

Africa in the 21st Century: the view from London



Foreign &
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Office

Dr Nicola Brewer
British High Commissioner to South Africa
20 June 2011

“The hopeless continent”, May 2000





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“Lions on the move”, June 2010

McKinsey Global Institute



June 2010

Lions on the move:
The progress and potential
of African economies



Africa today



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\$1.6 trillion

Africa's collective GDP in 2008,
roughly equal to Brazil's or Russia's

\$860 billion

Africa's combined consumer
spending in 2008

316 million

the number of new mobile phone
subscribers signed up in Africa since 2000

60%

Africa's share of the
world's total amount of
uncultivated, arable land

52

the number of African cities with
more than 1 million people each

20

the number of African companies
with revenues of at least \$3 billion



Africa tomorrow

\$2.6 trillion

Africa's collective GDP in 2020

\$1.4 trillion

Africa's consumer spending in 2020

1.1 billion

the number of Africans
of working age in 2040

128 million

the number of African households
with discretionary income in 2020

50% the portion of
Africans living
in cities by 2030

“If we invest in countries before they become broken, we might not end up spending so much on the problems that result. By helping countries develop economically and politically, we reduce the pressures that lead to instability, and build new markets for trade and growth.”

Prime Minister David Cameron

EU and African Grand Free Trade Area (COMESA, EAC, SADC) comparison

	European Union	African Grand Free Trade Area
No. Countries	27	26
No. People	500 million	550 - 600 million
Combined GDP	\$16 trillion	\$1 trillion
GDP per capita	\$ 32,000	\$ 1,667

Ten values

1. A **democratic** state, rooted in the values of the Constitution, working...to improve the **quality of life**.
2. People... **united in diversity**, recognising the common interest that binds us as a nation...greater **equality for women** .
3. **High-quality education and health care**, and adequate provision of housing, water, sanitation, energy and transport, give impetus to **human development**.
4. Comprehensive **social security** covers all citizens in need.
5. **Natural wealth is harnessed sustainably**, in a way that protects our environment, using science and modern technology to ensure a **growing economy that benefits all**.
6. People who are able to work have **access to jobs**, workers' rights are protected and the workforce is skilled.
7. Business is afforded an **environment to invest and profit** while promoting the common interests of the nation, including decent work.
8. An **efficient state protects citizens**, provides quality services and infrastructure, and... national development.
9. Individuals and communities...embrace **mutual respect** and **human solidarity**.
10. Government, business and civil society work to build a **better... world**.

Thank you

20 June 2011.



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