



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.

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 United Nations (UN) World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002
- chairpersonship of the newly established 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

Organisation of African Unity/ African Economic Community (AEC)/African Union

The OAU was established on 25 May 1963 in Addis Ababa, after the signature of the OAU Charter by representatives of 32 governments. South Africa became the 53rd member in 1994. The aims of the Organisation were to:

- promote the unity and solidarity of African states
- co-ordinate and intensify their co-operation and efforts to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa
- defend their sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence

President Thabo Mbeki and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr Kofi Annan, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg in 2002. South Africa gained international recognition and strengthened relations with the world through its involvement and successful hosting of the African Union and the WSSD.

- eradicate all forms of colonialism in Africa
- promote international co-operation, with due regard for the Charter of the UN and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The objectives of the Treaty Establishing the AEC, commonly referred to as the Abuja Treaty, which was signed on 3 June 1991 and came into force after the requisite ratification in May 1994, are to:

- promote economic, social and cultural development and the integration of African economies in order to increase economic self-reliance and promote self-sustained development
- establish, on a continental scale, a framework for the development, mobilisation and utilisation of the human and material resources of Africa to achieve a self-reliant development
- promote co-operation in all fields of human endeavour to raise living standards of Africans, and maintain and enhance economic stability, foster close and peaceful relations among member states and contribute to the progress, development and the economic integration of the continent
- co-ordinate and harmonise policies among existing and future economic communities to foster the gradual establishment of the Community.

The Abuja Treaty provided for the AEC to be set up gradually by co-ordination, harmonisation and progressive integration of the activities of existing and future regional economic communities (RECs) in Africa. The RECs are regarded as the building-blocks of the AEC.

The implementation of the Abuja Treaty introduced a process to be completed in six stages over 34 years, i.e. by 2028, as follows:

- strengthening existing RECs and creating new ones where needed (five years)
- stabilising tariff and other barriers to regional trade and strengthening sectoral integration, particularly in the fields of trade, agriculture, finance, transport, communication, industry and energy, as well as co-ordinating and harmonising the activities of RECs (eight years)

- establishing a free trade area (FTA) and a customs union at the level of each REC (10 years)
- co-ordinating and harmonising tariff and non-tariff systems among RECs, with a view to establishing a continental customs union (two years)
- establishing an African Common Market and adopting common policies (four years)
- 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).

As more and more African countries attained their independence, it became evident that there was a need to amend the OAU Charter to streamline the Organisation.

For this purpose, the Committee on the Review of the Charter was established in 1997. Despite numerous meetings, the Charter Review Committee did not manage to formulate substantive amendments.

This situation paved the way for an extraordinary summit held in Libya in September 1999 to amend the OAU Charter to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the OAU. This Summit concluded with the Sirte Declaration aimed at:

- effectively addressing the new social, political and economic realities in Africa and the world
- fulfilling the peoples' aspirations for greater unity in conforming with the objectives of the OAU Charter and the Abuja Treaty
- revitalising the continental organisation to play a more active role in addressing the needs of the people
- eliminating the scourge of conflict
- meeting global challenges
- harnessing the human and natural resources of the continent to improve living conditions.

To achieve these aims, the Summit, among other things, decided to:

- establish an AU in conformity with the ultimate objectives of the Charter and the pro-



- visions of the Treaty Establishing the AEC
- accelerate the process of implementing the Abuja Treaty, in particular
 - shorten the implementation periods of the Abuja Treaty
 - ensure the speedy establishment of all institutions provided for in the Abuja Treaty such as the African Central Bank, the African Monetary Union, the African Court of Justice and in particular, the Pan-African Parliament
 - strengthen and consolidate RECs as the pillars for achieving the objectives of the AEC and realise the envisaged Union
 - convene an African Ministerial Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Co-operation.

The establishment of the AU was declared on 2 March 2001 at a second extraordinary Summit in Sirte. The Summit specified that the legal requirements for the Union would be completed upon the deposit of the 36th instrument of ratification of the Constitutive Act of the AU. On 26 April 2001, Nigeria became the 36th member state to deposit its instrument of ratification. The Act entered into force on 26 May 2001. The transition period was concluded with the convening of the Inaugural Summit of the AU that took place in Durban from 9 to 10 July 2002.

The objectives of the AU 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 peoples
- 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 on the continent
- promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance

- promote and protect people's rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and People's Rights and other relevant human rights instruments
- establish the necessary conditions, which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations
- promote sustainable development at the 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 peoples
- co-ordinate and harmonise the policies between the existing and future RECs for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the Union
- advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields, 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 pillars of the Union are to be constituted by:

Promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent

To this end, the Union will be responsible for the peaceful resolution of conflict among member states through such appropriate means as may be decided upon by the Assembly, who may give directives to the Executive Council on the management of conflict, war, acts of terrorism, emergency situations and the restoration of peace.

Apart from the Assembly and the Executive Council, the other principal organ responsible for peace, security and stability will be the Central Organ of the Mechanism on Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution. The Protocol on the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the AU was adopted at the Durban Summit to replace the Mechanism on Conflict Preven-

tion, Management and Resolution.

The Peace and Security Council will be established as a standing decision-making organ for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict. It will be a collective security and early-warning arrangement to facilitate timely and efficient response to conflict and crisis situations in Africa. The Council will be supported by the Commission, a Panel of the Wise, a Continental Early Warning System, an African Standby Force and a Special Fund. In accordance with the need for a common African defence and security policy, the Durban Summit requested President Thabo Mbeki as Chair of the Assembly to establish a group of experts to examine all aspects related to such a policy, and to submit recommendations to the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

Socio-economic development and integration of the continent

The Union will also be the principal institution responsible for promoting sustainable development at economic, social and cultural levels, as well as the integration of African economies. RECs are recognised as the building-blocks of the Union, necessitating the need for their close involvement in the formulation and implementation of all programmes of the Union.

To this end, the Union must co-ordinate and take decisions on policies in areas of common interest to member states, as well as co-ordinate and harmonise policies between existing and future RECs, for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the AU.

The Specialised Technical Committees (STCs) will be responsible for the actual implementation of the continental socio-economic integration process together with the Permanent Representatives Committee.

Seven STCs will be established:

- Committee on Rural Economy and Agricultural Matters
- Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs

- Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration Matters
- Committee on Industry, Science and Technology, Energy, Natural Resources and Environment
- Committee on Transport, Communications and Tourism
- Committee on Health, Labour and Social Affairs
- Committee on Education, Culture and Human Resources.

Partnership with civil society

Active involvement of African non-governmental organisations (NGOs), socio-economic organisations, professional associations and civil society organisations are required in Africa's integration process as well as in the formulation and implementation of programmes of the AU.

The Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) will be established within the Union as an advisory organ composed of different social and professional groups in member states. The Assembly will determine the functions, powers, composition and organisation of ECOSOCC.

Of the 18 organs of the AU, three have been established, namely the Assembly, the Executive Council and the Permanent Representatives Committee. The Assembly has adopted the Statutes of the Commission, which will be established at the next Summit. The Protocols pertaining to the establishment of two more organs, the Pan-African Parliament and the Peace and Security Council, are in the process of being signed and ratified by member states, both requiring a simple majority for them to enter into force.

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

The mandate for NEPAD had its genesis at the OAU Extraordinary Summit held in Sirte, Libya during September 1999. The Summit



mandated President Mbeki of South Africa and President Abdelaziz Bouteflika of Algeria to engage Africa's creditors on the total cancellation of Africa's external debt. Following this, the South Summit of the NAM and the G-77, held in Havana, Cuba during April 2000, mandated President Mbeki and President Olusegan Obasanjo of Nigeria to convey the concerns of the South to the G-8 and the Bretton Woods institutions.

The OAU Summit held in Togo in July 2000 mandated the three Presidents to engage the North with a view to developing a constructive partnership for the regeneration of the continent. The three Presidents raised the issue of a partnership with leaders of the G-8 at their Summit in Japan during July 2000. Work on developing NEPAD (at that stage referred to as the Millennium Partnership for the African Recovery Programme [MAP]) began in earnest.

During the 5th Extraordinary Summit of the OAU held in Sirte in March 2001, President Obasanjo made a presentation on MAP, while President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal presented the OMEGA Plan. The work being done by the four Presidents was endorsed and it was decided that every effort should be made to integrate all the initiatives being pursued for the recovery and development of Africa, including the Economic Commission for Africa's New Global Compact with Africa.

On 11 July 2001, NEPAD (or the New African Initiative [NAI] as it was temporarily known at the time), was presented to the OAU Summit of Heads of State and Government in Lusaka, Zambia, providing the vision for Africa, a statement of the problems facing the continent and a Programme of Action to resolve these problems in order to reach the vision. NEPAD was unanimously adopted in the form of Declaration 1 (XXXVII) as Africa's principal agenda for development, providing a holistic, comprehensive and integrated strategic framework for the socio-economic development of the continent, within the institutional framework of the AU.

This adoption of NEPAD is considered as one of the most important developments of recent times for its conception of a development programme, placing Africa at the apex of the global agenda, by:

- creating an instrument for advancing people-centered and sustainable development in Africa based on democratic values
- being premised on the recognition that Africa has an abundance of natural resources and people who have the capacity to be agents for change and so holds the key to her own development
- providing the common African platform from which to engage the rest of the international community in a dynamic partnership that holds real prospects for creating a better life for all.

While the principle of partnership with the rest of the world is equally vital to this process, such partnership must be based on mutual respect, dignity, shared responsibility and mutual accountability. The expected outcomes are:

- economic growth and development and increased employment
- a reduction in poverty and inequality
- diversification of productive activities
- enhanced international competitiveness and increased exports
- increased African integration.

NEPAD is a mandated initiative of the AU. The NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee has to report annually to the Summit of the Union. The Chair of the Union as well as the Chair of the Commission of the Union are *ex-officio* members of the Implementation Committee. The Commission of the Union is expected to participate in Steering Committee meetings.

The linkage between NEPAD and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) was adopted by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Finance at their meeting in Blantyre, Malawi in September 2001, which came to the conclusion that, in terms of relationships, SADC is part of and feeds into NEPAD since the latter is premised on the

RECs. The Ministers recognised that NEPAD is a framework and process within the Union, while SADC is a recognised REC of the Union. SADC participates, therefore, in both the Union and NEPAD.

A major effort is ongoing to continuously factor NEPAD imperatives into the outcomes of international conferences such as the Conference on Financing for Development, the WSSD and the World Trade Organisation (WTO), to ensure the integration of NEPAD into the multilateral system. In a wider context, countries of the South subscribe to the priorities outlined in NEPAD and have generally welcomed it with words of solidarity and moral support, as well as an appreciation for South Africa's positive role in NEPAD. However, NEPAD does not have a mechanism for South-South co-operation. To this end, improved co-ordination with partners in the South should be pursued, possibly within the context of the 'South Co-ordinating Commission' suggested by President Mbeki during the South Summit in Havana.

At the inaugural Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee meeting held in Abuja in October 2001, a 15-member Task Force was established for the implementation of NEPAD. The following three-tier governing structure was accepted for NEPAD:

Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee

Chaired by President Obasanjo, with Presidents Wade and Bouteflika as Vice-chairpersons, the Implementation Committee comprises 15 states (three per OAU geographic region), including the five initiating states, South Africa, Nigeria, Algeria, Senegal and Egypt.

The main function of the Implementation Committee is to set policies and priorities and the Programme of Action.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is composed of the personal representatives of the five initiating Presidents, and is tasked with the development of the Terms of Reference for identified

programmes and projects, as well as overseeing the Secretariat.

Secretariat

The full-time, small core staff of the Secretariat, located at the Development Bank of Southern Africa in Midrand, provides the liaison, co-ordination, administrative and logistical function for NEPAD.

Five task teams were established to urgently identify and prepare specific implementable projects and programmes. In terms of working arrangements, South Africa is to co-ordinate the Peace, Security, Democracy and Political Governance Initiative; Nigeria the Economic and Corporate Governance/Banking and Financial Standards/Capital Flows Initiatives; Egypt the Market Access and Agriculture Initiatives; Algeria the Human Resource Development (HRD) Initiative; and Senegal the Infrastructure Initiative.

During the 38th OAU Summit in Durban on 8 July 2002, President Obasanjo, as Chair of the NEPAD Heads of State Implementation Committee, introduced the report of the Implementation Committee on progress made since NEPAD was endorsed at the OAU Summit in Lusaka in 2001. The NEPAD Initial Action Plan to operationalise the implementation of NEPAD, African peer review and the Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance, were distributed.

The Declaration on the Implementation of NEPAD, adopted during the Summit, mandates the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee and the Steering Committee to further elaborate on the NEPAD Framework, ensuring the implementation of the Initial Action Plan until reviewed at the next Ordinary Summit in Maputo in 2003.

The AU's mechanisms for peer review and conflict resolution reflect commitment to human rights, democratisation, good governance, peace and security as being in the interest of Africans, irrespective of relations with industrialised countries.



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

The first Standing Conference of Heads of State and Government on the CSSDCA took place during the 38th OAU Summit in Durban on 8 July 2002.

The Summit approved the CSSDCA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Security, Stability, Development and Co-operation, affirming the centrality of the CSSDCA process as a policy development forum, a framework for the advancement of common values and as a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the AU. The MoU provides the following framework:

- core values concerning security, stability, development and co-operation
- commitments to give effect to these core values
- key performance indicators to evaluate compliance with the commitments in the MoU
- a framework of implementation as a means of carrying out the commitments contained in the MoU
- an agreed mechanism for measuring performance.

The second OAU-Civil Society Conference on Developing Partnership between the OAU and civil society organisations, held in Addis Ababa from 11 to 14 June 2002, provided various input and recommendations to the MoU. These recommendations by civil society were reflected in a report to the Heads of State and Government during the Summit in Durban.

While the strategic focus of the CSSDCA process is to ensure good governance in the political and economic realm as well as to provide the framework for development and co-operation in Africa, NEPAD serves as the socio-economic development blueprint for the AU to implement its objectives. In addition, it provides the mechanism for accelerating implementation of the Abuja Treaty, and, at the same time, its management structures are particularly designed to ensure follow-up and

implementation in the transition phase from the OAU to the AU.

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 UN sanctions against UNITA.

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.

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 (JCC) with Angola.

The Chief of the South African National Defence Force, General Siphwe Nyanda, together with the South African Ambassador to Angola, Mr Tony Msimanga, represented

South Africa at the signing ceremony of the cease-fire agreement between the Angolan armed forces and UNITA on 4 April 2002.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

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 the past few years, South Africa participated in various bilateral consultations with parties to the conflict, to promote the peace process in the DRC.

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.

It was announced in February 2002 that South Africa would send more troops to the DRC as part of a UN observer mission. About 25 staff officers and 48 military police officers were deployed at the UN Observer Mission headquarters in Kinshasa.

The Inter-Congolese Dialogue at Sun City, South Africa, from February to April 2002, provided the necessary impetus for the inclusive process towards peace and stability.

A major ground-breaking peace agreement brokered by South Africa was signed between the governments of DRC and Rwanda at the end of July 2002. This agreement will pave the way for Rwandan troop withdrawal from the DRC, disarming and repatriation of the Interahamwe and ex-FAR.

Lesotho

In 2001, South Africa and Lesotho celebrated the establishment of the Maluti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) with the signing of a historic MoU 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 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 MoU establishes a framework for co-operation between the two countries to conserve biological diversity and promote regional economic and sustainable development of the area.

The matter of South Africa assisting Lesotho with the destruction of surplus and redundant small arms was raised with President Mbeki during his visit to Lesotho on 19 April 2001. The United States of America's (US) Department of State made US\$2 million available during the 2001/02 for this purpose.

In November 2001, a total of 3 843 surplus and redundant small arms and light weapons of the Lesotho Defence Force were destroyed during a combined Kingdom of Lesotho/South African operation, entitled Operation Sardien.

The holding of a peaceful election in Lesotho has created prospects for peace and stability in the country. South Africa participated in a SADC Troika Observer Mission, which pronounced the elections of 25 May 2002 free and fair. Furthermore, numerous bilateral co-operation projects have been identified within the framework of the South Africa-Lesotho Joint Permanent Commission. South Africa also assisted Lesotho with a donors' conference in 2002.

Botswana

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 and expanding within the SADC regional context.

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

South African-based companies, following the trend in most African countries, are increasingly interested in linking up with and establishing a presence in Malawi, ranging from the finance, telecommunications and retail sector to those involved in the construction industry.

Information

South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho signed a Southern African Customs (SACU) agreement in October 2002.

The agreement provides formulas for the sharing of all import duties and excise revenue.

It supports the balanced development of the region and ensures that the economies of smaller member states are not destroyed by the strength of South Africa's economy.

An eight-year 'window period' will protect new industry and a more equitable revenue-sharing formula with a portion of the revenue weighed to lesser developed economies. During that period, the four smaller member states and not South Africa, are authorised to impose additional import duties to protect infant industries, enabling them to meet competition.

A SACU tribunal will rule on disputes or disagreements on the interpretation or application of the agreement.

A SACU secretariat will be set up in Windhoek, Namibia, to oversee the day-to-day affairs of the agreement.

Mauritius

Relations with Mauritius are on a very cordial footing, with Mauritius being one of South Africa's largest trading partners within the SADC. Mauritius is also a very popular destination for South African tourists.

Bilateral relations are also targeted at improving co-operation within the SADC framework.

Mauritius has assisted South Africa in its role as the OAU-mandated chair of the initiative of the countries of the region in facilitating the return of Comoros to constitutional order and democracy.

Mozambique

Mozambique is the 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, Limpopo (formerly the Northern Province), Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal and Mozambique is central to the economies of both countries.

Expanding these infrastructural links is a priority of government. The Maputo Development Corridor Project has already attracted substantial new investment in Mpumalanga, and is expected to boost the Mozambican economy to an equal extent. The recent decision to proceed with the construction of the Mozal II Aluminium Smelter in Maputo will also provide a substantial boost to the economies of both countries, while at the same time providing much-needed employment opportunities in Mozambique. The Industrial Development (IDC) Corporation recently indicated that it had committed a total of R20 billion to the implementation of various agriculture-related development projects in the Zambezi Valley of 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 achieving 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.

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

To this end, President Mbeki, accompanied by the relevant Ministers tasked with the implementation of various multibillion Rand bilateral macro-economic projects, undertook

an official visit to Mozambique in May 2002. President Mbeki utilised the opportunity to inform the Mozambican Government and population of the latest developments and initiatives related to the implementation of NEPAD. President Chissano voiced Mozambique's support for South Africa's role in the promotion of NEPAD initiatives.

The inauguration on 3 May 2002 of the construction of the multibillion Rand 900-km long natural gas pipeline from Inhambane in Mozambique to the petro-chemical plants of Sasol in Secunda, Mpumalanga, will provide further impetus to the strong bilateral relations between South Africa and Mozambique.

The N4 Platinum Highway, which was officially launched in February 2002, links the Maputo Harbour in Mozambique with Walvis Bay in Namibia, creating the first high-quality transcontinental route in sub-Saharan Africa.

This road will ultimately lead to better utilisation of road, maritime and rail transport infrastructure. Through this project, export and shipping times are reduced with as much as 10 shipping days while the distance by road between Johannesburg and Windhoek is shortened by some 500 km.

Since the two countries entered into a Joint Permanent Commission for Co-operation in 1994, more than 20 agreements covering different spheres of co-operation have been entered into. This includes agreements on fisheries, Maputo Harbour, agricultural development, demining and the Maputo Development Corridor.

Swaziland

The Maguga Dam, a joint project between Swaziland and South Africa on the Komati River, was officially opened by King Mswati III of Swaziland and the Deputy President of South Africa, Mr Jacob Zuma, in April 2002.

The Dam's construction forms part of the Komati River Basin Development Project jointly undertaken by Swaziland and South Africa to provide water for new irrigation as well as to improve the supply to existing irrigation in the two countries. The new irrigation is being devel-

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An important regional co-operation initiative between Mozambique, Swaziland and South Africa came into being at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, when they signed a water-sharing agreement governing the use of two of their shared rivers.

The Interim IncoMaputo Agreement, involving the Incomati and Maputo watercourses, immediately unlocked financial support for a major new irrigation development in Swaziland. This entails developing over 11 000 ha, which will create direct employment for 10 000 people.

The Agreement guarantees the water supply for the Mozambican capital of Maputo, enhancing economic and social stability in the subregion.

For the first time, Mozambique is provided with protection against overexploitation of the rivers by neighbours.

South Africa benefits as there is substantial scope for emerging small farmer development on the impoverished lower end of the Pongola River, which is part of the Maputo Watercourse.



oped in an area downstream of Maguga Dam in Swaziland and also in the Nkomazi area of Mpumalanga where some 1 100 small farmers will receive water from the Project's dams.

Tanzania

In an effort to implement the JCC signed between the governments of South Africa and Tanzania, plans were under way for an inter-departmental team to visit Tanzania during the second half of 2002. The team was expected to meet their counterparts to discuss specific areas of co-operation and possible projects to be undertaken.

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 on 10 May 1994. Zambia is South Africa's third largest trading partner in the SADC region. Both countries are taking advantage of existing bilateral agreements to foster relations, which is evident in the annual increase of trade and investment flow between them. South Africa, as the next OAU/AU Chair, will continue to enjoy the support of Zambia, that is relinquishing the OAU Chair, but will serve in the AU Troika for a year.

Uganda

Plans are under way to sign a JCC between the governments of South Africa and Uganda.

Kenya

There is a high level of engagement between South Africa and Kenyan institutions aimed at strengthening democratic and constitutional systems. Reciprocal visits have been undertaken by representatives of the South African Human Rights Commission and the Kenyan Constitutional Review Commission.

Zimbabwe

South Africa is part of the Commonwealth of

Nations and its policy on Zimbabwe is in line with the decisions made by the Commonwealth Chairpersons' Committee meeting held in March 2002 and specific aspects of the Commonwealth Observer Group Report on the elections in Zimbabwe. A need for reconciliation has been identified. Accordingly, President Mbeki and President Obasanjo of Nigeria were requested to promote a process of reconciliation between the two main political parties, ZANU-PF and the Movement for Democratic Change. Envoys were dispatched to Zimbabwe to facilitate the dialogue. Although the talks have been adjourned, the issue is being discussed with the leadership in Zimbabwe in the conviction that there is an urgent need for the people of that country to achieve national reconciliation.

Zimbabwe is an important neighbour of South Africa and as such, South Africa is committed to assist the people of that country in resolving their problems. A collapse of Zimbabwe will have serious consequences not only for South Africa but for the whole southern African region. South Africa also agreed to help Zimbabwe to deal with food shortages as well as to take the necessary measures to address the challenge of economic recovery.

South Africa also relies on the SADC Ministerial Group on Zimbabwe to continue with their work in the context of existing SADC decisions, which in many instances coincide with those taken by the Commonwealth.

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-build-

ing, especially to SADC countries, is a major instrument for promoting economic development, peace and stability, democracy and the African Renaissance on a regional basis.

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. Within the region, the SADC will of necessity remain the primary vehicle for South African policy and action to achieve regional economic development.

Originally known as the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, the SADC was formed in Lusaka, Zambia on 1 April 1980, following the adoption of the Lusaka Declaration. The Declaration and Treaty establishing the SADC was signed at the Summit of Heads of State and Government on 17 August 1992 in Windhoek, Namibia.

The aim of the SADC is to provide for regional peace and security, sectoral cooperation and an integrated regional economy. The SADC member states are Angola, Botswana, the DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Information

The Deputy President, Mr Jacob Zuma, on a working visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 7 March 2002, participated in the Third African Development Forum (ADF III) for Regional Integration.

ADF is an initiative led by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to present the stakeholders in Africa's development with current research and opinion on key development issues. The deliberations became the basis for drawing up shared goals and priorities for time-bound and country-specific action plans around which donor support is mobilised. Mechanisms are in place for African countries and the ADF to monitor and follow up agreed actions at country level.

The ADF aims at improving policy outcomes and consistency, and enhances the effectiveness of aid. The Forum facilitates the sharing of ideas and experiences and strengthens networks and relationships among Africa's development stakeholders.

South Africa, through its Department of Foreign Affairs and other relevant departments, continues to actively participate in both the work of the SADC Review Committee as well as in contributing towards the SADC Plan of Action for the following 10 years, in particular its RISDP. The effective operationalisation of SADC's security/stability mechanism underpins the RISDP. Implementation of the RISDP within the context of NEPAD will enhance the standing of the region internationally and allow it to become the leading regional economic community on the continent.

President Mbeki led the South African delegation to the SADC Heads of State and Government Summit in Luanda, Angola from 2 to 3 October 2002. The Summit was preceded by the SADC Council of Ministers meeting, which was attended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma.

The meeting reviewed political and socio-economic developments within the region in 2001/02.

Operations of SADC institutions

The SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Maputo in August 1999 instructed that a review of the operations of the SADC institutions, including the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security, be undertaken. The resulting Report on the Review of the Operations of SADC Institutions was adopted by the Extraordinary Summit on 9 March 2001 in Windhoek. The salient features of the restructuring process include a more streamlined and centralised structure for the organisation that moves from the sectoral approach of the past, to an integrated and coordinated programme of activities for the region, namely:

- the formal introduction of a Troika arrangement, with the current, incoming and outgoing chairs being members of the Troika. The Summit, Council of Ministers and Standing Committee of Senior Officials, including the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security, will operate on the Troika basis.



- the abolishment of the current 19 Sector Co-ordinating Units and two Commissions (Energy Commission and the Southern African Transport and Telecommunications Commission) in favour of four directorates to be established in the socio-economic structure of the organisation, namely Trade, Industry, Finance, Investment and Mining; Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources; Infrastructure and Services (including Energy and Tourism); and Human and Social Development.
- the development of a five-year RISDP for the region. The main task of the newly established Integrated Committee of Ministers is to devise the RISDP and oversee its implementation.
- as the most crucial SADC process, the development of the RISDP will be aimed at the operationalisation of the restructuring process, intended to provide SADC member states, institutions and policy-makers with a coherent and comprehensive development agenda on social and economic policies over the next decade, with clear targets and time frames.
- the establishment of a Regional Development Fund for financing regional projects.
- the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security will be chaired on a rotational basis with a period of chairpersonship of one year. The Chair of the Organ will not simultaneously hold the Chairpersonship of SADC and will be accountable to the Chair of SADC and the Summit. The Organ will also function on a Troika basis.

Restructuring of the SADC

Since the adoption of the Report on the Review of the Operations of SADC institutions, the organisation has been involved with the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report. To this end, the SADC Secretariat, Sector Co-ordinating units, commissions as well as member states and SADC institutions have focused their energy and resources towards meeting the time frames for restructuring, as agreed upon at the

Summit. The successful conclusion of the restructuring exercise is certain to impact positively in the SADC region's quest to position the region favourably to collectively confront the myriad of challenges that confront developing countries.

The following progress has been made:

- At the August 2001 Summit held in Blantyre, Malawi, the Heads of State signed the Agreement Amending the Treaty of the SADC. The Agreement was submitted to the Secretariats of the UN and OAU for registration.
- In the rationalisation and centralisation of the responsibilities and functions of the Sector Co-ordinating units and other SADC institutions, the Directorate of Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (including Mining) was launched in August 2001. The Directorate of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources was launched on 7 December 2001 with five members.
- It agreed that the Directorate for Social and Human Development and Special Programmes would be launched in early August 2002 and the Directorate for Infrastructure and Services by December 2002.
- The Final Draft of the Report on the RISDP was expected before the end of 2002. Substantive amendments to Protocols and other legal instruments will be undertaken after completion of the RISDP.

The Report of the Ministers of Finance on the proposals for a new membership contribution formula was approved at the Zanzibar Council of Ministers Meeting. It agreed that the new formula together with performance budgeting should be applied from the 2003/04 cycle on a three-year rolling budget.

In view of the close relationship between the membership contribution formula and the self-financing mechanism, the Council approved that the SADC Task Force, which was created by the SADC Ministers of Finance to review the self-financing mechanism, be expanded to address issues related to the Regional Development Fund, mobilisation of resources for investments in the region and participation of stakeholders in the

Agreements concluded between March 2001 and April 2002

Date	Country	Title
10 March 2001	Japan	Exchange of Notes concerning the Study of the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises in KwaZulu-Natal
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement in Respect of Police Co-operation
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 on Institutional Co-operation in the Field of Agriculture
14 March 2001	Nigeria	Agreement on Scientific and Technological Co-operation
27 March 2001	Cuba	Agreement on Bilateral Co-operation in the Field of Sport and Recreation
27 March 2001	Cuba	Bilateral Air Services Agreement
28 March 2001	Cuba	Agreement Regarding Merchant Shipping and Related Matters
29 March 2001	Cuba	Agreement on Scientific and Technological Co-operation
30 March 2001	Cuba	Agreement on Co-operation in the Field of Health
18 April 2001	US	Agreement Concerning Exchange of Research and Development Information (Defence). Entered into force: 18 April 2001
19 April 2001	Lesotho	Agreement on the Establishment of a Joint Commission of Co-operation. Entered into force: 19 April 2001
19 April 2001	Lesotho	Treaty on Extradition
19 April 2001	Lesotho	Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters
19 April 2001	Mozambique	Agreement concerning Natural Gas Trade between South Africa and Mozambique
22 April 2001	Lesotho	Exchange of Notes to Amend Article 11(1) of the Treaty on the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. Effective from 1 January 2000
30 April 2001	India	Declaration of Intent in the Field of Health and Medicine
3 May 2001	Palestine	Executive Agreement on Co-operation in the Health Sphere
8 May 2001	US	Acquisition and Cross-servicing Agreement (Defence). Entered into force: 8 May 2001
10 May 2001	Sweden	Implementing Agreement on Local Government Development Support Programme in the Northern Cape 2001 – 2003. Entered into force: 10 May 2001
11 May 2001	Thailand	Trade Agreement. Entered into force: 11 May 2001
16 May 2001	Netherlands	Agreement on Social Security
23 May 2001	Rwanda	Declaration of Intent on Institutional Co-operation in the Field of Health
30 May 2001	France	Minutes of the First Session of the South African-Franco Cultural, Scientific and Technical Joint Commission
30 May 2001	Netherlands	Agreement regarding Mutual Administrative Assistance between the Customs Administrations for the Proper Application of Customs Law and the Prevention, Investigation and Combating of Customs Offences
31 May 2001	France	Agreement for Co-ordination of Search-and-Rescue Services. Entered into force: 31 May 2001
31 May 2001	France	Agreement on Development Co-operation
31 May 2001	France	Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters
31 May 2001	France	Agreement on Technical Co-operation
4 June 2001	Italy	Agreement Concerning the National Student Financial Aid Scheme
11 June 2001	Lesotho	Memorandum of Understanding in Respect of the Maluti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Conservation Area
20 June 2001	IUCN	Agreement on the establishment of an Office for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) in South Africa. Entered into force: 20 June 2001



Date	Country	Title
22 June 2001	Rwanda	Declaration of Intent concerning Bilateral Co-operation in the Field of Transport
2 July 2001	Finland	Project Agreement on Finnish Assistance to the Northern Province (now Limpopo) Rural Development Programme
9 July 2001	Norway	Agreement concerning Financial Support to the Destruction by the South African Police Service of Fire-arms and Ammunition. Entered in force: 9 July 2001
31 July 2001	France	Security Agreement Concerning Exchange of Classified Information in the Field of Defence. Entered into force: 31 July 2001
14 August 2001	Multilateral	Agreement Amending the Treaty of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)
16 August 2001	Canada	Memorandum of Understanding concerning the South African Teacher Development Project. Entered into force: 16 August 2001
17 August 2001	Namibia	Memorandum of Understanding on the Process Leading to the Establishment of the Ais-Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Conservation Park
28 August 2001	Flanders	Memorandum of Understanding on Development Co-operation
10 September 2001	Japan	Exchange of Notes concerning the Second Project for Construction of Primary and Junior Secondary Schools in the Eastern Cape
11 September 2001	Denmark	Bilateral Air Service Agreement
11 September 2001	Denmark	Exchange of Notes Relating to the Designation of Airlines in Terms of Article Three of the Air Services Agreement
11 September 2001	Multilateral	Memorandum of Understanding on Air Services between the RSA, Denmark, Norway and Sweden
11 September 2001	Norway	Bilateral Air Service Agreement
11 September 2001	Norway	Exchange of Notes Relating to the Designation of Airlines in terms of Article Three of the Air Services Agreement
11 September 2001	Sweden	Bilateral Air Services Agreement
11 September 2001	Sweden	Exchange of Notes relating to the Designation of Airlines in terms of Article Three of the Air Services Agreement
24 September 2001	UN	Memorandum of Understanding Contributing Resources to the United Nations Organisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC). Entered into force: 5 April 2001
28 September 2001	Sweden	Agreement on General Terms and Conditions for Development Co-operation (1 September 2002 – 31 December 2005)
1 November 2001	Denmark	Agreement on Financial Assistance to the Project: KwaZulu-Natal Literacy Initiative. Entered into force: 1 October 2001
13 November 2001	Finland	Agreement on General Terms and Procedure for Development Co-operation
19 November 2001	Algeria	Agreement on Extradition
19 November 2001	Algeria	Agreement on Institutional Co-operation in the Field of Agriculture
19 November 2001	Algeria	Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters
19 November 2001	Algeria	Agreement Regarding Co-operation on Phytosanitary Matters
19 November 2001	Algeria	Framework Agreement on Co-operation in the Fields of Fisheries and Marine and Coastal Management
19 November 2001	Algeria	Protocol on Co-operation in the Areas of Technological Expertise, Capacity-building and Training Programmes, Joint Ventures, the Exchange of Information and Investment Programmes in the Water and Forestry Sectors
26 November 2001	Burundi	Memorandum of Understanding Concerning the South African Mission in Support of the Implementation of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi. Entered into force: 26 October 2001
10 December 2001	China, People's Rep of	Treaty on Extradition

Date	Country	Title
15 December 2001	Russian Federation	Protocol on Co-operation in the Fields of Arts and Culture for the Year 2002 – 2004. Entered into force: 15 December 2001
16 January 2002	Japan	Exchange of Notes on the Project for the Improvement of Health Facilities in KwaZulu-Natal
31 January 2002	China, People's Rep of	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Public Service and Administration of the Republic of South Africa and the Ministry of Personnel of the People's Republic of China on Co-operation in the Fields of Human Resources Development and Public Administration. Entered into force: 31 January 2002
6 February 2002	Iran	Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Co-operation in the Field of Sport
6 February 2002	New Zealand	Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income
25 February 2002	France	Administrative Arrangement pertaining to Tourism between the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of the Republic of South Africa and the Minister of Equipment, Transport and Housing of the French Republic. Entered into force: 25 February 2002
28 February 2002	Tunisia	Bilateral Agreement for the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection on Investments
13 March 2002	Italy	Agreement on Co-operation in the Fields of Arts, Culture, Education and Sport
13 March 2002	Italy	Memorandum of Understanding in the Field of Health in Gauteng province
18 March 2002	Mozambique	Agreement regarding Mutual Assistance between their Customs Administrations
28 March 2002	Nigeria	Agreement on Co-operation in the Field of Health and Medical Science
22 April 2002	Portugal	Agreement on Police Co-operation

financing of the development programmes and projects in the region, in line with subsidiarity.

In the second half of 2002, SADC member states were in the process of establishing and launching their National Committees. These Committees will improve co-ordination between member states and the Secretariat, particularly the directorates, in the areas of policy development, implementation, reporting, monitoring and evaluation.

The Protocol establishing the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security was signed in Blantyre on 14 August 2002. All countries in the region are in the process of ratifying the Organ Protocol. In Blantyre, an Organ Troika consisting of Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe was elected.

The Interstate Politics and Diplomacy Committee (ISPDC) and Interstate Defence

and Security Committee (ISDSC) are being formalised as part of the Organ structures. The ISDSC is finalising a SADC Mutual Defence Pact that will contribute towards providing regional security in times of inter and intrastate conflict and should security threats originate from outside the region.

An Organ Ministerial Meeting in Luanda, Angola in December 2001 looked closely at the issue of terrorism. A Draft SADC Declaration on Terrorism, which was expected to be signed late in 2002, was formulated. The Declaration recognises the effect terrorism has had on the region and unites the region against this scourge. In addition, a call was made for the SADC member states to ratify the OAU Convention on Terrorism and to recognise this Convention as an African position on the issue of combating terrorism.



Implementation of the SADC Trade Protocol

The SADC Protocol on Trade entered into force on 25 January 2000. The objectives of the Trade Protocol are to further liberalise intraregional trade in goods and services on the basis of fair, mutually equitable and beneficial trade arrangements; ensure efficient production within the SADC, reflecting the current and dynamic comparative advantages of its members; contribute towards the improvement of a climate for domestic, cross border and foreign investment; enhance the economic development, diversification and industrialisation of the region; and establish a FTA in the SADC region. At the core of this agreement is the reduction and ultimate elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers and the setting up of Rules of Origin. This will happen over a period of eight years after the ratification of the Protocol by member states.

However, the realisation of the Protocol's objectives will not be easy as evidenced by the protracted negotiations and delays in implementation by member states. One of the major constraints cited by analysts on the subject is the vast economic disparity between member states.

Since the signing of the Trade Protocol, several rounds of negotiations have taken place. The main issues around which the negotiations centered were modalities for tariff reduction and tariff structure; Rules of Origin; harmonisation, simplification and standardisation for SADC customs; and trade documentation.

Much attention has been paid to the issue of Rules of Origin. SADC member states agreed that the implementation of all categories of the tariff reduction schedules, as indicated in their offers, should commence on 1 September 2000. The second cut was to be made on 1 January 2001 and thereafter on an annual basis. Given sensitive industries such as textile and clothing, a Textile and Clothing Committee was established. Its responsibilities were to monitor allocations of quotas and compliance with export procedures.

On the issue of customs co-operation and trade facilitation, member states agreed on the harmonisation, simplification and standardisation of SADC customs and trade documentation and procedures.

SADC member states undertook to deposit their instruments of implementation of the SADC Trade Protocol before or on 1 September 2000. South Africa and Mauritius were the first member states to sign and deposit their instruments of implementation of the SADC Trade Protocol. All member states, with the exception of Angola, the DRC and Seychelles, have now deposited their instruments of implementation of the Trade Protocol.

Negotiations are continuing on the outstanding issues of Rules of Origin and particularly in those areas where consensus has not been reached. South Africa maintains the position that each chapter under the Harmonised Systems Code should have a product-specific rule. This formulation will ensure the effective administration of the agreement by customs authorities and provide exporters with a single, clear set of Rules of Origin for each chapter. For clothing and textiles, the Rules of Origin tabled by South Africa were based on a two-stage transformation rule that is similar to the Rules of Origin contained in the South Africa-European Union (EU) Agreement on Trade, Development and Co-operation. In practical terms, it means that clothing will be originating only if the fabrics used are manufactured in the SADC region.

After the Committee of Ministers for Trade directed the SADC trade-negotiating forum to discuss product-specific Rules of Origin and negotiate their specific formulation, the non-Southern African Customs Union SADC member states accepted the product-specific Rules of Origin with the exception of those applying to the clothing and textile sector.

SADC relations with international co-operating partners

The SADC's main international co-operating

partners are the EU and the US. In this regard, the SADC-US Forum was established in 1999 to identify projects of mutual benefit. This Forum meets annually for discussions on the political and security situation in the region, and to identify, evaluate, and assess progress in areas of co-operation agreed upon. It is focused on the building of capacity towards the implementation of the SADC Trade Protocol and FTA. The main focus of co-operation of the SADC-US Forum is in the spheres of non-proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and mine action programmes.

Co-operation with other regional organisations such as the Nordic countries and SADC-MERCOSUR remains to be fully realised.

There is a need for the SADC to establish closer co-operation with other regional economic organisations on the continent, e.g. Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), to promote cohesion and harmonisation of common approaches to Africa's challenges.

Relations with central Africa

Rwanda

Relations between South Africa and Rwanda are good. Co-operation between the two countries focuses on the post-conflict reconstruction of Rwanda and has extended to the co-ordination of NEPAD on the continent. The Second JCC was scheduled to take place in Kigali during the second half of 2002.

A study tour visit to South Africa by the Rwandan Peace and Reconciliation Commission further indicates the close co-operation and commitment between the two countries to restore lasting peace in Rwanda.

Burundi

Although the Transitional Government consisting of 19 parties, which are signatories to the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, appears to be established

and gradually gaining the support of the majority of the Burundian population, the situation, however, remains relatively fluid and volatile.

The deployment of the South African Protection Service Detachment (SAPSD) in Burundi initially elicited some mixed reaction from the local population but the situation has since changed and the deployment is viewed positively. It constitutes a significant confidence-building measure as well as a strong consolidation of the peace process. The UN Security Council visited South Africa in April 2002 and expressed appreciation and support for South Africa's commitment to the Burundi peace process, and the deployment of the SAPSD in particular. South Africa's Ambassador to Rwanda has been accredited as non-resident Ambassador to Burundi and a South African Liaison Office has been established in Bujumbura.

Two international donor conferences were held in Paris and Geneva in 2000 and 2001. The donor community pledged an amount of US\$732 million to support the peace process. A total amount of R270 235 million in donor funding has been received, including undertakings for deposits. Contributions in this regard were received from Belgium (R54 866 million), EU (R76 469 million), the Netherlands (R44 million), United Kingdom (UK) (R25,2 million) and the US (R58,3 million).

A South African interdepartmental team including relevant parastatals visited Burundi in May 2002 to evaluate and assess the potential areas of co-operation in development and investment. Deputy President Zuma has engaged the regional leaders in the peace process.

Negotiations between the Transitional Government of Burundi and the National Council for the Defence of Democracy are ongoing. The negotiations are chaired by the Deputy President. Both the Transitional Government and the CNDD-FDD (Nkurunziza) affirmed their commitment to working towards an urgent agreement.



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

South Africa maintains diplomatic relations with all states in the west African subregion, although it maintains residential diplomatic missions in only Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire. Of these missions, the South African embassies in Abidjan and Dakar are responsible for South Africa's non-residential relationship with the rest of the west African subregion. The placement of South Africa's diplomatic missions in this area represents firstly the importance South Africa attaches to those states as partners in Africa, and secondly to use these as a platform for the further expansion of South Africa's diplomatic reach into the subregion. As an example, while Dakar has been responsible for the management of South Africa's relations with Mali, the Department of Foreign Affairs is in the process of establishing a new residential diplomatic mission in Mali's capital, Bamako.

In deepening ties with Francophone West Africa, President Mbeki paid a State visit to Mali in November 2001. South Africa assisted Mali with substantial logistic support in their effort to successfully host the 2002 African Cup of Nations soccer tournament in January and February 2002.

States in west Africa that are on the path towards reinforcing a democratic culture, such as Ghana, Senegal, Benin, Sierra Leone, Cape Verde and Mali, is a positive development for South Africa. Sierra Leone and Niger, both emerging from difficult periods, also represent a potential for democratic consolidation.

Structured relationships with other countries in the region have been proposed for 2002/03. In this manner, South Africa will begin to bridge its long-distance relationship with west Africa by being able to engage in

more meaningful actions in the subregion in terms of political dialogue and economic co-operation. The business community in South Africa is demonstrating a keen interest in the subregion, and has been actively exploring and taking advantage where possible of opportunities in mining, infrastructure, telecommunications and financial services, as well as trade of consumer goods and capital equipment.

Algeria

The political relations between the South African liberation movement and Algeria dates back to the fifties and sixties. The South African Embassy was established in Algiers in November 1997.

A number of agreements have been signed between South Africa and Algeria.

President Mbeki led a South African delegation to the third session of the South Africa-Algeria BNC in Algiers in October 2002.

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 fifth session in Egypt in October 2001.

Nigeria

South Africa is committed to the support of and close co-operation with the Government of President Obasanjo.

South Africa's bilateral and multilateral relationship with Nigeria remains of strategic importance, particularly in the light of the development and promotion of NEPAD (Nigeria serves as the Chair of the Heads of State Implementation Committee of NEPAD), as well as in the evolution of mechanisms around the AU. At bilateral level, trade relations continue to increase, with the total of two-way trade reaching R3,3 billion in 2001. South African companies continue to establish themselves in a

number of sectors (e.g. hospitality, financial services, communications and energy) in the Nigerian market. The South Africa-Nigeria Binational Commission (BNC) which was established in October 1999, held its fourth Session in Pretoria in March 2002. The Commission has expanded to include 17 State departments in its multisectoral activities while 15 bilateral technical agreements are in place. A planned State visit by President Obasanjo to South Africa in May 2002, was deferred due to a civil aviation disaster in Kano, Nigeria.

Information

From August 26 to 4 September 2002, South Africa successfully hosted the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg. On August 23, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma handed over the WSSD conference facilities to the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General for the WSSD, Mr Nitin Desai.

The hand-over was held in the context of the Host Country Agreement signed by Minister Dlamini Zuma on behalf of South Africa and the UN in New York. The Agreement enabled South Africa to hand over to the jurisdiction of the UN all conference facilities for the duration of the WSSD.

A large number of Heads of State and Government attended. The official UN Summit provided for the active participation of representatives of, among others, youth, women, trade unions, business and governments.

In addition to the events at the Sandton Convention Centre, hundreds of parallel events took place elsewhere in Johannesburg and in other South African cities such as the Civil Society Global Forum, the International Youth Summit, the Indigenous Peoples International Summit, the International Local Government Conference, the Global Judges Symposium and the Business Forum *Lekgotla*.

The Inter-parliamentary Union held a two-day event entitled *Sustainable Development: The Role of Parliaments in Ensuring Implementation and Accountability*.

In order to provide for the world-wide requests to exhibit sustainable development best-practice projects, a tented city called the Ubuntu Village was constructed. At the centre of the Ubuntu Village was the 11 000 m² 'Tensile One', the world's biggest tent. The Ubuntu Village, which was open to the public, was the venue for talks, conferences, launches and cultural events.

The Randburg Dome was transformed into 'The Water Dome' by the global water and sanitation sector and was the gathering place for government and non-government water and sanitation stakeholders.

The main objective of the South Africa-Nigeria BNC is to lay a firm foundation for co-operation and partnership between both countries within the broader objectives of the AU. 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 is the promotion of trade between the two countries.

In March 2002, Deputy President Zuma hosted Vice-President Atiku Abubakar of Nigeria and a delegation for the Fourth South Africa-Nigeria BNC. Four agreements on co-operation in the field of extradition, mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, immigration and health were signed. This brought to 15 the number of bilateral agreements concluded between South Africa and Nigeria. In addition, three MoUs were signed on sport, communication, postal services and science and technology.

Ghana

Ghana represents an island of stability in the 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.

President Mbeki visited Accra, Ghana during September 2002 for the ECOWAS meeting.

Senegal

Representative offices were established in November 1993 in Pretoria and Dakar. Full diplomatic relations between South Africa and Senegal were established in May 1994. After having closed its Embassy in Pretoria in December 1995, the Senegalese authorities re-established an Embassy in Pretoria during 2001.

The South African Ambassador is resident in Dakar, Senegal. The Ambassador is accredited-



ited to Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Cape Verde, Gambia and Guinea-Bissau on a non-residential basis.

Senegal continues to play a very active role in the development and implementation of NEPAD, given the added fact that it is the current Chair of ECOWAS. At bilateral level, ties have deepened with the recent visit of the Senegalese Minister of Transport, as well as a delegation from the Senegalese investment agency, APIX. South Africa actively participated in the 2002 Senegal International Book Fair, and the mission is providing support to a project aimed at updating the Senegalese history and geography curriculum on South Africa.

Tunisia

The Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Alec Erwin, co-chaired the Second Session of the South African-Tunisian Business Forum, which was held in Johannesburg in February 2002, with the Tunisian Trade Minister, Mr Tahar Sioud. The second half of the Business Forum was hosted by the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce.

The first South African-Tunisian Business Forum was held in Tunis during April 2001, as part of the 3rd session of the Joint Bilateral Commission between South Africa and Tunisia. The Business Forum was created to increase the volume of trade between the two countries and establish mutually beneficial business relations.

Since official relations between the countries have been established, there has been a marked increase in trade from R8 million in 1993 to more than R71 million in 2001.

Libya

The Libya-South Africa Joint Bilateral Commission reviewed the two countries' good bilateral relations and co-operation in various fields during President Thabo Mbeki's official visit to that country in June 2002.

President Mbeki and Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Al-Qaddafi, also held discussions and exchanged views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual concern.

This included condemning the escalating violence in the Middle-East and all forms of terrorism.

The two leaders emphasised the need for a UN-led process to develop an internationally acceptable definition of terrorism.

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. From within the Asian region, 17 countries have residential missions in South Africa.

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.

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 trade in 2000 amounting to R2,9 billion.

Singapore is an important economic and trading hub in the south-east Asian region and continues to play a major role in providing HRD training opportunities.

Thailand currently chairs the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), after having taken over the Chair from South Africa in April 2001, and a trade agreement has been signed. Bilateral trade in 2000 amounted to R4,2 billion.

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 2000 amounted to R206 million. Vietnam has also established an Embassy in Pretoria and a bilateral trade agreement has been signed. The year 2002 has seen a visit by the Vietnamese Vice-Minister of Trade, LE DahnVihn.

Economic relations with Malaysia and Indonesia remain important owing to Malaysian investment in South Africa and the size of the Indonesian market. Malaysian investment has focused on the hospitality, telecommunications and the energy industries while trade with Malaysia amounted to R3,1 billion in 2000.

The main exports to Malaysia are semi-precious stones, base metals, chemical products, wood pulp products as well as vegetables while the main imports are vegetable fats and oils, machinery and electrical appliances, plastics, transport equipment, wood and wood products.

South Africa and Malaysia enjoy close co-operation within the multilateral field in fora such as the Commonwealth and the NAM.

Malaysia continues to be very supportive of South Africa's efforts to enhance South-South co-operation and to ensure that the needs of the South are addressed in international forums.

Malaysia has also indicated its support for NEPAD and has sought to promote the Malaysian-initiated Langkawi International Dialogue aimed at expanding co-operation among countries of the South including those in southern Africa.

Through its intensive Technical Co-operation Programme, Malaysia has provided HRD training opportunities to numerous South Africans across a wide range of disciplines. South Africa and Malaysia co-operate closely in sharing technological expertise especially with regard to information and communication technology. Malaysia is also assisting in the process of uplifting disadvantaged communities in South Africa through housing projects.

Another project is one that aims at providing women with the necessary entrepreneurial skills to empower them economically.

The events of 11 September 2001 focused the world's attention on Afghanistan and the international campaign against international terrorism. South Africa continues to monitor developments and encourages the involvement of South African individuals and companies to become involved in reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan.

South Africa has also encouraged peace efforts in Sri Lanka and Kashmir.

A number of South Africans have participated in and benefited from training programmes conducted by countries such as India and Pakistan. A number of cultural groups from India visited South Africa.

South Africa has provided training to military officers from both India and Pakistan.

In March 2001, South Africa attended the successful fourth session of the South Africa-India Joint Ministerial Commission in Delhi. The two sides underlined the traditionally close and friendly ties between India and South Africa, which are committed to being part of a strategic partnership. The two sides signed, among other things, a Programme of Co-operation in Science and Technology and a Cultural Exchange Programme for 2001 to 2003 and agreed to set up a Joint Working Group on Information Technology. Trade between the two countries exceeded R5,4 billion in 2001, with the balance in South Africa's favour.

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.

With regard to Fiji, South Africa was, through the appointment of Justice Pius Langa, instrumental in assisting Fiji in the process of democratisation following the ousting of the legitimate government in May 2000 in a coup.

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 in New Zealand. The establishment of a resident High Commission in Wellington is expected.

Since 1994, political, economic and social links between the two countries have improved significantly. In 1996, the Cape Town Communiqué was signed which seeks to strengthen co-operation between South Africa and New Zealand. The political relationship has been further strengthened by numerous high-level delegations that have visited New Zealand to gain expertise in their different fields and exchange knowledge to enhance capacity-building in central, provincial and local government structures.

Three Ministerial visits took place during 2001/02 by the Minister of State, Judith Tizard, followed by the Minister of Justice, Margaret Wilson, and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Phil Goff. These visits are an indication of New Zealand's wish to build upon and further intensify the cordial relationship that exists between the two countries.

South Africa and New Zealand enjoy wide-ranging multilateral relations. Both are members of the Valdivia Group that aims to promote southern hemisphere views in international environmental meetings and the enhancement of scientific co-operation. They enjoy a close working relationship within the context of the Antarctic Treaty and Indian Ocean Fisheries and also interact within the

context of the WTO and the Cairns Group. South Africa and New Zealand also work closely together on Commonwealth issues, particularly those affecting Africa.

Bilateral trade between the two countries has been growing steadily since 1994 with South Africa exporting motor vehicles, petroleum, paper, fertilisers, fruit, plastics, machinery, as well as iron and steel while New Zealand exports casein, meat, transmission apparatus, dairy products, and electrical machinery. Currently, the trade balance is in New Zealand's favour. South African exports in 2000 totalled R3,5 billion and R3,8 billion in 2001. South African imports in 2000 totalled R4,9 billion and R5,9 billion in 2001.

Bilateral relations with the People's Republic of China (PRC) have expanded substantially since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1998.

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 Jiang Zemin and President Mbeki in April 2000. The Declaration, among other things, established a high-level BNC between the two countries. In an effort to address the problem of transnational crime, South Africa and China concluded an Agreement on Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance in December 2001.

Total bilateral trade between China and South Africa reached R12 billion in 2001 with the balance in favour of the PRC.

The inaugural meeting of the BNC coincided with a successful State visit by President Mbeki to China in December 2001. During proceedings of the BNC's first meeting in Beijing, President Mbeki, China's President Zemin and members of Cabinet of both countries explored possible ways in which relations between South Africa and China may be strengthened. China's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Tang Jiaxuan, offered his country's support for NEPAD during discussions held in Pretoria with the Minister of Foreign Affairs in January 2002.

In an effort to promote tourism from China, the authorities in Beijing have offered to extend Approved Destination (ADS) to South Africa. The terms of an ADS agreement are being discussed and once it has been concluded, there should be a significant increase in the number of tourists from China.

Hong Kong continues to be an important gateway to China and much of South Africa's trade with the PRC is channelled through the territory. During his visit to Hong Kong in December 2001, President Mbeki held discussions with prominent administrators and business people in the Special Administrative Region. A significant number of South African companies and financial institutions maintain offices in Hong Kong and South African Airways operate direct flights to the territory from Johannesburg.

In 2001, the African Business Chamber was established, which serves as a forum for the discussion of ways in which business ties between Hong Kong and African countries may be strengthened.

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 October 2001, President Mbeki paid a State visit to Japan. In Tokyo, he met with Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and Emperor Akihito to discuss joint efforts to expand relations between the two countries. A Joint Communiqué issued during the visit provides for a framework for future co-operation, both bilaterally and multilaterally.

Japan granted South Africa an overseas development assistance package of \$1,5 billion in 1994 and again in 1999. South Africa's bilateral trade with Japan in 2001 totalled R23,5 billion with the balance in Japan's favour. Direct Japanese investment in South Africa, including investment committed publicly, is valued at more than R6 billion.

Japan, through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) process, is supportive of the objectives of NEPAD. Discussions are continuing to find synergies between the two processes.

In December 2001, the Minister of Foreign Affairs attended a TICAD Ministerial-level meeting in Tokyo, which was hosted by Japan, the UNDP and international donor partners to discuss progress towards TICAD III, which is scheduled for 2003.

In 2001, South Africa and Japan held the fourth Partnership Forum meeting to discuss bilateral and multilateral relations. The Partnership Forum was established in 1998 when then Deputy President Mbeki visited Japan. The Forum establishes a formal framework to reflect on relations between South Africa and Japan.

South Korea is an important trade partner of South Africa. In 2001, bilateral trade was in the amount of R7 billion. South Korea has assisted South Africa in the field of HRD.

In 2001, the five-year Executive Development Programme for South African government officials in the Republic of Korea came to an end. This Programme gave approximately 100 senior South African officials the opportunity to experience the South Korean development experience. Furthermore, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea presided over the formal handing-over ceremony at the Indlela Trade Testing Centre in Ollifantsfontein, Gauteng.

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) as well as 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 diplomatic representation and activities in this region where formally it formerly 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. By mid-2002, it had non-residential diplomatic accreditation in Bahrain, Yemen, Qatar, Syria and Oman. With the exception of Bahrain, all the countries in this region are diplomatically 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.

Before 1994, South Africa's relations with the Middle East were characterised by a lack of region-wide diplomatic representation with a concentration only on links with Israel. After the advent of democracy 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 a just, equitable and comprehensive peace process in the Middle East and an end to the illegal occupation of land that has led to conflict and violence for the peoples of the region. Peace and security for the Israelis and for the Palestinians cannot be achieved without the fulfilment of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination within their own sovereign State. South Africa, as Chair of the NAM, has been acting on a mandate to interact with leading role-players in an effort to

find a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Based on its own experiences, South Africa continues to maintain that violence can never provide solutions on 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 parties involved.

South Africa aims to utilise its political access in the region 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 foreign direct investment (FDI), which is essential if NEPAD is to succeed.

Overall bilateral trade between South Africa and the Middle East increased in Rand terms from R32,059 billion in 2000 to R35,503 billion in 2001. 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 2001, South Africa's trade with that region represented 7,54% 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 ex-patriates 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, avoidance of double taxation, protection of investments, scientific co-operation and defence agreements.

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

In light of the unprecedented humanitarian crisis in Iraq, the South African Government, through the Department of Foreign Affairs, assisted various civil society organisations under the umbrella of the Iraq Action Committee, to send a humanitarian flight to Baghdad in June 2001. It was intended as a powerful international statement about the widespread conditions of human suffering prevailing in Iraq and the need for the international community to address the cause of these.

In January 2002, President Mbeki hosted a Peace Retreat at Spier Estate, Cape Town. The participants were current and former South African Ministers and Israeli and Palestinian negotiators. The Retreat demonstrated the spirit of commitment to dialogue and partnership for peace between the three parties present and was outlined in the Spier Three Party Communiqué.

The South African and Iranian Ministers of Foreign Affairs co-chaired the 6th South Africa and Iran Joint Commission in Tehran in February 2002.

South Africa and Iran have already signed 11 agreements to expand their relations and a MoU on Co-operation Against Drug Trafficking and an Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Agreement were negotiated during the Joint Commission.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs was invited to attend the Arab Summit in March 2002 in Beirut.

Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Althani, the Amir of the State of Qatar, undertook a State visit to South Africa in May 2002. The aims of the visit included discussing the establishment of a Business Council between

the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the two countries, which was proposed by Qatar and submitted to the Johannesburg Chamber for consideration.

The opening of embassies by Qatar in Pretoria and South Africa in Doha was also discussed.

Relations with the Americas

United States of America

During 2001/02, the focus of South Africa's bilateral relations with the US was consolidating and reaffirming the existing relationship with the new US administration under President George W Bush.

The events of 11 September 2001 served to reinforce South African-US relations in that it created a new awareness of the need for international co-operation, and the importance of strengthening relations at the bilateral and multilateral levels, particularly on developmental issues, as means of promoting international peace, security and stability. In the aftermath of September 11, the international fight against terrorism added a new dimension to the bilateral relationship. In line with South Africa's commitment to this fight, South Africa and the US co-operated both bilaterally and multilaterally. On 11 September 2002, several events were held in South Africa to commemorate the attacks on New York and Washington.

The promotion of economic relations with the US, particularly trade and investment, remained a central element of the bilateral relationship in 2001. The trade relationship continued to expand, with total trade for 2001 in excess of US\$7,25 billion, making the US South Africa's largest single trading partner. South Africa expanded its exports to the US under the General System of Preferences (GSP) Programme through the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) in 2001, the value of which was in excess of US\$400 million. The Minister of Foreign Affairs also led the South African delegation to the AGOA Ministerial



meeting in October 2001 where South Africa expressed support for the Act and encouraged the US to further assist African countries to achieve sustainable socio-economic development through trade, increased technical assistance, and economic capacity-building programmes. The AGOA also served to stimulate investment in South Africa from those wishing to export products to the US, while US companies such as Ford continued to expand their operations in 2001.

Bilateral areas of focus for 2002/03 will continue to be the Bilateral Co-operation Forum; combating international terrorism and anti-crime and justice co-operation; building support and understanding for NEPAD and the transition from the OAU to the AU within the US Administration and Congress; and supporting the expansion of trade and investment, particularly through the AGOA and mechanisms such as the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement.

President Mbeki visited the US during September 2002 for several important events. This included participating in the official commemoration service for the victims of the 11 September 2001 attacks, and addressing the UN General Assembly and the High-level Special Session of the UN General Assembly on NEPAD.

The President also delivered the Chairman Report on the activities of the NAM to the Ministerial Meeting.

Canada

South Africa and Canada have good political and economic relations.

Canada is an important provider of development assistance to South Africa. The Canadian Government, through the Canadian International Development Agency, provides assistance in various areas, particularly those of good governance, HRD, strengthening civil society and economic development. Canada has also rendered valuable assistance in the fields of among other things, education and training, the environment and justice.

Considerable co-operation has taken place between the two countries on multilateral level and within international fora. More recently, Canada has taken a strong lead in co-ordinating the action of G-8 countries in response to NEPAD.

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

The Caribbean

South Africa's relations with the independent member states of the Caribbean Community were strengthened and expanded in 2001/02 through the fully operational South African High Commission in Kingston, Jamaica. In addition to Jamaica, the High Commission also maintains responsibility for Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

In 2002, the Minister of Transport, Mr Dullah Omar, paid a second visit to Grenada to assist them with their truth and reconciliation process and to discuss future transportation links between the two countries.

The Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Ms Joyce Mabudafhasi, attended the Third Forum on Co-operation between Latin American countries, the Caribbean and Africa on the Prevention of Desertification held in Caracas, Venezuela.

The relations with the Caribbean received an additional boost with the decision that South Africa would host the 2003 Cricket World Cup. With the high priority cricket receives in the Caribbean, it can be expected that a substantial increase in tourism from the region to South Africa will take place. (See chapter: *Sport and Recreation*.)

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. Diplomatic relations with the Dominican Republic were formally established in May 2002. 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.

The visit by the Deputy President of Colombia and Mexico in 2001 resulted in closer co-operation in the war on drugs, resulting in the signing of a Letter of Intent to fight this scourge. This co-operation was regarded as important since South African citizens are increasingly being used as couriers in the illegal narcotics trade.

The first Joint Bilateral Commission on economic, scientific, technical and business co-operation between Cuba and South Africa took place in 2001 during which an agreement on co-operation in water resources was signed.

In April 2002, the first meeting of the Consultative Mechanism between the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs was held in Pretoria to discuss an array of political bilateral and multilateral issues.

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 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, a Framework Agreement for the Creation of a FTA between South Africa and Mercosur was signed by the Minister of Trade and Industry. 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 FTA. The first talks towards the establishment of a FTA were held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in October 2001 with the next round scheduled for June 2002.

Relations with Europe

South Africa's bilateral relations with Europe have improved and expanded significantly since 1994. The scope of South Africa's relations has deepened continuously in both the context of high-level political consultations and growth in terms of economic relations and development assistance. South Africa currently maintains diplomatic relations with virtually all countries in Europe. South Africa has 25 missions in Europe, which is represented by more than 50 embassies and consulates-general or trade missions in South Africa.

Europe also remains South Africa's largest trading partner and provides the biggest share of development assistance flowing into South Africa. In addition, Europe is also South Africa's main source of FDI and tourists. Some 45% of South Africa's total trade is conducted with Europe and South Africa is currently the third largest exporter to Europe after the signing of the SA-EU Trade, Development and Co-operation Agreement (TDCA). The TDCA underpins many areas that are of strategic importance to South Africa and, once fully operational, will contribute significantly to the country's economic growth.

Europe and Africa interact in the context of the Africa/Europe Summit, held in Cairo in 2001. On the regional level, the SADC interacts with Europe in the context of the Berlin process. Europe has strongly endorsed NEPAD



and various major role-players have appointed special representatives and identified strategic areas for co-operation to provide synergy to the objectives of NEPAD.

In order to enhance co-operation with European countries, a number of political and economic mechanisms, among other things, binational and economic commissions, were created with countries such as the UK, France, Germany, Spain 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.

Multilateral interaction with Europe is continuously taking place on issues such as economic globalisation, market access, debt relief, the reform of the UN Security Council, disarmament and human rights. The establishment of a constructive North-South dialogue is also of particular importance to South Africa.

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. Furthermore, the Russian Federation has been classified as South Africa's strategic partner in this region of the world.

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 worldwide. Relations with Germany continue to be excellent as is evidenced by the South Africa-

German BNC. The work of the Commission builds on the strong political, scientific, cultural, environmental and economic links between South Africa and Germany.

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, President Johannes Rau, arrived in South Africa on 21 January 2002 on his first official visit. This visit began with a meeting with President Mbeki, during which issues of mutual concern were discussed.

During 2002, new areas of co-operation with Finland and Norway were identified through existing discussion mechanisms. Science and technology relations with Finland and Norway have been promoted through several high-level Ministerial visits, especially in the field of information communication technology.

The South African-Swedish BNC was inaugurated in Stockholm in September 2000 by President Mbeki and Prime Minister Goran Persson. It met for the first time in October 2001 and was co-chaired by Deputy President Zuma and Deputy Prime Minister Hjelm-Wallen. Trade between the two countries has increased to over R4 billion.

During May 2002, President Mbeki led a delegation to the South African-Nordic Summit on the west coast of Norway.

The Summit consisted of meetings between President Mbeki and the Prime Ministers of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

Items on the Agenda included the transition from the OAU to the AU, assessment of the progress of NEPAD and Nordic and international support for it, and South African-Nordic relations, investment, technology transfers and financial support.

President Mbeki's visit also included an audience with Norwegian King Harald V and an address on NEPAD at the University of Oslo.

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 non-governmental organisations.

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 continues to be South Africa's largest single foreign investor.

The President of the Republic of Italy, Mr Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, paid a State visit to South Africa from 12 to 15 March 2002.

President Mbeki conferred the Order of Good Hope, Class One, Gold on President Ciampi and President Ciampi conferred the highest Order of the Italian Republic, *Cavaliere di Gran Croce con Gran Cordone – Ordine al Merito della Repubblica* on President Mbeki.

A delegation from the Hellenic Republic of Greece, led by President Constantinos Stephanopoulos, paid a State visit to South Africa in October 2002.

Discussions between the two countries focused on the ratification of the South Africa-EU TDCA by the Hellenic Republic, which was set to take place at the end of 2002.

Multilateral diplomacy

South Africa is a full participant in the debates on global issues in international forums 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 SACU, 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

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)
- Executive Committee of the Programme of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (1997 – indefinite)
- 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 March 2002, President Mbeki led a government delegation to the UN's International Conference on Financing for Development,



which was held in Monterrey, Mexico. The Conference is generally regarded as an important event in the global campaign to eradicate poverty and promote economic development.

The Conference considered a draft document called *The Monterrey Consensus*, which will serve as a basis for discussions on all aspects of financing for development. The document also contains proposals for a regular follow-up review mechanism, building on the existing annual dialogue between the UN and the Bretton Woods Institutions, but also including the WTO, global business and civil society.

European Union

South Africa relates to the EU at various levels and in many forums. The most important of these relations is the bilateral relationship followed by the regional and continental dimensions. South Africa is also a signatory of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, which is the basis for co-operation between the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of states and the EU. Bilaterally, the TDCA governs South Africa's relations with the EU. At the regional and continental levels, several processes relate Africa (South Africa included and playing a very significant role) to the EU. These include the Cairo Process, the Cotonou Partnership Agreement and NEPAD.

Following the first democratic election in 1994, the Government decided to reintegrate into the world economy as a trading nation. To this end, South Africa needed to urgently spur its economic growth by attracting investments and securing market access for goods and products. The EU Council of Ministers then called for a package of immediate measures to support South Africa's transition to democracy. These measures included granting South Africa improved market access through the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) in the short term, with an offer to negotiate a long-term trade and co-operation agreement with the EU. Encouraged by this offer, South Africa requested to become a standard bene-

fiary of both the industrial and agricultural GSP offered to developing countries. South Africa also indicated preference to accede to the Lomé Convention, thus benefiting from the unilateral trade regime of the ACP states. The European Commission and the Council of Ministers of the EU rejected South Africa's request for a long-term trade arrangement under the aegis of the Lomé Convention. Instead, the EU Council of Ministers' meeting of June 1995 adopted negotiating directives proposing progressive and reciprocal liberalisation of trade with South Africa in order to establish a FTA.

After more than 20 formal sessions of negotiations, South Africa and the EU reached broad agreement on the contents of the TDCA in December 1998. The central component of the Agreement revolves around a tariff phase-down schedule for agricultural and industrial products. In terms of this agreed schedule, South Africa will eliminate tariffs on 86% of EU exports to South Africa over a period of 12 years. The EU in turn will eliminate tariffs on 95% of South African exports to the EU, over 10 years. In addition to the tariff liberalisation schedule, agreement was reached on the numerous articles dealing with trade-related issues such as intellectual property rights, competition policy and Rules of Origin. The parties also agreed to co-operate in a number of non-trade fields, such as the fight against drugs and money-laundering and the protection of data.

The finalised SA-EU TDCA was signed on 11 October 1999 and provisionally entered into force in January 2000. The TDCA now has to be ratified by all 15 EU member states. By mid-2002, the TDCA had been ratified by Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Germany, Finland and Ireland.

It was intended that the TDCA would be complemented by four side agreements, namely the Science and Technology Agreement, the Lomé Protocol (currently called the Cotonou Partnership Agreement), the Wines and Spirits Agreement and the Fisheries Agreement.

One of the key aspects of South Africa's relations with the EU, within the framework of the ACP-EU partnership, is its active participation in the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary (JPA) activities. It was within the context of further facilitating greater understanding between the EU and the ACP that South Africa hosted the fourth session of the ACP-EU JPA in March 2002 in Cape Town. At this session, the JPA accepted, among other things, a resolution on NEPAD, noting that there is considerable scope for the ACP-EU partnership to be effectively aligned with NEPAD and urging the European Commission to identify ways in which, both directly and through the ACP-EU partnership, EU programmes can support NEPAD.

European Programme for Reconstruction and Development (EPRD)

The TDCA provides the legal basis for continued EU support for development activities in South Africa, which is channelled through the EPRD. The EPRD is funded directly from the EU budget with an annual budget of 1275 million Euro, and is the single largest development programme in South Africa financed by foreign donors. From 1995 to 1998, the EU provided 43% of all foreign grant aid to South Africa.

Further assistance is supplied through soft loans from the European Investment Bank. These funds are managed by the IDC on behalf of government. The second co-operation strategy and implementation framework came to an end in December 2002. The 2003 – 2006 framework of development co-operation will have an indicative financial envelope of approximately 126 million Euro per annum.

South Africa also interacts with the EU as a member of the ACP Group, which consists of 71 countries. South Africa joined the Lomé Convention as a qualified member, as it was excluded from the trade regime as well as its provisions on development assistance. However, South Africans could tender for projects in all ACP countries, and participate fully in all the political instruments of the Convention. Relations between the ACP Group

and the EU have been governed by the Lomé Convention. Negotiations for a successor to the Lomé Convention, which expired in February 2000, have been concluded and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) was signed on 23 June 2000 in Cotonou. South Africa is again only a qualified member of the CPA, as South Africa's economic relations with the EU are governed by the TDCA.

The CPA differs significantly from its predecessor in that its duration will be 20 years, with a revision clause every five years and a financial protocol for each five-year period. The most far-reaching changes, however, are to be introduced in the sphere of trade, where non-reciprocal preferences are gradually to be abolished and regional integration processes encouraged. The present arrangements are to be maintained during a preparatory period until 2008. Formal negotiations for New Economic Partnership Agreements started in September 2002 and will enter into force by January 2008. South Africa plays an important role in sharing its own experiences during the negotiations on the TDCA with ACP countries as was evidenced when it hosted the first ACP Trade Ministers' Committee Meeting in Johannesburg in April 2001.

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 co-ordinates the policy and objectives of the Government in the Commonwealth.



Multilateral Conventions ratified since December 2000

Date	Title
31 January 1951	Statute of the Hague Conference on Private International Law. RSA became a member on 14 February 2002
3 June 1991	Treaty establishing the Africa Economic Community (Abuja Treaty) (OAU) RSA acceded: 25 June 2001
15 August 1996	Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Water Birds (AEWA Agreement) RSA ratified: 1 January 2002
25 June 1998	Agreement concerning the Establishment of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or used on Wheeled Vehicles. RSA ratified: 18 April 2001
11 July 2000	Constitutive Act of the African Union. RSA ratified: 23 April 2001
14 August 2001	Agreement amending the Treaty of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)

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 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, which 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.

President Mbeki led the South African delegation to the CHOGM in Australia in March 2002.

The President held bilateral meetings with a number of Commonwealth leaders including

Australian Prime Minister, John Howard, British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Begum Khaleda.

In his capacity as Chairperson of the Commonwealth, President Mbeki oversaw the successful conclusion of the High-level Review Group on the Review of the Commonwealth and its governance.

The CHOGM reviewed global political issues including the international fight against terrorism, HIV/AIDS, debt relief, private capital flows, WTO issues and barriers to investment in poor countries.

The Non-aligned Movement

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 and 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 Chairpersonship of the NAM, it is delegated certain

responsibilities for promoting the principles and activities of the Movement. Among other things, 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 Co-ordinating Bureau (CoB) in New York. South Africa as Chair of the CoB should therefore pursue consensus positions reached in the Bureau in the various forums of the UN.

The NAM also continues its long-standing support for the rights of the Palestinian people in international forums such as the UN and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, among others.

As Chair of the NAM, South Africa worked hard to strengthen dialogue with the developed countries on issues of interest to developing countries and worked ceaselessly for multilateralism. At the Ministerial meeting of the NAM in Durban, South Africa agreed to reposition the movement to take advantage of new realities.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chairperson of NAM led a delegation of seven Ministers from NAM member states on a visit to President Yasser Arafat in Ramallah, Palestine in June 2002, as an expression of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The NAM has persistently called on Israel to

end its occupation of East Jerusalem, for the withdrawal of settlers from the occupied Palestinian territories and to cease military actions in the Palestinian territory.

The NAM Committee on Palestine met twice at Ministerial level with members of the NAM Security Council Caucus in the space of one year, to deliberate on ways to work with all the influential forces in the Middle East for the attainment of just and lasting peace in the region.

South Africa will chair NAM until February 2003, when Malaysia takes over.

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 Co-ordinator for all the UN's operational activities for development in South Africa.



Acknowledgement

Department of Foreign Affairs

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