



# Review of Activities 2005/6

**T**he year was characterised by the further development of networks of cooperation with NGOs and think tanks focusing on Africa and the more careful positioning of the institute's work in the four areas in which it sees itself as playing a role:

- Public education;
- International networking;
- Applied research; and
- Leadership development.

What follows below is a more detailed breakdown of SAIIA's activities in the last year.

## Research

During 2005/06, SAIIA ran a total of 10 research, conference and publications projects. These are detailed below (funders are in brackets):

- Asia-Pacific and Latin America (Taipei Liaison Office, Anglo American Chairman's Fund and DaimlerChrysler)
- Charting the SA Business Experience in Africa (Royal Danish Embassy, Pretoria)
- Consolidating Parliamentary Democracy in the SADC Region (Royal Danish Embassy, Pretoria)
- Development through Trade (Australian Agency for International Development, Swedish International Development Agency)
- European Union and Africa project (Konrad Adenauer Foundation)
- Nepad and Governance (Royal Netherlands Embassy, Pretoria)
- Party System Development in Africa (Ford Foundation)
- Regional Integration in Africa (Swedish International Development Agency)

- Security and Terrorism in Africa (Finnish Embassy, Swedish International Development Agency, Royal Danish Embassy, Pretoria)
- Social Economy of Crime (Open Society Foundation, Conflict and Governance (CAGE) Facility, European Union)

SAIIA cooperated with a number of institutions on research projects and conferences both in South Africa and beyond, including with CUTS-Centre for International Trade, Economics and the Environment, the European Centre for Development Policy Management, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, The London School of Economics, the International Institute for Sustainable Development in Canada, Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS) in South Africa, Oxfam Great Britain and Oxfam South Africa, AfricaBio, the Institute for Security Studies, the Institute for Global Dialogue, the Wits Business School, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, the University of Brasilia, Business Leadership South Africa, Business Unity South Africa and NEDLAC.

SAIIA also co-operated with a number of international institutions to provide input into policy-making related to South Africa and Africa, such as:

- The European Centre for Development Policy Management on Governance in Africa.
- The University of Bradford and the Finnish Institute of International Affairs on the drafting of an African agenda for the Finnish EU presidency.
- The Royal Institute of International Affairs on the EU Africa Strategy.
- The German Development Institute on the Role of South Africa in Global Structural Policy.

SAIIA has developed an extensive database of civil society organisations, business chambers, trade unions, government officials, development agencies dealing with Africa. The database currently has some 30,000 contacts.

As part of the continuing principle of basing the Institute's work on empirical research Institute staff travelled to the following countries during the period under review: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, China, Congo-Brazzaville, Denmark, DRC, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Iraq, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Taiwan, Tanzania, UK, the US, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Below follow brief highlights of the activities of each of the research projects.

### ***Asia-Pacific and Latin America***

The amalgamation of SAIIA's two regional programmes has allowed the project to expand its comparative focus during the period under review. Most of the project's activities focused on investigating the economic trajectory of a number

of key Latin American and Asian states focusing on economic reform and alternatives to the current economic orthodoxy of the Washington consensus. The research culminated in the hosting of an international conference in Taipei in September 2005 drawing together experts from Africa, Latin America and Asia. SALLA also worked closely with both business and governments in assessing the potential benefits for closer economic cooperation between both regions and Africa. Co-operation within the India-Brazil-South Africa forum (IBSA) received special attention.

SALLA's China study group hosted a very active programme drawing together a number of stakeholders to generate more interest and discussion on China among South Africans, particularly in the business arena.

### ***Business in Africa***

Focusing on South African companies doing business in Africa, this programme has developed useful networks both inside and outside South Africa and in the governmental and non-governmental sector. During the period under review, the programme published reports on the experience of South African businesses in Botswana and Mali, with forthcoming reports on Egypt, Senegal, Kenya, Angola and Zimbabwe. The programme's relevance has seen it elicit substantial media, business, policy and academic interest. SALLA has entered into a content partnership agreement with the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency of the World Bank, and the outputs of the programme are being distributed electronically on the FDIX and MIGA network.

### ***Consolidating SADC Parliamentary Democracy***

This extensive programme to document the role played by parliaments in SADC and their public engagement has developed a network of researchers throughout Southern Africa, which have produced a series of country studies. The focus of the programme has been not only to tap into this Southern African network of academics, but also to involve each country's parliamentarians in the discussion of the country report. To this end, the programme held a number of seminars with civil society and parliamentarians throughout the region during 2005. These seminars received wide media coverage. The programme is currently preparing a parliamentary handbook of good practice based on the findings of these studies. As part of SALLA's outreach to the region, the *South African Yearbook of International Affairs* and the *South African Journal of International Affairs* have been distributed - courtesy of the Royal Danish Embassy - to all SADC parliamentarians.

### ***Development Through Trade***

The programme has expanded the number of research projects it is working on to cover both bilateral trade initiatives by South Africa as well as the multilateral trade environment. The programme has successfully engaged with key trade actors in government and civil society in South Africa and beyond. It

continues to play a critical role in generating debate about trade-related matters among trade unions, business interests, other non-governmental organisations and government officials through its numerous conferences and roundtable meetings. More than 20 trade workshops, roundtables and conferences were hosted during the reporting period. The programme undertook research on the various free trade agreements being negotiated by South Africa: with China, India, Mercosur and the US. A two-day conference was held in October 2005, in conjunction with the Frederick Ebert Stiftung (FES) and the Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD) on China's engagement with Africa. This was followed by an international conference investigating the impact of the EU's Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) on regional integration in Africa. It was co-hosted with Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS) in November 2005.

### ***The European Union and Africa***

This programme conducted research on the implications for Africa of the EU's expansion, and the historical, institutional, trade and socio-political factors that determine its policy priorities in Africa. It examined the evolution of policy both at Commission and individual European state level and a consolidated report looking at the individual country policies of the EU member states on Africa is forthcoming.

### ***Nepad and Governance***

The programme continued to focus much of its energy on the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), holding a number of workshops in Africa with civil society in preparation for those countries' peer review processes. The programme was actively involved in ensuring greater civil society input into the Mauritian and Tanzanian processes.

In South Africa the programme has been actively involved in contributing to the South African APRM self-assessment. SAILA hosted a civil society conference with other South African civil society partners to open up a dialogue with government on the APRM process to arrive at a robust self-assessment. SAILA also facilitated various workshops to assist other civil society organisations to draft their inputs to the South African APRM National Governing Council. It developed a 157-page report on governance with two other partners that was submitted as a joint input to the National Governing Council. The programme also successfully tendered to become a Technical Support Agency (TSA) and a Research partner for the APRM and was assigned by the National Governing Council to consolidate and analyse the inputs that were received nationally on the economic governance objectives of the APRM. The programme has generated substantial media interest during this period, has delivered several briefings on APRM to various local and international stakeholders and continued to produce numerous *eAfrica* Journal issues on Africa's Aids-pandemic and the value of public-private partnerships in developing Africa's private sector, amongst others. A two-week media training course was hosted for journalists from all over the rest of Africa on Nepad and governance issues in July 2005.

### ***Political Parties and Democratisation in Africa***

The second phase of this programme commenced in September 2005 and focuses on the role of opposition parties in Africa. During the first phase of the project a number of papers were commissioned on the international experience of transitions to democracy and political party formation in Latin America, Southern Europe and Central Europe. Substantial research was also conducted on the challenges to multi-party democracy in Africa. These reports will be published in a forthcoming volume.

In February 2006 a roundtable on 'Development of African political movements in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Key Challenges' was hosted by SAILA. The roundtable served to crystallise the research agenda of the programme in its next phase. A number of papers will be commissioned on opposition party politics in several African countries, including Uganda, Algeria, Mauritius, Zambia and Senegal.

### ***Security and Terrorism in Africa***

This project is generating cutting-edge research with wide international participation on the issue of security and terrorism within the current African context. The project is not only developing views and examining options in a range of intra-state sectors including the military and police and with foreign policy, but is also focusing on developing a consensus between states, particularly those who are not seen outwardly to share interests. The research and programme has involved extensive liaison with a range of institutions across Africa, the United States, Europe and Central and East Asia. The project has published widely in international journals and extensive research was done over the reporting period on the Horn of Africa and West Africa. Two expansive case studies will be conducted during 2006 on South Africa and Algeria and an international conference looking at the causes of radicalisation in Africa is planned for the second half of 2006.

### ***Social Economy of Crime***

Following on the SAILA's War and Organised Crime project, this next phase of the project is looking at the social context of organised crime. Research on a range of South African case studies began in August 2005 and is focusing on the prevalence of white collar crime, cash-in-transit heists, car-hijackings, drug networks, money laundering and cross border activities. Research on Mozambique will begin in April 2006. A book on the first phase of the project looking at the linkages between war and organised crime in Southern Africa and West Africa is forthcoming.

### ***South Africa's Foreign Policy***

SAILA's *Apartheid Past, Renaissance Future: South Africa's foreign policy 1994-2004*, which was published to coincide with SAILA's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2004, has been widely distributed and has been complimented by many, both in academia and diplomatic circles, for its comprehensive approach in analysing

the country's foreign policy since 1994. It has been distributed to key people in the relevant ministries in the South African government, and to South Africa's missions abroad. A second book on *Composers, Conductors and Players: Harmony and Discord in South African Foreign Policy Making*, was launched in November 2004 in both Johannesburg and Cape Town. The third book *History of the Department of Foreign Affairs 1927-1993* was published in 2005.

## **Publications**

The *SA Journal of International Affairs* was re-accredited early in 2005, and SAILA is also working to get the *SA Yearbook of International Affairs* accredited.

A list of publications produced by SAILA during 2004/05 is set out separately at the back of the Directory. SAILA launched another new series during this period, to reflect the specific work of the Parliaments of the South Programmes. This is:

- The *Parliaments of the South Newsletter*, edited by Tim Hughes, which publishes the outcomes of the research conducted by the SADC Parliamentary programme in a bi-monthly electronic format.

## **Conferences, meetings, and international partnerships**

During 2005/06 SAILA held the following conferences, many of them with high-ranking participants from government, business, academia, the diplomatic corps and the media:

- Roundtable on the Wassenaar Arrangement, February 2005.
- Speaker's Meeting on 'US Foreign Policy in Africa' by US Ambassador, Jendayi Frazer, February 2005.
- Roundtable on 'Prospects for Peace in the Middle East', by Israeli Charge de Affaires, Ilan Fluss, March 2005.
- Workshop on IBSA Security Co-operation, with University of Brasilia, March 2005.
- Conference on War and Organised Crime, March 2005.
- Seminar on 'India and Africa: New Directions' by Indian Deputy Minister for External Affairs, Inderjit Singh, April 2005.
- Roundtable on 'Asia-Pacific Democracy: Achievements and Challenges' by Dr Ming Min Pen, Senior Adviser to the President of Taiwan, April 2005.
- Roundtable on 'China Today' by Amb Lu Qiutian, President of the Chinese People's Institute on Foreign Affairs, April 2005.
- Tswalu Dialogue, April-May 2005.
- Workshop on Botswana: Consolidating SADC Parliamentary Democracy, Gaborone, May 2005.
- Roundtable on 'The Reality of Terminal Global Decline in Oil Availability:

Options and Strategies' by Richard Heinberg, May 2005.

- 'Zimbabwe Elections 2005: Interpretations, Implications, Prospects towards 2008', May 2005.
- Speaker's Meeting on 'The Challenge of Global Warming- An Imperative for the G8 Agenda', by Sir David King, Chief Scientific Adviser to the British Prime Minister, May 2005.
- Workshop and Report Launch: 'Africa's First Welfare State: The experience of SA firms doing business in Botswana', May 2005.
- Book Launch: 'Washington and the fall of Portugal's Colonial Empire' by Witney Schneidman, May 2005.
- Speaker's Meeting on 'Post-Independence Eritrea: Prospects for National Development and Challenges for Peace and Security' by Eritrean Ambassador, Testfamichael Gerathu, June 2005.
- Speaker's Meeting on 'The Role of Ideology in SA Foreign Policy' by Professor Gerrit Olivier, Centre for European Studies, University of Johannesburg, June 2005.
- EU-Africa Project Roundtable on 'EU Accession: Catalyst for Reform in Romania and Bulgaria', June 2005.
- Address by José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission on 'SA and the EU: Essential Partners for Progress', June 2005.
- SALLA Speakers' event: Deputy Foreign Minister of Mexico, Ambassador Lourdes Aranda, on 'Mexico's Foreign Policy and Africa: The Aftermath of Gleneagles', July 2005.
- Development through Trade workshop: 'Expanding the Southern African Customs Union', July 2005.
- China Working Group meeting: 'Cosatu's view of China's engagement with Africa', Dr Neva Makgetla, July 2005.
- Development through Trade workshop: 'GM foods, international trade and food security in SADC', July 2005.
- EU-Africa Roundtable: 'Germany's contribution and approach to the implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan', August 2005.
- Development through Trade project: FES regional context study and business survey launch, August 2005.
- Development through Trade book launch: 'Reconfiguring the compass: South Africa's trade policy', August 2005.
- SALLA-KAS Careers evening: IR, Political Studies, Economics and Media students from Gauteng, August 2005.
- Nepad Project: 'The Implementation of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) in Ghana', September 2005.
- Development through Trade: South Africa's WTO Negotiating

positions on agriculture, September 2005.

- SALLA and Wits University speakers' event: JJ Rawlings, former president of Ghana on 'Democratic Reform in Africa', September 2005.
- SALLA, Transparency South Africa, the SA Council of Churches and SANGOCO seminar: 'South Africa's APRM – The role of civil society', September 2005.
- Asia-Pacific and Latin America project: 'Capitalising on Chile's Success: A Gateway for South African Business into Latin America', October 2005.
- SALLA/Dutch Embassy seminar: 'Towards peace and security: The EU and Africa', October 2005.
- SALLA/Oxfam GB seminar: 'What can Hong Kong deliver to South and Southern Africa?', October 2005.
- SALLA/IGD/FES Seminar: 'China in Africa: Mercantilist Predator or new Partner in Development', October 2005.
- SALLA Speakers event: 'The Irish Peace Process, Difficulties and Challenges', Gerry Adams, October 2005.
- SALLA Speaker's event: Keynote address by National Director, 'Taking Africa Seriously from within and without', October 2005.
- Justin Pearce – 'An Outbreak of Peace' book launch on Angola, October 2005.
- China Working Group meeting on 'Reflections of China's Impact on Africa', David Hale and Lyric Hughes Hale, November 2005.
- China Working Group meeting on 'China and the Developing World: Threat or Opportunity', Dr Raphael Kaplinsky, November 2005.
- Alan Hirsch – 'A Season of Hope' book launch, November 2005.
- EU-Africa workshop on Trade and Regional Integration: New Priorities and Opportunities, November 2005.
- Workshop on Regional Integration and Economic Partnerships – Development through Trade Project, November 2005.
- Development through Trade programme – 'Enter the Dragon' book launch, November 2005.
- SALLA/IFAS seminar on 'State Development in Africa and Globalisation: Does the Design of the African State inhibit or aid its inclusion in a globalised world', Jean-Francois Bayart (research director; CERI), February 2006.
- Pascal Lamy (Director-General, WTO) on 'Concluding the WTO's Doha Round – the post Hong-Kong roadmap', with the Wits Business School, February 2006.
- Peter Mandelson (EU Commissioner for Trade) on 'Trade and

development: Africa and the Doha round', with Business Unity South Africa, February 2006.

- Democracy and Political Parties Project seminar – Professor Mohamed Salih (University of Leiden, Netherlands) on 'Liberation movements, Governments and Democracy: A commentary on Africa's new breed of politicians' thesis, February 2006.
- Wits branch speaker's meeting – Tom Wheeler on 'The new great game in the Caspian and Central Asia', February 2006.
- Seminar on The Zimbabwean Diaspora - a discussion with James Muzondidya from the Zimbabwe Institute with Human Rights Council Commissioner Jody Kollapen as the respondent, February 2006.
- Lord Triesman, UK Minister for Africa, on 'Africa: 2006 and Beyond', March 2006.
- Wits Branch AGM Meeting – Moeletsi Mbeki on 'South African business looks north, but what are the lessons to be learnt?', March 2006.
- Ambassador Ali Ahmed Halimeh, ambassador of the State of Palestine to South Africa, on 'The future of the Middle-East', March 2006.

### **Leadership development**

SAIIA's programme on leadership development has two focal areas: first, developing young and aspiring South African foreign policy practitioners through its year-long research internship programme; and second, honing the analytical and writing skills of journalists from around the African continent.

The research internship has been run at SAIIA since the late 1990s, and since 1999 it is being funded by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. During 2005 the programme had two interns. Apart from their research and degree-related work, the interns were also trained in office management, time management, presentation skills, and logic. They were also responsible for arranging a very successful careers evening for third year, Honours and Masters students from the universities of Wits, UNISA, Pretoria and Johannesburg. Speakers from both the private sector and government addressed the students. Several organisations such as the Electoral Institute of Southern Africa, the Institute for Global Dialogue, Accord, the SA Institute of Race Relations and the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation also participated by exhibiting their work and interacting with students on possible career options. This is the third time that SAIIA has arranged an evening of this kind.

During 2005, SAIIA's Nepad and Governance programme held one media training course for journalists from around the continent. The courses focus on improving their writing and analytical skills and some of the alumni now write for SAIIA publications.

## **Branches**

SAIIA has branches in Johannesburg (Wits branch), Cape Town, Pretoria, East London, Pietermaritzburg and Durban. They are all run by volunteers. During the period under review, these branches ran several speakers' meetings on international issues of relevance to South Africa.

As part of the branches' attempts to broaden and diversify their membership base, active efforts were made to involve students in branch events, especially in Cape Town. The branch held its Caltex/SAIIA Interschools Quiz on International Affairs, of which Caltex is the branding sponsor, in May 2005. There were 140 participants from 35 schools, with a further 10 schools on the waiting list. The number of participating schools from previously disadvantaged areas is also growing. Participants representing schools from all over the Cape Peninsula and as far afield as Stellenbosch, Somerset West and Paarl, competed for the coveted Caltex floating trophy and a cash first prize of R4,000.

The Pietermaritzburg branch has signed a contract with the local Chamber of Commerce to undertake the administration of the branch's affairs.

The Wits branch was able to restart the Model UN Debates in 2006 with a grant received from the United Nations Association of the United States.

SAIIA would like to express its sincere appreciation to branch chairs and committee members for their commitment to promoting the objectives of the institute, and for giving so freely of their own time.

## **Staffing and visiting fellows**

We wish her well with her future endeavours. At the end of 2005, SAIIA had 35 members of staff, most of whom were in the research department. The substantial increase in the Institute's activities necessitated a streamlining of its support and operational services to ensure there is a balance between production and production capability. Staff diversity receives constant attention from senior management.

Katy de Villiers, SAIIA's membership and events Secretary, left the Institute for a private sector position after 14 years of service.

Staff attended a number of training courses during the period under review, including website and project management.

No Bradlow Fellow was selected for 2005 or the first half of 2006. Lack of funding precluded the hosting of any Eskom-Barratt-Rotary Fellows in the second half of 2005 and in 2006.