

## 2003 SADC SUMMIT FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

The Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), met in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania on 25 -2 6 August, and was chaired by His Excellency, Mr Benjamin W Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania. The Heads of State and Government of SADC present at the Summit were:

1. Angola H.E President Jose Eduardo dos Santos  
Botswana H.E President Festus G Mogae  
Democratic Republic of Congo H.E President Joseph Kabila  
Lesotho Rt. Hon Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili  
Malawi H.E President Bakili Muluzi  
Mauritius Rt. Hon Prime Minister Sir Anerood Jugnauth  
Mozambique H.E President Joaquim Chissano  
Namibia H.E President Sam Nujoma  
South Africa H.E President Thabo Mbeki  
Swaziland .M King Mswati III  
United Republic of Tanzania .E President Benjamin W Mkapa  
Zambia H.E President Levy Manawasa  
Zimbabwe .E President Robert G Mugabe

2. The Seychelles did not participate in the meeting.

3. Also in attendance were the Secretary-General of the Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa, Mr Erastus Mwencha, the Secretary-General of the East African Community, Mr Nuwe Amanyamba Mushega and representatives of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, the NEPAD Secretariat of the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank.

4. In his address to the opening session of the Summit, the outgoing SADC Chairperson, H.E Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola, outlined the major achievements during his tenure as Chairperson. He expressed his satisfaction with progress made in the implementation of the restructuring exercise, in particular the completion of the formulation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan, which is the blueprint for the economic development of the region. He stressed that the challenge now is to implement this Plan, which has clear timebound goals and targets that Member States should adhere to if poverty is to be reduced significantly in the region. In this regard, he called for the mobilisation of resources from within and outside the region to finance regional programmes and activities that are geared towards poverty eradication.

5. President Dos Santos also highlighted the outcome of the SADC Summit on HIV and AIDS that was held in Maseru, Lesotho in July 2003, where a Declaration was adopted. The Maseru Declaration on the Fight Against HIV and AIDS identifies a number of priority areas such as access to care, testing and treatment. He noted that it was imperative for SADC to execute the decisions that emerged from this Summit such as the establishment of a regional fund for the implementation of the SADC HIV and AIDS Strategic Framework and Programme of Action for 2003-2007.

6. The incoming Chairperson of SADC, H.E Benjamin W Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and host of the 2003 Summit, extended a warm welcome to SADC Heads of State and Government, and other delegates to the United Republic of Tanzania, and particularly to Dar es Salaam. Paraphrasing the words of the late founding President of Tanzania, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, H.E Mkapa urged SADC citizens to mould themselves into a modern day candle whose light will shine beyond the borders of individual Member countries, and also in the rest of the African continent giving hope where there is despair, love where there is hate and dignity that comes from victory in the war against poverty and HIV and AIDS.

7. The official opening session also witnessed the ceremonial handover of the chairpersonship for H.E Mr Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola to H.E President Benjamin W Mkapa. Summit also elected Rt Hon Prime Minister Sir Anerood Jugnauth of the Republic of Mauritius as Deputy Chairperson of SADC.

8. In his acceptance statement, President Mkapa outlined his vision as Chairperson of SADC for the next year. He noted that the rapid and far reaching changes in the world reinforce the need to act regionally with utmost urgency to keep pace with the information communication and technological forces that are driving the globalisation process. He emphasized that SADC provides a strong framework to build upon, and to enable the region to speak to the globalising world with a united and firm negotiating power that cannot be ignored. To this end, H.E Mkapa urged the SADC delegates going to Cancun, Mexico for the World Trade Organisation Ministerial meeting to speak with the strongest united voice for an equal chance in the battle for life.

9. H.E President Mkapa called upon Member States to implement all protocols as they help exploit the region's natural resources and the creation of a large integrated regional market, which is a decisive lead factor for attracting foreign direct investment.

10. Summit elected the Prime Minister of Kingdom of Lesotho, Rt Hon Professor Pakalitha Mosisili as Chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Co-operation and H.E President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, as the Deputy Chairperson. In this acceptance statement, Rt Hon Mosisili pledged his utmost commitment to the execution and realisation of the Organ's mandate. He called for the strengthening of the Organ in order for it to respond to challenges such as the observance of the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and commitment to democratic governance.

11. In his remarks, the Executive Secretary of SADC, Dr Prega Ramsamy noted that the Summit was a historical one as the venue was home to most of leaders during the time they were fighting against oppression in all its forms. These leaders are now in another fight, which is more complex and difficult. This is the fight against poverty and underdevelopment. He pointed out that the approved Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan, which is a blueprint for SADC's prioritised regional interventions for tackling poverty and underdevelopment is now ready of implementation.

12. Dr Ramsamy also highlighted the challenges facing the region such HIV and AIDS, which is having a devastating impact on development, high external debt and perennial disaster hazards from drought and floods, which need to be managed properly. He underscored the need for the region to embark on prioritised programme of activities for sustainable growth and development.

13. Ambassador Keitaro Sato, from Japan delivered a special message from the Japanese Prime Minister, Rt. Hon Junichiro Koizumi, in which Japan pledged to strengthen ties with SADC as a regional bloc as well as through continental initiatives such as NEPAD. He also welcomed SADC leaders to the 3rd Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD III) to be held in Tokyo in October 2003.

14. The official opening of the Summit also featured the announcement of the winners of the 2003 Regional Secondary Schools Essay Competition, the theme of which was illicit drugs production, trafficking and abuse in the SADC region. The first prize was awarded to Nthabeleng Moketsepane of Lesotho, the second prize to Kaelo Tinkane of Botswana and the third prize to Andrew Chagula of the United Republic of Tanzania.

15. The 2003 Media Awards ceremony was also held during the official opening of the Summit. Three finalists received their prizes as follows: Ms Rosario Mwila Lubumbashi from Zambia Information Services for the radio category; Mr Luis Domingos from Angolan Television for the television category and Mr Amos Chanda from the Zambia Daily Mail for the print category.

16. Summit received a report from the outgoing Chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Co-operation. His Excellency President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, which indicated that generally peace and stability continue to prevail in the region. The report covered the situation in Angola, the DRC, Zimbabwe and terrorism.

17. With regard to the situation in Angola, Summit noted with satisfaction progress made on the consolidation of peace after many years of political strife. Summit noted the concrete measures taken by the Government of Angola to ensure the safe return of refugees and internally displaced persons as well as their resettlement.

18. Summit commended Angola for the orderly manner in which the resettlement of refugees and displaced persons is being undertaken. It also noted the political measures such as the review of the constitution and electoral bill the Government has taken towards consolidating peace and political stability. In this regard Summit urged all Member States to support Angola in her efforts towards the consolidation of peace and in mobilizing the donor community to attend the International Donor Conference on the Reconstruction on Angola. Member States were also urged to support Angola in the resettlement of over three million refugees and displaced persons.

19. Summit expressed its appreciation to Botswana, DRC, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, UNHCR and other cooperating partners for their efforts towards voluntary repatriation of refugees to Angola. Summit further expressed gratitude to Botswana for contributing one million Pula (approx US\$ 200 000) towards voluntary repatriation of refugees and granting citizenship to 300 former refugees.

20. On the DRC, Summit welcomed the peace process in the Republic of the Congo (DRC), which has led to the inauguration of the Transitional Government. Summit urged all the signatories to the Global and Inclusive Peace Agreement to ensure lasting peace and stability in the country by honouring all the commitments made in the agreement.

21. Summit expressed profound appreciation to the key players who contributed in various ways towards the DRC peace process. In particular, Summit noted the roles played by the Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, Sir Ketumile Masire, and the Republic of South Africa. The roles played by Angola, Namibia and Zimbabwe in restoring stability in the DRC, as well as the role played by the Government of Zambia in facilitating the adoption and implementation of the Lusaka Agreement were equally commended. Summit urged Member States to provide support to ensure that the momentum already gained in the peace process is not lost.

22. Summit also welcomed the steps taken at both regional and international levels to address the situation of insecurity in the Ituri region.

23. On Zimbabwe, Summit noted that the region continued to work with Zimbabwe to address its political and economic situation within the framework of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Co-operation.

24. Summit reaffirmed the indivisibility of SADC and solidarity with Zimbabwe and that it will continue to work with the country in order to encourage and sustain the positive developments that are taking place in the search for lasting solutions.

25. Summit also committed itself to continue opposing the Commonwealth, the European Union (EU) and the United States of America (US) sanctions as they hurt not only ordinary Zimbabweans but also have profound social and economic implications on the region as a whole. In this regard, Summit urged SADC International Cooperating Partners, particularly the Commonwealth, the EU and the US to lift the sanctions and engage in a constructive dialogue with Zimbabwe.

26. Summit thanked H.E President Chissano for ably steering the activities of the Organ for the past years.

27. Summit adopted new criteria for admission of new members.

28. With regard to the economic situation in the region, Summit expressed satisfaction at the sound macro-economic reforms being implemented by SADC Member States, which resulted in the reduction of inflation rates and budget deficits in most of the Member States. Summit observed that in 2002, the region achieved a GDP growth rate of 3.2% and increase from the 2.7% achieved in 2001.

29. Summit noted the devastating effects of HIV and AIDS as well as tuberculosis, malaria and other infectious diseases on the population of the region. In particular, Summit expressed concern that the HIV and AIDS pandemic in the Southern African region continues to be a major threat to the developmental gains attained so far. Summit commended the outgoing Chairperson for convening a Summit on HIV and AIDS in Maseru, Lesotho in July 2003. One of the outcomes of the Summit included approval for the establishment of a regional fund for the implementation of the SADC HIV and AIDS Strategic Framework and Programme of Action 2003-2007. The Summit in Maseru also adopted and signed the Maseru Declaration on the Fight against HIV and AIDS in the SADC Region, which identifies a number of priority areas including access to care, testing and treatment; prevention and social mobilisation; resource mobilisation; development oriented approach; and monitoring and evaluation.

30. Summit noted the improvement in the food security situation in the region during the 2003-2004 consumption year compared to the previous year. The number of people needing food assistance is estimated to reach 7.0 million by January 2004 compared to 15.2 million people in March 2003. The food shortages are mainly a result of two consecutive years of droughts and floods aggravated by a general reduction in resource allocation to agriculture and the HIV and AIDS pandemic, which increased the vulnerability of affected families.

31. Summit noted that the regional cereal production increased slightly from 21.55 million tonnes in 2001/2002 to 22.89 million tonnes in 2002/3. However, the region is still expecting a cereal shortfall of around 1.74 million tonnes. This is mainly in maize, wheat, rice, sorghum and millet.

32. On the issue of gender equality, Summit noted with satisfaction that the overall regional situation indicated that Member States are making progress in the promotion of women's representation in political structures. There is also a deliberate and gradual increase in the proportion of women's representation in various structures in most Member States.

33. Summit noted that following the recent constitutional review in Swaziland, the draft national constitution provides for 30% women's representation in all power and decision-making positions.

34. The Kingdom of Swaziland is holding elections in 2003 while Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa are expected to hold elections in 2004 and the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe are expected to hold elections in 2005.

35. Therefore, Summit urged those Member States that have not attained the target to use the opportunities of the forthcoming elections and other measures to achieve the minimum 30% of women's representation in political and decision-making structures by 2005.

36. Summit also noted the progress made in Restructuring of SADC Institutions, which began in March 2001 and is now nearing completion. In particular, Summit noted that all four Directorates have now been established, SADC National Committees are operational at Member State level and that the Study on the New SADC Organisational Structure has been approved and implementation will commence in April 2004 on an incremental basis in order to make it cost effective.

37. Summit approved the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ (SIPO) urged all SADC Member States, institutions and stakeholders to participate in their implementation. Summit called for the co-ordination and rationalisation of the two plans in order to maximise the synergies inherent in them.

38. On community building, Summit noted with concern that Member States were slow in ratifying or acceding to Protocols. To date twelve (12) protocols have been ratified and entered into force. Eleven Protocols still need to be ratified in order to enter into force. In this regard, Summit urged those Member States to expedite the process of either ratification or accession to any of the Protocols. Summit congratulated the United Republic of Tanzania for having ratified all protocols.

39. Summit signed the SADC Charter on Fundamental Social Rights, which among other things, calls for creation of a conducive environment to facilitate closer and active consultations among partners and in a spirit conducive to harmonious labour relations.

40. Summit also signed the Mutual Defence Pact which deepens the co-operation in the area of politics, defence and security.

41. Summit received a progress Report from the Council of Ministers on the Implementation of the Review of the Operations of SADC institutions. These include the major tasks, which have been completed, the tasks under implementation and the challenges being encountered in the restructuring process. Among the tasks completed are:

- \* The establishment of all four Directorates, namely: Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment, Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Directorate on Social and Human Development and Special Programmes;

- \* The operationalisation of the Integrated Committee of Ministers;

- \* The mobilisation of resources in the form of human resources from Member States through secondment of officers to the Directorates and funds from International Co-operating Partners (ICPs) for financing key activities related to the restructuring exercise;

- \* The establishment of SADC National Committees in most Member States;

- \* Completion of the formulation of the RISDP; and

- \* The adoption and operationalisation of the study on the Implementation of the New SADC Structure.

42. Summit noted that at the continental level, the region hosted the Summit of the AU for the second consecutive year and congratulated HE President Chissano for his election as Chairperson of the AU for the next year. HE Chissano thanked SADC leaders for the support given to Mozambique, which enabled the latter to successfully host the Summit. Summit pledged to continue to give its maximum support to President Chissano during his tenure as Chairperson of the AU.

43. With regard to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Summit urged Member States to integrate NEPAD agreed priorities in areas such as agriculture, health, information communication and infrastructure development into their National Development Plans and to increase resource allocation to these priority areas.

44. Summit expressed deep regret at the death of the UN Representative in Iraq, Mr Sergio Vieira de Mello in a bomb attack on the UN offices in Baghdad. Summit expressed condolences to his family and the UN Secretary-General and Staff. Summit also expressed deep regret at the loss of lives in the bomb explosions in the Indian city of Mumbai in which at least 40 people were killed. Summit expressed condolences to the bereaved families and the Government of India.

45. Summit congratulated Rwanda for holding peaceful elections, which are a major step in the consolidation of peace and democracy in that country.

46. Summit accepted the offer by the Rt Hon Prime Minister Sir Anerood Jugnauth of the Republic of Mauritius to host the next Summit of SADC Heads of States and Government in August 2004.

47. Summit thanked his Excellency President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos for his able leadership and the accomplishments of SADC during his tenure of office.

48. Summit thanked representatives of other regional and continental organisations for attending the 2003 Summit.

49. Summit expressed its appreciation to the Government and people of the United Republic of Tanzania for hosting the Summit and for the warm hospitality extended to all delegates. Summit also thanked the SADC Secretariat for the successful organisation of the Summit.

50. Summit expressed its gratitude to the international community for the support extended to SADC.

51. His Excellency President Benjamin Mkapa officially closed the Summit.

52. Rt. Hon Prime Minister Sir Anerood Jugnauth of the Republic of Mauritius passed a vote of thanks in which he invited his colleagues to attend the next ordinary Summit in Mauritius in 2004.

Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania  
26 August 2003