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Economic Commission for Africa – Issue 14, September 2010

About the ECA-SA Office

The Economic Commission for Africa, Southern Africa Office (ECA-SA) is one of the five ECA subregional offices (SROs) serving as vital links between policy-oriented analytical work generated at headquarters and policy making at the subregional level.

The office monitors the evolution of regional integration in support of the African Union Commission's regional integration agenda with a special focus on activities vital to the regional integration process. It seeks to strengthen capacity and provide technical assistance to institutions driving the regional integration agenda most importantly SADC and COMESA. The Office undertakes subregional preparation on programmes addressing Africa's special needs and emerging global challenges such as the MDGs, and spearheads subregional follow-up of global conferences. The Office also serves as a sub regional hub for the dissemination of ECA's policy analytical work-employing extensive public information and outreach activities including workshops, training and publication of the quarterly newsletter.

Mission Statement

"To Leverage on our multidisciplinary analytical skills, convening power and consensus building strength to facilitate the harmonisation of policies and strategies for harnessing regional resources to meet the development priorities of the Southern Africa Subregion"

SADC HEADS OF STATE MEET, CELEBRATE 30TH JUBILEE

By Munorweyi Dhliwayo, Officer-in-Charge

The Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) was held in Windhoek, Namibia from 16 - 17 August, 2010.

Heads of State and Government of the following countries attended the Summit: Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kingdom of Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, the Kingdom of Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Representatives of the Heads of State of Angola, Seychelles and Tanzania also attended.

The Summit was also attended by former Heads of State and Government of Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia.

The following organisations were represented at the Summit: the African Union, African Development Bank (AfDB), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and the SADC Parliamentary Forum.

The following major decisions, observations and recommendations constitute a summary of the outcome of the Summit:

a) The Summit noted progress the region continues to make to consolidate democracy, peace and security and commended Botswana, Mauritius, Mozambique and Namibia for the peaceful, free, fair, transparent and credible elections held.

b) The Summit approved the following:

- SADC, the African Union and the wider international community should lend their political, technical, material and financial support to the process of Malgache-Malgache dialogue;

- the SADC Mediator should continue to follow the situation closely, avail his support and facilitation to the

The Office serves the following SADC countries : Angola, Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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Malagasy as appropriate, and report regularly to SADC and AU on developments in Madagascar;

- the need for the dialogue process to observe the key principles of neutrality, consensus, credibility and inclusiveness;

- establishment of a SADC liaison office in Madagascar in order to support the dialogue process in the country; and

- continuation of the sanctions on the Republic of Madagascar until the country returns to constitutional normalcy.

c) The Summit mandated the Secretariat to send a team of technical experts to establish the extent of the problem of piracy in the coastal waters of SADC Member States, especially Seychelles, Mauritius and United Republic of Tanzania and recommend appropriate measures.

d) On the establishment of the SADC Customs Union, the Summit mandated the Ministerial Task Force on Regional Economic Integration to appoint a high level expert group that would consolidate and refine technical work so far done to facilitate reaching agreement and common understanding on the parameters, benchmarks, timelines, a model customs union and its implementation modalities. This group will submit a report to the Task Force before December 2011.

e) On preparations for establishing the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite FTA, the Summit mandated the Chairperson of Council and the Executive Secretary to consult and set the dates and venue of the next Tripartite Council and Summit meetings to be hosted by SADC.

f) On the socio-economic situation in the region, and in view of the impact of the global economic crisis on food security, climate change, HIV and AIDS and Gender and Development, the Summit mandated the SADC Secretariat in collaboration with the Chairperson of SADC to convene an Extra Ordinary Summit on Economic Development to come up with remedial measures.

g) On the food security situation, the Summit

urged Member States to scale up the implementation of the Dar-es-salaam Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security and to support the African Food Basket Initiative, and mandated the Secretariat to explore how SADC can access resources from the US\$22 billion L'aquila Food Security Initiative pledged by the G8.

h) On Climate Change, the Summit reiterated SADC's support to the African common negotiating position on the global climate change regime after the expiry of the Kyoto Protocol in 2012. The Summit noted that this issue will be discussed at the 16th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to be held in Cancun, Mexico in November-December 2010.

i) On HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Summit urged Member States and the international community to support the replenishment of resources to the Global Fund to fight against HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

j) On Gender and Development, the Summit urged Member States to ratify and implement the Protocol on Gender and Development.

k) The Summit endorsed the Council decision on the establishment of the Regional Poverty Observatory which will facilitate the implementation of the SADC Declaration on Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development.

l) The Summit decided that a review of the role, functions and terms of reference of the SADC Tribunal should be undertaken and concluded within 6 months.

The Summit celebrated the 30th SADC Anniversary and conferred the Sir Seretse Khama SADC Medal to the following notable Statesmen of the SADC Region:

(a) His Excellency Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda, Former President of the Republic of Zambia;
(b) His Excellency Dr. Sam Nujoma, Former President of the Republic of Namibia; and
(c) Ambassador Brigadier General Hashim Mbita of the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Summit also received the Windhoek Declaration for the 2010 SADC First Spouses Summit of the SADC Region that underscored the importance of women's economic empowerment as a strategy for poverty reduction.

ECA-SA Recent Events

I. SADC Women in Business Investment Forum and Trade Fair

The ECA Sub Regional Office for Southern Africa (ECA-SA) and the African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) jointly supported participation of three SADC women miners from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe in the Investment Forum held from 9-11 August 2010 and the Women in Business Trade Fair held from 12-18 August 2010 in Windhoek, Namibia. The objectives of the investment forum and trade fair were to ensure economic empowerment of SADC women in business through creation of opportunities for women in business to identify new markets, and to expose them to new and appropriate production technologies. In addition, the forum created an opportunity for exchange

of ideas, sharing of knowledge and experiences for business expansion and networking and to promotion of intra and inter regional trade and partnerships among women in business. The intended outcomes were; women entrepreneurs who are economically empowered, well motivated and exposed to new and appropriate production technologies. As new markets are identified and opportunities for selling their products created and promotion of intra and inter regional trade amongst women in business.

The two events were organized by SADC Secretariat in the margins of the SADC Summit with support from UNIFEM, UNDP and UNECA. In addition to the UNECA supported participants, the event brought together over 55 participants drawn from the 14 SADC member states. The 2010 SADC Trade Fair was the fifth event organized by SADC Secretariat wherein the Investment Forum was the first of its kind and formed part of the broader "SADC 2010 One Team 15 Nations for Sustainable Investment in Transport Corridors, Water, Energy, ICT and Trans-Frontier Conservation Areas."

The forum presented an opportunity for participants to appraise themselves with the necessary conceptual and practical guide to emerging issues on gender and trade. Participants were introduced to a broad range of conceptual issues including the link between gender, economic empowerment of women and trade. They were also enlightened on the on-going UNDP Africa regional program on women in business and how this program can be of benefit to business women networks in SADC. Presentations and discussions on the newly adopted SADC Free Trade Area and upcoming SADC Customs Unions were made. Participants were also given step-by-step training on how to report non tariff barriers. They were also equipped with skills to manage



SADC Women in Business Trade Fair and Investment Forum participants following proceedings.

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L-R: Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia, Hon Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwa, with Head of Gender Unit, SADC Secretariat, Ms Magdeline Mathiba-Madibela, and Programme Officer UNIFEM, Ms Cecilia Ncube.

customs and other cross border barriers that are negatively affecting their trade. Participants were inducted on ILO approved training where basic marketing and entrepreneurial principles of managing their businesses were presented and tested.

Discussions pointed to various challenges facing business women in Southern Africa. These ranged from legal, policy and generally unfavorable socio-cultural and economic position of women in the subregion. In view of these challenges participants recommended a number of actions to strengthen women in business initiatives in Southern Africa. Bearing in mind that this is the fifth trade fair being organized by SADC, the meeting called for SADC Secretariat's intervention to assist with a formation of a SADC Women

in Business Network. The network is envisaged to coordinate capacity building and to strengthen networks of women in business at national levels. The meeting noted that the Investment Forum was a necessary step and a good strategy to Link women in business to international market. This opportunity equipped women with skills that would ensure economic growth and empowerment. The Forum also availed opportunities for establishing new innovative partnerships for women as leaders and entrepreneurs.



Chairperson of SADC Women in Mining Trust, Ms Namakau Kaingu(I), talking to Ms Cecilia Ncube of UNIFEM at the Women in Mining Stall.

2. Gender Statistics Workshop

In July 2010, ECA-SA, in collaboration with the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) and the African Centre for Gender and Social Development (ACGD), responded to a request by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare in Namibia to facilitate a three day Gender Statistics training workshop. ECA responded to this request by Namibia within its framework of supporting member States to meet their development priorities and also in addressing the challenge of lack of gender disaggregated data in Africa. The workshop provided an opportunity for ECA-SA to fulfil its regional mandate to provide advisory services to Member States aimed at supporting them to meet their development priority and specifically to address challenge of lack of gender disaggregated data. This training workshop was a follow up to the one held by ACS in Lusaka Zambia in July 2009 for the English Speaking countries of East and Southern Africa. In Namibia, this workshop formed part of a series of capacity building initiatives to enhance the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare (MGECW) to monitor gender mainstreaming efforts and to close of gender gaps to ensure socio-economic development. Further, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) has developed a National Statistical System (Namibia Information System) and MGECW has a mandate to mainstream gender in this system.

The training programme was structured in a manner that allowed facilitators to share methodologies and tools developed by ECA to support the strengthening of

National Statistical Systems to collect, utilize, disseminate gender disaggregated statistics as well as design a database, which allows gender disaggregated storage, and analysis. The tools are the African Gender and Development Index (AGDI) and A Guidebook for Mainstreaming Gender Perspectives and Household Production into National Statistics, Budgets and Policies in Africa. Both tools were designed to address the lack of a proper monitoring mechanism to track progress towards gender equality and women's advancement and also to address gender statistics requirements. The workshop was also used to validate a national gender statistics profile report. The workshop brought together gender, statistics and research experts from the Namibian ministries of gender, agriculture, labour, education, the central statistics office and UN Population Fund (UNFPA).

The objectives of the workshop were to introduce tools and methodologies developed for the collection, development and analysis of gender-disaggregated data and enhance the capacity of African National Statistical Offices, build capacity of officers from line ministries to collect and analyze sex disaggregated data. The workshop aimed to equip participants with skills to generate gender statistics, provide an overview of the Principles of gender mainstreaming and gender analysis and lastly to assist the national team to develop a National Plan of Action on how to incorporate gender into major statistical outputs like censuses.



Some of the participants of the Namibia Gender Statistics Workshop.

Recent Events

Report will henceforth be published biennially.

The RHDR 2010 will build on the work undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on past reports and will focus on the interaction between human development and regional integration. Progress in human development will be assessed using a set of selected indicators, including poverty and income inequality, rates of employment, rates of educational enrolment/attainment and various other measures relating to health, nutritional status and gender. The Report will provide a regional perspective and make policy recommendations to support improved regional policy formulation and implementation. It will, therefore, constitute a mechanism to monitor regional socio-economic progress that is linked to efforts at the national level.

With a view to defining the overall structure, scope and content of the proposed RHDR, the ECA-SA and the SADC held a joint planning workshop in Lusaka, Zambia, from 1 to 2 July 2010. The workshop was attended by some SADC member States, the African Union Regional Office, selected UN Agencies, COMESA representatives, and other non-state actors. The workshop participants agreed on the theme: "Enhancing Human Development through Regional Integration", and developed an annotated outline that would guide the preparation of the Regional Human Development Report.

3. ECA-SA and SADC Collaborate on the Regional Human Development Report for Southern Africa

The Economic Commission for Africa's Southern Africa Office (ECA-SA) is collaborating with SADC to develop the Regional Human Development Report for Southern Africa. This Report is being prepared in the context of the current Multi-Year Programme between the SRO-SA and SADC, which is in direct response to the UN Secretary-General's recommendation to enhance the role of the ECA sub-regional offices in accelerating regional economic integration. The current Multi-Year Programme has identified several areas of cooperation, based on the SADC's priorities as outlined in the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Regional Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ (SIPO). Within the current MYP framework, SADC has requested technical assistance from the ECA-SA to prepare the Regional Human Development Report (RHDR) 2010 for Southern Africa. Previously published at ad hoc intervals, this



Some of the representatives of ECA, SADC, UNDP and African Union Regional Office attending the Meeting on the Regional Human Development Report for Southern Africa

Upcoming Events

Experts Group Meetings and Workshops

7 In the quarter covering October to December 2010, the following activities will be organised:

1. Ad hoc expert group meeting on “Harmonised security framework for the mineral products of the SADC region”

Within the context of the Multi Year Programme on the harmonisation of mining policies in the region, the ECA-SA office has been working with the SADC Secretariat to implement the Mining Protocol signed by SADC Heads of State that came into force in February 2000. An Implementation Plan, to operationalise the Framework on “Harmonisation of Mining Policies, Standards, Legislative and Regulatory Framework in Southern Africa” was developed and approved by SADC Mining Ministers in November 2010. As part of the work on aligning mining policies, regulations and administrative frameworks, the SADC member States have requested the ECA-SA Office to develop a security framework for the major minerals produced in the SADC region.

The ECA-SA has commissioned a study to develop a comprehensive system for tracking and certifying SADC mineral products, from mining and processing sites through to their sale and export. It is envisaged that the system will promote ethical mining practice and good governance through transparent declarations of production and export figures. This should result in increased levels of revenue collected by the SADC member States from the mineral sector. The main output of the study will be a report containing comprehensive proposals for a SADC-wide mineral tracking and certification system with suggestions for implementing the system. The proposals will be presented to a SADC Expert Group Meeting (EGM) to be held in November, 2011. The report along with recommendations from the EGM will be further presented to the SADC Mining Ministers Meeting for approval in November 2010.

2. Seminar on “Enhancing the Effectiveness of Food Security Information Systems (FSIS) in the SADC Subregion”

The recurrence and magnitude of food crises in Southern Africa underscore the need to improve prevention and response mechanisms to address the determinants and dynamic nature of food insecurity, at both national and regional levels. The strong upward trends and increased variability in global food prices over the past two years have led to concern about the lack of sufficient information to gauge the likely effects of global food crises on SADC countries and to identify, design, and implement policy actions to best avoid risks and take advantage of opportunities.

The SADC Food Security Summit held in Dar es Salaam in 2004 emphasised the need to strengthen national early warning systems; enhance vulnerability monitoring capabilities; and develop a Regional Integrated Agricultural Information System to enhance agricultural development and sustainable food security in the subregion.

Food security information is provided through a myriad of sources operated by governments, donors, multi-laterals and NGOs in Southern Africa. Designers and implementers of FSIS need to enhance the credibility of the information through a process of consultation and coordination. Clear communication strategy and capacity building will allow policy makers understand how the information is derived and analysis undertaken.

While mainly focusing on food supply, FSIS in the SADC region lack information about underlying livelihoods and assets, longer-term vulnerability analysis and poverty monitoring. They face challenges in terms of collecting, packaging and disseminating information about people’s ability to gain access to food, as well as the availability of food. There are concerns about the accuracy and reliability of some data. Linkages of FSIS to trade policy and private sector decision-makers are poor. This limits the potential for private sector mitigation activities and response to disasters. The paucity of data on costs of FSIS and their various components constitutes a severe constraint on financial planning and sustainability. The lack of coordination has led to duplication/wastage, lack of standardisation of information and confusion for decision makers. The Food Security Early Warning

Systems (FEWS), as a major component of FSIS in SADC, are heavily dependent on external resources and orientated to climatic shocks. They are almost always aimed at monitoring rural populations despite rapidly increasing urban poverty and vulnerability.

To assist member States in facing these challenges, and as part of its Multi-Year Programme with SADC, ECA-SA will organise a seminar on “Enhancing the Effectiveness of Food Security Information Systems in the SADC Subregion”. The seminar will review issues and challenges faced by member States and other stakeholders in developing FSIS and make recommendations to strengthen the production, delivery and consumption of quality agricultural and food security information in the SADC region.

Using the findings of the issues paper on “Enhancing the Effectiveness of Food Security Information Systems in the SADC Subregion”, the seminar will identify methodological, institutional, technological and political issues to consider in defining a strategy to improve the technical quality and scope of analysis provided by the FSIS and evaluate the impact of their interventions.

Seminar participants will include agriculture and food security information experts from government institutions and ministries, the private sector, SADC institutions, academia, civil society organisations and others development partners.

In organising the seminar, ECA-SA will collaborate with the SADC Secretariat, member States and the Food Security and Sustainable Development Division (FSSDD) at ECA Headquarters and other stakeholders. The seminar is scheduled to take place in October 2010 in Lusaka, Zambia.

3.ECA-SA to Address SADC Central Bank Governors on Regional Financial Integration

The ECA-SA Office has been formally invited to present its study findings on Governance of Financial Institutions in Southern Africa: Issues for an Institutional Convergence Framework for Regional Financial Integration in SADC at the meeting of SADC Committee of Central Bank Governors (CCBG). The meeting is scheduled to take place in October 2010 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

To recall, the ECA-SA and the CCBG Secretariat

collaborated on the above-mentioned study and the subsequent Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting (AEGM) that took place in November 2009 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The experts reviewed the study’s preliminary findings and made further recommendations on its theme. At the conclusion of the meeting, the experts mandated the ECA-SA and the CCBG Secretariat to submit the study’s recommendations to the relevant subcommittees of the CCBG and then table them at the main CCBG meeting for discussion and adoption.

In the forthcoming meeting of the CCBG therefore, the ECA-SA will present the rationale for the study’s overarching recommendation, namely, that SADC should develop an overriding Framework for Regional Financial Integration that would solidify the region’s financial integration process and agenda. Such a framework would further assist in identifying the challenges the community faces now and in the future as it strives to create a unified regional financial market and a common monetary union. The presentation will also cover the issues that emerged from the AEGM deliberations, including on policy and institutional, capacity building and resource mobilization, and on public participation.

Once discussed and adopted by the CCBG, it is hoped that the Committee will facilitate the recommendations’ adoption by, and implementation in, the SADC member States.

Staff News.....

Jennifer appointed Deputy ES, leaves Lusaka

The former Director of the ECA Southern Africa Office Ms. Jennifer Kargbo left Lusaka at the end of July 2010 on an assignment as acting Deputy Executive Secretary of the ECA. After working for almost five years in Lusaka, Ms. Kargbo said she had enjoyed her stay and work in Lusaka and would miss everyone as they had all accommodated her very well.

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Ms. Kargbo (r) accepting a gift presented to her by colleagues at the farewell luncheon.



Ms. Kargbo giving her remarks after receiving the gift.

Alfred leaves on early retirement

The end of September 2010 saw the Office bid farewell to Mr Alfred Latigo, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, who left on early retirement. Alfred joined the ECA in April 2001 as Senior Economic Affairs Officer in the then ACW at ECA Headquarters. Speaking at a farewell party held in his honour, Alfred said he cherished the time he spent in the ECA and the support he received from all colleagues in Lusaka and ECA Headquarters.



Mr. Latigo admiring a gift presented to him by colleagues.

The Economic Commission for Africa, Southern Africa Office (ECA-SA), launches this quarterly newsletter to connect ideas and information to our constituencies. We sincerely hope you will find the information useful and enjoyable.

We encourage you to please contact us for any further information regarding ECA-SA.

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