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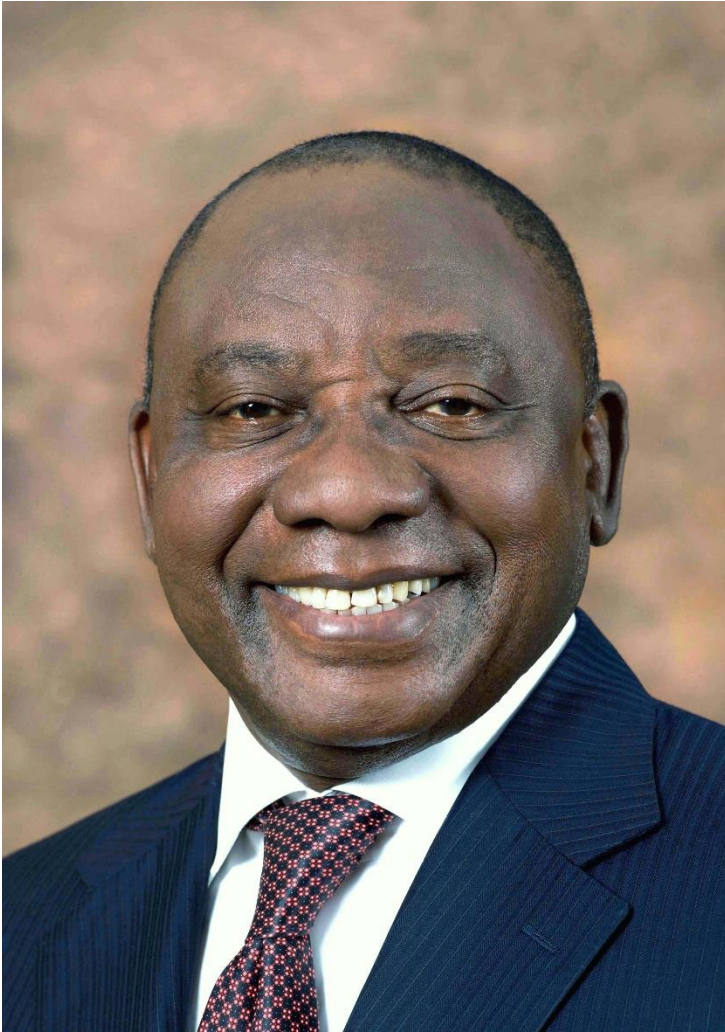


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LET'S HARNESS IMPROVED CONFIDENCE TO DRIVE INCLUSIVE GROWTH

President Cyril Ramaphosa said that government remains committed to collaborating with business, labour unions, and other social partners to advance the structural reforms necessary for fostering inclusive economic growth and creating jobs.



The President said this in his weekly newsletter to the nation on Monday, 19 August 2024.

“We cannot rebuild our country unless all South Africans work together. We will continue to work with business, labour and other social partners to drive the structural reform process that will boost inclusive economic growth and jobs.

“There is indeed an air of optimism in our country. Let us harness this confidence and goodwill to increase the momentum of our shared efforts to build and strengthen our economy,” the President said.

President Ramaphosa highlighted that over the last few months, the country has seen a growing confidence among investors, business and citizens over the prospects of the economy.

The latest Business Confidence Index published by the South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SACCI) points to an increase in business confidence since the elections in May 2024.

The President noted that this sentiment is evident in the Johannesburg Stock Exchange’s All-Share Price Index, which increased by about 8% from the end of May to the end of July 2024.

“This is welcome news, particularly in light of the most recent employment figures released by Statistics South Africa, which show that unemployment remains extremely high at 33.5%.

“Business confidence is so important to our efforts to create jobs because it signals an improved business environment and encourages new investment. Greater investment in the economy enables faster growth and more job opportunities,” he said.

For several years, the country has experienced low levels of business confidence, having been negatively affected by the prolonged electricity crisis, state capture, concerns about corruption, the decline of state-owned enterprises, and the manner in which law enforcement agencies have been compromised.

President Ramaphosa further reflected that investors have also been concerned about obstacles to growth, such as delays in the release of broadband spectrum, inefficiencies in ports and rail operations, and regulations that have slowed down licensing processes.

The President lauded the successful holding of the national and provincial elections in May and the formation of the Government of National Unity, both of which have had a positive effect on business confidence.

He said the progress that has been recorded in the reform process thus far has also contributed to the improved sentiment.

Rooting out corruption

To create a conducive environment, the President said that government had shown its determination to tackle corruption.

Bodies like the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Special Investigating Unit (SIU) and the Hawks have brought several high-profile cases to trial. The permanent establishment of the NPA’s Investigating Directorate has also given further impetus to the fight against corruption.

Crime is also being tackled. Across the country, the President said, initiatives such as Operation Shanela have upped the war on crime.

“We are clamping down on illicit mining operations. Criminal syndicates involved in cable theft and extortion at construction sites are being dealt with.

“Through a concerted effort from all stakeholders, we have confronted the electricity crisis. We have now had more than 140 consecutive days without load shedding. There has been a huge increase in new power generation capacity.

“Investors have seen the growth opportunities in the far-reaching energy reforms we are undertaking. Just last week, I signed into law the Electricity Regulation Amendment Act, which will enable the establishment of a competitive electricity market,” the President said.

The progress made in electricity provision, he said, gives confidence that the country can overcome the problems on the freight rail lines and ports.

Transnet’s recovery plan is showing progress, with the private sector providing significant technical support and resources to Transnet Freight Rail and Port Terminals.

In Gauteng, the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, newly launched state-of-the-art passenger trains are now operating along refurbished and reopened rail corridors, offering commuters faster and more affordable transportation options.

This development is expected to significantly reduce commuting times and costs for users.

Reforms and investment

Additionally, government has implemented changes to immigration regulations to attract skilled professionals, investment and tourists to South Africa.

Approval processes for water use licences and energy projects have been expedited, and the release of broadband spectrum aims to unlock the full potential of the telecommunications sector.

These reforms are set to drive economic growth and enhance the country’s global competitiveness.

The country is also making progress on infrastructure investment. According to Nedbank’s Capital Expenditure Project Listing, the value of fixed investment project announcements in the first half of this year rose to approximately R800 billion.

This was up sharply from just over R190 billion in 2023.

The public sector accounts for most of these projects in areas such as energy, transportation, health facility upgrades, roads and housing.

“As government, we held a meeting with business leaders last week. Business expressed optimism about the recovery and growth of our economy. They committed themselves to a new era of partnership with government. We agreed on key actions we must now take to build on the progress that has already been made,” the President said. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA IN ZIMBABWE FOR ORDINARY SADC SUMMIT

President Cyril Ramaphosa attended the 44th Ordinary Summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State and Government, in Harare, in the Republic of Zimbabwe.

The 44th Ordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government took place under the theme: *Promoting Innovation to Unlock Opportunities for Sustained Economic Growth and Development towards an Industrialised SADC.*

The President participated in discussions on the agenda of the summit that included the status of member state contributions, regional food and nutrition security, the status of health in the region, the implementation of the SADC industrialisation strategy and roadmap, as well as candidatures to continental and international organisations.

“As South Africa commemorates the 30th anniversary of its democracy and freedom, it will equally mark the 30th anniversary of its membership and active participation in SADC, since it joined this regional body in August 1994.

“The summit will provide an opportunity for SADC leaders to assess and review progress made in terms of the region’s flagship integration agenda, the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020–2030, which is about promoting peace and security, good governance, socio-economic development and integration in the region,” said The Presidency.

The President will also sign two SADC legal instruments: the *SADC Declaration on Accelerating Action to End AIDS as a Public Health Threat in the Region by 2030*, as well as the *Agreement Amending the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development*.

During the summit, the Republic of Zimbabwe will assume the Chairpersonship of SADC, taking over from the Republic of Angola, which has chaired SADC since the previous summit held in Luanda in August 2023.

The summit was preceded by the SADC Council of Ministers Meeting, which took place from 13 to 14 August 2024 and was attended by South Africa's International Relations and Cooperation Minister, Ronald Lamola.



Minister Lamola commended the SADC for taking steps towards regional stability and economic integration.

A SADC Organ Troika Summit was also held on 16 August 2024.

President Ramaphosa was supported by Minister Lamola and the Minister of Finance, Enoch Godongwana. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA RAISES CONCERN OVER RISE OF MPOX IN AU REGION

President Cyril Ramaphosa has expressed deep concern about the rapid spread of Mpox across the African Union (AU) region as both cases and deaths continue to surge, reflecting a concerning shift in the epidemiological pattern.



The President was speaking in his role as the AU Champion on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (PPPR) regarding the Mpox outbreak.

“In my role as the AU Champion on PPPR, I have been closely monitoring the evolving Mpox situation, regularly briefed by the Director-General of the Africa Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and PPPR Commission,” he said in a statement on Saturday, 17 August 2024.

Since the start of 2024, he said 17 541 cases (2 822 confirmed and 14 719 suspected) and 517 deaths due to Mpox have been reported across 13 AU member states.

This week, three additional countries notified cases under investigation for confirmation, bringing the total to 16 countries.

“Alarming, the number of reported cases in 2024 has surged by 160% compared to the same period in 2023.”

Strengthening the response to Mpox

He said that he fully backs the Director-General of the Africa CDC and Prevention's declaration of Mpox as a Public Health Emergency of Continental Security.

“This crucial decision empowers Africa CDC to lead and coordinate our collective response efforts, strengthening the Mpox response at every level, from community engagement to collaboration with the highest political authorities and our international partners.”

He believes that the declaration will also galvanise political leadership and engagement among AU Heads of State and Government, facilitating the rapid mobilisation of essential financial and technical resources.

The President also commended the Permanent Representatives Committee for their decisive action in releasing US\$10.4 million from the COVID-19 Fund to support the Mpox outbreak response.

“I urge the AU policy organs to expedite the finalisation of the framework for operationalising the African Epidemic Fund, as approved by the Heads of State during the 2023 AU Assembly, by the end of August 2024.”

The President has since called on the AU member states to increase domestic resource allocation, lead their national Mpox outbreak responses, and enhance their capacities.

These capabilities include building capacity, risk communication, community engagement, case detection, contact tracing, and cross-border surveillance.

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

He also welcomed the World Health Organisation's (WHO) declaration of Mpox as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

The WHO said the upsurge of Mpox in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and a growing number of countries constitute a PHEIC under the International Health Regulations (IHR).

However, the President said this PHEIC “must be different and correct the unfair treatment from the previous one declared in 2022, where vaccines and therapeutics were developed and made available primarily to Western countries, with little support extended to Africa”.

President Ramaphosa has since called upon WHO and all partners to collaborate closely with the Africa CDC to ensure that this PHEIC unlocks appropriate support from the international community, guaranteeing equitable access to medical countermeasures, including diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines.

He also urged the international community, partners, and organisations to mobilise stockpiles of vaccines and other medical countermeasures for deployment in Africa, utilising the mechanisms established by the Africa CDC to ensure equitable distribution, transparency and coordination.

The President said that Africa requires robust support in funding, research, and the sharing of technologies, with financial contributions directed to the Africa Epidemic Fund under the leadership of the Africa CDC.

Pandemic Agreement

“This is also an opportunity to call on the international community to finalise a fair and equitable Pandemic Agreement—a duty that must be pursued with urgency and a spirit of equity.

“By fostering global partnerships, we can accelerate Africa's response and ensure that all nations, regardless of economic status, have fair access to the resources needed to protect their populations.”

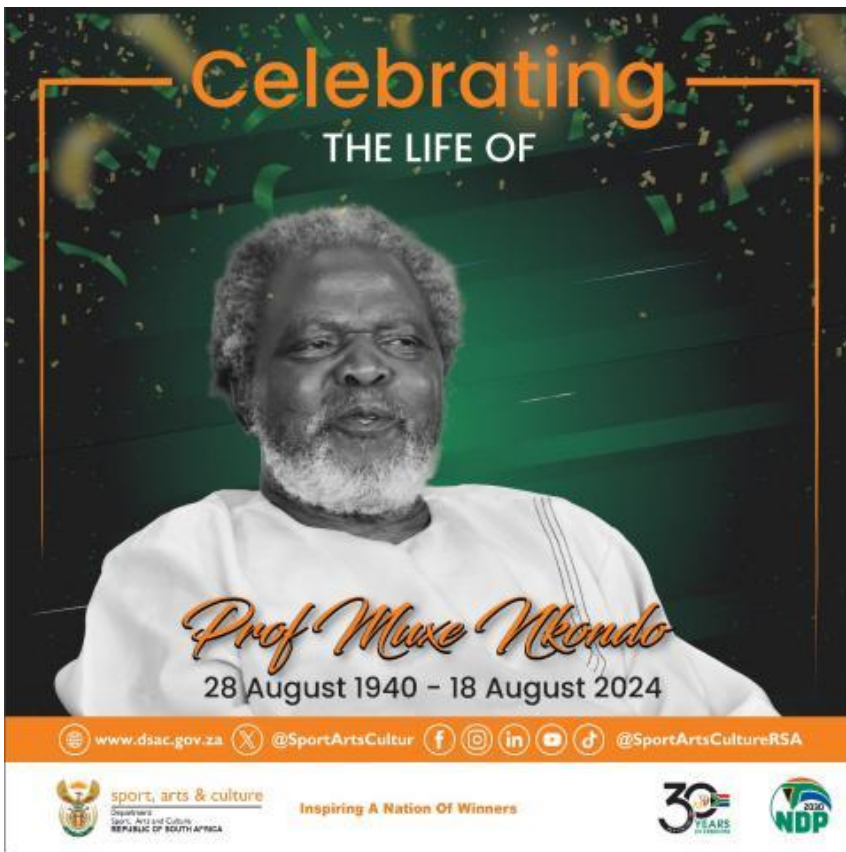
As the AU Champion, he vowed to work closely with his esteemed colleagues to ensure adequate political support and fundraising for the continental response to Mpox and to prevent a regional and global pandemic. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

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PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA MOURNS PASSING OF PROF MUXE NKONDO

President Cyril Ramaphosa has sent his deep condolences to the family, friends and associates, nationally and internationally, of the late Prof. Muxe Nkondo, who passed away in the early hours of Sunday, 18 August 2024.

In a statement, President Ramaphosa said he was deeply saddened by the passing of eminent scholar, academic, social policy, and heritage expert Prof. Nkondo, who passed away at the age of 83.



Nkondo is survived by his wife, Prof. Olga Nkondo; his children, Ntsako, Muxe, Mikateko, Zava, Mbonya and Nkenyezi; his grandchildren; and a great grandchild.

Nkondo was a former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Venda, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of the North, and a Harvard Andrew Mellon Fellow in English.

As the chair of varied expert panels and reference groups, he made significant contributions to the development of public policy in areas from tourism, human settlements and public administration to science and technology, and arts and culture.

He lectured extensively at universities in the United States of America and served as a curriculum development and governance advisor to the University of South Africa, the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Tshwane University of Technology, Central University of Technology, and Walter Sisulu University.

Nkondo served on numerous boards and associations on the African continent and elsewhere and led the conceptualisation of the Liberation Heritage Route.

“Prof. Nkondo has left us at the end of a life distinguished by his relentless pursuit of knowledge that has made his country, continent and the world a richer, more inclusive place.

“His ideas and their application have impacted lives and institutions across the globe. There is also a diaspora of academics, leaders and administrators who have benefited from Prof. Nkondo’s inexhaustible intellect and interest in the betterment of humanity.

“His legacy is monumental and will continue to ripple through our lives. May he rest in peace after his extraordinary, enriched and enriching life,” President Ramaphosa said. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA MOURNS PASSING OF MATHS AND SCIENCE EDUCATION INNOVATOR WILLIAM SMITH

President Cyril Ramaphosa has expressed his sadness at the passing of math and science education innovator and Esteemed Member of the National Order of the Baobab, Mr William Smith.

The President offered his condolences to the family and friends of the popular educator who has passed away at the age of 85.

President Ramaphosa conferred the Order of the Baobab on Mr Smith in 2019.

Born in Makhanda to parents who were notable scientists, Mr Smith made mathematics and science accessible to all pupils for free through television in a groundbreaking 1990s TV programme called the *Learning Channel* on SABC2.

During his 25 years as a teacher, he is estimated to have taught close to a million learners.

President Ramaphosa said “William Smith was an education and cultural icon to our nation.



“The outpouring of affection the nation directed at him when he received his National Order demonstrated, years after his retirement, the place he held in people’s hearts.

“He was synonymous with The Heads of Knysna which was the backdrop to his television presentation decades before we could think of him as the first teacher to teach “remotely”.

“He demystified maths and science for his audience, which extended beyond learners to their parents and anyone who wished to revisit these subjects or learn more, long after they had left school.

“William Smith’s passion for his curriculum and for the success of those he taught in classrooms, at matric camps and on TV, benefited millions of young South Africans even before our transition to democracy and the dawn of a new dispensation of equal education.

“May his soul rest in peace.” – Source: www.gov.za

PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA TO ATTEND FAREWELL DINNER IN HONOUR OF CHIEF JUSTICE ZONDO

President Cyril Ramaphosa attended a farewell dinner held on Tuesday, 20 August 2024, in tribute to Chief Justice Raymond Zondo, who is retiring at the end of August 2024.

The Chief Justice, who is retiring after a distinguished judicial career spanning 27 years, was celebrated at the Marriott Hotel in Johannesburg.

The farewell dinner took place on the eve of a Special Ceremonial Sitting of the Constitutional Court, at which the judiciary, the Executive, Parliament, and the legal profession honoured Chief Justice Zondo’s contributions to the justice system and the country.

President Ramaphosa appointed Justice Zondo as the Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa in 2022.

“The position of Chief Justice carries great responsibility in our democracy. As the head of the Judiciary, the Chief Justice is a guardian of our Constitution and the laws adopted by the freely elected representatives of the people.



“The Chief Justice stands as the champion of the rights of all South Africans and bears responsibility for ensuring equal access to justice,” President Ramaphosa reflected on the significance of this role.

During his term, Chief Justice Zondo has been pivotal in advancing the transformation of the judiciary, leading the Labour Appeal Court through significant challenges, and presiding over the State Capture Commission.

His leadership ensured that the findings and recommendations of the Commission had a lasting impact on South Africa's fight against corruption. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

MINISTER LAMOLA COMMENDS STEPS TOWARDS REGIONAL STABILITY AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

The Southern African Development Community's (SADC) Council of Ministers gathered in Harare from 13 to 14 August 2024, to set the stage for the 44th Heads of State and Government Summit. The theme for the summit was Promoting Innovation to Unlock Opportunities for Sustained Economic Growth and Development Towards an Industrialised SADC.



The outcomes of this pivotal meeting were presented to the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government on 18 August 2024.

Leading South Africa's delegation, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ronald Lamola, accompanied by Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana, engaged in discussions centred on the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020–2025. The RISDP is a regional blueprint that promotes regional economic growth, integration, and industrialisation, underpinned by a climate of peace and stability.

Minister Lamola expressed satisfaction with the Executive Secretary's Report for the 2023–2024 period, highlighting its crucial insights as the region approaches the Mid-Term Review of the RISDP in 2025. "We are heartened by the steady progress our region is making in implementing the RISDP for 2020–2030," Minister Lamola stated.

Minister Lamola emphasised the importance of the foundational pillar of peace and security, acknowledging ongoing challenges in Northern Mozambique and the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo while commending efforts to restore stability.

The Council of Ministers also reviewed the Secretariat's capacity-building initiatives in conflict mediation, underscoring the region's commitment to peace. Minister Lamola stressed the need to bolster early warning capacities to pre-empt conflicts and address root causes to develop effective mitigation strategies.

Significant achievements were noted, including a 21% increase in intra-SADC trade to gross domestic product in 2023 and attracting US\$6 billion in foreign direct investment. Infrastructure developments, such as One-Stop Border posts and SMART integrated economic corridors management tools, were highlighted as key drivers of regional progress.

However, challenges remain. The overall implementation score for the RISDP stands at 5.6 out of 10, reflecting the impact of global shocks like the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and international conflicts. Minister Lamola called for renewed efforts to address these setbacks and improve social and human capital development.

Looking ahead, South Africa will assume the Group of Twenty (G20) presidency in 2025, marking the first time the G20 summit will be hosted on African soil. Under the theme *Fostering Solidarity, Equality and Sustainable Development*, South Africa aims to highlight the economic and development challenges facing developing countries, particularly in Africa.

Minister Lamola outlined South Africa's stance on critical issues, including regional food and nutrition security, the re-establishment of the Mining Ministerial Forum, and the implementation of the Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015–2063. "South Africa and the region cannot afford to continue to export their raw minerals to faraway countries only to import beneficiated consumer products at inflated prices. Value addition and commercialisation of our critical minerals must be at the core of our industrialisation strategy," said Minister Lamola.

He also emphasised the importance of gender parity, noting the progress made but acknowledging the need for further improvement.

With nearly half of South Africa's Cabinet ministers being women following the May 2024 General Elections, Minister Lamola reiterated the country's commitment to achieving the targets set in the revised SADC Protocol on Gender and Development.

As the SADC region moves forward, the collective efforts of member states aim to create an era where peace underpins prosperity, demonstrating the power of unity and strategic collaboration. – Source: www.dirco.gov.za

SADC ORDINARY SUMMIT EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS IN PALESTINE

The 44th Ordinary Summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State and Government has noted with concern the ongoing attacks on civilians in Palestine.

“[The] Summit noted with concern the relentless attack on civilians in Palestine (Gaza) which has resulted in the loss of lives, destruction of property, and deteriorating humanitarian conditions and called for an immediate ceasefire, the release of all hostages, and the commencement of talks to bring a lasting solution to the conflict,” it said in its communiqué.

The 44th Ordinary Summit of the SADC was held in Harare, Zimbabwe on Saturday, 17 August 2024.

The gathering elected the President of Zimbabwe, Dr Emmerson Mnangagwa, as the Chairperson of SADC, and the President of Madagascar, Andry Rajoelina as the incoming Chairperson.

The summit also reiterated the regional call made at the 39th SADC Summit for the unconditional removal of sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe and acknowledged that the sanctions continue to hinder the progress and prosperity of Zimbabweans and the SADC region.

Mpox

The leaders also touched on the Mpox situation on the continent and in the SADC region.

The member states welcomed the declaration by the World Health Organisation (WHO) of Mpox as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

The Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) also declared Mpox a Public Health Emergency of Continental Security (PHECS).

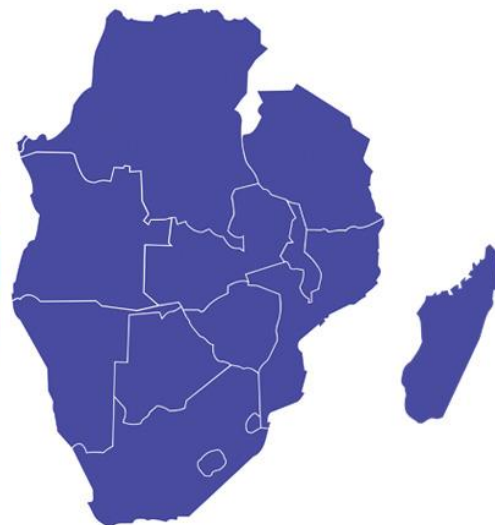
They have since urged member states to strengthen disease surveillance, diagnosis testing and clinical care, infection prevention and control, as well as raise awareness of the disease at all levels of the community.

“The summit extended solidarity and support to member states affected by Mpox and further requested the WHO, the Africa CDC, and other partners to avail resources towards the Mpox response in the region.”

Peace and security

In addition, the leaders reiterated their unwavering support to Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in promoting and consolidating peace, security and stability in the two countries.

“The summit commended His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, the President of the Republic of Angola, for his efforts to bring lasting peace to the security challenges in the Eastern DRC through the Luanda Process and brokering a ceasefire agreement between the DRC and Rwanda and called on the two countries to cease all hostilities.”



They also endorsed the establishment of an office, the structure of a special representative of SADC, and a Head of SADC Mission in the DRC (SAMIDRC).

Elections

In addition, the leaders noted the SADC electoral calendar for the remaining part of 2024, which includes elections in Botswana and Mozambique in October. Elections will take place in Namibia in November, and for Mauritius, a date is still to be determined.

The summit wished the member states successful elections.

Economic growth and climate change

The gathering also endorsed the theme of the 44th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government, titled *Promoting Innovation to Unlock Opportunities for Sustained Economic Growth and Development Towards an Industrialised SADC*.

The theme recognised that innovation is a fundamental instrument with significant potential to drive priority sectors of manufacturing, mineral beneficiation and agro-processing to enhance the industrialisation and economic growth of the SADC region.

The SADC member states also committed to take the necessary measures at the regional and national levels to address the challenges faced by people with albinism.

“The summit urged member states to continue monitoring weather and climate risks, including the forecasted La Niña and develop contingency measures to mitigate the impact of disasters.” – Source: SAnews.gov.za

SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNALISTS SCOOP TWO AWARDS AT SADC MEDIA AWARDS

Government has congratulated the two South African journalists who won in two categories in this year’s Southern African Development Community (SADC) Media Awards.

2024 SADC Media Awards SA Winners

Congratulations

to the South African journalists who won at the SADC Media Awards Competition.

Miss Fikile Necter Marakalla
from GCIS was the second prize winner in the **Photo Category**.

Mr Tshimologo Benjamin Moshatama
from Channel Africa Radio was the second prize winner in the **Radio Category**.

The SADC Media Awards celebrate journalism excellence in the SADC region while promoting regional integration.

Fikile Necter Marakalla was the second prize winner in the Photo Category with her pictures that were published in *SA News* and *The Diplomatic Informer*.

Marakalla’s winning entry highlighted the strong fraternal, historical, and social relations between South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania during the State Visit by Her Excellency, Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Meanwhile, Tshimologo Benjamin Moshatama from Channel Africa Radio was the second prize winner in the Radio Category with his entry on the importance of shared water resources in the SADC regional integration and development, as well as the contribution of the Kingdom of Lesotho in the management of shared water resources.

The SADC Media Awards present a unique opportunity for the SADC region’s journalists to be celebrated and recognised by their peers.

“The media plays a critical role in promoting regional integration in the region. We encourage more South African journalists to cover stories that promote regional integration,” Government Communications and Information System (GCIS) Acting Director-General Nomonde Mnuke said on Monday, 19 August 2024.



Government has called on media practitioners in South Africa and the region to share their stories that focus on economic well-being, improvement of the standard of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice, peace and security for the people of Southern Africa.

“Media practitioners are encouraged to continually ensure that we popularise projects that are underway in the SADC region. Africa and the region must tell their own stories. It is important that we hear from a range of voices from our diverse nations. By telling our own stories, we will bridge divides between SADC nations,” GCIS said.

The SADC Media Awards are aimed at promoting excellence in the fields of Print Journalism, Radio Journalism, Television Journalism and Photojournalism.

“The SADC Media Awards serve as a link for coordination and synchronisation between the formal structures of SADC member states and the media. They further seek to foster and enhance partnership between media and government institutions. South Africa’s participation at SADC is guided by the SADC Treaty, which guides all member states within the regional bloc,” GCIS said.

The Treaty encourages the people of the region and their institutions to take initiatives to develop economic, social and cultural ties.

GCIS is responsible for the implementation of the SADC Media Awards on behalf of South Africa.

“GCIS would also like to acknowledge the excellent work done by the judges who make up South Africa’s chapter of the SADC Media Awards in our National Adjudication Committee (NAC).

“These members are drawn from seasoned and experienced media professionals who give freely of their time and expertise to ensure that we can confidently submit entries of the highest standard to the regional competition,” the GCIS said. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

CHINA SENDS HOSPITAL SHIP TO CAPE TOWN TO STRENGTHEN TIES

A Chinese naval hospital ship is heading to Cape Town to offer medical help as part of China’s initiative to enhance its diplomatic ties.

A Chinese naval hospital ship is on its way to Cape Town to provide humanitarian medical assistance. This follows the Minister of the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) International Liaison Department, Liu Jinchao’s visit to South Africa earlier this month as part of efforts to strengthen China-South Africa relations.



The hospital ship, known as the *Peace Ark*, is equipped with advanced medical facilities. It has a total of 16 departments, eight operating rooms, and more than 300 beds. Furthermore, it has an onboard medical rescue helicopter.

It is also equipped with blood banks, examination rooms, and various diagnostic and treatment facilities, as reported by *capetownetc*.

Since its launch in 2007, the *Peace Ark* has visited over 45 countries and regions. It has provided medical care services to more than 290 000 people.

Before the hospital ship headed to Cape Town, the ship visited Mozambique for seven days, departing from Maputo on 16 August 2024.

During the visit to Mozambique, medical personnel aboard the ship provided medical services to more than 7 300 patients. They also performed 74 surgeries. Markedly, on 14 August, they treated 1 658 patients. This was the highest number of treatments in a single day during the mission.

Cape Town’s stop follows China’s Minister of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee, Liu Jinchao’s visit to Cape Town earlier this month. He visited South Africa as part of efforts to strengthen China-South Africa and China-Africa relations.

The visits indicate that the Comprehensive Strategic Cooperation Agreement signed by President Xi Jinping and President Cyril Ramaphosa is in the stage of implementation, as reported by IOL. They signed the agreement around a year ago.

The ship's visit underscores Minister Liu's emphasis that China and South Africa relations are now in the important stage of building a new era of a China-South Africa community with a shared future. It is a practical example of the cornerstone of China's foreign policy of cooperation towards developing nations in Africa.

The visit will further develop solidarity and cooperation with African countries as part of China's foreign policy. – Source: www.thesouthafrican.com

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN AND THE METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG TO SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

On 16 August 2024, the University of Cape Town and the Metropolitan University of Hong Kong signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which is the first of its kind to establish official working relations between the two universities.



This is one of the projects that the South African Consulate coordinated to promote people-to-people relations, as well as relations between institutions of higher learning in South Africa and Hong Kong.

The Consulate has established good working relations with various universities in Hong Kong, including the Metropolitan University of Hong Kong. Recently, the Consulate and the Metropolitan University of Hong Kong collaborated in partnership with Freedom Park to host the 30 Years of Democracy activities that took place in June, as well as a month-long 30 Years of Democracy and Mandela Legacy exhibition courtesy of Freedom Park, which ended on 31 July 2024 at the University.

The MoU is based on the principle of mutual benefit to promote and enable collaboration for joint educational, cultural interactions, training, and research purposes.

The areas proposed for collaboration include:

- joint activities such as lectures on general topics and topics related to South Africa and the African continent for audiences in Hong Kong
- introducing study tours and online courses of the Centre for Extra-Mural Studies to learners in Hong Kong
- exploring possibilities of establishing joint award programmes
- professional exchanges on university continuing education and lifelong learning for staff of both parties
- any other academic activities deemed to be of mutual benefit in promoting lifelong learning exchanges between Hong Kong and South Africa.

– Source: www.dirco.gov.za

CONFERENCE IN ETHEKWINI STRIVES FOR MEANINGFUL CHANGE AND GREENER WORLD

By sharing and inspiring collective action, the OILWATCH conference laid the groundwork for a greener, more sustainable future.

OILWATCH International's recent conference in eThekweni brought together a powerful partnership of environmental activists and community leaders to address pressing climate and social justice issues.

The event brought together a diverse group of voices and organisations, including Groundwork, SDCEA, HOMEF, Green Connection, and communities from around the globe, to advance their shared mission for environmental justice.

By fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing, the event demonstrated a renewed commitment to creating a sustainable and equitable future for all.



Notably, the strong collaborative efforts of partners like Groundwork and SDCEA are crafting innovative strategies to address climate change, promote sustainable development, and ensure equitable access to resources.

According to SDCEA, attendees celebrated the strength and resilience of local communities, which are at the forefront of the fight for environmental and social justice.

Speakers such as Bobby Peek and Desmond D'Sa shared invaluable insights on grassroots activism and policy advocacy.

Local environmentalists Makoma Lekalakala and Sherelee Odayar provided powerful perspectives on sustainable practices and community engagement.

There were also two interactive panels, which allowed communities to engage in pressing matters they are dealing with in their respective communities and gain knowledge from the various panel members, which included representatives from the organisations that hosted the event.

With the common goal of paving the way for meaningful change and a sustainable future, environmentalists, participants and community members left the conference with a renewed commitment to tackle pressing environmental challenges.

The strategies and action plans developed during the conference aim to tackle environmental challenges head-on and drive ongoing efforts for a greener, more just world. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

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QATAR AIRWAYS ACQUIRES PARTIAL OWNERSHIP OF SOUTH AFRICAN AIRLINE

Qatar Airways has broadened its presence in Africa through a strategic investment in South Africa's Airlink.

Qatar Airways has expanded its investment in Africa by acquiring a 25% stake in South Africa's Airlink. The deal, announced on 20 August, enables Qatar Airways to grow its portfolio of airline investments and reinforces its commitment to enhancing connectivity within Africa.

This marks a significant step in the Doha-based airline's strategic expansion across the African continent. Africa has immense growth potential but remains historically underserved with regards to aviation.

Qatar Airways CEO Badr Mohammed Al-Meer said that Africa is significant in the airline's global strategy, noting that the continent represents 18% of the world's population and remains underserved in terms of air connectivity.



“Africa is very important for us, and it is really underserved as a continent,” Al-Meer said, highlighting Qatar Airways’ aim of tapping into the region’s growing demand for air travel.

Airlink has established itself as a key player in African aviation. Hence Qatar’s interest in acquiring the South African airline. As a prominent regional airline in Africa, Airlink flies to more than 45 destinations across 15 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Airlink has a fleet of over 65 aircraft and an annual passenger count exceeding 3 million people.

The partnership with Qatar Airways is expected to further bolster Airlink’s operational capacity and network reach.

Furthermore, more traffic is expected to be channelled through Qatar Airways’ Doha hub.

Airspace Africa says the investment by Qatar Airways signals a strong belief in the future of African aviation.

With demand for air travel expected to rise as African economies develop, Qatar Airways’ expanded presence on the continent positions it to capitalise on these emerging opportunities.

At the same time, it will contribute to improved air connectivity within the African continent. In addition to its stake in South Africa’s privately-owned Airlink, Qatar Airways is also close to finalising a long-planned investment in Rwanda’s state-owned airline.

Qatar will acquire a 49% stake in RwandAir. This move is designed to enhance Qatar Airways’ access to passengers from regional African cities.

This further strengthens the airline’s position in the continent’s aviation market. – Source: www.sapeople.com

LUFTHANSA TO INTRODUCE NEW SOUTH AFRICA-EUROPE FLIGHT ROUTE

Starting next month, Lufthansa will add a new route between South Africa and Europe, including flights to Munich.

Lufthansa will begin operating the flight route between Johannesburg and Munich starting in September 2024. Travellers will thus have a choice of two direct flights to Germany from Johannesburg.

The airline already operates direct flights between Johannesburg and Frankfurt.

The German carrier will commence operations between Johannesburg and Munich on 3 September 2024. This route will be operated three times a week. Year-round flights will be offered, using an efficient Airbus A350-900 aircraft.

The German national airline will also operate direct flights between Cape Town and Munich, starting in November. However, this service will be operated on a seasonal basis, as reported by *BusinessTech*.

Flights between Cape Town and Munich will operate during the European winter (summertime in the Southern Hemisphere).

Lufthansa operated scheduled flights on the Johannesburg-Munich routing nearly 20 years ago. The airline suspended this service in 2005.



The reintroduction of the route was announced in September last year, with flights initially slated for June 2024. However, as reported by *Sustainability in the Sky*, Lufthansa moved the start date to accommodate the other new routes it launched this year.

The Lufthansa Group of airlines has a strong presence in Southern Africa. Its subsidiaries—Lufthansa, SWISS, Discover Airlines, Austrian Airlines, and Edelweiss—operate services to and from key destinations, including South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Mauritius.

Munich is one of the largest cities in Germany. It is located in the state of Bavaria. Several large international companies are indeed headquartered in the Munich area, including BMW, Siemens and Allianz. The Bavarian city is also a tourist hotspot. Munich is known for the Oktoberfest and its famous football team, Bayern Munich.

South African Airways (SAA) also operated scheduled flights between Johannesburg and Munich. The airline was forced to terminate these services due to the COVID-19 pandemic when all of its flights were grounded. The airline has intentions of resuming services on a number of its international routes, including Munich.

In July, SAA interim CEO John Lamola said that the company plans to add nine destinations to its existing 14 and increase the number of its aircraft by 50% to 21 by March next year.

SAA has already reintroduced scheduled flights on two intercontinental routes. Late last year, it relaunched flights to Sao Paulo in Brazil. In April this year, it resumed flights between Johannesburg and Perth in Australia. – Source: www.sapeople.com

RESCUED TIGER CUBS FIND NEW LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Two tiger cubs, Snow and Sky, rescued from cruel captivity in Slovakia, have found a new life of hope and freedom at South Africa's LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary.

Africa has become a sanctuary for big cats, who have faced unimaginable cruelty and harsh living conditions around the globe. In a world where these majestic creatures are too often subjected to abuse, illegal trade and exploitation, places like LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary stand as a haven of hope and healing. Here, animals that were once deprived of their natural habitats are given a second chance at life under the African sun.

In a heartening development, the global animal welfare organisation FOUR PAWS has successfully transferred two young tiger cubs, Snow and Sky, to LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary from Slovakia. These cubs were victims of illegal private keeping in Slovakia, where they were separated from their mother at a young age and kept in cruel conditions. Confiscated by local authorities in mid-April, they were temporarily housed at Zoo Bojnice before embarking on a 13 000-kilometre journey to their new forever home in South Africa.

The arrival of Snow and Sky at LIONSROCK marks the beginning of a new chapter for these one-year-old tigresses.

The sanctuary, which is already home to over 100 rescued big cats, offers them the space to roam freely, explore their natural surroundings, and recover from the trauma of their past. It's a bittersweet moment, as the sanctuary also mourns the loss of their male sibling, who tragically did not survive the ordeal in Slovakia. Yet, there is immense joy in seeing Snow and Sky begin to thrive in their new environment.

Josef Pfabigan, CEO and President of FOUR PAWS expressed the organisation's delight in welcoming the cubs to their new home. "The sad fate of Snow and Sky has a happy ending today. It is a great joy for FOUR PAWS to welcome the two tiger cubs to LIONSROCK. In their new forever home, they can roam their natural surroundings and enjoy a new sense of life. We must not forget that many big cats suffer in private keeping like Snow and Sky did. The protection of wild animals has been close to our hearts at FOUR PAWS since the very beginning."

The journey for these cubs has not been easy. Snow, with her rare white fur, is particularly vulnerable due to the inbreeding practices often used to produce such sought-after traits. This inbreeding can lead to serious health problems, condemning animals like Snow to a lifetime of suffering. However, at LIONSROCK, Snow and her sister Sky have a chance to live out their lives in a place where their well-being is the top priority.



Patricia Tiplea, Head of Wild Animal Rescue and Advocacy at FOUR PAWS, highlighted the challenges these cubs have faced and the bright future that now awaits them. "Cruel private keeping can have a permanent negative impact on big cats. They are often sick, malnourished, locked up in inappropriate cages, abused as pets, or for entertainment, and killed for their fur and body parts. These two tiger cubs have been deprived of the care of their mother since a very young age. At LIONSROCK, Snow and Sky have a bright future ahead of them. It is amazing to watch them explore their outer enclosure and see that they are already starting to recover from their past."

Europe remains a hotspot for the illegal trade of tigers and other big cats, with several countries ranked among the top global exporters and importers of these animals. Despite legislation in some regions, the lack of stringent enforcement means that big cats continue to suffer. FOUR PAWS is calling for stronger laws and has launched a petition to end the ruthless trade of tigers in the European Union.

In the vast expanse of LIONSROCK, under the wide African sky, Snow and Sky now have a chance to live the lives they were always meant to. Their journey from despair to hope is a powerful example of how dedicated efforts can change the world for the better, one rescued life at a time. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

DR LESLEY ANN VAN SELM EARNS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



In the field of social impact and community development, where most of the hard work goes on behind the scenes and tireless efforts go largely unrecognised, Dr Lesley Ann van Selm has earned massive international recognition.

Dr van Selm, whose work and purpose can best be summed up as a life of uplifting others, has been awarded the 2024 Women's Lifetime Achievement Award-Africa from Prime Awards.

This accolade has been awarded to her not only for her unwavering dedication to social impact in South Africa but also for her innovative business practices and her significant contributions to a multitude of communities.

As the Managing Director of Khulisa Social Solutions, her leadership and vision have been pivotal in lighting the path to a more empowered South Africa from a grassroots level. With her at the helm, Khulisa is proud to report that it has consistently met and exceeded the needs of its community in the pursuit of social betterment through sustainable approaches.

While an overview of her work certainly does no justice to the countless lives Dr van Selm and her team have impacted, here are just some of the significant strides Khulisa Social Solutions—an award-winning non-profit organisation with over two decades of empowering underprivileged South Africans to unlock their potential—has achieved:

- over 30 000 individuals are empowered through various community programmes
- a 70% reduction in recidivism rates among participants in restorative justice initiatives
- successful rehabilitation and reintegration of more than 15 000 youths into society
- partnerships with over 200 community organisations to foster collaborative solutions to social challenges
- building capacity for more than 250 grassroots non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community-building organisations (CBOs) to research and develop strategies to implement needs-driven interventions
- conducted research with over 25 000 children and youth nationally on the causal factors of crime and violence, leading to the development of an ecosystemic, intersectoral approach to address these causal factors.

“I am deeply honoured to receive this recognition during Women’s Month. This award is a testament to the incredible support and inspiration from my family, colleagues, and the communities we serve. It is through their unwavering belief in our mission that we have been able to achieve so much. I share this honour with all those who have walked this journey with me,” Dr van Selm reflects.

Dr Van Selm’s contributions extend beyond organisational achievements, as she was recently awarded a professional doctorate by the International University of Europe. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

SOUTH AFRICAN CHEF’S FRENCH RESTAURANT EARNS MICHELIN STAR

South African chef Nick Honeyman became one of the talented few who can say they’ve earned a Michelin Star this year. This is for his seasonal French restaurant based in Saint-Léon-sur-Vézère.

It has been an exciting year for the South African culinary scene. From La Petite Colombe being awarded Restaurant of the Year to Chef Phil Carmichael opening his debut South African restaurant in Stellenbosch and, of course, Jamie Oliver visiting chefs in Cape Town. In more proud news for foodie enthusiasts, a South African chef’s French restaurant has earned a Michelin Star.

Chef Nick Honeyman, who was born and raised in South Africa before following his “burning passion for cooking” to Sydney, has, alongside his wife Sina, earned a Michelin Star for their French restaurant Le Petit Léon, which is based in the South of France’s Saint-Léon-sur-Vézère. Le Petit Léon is a seasonal restaurant that is only open in the summer.

Receiving a Michelin Star is a lot like the culinary world’s version of the Oscars, with the Michelin Guide standing as the world authority in high-end dining.



Several South Africans carry this accolade, including Jan Hendrik van der Westhuizen (the first South African Chef to earn a Michelin Star), Jean Delpont, Conor Toomey, Thinus Van Der Westhuizen and Chef Epsey. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENT QUIETLY MAKES HISTORY

South African student Stephanie Pringle quietly made history earlier this year. As a non-speaking autistic student, Stephanie used a letterboard to write her Cambridge exams for Extended Mathematics and Business Studies—making her the first non-speaking autistic student in the whole world to do so.

“Stephanie’s story is a beautiful reminder of what’s possible when we embrace neurodiversity and give everyone the tools they need to succeed. It’s one of those feel-good stories that makes you want to cheer for her and the progress we’re making in inclusive education,” shares Nicola Killops, who is a mother of a young adult with high-functioning autism and dyslexia herself.



Stephanie (19) was diagnosed with a developmental delay just before she turned two years old and then diagnosed with autism at four.

“Steph was stuck, repeating Grades 1 and 2 for about eight years with no reliable means of communication,” shares her mom, Zelda. “She was often frustrated and upset because she couldn’t express herself or prove her understanding, leading to frequent tantrums.”

Stephanie also has apraxia, which makes it difficult for her to perform tasks on command, no matter how willing she is to do them. This contributes to her non-verbalism and prevents her from writing reliably.

However, this is where clever tools like the letterboard come in as an essential resource as part of the broader spectrum of augmentative and alternative communication tools that help overcome communication barriers. For Stephanie, it wasn’t just a tool to communicate; it was the beginning of unlocking her true potential.

“Once she could express herself using the letterboard, the problematic behaviour, anger and tantrums nearly vanished,” Zelda says, recalling how everything changed for the best.

At its core purpose, the letterboard can help non-speakers express themselves simply by pointing to letters and synchronising cognitive and motor skills. But as Stephanie has shown, it can help with personal growth and other barriers that many autistic people face.

With the help of trained facilitators, students are trained to work with the letter board and communicate effectively while regulating their bodies—a big win to combat experiences like overstimulation and meltdowns.

Using a letterboard to pass her examinations was no small feat, but it’s one that’s made her school, family, the autism community and South Africa immensely proud. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com



SOUTH AFRICAN ACTOR STELIO SAVANTE LANDS ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL FILM “SARAH’S OIL”

Stelio Savante has a long and diverse acting career, including roles in television, film and video games. Now, he will star in the anticipated Amazon MGM movie “Sarah’s Oil”.

Based on the true story of Sarah Rector, a young African-American girl who struck oil on her Oklahoma land in the early 1900s, the film chronicles her journey to becoming the first African-American teenage millionaire.

The *Sarah's Oil* screenplay was co-written by Cyrus Nowrasteh and Betsy Giffen Nowrasteh. Savante's feature in the film marks another significant milestone in his career.

This is the second collaboration between Nowrasteh and Savante. Nowrasteh also wrote and directed the action thriller *Infidel* starring Jim Caviezel, in which Savante portrayed a Mossad agent fronting as a journalist.

South Africans are most familiar with Savante from his role in the epic drama *A Million Colours*, the Hawaiian adventure film *Running For Grace*, starring opposite Matt Dillon and Jim Caviezel, the *noir* drama *What Remains*, starring opposite Anne Heche, and from the video game franchise *Call of Duty: Black Ops 4* and *Black Ops Mobile* in which he voices the character, Ajax.

Boasting a 35-year career with over 140 projects to his name, Stelio Savante's recent credits include the Netflix series *Captain Fall* and the crime thriller *Fresh Kills*, directed by Jennifer Esposito. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

SOUTH AFRICAN TALENT CAPTIVATES CROWD AT CARNEGIE HALL

South African musicians recently took to Carnegie Hall's famed stage with talent, culture and the sounds of South Africa in a series of performances that made World Orchestra Week a symphony of success.

World Orchestra Week carves out an important time in the international music community's calendar to celebrate the sounds of the world. The instruments might be similar or the same, but the energy with which they're played never is—especially with compositions from home countries reigning supreme.

For the newly united African United Youth Orchestra organised by the Mzansi National Philharmonic Orchestra, it was a chance to showcase Africa's best, young musicians.

In an ode to the countries that made them who they are, musicians were asked to adorn clothes from their culture.



“We were asked to bring items of clothing to represent our culture and it was surreal to bring the Khoi with me. Performing works by South African composers and getting the audience to their feet with Miriam Makeba's *Pata Pata* was a moment of feeling 'Proudly South African' in a moment in South African history that feels so uncertain,” reflected violinist Lynn Daphne Rudolph, who also led the viola section for the tour. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

ST JOHN'S MARIMBA BANDS SHINE AT INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL BRINGING HOME TROPHIES

St John's DSG showcased both its Senior and Junior Performance Marimba bands at the impressive 13th Education Africa International Marimba and Steelpan Festival.

The Senior band took the stage at St Dominic's Catholic School for Girls in Johannesburg.

This colossal event brought together an astounding 2 300 musicians from 90 schools, with over 350 performances and more than 200 instruments filling the venue in just two days.

The school's talented girls played exceptionally well and brought home trophies for the first time in St John's marimba history.

The seniors placed second in the Battle of the Bands category, second in the Strictly Classical category and third in the Proudly African category.



St John's music teacher, Nafas Frenzel said the bands are made up of an extremely committed and self-driven group of girls.

"The girls took initiative and requested extra rehearsals, making sure to practice beyond their regular rehearsal times. Another participating marimba instructor at the festival mentioned how these (St John's) girls play with 'oomph' yet with beautiful feminine flair, and I totally agree with him."

In addition to their fantastic performances, the girls attended workshops, learnt from other bands, and had a fabulous time creating lasting memories. It was a weekend of outstanding achievements, and the girls came home beaming with pride due to their phenomenal success.

The Junior School Grade 7 Marimba Band competed in the Online Primary category and secured an impressive second place.

"This was our first time entering the Junior School. Our talented young musicians have made us proud with their hard work and dedication."

Nafas also shared that the school's music programme is designed to nurture and develop the musical talent of its students from a young age.

"We offer a marimba programme for Grade 6 to 12 pupils, creating five marimba bands in total. I encourage the girls to have creativity; they need to add a bit of their own taste to the music they learn."

The bands hope to be regular participants in the Education Africa International Marimba and Steelpan Festival every year. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

A GOOD DAY AT THE OFFICE FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SPORT

It has been a good weekend for South African sport. In a social media post on X, President Cyril Ramaphosa congratulated mixed martial artist, Dricus Du Plessis, for retaining the United Fighting Championship (UFC) Middleweight title.

"Congratulations, Dricus Du Plessis, on retaining your UFC middleweight world championship with a submission in #UFC305.

"As a bonus, you kept our flag flying hours after the Springboks scored a historic 2-0 series win in Perth as well. We couldn't wish for a better day in the office," the President said on Sunday, 18 August 2024.

This was as Du Plessis defeated Israel Adesanya in Perth, Australia.

Sport, Arts and Culture Minister Gayton McKenzie also congratulated Du Plessis.

"This is who we are as South Africans—one nation and sports crazy. Thank you Dricus Du Plessis, my voice is gone!" said the Minister in a post on X.



The Proteas Men also made the nation proud in their match against the West Indies.

"Winning is what we do! South Africa's test series win yesterday was the 10th consecutive win against the West Indies! The Proteas made us so proud with an incredible team effort and clinical bowling when it mattered! Well done once again," said Cricket South Africa on X on Sunday.

On the rugby front, the Springboks claimed victory in their bout against Australia in Perth on Saturday. The Springboks beat the Wallabies 30-12 in the second Castle Lager Rugby Championship Test.

In a post on X, the South African Government congratulated the Springboks.

"You've made South Africa proud!," it said. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

UFC 305: DRICUS DU PLESSIS SUBMITS ISRAEL ADESANYA TO RETAIN MIDDLEWEIGHT CROWN

In front of a packed RAC Arena in Perth, Springbok captain Siya Kolisi and Eben Etzebeth led out the United Fighting Championship (UFC) champion to the national anthem. But after the legendary introductions from announcer Bruce Buffer, it was down to business.



Prepare The opening exchanges were a feeling-out process for both fighters, with both landing significant strikes. On the scorecards, it could have gone either way.

Round two saw Du Plessis execute his first takedown, securing the double-leg. In the scramble, Adesanya gave up his back, and Du Plessis was quick to shoot for the rear-naked choke. But the former champion exploded out of the submission attempt and built a base to get to his feet.

Back on their feet in the third, Adesanya was finding success. Staying on the outside, Adesanya picked apart the champion, who came forward aimlessly. Adesanya also landed a spinning elbow in the clinch that put Du Plessis on notice.

Du Plessis continued to walk through the fire in round four, taking damage but firing back with the odd blitz. Finally, one of them paid off. Now pressing, a right hand dropped Adesanya who bounced back up quickly and began to skirt the outside, but a chasing Du Plessis landed two big shots from behind to drop him again.

Quick as lightning, the champion took Adesanya's back, sunk in his hooks, flattened him out and got his forearm right under Adesanya's chin, securing a rear-naked choke. It was sleep or tap for Adesanya, and he chose the latter.

"I came in here to die for this belt," du Plessis told Daniel Cormier in the post-fight interview.

"I came in here ready to take a life. Luckily, tonight I didn't have to do either of those things."

After some nasty words in pre-fight hype, the Pretoria native also buried the hatchet with Adesanya, giving credit to the future Hall of Famer.

"It was an honour for me to share the cage with this man," he added.

"I have the utmost respect. Warrior to warrior." – Source: www.msn.com

SPRINGBOKS OVERCOME THE CONDITIONS TO BEAT THE WALLABIES AT A DRENCHED PERTH

South Africa once again overpowered Australia in the Rugby Championship on Saturday, 17 August 2024, with a 30-12 victory in wet and slippery conditions at Optus Stadium.

The two-time reigning World Cup champions scored the game's only four tries in front of 58 197 rugby fans, many of whom supported the Springboks, with Perth being home to a strong South African community.

South Africa made 10 changes after a 33-7 triumph last week in Brisbane and overcame a grittier Wallabies in a ferocious contest with several players forced off due to head injuries.

Neither team was comfortable claiming the ball in either the air or on the ground, which had noticeable damp spots after torrential rains.

The Springboks, who boasted 14 World Cup winners, struggled initially to handle the slippery conditions and only led 11-9 at halftime before overwhelming the Wallabies with three second-half tries.

South Africa came out aggressively after halftime with Marco van Staden barrelling over the line to extend their lead.

After heavy rain lashed the ground, the game went into a lull before reserve Max Jorgensen ignited the home team on debut.

But South Africa proved formidable in the maul, leading to Malcolm Marx barging over the line for two late tries as their bid to end a five-year title drought in the competition started strongly.

Scorers:

Australia 12 (9) – Penalty goals: Noah Lolesio (4).

Springboks 30 (11) – Tries: Aphelele Fassi, Marco van Staden, Malcolm Marx (2). Conversions: Sacha Feinberg-Mngomezulu, Handre Pollard. Penalty goals: Feinberg-Mngomezulu (2).

– Source: www.msn.com



PROTEAS DEFEAT WEST INDIES TO MAINTAIN 25-YEAR TEST SERIES GRIP



**SOUTH AFRICA
WINS BY 40 RUNS**

**WOZA
NAWE**



The Proteas defeated the West Indies by 40 runs on an eventful third day of the second and final Test on Saturday, 17 August 2024, to extend their dominance over the Caribbean side.

Set a challenging target of 263 after fast bowler Jayden Seales' Test-best figures of six for 61 dismissed the Proteas for 246 in their second innings in the morning session, the home team lost wickets at regular intervals to be dismissed for 222.

In a cruel twist of fate, Seales was the last wicket to fall just minutes before the scheduled close of play. He fell to man of the series Keshav Maharaj, who claimed his 13th wicket of the two-match duel via a short-leg catch by David Bedingham.

The win extended South Africa's unbeaten Test series run against the West Indies from the first-ever series meeting between the two teams in 1998/99, when Shaun Pollock's men demolished the visitors led by Brian Lara 5-0.

The West Indies had defeated South Africa in a one-off encounter in Barbados in 1992, their first-ever official Test encounter, which marked the Africans' return to the Test fold after 22 years in isolation because of the country's apartheid policy.

Wiaan Mulder took the man of the match award, the seam bowling all-rounder making the most of a rare opportunity to play Test cricket by claiming six wickets in the match and also contributing an important 34 runs in the second innings.

KHANYISA CHAWANE TAKES OVER AS SPAR PROTEAS CAPTAIN, AIMS FOR 2027 WORLD CUP GLORY

Khanyisa Chawane and Karla Pretorius are ready to build upon the team's success and inspire a new generation of netball stars.

South African netball is on the rise with an exciting new era which includes the appointment of Khanyisa Chawane and Karla Pretorius as captain and vice-captain, respectively.

The announcement was made on Friday, 16 August 2024, during a press conference in Sandton, Johannesburg, and will see the dynamic duo lead the national squad to the 2027 Netball World Cup in Australia.

Chawane takes the reins as captain from the esteemed Bongiwé Msomi, who has led the team with distinction since 2016. Msomi's captaincy was instrumental in guiding the Spar Proteas to the 2019 and 2023 Netball World Cups in Liverpool and Cape Town, respectively.



During the press conference, Chawane expressed that the announcement came as a surprise, as she was a firm believer that in sports you have to work for everything, and not expect things to be given to you.

"I'm privileged to be in this position today and I look at it as a privilege to be taking over from former captain Msomi. She started the legacy and I was part of that legacy.

"I think it is a journey of continuing where she left off and I have to take it forward. But I'm excited for the opportunity," Chawane shared.

Chawane's boasts an impressive career. She was selected to represent the South African netball team at the 2019 Netball World Cup and the 2023 Netball World Cup. For the 2023 Telkom Netball League, she presented the Free State Crinums.

Chawane considers herself privileged and is excited to lead the group of skilled and dedicated netball athletes. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

ROLLER TEAMS PREPARE TO ROCK AND ROLL AT THE WORLD SKATE GAMES



South African roller teams are counting down the days until they can rock and roll at the World Skate Games, where they will compete against thousands of participants from rinks and skateparks all around the world.

South African roller teams are preparing to shake up the world stage with the exciting news that they are [participating in the World Skate Games this coming September. Set to be held in Italy, several roller teams will represent South Africa.

The World Skate Games, which is a multi-sport World Championship event held every two years, encompasses 12 roller sports. For the roller sports community, it's one of the most significant events on the

calendar, bringing together the best athletes from skateparks and rinks all over the world.

South Africa's national teams will compete in inline speed skating, artistic roller skating, skateboarding, and roller hockey. The participation numbers for World Skate Games total over 12 000 people from 100 countries. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHERS STRIKE GOLD AND WORLD RECORDS IN BRAZIL

South African archers returned home as champions after striking gold and world records at the IFAA World Field Archery Championship in Brazil.

Archers from around the world gathered for the IFAA World Field Archery Championship to make their home countries proud. Among them was a dedicated team of 24 South African archers who aimed for gold and followed through right on target.

Representing the South African National Indoor and Field Archery Association (SANIFAA), the South African archers took no prisoners as 18 Protea shooters and their talented teammates competed across 11 different categories. Here, South African archers claimed something of a gold rush with 12 gold medals, six silver and three bronze. Some shot the lights out even further by setting new national and world records, including youngsters Liam Strauss (who is just 16) and Xante van Zyl.



The team competitions also saw the archers claim gold on two counts (Free Style and Bow Hunter) as well as a bronze for the Champion of Nations. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com



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