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UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
SUB-REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE FOR SOUTHERN  
AFRICA (ECA/SRDC/SA)  
LUSAKA

REPORT OF MISSION

MEETINGS OF THE POLICY ORGANS OF THE  
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC)  
GRAND BAIE, MAURITIUS, 7-14 SEPTEMBER, 1998

Staff Member:	Robert M. Okello, OIC
Purpose:	To participate in the Meetings of SADC Policy Organs
Venue:	Grand Baie, Mauritius
Dates:	7 - 14 September, 1998

REPORT OF MISSION

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I. INTRODUCTION:

1. The Policy Organs of SADC comprise the Summit of Heads of State and Government, Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Standing Committee of Officials and Committees of Ministers of the various sectors.

2. The sectoral committees of Ministers meet as frequently as needed, while the Council of Ministers meet two times a year: in January-February and August-September. The Summit meets once a year in the first half of the month of September, preceded by preparatory meetings of Officials and Ministers. The next Summit Meeting is scheduled for September, 1999 in Maputo, Mozambique, while the Council of Ministers will hold its next meeting in January/February 1999 in Lusaka, Zambia.

3. Participation in the meetings is generally restricted to member States and the SADC institutions, with observer status granted to four partner institutions: OAU, ECA, ADB (Joint Secretariat of the African Economic Community - AEC) and COMESA. The Summit is mostly held in closed sessions in which only leaders of delegations and heads of the four observer institutions participate.

4. The decisions of the organization are approved at two levels: by Council and by the Summit. Only the communiqué of the Summit is publicly released. South Africa is the current chair of SADC.

## II. ORGANIZATION AND PARTICIPATION:

5. The annual meetings for 1998 were held in Mauritius, from 7-14 September and were scheduled as follows:

Committee of Officials: 7-9 September, 1998;

Council of Ministers: 10-11 September, 1998;

Summit: 13-14 September, 1998.

6. All the fourteen member States of SADC attended the meetings, including Heads of State or Government of twelve countries; Malawi and Seychelles were represented by their Foreign Ministers. OAU was represented at the Council by the Assistant Secretary General, EDECO and at the Summit by the Secretary General. The President of ADB also took part in the Summit meeting. The Economic Commission for Africa was represented by the Acting Director of the ECA/SRDC for Southern Africa on behalf of the Executive Secretary who was unable to attend in person.

## III. OUTCOME:

7. The Council of Ministers made several recommendations which were submitted to the Summit for approval as reflected in the Summit Communiqué. Nevertheless, it is necessary to emphasize the issue of protocols. The Council considered three new proposed protocols but recommended only one, the Protocol on Tourism, for signature by the Summit. The proposed protocols on Facilitation of Movement of Persons and on the Tribunal were not approved for signature.

8. Regarding ratification of signed protocols, it was reported that only three out of the eight signed protocols of SADC had received the required number of ratifications to come into force; these are: Protocol on Immunities and Privileges; Protocol on

Shared Watercourse Systems; and Protocol on Transport, Communications and Meteorology. The following five signed protocols await ratification: Protocol on Energy; Protocol on Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking; Protocol on Trade; Protocol on Education and Training; and Protocol on Mining.

9. The Council also considered but rejected a proposal to impose a time limit for ratification of protocols. Instead, member States were simply urged to speed up the process of ratification.

10. The Summit was addressed by President Dos Santos of Angola, the Foreign Minister of Seychelles, the Assistant Secretary-General of OAU and President of ADB, in addition to the official statements by the Executive Secretary, President Mandela of South Africa, the current Chairman, and the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Dr, Ramgoolam as host.

11. The major issues considered by the Summit are reflected in its agenda as shown in Annex 1 of this report. In addition to reviewing the economic, political and food security situation in the region, the Summit also considered the report of the Council and approved several recommendations therein contained, including administrative issues and work programme of SADC. Dr. Pakereesamy Ramsammy was appointed Deputy Executive Secretary, replacing Mr. Lengalo Monyake, who left the Secretariat in April, 1998. A copy of the Summit Communiqué is attached as Annex 2 to this report.

12. The Democratic Republic of Congo and Seychelles formally acceded to the SADC Treaty at the meeting. The accession to the Treaty by the two new member States formally brings the membership of the organization to 14 countries, with a combined population of about 190 million and GDP of over US\$160 billion in 1998.

13. The total budget for all SADC institutions for 1998/1999 was approved at about US\$12.6 million, including US\$6.3 million for the Secretariat. About half of the budget is financed from direct

contributions from the member States who pay equal assessments each year, while the rest is from grants by cooperating partners. At present, all member States are within the allowed range for arrears in payments; that is, they are all paid up through 1997. This budget does not include the cost of projects contained in the SADC Plan of Action (SPA), which runs into billions of dollars.

14. The Summit also honoured the former President of Botswana, Sir Ketumile Masire, by bestowing on him the Sereste Kahama SADC Medal for significant contribution to SADC. Sir Masire thus becomes the third recipient of the award; the medal had previously been awarded only to former Presidents Nyerere of Tanzania and Netto of Angola (Posthumously).

15. Detailed sector reports which were submitted to the various committees of SADC are available at SRDC-SA library for consultation. These reports are listed in Annex 3 to this report.

#### IV. AREAS OF POSSIBLE SUPPORT BY ECA:

16. The activities of SADC contained in its SADC Programme of Action (SPA), covers practically all aspects of development in the sub-region. This may in part reflect the difficulties in making the transition from SADCC, the coordinating council, to SADC, a development community. Sector coordination is still mostly assigned to the national mechanisms; the Secretariat and Coordinating Units in a few selected areas are responsible for overall coordination. A rationalization exercise is already under way, which aims, among other things, to redefine the focus of SADC activities.

17. In the meantime, several areas were identified during the meetings for possible intervention by ECA in support to SADC in the near term. These are in addition to the on-going support in the transport and information technology areas. These are:

- (a) The role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) - Council established a committee of six countries (Botswana - convener, Angola, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe) to recommend a framework for cooperation among NGO's and between NGO's and government mechanisms in the sub-region. The Committee was unable to meet due, in part, to lack of technical capacity. Preliminary consultations between SRDC-SA and a representative from Botswana indicated need for support from ECA.

**Recommendation:**

DMD, through the African Centre for Civil Society, and SRDC-SA could provide technical assistance in preparing a draft framework and organizing a forum (seminar/workshop) for NGO's, IGO's and governments in the sub-region to discuss the draft framework.

- (b) Mining Investment Forum - The SADC Mining Sector, which is co-ordinated by Zambia, planned to organize an investment forum in December, 1998 but was unable to do so, partly due to technical and financial problems. Negotiations were initiated with EU for support. The Forum has been postponed to October/November, 1999. SRDC-SA has discussed the possibility of ECA support in organizing the Forum with a representative of sector Coordinating Unit and will follow up with the SADC Secretariat.

**Recommendation:**

DMD, RCID and SRDC-SA should consider providing technical assistance in organizing the Forum as part of ECA's activities in promoting private sector investment in Africa. The studies on framework for cooperation in minerals development could provide part of the basic documentation for the forum.

- (c) **The Millennium Bug Problem** - There is need to develop a regional strategy to speed up national preparedness for Y2K. Following the Global Connectivity Conference organized by ECA in June, 1998, the Southern African Transport and Communications Commission (SADC/SATCC) convened a follow-up meeting in the sub-region to draw up a programme of action. More work still needs to be done, however.

**Recommendation:**

DISD, UNSIA and SRDC-SA should consider assisting SATCC in developing the regional strategic plan for Y2K, within the framework of AISI and UNSIA.

- (d) **Ratification of Protocols** - Council noted the low rate of ratification of signed protocols. At the same time, the proposal to set a time limit was rejected. It was apparent, however, that some member States had concerns about some aspects of the signed protocols and these accounted in part to the delays experienced in the ratification. Although these views were not generally explicitly stated at the meeting, it was clear that there are some areas of valid concerns which lead to the delays in ratification, and consequently, in their eventual implementation.

**Recommendation:**

SRDC-SA should consult with SADC Secretariat to undertake a study of the underlying factors for the ratification and implementation of SADC protocols.

- (e) **Population and Housing Census 2000 Round** - Council urged member States to adopt common census by the year 2000 as part of standardization and harmonization of regional statistics.

Recommendation:

DISD and SRDC-SA should contact SADC Secretariat to explore possibilities for adopting an Africa region wide framework.

- (f) National Accounts Statistics in SADC - This is another on-going project aimed at improving statistics in SADC region. A task force was established to develop a SADC National Accounts Training Manual based on the 1993 System of National Accounts (SNA).

Recommendation:

DISD and SRDC-SA should consult SADC secretariat to assess the need for support in this area.

- (g) SADC Gender Programme - A new Gender Unit has been established at SADC Secretariat as decided at the last Summit meeting in 1997. Two officers have been appointed, draft plan of action and institutional framework for gender in SADC were approved by Council, and an Addendum to the SADC Declaration on Gender adopted by the Summit.

Recommendation:

ACW and SRDC-SA should work closely with SADC Secretariat in ensuring that the SADC gender programme is consistent with the African regional Platform for Action and provide necessary support in implementing the Platform in Southern Africa.

- (h) Annual Report - SADC Secretariat prepares an annual report on major economic, political and social developments in SADC region. The SRDC-SA also is programmed to produce a biennial report on economic and social conditions in Southern Africa as part of its work programme. Previous consultations between SRDC-SA and



SADC on the coordination of the two reports indicated possibility of sharing basic information for the two reports.

**Recommendation:**

ESPD and SRDC-SA should closely coordinate the preparation of Report on Economic and Social Conditions in Southern Africa with SADC Secretariat to ensure consistency of information to member States. Possibility for future joint reports should be explored.

- (i) Preparations for the 1999 Consultative Conference - A consultative conference is scheduled for February 1999 on the theme "SADC in the Next Millennium: the Challenges and Opportunities of Information Technology". The objective of the conference is to share information and exchange ideas on the important and critical role of IT in global, regional and national economies. One of its expected outcomes is a strategy to mobilize the required resources for IT development in the sub-region. Topics to be covered include the role of IT in enhanced productivity and competitiveness, facilitating trade and investment, development of financial markets and human resource development. Participation will be at the ministerial level, international business community, NGOs and development partners.

**Recommendation:**

DISD, Secretariat of UNSIA and SRDC-SA should prepare a proposal for ECA's participation to be submitted to SADC secretariat in order to link the conference to AISI and UNSIA implementation in Southern Africa. ECA's participation could be at two levels: in the preparatory phase in preparing the theme document; and in the conference itself by bringing in partners. The Y2K could also be linked to the conference.

## V. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

18. The work programme of SADC is reviewed every six months during meetings of Council, while ECA operates on the basis of the biennium work programme. This issue was previously raised by SADC during consultations between SADC and Mrs. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, senior consultant in November, 1997 and subsequently with SRDC-SA in March 1998, as one of the impediments to effective support by ECA. It is essential, therefore, for ECA in general, and the SRDC in particular, to design in-built flexibility in the work programme in order to be able to effectively provide support to SADC. In this regard, the SRDC-SA plans to allocate at least fifty percent of its programme resources to unprogrammed technical support/advisory services.

19. Some of the activities identified above require immediate response. The divisions implicated should, accordingly, indicate their positions as soon as possible.

20. It is interesting to note that the Protocol on Facilitation of Movement of Persons, was in fact already a modification of the original draft Protocol on Free Movement of Persons. Even this modification was rejected mainly on the basis of arguments advanced by some countries that political sensitivities in their countries precluded the possibility of its ratification at this time. This issue should be looked at by the OAU/ECA/ADB Joint Secretariat in the context of implementation of the protocols of the Abuja Treaty.

21. Similarly, although ten of the fourteen member States of SADC are also members of COMESA (the non-COMESA countries are Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique and South Africa), there was not a single reference made during all the meetings to activities under COMESA which obviously had some bearing on SADC itself. For example, the Chairman of COMESA Council of Ministers in discussing the Africa Opportunity Bill currently in the US Congress, referred to his

recent visit to Washington on the issue without mentioning that the mission was in fact on behalf of COMESA. Similar discussions on WTO and the Lome successor negotiations made no reference to COMESA.

22. The reasons behind this lack of cross-referencing with COMESA are not very clear, however. Nevertheless, the Joint OAU/ECA/ADB Secretariat should seriously consider the implications of this apparent parochial approach on the achievement of the objectives of the AEC.

23. Regarding cooperation between SADC and ECA, it was gratifying that three activities to which ECA provided significant support to SADC were reported: establishment of the SADC Web site; the seminar on SMES; and the road traffic programme. The support from ECA was acknowledged only in one case, however, and this was in the report by SATCC on activities in the road sector. On the other hand, there was no mention of ECA's contribution on the Web site development for which DISD sent an expert for two weeks, and on the SME workshop to which a Regional Adviser from DMD made significant contributions in reviewing the draft report and acted as a resource person.

24. On the positive side, the ECA representative was admitted to all the meetings, and, unlike in the previous meetings, was given all the relevant working documents. This free participation provided the opportunity to follow the discussions and identify areas of possible support.

25. It is evident, therefore, that there is room for ECA to forge effective partnership with SADC in order to facilitate the integration process in the sub-region. More effort is still needed, however, to allay the apparent uneasiness which is still evident in the response from SADC. At this point of confidence building, the SRDC-SA is well positioned to build this bridge. In this regard, there is need for an agreed framework for cooperation between the SRDC-SA and all interested Divisions in Addis Ababa. The current

practice of direct and individual interventions by Divisions in Addis Ababa does not seem to contribute in forging effective partnership between ECA and SADC.

26. The decentralization of ECA by strengthening the SRDCs was designed to strengthen the presence of ECA in the field. This presence can only be strengthened by presenting one ECA, with capacity to provide necessary support in a timely manner. SADC requires a very focussed approach by ECA, especially in view of past history of mistrust on the side of SADC.

27. The actions to be considered for improved coordination would include the following:

- (a) Review of the above proposed areas by all the Divisions concerned, possibly coordinated by PPFED;
- (b) Identification of selected areas for possible cooperation with SADC;
- (c) Indication of commitment by the interested Divisions;
- (d) Initial consultations between SADC and SRDC-SA to gain agreements in principle;
- (e) Joint missions by SRDC-SA and concerned divisions to SADC to discuss modalities for implementation.

SADC/SM/1/98/1

## DRAFT SUMMIT AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Accession to the SADC Treaty by Seychelles and the Democratic Republic of Congo
3. Review of the Regional Situation
  - 3.1 Political Situation
  - 3.2 Economic Situation
  - 3.3 Food Situation
  - 3.4 HIV/AIDS Situation
4. Progress Report on Community Building
  - 4.1 Status of Signed Protocols
  - 4.2 Protocols for Signature
  - 4.3 Declaration Against Corruption
  - 4.4 Addendum to the Gender Declaration: Prevention and Eradication of Violence Against Women and Children
  - 4.5 Constituency Mobilisation
5. Review and Rationalisation of the SADC Programme of Action
6. Year 2000 Computer Problem – “Millennium Bug Problem”
7. Annual Report
8. Cooperation between SADC and the African Economic Community
9. Appointment of the Deputy Executive Secretary
10. Tenure of Office of Chairmanship
11. Venue for the Next Summit
12. Any Other Business
13. Communiqué

**FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ  
OF  
THE 1998 SADC SUMMIT OF HEADS  
OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT**

1. The Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) met at Grand Baie , the Republic of Mauritius on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> September 1998, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency, Nelson Mandela, President of the Republic of South Africa.
2. Delegations of Member States were led by the following:

Swaziland : His Majesty King Mswati III

Angola : H.E. Mr José Eduardo dos Santos  
President

Zimbabwe : H.E. Mr. Robert Mugabe  
President

Mozambique: H.E. Mr. Joaquim Chissano  
President

Namibia : H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma  
President

Zambia	:	H.E. Mr. Frederick J.T. Chiluba President
Malawi	:	H.E. Dr. Bakili Muluzi President
Tanzania	:	H.E. Mr. Benjamin Mkapa President
Democratic Republic of Congo	:	H.E. Mr Laurent Kabila President
Botswana	:	HE Mr Festus Mogae President
Mauritius	:	Rt. Hon. Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam Prime Minister
Lesotho	:	Rt Hon. Prof. Pakalitha Mosisili Prime Minister
Seychelles	:	Hon. Mr Jeremie Bonnelame Minister of Foreign Affairs

South Africa: Mr Anthony Mongalo  
Deputy Director-General,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

3. The Summit was also attended by the Secretary General of the Organisation African Unity (OAU), Dr Salim Ahmed Salim, the President of the African Development Bank (ADB), Mr Omar Kabbaj, the Secretary General of the Common Market for Southern and Eastern African States (COMESA), Mr Erastus Mwencha, and the Acting Director of the Southern African Sub-regional Development Centre of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr Robert Okello, on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the ECA, K.Y. Amoako.
4. The Summit formally welcomed the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Seychelles as full members of SADC, following their fulfillment of provisions of the Treaty.
5. The Rt. Hon. Ramgoolam delivered a welcome address, and said that as a relatively new member, Mauritius felt particularly privileged to host the Summit. He pledged his country's commitment to regional cooperation and integration and acknowledged the important strides that SADC had made towards achieving its goals. He emphasised the need for SADC to be a strife free region, and eradication of poverty, if it is to join the mainstream of global development.
6. The Chairman of the Summit, His Excellency President Mandela, who delivered the official opening statement, expressed satisfaction over the significant improvements in the overall macro-economic situation in the region. He commended South African Governments for their commitment to the implementation of sound economic policies, and for their resolve to make Southern Africa the number



destination for international investors. President Mandela observed that regional development and stability could not be achieved without social justice and equity. He therefore praised SADC for its efforts in ensuring that Member States benefit from equitable regional integration.

7. His Excellency, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, in his address, briefed the Summit on recent developments in Angola. President dos Santos brought to the attention of the Summit the fact that the Lusaka Protocol, which was to have been implemented in 18 months, will soon be completing its fourth year. He reminded the Summit of the many concessions the Government of Angola made to Savimbi, which include offering him the post of Vice President of the Republic, and the 400 bodyguards that he demanded, all of which he has refused to accept.
8. On regional integration, President dos Santos acknowledged the steady progress SADC was making in the establishment of a single economic space, which would give the region more bargaining power in the global economy.
9. The Opening Ceremony was also addressed by SADC Executive Secretary, Ibrahima Kaire Mbuende who urged Member States to aim for annual GDP growth rates of 8% if they are to make inroads in the reduction of poverty, as well as the creation of gainful employment. Dr Mbuende expressed optimism that with its abundance of resources, the SADC region can achieve this growth rate, provided appropriate sectoral policies and strategies continue to be put in place by SADC and Member States.

10. In his address to the Summit, Mr Jeremie Bonnelame, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Seychelles, expressed the appreciation of the Government on being admitted as a full member of SADC. He described SADC as a dynamic regional grouping that is making significant progress in promoting sustainable development and economic growth.
11. The Assistant Secretary General of the OAU and African Economic Community Ambassador Vijay S. Makhum, stressed that the success of African integration and the establishment of the African Economic Community will very much depend on the seriousness and commitment with which regional economic communities such as SADC, tackle issues of integration, as well as negative factors such as conflict, which thwart socio-economic development efforts. He called for effective leadership that encompasses regional, continental and global considerations, in order for Africa to face the challenges of the third millennium.
12. The President of the African Development Bank Mr Omar Kabbaj briefed the Summit on how the ADB was responding to the challenges of the evolving global environment as well as how the bank was proceeding to build a partnership and dialogue with the Southern African region. Mr Kabbaj appealed to the Summit to urge SADC Member States to play a support role in the on-going negotiations for replenishment of ADF resources.
13. The Summit paid a glowing tribute to Sir Ketumile Masire, the former President of Botswana, for his outstanding contribution to the region during his 16 year tenure of office as SADC Chairman, as well as his distinguished and exemplary leadership as State President of Botswana for 18 years. In recognition of this, the Summit bestowed the Seretse Khama SADC Medal upon Sir Ketumile Masire.

14. In response, Sir Ketumile commended SADC for the achievements made in development of the region's infrastructure, which has facilitated communication within the region. He however underlined the imperative for the government of the region to accept the responsibility for addressing the decline in the standard of living of the people of Southern Africa. He reminded Summit that the era of blaming apartheid and colonialism is over.
15. The Summit expressed satisfaction over the predominantly peaceful atmosphere of political stability prevailing in Southern Africa. It commended Member States for their concerted efforts to consolidate democracy, good governance and respect for human rights. In particular, the Summit noted with appreciation the holding of multi party elections in Lesotho in May and the first municipal elections in Mozambique in June 1998.
16. The Summit noted with satisfaction that the process of political reform in Swaziland was in progress, with the Constitutional Review Commission expected to complete its work on a new constitution within two years. The Summit welcomed the smooth transfer of power in Botswana following the retirement of Sir Ketumile Masire from the presidency of Botswana. The Summit paid tribute to President Nelson Mandela of the Republic of South Africa for the wise leadership he has provided to the African National Congress as its President for many years. The Summit congratulated him for setting the scene for a younger person to assume

the reigns of office in 1999. The Summit observed that such orderly change in leadership reflected the maturity of the region's evolving democratic culture.

17. The Summit expressed concern at the civil disturbances and loss of life following the recent elections in Lesotho. The Summit welcomed the mediation initiative led by the South African government, which resulted in the setting up of a SADC Committee of Experts to investigate the validity or otherwise of allegations that the elections were fraudulent.
18. The Summit also expressed concern at the recent developments in Angola and strongly condemned Dr Savimbi's belligerent non-compliance with the major provisions of the Lusaka Protocol, which commits him to full demilitarisation of his armed forces, participation in a government of national unity and a national defence force.
19. The Summit urged Member States to ensure tight regulation and improved control of airports and airspace to ensure effective implementation of the UN sanctions against UNITA. The Summit undertook to adopt the necessary measures to ensure compliance with decisions Member States have made through SADC, OAU and UN resolutions on this matter. The Summit further called on the international community, particularly countries and leaders who have an influence on Dr Savimbi to persuade the rebel movement to re-dedicate itself to the path of peace and reconstruction in Angola as a matter of urgency.

20. The Summit expressed deep regret at the outbreak of war in DRC, as a result of attempts by rebels and their allies to forcefully remove the Government of President Kabila from power.
  21. The Summit welcomed initiatives by SADC and its Member States intended to assist in the restoration of peace, security and stability in DRC, in particular the **Victoria Falls and Pretoria initiatives**. In that regard, the Summit reaffirmed its call for an immediate cessation of hostilities and commended the Governments of Angola, Namibia and Zimbabwe for timeously providing troops to assist the Government and people of the DRC defeat the illegal attempt by rebels and their allies to capture the capital city, Kinshasa, and other strategic areas. The Summit emphasized the need for all political actors in the DRC to commit themselves to orderly and peaceful transition to multi-party democracy primarily through constructive consultations and negotiations involving all stakeholders.
  22. The Summit expressed its heartfelt condolences to the Governments and peoples of Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa and the United States over the hundreds of lives which were lost as a result of explosive devices which detonated at American embassies in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Nairobi, Kenya, as well as a restaurant in Cape Town, South Africa, in August, 1998. The Summit condemned this cowardly and barbaric act in the strongest possible terms. In the same vein, the Summit expressed its strongest reservations regarding the US Government's unilateral act in the missile bombing of a presumed 'terrorist target' in Sudan. The Summit emphasised the
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need to demonstrate confidence in continental and international fora such as the OAU and UN Security Council in seeking collective action to combat common threats to international peace and security.

23. The Summit noted with regret that the Great Lakes region continued to pose serious security and refugees problems to the regions of eastern, central and Southern Africa. The Summit called on the International community to provide the necessary diplomatic and logistical support towards efforts by regional leaders to start a genuine process of negotiations in the Great Lakes including Burundi and Rwanda, leading to a new political dispensation guaranteeing liberty, democracy and security for all citizens.
24. The Summit expressed optimism that the new military leadership in Nigeria would usher in a new era of hope through timely handover of power to a popularly elected government. The Summit called on the OAU and the Commonwealth in particular to decisively assist the process of political change in Nigeria.
25. The Summit expressed satisfaction that member states have continued to implement sound economic policies that augur well for long-term sustainable development. The Summit was encouraged by the continuing positive annual growth rates since the post 1995 period. The Summit observed that the 1997 average GDP growth rate stood at 2.2% while budget deficits and inflation rates had decreased dramatically to 6% and 10% respectively during the same period. The Summit appealed to both local and foreign investors to fully take advantage of the changing economic situation to further increase intra-regional trade beyond the current 20% of total SADC trade. The Summit undertook to

further enhance efforts to coordinate and rationalise their programmes of economic reconstruction, to give more impetus to the region's emerging markets of over 190 million people with a combined GDP of more than US\$ 160 billion.

26. The Summit expressed concern over the unfavourable weather conditions which prevailed during the 1997/98 cropping season characterised by erratic and below normal rainfall in some countries and excessive rains leading to disruptive floods in others, resulting in a projected overall cereal deficit of 51 000 tonnes.
27. The Summit undertook to ensure, through the relevant institutions, the monitoring of strategic food reserves, and the determination and implementation of appropriate contingency plans to address the projected cereal deficits particularly in wheat, sorghum and millet, to avoid suffering by vulnerable groups.
28. The Summit commended Council for finalising the major task of establishing policy guidelines that will facilitate the speedy completion of the transformation of SADC into a dynamic development community, through the Review and Rationalisation of the SADC Programme of Action exercise. The Summit endorsed the decision to reorient the role of SADC to include a focus upon policy formulation, coordination and harmonisation, the involvement of the private sector and other stakeholders in community building. The Summit reaffirmed the necessity of continuing with the system of sectoral co-ordination by Member States, and the rationalisation of sectors where appropriate. The

Summit further welcomed the rationalisation of the existing SADC project portfolio using agreed project identification and appraisal criteria.

29. The Summit welcomed the creation of a new Sector of Legal Affairs, which would deal, among other things, with cooperation in the administration of justice, harmonisation of Member States legal and judicial systems, the provision of critical legal support services to other SADC sectors, as well as the SADC Tribunal.
30. The Summit expressed satisfaction that protocols on Transport, Communication and Meteorology, and Energy, had recently acquired the required two-thirds majority ratification by Member States to come into force.
31. The Summit expressed disappointment that so far only four countries (Botswana, Mauritius, Tanzania and Zimbabwe) have ratified the Trade Protocol, which is the key to successful regional integration and economic development in Southern Africa. The Summit cautioned that the Organisation could lose its credibility unless Member States moved with speed to decisively address problems impeding ratification of the Trade Protocol. The Summit welcomed the decision to convene a SADC Trade Negotiating Forum in October, and an extra-ordinary meeting of Ministers of Trade and Industry before the end of 1998, to finalise outstanding matters on the Trade Protocol.
32. The Summit signed a new protocol on Tourism which among other things, aims to ensure balanced and complementary development of the tourism industry in the SADC region through collective efforts. The Summit signed an **Addendum to the 1997 SADC Declaration on Gender and Development: Prevention and Eradication of Violence Against Women and Children.**



The Summit expressed concern over the increasing levels of various forms of violence against women and children in SADC, and strongly condemned this as a serious violation of fundamental human rights. In the addendum, the Summit resolved to ensure the adoption of specific measures by SADC governments, which include the enactment of legislation, public education training and awareness raising, as well as the provision of services.

33. The Summit noted with appreciation measures that Member States were taking to combat corruption in the region. The Summit agreed that corruption was an insidious evil practice that would sabotage the region's socio-economic development if it was not uprooted and eradicated completely. **The Summit therefore, commended Member States for establishing autonomous and accountable anti-corruption agencies.**
  
34. The Summit expressed concern at the speed at which HIV-AIDS was spreading to all sectors of the population, particularly the youth and the most economically active groups. The Summit expressed an urgent need for SADC and Member States to review and revamp their strategies and programmes for fighting HIV-AIDS to ensure that socio-economic gains made over the years are not drastically reversed especially in areas like lower infant mortality, increased literacy, life expectancy and skills acquisition. The Summit further called for closer cooperation between Governments, NGOs, the private sector and other stakeholders in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

35. The Summit noted with satisfaction preparations for the next SAD Consultative Conference to be held mid-February, 1999, in Lusaka, Zambia. The Summit agreed that the proposed Theme of the Conference, **"SADC the next Millennium: The Challenges and Opportunities of Information Technology,"** was most appropriate as the mastery of information technology (IT) and the capacity to fully utilise IT was a pre-requisite for the SADC region to be an active participant in the global economy whereby strategic advantages are derived from timely access to information or its speedy dissemination to the market place.
36. The Summit reflected on possible "worst-case" scenario problems likely to result from the Year 2000 Computer Problem (Y2K) such as disruption or collapse of utilities, transport and communication networks including financial, social services, food supply and defence systems. The Summit urged Member States to treat the Y2K problem as an emergency and to allocate resources to initiatives seeking solutions on a top priority basis.
37. The Summit expressed satisfaction at the progress being made in the implementation of the African Economic Community, following the signing of the Protocol on the Relations between the African Economic Community and Regional Economic Communities on 25th February 1998, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
38. The Summit reaffirmed its decision of 1995, that all the activities and policies of SADC should be carried out in the context of achieving the objectives of the African Economic Community. The Summit committed SADC, as a

building bloc, to play a catalytic and strategic role in the process of establishing the African Economic Community.

39. The Summit decided to reduce the tenure of office of the Chairperson of SADC from three years to one year with effect from 1999, in order to facilitate greater participation by all Member States in the leadership of the organisation at the highest level.
40. The Summit appointed Dr Pakereesamy Ramsamy, a national of Mauritius, to the position of Deputy Executive Secretary. He takes over from Mr Lengolo Monyake, a national of Lesotho, who left the Secretariat in April 1998, following the end of his contract with SADC. The Summit expressed appreciation for Mr Monyake's dedicated service to the Organisation, and also thanked the Government of Lesotho for having made it possible for Mr Monyake to serve the region. The Summit welcomed Dr Ramsamy to his new and challenging position, and wished him success.
41. The Summit noted that His Excellency President Mandela would retire from office early next year before its next meeting. The Summit expressed sincere gratitude and appreciation for the selfless and wise leadership President Mandela has provided to the Organisation as well as the Republic of South Africa. The Summit wished President Mandela a happy retirement and continued good health.

42. His Excellency President Chissano of Mozambique, and Vice Chairman of SADC, passed a Vote of Thanks and invited the 1999 Summit to Maputo, Mozambique. In his Vote of Thanks President Chissano described the Indian Ocean that separates Mauritius from the continent as only as a geographical reference, surpassed by the strong ideals shared by SADC Members States, and the historical and cultural bonds forged over the years. He paid tribute to President Mandela for giving his best to SADC since he assumed the Chairmanship in 1996.
43. The Summit welcomed the invitation by President Chissano to host its next Summit in Maputo, Mozambique next year. **His Excellency President Kabila addressed the Summit Closing Ceremony and thanked SADC leaders for their continued support towards efforts to bring peace and stability to the Democratic Republic of Congo and the region as a whole.**
44. In his closing statement, His Excellency President Mandela expressed sincere gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Mauritius on behalf of Summit delegates, for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 1998 Summit. President Mandela expressed sincere appreciation for the support and valuable counsel their Excellencies had given him during his term of office; and assured their Excellencies of his unwavering loyalty and deep-rooted commitment to the ideals of SADC.

Grand Baie

Republic of Mauritius

19<sup>th</sup> September, 1998

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ANNEX 3  
LIST OF ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS FOR SECTORS

1. Culture, Information and Sports.
2. Energy.
3. Finance and Investment.
4. Food Security.
5. Crops.
6. Agricultural Research.
7. Environment and Land Management.
8. Inland Fisheries.
9. Marine Fisheries and Resources.
10. Forestry.
11. Wild Life.
12. Livestock Production and Animal disease Control.
13. Health.
14. Human Resources Development.
15. Employment and Labour.
16. Industry and Trade.
17. Mining.
18. Tourism.
19. Transport, Communications and Meteorology.
20. Water.