

REPORT TO PARLIAMENT
SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 2002/03
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AARSOC..... Asia-Africa Sub-regional Organisations Conference
ACP..... African, Caribbean and Pacific States (see CPA)
ADB..... African Development Bank
APRM..... African Peer Review Mechanism (NEPAD)
ASEAN..... Association of South East Asian Nations
AU..... African Union (formerly OAU)
BNC..... Binational Commission
CADSP..... Common African Defence and Security Policy
CARICOM..... Caribbean Community
CCW..... Certain Conventional Weapons Convention
CSSDCA..... Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Co-operation in Africa
CHOGM..... Commonwealth Heads of State and Government Meeting
CPA..... Cotonou Partnership Agreement (EU and ACP)
CWC..... Chemical Weapons Convention
DRC..... Democratic Republic of Congo
ECOSOC..... Economic and Social Council (UN)
EPAs..... Economic Partnership Agreements
EU..... European Union
FfD..... International Conference for Financing for Development
FSI..... Foreign Service Institute
G8..... Group of Eight (USA, UK, Germany, Italy, France, Russia, Japan, Canada)
G20..... Group of Twenty
GCC..... Gulf Co-operation Council
GMO..... Genetically Modified Organisms
HRD..... Human Resource Development
HSGIC..... Heads of State and Government Implementation
Committee (Nepad)
IAEA..... International Atomic Energy Agency
ICD..... Inter-Congolese Dialogue
ICC..... International Criminal Court
ICPs..... International Co-operating Partners
ICT..... Information and Communications Technology
ICTR..... International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
IDSC..... Interstate Defence and Security Committee (SADC)
IGAD..... Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IMC..... International Marketing Council
IMF..... International Monetary Fund
IOR-ARC..... Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Co-operation
ISDSC..... Interstate Defence and Security Committee (SADC)
IRPS..... International Relations, Peace and Security Cluster
ISPDC..... Interstate Politics and Diplomacy Committee (SADC)
JBC..... Joint Bilateral Commission
JCC..... Joint Commission for Co-operation
LDCs..... Least Developing Countries
MCA..... Millennium Challenge Account
MDGs..... Millennium Development Goals
MERCOSUR..... Southern Common Market (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay)
MISS..... Minimum Information Security Standards
MONUC..... UN Peace Mission to the DRC
MOU..... Memorandum of Understanding
MSP..... Master Systems Plan (ICT)
MTCR..... Missile Technology Control Regime
NAC..... New Agenda Coalition
NAM..... Non-Aligned Movement
NEPAD..... New Partnership for Africa's Development
NPT..... Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
NSG..... Nuclear Suppliers Group
OECD..... Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

ODA..... Official Development Assistance
OIC..... Organisation of Islamic Conference
OAU..... Organisation of Africa Unity
PAP..... Pan African Parliament
PFMA..... Public Finance Management Act
PMS..... Performance Management System
PNS..... Palestinian National Authority
PSC..... Peace and Security Council (AU)
RECs..... Regional Economic Communities
RISDP..... Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan
SACU..... Southern African Customs Union (SA, BLSN)
SADC..... Southern African Development Community
SAPSD..... South African Protection Service Detachment
SARPCCO..... Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Co-ordinating Organisation
SIPO..... Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ (SADC)
TDCA..... Trade and Development Co-operation Agreement (with EU)
TICAD..... Tokyo International Conference on African Development
TNG..... Transitional National Government
TRIPS..... Trade-related Aspects of International Property Rights
TPVM..... Third Party Verification Mechanism (DRC)
UNCTAD..... United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNGA..... United Nations General Assembly
UNSC..... United Nations Security Council
WB..... World Bank
WCAR..... World Conference Against Racism
WFP..... World Food Programme
WMD..... Weapons of Mass Destruction
WSSD..... World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO..... World Trade Organisation

SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 2002/03

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT TO PARLIAMENT

This Report to Parliament provides a synopsis of South Africa's main foreign policy priorities and achievements for 2002/03. Moreover, it provides an overview of the foreign policy priorities for 2003/04 as formulated by the International Relations, Peace and Security Cluster (IRPS), approved by the Extended Cabinet Lekgotla in January 2003, and incorporating the priorities as enunciated by President Thabo Mbeki in his State of the Nation Address on 14 February 2003.

This Report is circulated to the Honourable Members of Parliament in the interest of transparency and accountability prior to the Budget Vote Speech 2003 by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, scheduled for presentation on 25 March 2003.

South Africa maintains diplomatic relations with countries and organisations through 97 missions in 85 countries. One hundred and sixty countries and organisations are accredited to South Africa. (For a list of South African Missions abroad and Foreign Missions in South Africa, see Departmental website: www.dfa.gov.za).

The Department of Foreign Affairs' budget provision for the financial year 2002/03 was R2,479 billion and for 2003/04 is R2,243 billion. The Annual Report of the Department of Foreign Affairs for 2002/03 will still be issued during the course of the year.

2. PRINCIPLES OF SOUTH AFRICA'S FOREIGN POLICY

South Africa's democratically elected leaders charted the course of our foreign policy by enunciating the principles underpinning South Africa's foreign policy since 1994.

These principles include the following:

- Commitment to the African Renaissance through the African Union and its programme for Africa's development, namely the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).
- Commitment to global equity, justice and international law in the conduct of international relations.
- Safeguarding South Africa's territorial integrity and sovereignty.
- Promotion of human rights and democracy.
- Combating of racism, sexism, xenophobia and other related intolerances.
- Promotion of international peace, security and stability through the United Nations (UN) as the pre-eminent global security body, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), now replaced by the African Union (AU), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Commonwealth and other multilateral for a.
- Promotion of sustainable and people-centred development.
- Commitment to economic development through regional integration and development in the Southern African Development Community and the Southern African Customs Union (SACU).
- Eradication of poverty through the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.
- Promotion of multilateralism in lieu of unilateralism to secure a rules-based international system.
- Promotion of the democratisation and reform of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and the Bretton Woods Institutions (i.e. International Monetary Fund [IMF] and World Bank [WB]).
- Promotion of a rules-based international trading regime through the World Trade Organisation (WTO).
- Promotion of the Agenda of the South through South-South Co-operation and North-South Partnerships.
- Promotion of a positive image of South Africa.

There has been an evolution in these principles to take cognisance of changes in the global environment.

3. REPORT ON CLUSTER PRIORITIES FOR 2002/03

The Cabinet Lekgotla in January 2002 and President Mbeki in his State of the Nation Address in February 2002 identified and approved the following IRPS Cluster priorities for the aforesaid year:

3.1 African Union

The Cluster prioritised the launch of the African Union and the hosting of its Inaugural Summit in Durban from 28 June to 10 July 2002. The Cluster also emphasised that African Union programmes should be in line with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Progress Achieved

The Inaugural Summit of the African Union held in Durban from 28 June to 10 July 2002, and the adoption of NEPAD as Africa's principal agenda for development, are significant developments. The Summit launched the African Union with some of its key Organs in place, during the 1st Session of the Assembly of the Union. Three of the eighteen Organs of the AU have been established, namely the Assembly, the Executive Council, the Permanent Representatives Committee. The Assembly has also adopted the Statutes of the Commission.

During the Summit a number of far-reaching decisions were adopted, including the establishment of a Peace and Security Council; the implementation of the NEPAD Initial Action Plan; the African Peer Review Mechanism and the NEPAD Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance; the need for a Common African Defence and Security Policy; the CSSDCA Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development and Co-operation; and decisions on conflict situations in Africa as well as the Middle East.

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 AU member states.

3.2 Restructuring of SADC and SACU

The second priority for 2002/03 emphasised the restructuring of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Southern African Customs Union (SACU).

Progress achieved

The objective of the restructuring of SADC was to increase its efficiency and effectiveness to eliminate poverty in the region. A restructured SADC reduced the twenty-one sectors into clusters under four Directorates at the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Botswana. Within the SADC Secretariat the Department of Strategic Planning, Gender and Policy Harmonisation (comprising the four Directorates) was established as the Core of SADC's programmes and projects.

At national level, SADC National Committees and cluster-based sub-committees will co-ordinate their respective individual member states interests relating to SADC in the areas of policy development, implementation, reporting, monitoring and evaluation.

At regional level, an Integrated Committee of Ministers (ICM) has been established to co-ordinate the work of the different clusters. The ICM is responsible for the development of a five-year Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) as the overall regional NEPAD programme. The RISDP is intended to provide SADC member states with a coherent

and comprehensive development agenda on social and economic policies over the next decade with clear targets and time frames.

The new SADC structure also includes the Troika system and the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security (OPDS). Within the OPDS, the Interstate Politics and Diplomacy Committee (ISPDC) held its first meeting in Maputo, Mozambique, in May 2002 where a draft Work Programme and Rules of Procedure were adopted.

In SADC, approximately 14,4 million people require emergency food supplies. The World Food Programme's emergency food pipeline in the sub-region is working well. South Africa pledged to donate 100,000 tons of maize meal, as well as to mill, at its own cost, 600,000 tons of grain donated by foreign donors. South Africa has allocated an amount of US\$20 million to the WFP for this purpose.

President Mbeki signed the new SACU Agreement in October 2002, which makes provision for a Council of Ministers; a Customs Union Commission; the Secretariat; a Tariff Board; a Tribunal; and a number of Technical Liaison Committees. The above institutions will be launched after the Agreement has been ratified by Member States. The new Agreement will, to a large extent, equip SACU with democratic institutions, a dispute settlement mechanism, and a sustainable and equitable revenue sharing arrangement.

3.3 Implementation of NEPAD

Progress achieved

NEPAD was globally endorsed as the development programme of the AU by the UN General Assembly, the Bretton Woods institutions (i.e. IMF and World Bank), the G8 (Action Plan for Africa), the European Union (EU), the Japanese development initiative for Africa (TICAD), China-Africa Co-operation Forum, NAM, MERCUSOR and ASEAN.

As AU Chair, South Africa proposed a one-day High-Level Plenary meeting of the United Nations General Assembly during its 57th Regular Session in October 2002 to focus on NEPAD. Consequently, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on NEPAD that will create an annual agenda item in the General Assembly on NEPAD.

The EU placed emphasis on NEPAD principles of democracy, human rights, the rule of law, political and economic good governance as well as conflict prevention as cornerstones for the creation of a more conducive environment for peace, stability and development. The European Commission offered to finance a NEPAD Capacity Building Project.

Canada, as the chair of the G8 from June 2002 to June 2003, took a strong lead in coordinating the G8 response to NEPAD. President Mbeki met with Canadian Prime Minister Chrétien during the latter's visit to South Africa in April 2002. During his visit, Mr. Chrétien also participated in a mini summit in Pretoria, along with SADC leaders, to discuss the direction of the new partnership between the industrialised countries and Africa. The Canadian Prime Minister announced that Canada would be establishing an Africa Fund of 500 million Canadian dollars (R3 billion) to support NEPAD projects.

The proposed US Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) commences in 2004. The MCA provides for official development assistance to developing countries amounting to US\$5 billion in the first three years and to \$5 billion in the year thereafter. The US Administration is inclined to allocate a significant portion of the fund in support of the NEPAD, subject to meeting political and socio-economic eligibility requirements. In this respect, the Department of Foreign Affairs facilitated a USA Congressional Hearing on NEPAD by the Africa Subcommittee of the House International Relations Committee, at which Deputy Minister Pahad provided a comprehensive testimony on NEPAD.

South Africa, as Chair of the AU, also engaged countries and organisations of the South on NEPAD, through the NAM, MERCOSUR, the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Within the Southern African region, the linkage between NEPAD and the SADC RISDP was adopted by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Finance at their meeting in Blantyre, Malawi, on 13 September 2001. The Ministerial Meeting also decided that the development of the RISDP and the SADC restructuring process should take NEPAD into account, and where appropriate, SADC and NEPAD programmes should be harmonised.

The Private Sector, both in the North and the South, continued to support NEPAD. Conferences with the private sector were held in Dakar, Senegal, and at the World Economic Forum (WEF) meeting in Durban during June 2002, and in Lugano, Switzerland, on 12 October 2002. The Lugano conference proposed to establish NEPAD headquarters for Europe in Lugano.

The NEPAD Secretariat budget was approved at the Sixth Summit of the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC) of the NEPAD in Abuja, Nigeria, on 9 March 2003. At the Summit, Member states of the AU were urged to make voluntary contributions towards financing and staffing of the NEPAD Secretariat, particularly for the proposed African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

The HSGIC stressed the importance of the early ratification of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the AU by AU member states. The HSGIC endorsed the composition of the African team that was mandated to interact closely with the G8 Ad Hoc Working Group, with a view to submitting proposals to the forthcoming G8 Summit in Evian, France.

The HSGIC noted that the United Nations system had decided to assist NEPAD with the creation of an office to coordinate programmes related to Africa headed by an Under Secretary General. The HSGIC welcomed the establishment of the global initiative on the transparency of payments made for the exploitation of natural resources and urged the NEPAD Secretariat, as well as the NEPAD Steering Committee to remain engaged on this matter. The HSGIC also noted the Report on the Implementation of NEPAD, especially with regard to the Infrastructure Short-term Action Plan and Agriculture. The HSGIC endorsed the six priority areas identified by the e-Africa Commission, such as the e-Schools Project, East-Coast African Sub-marine Cable Project and the e-Readiness Project.

It may be noted that the HSGIC approved, as operative guidelines for the APRM, the documents on Objectives, Standards, Criteria and Indicators for the APRM, African Peer Review Mechanisms Organisation and Processes and the Outline of the Memorandum of Understanding on Technical Assessments and the Country Review Visit. Moreover, the HSGIC approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as framework for a formal accession to the APRM. Consequently, Algeria, Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa and Uganda signed the MoU.

The HSGIC also mandated the Chairperson to undertake further consultations with the Representatives of each region of the HSGIC, on the appointment of the Chairperson and members of the Panel of the Eminent Persons, and for this process to be concluded by 31 March 2003.

The NEPAD Secretariat identified an infrastructure plan comprising of a number of short-term infrastructure projects to be implemented continentally. During the HSGIC meeting in Abuja, the African Development Bank (ADB) made a presentation on the state of infrastructure in the continent and announced that the Bank had presented to its Board of Directors a total of 17 projects from the Secretariat's infrastructure plan for funding.

3.4 Peace, Stability and Security

The Cluster priorities strongly emphasise the advancement of peace, stability and security in Africa, the Middle East and beyond, as well as fighting terrorism.

Progress achieved

3.4.1 Angola

South Africa is committed to the post-war socio-politico-economic reconstruction of Angola. The visit of Deputy President Jacob Zuma to Angola in April 2002 created an opportunity to investigate ways and means by which South Africa could assist in this process. During the Deputy President's meeting with President J E Dos Santos, he was requested to convey to President Mbeki Angola's request for him to assist in mobilizing the international community for a donor conference with the aim of assisting with the reconstruction of the country.

Cabinet decided on 12 June 2002 that Government should pay special attention to the challenge of relief aid to Angola. An Inter-Departmental Committee tasked with coordinating the humanitarian appeal for Angola dispatched a large consignment of humanitarian assistance to Angola on 31 October 2002. A second consignment of more clothes, food, maize seeds, 100 tons of maize meal and other items such as spades, is presently awaiting shipment to Luanda.

South Africa is assisting with the identification of areas of co-operation with the donor community and relevant South African role players on the anti-personnel situation in Angola.

The first full session of the South Africa-Angola Joint Commission for Cooperation took place in Pretoria on 28 February 2003. The meeting discussed several agreement proposals and strategies for closer co-operation between the two countries.

3.4.2 Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

South Africa supports the Lusaka Cease-fire Agreement of 10 July 1999 as the negotiated framework accepted by all the parties for the peaceful settlement of the conflict in the DRC. South Africa has played a key role in the further search for a lasting and comprehensive political solution to the conflict in the DRC. Following the adjournment of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue (ICD) at Sun City on 19 April 2002, South Africa remained seized with the matter.

South Africa also engaged the leaders of the Great Lakes region regarding the DRC situation. This process resulted in President Joseph Kabila of the DRC and President Paul Kagame of Rwanda signing a Peace Agreement in Pretoria on 30 July 2002. The Peace Agreement calls for the withdrawal of Rwandan troops from the territory of the DRC and the dismantling of the ex-FAR and Interahamwe forces in the DRC, and contains a Programme of Implementation.

The Peace Agreement assigned the role of Third Party to the South African Government, in its dual capacity as facilitator and Chair of the African Union, and the UN Secretary General. The task of the Third Party is to monitor and verify the implementation of the Agreement. The Third Party Verification Mechanism (TPVM) was established to act as the Secretariat for the Third Party. The TPVM comprises

four representatives from the South African Government and two of the UN Secretary General.

The first official withdrawal ceremony of Rwandan troops from the DRC took place at Kindu on 17 September 2002. This process was completed on 5 October 2002. The TPVM confirmed that 23 400 Rwandan troops had been withdrawn from the territory of the DRC. On 24 September 2002, the DRC Government banned the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), the political wing of the ex-FAR with immediate effect and declared its leaders "persona non grata".

During the second meeting of principals which took place on the periphery of the Franco-Africa Summit in Paris on 20 February 2003, it was decided to extend the mandate of the TPVM until its task could be handed over to a relevant institution in the envisaged transitional government of the DRC. The South African Government continues to support the MONUC operations. South Africa's participation will increase to a total of 1268 personnel by 21 April 2003.

In October 2002, South African again hosted consultations with all the stakeholders in the DRC. These consultations resulted in the Global and Inclusive Agreement on the Transition in the DRC, which was signed on 17 December 2002. This provides for a President and four Vice-Presidents. The current President of the DRC, Mr Kabila, would remain the President for the duration of the transitional period.

The Constitutional as well as the Defence and Security Commissions met in Pretoria from 24 February to 4 March 2003 to address the outstanding issues, i.e. the transitional constitution, the integration of the armed forces and security related issues.

The Commissions' meetings were followed by a Plenary from 5 to 7 March 2003 of the signatories of the Global and Inclusive Agreement on the Transition in the DRC. On 6 March 2003, the participants reached agreement on the above-mentioned outstanding issues indicated above.

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3.4.7 Comoros

The Comoran process of returning to constitutional order and ending secession was facilitated by the OAU, with South Africa acting as the OAU-mandated Coordinator of the Countries of the Region. To further facilitate the democratisation process, an AU chaired regional meeting took place in the Comoros from 28 to 29 January 2003. The AU stressed the cardinal importance of realizing the Fomboni Agreement by, inter alia, the holding of legislative elections throughout the Comoros and the establishment of democratic institutions such as a Constitutional Court and Parliament. The aforementioned is necessary in order to resolve the current impasse regarding the conflict over powers and to prevent any possible conflict between the Islands. The AU also indicated that the organisation will need financial support for the

electoral process and will send an observer mission to the Comoros to monitor the envisaged elections.

South Africa, as Chair of the AU, continues to monitor the democratisation process of the Union of the Comoros. South Africa is in the process of investigating several bilateral projects to assist in post-conflict reconstruction and development process in the Comoros.

3.4.8 Zimbabwe

South Africa continues to engage Zimbabwe bilaterally in a constructive manner in order to assist the people of Zimbabwe in addressing the problems confronting their country. Thus South Africa encourages dialogue amongst all the role players in an effort to create an environment conducive to reconciliation.

In terms of the economic situation in Zimbabwe due to the current drought and other causes, South Africa is fully committed to assist Zimbabwe in its plight. Together with donor countries and agencies, South Africa is also providing humanitarian assistance to help alleviate the current food shortages experienced within Zimbabwe and further a field in Southern Africa.

The revival of the South African and Zimbabwean Joint Bilateral Commission in November 2002 has lent new impetus towards closer bilateral cooperation.

Subsequently, the South African Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Labour and Agriculture have visited Zimbabwe to assess in which manner South African could assist.

The Department of Foreign Affairs intends to sign a Declaration of Intent with the Zimbabwean Ministry of Foreign Affairs, while the Department of Labour will also sign a Memorandum of Understanding with its counterpart. Memoranda of Understanding on the protection of investments and double taxation are due to be signed in the near future.

3.4.9 Lesotho

South Africa participated in a SADC Troika Observer Mission monitoring the general elections that took place in Lesotho on 25 May 2002. The Observer Mission pronounced the elections free and fair and as a true reflection of the will of the people of Lesotho.

The inaugural meeting of the SA-Lesotho Joint Binational Commission on Cooperation (JBCC) was held in Maseru on 8 May 2002. A bilateral meeting of Foreign Ministers was held on 10 October 2002. South Africa contributed R1 million for the provision of famine relief to Lesotho.

Development projects are in the process of being identified in preparation for a Donor Conference to be held in Lesotho during 2003.

3.4.10 Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

During 2002, South Africa remained engaged to advance the peace process in the Middle East.

As follow-up to the Spier Presidential Peace Retreat in January 2002, attended by both Israelis and Palestinians, a review meeting of the South African delegation was arranged to discuss and agree on future actions.

The leadership of the Israeli group of conscientious objectors, known as the "Ometz Letsarev/Courage not to Serve Group" visited South Africa in May 2002 to learn from the experience of the End Conscription Campaign. The Centre for Conflict Resolution, Cape Town, facilitated a series of meetings for the group, amongst others, with President Mbeki, Ministers R. Kasrils and K. Asmal and with Deputy Minister Pahad, as well as with the South African Jewish community.

During 2002, the South African Government paid an amount of R4 million to the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) as technical assistance to enable them to procure much needed medical supplies and equipment.

The President of Lebanon invited President Mbeki in his capacity as Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement to attend the opening session of the Summit Conference of the League of Arab States in Beirut on 28 March 2002. Foreign Minister, Dr Dlamini Zuma, represented the President at the Summit Conference and engaged with a number of Arab leaders on the question of Palestine and the Arab Peace Plan submitted to the Summit by Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Abdullah.

The Non-Aligned Movement's (NAM) Coordinating Bureau (CoB) focused the attention of the United Nations, and in particular Security Council, on the deepening crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. The NAM engaged the United Nations, and in particular the Secretary-General, and participated actively in the emergency meetings of the Security Council that were called in response to Israel's intensive military operations in the Occupied Territory. The Non-Aligned Movement, under South Africa's leadership, focused its efforts on ending the violence, securing Israel's immediate and unconditional compliance with Security Council resolutions and on encouraging the Parties to renew political negotiations with a view to achieving a comprehensive, just and durable solution to the crisis in the Middle East.

The NAM Committee on Palestine was convened at Ministerial level in South Africa on the fringes of the Ministerial Meeting of the CoB in April 2002. The NAM Security Council Caucus was also invited to participate. A declaration was adopted with the most salient aspect being the decision to organise, through the Chair of the Movement, a delegation to visit Palestine and to meet with President Arafat, in an expression of solidarity with the President and people of Palestine. Pursuant to this mandate, the Chair of NAM, President Mbeki, requested Foreign Minister, Dr Dlamini Zuma, to lead a NAM delegation to Ramallah in June 2002.

Furthermore South Africa co-hosted with the IAEA a seminar in Benoni, South Africa, from 24 to 27 June 2002. The seminar was part of the Agency's outreach programmes for African countries on the role and necessity of concluding Safeguards Agreements and Additional Protocols to Safeguards Agreements.

South Africa's participation in the Biological Weapons Convention and Chemical Weapons Convention was based on the Government's principled policy to prevent the transfer of any military equipment and/or material, equipment or technologies for use in the development or production of weapons of mass destruction to countries of proliferation concern.

South Africa in its bilateral contacts promoted the adoption of the necessary legislative and administrative frameworks to regulate arms transfers so as to prevent conventional weapons, including small arms, from entering the illicit arms trade.

South Africa continues to participate actively in meetings of the SADC Committee on Mine Action. The Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Convention, held Geneva, Switzerland, from 16 to 20 September 2002, reviewed the work of the Standing Committees in order to consider developments and the status of implementation of the Treaty in their respective fields of responsibility.

South Africa was an active participant in the third session of the Group of Governmental Experts of States Parties to the Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) Convention, which was held from 2 to 10 December 2002, followed by the Meeting of States Parties on 12 and 13 December 2002, adopted a negotiating mandate that the Group of Governmental Experts continue its work during 2003 on the proposal to include measures on "Explosive Remnants of War" (ERW) in the Convention. The South African delegation emphasised the importance of victim assistance and signalled its intention to introduce a Working Paper on the issue.

On the issue of small arms and light weapons, South Africa co-hosted the "African Conference on the Implementation of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms: Needs and Partnerships". The general objective of the meeting was to review the commitments made in the UN Programme of Action (adopted during the July 2001 UN Conference on small arms) and to examine how OECD and African countries could support the national, sub-regional and international undertakings in the implementation of the Programme of Action. Another focus was to also identify capacity-building, training and technical assistance needs, as well as resource implications.

At the sub-regional level, South Africa ratified the "Protocol on the Control of Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials in the SADC Region".

South Africa participated in the Second Session of the UN Panel of Governmental Experts on Missiles in all their Aspects that took place at the UN Headquarters in New York from 1-5 April 2002.

South Africa participated in the work of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), which inter alia focussed on the negotiation of a International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (ICOC), which was adopted by participating States in The Hague during November 2002. South Africa also participated in the Plenary of the MTCR in Warsaw, Poland, from 23 - 27 September 2002. The Plenary's main focus centred on ways to strengthen the Regime's actions in the fight against terrorism.

3.4.16 Crime

The Annual General Meeting of Interpol was held in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 20-24 October 2002. The Interpol database will be utilised for compiling an Organised Crime Threat Analysis in Africa.

South Africa participated in an African Regional Ministerial Conference on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, Algiers, in October 2002.

African Ministers reviewed progress made in Africa and to foster the development of frameworks for legislative reform and to explore the requirements for countries for technical assistance.

Several joint operations were held since July 2002 between the SARPCCO (Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Co-ordinating Organisations) countries. Wanted suspects were extradited to SARPCCO, as well as to countries abroad. Cross border crimes such as stolen vehicles, illegal drugs, firearms smuggling, amongst others, were addressed during the operation.

3.4.17 Terrorism

UN Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1390 (2002) and 1455 (2003) deal with terrorism. For the purpose of compliance, South Africa submitted its first National Report on the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) to the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) on 24 December 2001 and received the Committee's feedback on 15 April 2002. In response to the comments of the CTC, South Africa submitted a supplementary report to the CTC on 8 July 2002. A draft letter containing the CTC's comments on the supplementary report was received on 30 October 2002. South Africa submitted a third report, addressing the specific points that the CTC's expert panel had raised regarding aspects such as financial legislation, extradition laws and the status of the ratification of the 12 UN Conventions on terrorism on 30 January 2003.

A National Report on resolution 1390 (2002) was submitted to the Security Council's Afghanistan Sanctions Committee by the due date of 16 April 2002.

The UN Security Council on 17 January 2003 adopted resolution 1455 (2003) under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter strengthening the measures of resolution 1390 (2002) and requesting Member States to submit "updated reports" within 90 days of the adoption of the resolution on its implementation. South Africa will have to submit a report to the United Nations by 17 April 2003.

South Africa's National Report on the implementation of resolution 1455 (2003) is currently awaiting Cabinet approval. In the practical implementation of the above mentioned resolutions, South Africa has imposed financial, visa and entry restrictions and an arms embargo against the Taliban and against organisations, entities and individuals identified as being associated with terrorist acts or terrorist organisations.

South Africa has ratified five of the twelve international conventions against terrorism. The remaining conventions dealing with terrorism are currently under consideration for signature/ratification. In addition, South Africa ratified in September 2002 the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism.

South Africa actively participates in international initiatives aimed at combating particular crimes associated with terrorist activity (such as drug and arms trafficking) and is co-operating (multilaterally and bilaterally) in the exchange of information.

South Africa is also a member of Interpol and exchanges information through these channels.

South Africa consistently affirms its position that the combating of international terrorism be co-ordinated through the United Nations and that the root causes of terrorism needed to be addressed. Similarly the combating of terrorism should not take place at the expense of civil liberties and human rights.

South Africa will again be participating in a meeting of the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism held in April 2003 in another attempt to elaborate a draft Comprehensive Convention on Terrorism.

South Africa took part in the meeting of the AU Group of Experts on Terrorism held in Algiers, Algeria from 11 to 14 September 2002.

The meeting adopted a Plan of Action on Terrorism, to supplement and enhance the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism. The Plan of Action was adopted by the AU Executive Council, on 6 March 2003.

The Anti-Terrorism Bill, 2002 was tabled in Parliament on 10 March 2003. The Bill seeks to give effect to a number of instruments, principles and requirements related to terrorism.

NAM has a long-standing and principled position against acts of terrorism, which were adopted at the XII Summit in Durban in 1998.

The XIII NAM Summit (February 2003) held in Malaysia decided that "terrorism cannot be attributed to religion, nationality, or civilisation". NAM also rejected attempts to equate the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial and alien domination and foreign occupation, for self-determination and national liberation, with terrorism in order to prolong occupation and oppression of innocent people with impunity.

During the Annual SARPCCO meeting in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, from 1-20 September 2002, approval was given for the establishment of a central point where information / intelligence will be gathered and analysed on terrorism in the Region. This system will form part of the Interpol database.

3.5 Economic Development and Cooperation

The IRPS Cluster prioritised for 2002/03: the Global Struggle to Eradicate Poverty and Underdevelopment; the WTO Doha development agenda; World Summit on Sustainable Development in August/September 2002; International Conference for Financing for Development (FfD) in March 2002; strengthening of economic and other forms of cooperation with countries of the North and the South in pursuit of Africa's development; focusing on international markets to fashion a global financial architecture that cushions so-called 'emerging markets' from market volatility; achieving higher rates of economic growth and development through, amongst others, the promotion of foreign direct investment and trade; increasing international tourism to South Africa; and operationalisation of the International Marketing Council (IMC).

Progress achieved

3.5.1 World Trade Organisation (WTO)

South Africa actively participated in the WTO negotiations in Geneva. Serious problems were encountered in agricultural negotiations because of the reluctance by developed countries to reduce export subsidies and domestic support. Trade-related Aspects of International Property Rights (TRIPS) and Public Health was another area where serious problems were encountered. In general negotiations have been unable to meet agreed deadlines and the concern is that the WTO Ministerial

Meeting scheduled for Cancun, Mexico, in September 2003 may not yield desired results.

3.5.2 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)

South Africa successfully hosted the WSSD in August/September 2002 and through this South Africa's international profile was greatly enhanced. South Africa's ability to host international events of this nature and scale was ably demonstrated and represents an international competitive advantage.

There was an estimated R8,3 billion injection into the South African economy as a result of the Conference.

The Summit reaffirmed sustainable development as a central element of the international agenda and gave new impetus to global action to eradicate poverty and protect the environment. Internationally-agreed targets were adopted, inter alia, to ensure increased access to safe water and sanitation, on energy and on food security towards achieving the goal of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015.

The understanding of sustainable development was broadened and strengthened as a result of the Summit, particularly the important linkages between poverty, the environment and the use of natural resources. Key targets were also agreed to on biodiversity, pollution and fisheries.

Through the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, Governments agreed to and reaffirmed a wide range of concrete commitments and targets for action to achieve more effective implementation of sustainable development objectives, at the local, national, regional and global levels.

It can be said that the WSSD process represented a high point for co-operative governance in South Africa, both among national departments, as well as between the various spheres of government.

Successful engagement with all stakeholder groups ensured positive participation by Civil Society.

3.5.3 International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD)

South Africa participated in the FfD Conference. The outcome could be described as a qualified success. The "Monterrey Consensus" document was adopted, but it contains no commitments on the part of developed countries to implement action in any of the agreed priority areas. However, the EU announced increased ODA targets (up to 0,39% of GNP within three years), while the US promised a substantial increase in its ODA, (US\$5 billion) to be phased in over the next three years. The follow-up mechanism agreed to at FfD is in essence a continued dialogue between the Bretton Woods Institutions and the WTO on the one hand, and with the UN family on the other, with participation also by business and civil society.

3.5.4 World Bank/ International Monetary Fund

The reform of the WB/IMF governance and the global financial architecture suffered a setback as a result of the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks. Attention is now focussed on dealing with the financing of global terrorism. Reform of the governance of the Bretton Woods Institutions has not yet managed to overcome developed

countries' indifference to the issue. Debt relief and sound financial governance is of great concern to the NEPAD. The IMF and the World Bank as institutions have been receptive to the NEPAD.

3.5.5 Agenda of the South

One of the main decisions of the South Summit was to promote South-South co-operation and improve co-ordination of action on South issues. However, progress has been slow and there has been little agreement on the way forward.

At the UN LDC III conference, progress was made as far as Least Developing Countries (LDC) exports are concerned through the Everything but Arms Initiative. There has also been progress in writing off the debt of a number of LDCs in terms of the enhanced HIPC initiative. Senegal has been reclassified as a LDC.

UNCTAD X held a mid-term review in Bangkok in 2002, but resources for continued assistance to developing countries are under considerable pressure. Consequently, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) may have to scale back its important work in this area.

The UN has adopted NEPAD as the framework for future UN activity in Africa.

The targets set for the Millennium Summit Development Goals are in danger of falling behind schedule.

3.5.6 Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC)

South Africa applied for Observer Status at the 29th Ordinary Session of the Ministerial Conference of the OIC in Khartoum in June 2002. The OIC comprises 52 member states.

3.5.7 Bilateral Relations

During 2002/03, South Africa actively pursued structured bilateral relations with countries with which it has Binational Commissions/Joint Cooperation Commissions/ Partnership Forums and similar mechanisms. South Africa is satisfied with the progress made within these mechanisms. South Africa's bilateral science and technology cooperation was intensified during 2002.

South Africa has 14 structured mechanisms with African countries, 6 with the Middle Eastern countries, 16 with European countries, 4 with countries in the Americas and 10 with countries in Asia.

3.6 Imaging and Branding

The International Marketing Council was operationalised under the Chairpersonship of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Dlamini Zuma.

A tourism growth strategy was developed and is being rolled out in those countries identified as priority markets, in conjunction with South African Missions abroad. Major international events such as WSSD were leveraged to create a multiplier effect for the promotion of South Africa's image.

Attention was also given to South Africa's image in the international financial markets. It is worth highlighting that South Africa's international credit rating is

improving, macroeconomic fundamentals are perceived as sound, exports are improving and being diversified, monetary policy is credible, the budget deficit is declining due to prudent fiscal policies and debt as percentage of GDP continues to decline.

The result of these positive developments is that South Africa's debt price in foreign capital markets continue to decline compared to peer countries, the number of foreign investors attracted to South African bonds continue to grow and foreign investors were starting to perceive South Africa as "below the G7, but above emerging markets".

4. DEPARTMENTAL PRIORITIES FOR CORPORATE SERVICES

During 2002/03, the Department implemented, inter alia, a new streamlined structure supportive of Departmental strategy; established new missions in Africa, the Middle East and Asia (Doha [Qatar], Muscat [Oman], Hanoi [Vietnam], Shanghai [China] and Bamako [Mali]); commenced with the development of an Information Communications and Technology (ICT) Master Systems Plan (MSP); aligned the Department with the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA); and provided for the appointment of corporate services staff in line-function.

The Department subscribes to and complies with the principles of good corporate governance and ethical conduct. An Internal Audit Unit has been established and is functioning effectively and efficiently. During 2002/03, the Internal Audit Unit conducted eight normal audits and five special investigations. The Department has received unqualified audit reports for the past two years.

The Department continues to face the challenge of ensuring representivity within its workforce, particularly with representation of women in Management and Heads of Mission categories. The Department is on target in the context of restructuring and transformation of the Public Service in line with Resolution 7.

5. IRPS CLUSTER PRIORITIES FOR 2003/04

The Cabinet Lekgotla in January 2003 and President Mbeki in his State of the Nation Address identified and approved the IRPS Cluster Priorities for the year 2003/04.

It may be noted that the African Continent will continue to command the highest priority of the Cluster. The focus in the Cluster now shifts from the conceptualisation of an African Renaissance to implementation through the African Union and its development programme NEPAD. The Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on the Continent, as the building blocks of the African Union, are expected to play a critical role in the implementation of NEPAD.

5.1 African Renaissance

5.1.1 African Union

During the forthcoming year, South Africa will continue to focus on ensuring the effective functioning of the newly-established structures of the AU and facilitating the establishment of the outstanding main organs.

Focus will also be placed on the establishment of a fully-fledged AU Commission and the appointment of its Chair, Deputy Chair and eight Commissioners.

South Africa will need to expedite the implementation of the Protocol establishing the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC), after its ratification by Parliament. In addition, the process to develop a Common African Defence and Security Policy (CADSP) will be initiated.

The relationship between the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), have to be defined, specifically the institutional, operational and programmatic relationship between the AU and the RECs, with the view to the drafting of a new protocol to govern the relationship between the AU and the RECs.

The modalities for the funding of the AU will receive attention during this year.

As Chair of the AU, South Africa will host the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the OAU. The African Union will intensify its interaction with the African Diaspora.

5.1.2 Implementation of NEPAD

The focus of NEPAD will now shift to implementation. The Department of Foreign Affairs will oversee the national implementation of NEPAD in terms of the identification and implementation of projects; create a greater synergy and compatibility between national, regional and continental programmes of action; and promote efforts towards developing appropriate capacities in both RECs and individual countries.

Together with other African countries, South Africa will actively pursue partnerships with those countries both in the South and North whose comparative advantages can be matched with NEPAD priority areas.

The Presidential Outreach Programme aimed at popularising the AU and NEPAD in Parliament, provincial and local government structures, traditional leaders, the business community, think-tanks and academic institutions, the media and the diplomatic corps represented in South Africa, will continue during the coming year.

African countries will be encouraged to accede to the Memorandum of Understanding on the African Peer Review Mechanism in order to operationalise this Mechanism on a continental basis.

South Africa will continue to support projects for the preservation of Africa's heritage, science and technology, such as the Timbuktu project in Mali.

South Africa will, during 2003/03, facilitate dialogue and co-operation between Asia and Africa, as well as between Africa and the Caribbean, to enhance NEPAD.

5.1.3 SADC and SACU

The challenge for South Africa and the other SADC member states remains the deepening of political and economic integration. Consequently, the emphasis will be placed on the finalisation and implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan.

Other issues that will receive priority attention are food security and defence issues, as well as the establishment of the SADC National Committees. Negotiations for a SADC-MERCUSOR free trade agreement will be intensified during the coming year.

Parliament will be called upon to ratify the new SACU Agreement. SACU will negotiate with the US regarding a future free trade agreement.

5.2 Peace, Security and Stability

In the formulation of its priorities for 2003/04, the IRPS Cluster placed particular attention on the development of Early Warning Systems, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction in Africa and on advancing multilateralism.

South Africa will remain seized with finding political solutions for conflict areas outside the Continent that threaten global peace and security.

South Africa will continue to combat terrorism under the aegis of the UN. South Africa will also work for an internationally accepted definition of terrorism within the UN framework that will take into account the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation for self-determination and national liberation.

South Africa will continue to oppose any form of racism, sexism and other related intolerances, and will facilitate the implementation of the outcomes of WCAR.

5.3 Economic Development

South Africa will continue to promote the Agenda of Africa and the South in the global economy and will seek to expedite the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. In this regard, South Africa will continue to maintain intensive engagement with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, as well as developing support for the economic components of NEPAD, particularly the Debt Relief, Capital Flows and Economic Governance Initiatives.

South Africa will work with the international community in ensuring that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and other outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development are implemented regionally and globally.

South Africa will continue to build on its export success and market itself as an advanced manufacturing economy and investment destination.

South Africa will continue to encourage improvement in the Global financial architecture and the reform of the Bretton Woods institutions.

South Africa will endeavour to strengthen the cohesion of Africa, the South and like-minded countries of the North to achieve an equitable outcome in the Doha Round in the WTO.

South Africa has and will continue to assist the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) in its negotiations with the EU.

South Africa will continue to pursue bilateral relations, amongst others, through meetings of twenty-six Binational Commissions and similar mechanisms during the course of this year.

South Africa will engage EU countries that have not yet ratified the TDCA.

South Africa will pursue new tourist markets in Asia, the Middle East and South America.

The International Marketing Council will continue to implement its marketing strategy.

Building on the success achieved from the hosting of the 2003 ICC Cricket World Cup, South Africa will endeavour to secure the bid for the 2010 Soccer World Cup.

6. DEPARTMENTAL PRIORITIES FOR CORPORATE SERVICES

The main strategic objectives in the sphere of corporate services for 2003/04, inter alia, are the construction of a new head office building in Pretoria; finalising the Foreign Property Bill for tabling in Parliament; the retransformation of the Foreign Service Institute in line with international best practices; modernising the Department's ICT through six priorities (finalisation of Master Systems Plan; a secure global network; Global Accessibility; Knowledge and Information Management; Streamlined Operations and training of workforce); redesigning the Employee Assistance Programme to focus, amongst others, on diversity and HIV/AIDS.

In addition, implementing the Anti-Corruption and Fraud Prevention Policy; implementing legislative representivity prescripts; filling all funded vacant posts in line with the requirements of Resolution 7; implementing decentralisation of Corporate Services to line-function Branches; intensifying implementation of Minimum Information Security Standards (MISS) as well as other relevant acts of Parliament and prescripts; and finalisation of a comprehensive Risk Analysis and Risk Profile of the Department.

The Department is planning for the establishment of new missions in Cameroon, the Sudan, Comoros, Burundi, Madagascar and Iraq.

7. CONCLUSION

This Report to Parliament has endeavoured to capture the salient points and challenges of South Africa's international relations. It should be read in conjunction with the Department's Strategic Plan for 2003/03, which is also distributed to the Honourable Members of Parliament.