

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HIGHLIGHTS 2008



AFRICAN PERSPECTIVES. GLOBAL INSIGHTS.

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O MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, FRED PHASWANA



As South Africa enters its 15th year as a free and democratic country, it has become less exceptional in the eyes of others. This should not be regarded as a disappointing development, but as a natural outgrowth of an evolving and maturing process of engagement between South Africa and the world. However, becoming less exceptional does not mean playing a less constructive role in shaping global affairs and dealing with global challenges.

South Africa's voice achieved credibility and legitimacy because of our divisive past; our considerable achievements; and our aspirational future for a tolerant, progressive and equitable society.

Any country's external engagement is linked to its internal circumstances and policies. Active global citizenship that carries legitimacy and integrity emanates from responsible domestic stewardship. However, legitimacy and credibility are intangible virtues that are difficult to build up, yet quite easy to lose.

Although South Africa is an emerging market — and, some say, an emerging power — we do not play in the premier league: we are not a China or an India. What we are, however, is an actor that over the last 15 years has earned kudos for the often constructive and willing manner in which it has taken on regional, continental and global issues. This has always been informed by our own history and our political and economic successes since 1994. As we face growing global uncertainties and power shifts, we should remember the

Our role will be to remind and prod policymakers that South Africa should retain its focus as a leading progressive state on this continent, one that is willing to engage with issues in the interest of the global good. link between our domestic well-being and our external engagement, and the importance of upholding the principles that established our credibility on the global stage.

Against this background, the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) faces particular challenges in contributing to policymaking that reflects and responds to the fundamental

regional and geostrategic shifts of our time. The 2009 general election will be a watershed period for our young democracy. It will also determine the extent to which South Africa is perceived globally as having the ability to play a stabilising and proactive role when dealing with the many issues that face our globe. SAIIA's role will be to remind policymakers that South Africa should retain its focus as a leading progressive state on this continent, one that is willing to engage with issues in the interests of the global good.

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR. **ELIZABETH SIDIROPOULOS**

The announcement that SAIIA had been rated the second most successful think-tank in sub-Saharan Africa by international peer review (according to a University of Pennsylvania study) crowned a successful 2008. This vear saw the Institute:

- · Establish an office in Cape Town and prepare for the establishment of a Pretoria office;
- · Re-brand the Institute with a new vision, mission and logo, and a new strapline of 'African Perspectives. Global Insights';
- Launch our 75th anniversary fundraising campaign and raise over R3.4 million: and
- Begin the commercial publishing of the South African Journal of International Affairs through Routledge in the United Kingdom (UK).

Our new Cape Town office houses our resources and governance programmes, while our soon-tobe-opened Pretoria office will be home to our trade and economic diplomacy programmes. These developments are testament to SAIIA's successful, cutting-edge policy research activities and impact developed over many years.

Our 75th anniversary fundraising campaign seeks to raise funding for four projects identified by

More than ever, the uncertain global environment, reflected also in the political and economic challenges on the domestic front, requires policy institutions and think-tanks such as SAIIA to provide insightful analysis and interpretation of these developments and to facilitate public discussion.



also prioritised the cultivation of key institutional partnerships in Africa and beyond, including with the Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA), the Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) in Tanzania, the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) in Canada and the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) in Maastricht.

SAIIA has also begun to expand the focus of its Established

Powers, Emerging Powers and Global Challenges Programme to include the role of the countries that fall into these groupings in global governance debates, such as climate change and Bretton Woods reforms, as well as India's growing role in Africa. From 2009. SAIIA will also launch a new programme focusing on South African Foreign Policy and African Drivers, which will examine the role played by key African powers in their region

development:

- Refurbishing our Johannesburg building, Jan Smuts House, in order to meet the needs of its expanded activities and increased staff complement:
- Upgrading the library to ensure that it is a state-of-the-art resource and e-information centre for Africa:
- Creating an African Visiting Fellowship Programme in order to share successful case studies in the continent's development; and
- Establishing a strategic Youth Development Programme in order to raise the level of awareness and debate on international issues among this important group.

To facilitate a greater exchange and circulation of ideas, SAIIA has

the National Council as being of strategic importance for our future and beyond and particularly their interface with South African foreign policy.

> More than ever, the uncertain global environment, reflected also in the political and economic challenges on the domestic front, requires policy institutions and think-tanks such as SAIIA to provide insightful analysis and interpretation of these developments and facilitate public discussion on related issues.

> It is often in times of great crisis that society collectively can rise and take great strides forward. As an independent policy think-tank, we do not presume to be all-knowing or more clear-sighted about the future than others, but we believe that an open and healthy debate and exchange of ideas is good for both democracy and effective policymaking.

PROFILE OF THE ORGANISATION



SAIIA has a long and proud record as South Africa's premier research institute on international issues. It is an independent, non-government think-tank whose purpose is to encourage wider and more informed awareness of the importance of international affairs. It is both a centre for research excellence and a home for stimulating public debate.

In the early 1990s the Institute's strategy began to shift from speakers' meetings and a general conference programme to a more focused research agenda. The major research projects within the Institute produce a range of deliverables to policymakers and the wider public in the form of publications, policy briefs, workshops and conferences catering for a cross-constituency audience.

Life Membership Awards 2008

OUR VISION

OUR MISSION

To be the pre-eminent think-tank on Africa and on global issues as they affect Africa To provide cutting-edge analysis and promote balanced dialogue on issues crucial to Africa's advancement and its engagement in a dynamic global context

WE

ACHIEVE THIS BY

Delivering constructive policy input

Stimulating informed public debate

Building leadership and research excellence in Africa

The Institute's activities include:

- · Delivering input into policy development locally and internationally;
- Undertaking research on current issues of importance to Africa generally and South Africa specifically, with a focus on governance and democracy; trade, investment (i.e. economic diplomacy) and development; security; South African foreign policy; emerging powers and their role in Africa; and, lastly, global governance reform;
- Developing linkages and joint programmes with international organisations and agencies throughout the world;
- Maintaining a resource centre and reference library (i.e. a UN Depository as well as a World Bank Development Information Centre) for students and scholars of international relations;
- Organising conferences, seminars and speakers' meetings on a wide range of topics addressed by prominent South Africans and distinguished international guests; and
- Encouraging an interest in international relations among the youth through SAIIA's leadership programme for postgraduate interns and its various outreach programmes for university students and high school learners.

The Institute was founded in Cape Town in 1934 and is currently located in Jan Smuts House in central Johannesburg on the campus of the University of the Witwatersrand, with which it has strong links. Its project funding derives from grants from international aid agencies, multilateral organisations and private foundations, while some core institutional funding comes from local corporate, diplomatic and institutional members.

It is governed by an independent council whose members represent the Institute's branches around South Africa, as well as senior figures in business and civil society.

KEY OBJECTIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2008

The year under review was an extremely demanding one for the Institute as it sought to fulfil its vision of being the preferred provider of informed and independent research on international issues as they affect Africa generally and South Africa more specifically. We concentrated our efforts this past year on five key areas.



Developing new research projects with a focus on Africa

Our South African Foreign Policy and African Drivers Programme will look at the policies of key African nations that drive the continent's development — or, if they become fragile states, can precipitate regional crises. The objective of the research is to develop a better understanding of the foreign policy drivers of key African states, thereby ensuring better co-ordination and harmonisation of regional initiatives on the continent in support of peace, security and development. The programme will investigate the current state of relations between South Africa and key African states in the region; identify areas of policy synergy in these countries with South African bilateral and regional policy goals/challenges; and develop proposals for ways in which relations in all fields can be improved and deepened, especially with a view to strengthening regional co-operation in economic and political fields with the assistance of Africa's traditional and new partners.

The second programme, Established Powers, Emerging Powers and Global Challenges, will build on our work on China's new assertive presence in Africa and expand it to include in-depth research on India and other new actors in Africa. The purpose of this research is to create a better understanding of the impact on the continent of new powers in terms of sustainable peace and development, and in so doing contribute to better African policymaking in dealing with these challenges and opportunities. This programme will also investigate some of the pressing challenges for the developing and developed world particularly in the field of environmental sustainability, water and energy security.

SAIIA was fortunate to secure seed funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) to start work on these programmes in 2009.

Delivering quality input into South African government policymaking

A highlight of the year was SAIIA's presentation to the Presidency of the Republic of South Africa of the Institute's assessment of the efficacy of South Africa's North–South and South–South engagement as part of the presidential 15-year review of the country's foreign policy. SAIIA also co-hosted a South African foreign policy forum with the Department of Foreign Affairs assessing the potential of South African–US relations after the US elections in 2008.

Or a new brand identity for SAIIA

In preparation for its 75th anniversary in 2009 and in alignment with its new strategic plan (SAIIA Strategy: 2008–2012), a decision was taken to review the Institute's branding and profile. An internal working group led the branding exercise and the product was approved by the National Council. The new strapline 'African Perspectives. Global Insights' clearly positions the organisation as focusing on African priorities in a globally interconnected world, while the revised logo shows a more contemporary look and feel reflecting a dynamic, growing and changing Africa.

O Strengthening partnerships with international research institutes

During 2008 SAIIA developed stronger strategic relationships with respected institutions in areas of common interest. SAIIA worked closely with the ECDPM in Maastricht, The Netherlands on governance and trade issues, as well as at a corporate organisational level. The CIGI in Waterloo, Canada selected SAIIA as a key partner in the development of its Africa Project and especially in the development of an African ePortal, an electronic resource for researchers and practitioners across the continent.

Providing a range of youth outreach and development programmes

SAIIA is committed to working with young South Africans to raise the level of interest in and engagement with critical international relations issues. During the year, highly successful high school quizzes and debating competitions were held by our branches across the country. Six students from the Global Classrooms Programme were selected to attend the Model UN competition in New York, and two of them won the coveted Best Delegation accolade. Funding was also secured to start an Environmental Sustainability Schools' Project. Learners are required to write essays on what a specific country is doing on water, land or climate change management that is best practice in terms of sustainability, and then look at its applicability to South Africa.

PUBLICATIONS

SAIIA launched a new publications strategy in 2008 focused on achieving wider and more targeted dissemination through increasing electronic distribution; more policy-oriented outputs; improved, quality products; more cost-effective printing options; and the commercialisation of SAIIA's flagship publications.

SAIIA's publications department now produces three (mainly electronic) in-house publishing outputs for research, namely:

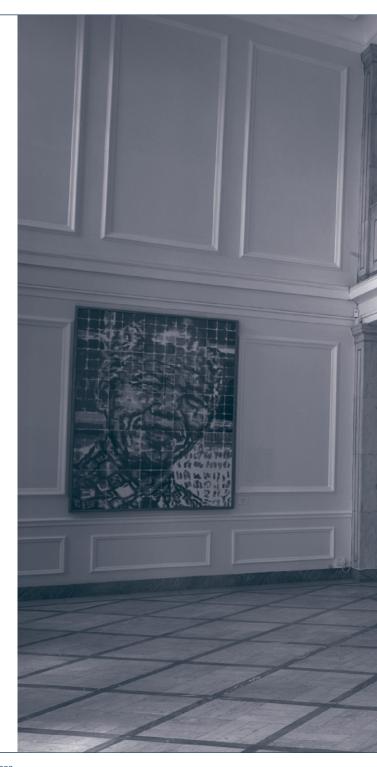
- occasional papers;
- research reports; and
- policy briefings.

The remainder of SAIIA's stable of publications is produced commercially, i.e. quality book projects and flagship publications such as the *South African Journal of International Affairs.*

SAIIA also launched the new website in 2008. The website has become an important platform for discussing current and upcoming events in the international arena through the introduction of a new web-based regular column, the 'Diplomatic Pouch'.

During the course of 2008 SAIIA produced over 44 publications including 20 occasional papers, three books, 11 reports, and numerous policy briefings and 'Diplomatic Pouch' contributions.

A complete list of SAIIA's publications can be accessed on the SAIIA website at http://www.saiia.org.za>.



BRANCHES

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SAIIA has from its foundation in 1934 been a strong membership-based organisation. The regional branches provide grassroots support for the Institute's objectives and are managed by volunteers. This allows individual members from all walks of life to network with corporate and diplomatic members, government representatives and the media, and to attend addresses by distinguished South African and international figures. The branches work with their local universities and include academic staff and students in all branch activities.

SAIIA has branches in East London, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Pietermaritzburg, and the Western Cape. During 2008, apart from the successful high school quiz and debating programmes in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Pietermaritzburg, the branches across the country hosted a range of speakers' meetings.

An example of the calibre of our speakers at our branch events and the networking potential generated by these activities is the address by Senator (now President) Barack Obama at the Western Cape branch speaker's meeting in August 2006 when he was a little-known senator from Illinois. His topic was 'New threats and new promises in the 21st century'.



COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS AND TRAVEL





COUNTRIES VISITED FOR RESEARCH AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

COLLABORATIVE ORGANISATIONS AND TRAVEL

AUSTRALIA

Political Science Department, University of Melbourne

BELGIUM

The European Centre for International Political Economy European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) European Commission Konrad Adenauer Foundation

BOTSWANA

Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA)

CANADA

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Centre for International Governance Innovation

CHINA

Institute for West Asian and African Studies

ETHIOPIA African Union (AU) Commission

FRANCE

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

GERMANY

Konrad Adenauer Foundation German Development Institute (DIE) Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gGmbH (InWent)

GHANA

Centre for Democratic Development (CDD)

INDIA

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) Indian Council on World Affairs Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

LESOTHO Transformation Resources Centre (TRC)

NAMIBIA Southern African Customs Union (SACU) Secretariat

NETHERLANDS European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)

NORWAY Chr. Michelsen Institute

SOUTH AFRICA Konrad Adenauer Foundation

SWITZERLAND The World Trade Organisation (WTO) Secretariat

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)

TURKEY Africa Institute of the Turkish Asian Centre for Strategic Studies (TASAM)

UNITED KINGDOM Overseas Development Institute

Chatham House

SAIIA'S RESEARCH AGENDA

As a South African-based institute of international affairs, SAIIA believes that the unique angle it brings to an informed debate on international issues is the South African and African perspective on global issues. During 2008 we focused on deepening our expertise, which straddles different disciplines and regional specialisations; expanded our networks into the region by establishing links with individuals and institutions focusing on topics of relevance to our research agenda; and further deepened co-operation with institutions based outside the continent focusing on Africa's international challenges.

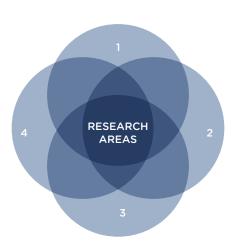
SAIIA has refined and streamlined its research activities into four crosscutting thematic areas reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of all our work. The thematic research areas are:

> ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

GOVERNANCE & DEMOCRACY ESTABLISHED POWERS, EMERGING POWERS & GLOBAL CHALLENGES

SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN POLICY & AFRICAN DRIVERS

DURING 2008 SAIIA'S RESEARCH COVERED THE FOLLOWING THEMES AND PROGRAMMATIC AREAS:



1 ECONOMIC

DIPLOMACY

Regional integration in Africa: SACU, the Southern African Development Community and the East African Community; economic partnership agreements: the WTO's Doha round and its implications for Africa; Africa and South Africa's multilateral and regional trade agenda; investment regime harmonisation in Africa; agricultural futures; non-tariff barriers; and regional business co-operation. Our work under this cluster was funded by AusAid; SIDA; the IISD; InWent, the German Agency for Technical Co-operation (GTZ), the Bradlow Foundation, Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies, the OECD and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY

2

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and governance on the continent; the governance of Africa's resources; political party formation in Africa; and parliamentary democracy in Southern Africa, with a particular focus on Lesotho. Our work under this research cluster was funded by the Royal Netherlands Embassy, the Norwegian Foreign Ministry, the Ford Foundation and DANIDA.

3 ESTABLISHED POWERS, EMERGING POWERS AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES

China in Africa; new South-South configurations such as India-Brazil-South Africa, the Outreach-5 and the value systems and policy goals of these emerging associations (how do they affect Africa's place in the world?); global economic and political governance reform; and European Union (EU) strategic partnerships with emerging powers and the potential for trilateral co-operation with Africa. The Konrad Adenauer Foundation. the UK Department for International Development, SIDA and DANIDA funded SAIIA's work under this research cluster.

SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN POLICY AND AFRICAN DRIVERS

4

South Africa's multilateral and bilateral foreign policy, including its emerging development policy and security and peace-building policy. The country's relations with key African states (so-called driver states: Nigeria, Angola, Senegal, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kenya, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique, Ghana) will receive special attention over this coming year. SAIIA's work under this research cluster was funded by DANIDA, SIDA, the Finnish Embassy, the South Centre in Geneva, GTZ and the International Development Research Centre.



RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2009

ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

Trade and investment coupled with robust policies and strong domestic private sectors are important tools for ensuring sustainable development and prosperity. SAIIA's Development through Trade (DtT) programme was established to facilitate consultation between business and government over trade policy and trade negotiations; to facilitate a 'dialogue' between trade and foreign policies; and to broaden the public debate over trade policy.

The DtT programme hosted a series of meetings, workshops and round-table discussions in 2008. These were informed by the programme's research agenda and offered a platform to key actors

in government, business and academia, as well as foreign diplomats, to express their views and engage in constructive trade policy debates. A notable achievement was the Regional Integration and Economic Partnership Agreement conference in November in which international, regional, and domestic researchers and government policymakers participated.

The programme also boasts an effective and far-reaching dissemination strategy. Monthly opinion pieces related to pertinent trade developments were published in the local and international media, including South Africa's *Business Day, Financial Mail, Mail &*

Guardian and *AllAfrica.com.* These op-ed pieces and columns were directed specifically at stakeholders in the policy and practitioner realm to broaden public debate on domestic and international trade policy issues. Just over 25 op-ed pieces were written.

During the course of 2008 SAIIA was approached by numerous domestic, regional, and international institutions and governments to participate in joint research activities. To this end, the DtT programme has worked with institutions such as the WTO, the UN Conference on Trade and Development, BIDPA, SACU, the OECD and the World Economic Forum. The programme is also managing the establishment of a regional Trade Knowledge Network with a partner, the Geneva-based IISD.

Trade policy reports and briefings, workshops, conferences and media interactions have all received positive feedback from business, government and academic circles. In 2008 the programme was also approached by government departments such as the Department of Foreign Affairs and business organisations to contribute to various policy processes — notably the preparations for the G20 summit.

At the beginning of 2008 SAIIA also published an edited volume drawing on Africa's private sector as the final output of its Business in Africa (BIA) research programme. Based on a series of nine country surveys and several sectoral studies over five years, the book *Unlocking Africa's Potential: The Role of Corporate South Africa in Strengthening*

Africa's Private Sector draws lessons from the South African business experience in the region on how to create a more enabling environment for business in Africa.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS 2009

SAIIA's Development

through Trade programme

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over trade policy.

The 2009 DtT programme objectives include research

outputs and engagement with policymakers and other stakeholders on regional economic integration (with a specific focus on trade in services); international finance, including the global financial crisis; the interplay between trade and the environment; and future South African trade policy. The programme will also focus on a further broadening of its regional

Trade Knowledge Network. A quarterly electronic newsletter is envisaged to expand the programme's reach into the region and will be added to its dissemination offerings for 2009. An active events schedule and publication on the research findings of the programme is planned for the year.

GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY

Good governance and democracy are fundamental to the development of the continent. SAIIA's research on this issue seeks to uncover ways in which the governance of Africa's political institutions and resources can be advanced. Much of the emphasis of the research is directed towards improving engagement between African countries and their partners to support governance and democracy on the continent.

During 2008 various SAIIA programmes conducted work to deepen the understanding of governance and democracy in Africa. Most notable was the work undertaken by the Governance and APRM Programme (GAP) and the Governance of Africa's Resources Programme (GARP), whose work is fundamentally informed by this research priority.

> GAP

Launched in October 2006, GAP builds on the work of the earlier New Partnership for Africa's Development (Nepad) and Governance Programme established in 2002. It seeks to stimulate public debate and scholarship about critical governance and development questions, aiming to improve public policymaking on governance by linking governments, citizens and researchers through a variety of publications and training workshops. GAP has worked in almost 18 countries to help African civil society organisations (CSOs), governments and researchers understand and maximise opportunities offered by the innovative APRM, which is a unique African system designed to diagnose governance problems and propose practical solutions.

In March 2008 GAP launched the book The African Peer Review Mechanism: Lessons from the Pioneers. This 400-page analysis of early APRM experiences, which is the first of its kind, has become a widely acclaimed addition to existing literature on the subject and has been distributed across the globe. A French edition of this book will be launched in 2009. During the year under review, guidebooks offering advice to think-tanks on developing APRM submissions and analysing country programmes of action emanating from the peer reviews were produced for CSOs.

Electronic occasional papers on issues ranging from the APRM and the media to the dominance of the executive branch of government in Africa and case studies of successful African civil society advocacy campaigns were sent to almost 4 000 email subscribers, and have subsequently been widely cited.

GAP also facilitated hands-on workshops with local partners and CSOs in Dar es Salaam and Lusaka that wanted to produce evidencebased written submissions to feed into their own national APRM processes. In addition, the programme partnered with the All Africa Conference of Churches to enhance the participation of church groups in the APRM through workshops in Nairobi (November) and Maputo (December).

In November, the State of Governance in Africa international conference hosted by GAP attracted 100 delegates from 23 countries, with a provocative keynote address by Patrick Chabal, professor of Lusophone African Studies at King's College, London.

FUTURE

DEVELOPMENTS IN 2009 GAP will launch studies comparing the content 2009of early APRM reports, lessons on effective activism, analysis of best practices in the APRM and work on governance teaching in African universities, as well as continue with the popular SAIIA occasional papers on topical governance themes.

> GARP

GARP is a research, publications and conference programme designed specifically to examine efforts and initiatives to enhance the governance of Africa's natural resources and to make well-reasoned inputs into policy formulation, development and implementation. The programme examines the governance of the mining, oil, forestry and marine fisheries sectors through in-country research in resource-rich African countries. Natural resource endowment in African countries has been strongly correlated with underdevelopment, inequality, conflict and corruption. This pervasive phenomenon has given rise to the term 'the resources curse'. The exceptions to this paradox of plenty are a handful of countries, including South Africa and Botswana. Yet despite the corrosive and corrupting effect of the competition over Africa's natural resources and the debilitating impact of conflict over their use, abuse and exchange, significant efforts are being made on a global, continental

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RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2009

and national scale to transform the continent's natural resources into a driver of growth and sustainable development. A cardinal contributing element to these efforts is enhanced governance.

In 2008 GARP conducted in-depth research and fieldwork in Tanzania and the DRC. The Tanzanian research focused on the mining and marine fisheries sectors. As Africa's third-largest producer of gold, the mining sector in Tanzania is undergoing intense scrutiny and thus GARP research has been able to feed into this process of mining governance reform. In the case of the DRC, the government has embarked on a re-examination of logging and mining codes in order to 'clean up' and rationalise both sectors with a view to ensuring greater legislative, regulatory and fiscal compliance. The GARP team researched both the mining and forestry sectors in the DRC, particularly under the new set of challenges presented by the global financial crisis.

Interim sectoral and country research findings were presented at the international conference on the governance of Africa's resources held in Dar es Salaam in November 2008 with the Tanzanian-based ESRF. Attended by over 100 participants it discussed some of the major resource governance concerns of the continent.

The GARP team participated in the AU Conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development in Addis Ababa in October to deliver input into the working group deliberations on enhancing mining governance regimes in Africa. The main objective of the conference was to develop a framework document towards the adoption of an AU charter to govern mining across the African continent.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS 2009

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In 2009, GARP will conduct sectoral and in-country research in Angola, Sudan, Nigeria and Ghana. Country

reports, thematic papers and policy briefings, as well as a natural resource governance compendium and handbook, will be produced. The overall findings of GARP's research will be presented at an international conference in Accra, Ghana in November 2009.

Lastly, SAIIA's partnership with the TRC in Lesotho on its parliamentary democracy work was very fruitful. Several workshops were held with civil society and other stakeholders on the role of parliament in society. The Lesotho Democracy Programme work will continue in 2009.

ESTABLISHED POWERS, EMERGING POWERS & GLOBAL CHALLENGES

In the light of changing geopolitical realities, Africa's fate and the dynamics it must contend with will increasingly play themselves out against the background of global power shifts and how old and new powers, and African states themselves, respond to them. SAIIA's research agenda for this priority area is to better understand these shifts and the impact on peace and development in the region of the entry of new powers into the continent. In so doing, SAIIA's research hopes to contribute to the improvement in African policymaking in these fields. During 2008 the main outputs in this priority area were conducted by two programmes at SAIIA: the China in Africa Project and the European Union (EU)–Africa Project.

> China in Africa Project

SAIIA's China in Africa Project began its work in 2007 and is focused on providing analysis and resources to African policymakers within and outside government so that they may better leverage their emerging engagement with China. To this end, the programme has conducted primary research into China's role across Africa in four regions and has interacted with African policymakers to better assess their needs and interests in this area. Policy briefs and reports, as well as contact with African policymakers and media outreach, form the core of the project's activities.

One of the central rationales of the China in Africa Project, through consultation with African policymakers, was to identify African development priorities in understanding and better leveraging the opportunities presented by Chinese engagement on the continent. The focus on African regions, which conforms to Forum on China– Africa Co-operation and Nepad priorities, led to SAIIA's hosting of an international conference in May in South Africa on South African–Chinese engagement and the implications for Africa; a technical workshop on Chinese aid to Africa involving delegates from the South African government, the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the China Development Bank and Chinese researchers on Africa; and two regional workshops in September on the findings of the programme in

Ghana in partnership with CDD-Ghana and in Addis Ababa at the invitation of the AU Commission. Numerous country and sectoral reports analysing China's engagement with Africa and policy briefings were published during the course of the year.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

 DEVELOPMENTS
 A workshop is planned in

 2009
 Luanda, Angola in 2009 and

an international conference during the course of the year to present the findings of the China–Africa research. Numerous reports and policy briefings are also in the pipeline.

The project will also launch the China–Africa Toolkit, a policy instrument aimed at assisting African policymakers to more proactively engage China in the continent. Apart from the continuation of the China–Africa research mentioned here, SAIIA's work over the next 12 months will focus on the Indian Ocean as India's security cordon, India's resources policy and its engagement in Africa. Linked to the above, SAIIA will also begin a mapping exercise of the engagement strategies of other new key players in Africa's natural resources from Asia and other parts of the world; evolving development strategies and aid; investment and financial policies; and continental and regional engagement and initiatives.

> EU-Africa Project

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SAIIA's EU-Africa Project has focused on the relations between Africa and the EU since 2005. The work has a research, outreach and policy dissemination approach. More recently, the project has begun examining new issues on the EU and African agenda, specifically the rise of new

> powers in the world, their engagement on the African continent and issues of mutual concern (such as climate change).

> The EU–Africa Project participated in numerous collaborative publications and conferences during the course of the year. This engagement included co-operation with a number of Konrad Adenauer Foundation offices globally, including the offices in Berlin, Brussels and South Africa. The project also co-operated with the DIE, the ECDPM and the European Commission.

Some of the highlights of the year include research input into the Action Plan for the EU-Africa Strategic Partnership and EU-South African relations, in the context of the EU-South Africa summit in mid-2008. At the end of June, SAIIA visited Germany as a guest of the German Foreign Ministry for a week-long orientation visit to seven cities. The visit included briefings by the Foreign Ministry, other government ministries and various organisations on Germany's commitment to global governance, the environment, peace-building and multilateralism.

FUTURE

DEVELOPMENTS

The project will continue to focus on the EU-Africa and EU-South Africa strategic partnerships, but will

also look more closely at concrete areas of engagement. Increased emphasis will be placed on climate change and its implications for Africa.



RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2009

SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN POLICY AND AFRICAN DRIVERS

As an institution focusing on foreign affairs, the study of foreign policy is pivotal to SAIIA's research agenda. The major focus at the start of 2008 was to participate in the drafting of a 15-year review of South Africa's foreign policy. The review was commissioned by

the Presidency of the Republic of South Africa and was subsequently presented to a meeting of academic peers and government.

SAIIA's work under this research theme is also reflected in a number of briefings to various governmental organisations, such as the South African National Defence College. In 2008 a briefing was conducted with the South African Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Foreign The major focus at the start of 2008 was to participate in the drafting of a 15-year review of South Africa's foreign policy. The review was commissioned by the Presidency of the Republic of South Africa and was subsequently presented to a meeting of academic peers and government.

discussion on the newly created US military command responsible for Africa, Africom. A major international conference was also arranged in early 2008 on the challenges of radicalisation and terrorism facing the continent entitled Seeds of Contempt: Rethinking Radicalisation and Responses. SAIIA's foreign policy work was captured largely

in the South African Foreign Policy

In 2008 SAIIA held a small, closed

Monitor, the South African Journal of International Affairs and the South African Yearbook of International Affairs 2008.

Focused research was also conducted on various aspects of South

Africa's continental engagement such as South Africa's growing aid

engagement in various African countries, its Africa diplomacy and its

since 1994. Various briefings were also held for visiting politicians and diplomats on internal developments in South Africa and the impact on South Africa's foreign engagement. In October 2008 SAIIA convened a foreign policy forum with the Department of Foreign Affairs directed at considering ways of strengthening relations with the US under the new administration in that country. The conference was attended by delegates from the South African government, business, academia and the media.

Affairs on structural problems in the Department of Foreign Affairs

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS 2009

security engagement.

The programme will focus on analysing the foreign policy drivers of Kenya, Angola and Zimbabwe during

the course of the year. In addition two major international South African foreign policy conferences will be held in London and South Africa to discuss South Africa's foreign policy challenges, while also celebrating SAIIA's 75th anniversary.



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For more information on membership options, please contact Jonathan Stead, director of marketing and operations, at +27 (0)11 339 2021 or Jonathan.Stead@wits.ac.za.

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In addition, SAIIA has 49 corporate members mainly drawn from the South African private sector and international businesses with an interest in Africa, and a further 53 diplomatic and 11 institutional members.