Andean Community, will ensure the region's increasing importance to South Africa.

There is great potential for co-operation with the well-established Mercosur trading bloc, which consists of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, with Bolivia and Chile having associate status. Co-operation in the South Atlantic is further enhanced through the Zone of Peace and Co-operation in the South Atlantic (ZPCSA). The aims and objectives of the ZPCSA include the protection of the marine environment and resources, the promotion of the South Atlantic as a nuclear-free zone, and joint business ventures.

In December 2000, following his State visit, President Mbeki attended the XIX Summit of the Council of Mercosur, during which time he addressed the gathering.

A Framework Agreement for the Creation of a Free Trade Area between South Africa and Mercosur was signed by Minister Alec Erwin during the meeting. The aim of the Agreement is to strengthen existing relations, promote the expansion of trade, and establish the conditions for the creation of a future Free Trade Area.



President Mbeki and President Fernando Henrique Cardoso of Brazil identified the need to further strengthen and provide added substance to bilateral relations, especially in the areas of trade, investment, human resource development and health co-operation. A Declaration of Intent for Co-operation in the field of health was also signed, as well as an agreement to establish a binational commission between the two countries.

During his visit, President Mbeki was awarded the highest civilian order medal in Brazil, the Southern Cross.

In March 2001, President Mbeki arrived in Havana on an official visit to Cuba, becoming the first South African Head of State to do so. He was accompanied by, among others, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs; Agriculture and Land Affairs; Arts, Culture, Science and Technology; Sport and Recreation; and Education. President Mbeki met with President Fidel Castro for a bilateral discussion on NEPAD, regional conflicts, human resource development, reform of the UN and Brettonwoods institutions, NAM and the South Summit. The following agreements were signed:

- Cultural
- Science and technology
- Sports
- Air services and merchant shipping.

## Relations with Europe

South Africa's bilateral relations with Europe have improved significantly since 1994. South Africa currently maintains diplomatic relations with virtually all countries in Europe. South Africa has 25 missions in Europe, and the latter is represented by 51 embassies and consulates-general or trade missions in South Africa.

Europe will remain a critical player in the global arena, wielding increasing influence in international fora on economic, social and other global issues.

It currently has considerable influence in international fora such as the G-8, EU, WTO, UN, UNCTAD and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. The EU is the largest contribu-

tor to the UN budget (38%) as well as to its budget for peace-keeping operations (40%). South Africa's total trade with Europe has doubled over the past 10 years. Some 45% of South Africa's total trade is conducted with Europe.

In order to enhance strategic co-operation, a number of political and economic mechanisms, *inter alia* binational or joint commissions, were created with countries such as the United Kingdom (UK), France, Germany and the Russian Federation. Mechanisms to step up bilateral political consultations were created with a growing number of countries such as the Nordic region and central Europe.

Europe remains South Africa's main economic partner in terms of trade, investment, finance and transfer of technology. Economic restructuring, greater market access, more FDI, increased co-operation in science and the transfer of technology, and development of the South African tourism industry are priorities.

In view of the fact that Europe's share of the world gross national product amounts to 25% and it accounts for 20% of world trade, the Trade, Development and Co-operation Agreement between South Africa and the EU is of strategic importance to South Africa, and once fully operational will contribute significantly to economic growth in this country.

With South Africa's qualified membership of Lomé IV, both the EU and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries expect South Africa to play a constructive role in the important negotiations on overhauling or refining the relationship between ACP countries and Europe.

South Africa has a strategic role to play in promoting an approach which would lead to sustainable development in the ACP countries, particularly in Africa.

Multilateral interaction with Europe on issues such as economic globalisation, debt relief, the reform of the UN Security Council, disarmament and human rights is taking place.

The establishment of a constructive North-South dialogue is of particular importance.

South Africa has managed to expand its political and economic relations with central

and eastern Europe, which offer attractive opportunities to South African companies for trade and joint ventures.

In September 2000, Deputy President Zuma paid an official visit to the Ukraine, Czech Republic and Bulgaria to strengthen bilateral relations with countries in Central and Eastern Europe.

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pahad, visited the Russian Federation in June 2001 to hold political consultations with his Russian counterpart, Deputy Minister Vassily Sredin. The Deputy Minister was accompanied by several influential persons from the fields of science, technology and education.

Europe is the leading provider of development aid in the world ahead of the US and Japan. A constructive relationship exists between South Africa and Europe in the field of development co-operation. Regular consultations with the EU and its member countries take place on the maintenance and possible expansion of their constructive involvement in South Africa .

Germany ranks among the three largest trading partners in South Africa with the US and the UK. In 2000, two-way trade amounted to R41,2 billion. Since 1994, Germany has provided in excess of R1,4 billion in financial and technical co-operation, making it one of South Africa's largest development partners world-wide. Relations with Germany continue to be excellent as is evidenced by the South Africa-German Binational Commission. The work of the Commission builds on the strong political, scientific and economic links between South Africa and Germany. The third meeting of the Commission was held in July 2001.

At the end of June 2001, President Mbeki visited Germany where he met with Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and President Johannes Rau to discuss issues such as NEPAD.

President Mbeki visited Denmark in June 2000 after which he attended the South African-Nordic Summit. The latter was a very constructive meeting within the context of North-South dialogue, and consolidated already strong bilateral relations with Nordic

countries. During the last year, new areas of co-operation with Norway and Finland were identified through the use of existing discussion mechanisms. A Protocol on Bilateral Consultations was signed with Finland during March 2001.

In the same month, President Mbeki visited Sweden to meet with Prime Minister Goeran Persson and to address an international democracy seminar in Malmo. The South African-Sweden Binational Commission was established in September 2000. It met for the first time in October 2001. Trade between the two countries has increased to almost R4 billion.

At the end of November 2000, the Minister of Foreign Affairs signed the extension of an existing co-operation agreement with Flanders, one of the autonomous regions in Belgium. The first deal dealt with co-operation in areas such as arts, culture, science and technology. The extended agreement includes all other competencies of the Flemish Government. Since 1995, Flanders has allocated funds amounting to R200 million to support South African projects and programmes. For the year 2000/01, R48 million was allocated to joint projects with government and NGOs.

The Prime Minister of The Netherlands, Mr Wim Kok, paid an official visit to South Africa from 25 to 28 February 2001. The purpose of the visit was to strengthen political and economic co-operation.

French Prime Minister, Mr Lionel Jospin, also paid an official visit to South Africa in May/June 2001, during which time further impetus was given to strengthening bilateral relations and economic co-operation.

South Africa's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pahad, completed a working visit to the UK in March 2001. Mr Pahad held discussions with the UK Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Commonwealth, Mr Brian Wilson, on several issues, including:

- NEPAD
- the situation in the DRC, Angola and Zimbabwe
- the diamond industry and the regulation of



illicit diamond trade from conflict areas, or so-called 'conflict diamonds'.

President Mbeki undertook a State visit to the UK from 12 to 15 June 2001. The visit consolidated the existing good bilateral relations between South Africa and the UK, and explored further areas of bilateral and multi-lateral co-operation, especially in African initiatives. The annual SA Bilateral Forum, through which co-operation on these issues is furthered, took place during the visit.

The UK consistently remains one of South Africa's most significant trade partners, with bilateral trade in 2000 estimated at over R33 billion, showing a positive trade balance in the first eight months of around R5,5 billion in South Africa's favour. Britain moreover continues to be South Africa's largest single foreign investor.

In July 2001, President Mbeki arrived in Rome, Italy on a State visit, ahead of the G-8 Summit in Genoa where he addressed the leaders on NEPAD.

## Multilateral diplomacy

South Africa is a full participant in the debates on global issues in international fora and organisations such as the UN, the Commonwealth and NAM. Among the multitude of issues that are dealt with are UN reform, South Africa's role in peace-keeping operations and disarmament issues, the global development debate, negotiations with the EU, the future of NAM, the implementation of Agenda 21 and the treaties that flow from it, such as those on biodiversity and climate change, international drug control, international measures to combat crime, good governance, human rights and humanitarian assistance.

The country's active and full involvement in initiatives such as the renegotiation of the Southern Africa Customs Union, the South African Britain Bilateral Forum and new structures in the WTO also places South Africa in a good position to ensure that not only trade but also development is addressed in its international relations.

## International organisations

### United Nations (UN)

South Africa has fully participated in and contributed to international organisations, treaties and conventions concerned with global policies since its readmission to the UN in 1994. It has played an active role in several General Assembly working groups tasked with the appraisal of UN reforms, as well as the restructuring of the Security Council.

South Africa also joined the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the UN International Sea-bed Authority.

It has been elected a member of the following bodies:

- Executive Council of the World Meteorological Organisation (1998–2002)
- The Executive Committee of the Programme of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (1997–indefinite)
- The UN Commission on Population and Development (1998–2001)
- The Executive Board of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and of the UN Population Fund (1998–2000)
- The Executive Board of the UN Children's Fund (1998–2000)
- The UN's Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (1997–2001).

In 1998, Judge Natvanethem Pillay was elected President of the International Tribunal for Rwanda until May 2003.

Justice John Dugard was South Africa's representative on the International Law Commission (1997–2001).

In November 1999, the Office of the South African Auditor-General was elected one of three members of the UN Board of Auditors, which serves as external auditors to the UN and the International Court of Justice. Its three-year term of office commenced on 1 July 2000.

South Africa's name has consistently appeared on the Secretary-General's 'Roll of Honour' of countries that pay their dues timeously.

In September 2000, President Mbeki addressed the UN Millennium Summit in New York on the role of the UN in the 21st Century.

### The European Union

1 January 2000 saw the provisional implementation of the SA-EU Trade, Development and Co-operation Agreement (TDCA), which was signed on 11 October 1999.

This entailed commencement of the asymmetrical and differentiated phasing down of customs tariffs in accordance with the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) component of the TDCA. Implementation of the remaining elements of the TDCA will have to await its ratification by the 15 EU member states. Sweden was the only EU member to ratify the TDCA in 2000.

The EU is South Africa's main commercial partner, accounting for more than 40% of its imports and nearly 40% of its exports. The FTA will result in the full liberalisation of 95% of South African exports to the EU by the end

of a transitional period of 10 years, and 86% of imports from the EU within 12 years.

Negotiations for separate Wines and Spirits and Fisheries Agreements continued, but could not be concluded in 2000.

The first meeting of the SA-EU Co-operation Council (CC) – as provided for in Article 97(1) of the TDCA – was held in Pretoria on 31 March 2000. The CC is mandated to facilitate the smooth implementation of the TDCA. The CC established a Trade Co-operation Committee to deal with the TDCA's more detailed trade-related problems. A meeting of the Committee was held on 6 December 2000.

The EU continued its development partnership by way of the European Programme for Reconstruction and Development (EPRD), and the Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) for the 2000–2002 programming of the EPRD was signed in Durban on 22 June 2000.

The MIP identified the focus of EU donor resources as the four areas of poverty reduction, private-sector development, consolidation of democracy, and support for regional co-operation. The European Investment Bank also signed its third Framework Agreement with South Africa in June 2000, for EUR 825 million in new loans to South Africa until the end of December 2006.

The SA-EU Joint Science and Technology Co-operation Committee met in Pretoria on 14 July 2000 to review progress on the implementation of the 1997 SA-EU Science and Technology Agreement, and to intensify SA-EU Science and Technology collaboration under the Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development.

South Africa was closely involved in the negotiations for a post-Lomé Convention regime between the EU and the ACP Group of States. It did so as a full member of the ACP, yet qualified member of the Fourth Lomé Convention.

Lomé IV expired at the end of February 2000. The new 23-year Cotonou Partnership Agreement (CPA) was signed in Cameroon's capital on 23 June 2000.

**Information**

The South Summit of the Group of 77 (G-77) was held in Havana, Cuba, in April 2000. The Summit was attended by 122 delegations, which included 42 Heads of State or Government, 13 Vice-Presidents or Deputy Prime Ministers and 67 Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

At the Summit, President Mbeki stressed the importance of co-operation between the NAM and the G-77 in order to achieve the objectives of the South. He called for true global solidarity in order to address the development needs of the South, and underlined the importance of a constructive dialogue with the North. President Mbeki made a strong plea for the democratisation of the international institutions of governance, including the UN, the IMF and the World Bank.

In July 2000, President Mbeki was part of a delegation from the South, which held discussions with members of the G-8 countries. President Mbeki (in his capacity as Chair of the NAM) accompanied President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria (acting in his capacity as the Chair of the South Summit) to the Okinawa G-8 Summit to convey the outcome of the Havana Summit of the South to the leaders of the industrialised countries. Presidents Mbeki and Bouteflika were also mandated to raise the issue of debt relief for African countries. The outcome of the G-8 Summit indicates a change in the North's approach to developing countries from that of consultation to engagement.



South Africa is again a qualified member of this new Partnership Agreement (under a separate protocol).

The non-reciprocal Lomé trade regime (from which South Africa is excluded, as its trade relationship with the EU is determined by the TDCA) will be maintained during a preparatory period of eight years, with negotiations for a new matrix of ACP-EU economic partnership agreements, scheduled to start in September 2002.

The new regimes will come into force by 2008 at the latest. The preference of the EU is for a series of regional economic partnership agreements between the expanding membership of the EU and effective integration schemes in the ACP states, actively involving non-State (social and economic) actors for the first time.

President Mbeki addressed the Summit of EU Heads of State and Government in Feira, Portugal on 19 June 2000, appealing for a more equitable global dispensation between the North and South.

## **The Commonwealth**

The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of 54 sovereign states with a common political heritage. After the UN, with 185 members, the Commonwealth is one of the world's largest multilateral organisations. It includes members of every major regional institution, economic zone and multilateral organisation. Its total population exceeds 1 500 million. The link in this union is the common use of the English language as well as elements of the common culture, including sport, inherited from their colonial past.

South Africa rejoined the Commonwealth in 1994 after an absence of 33 years. The Department of Foreign Affairs coordinates the policy and objectives of the Government in the Commonwealth.

The successful hosting in 1999 of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) provided President Mbeki with an opportunity to indicate South Africa's position on development, trade, and the use

of information and communication technology. The Fancourt Declaration resulted from the discussions at the Retreat of Commonwealth Heads during the CHOGM. The Declaration marks an important milestone in the South African strategy to argue the case of the South and to advance the cause of the African Renaissance.

Commonwealth Heads of Government decided to establish a High Level Group (HLG) with the aim of reviewing the role of the Commonwealth and advise on how best it could respond to the challenges of the new century. Members of the Group are Australia, India, Malta, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, South Africa, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, UK and Zimbabwe. South Africa acts as Chair of the Group.

The review process has produced a number of proposals and decisions requiring further work. Some of these will have a major impact on the way the Commonwealth deals with the issues of conflict resolution and poverty reduction from a political, economic/developmental and social perspective. This will require that the proposals and decisions are developed effectively, adopted by the HLG and accepted by Heads of Government at the meeting in Brisbane in October 2001.

## **The Non-aligned Movement (NAM)**

The NAM is the second-largest grouping of countries within the UN, comprising 115 member states. It was founded in 1961 as a global voice for developing countries that felt excluded from international politics dominated by the then superpowers. South Africa joined the Movement as a full member in 1994 and assumed Chairpersonship in September 1998 during the XII Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the NAM held in Durban. The fundamental principles of the Movement include respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, the right to self-determination of all colonised peoples, and economic and cultural equality.

When a country assumes the Chairship of the NAM, it is delegated certain responsibilities for promoting the principles and activities of the Movement. Among others, it should oversee and guide the implementation of the various decisions and mandates of the Summit. The main mechanism through which this is achieved is the Coordinating Bureau (CoB) in New York. South Africa as Chair of the CoB should therefore pursue consensus positions reached in the Bureau in the various fora of the UN.

By a mandate of the Summit, which recognises the importance of the North-South partnership and dialogue in terms of development issues, the NAM Troika (the present, immediate past and future Chairs of the NAM) engaged with the EU Troika and the G-8 in 1999 and 2000. Most notably the NAM Troika engaged with the G-8 in the context of the annual G-8 Summit in Japan in 2000 at Ministerial and senior officials' level. In addition, President Mbeki was invited to a meeting with the Heads of State or Government of the G-8 with other leaders of the South just prior to the Okinawa Summit. This three-tiered interaction between North and South resulted in the G-8, following a more systematic approach to matters of development.

The NAM also continued its long-standing support for the rights of the Palestinian people in international fora such as the UN and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, among others. In this regard, the Movement under South Africa's Chairship has successfully lobbied for a meeting of the High Contracting Parties of the Fourth Geneva Convention (1999), and the resumption of the 10th Emergency Special session of the UN General Assembly (2000); and has also launched a number of actions in the UN Security Council in order to promote the cause of the Palestinian people.

### **G-5**

South Africa, Egypt, Nigeria, India and Brazil are members of the new informal formation group G-5. It has been set up to give the developing world a more united voice in international trade negotiations.

### **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

On 12 October 1994, the Government signed the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement with the UNDP. The UNDP has an office in Pretoria, headed by its resident representative, who is also the UN Resident Coordinator for all the UN's operational activities for development in South Africa.

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## **Acknowledgement**

Department of Foreign Affairs

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