

UBUNTU NEWSFLASH



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DEPUTY PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS T20 AFRICA HIGH-LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE

Deputy President Paul Mashatile attended and delivered a keynote address at the Think Tank (T20) Africa High-Level Policy Dialogue which took place in Pretoria on Tuesday, 29 April 2025.

The T20, which comprises policy institutes and think tanks, is a vital platform for intellectual and strategic inputs that enables African perspectives to be more systematically articulated in global policy processes.

"A hallmark of the G20's legitimacy is its engagement with civil society and non-governmental stakeholders through eleven dedicated Engagement Groups.

“These groups provide platforms for business (B20), labour (L20), women (W20), youth (Y20), civil society (C20), think tanks (T20), scientists (S20), cities (U20), supreme audit institutions (SAI20), startups (SU20), and parliaments (P20) to develop independent policy recommendations and contribute to G20 deliberations,” The Presidency said in a statement issued.

Hosted by the AUDA-NEPAD Africa Policy Bridge Tank Programme, the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), the Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD) and the Institute for Pan-African Thought and Conversation (IPATC), the T20 dialogue was held under the theme *Strengthening African Agency in the G20 within the Emerging Global Order*.

The dialogue convened African think tanks, policymakers, academics, and international partners to generate Africa-centric policy recommendations that align with Agenda 2063, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

“It aims to bridge the gap between African policy priorities and G20 deliberations, ensuring that Africa’s voice is not only heard but integrated into the G20’s working agenda.

“The dialogue also explored key thematic areas, including Africa’s strategic role in the emerging global order; multilateralism and trade reform; democracy and economic governance; social cohesion and inclusive growth; digital transformation and AI [artificial intelligence]; debt and external finance; and climate change and sustainability,” said the Presidency.

The dialogue took place from 29 to 30 April 2025 at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) International Convention Centre. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

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MINISTER RONALD LAMOLA IS LEADING THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION TO THE BRICS FOREIGN MINISTERS’ MEETING



Minister Ronald Lamola led the South African delegation to the Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Federative Republic of Brazil on 28 and 29 April 2025. This was the first BRICS Foreign Ministers Meeting since the inclusion of Indonesia to the grouping in January 2025, bringing the number of full members to 10.

In his intervention in the first session of the meeting with the theme *The Role of BRICS in Addressing Global and Regional Crises and Advancing Pathways to Peace and Security*, Minister Lamola reflected on the geopolitical environment, highlighting that current complex challenges require new global leadership and cooperation, mutual respect, and inclusive dialogue, across all fora, including BRICS and the G20.



T20 AFRICA HIGH-LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE

Strengthening African Agency in the G20 within the Emerging Global Order



SPEAKER: H.E. Paul Shipokosa
Mashatile, Deputy President of South Africa

29 - 30 April 2025 | CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria, South Africa

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3QuKFHg>



Minister Lamola further underscored the importance of all countries remaining committed to multilateralism and to a strengthened rules-based international system of global governance, with the United Nations at its centre. At the same time, Africa must continue to call for the reform of the United Nations Security Council with the representation of Africa in the permanent category and more non-permanent seats for the continent.

He called on BRICS to continue to strengthen cooperation on key security issues, including counterterrorism, cybersecurity, and transnational crime, while remaining firmly committed to the principles of non-interference, mutual benefit, and sovereignty. South Africa continues to support credible efforts to find a lasting peace in all conflicts. – Source: www.dirco.gov.za

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MINISTER LAMOLA WELCOMES TANZANIA'S LIFTING OF IMPORT BAN ON SOUTH AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Ronald Lamola has warmly welcomed Tanzania's decision to lift its import ban on South African agricultural products. This resolution follows constructive diplomatic engagement between Minister Lamola and his counterpart, underscoring the enduring strength of bilateral relations. The ministers agreed to facilitate the resolution of all outstanding issues.

In applauding the move, Minister Lamola reaffirmed the value of dialogue, stating, "This outcome demonstrates that the diplomatic route remains the most effective path to resolving challenges. Together, we prove that cooperation and mutual understanding can unlock shared opportunities."

He emphasised the deep-rooted ties between South Africa and Tanzania, anchored in a spirit of African solidarity and a shared vision for mutual prosperity. "Our nations are bound not only by history but by a collective commitment to advancing Pan-Africanism, economic integration, and inclusive growth," he added.

The announcement coincides with Tanzania's 61st anniversary of unification—a historic milestone marked every 26 April. On this day in 1964, Tanganyika and Zanzibar merged to form the United Republic of Tanzania, transcending divisions to forge a united national identity. Minister Lamola hailed the occasion as a "beacon of Pan-Africanism," noting that Tanzania's journey continues to inspire the continent.

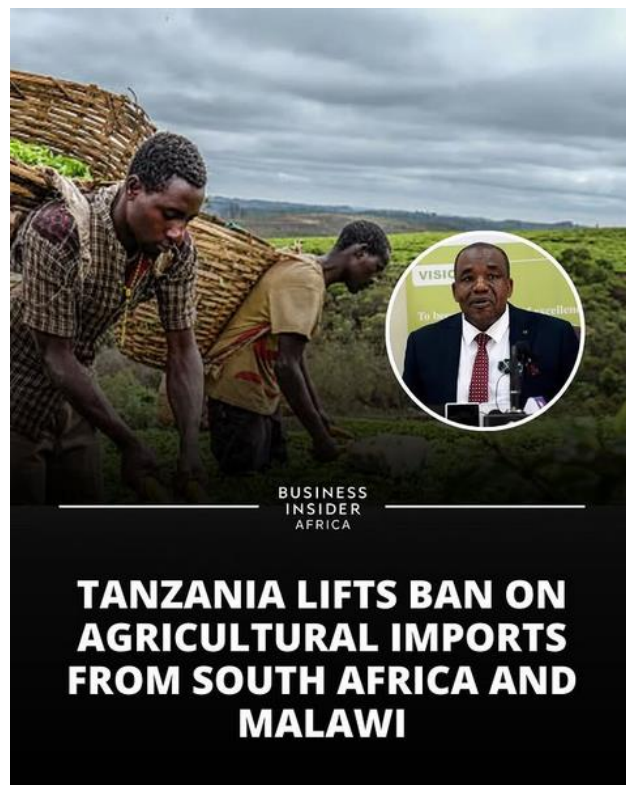
"As South Africa prepares to commemorate our own National Freedom Day on 27 April, we draw strength from Tanzania's example of unity in diversity. Their story reminds us that progress is born from solidarity, and that our destinies as African nations are intertwined," he said.

Looking ahead, Minister Lamola expressed optimism for deepened collaboration, urging continued efforts to strengthen trade, people-to-people ties, and regional integration. "Let this decision be a stepping stone toward even greater collaboration, as we work together to realise the aspirations of Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want," he concluded. – Source: www.dirco.gov.za

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SOUTH AFRICA SENDS CONDOLENCES TO IRAN AFTER PORT EXPLOSION

South Africa sends a message of condolences to the Islamic Republic of Iran following the devastating explosion that occurred at Shahid Rajaei Port in Bandar Abbas, southern Iran.





The Government of the Republic of South Africa expresses its deepest condolences to the Government and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran following the devastating explosion that occurred at Shahid Rajaei Port in Bandar Abbas, southern Iran, which resulted in the loss of life of over 40 persons and serious injuries to over 1000 persons.

South Africa extends its heartfelt condolences to the families who have lost loved ones and wishes a speedy recovery to the injured persons, including from various other countries.

We commend the efforts of the emergency response teams and volunteers who are working tirelessly to provide relief and support to those in need and also commend governments who have provided swift support.

We stand in solidarity with the Government and people of Iran in the aftermath of this tragic accident. – Source www.dirco.gov.za

MINISTER REFLECTS ON PROGRESS MADE AS SOUTH AFRICA MARKS FREEDOM DAY

As the country marked 31 years of democracy on 27 April 2025, Gwede Mantashe, the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources, has emphasised the importance of remembering the nation’s difficult past while celebrating the progress of building a unified, democratic society.

WATCH THE VIDEO

Minister Mantashe, who was representing President Cyril Ramaphosa due to his ill health, recounted the historical struggles faced by South Africa, noting that the country was colonised for 342 years and endured 46 years of apartheid rule.

He took the time to highlight the significant changes, including how the government now serves 100% of the population, compared to just 8% during apartheid.

“You open a radio, and there’s a question that is asked by many people: What are we celebrating? But people who ask this question don’t know this history,” Minister Mantashe said.



According to the Minister, on 27 April 1994, the dignity of South Africa’s people—both black and white—was restored.

“For as our beloved Madiba reminded us, ‘in the system of apartheid, both the oppressed and the oppressor are robbed of their humanity.’”

On Sunday, senior government officials and members of the Ermelo community, along with neighbouring towns in Mpumalanga, gathered at the AJ Schoeman Stadium to commemorate South Africa's democratic transition, reflecting on the nation's 31-year journey since the end of apartheid.

“On this Freedom Day, there is so much we still need to remember and celebrate,” the Minister added.

Minister Mantashe stressed several key achievements that are worth celebrating under the democratic government. These include the increased black ownership and management of mines, more professional opportunities for black South Africans, the growth of cities like Johannesburg and Pretoria, the development of new businesses, and a commitment to reconciliation instead of revenge.

“Even now, there are people who seek to drive a wedge between us, who seek to rekindle the embers of racial bitterness. These efforts will fail, because even the inhumane system of apartheid failed to destroy what binds us together as human beings,” he told the crowd.

He also paid tribute to the noble citizens of this resilient nation, which understands the true meaning of reconciliation.

“We showed the world that it was indeed possible to move beyond a bitter history. We showed that dialogue is more powerful than any weapon. We chose reconciliation over revenge. Healing over hatred. Peace over conflict.”

Minister Mantashe also honoured the sacrifices of the forefathers who showed the world that even the most bitter of enemies can reconcile and rebuild.

“It took individuals from across our country, religious leaders, traditional leaders, political activists, young and old, workers and ordinary citizens to guide our country to democracy.”

He also paid tribute to the late Beyers Naude, fondly known as Oom Bey, an Afrikaner clergyman whose father helped found the Broederbond and played a significant role in fighting the unjust system of which he was a beneficiary.

“These choices made three decades ago define our national character and have elevated our moral standing in the world.

“We have been sought out by countries embroiled in conflict, hoping to learn from our experience with national reconciliation, conflict resolution and dialogue.”

His speech highlighted South Africa's ongoing commitment to international solidarity, especially with nations experiencing oppression, such as Palestine, Western Sahara, and Sudan.

Building better

He also reminded South Africans of the importance of active citizenship and the necessity for the people to engage in shaping the country's future.

“No matter how difficult times may be, let us stand united. Let us not turn away from the difficult task of building a more just, more equal South Africa.

“Let us continue to nourish the flame of freedom and protect it so that it may be passed to future generations. Let us move forward toward the South Africa of our dreams.”

Sport, Arts and Culture Minister Gayton McKenzie has thrown his weight behind President Ramaphosa and paid tribute to leaders who contributed to South Africa's freedom.

Minister McKenzie urged leaders to engage with the people they are serving. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

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MINISTER CHIKUNGA LEADS SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION AT BRAZIL BRICS WOMEN MINISTERIAL MEETING

Minister in the Presidency responsible for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Sindisiwe Chikunga, led South Africa's delegation to the BRICS Women Ministerial Meeting at the Itamaraty Palace in Brasília, Brazil.

The Ministerial meeting, which took place on Thursday, 24 April 2025, was one of several high-level engagements under the 2025 BRICS Presidency, led by Brazil, and was themed *Strengthening Global South Cooperation for More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance*.



The meeting brought together ministers responsible for gender and women's affairs across BRICS member states (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) to advance multilateral cooperation on women's empowerment and gender-responsive governance.

The BRICS Women Ministerial Meeting was first conceptualised during South Africa's BRICS Presidency in 2023, when South Africa proposed the institutionalisation of a platform for ministers responsible for women's affairs.

This initiative aimed to integrate gender equality and women's empowerment more centrally into BRICS multilateralism. Since then, both Russia in 2024, and Brazil in 2025, have continued the momentum, hosting sessions that advance this collaborative agenda.

The 2025 Ministerial focused on three priority areas:

- Women, Development and Entrepreneurship
- Digital Governance, Misogyny and Disinformation
- Women's Empowerment, Climate Action and Sustainable Development.

The Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities said Minister Chikunga participated in all three thematic debates scheduled for the Ministerial Meeting, where she contributed to discussions on women's economic empowerment, digital governance, and climate resilience.

"Her participation underscores South Africa's commitment to ensuring that gender equality is mainstreamed across all areas of governance, policy, and development within the BRICS framework. These themes reflect shared challenges and ambitions across the BRICS countries, particularly in the context of inclusive economic development, digital rights, and sustainability.

"The meeting offers a strategic space for exchanging policy approaches, aligning efforts, and strengthening collective commitments to gender justice. South Africa's participation is consistent with its broader commitment to women's development, social inclusion, and multilateral solidarity," the department said in a statement. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

NORWEGIAN ENVOY PRAISES SOUTH AFRICA'S G20 PRESIDENCY AND CHAIRSHIP

The Norwegian Ambassador to South Africa, Gjermund Sæther, has lauded South Africa's Presidency and Chairship of the Group of Twenty (G20) saying the country is doing a great job and Norway supports it despite criticism by some countries.

This is an apparent reference to United States (US) President Donald Trump, who expressed doubt about attending the G20 despite the fact that the US is the next president of the G20 to take over from South Africa later this year.

President Trump's Secretary of State, Marco Rubio, recently boycotted the G20 Foreign Minister's meeting in Johannesburg due to the way the US administration views Pretoria's land reform policy.

South Africa's G20 Chairship

Speaking at the launch of the exhibition on African Norwegian Solidarity held at the Apartheid Museum on Saturday, 26 April 2025, Amb Sæther said one of the manifestations of the good cooperation between South Africa and Norway was Pretoria's move to extend an invitation to Norway to participate as an invited guest country during the G20.

"South Africa is doing a very good job chairing the G20. It is surprising and disappointing to see some countries questioning the Sustainable Development Goals and the fight for women's rights," Amb Sæther said.

“Norway, and so many other countries inside and outside of the G20, fully support South Africa's priorities as the chair of the G20,” he added.

There is no doubt that the struggle for democracy, human rights and self-determination faces some headwinds.

In all parts of the world, there are countries in democratic decline, including several countries in Europe, and he named Russia as one of them.

“In a geopolitically shifting landscape, we must work against the old imperial idea that ‘might is right’”.

“The international community has a compass, or we can call it a rulebook, designed to prevent conflict. It does not solve all problems, but it is a good starting point. It's called international law, and it includes the United Nations (UN) Charter, international humanitarian law and international human rights. These principles must be applied in a consistent manner,” Amb Sæther said.

The envoy lashed out at Israel, saying although it had a right to defend itself following the October 2023 attacks inside Israel by Hamas, that exercise of power was constrained by international law.

“All parties need to take active action to protect civilians, and to allow for humanitarian access. We all witnessed that this did not happen.

“With the support of South Africa and 136 countries in the UN General Assembly, Norway sent a powerful message by referring Israel to the International Court of Justice a few months back. It is unacceptable for Israel to block the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Palestinians living under occupation.

“Norway thinks international courts are there to be used, something South Africa is doing in their own case against Israel’s war in Palestine in the International Court of Justice. Those countries that disagree with South Africa can present their view in the court in The Hague,” Amb Sæther said.

Need for African voices

Norway appreciated South Africa’s engagement in the Russian-Ukrainian conflict through the African Peace Initiative and this week’s visit of President Zelensky to Pretoria.

“Norway will support Ukraine’s right to self-determination, just as we supported the same right for South Africans, Zimbabweans, Mozambicans and others. The fundamental principle of international law also applies in another part of Norway’s neighbourhood, the Arctic. Greenland is part of the Kingdom of Denmark.”

The Ambassador called for multilateralism and reform of the multilateral institutions, including the composition of the UN Security Council.

“Looking at the challenges of climate change, war and poverty, to name a few, it is clear that the world needs multilateralism more than ever. We need solidarity more than ever and we need reformed multilateral institutions that reflect the world of today.

“Now is the time for countries in Europe and Africa to intensify their cooperation to achieve this. Reform of the composition of the UN Security Council is long overdue, and the African continent must be much better represented.

“When we supported the struggle for liberation, we also supported the quest for a larger African role in global affairs. This is more acute than ever.

“It is not only about morals and the fact that African voices have not been heard. It is in Norway’s own interest that we live in an organised world in which countries on this continent have a fair say.

“The future influence of this continent in world affairs should be, must be, and will be bigger than before,” Amb Sæther said. – Source: www.citizen.co.za

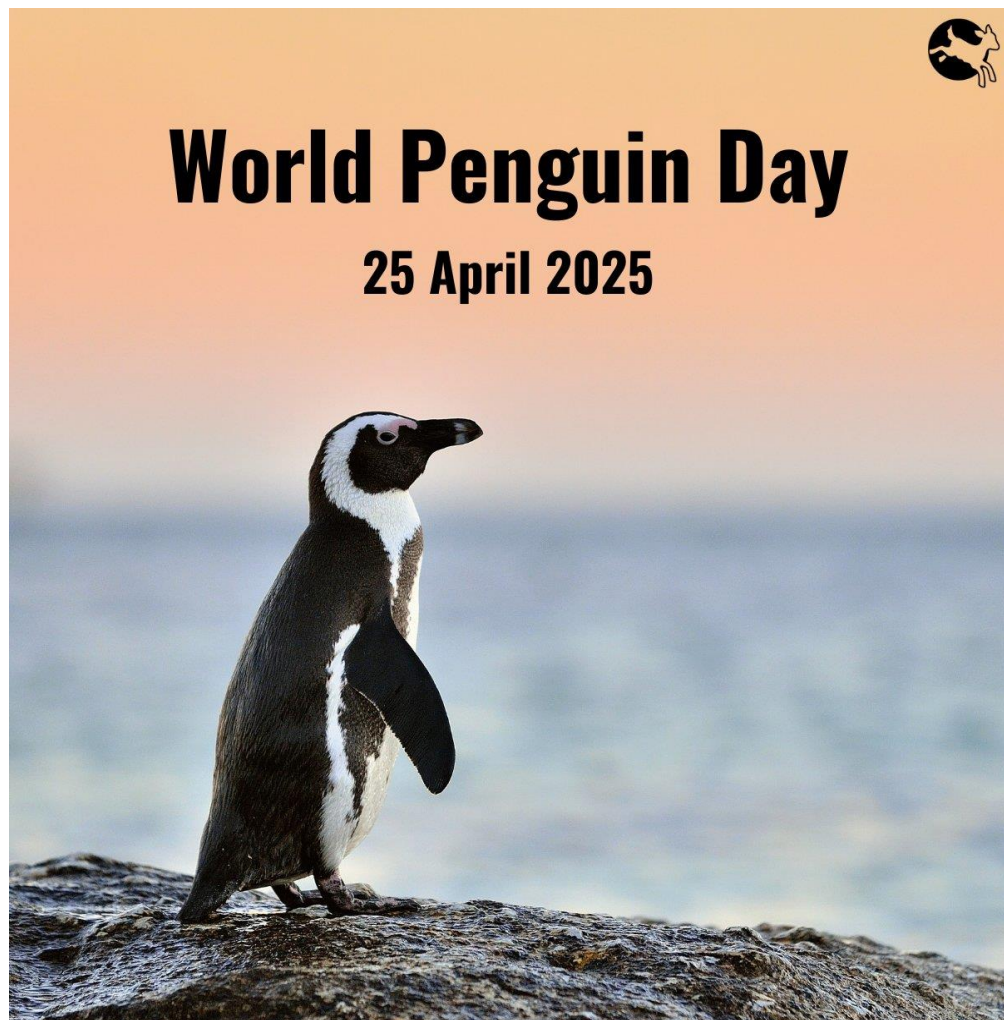


SOUTH AFRICA STEPS UP TO SAVE THE AFRICAN PENGUIN

As the world marked World Penguin Day on 25 April 2025, South Africa has reaffirmed its commitment to protecting one of its most iconic yet critically endangered species—the African penguin.

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) has outlined bold steps being taken to halt the dramatic population decline of these seabirds, which have seen their numbers plummet to fewer than 9 000 breeding pairs in the country.

“The African penguin faces critical complexities, with fewer than 9 000 breeding pairs remaining in South Africa, earning them a critically endangered status. Climate change, overfishing, oil spills, and maritime noise pollution have driven steep declines, but our department, alongside dedicated partners, is taking bold action to reverse this trajectory,” said Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Dr Dion George.



The Minister described the African penguin as “a beloved symbol of South Africa’s rich biodiversity and a species at the heart of conservation efforts”.

“As we mark World Penguin Day, I call on all South Africans to join us in protecting these remarkable creatures. Their survival reflects the health of our oceans and our commitment to a sustainable future,” Minister George said.

In a landmark development this March, a court-backed agreement between the fishing industry and leading conservation organisations—BirdLife South Africa and the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB)—was announced.

The deal establishes biologically significant no-fishing zones around six critical penguin breeding sites: Dassen Island, Robben Island, Stony Point, Dyer Island, St Croix Island, and Bird Island. These areas account for 76% of the country’s African penguin population.

“This agreement, now an order of the court, establishes biologically meaningful no-fishing zones around six key penguin colonies—notably, 12-mile fishing closures around Robben Island and Bird Island, alongside tailored restrictions at other sites, will secure vital sardine and anchovy stocks for penguins over the next decade.

“This achievement was forged by the DFFE through dialogue with the fishing industry, and balances ecological and economic needs, proving collaboration can deliver results.”

The department is also confronting the devastating environmental consequences of bunkering ship-to-ship fuel transfers in Algoa Bay, near St Croix Island, formerly the largest African penguin colony in the world.

“Oil spills and underwater noise from ship-to-ship refuelling have decimated this population. Following a pause in bunkering activities in 2023, we observed a small but encouraging recovery at St Croix.

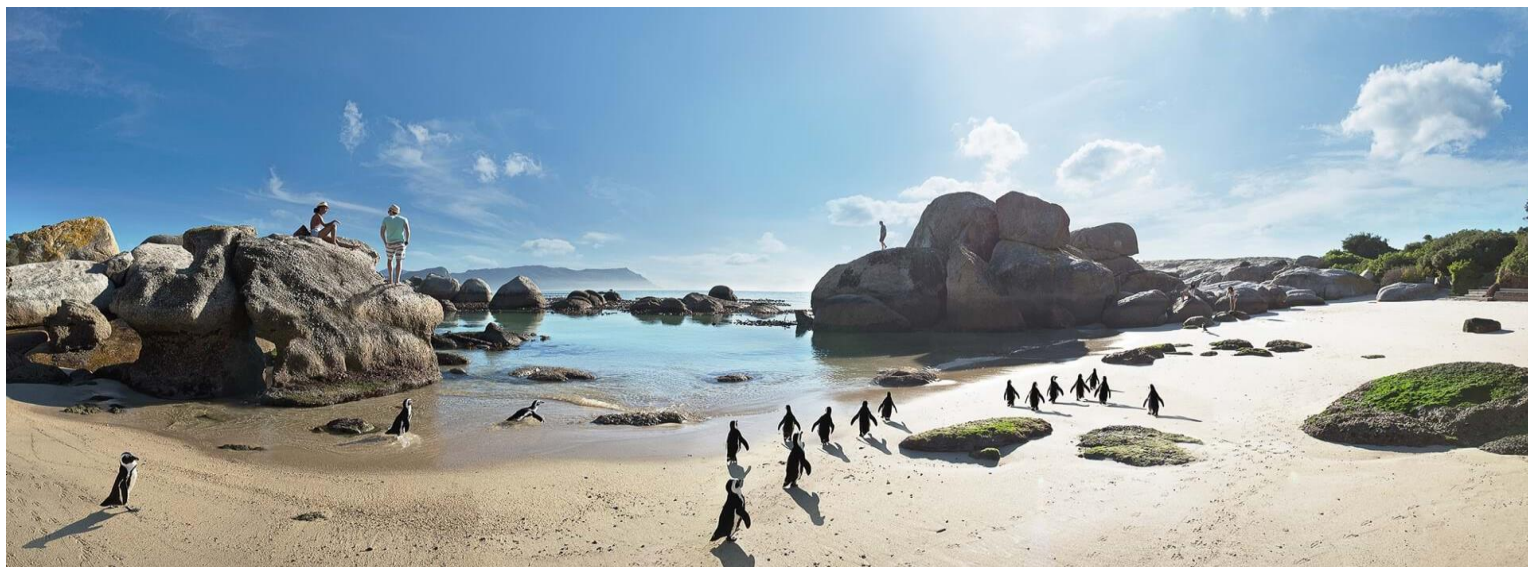
“Our department is now advancing stricter bunkering regulations to permanently restrict such activities in sensitive ecological zones, safeguarding penguins from further harm,” said the Minister.

In addition to these efforts, government is bolstering Marine Protected Areas to enhance fish stocks, backing SANCCOB’s work in rehabilitating injured penguins, and funding research to continuously refine conservation strategies.

“Partnerships with organisations like SANCCOB, who recently released rehabilitated penguins like Hope back to the wild, inspire us all,” Minister George said. – Source: SAnews.gov.za

THIS SOUTH AFRICAN BEACH IS NOW OFFICIALLY ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST

Sun, sand and a whole lot of penguin charm—Boulders Beach is flying the South African flag high as one of the world's top beaches for 2025.



The 2025 World's 50 Best Beaches list has just been released, and Boulders Beach has claimed a top spot, ranking 12th in the world (moving up from 2023 and 2024). The penguins, the warm waters, the golden sand—the whole experience has captured the hearts of international travellers once again.

Here's what The World's 50 Best Beaches had to say about Boulders Beach:

“Famous for its resident colony of African penguins, Boulders Beach near Cape Town offers a unique opportunity to observe these charming birds up close in their stunning natural habitat. The beach is set against a backdrop of large granite boulders that create sheltered coves with unusually warm waters, ideal for swimming. This setting makes it distinct from other Atlantic Ocean beaches in the area, which are typically cooler. The presence of the penguins, combined with the safe, warm swimming spots, draws both tourists and locals who are looking for a unique beach experience that combines wildlife observation with leisure activities.”

But those who have visited know that Boulders isn't just a beach; it's an experience you'll never forget. Warm waters, granite coves and penguins waddling past while you sunbathe? It's unique and pure South African magic.

The World's 50 Best Beaches list for 2025 is a real celebration of jaw-dropping coastlines across the globe and it's not just South Africa that's shining; Southern Africa has a serious reason to celebrate. Several of our neighbours made it into the top 50, like Seychelles, Mauritius, and Zanzibar.

The World's 50 Best Beaches isn't just a popularity contest. The team behind it, made up of seasoned travellers, beach lovers, and professional wanderers, gather votes from thousands of travel experts across the globe every year. And they're not just looking for the prettiest view. They focus on beaches that are unique, wild, untouched, teeming with wildlife, and that soothe your soul with nothing but the sound of waves.

Every beach that makes the final list has to receive a vote, be verified and tick some seriously special boxes. It's not just about hype; it's also about heart. And this year, Boulders Beach has flown the South African flag high with pride. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com

TAKALANI SESAME IS AN EXTRA-SPECIAL WEBBY AWARD WINNER

In proud news for South African fans of “Takalani Sesame” young, mature and in-between, Sesame Workshops has walked away with an extra-special Webby Award.

At the 29th Annual Webby Awards, in which the best of the internet are honoured, from content creators to beloved online shows, *Takalani Sesame* scooped not just any win but one determined by viewers themselves.

Last year, Sesame Workshop created an insightful campaign dubbed *Bond Through Play* that was all about encouraging play with guardians (especially fathers) as an essential part of a child's development.

Their social media campaign soon made it onto the Webby's radar, earning *Takalani Sesame* an exciting nomination under the Video & Film—General Video & Film, Kids & Family section of the Webby Awards (which also fell under the Webby's People's Voice umbrella).

Thanks to the people who used their voices to show some love and voted, *Zikwe and the Triplets Bond Through Play* took home the win as the People's Voice Winner against international competitors *City Island*, *Count on June Bug* and *NBC Nightly News: Kids Edition*.

Seeing South African creativity honoured amid internet royalty is no small feat and made it even more impactful considering the positive intentions that went into bringing *Bond Through Play* to life. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com



SOUTH AFRICA U21 HOCKEY TEAMS AIM FOR SUCCESS AT FIH JUNIOR WORLD CUP AFTER AFRICA CUP TRIUMPH

The SA Under-21 men's and women's hockey teams are hoping to apply the valuable lessons learnt in a triumphant Junior Africa Cup campaign in Namibia to the FIH Junior World Cup later in the year.



WATCH THE VIDEO!

South Africa was crowned champions in Windhoek, as both the men and women defeated hosts Namibia in Friday's finals. The unbeaten sides had already booked their place at the global showpiece earlier in the tournament.

The U21 women beat a stubborn Namibia side 5-0 in the decider. They took control of the match after captain Caylin Maree, the tournament's top goal scorer, opened the scoring in the 21st minute.

Ntsopa Mokoena continued her outstanding tournament with a brace, while Maree added a second. Jodie Blows put the finishing touches to a composed victory.

The triumph marked South Africa's eighth consecutive Junior Africa Cup title in the women's division.

"Obviously, it's a huge privilege to win a tournament like that. I think for a lot of people it was their first time here, so it's been a great experience," said SA U21 women's coach Cindy Brown.

"And obviously it's exciting to now qualify for the World Cup and that's only seven or eight months away, so hopefully everyone will just keep working harder to be better at that event.

"I'm probably happiest about the fact that we were able to maintain a good intensity. Even though in some of the matches we ended up scoring quite a lot of goals, I think the intensity and the intent the girls played with were consistent throughout."

There were some takeaways despite dominating all their opponents.

"I think we definitely have to work on our PCs (penalty corners) but that obviously comes with time playing together, as well as certain aspects in defence. I don't think we were necessarily tested there as much as we could have been and we will be on the world stage," Brown said.

"So, there are definitely elements of the cover defence that we need to work on."

The U21 women will hone their skills further at the senior IPT and hopefully have another selection camp, Brown said.

"We've just got to hopefully try to fit in as many training opportunities together as we can."

The men also claimed a clinical 5-0 victory over Namibia in the decider. They won back-to-back Junior Africa Cup titles and a sixth title in the past seven editions.

Reuben Sendzul opened the scoring early, before tournament top scorer Jaydon Brooker netted twice to give South Africa a 3-0 lead at half-time. Ross Montgomery extended the advantage in the second half, with Viwe Mbata completing the 5-0 win late on.

"I'm very happy for the team. The players sacrifice a lot to be able to compete and they work extremely hard and thus deserve all the plaudits," said U21 men's coach Guy Elliott.

"Not many people know how difficult it is for these players to be able to just compete in these events, let alone win.

"We have learnt quite a bit from our time here. The most important thing that we as a team have learnt is that we have the ability to stay calm and overcome any obstacles that are thrown our way.

"Our strengths are that we are organised and tactically astute. We have X-factor players across the field. We need to work on adding some tactical progressions to our armoury.

"We always view the entire cycle as a process, one small step at a time. So, we ensure we use every moment together to learn from our experiences so that when we get to the World Cup, we are hopefully a complete package."

The victorious coach said the last selection camp will take place after the U21 IPT.

"This will give an opportunity to other players in SA to get them into the team. We also have the men's IPT to play as preparation for the JWC."

South Africa will now prepare for the FIH Junior World Cup as continental champions. The men's tournament takes place in India in December. The women's showpiece will take place in Chile. – Source: www.iol.co.za

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SOUTH AFRICAN CHEERLEADING TEAMS MAKE THE FINALS AT WORLD CHAMPS

The ICU Cheerleading Junior World & World Championships are currently underway in Orlando, United States of America, where the world's top cheerleading talents are going toe-to-toe to make their home nations proud.

Among the competing nations is Team South Africa, who is twisting, turning, and triumphing in its performances.

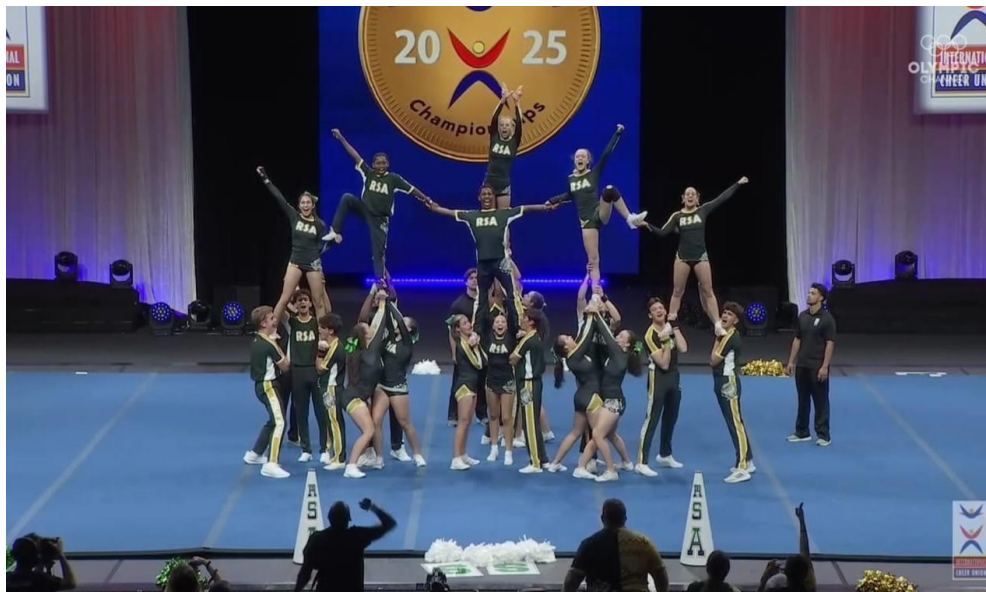
While the senior divisions compete in their qualifying rounds today, the junior squads of cheerleading athletes have already completed their first day of performances to great success.

WATCH THE VIDEO

Several of the younger teams have already made it through to the Cheerleading Worlds' finals, earning them loud applause from supporters in the audience as well as those cheering the champs on back home

The Youth All-Girl, Youth Co-Ed, Junior All-Girl and Junior Co-Ed are all the teams who have made the finals cut so far to the pride of their schools, clubs and the South African Majorette and Cheerleading Association (SAMCA).

"Your energy, passion, and hard work are taking us all the way! Well done, Team SA—you've made the nation proud! Let's bring it home," praised SAMCA. – Source: www.goodthingsguy.com



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