

technical, scientific and cultural fields. . . The principle of sharing the responsibilities of co-ordinating sectional activities among our countries has permitted correct participation by all our countries. . . We believe that this principle was important to consolidate our unity of action and, therefore, important for the clear growth of relations among our countries. The choice of international co-operation through concrete programmes and projects in the various fields, and the priority given to specific sectors, in tandem with the progress we achieved, proved to be the most appropriate strategy to secure international support. In this way, since our first years we have witnessed substantial support for transport and communications, which is a vital sector for our countries' economies. The energy sector is the second largest recipient of support. ME/WOOD 36, A2/1-2 26-7-88

Having overcome this first phase, in the face of prevailing conditions in southern Africa, we concentrated our energy on promoting food production and co-ordinated actions to fight drought and malnutrition. We then reached a more advanced stage, which saw increased industrial production and developed intraregional and international trade. Conditions were created for greater involvement by entrepreneurs in regional development programmes. These were significant steps towards implementing SADCC's aims. However, we are still faced with many tasks for the full economic development of our region. With the gradual increase in international co-operation and the correct use of resources made available by our international partners, we are today more confident in building our future. We can even start thinking about taking short cuts in order to achieve that aim. . .

In the field of transport and communications, in all traffic corridors, we are working hard to restore appropriate capacity to absorb the traffic of merchandise currently going through South African routes. However, there have already been positive results in the Dar es Salaam and Beira harbours. Over the last year, they have experienced a great increase in traffic as a result of improvements arising from the recovery of railway and harbour infrastructures.

It is particularly encouraging to see our countries' co-operation and co-ordination in mobilising resources to resolve each corridor's problems. This is the case with the Dar es Salaam corridor, linking Zambia and Tanzania; the Nacala corridor, linking Malawi and Mozambique; the Beira corridor, linking Zimbabwe and Mozambique; the Limpopo corridor, connecting Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique; and the Lobito corridor, linking Zambia and Angola. Within this context, we take pleasure in noting the Botswana government's generous aid for the rehabilitation of the Limpopo railway, in the shape of concrete sleepers worth 5.8m pula. [applause] This valuable contribution from Botswana adds to the efforts of Mozambicans and Zimbabweans working to rehabilitate the Limpopo corridor. Thank you very much, Comrade President Quett Masire [applause].

MEETING OF SADCC HEADS OF STATE

Chissano's address (MEW/0035 i - Excerpts from speech by Mozambican President Joaquim Alberto Chissano at the opening of the SADCC summit in Maputo - live). . . Eight years have passed since the historic Lusaka summit of 1st April 1980. With that summit, our nine countries began this process of commitment to regional co-operation in the economic,

The aid announced by the Botswana government on the eve of the Limpopo corridor technical co-ordination conference also encourages and helps mobilise further financing. This aid complements the support already given by the UK, Northern Ireland and Canada [as heard]. As happened in the Tazara [Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority] and Beira conferences, we must use the next technical co-ordination conferences on the Lobito and Limpopo corridors as levers for the decisive development of these two corridors.

There is also a plan for the general development of telecommunications in the region. It was conceived, discussed and presented by the SADCC governments with participation by the international community. The conclusion of the earth microwave network [Portuguese: rede terrestre de micro-ondas] is essential for communications among our countries. The start of satellite communications in all our countries guarantees communication among us, and communications with the whole world. These are important facts to note. Our attention must now focus on rural communications.

In the field of civil aviation, we must mention considerable advances, especially with regard to the better integrated timetables of our airlines. However, there is still work to be done in the areas of infrastructure, in rationing air equipment and in improving conditions of passenger reception and services, as well as aircraft servicing at our airports.

In the fields of agriculture and natural resources, we are cataloguing our plant life, animal life, soil and water resources. This research is more in-depth and systematic through various projects. This data will be of great importance for better and more integrated planning of our agrarian and rural development, with the aim of preserving and renewing our natural resources. This will benefit the rural population in particular. The regional research programme on food crops, use of soil and water, agricultural mechanisation, and cattle and pasture improvements, together with increased technical and scientific training of technicians and specialists, are crucial for increased agricultural production and modernisation in each of our countries. The regional system of food security is being gradually established through a number of projects. It will allow us to face the vicious consequences of natural disasters.

In the field of energy, the progress that we have achieved in integrating national electricity network allows us to make better use of available energy resources. The use of our rivers' hydro-electric capacity is of strategic importance. It will allow us to proceed with rural electrification, and is a major step forward for development.

We must praise increasing participation by southern African businessmen, and businessmen from international partner countries, in activities that integrate and complete the SADCC programme of action. We must promote increased bases for co-operation, particularly through the installation of greater industrial and mining production capabilities with the introduction of new and more modern technologies, which will ensure competitive productivity levels, thus contributing to improved standards of living for our peoples and countries. The Nordic countries have been our partners from the start. Once again, they have placed themselves on the frontline of relations with SADCC in this phase of co-operation. Our Executive Secretariat, which includes mainly southern African

specialists, has discharged its duties in an efficient and dynamic manner, thus showing that it is able to deal with the major challenges posed by SADCC's complex tasks.

The established practice of using our own specialists to carry out technical and economic studies, and to formulate proposals concerning sectional development strategies, must continue unabated. This work has been the basis for the mobilisation of important technical and financial resources required for our development.

Distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen: The forces of destruction, backwardness and militarism continue to oppose our indefatigable efforts for reconstruction, development and peace. Although war and destabilisation are keenly felt only in some of our countries, in reality they affect all southern African countries. . . In the face of this situation, the southern African states have been developing and consolidating unity and solidarity through co-ordinated actions to defend their sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as to protect regional economic projects and interests. The international community has shown good understanding of this situation, and has been granting additional support to the SADCC countries to help them defend their investments. It has also been giving humanitarian aid to alleviate the suffering of millions of people displaced by the war and destabilisation waged against us. However, the southern African peoples expect more from the international community. The SADCC peoples and member countries expect the international community to exert its utmost influence, and to use every available means, to induce real change in South Africa's attitude concerning our region. [Passage omitted: need for peace, Namibian independence, end to apartheid]

If all southern African peoples and countries are integrated in a dynamic process of peace and development, they have the economic potential to have colossal weight in the world economy. This is the dynamic process and the prospects to which the southern African peoples are entitled, and which they will be able to achieve (?before) 2000. . . (*Maputo home service in Portuguese 0721 gmt 15 Jul 88*)