

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
SUB REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE  
FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA (ECA/SRDC)  
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

REPORT OF MISSION TO SADC

Objective: To review the work programme of SADC and ECA/SRDC in order to identify areas of possible collaboration

Staff Members: R.M. Okello, Officer-in-Charge  
M.K. Mwaniki, Gender Focal Point

Venue & Dates: 12 - 13 March, 1998; Gaborone, Botswana

Programme Element: Technical Support and Cooperation with Regional Economic Communities

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REPORT OF MISSION TO SADC  
Gaborone, Botswana  
12 - 13 March, 1998

M.K. Mwaniki, Gender Focal Point  
R.M. Okello, Officer-in-Charge

1. PURPOSE

To review the work programme of SADC and ECA/SRDC in order to identify areas of possible collaboration.

2. BACKGROUND

One of the key objectives of the Sub-Regional Development Centre for Southern Africa is to provide technical support to the major Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in the Southern African subregion, namely: the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). The activities fall under the technical cooperation component of the work programme for 1998.

The mission to SADC was a follow-up to consultations initiated in November 1997 (see Mission Report ECA/SRDC/MR/97/7), and the recommendations from the meeting of the SADC Council of Ministers held in Maputo, Mozambique from 26 - 31 January, 1998 (see Mission Report ECA/SRDC/SA/MR/98/3). These recommendations called for harmonization and coordination of the work programmes of the two institutions in order to identify areas for collaboration to gain synergies and better serve the member countries.

3. OUTCOME

Consultations were held with various staff members of SADC secretariat, covering the following areas:

- (i) **Regional Integration and Investment** - Committee on Regional Stock Exchanges; Harmonization of Listings on Stock Exchanges; Dual Listings on Regional Stock Exchanges; Harmonization of Regulatory Framework; Financial Intermediaries (Trust Funds, Venture Capital); implementation of SADC Programmes and Protocols.
- (ii) **Food Security** - Problems of Pest Control.
- (iii) **Transport and Communications** - SATCC work programme.
- (iv) **Gender** - Establishment of the Gender Unit at SADC in accordance with the Declaration on Gender.
- (v) **Legal** - Framework for Cooperation between ECA/SRDC and SADC.
- (vi) **Policy Analysis** - Establishment of a Policy Analysis Unit at SADC Secretariat.

Priority areas for cooperation were identified and follow-up action agreed to as follow:

- (a) **Gender** - The Gender Focal Point of SRDC/SA extended her mission in order to assist in the evaluation and short-listing candidates for the Gender Unit at SADC. She is expected to participate in the interview of candidates as well as preparation of the work programme for the Unit.
- (b) **Transport and Communications** - An expert from SRDC/SA has subsequently provided technical support to SATCC. A request for ECA technical back-up to the workshop on SMEs has been responded to by DMD (See Annex 1).

- (c) **Policy Analysis Unit** - A request for support in this and other areas was submitted and positive response has been received from DMD (See Annex II).
- (d) **Legal Framework:** The SADC Legal Expert to prepare an **Agreed Minutes** which would serve as guidelines for the cooperation between SADC and SRDC/SA. The **Agreed Minutes** would contain possible areas of joint activities between SADC and SRDC/SA.
- (e) **Regional Integration** - Joint data collection for preparation of SADC Annual Report and the Report on Economic and Social Conditions in Southern Africa to be prepared by SRDC. ECA to provide support in assessing the implementation of various SADC programmes and protocols.

Discussions also covered the issue of participation in meetings of SADC. In the past, ECA was given an observer status, but with limited access to meetings documents and no participation in discussions. It was agreed that this must be changed so that ECA can effectively participate in SADC meetings at both technical and policy levels.

The mission also met with the UNDP Resident Representative in Botswana to discuss UNDP country activities of sub-regional interest, in particular the Gender Programme. The mission also briefed UNDP on the upcoming International Conference on the theme "African Women and Economic Development: Investing in our Future", to be organized in Addis Ababa from 28 April to 1 May, 1998 on the occasion of ECA's 40th Anniversary celebrations. UNDP was, accordingly, urged to support the participation of Botswana at the Conference.

The SRDC-SA Gender Focal Point also held a meeting with the Department of Women Affairs in the Ministry of Home Affairs. She

appraised them on the ongoing reform programme of ECA, in particular, the gender programme and the International Conference. Concerning the National Gender Programme, it was reported that Botswana Government had adopted a National Policy on Women in Development as far back as 1996. The activities to implement the National Gender Programme under the following six priority areas were reported as on-going:

- Women and poverty, including economic empowerment;
- Women in power and decision-making;
- Education and Training of Women, particularly in areas such as managerial skills;
- Women and Health;
- The girl child, in particular school drop-outs; and
- Violence against women, especially domestic violence.

The mission was informed that the Department of Women Affairs was in the process of decentralization by establishing offices in the districts in order to ensure effective gender mainstreaming. The Department was already carrying out Training of Trainers (TOT) programme for this purpose.

The assessment of implementation of the various programmes and protocols of SADC is an important input into the implementation of the protocols of the African Economic Community (AEC). As a member of the Joint Secretariat of the AEC, ECA may also undertake an assessment of the variation in both text and interpretation of some of the protocols.

Finally, it was reported that the Department of Women Affairs was in the process of decentralization by establishing offices in the districts to ensure effective gender mainstreaming. The Department was already carrying out the Training of Trainers (TOT) Programme for this purpose.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The mission helped further consolidate collaboration between SADC and ECA in general and SRDC/SA in particular. The channel of communication has been opened and more requests for technical support have been generated. The concerned programme divisions at headquarters as well as the SRDC/SA should, accordingly, allocate sufficient resources to respond to relevant requests from SADC in order to effectively contribute to regional cooperation and integration in Southern Africa. In this regard, it is important to stress that prompt response is critical to providing necessary support to the RECs in the subregion.

#### 5. ANNEX: Documents.

**DOCUMENTS**

(a) **ECA Documents Given to SADC**

1. United Nations Staff Rules (Rev.8, June 1995)
2. Report of Mission to Undertake consultations with COMESA and SADC, the Governments of Zambia and Botswana as well as UN Agencies in Lusaka and Gaborone on the role of the new ECA/SRDC for Southern Africa by Dr. Robert M. Okello (ECA/SRDC/LUS/MR/97/7, 3 Dec. 1997).
3. Promoting Trade and Investment to Accelerate Africa's Development (E/ECA/CM.23/2, 1997).
4. Report of the Economic and Social Situation in Africa, 1997 (E/ECA/CM.23/3, 1997).
5. proposed Reform of the Inter-Governmental Machinery of the Economic Commission for Africa (E/ECA/CM.23/4).
6. Rationalization of ECA-Sponsored Institutions: Renewal for Improved Service (E/ECA/CM.23/5).
7. The MULPOCs: Strengthening ECA's Sub-regional Presence (E/ECA/CM.23/6).
8. After the Uruguay Round: Global Challenges and Africa's Responses in Selected Areas (E/ECA/CM.23/8).
9. Economic Commission for Africa: Annual Report (E/ECA/CM.23/13).
10. Southern Africa Sub-Regional Development Centre, Programme Team Brief (1998-1999) and Business Plan (1998).



11. 1997 Programme of Work, Economic and Social Policy Division, ECA.

(b) Documents from SADC

1. Productivity: Key to Sustainable Development in SADC (1997).

2. Sectoral Reports from SADC Council Meeting, January 1998:

(a) Labour and Employment

(b) Energy

(c) Industry and Trade

(d) Mining

(e) Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources

(f) Transport and Communications

(g) Water

(h) Culture and Information

(i) Tourism

(j) Finance and Investment

(k) Human Resources Development.



## SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

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Ref: SADC 8.17.3

14 April 1998

Mr James Nxumalo  
Chief  
Development Management Division  
Economic Commission for Africa  
P O Box 3001  
ADDIS ABABA  
Ethiopia

Dear Sir

### **ECA Support to SADC in Establishing a Policy Analysis Unit**

I wish to acknowledge with thanks the letter ref. ORG 140 dated 14th April, 1998 from Dr Robert M Okello, Ag. Director ECA/SDRC for Southern Africa on the above subject.

The timing proposed for the advisory mission is convenient for us. Please kindly confirm the exact dates for the mission at your earliest convenience. We also need to determine the terms of reference for the mission so that adequate preparations are made.

Member States:

Angola  
Botswana

Malawi  
Mauritius

Namibia  
South Africa  
Swaziland

Tanzania  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe

I thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely



P Ramsamy  
for Executive Secretary

cc: Mr Robert M Okello  
Acting Director  
UNECA  
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Ref: SADC 10.24

12 March 1998

Mr Robert Okello  
Acting Director  
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa  
Subregional Development Centre  
(ECA/SRDC) for Southern Africa  
P O Box 30467  
LUSAKA  
Zambia

<b>ECA/SRDC/ LUSAKA</b>	
<b>INCOMING FAX / TELEX / LETTERS</b>	
ENTRY NUMBER:	198
DATE RECEIVED:	16/3/98
REF:	OKS 120
DATE PASSED:	

Dear Mr Okello

### WORKSHOP ON SMALL AND MEDIUM SCALE ENTERPRISES (SMEs) IN THE SADC REGION

You will recall that under the Berlin Initiative (SADC/EU Cooperation), the promotion of SMEs in the SADC region was identified as one of the priority areas. In August 1996, a seminar on SMEs development in the SADC/EU context was held in Italy. One of the recommendations emanated from the Conference was that a study be carried out on SME development in the SADC region.

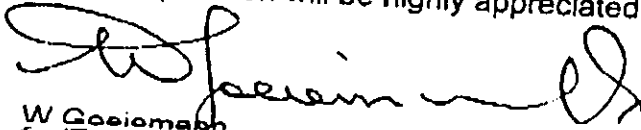
You will recall that in 1997, the SADC Secretariat appointed two Consultants to carry out a study on SMEs. The main objective of the study is to evaluate all initiatives pertaining to SMEs and to come up with a consolidated programme of cooperation for the SADC region. The study report has been completed in December, 1997.

The Secretariat is planning to hold a Workshop in Mbabane, Swaziland from 26 - 29 May 1998. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss the Report and recommendations, which will be submitted to the SADC Council of Ministers in August, 1998 for approval and implementation.

You are kindly requested to nominate one representative from your organisation to attend the Workshop and to present a paper on development and promotion of SMEs in Africa, as well as comment on the study carried out by SADC.

The final report of the SADC study, including the work programme and agenda will be sent to you in due course. The name of your representative and confirmation of attendance should reach the Secretariat not later than 31st March 1998.

Your cooperation will be highly appreciated.



W Gosiameh  
for/Executive Secretary