

**AGREED OUTCOME AND MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE BINATIONAL COMMISSION BETWEEN
THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC**

1-2 November, 2012
Pretoria, South Africa

PREAMBLE

The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, together with their respective delegations, met from 1 to 2 November 2012, at the OR Tambo Building in Pretoria. The meeting constituted the third meeting of the Binational Commission that was established in accordance with a Bilateral Agreement signed between South Africa and Argentina in New York during September 2005.

The Delegation of the Argentine Republic was led by Argentina's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Héctor Timerman. The Delegation of the Republic of South Africa was led by the South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Dr Maite Nkoana-Mashabane.

The discussions were held in a cordial and cooperative atmosphere. The following issues were discussed:

- Recent developments in Argentina and in South Africa;
- Regional developments in Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa;
- Inter-regional issues;
- Multilateral issues; and
- An in-depth analysis of the bilateral relationship and its potential.

The two delegations agreed that the relationship between the two countries could be described as one based on strategic co-operation through higher diplomatic convergence.

The discussions produced the following outcomes:

A POLITICAL RELATIONS

1. Institutional Mechanisms

The First South Africa-Argentina Binational Commission meeting took place in Pretoria, South Africa, in 2007 and the Second meeting took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 2008. These two meetings, as well as the Senior Officials' meeting that took place in Pretoria in November 2010, and the visit to South Africa in August 2011 by the Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister of Argentina, laid the foundations for the Third meeting of the Binational Commission.



1.1 Update on BNC academic seminars 2008 to date

The Ministers recalled the bilateral seminars and academic activities that took place in both capitals between the Second and Third Binational Commissions that analyzed different areas of the bilateral agenda. These meetings provided major inputs to the current Binational Commission. Cooperation in the field of Human Rights.

In order to enhance their common values and perspectives, both Ministries agreed to carry out regular bilateral consultations and cooperation activities on human rights, coordinated by their respective departments, with a view to: (a) exchanging information about the development of human rights issues in both countries; (b) exchanging positions and commentaries about the principal international negotiations in the universal system (UN), as well as in regional systems, in which both countries are involved; (c) analysing the possibility of developing cooperation projects in human rights issues; and (d) promoting the realization of academic and civil society activities that strengthen cooperation between Argentina and South Africa in human rights matters.

In this context, both Ministers noted the consolidation of the links in the field of protection of Human Rights that were reinforced by a wide range of activities, including the Forum on Human Rights that took place in the University of Pretoria on November 1st with the participation of Minister Héctor Timerman.

Argentina extended an invitation to South Africa to participate in various human rights activities in Argentina in 2013, in the framework of the 30th Anniversary of the restoration of democracy in Argentina.

It was noted that Argentina has a particular focus and strength in the field of prevention of genocide, and therefore would like to collaborate with South Africa in this regard.

The Ministers also highlighted the advancements in the cooperation between the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (EAAF) and the South African Missing Persons Task Team. They also recognized the impact that the Argentine-South African joint collaboration in linking Forensic Sciences and Human Rights has had at a regional level, recalling the organization of different activities, particularly the Conference "Reclaiming Stolen Lives – Forensic Sciences and Human Rights" that brought together specialists and members of Human Rights organizations from nine Sub-Saharan African countries in Johannesburg in November 2011. They also welcomed the opening of the EAAF-sponsored African School of Forensic Sciences and Human Rights that will take place in November 2012 in Durban.

In this regard, both Ministers committed themselves to enhance the collaboration in this field and expand its results into the African Continent, taking advantage of the inputs that the EAAF can provide on best practices to other countries which share a common history on Human Rights issues. Both Parties undertook to promote the development of a regional network on Forensic Sciences and Human Rights.



Given the shared values on the fight against any kind of discrimination, and particularly the recognition of the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual (LGBT) community, the Ministers undertook to work together in international fora and to push forward measures to further the recognition of those rights.

1.2 Inter-parliamentary Cooperation

Both Ministers expressed their appreciation of the opportunity that the 126th Assembly of the International Parliamentary Union in Uganda in April 2012 has given the members of parliament of both countries to meet and share experiences.

They noted with satisfaction the establishment of the Parliamentary Friendship Group between Argentina and South Africa on June 7th 2012 and expressed the wish that this mechanism would enhance the ties that unite both peoples.

The Argentine delegation recalled the invitation to the Speaker of the South African National Assembly to visit Argentina. They also expressed their satisfaction on the visit by a delegation from the Sports Committee of the South African Parliament to Argentina in July 2012.

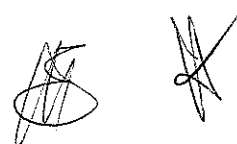
The Ministers expressed the hope that the Parliamentary Friendship Group will be established soon and highlighted the importance of promoting the adoption of agreements already signed between both countries at Parliamentary level.

1.3 Cooperation between Provinces and Municipalities

The parties stressed the importance of the bilateral relationship at interprovincial level and noted the negotiation of an agreement of cooperation between the Western Cape and the Province of Mendoza; the links between Kwazulu-Natal and the Province of Santa Fe; the proposed cooperation initiatives between the Limpopo and Salta; Gauteng and Buenos Aires; Eastern Cape-Chaco and Formosa; and the cities of Cape Town-Mar del Plata; and Durban-Rosario.

The Memorandum of Cooperation between the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and the Argentine Federation of Municipalities (Federación Argentina De Municipios-FAM) is ready for signature. It is expected that the agreement will be signed in due course.

The parties agreed that any interprovincial and local government collaborations need to have substance and be mutually beneficial and should not only be merely symbolic. South Africa's The South African Department of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) and SALGA should engage with their Argentine counterparts to ensure focused and meaningful cooperation.



2. Global Issues

2.1. Multilateralism and the United Nations: Reform of the United Nations, including the Security Council

The Argentine and South African authorities reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening multilateralism, with the comprehensive reform of the United Nations and with the democratization of international fora. They expressed the importance of deepening intergovernmental efforts to promote the needed reform of the Security Council in order to transform it into a more legitimate, efficient, democratic, representative and transparent body. They also considered it essential to revitalize the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, in the context of the consultations on the implementation of UN Resolution 61/16 on the Strengthening of the ECOSOC. To this end, South Africa and Argentina are committed to an ECOSOC that is strengthened and further reformed to better meet evolving global challenges and the needs of developing countries and ensuring that the articulation of the post-2015 UN Development Agenda in the Council is compatible with the development agenda of the South.

South Africa congratulated Argentina on its election as non-permanent member of the UNSC for the period 2013/14 and thanked Argentina for the latter's support during South Africa's term.

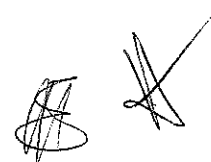
2.2 Disarmament and Non Proliferation – Nuclear Security Summit, Follow up

Both countries reiterated their commitment to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation within the context of the relevant multilateral instruments. In this regard, Argentina and South Africa, two countries with a similar level of nuclear development, believe in the need to fully utilize the opportunities provided by the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and in a multilateral approach to overcoming proliferation challenges. They discussed the role of the IAEA in encouraging and assisting research and development on the practical application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, taking into consideration the needs of under-developed parts of the world. At the same time, Argentina and South Africa believe that the IAEA's safeguard system plays a crucial role in verifying the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

2.3 UN Special Committee on Decolonisation

In the context of the United Nations activities, both Ministers agreed on the need for the resumption of negotiations between the government of the Argentine Republic and the government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2065 (XX) and other relevant Resolutions of the UNGA and the Special Committee on Decolonisation on the "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" with a view to finding as soon as possible a peaceful, just and durable solution to the sovereignty dispute.

Argentina further welcomed South Africa's application for membership of the Special Committee on Decolonisation.



2.4 Climate Change

The Ministers affirmed that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

The Ministers stressed that the international community, particularly the developed countries, given their historical responsibility, need to take the lead in addressing this challenge within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The Ministers welcomed the successful outcome of the COP 17 MOP 7 of the UNFCCC, held in Durban, south Africa, which firstly agreed on elements of the architecture of the post-2012 international regime for the period up to 2020, including a second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, as well as commitments and action under the Convention for those not included in this second commitment period; secondly, agreed on a Durban Platform to negotiate an additional legal instrument under the Convention, applicable to all in the period from 2020 and beyond; and thirdly, an agreement on a process to increase mitigation ambition.

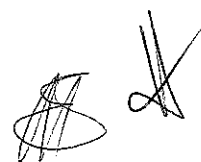
The Ministers emphasized that a legally binding second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol is critical and must be the key deliverable of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 18) and the 8th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP8) at Doha, and must be ambitious in terms of the emission reductions. They emphasized that developed countries must take robust and ambitious mitigation commitments, with ambitious quantitative emissions limitation reduction targets. In this context, the Ministers stressed the need to conclude the work of and terminate the Ad Hoc Working Group of Long Term Cooperative Action under the Convention in Doha.

The Ministers stated that any result of the Durban Platform under the Convention must be universal, in accordance with national circumstances and the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, taking into consideration issues of mitigation as well as adaptation, financing and technology transfer to developing countries. In this context, Argentina congratulated South Africa for its role as President of the COP 17 of the UNFCCC and MOP 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, held in Durban in December 2011.

2.5 Multilateral Economic Agenda

Argentina and South Africa took note of the recent developments in the Bretton Woods Institutions (BWIs), and called for an expeditious completion of a more ambitious reform process of the governance structure of those Institutions and of an accelerated road map for further reforms with the involvement of all stakeholders in an equitable, transparent, consultative and inclusive process.

In order to fully harness the potential of trade, both delegations expressed that it is important to uphold a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system

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that contributes to growth, sustainable development and employment, particularly for developing countries. In this regard, they reaffirmed the need to comply with the WTO Doha Round Mandate, with particular focus on the continuation of the reform process of agriculture in accordance to its mandate.

They also stipulated that any outcome in the Doha Round negotiations of non-agricultural market access must comply with their mandate, in particular with its most important principles, such as less than full reciprocity in market access and comparable ambition with agricultural market access. This ambition is to be achieved in a balanced and proportionate manner consistent with the principle of special and differentiated treatment.

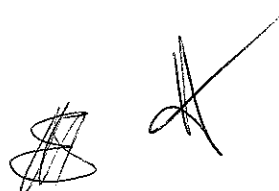
Both countries uphold the concept of sustainable development, covering the environmental, but also economic and social pillars and that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country, in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, as agreed in the Rio + 20 Conference in June 2012. Therefore, the Ministers stressed the importance that “green economy policies” should be in accordance with the principles established by the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development under the United Nations – as the central forum - particularly the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. In this regard, Argentina and South Africa consider that the “green economy policies” should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade, and that unilateral measures are not an appropriate or effective means to deal with environmental problems

Both countries stated their intention of working together with other developing countries, with the aim of addressing weaknesses of first generation Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITS) in light of their own experiences and assessment of costs, benefits and consistency with domestic laws.

The Ministers recalled the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008. In this context, they expressed concern about the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis on development. An enhanced predictable and sustainable flow of ODA is essential to meet the regular development challenges as well as the new and emerging challenges in developing countries.

The Ministers expressed a firm commitment to maintain close links across the multilateral economic agenda. In this regard, they agreed that this collaboration, which is articulated in the World Trade Organization (WTO), including in country groups in the Doha Round negotiations, such as NAMA-11, as well as the Group of 20 (G20), as in many other fora, should be continued and deepened. Moreover, both countries agreed to strengthen and consolidate partnerships in these international fora.

Both countries exchanged views on ways to address the negative impact of vulture funds on debt restructuring schemes and national development strategies, particularly in Africa and Latin America.



3. Inter-regional Issues

The Ministers agreed to intensify cooperation by giving significant impetus to all activities that contribute to the development of stronger relations between Latin America and Africa at all levels: regional, interregional and global.

In this context, Argentina achieved the status of observer member to the African Union in March 2009. Both countries actively participate in interregional cooperation initiatives, such as the Africa-South America Summit and the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic.

Argentina reiterated its full support to the African region and its development agenda. In this regard, the bilateral relationship with South Africa is a further demonstration of greater engagement with the continent. Both countries agreed to continue their interactive dialogue on the challenges faced by Africa and the Latin American and Caribbean regions.

The Ministers reiterated their position that South-South cooperation is a complement to, rather than substitute for, North-South cooperation and reaffirmed that South-South cooperation is a collective endeavour of developing countries based on the principle of solidarity. They also stressed the importance of strengthening the interregional relationship as a mean of enhancing their participation in the global economy.

3.1 Zone of Peace and Cooperation in the South Atlantic (ZPCSA)

The Ministers stressed the importance of working together through the Zone of Peace and Cooperation in the South Atlantic in areas such as: economic cooperation, combating illegal activities and transnational organized crime, peacekeeping and scientific research, and issues related to international maritime law. In this regard, they highlighted the relevance of advancing in the implementation of the Plan of Action agreed at the last Ministerial Meeting, held in Luanda, Angola in 2007, and in coordinating positions for the next Ministerial Meeting to be held during the first quarter of 2013 in Montevideo, Uruguay.

3.2 Africa-South America Summit

Both sides expressed their appreciation for the opportunities presented by the Africa-South America Summit to promote and expand cooperation between the two regions. The Ministers welcomed the Final Declaration of Nueva Esparta following the Second Summit of Heads of State of Africa and South America countries, held on Margarita Island (Venezuela) in 2009.

They expressed their intention that during the III Summit of Heads of State of African and Latin American countries, further progress will be made on South-South Cooperation and funding of new inter-regional projects.



3.3. SACU/MERCOSUR/L: Status of ratification and further actions for its implementation

Both sides reaffirmed their mutual interest in expanding trade between their regions and highlighted the benefits of enhanced relations through new trade and investment opportunities.

The ratification of the Preferential Trade Agreement between the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) and the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), signed in 2009, was approved by the South African Parliament in June 2010 and the Instrument has been deposited in Windhoek.

Both sides committed to ensuring the respective regions' ratification of the Instrument.

3.4. Humanitarian Assistance

Argentina reiterated its willingness to organize a bilateral workshop on the experiences of the "White Helmets" (United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 49/139B, 50/19 and 61/220) in order to exchange views and share experiences on technical cooperation in humanitarian assistance to address emergencies and disasters. Additionally, Argentina offered to jointly work in setting up corps of volunteers for this purpose, mainly from developing countries.

Argentina thanked South Africa for its continuous support to the "White Helmet Initiative" in the context of the General Assembly.

4. Regional Issues

4.1 African Union: South African candidature and potential collaboration with Argentina

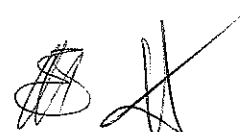
The Argentine side expressed its satisfaction on the election of Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma as Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union and stressed that under her leadership the AU will continue to enjoy a relevant position in the international arena.

In this context, Argentina and South Africa agreed to maintain open channels of communications as incoming and outgoing non-permanent members of the UNSC respectively.

Minister Timerman pointed out that Argentina wishes to establish a close cooperation with the Presidency of the Commission and all the organs of the AU within the framework of South-South cooperation. In this regard, he referred to the re-opening of the Argentine Embassy in Addis Ababa in the near future, which will allow for renewed cooperation with the AU.

4.2 Southern African Development Community (SADC)

Argentina expressed its support for all the SADC activities, particularly in the field of conflict resolution. Minister Timerman indicated that Argentina was interested in participating as permanent observer to the Community in order to strengthen collaboration and cooperation activities, referring to the request formally presented in 2009.



B. ECONOMIC RELATIONS

5. Trade and Investment

The links between South Africa and Argentina are strategic and they involve crucial long-term interests. Both countries have significant resource endowments and they have experience in terms of integration (MERCOSUR/L, SACU). Moreover, they both seek to expand their value chains and increase employment, thus profiting from the economies of scale that enlarged markets offer. In view of this, bilateral relations are key to creating new trade and investment opportunities that are balanced and mutually beneficial.

Bilateral trade between the two countries has been relatively constant over the years, for example, from 2007-2011, despite the global economic slowdown.

The Ministers noted that the trade balance has been in favour of Argentina over the years. However, the Ministers expressed satisfaction over the fact that the trade deficit facing South Africa has begun to decline.

In this context, the Ministers reviewed trade relations between the two countries, expressing their determination to seek ways and means that would expand cooperation in line with the existing potential of their respective economies.

5.1 Promotion of Trade and Investment

Mutual economic relations have been dynamic in the last few years through a strong expansion of trade, investments and communications.

In this context, both countries reviewed recent positive developments in bilateral trade and highlighted the importance of trade diversification and mutually beneficial promotion of exports of goods with high added value.

In 2011, Argentine exports to South Africa amounted to USD 1.08 billion, representing a 23% growth in comparison to 2010. In turn, imports from South Africa totalled USD 205 million, a 45% increase in the same period. Both sides committed to a balanced commercial relationship.

The Ministers took note of the recommendations of the Seminar on "Realising the True Potential of South Africa-Argentine Relations: Bilateral and Multilateral Engagement for a Global Impact", held in Pretoria, on July 2009. During the Seminar, several niche areas of trade and investment were identified, such as natural resources and minerals.

It is of mutual interest to further deepen ties in quality investment between the two countries that generate and strengthen productive chains, incorporating value-added technologies, as well as to promote job creation.



Both sides exchanged information on challenges currently being experienced by their exporters. They committed to work in this area in the context of South-South cooperation to face and unblock those challenges.

5.2. Update of the Bilateral Air Services Agreement (1999)

The Argentine Government took note of the South African interest on renewing negotiations on the update of the Bilateral Air Services Agreement, which was signed in 1999.

The Aeronautical Authority of Argentina is respectfully requested to propose dates for holding air services negotiations during the last quarter of 2012.

5.3. Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation and/or Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation on Air Services

The Argentine Government noted South Africa's interest in negotiating an Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and an Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation on Air Services.

In this context, South Africa remains keen on negotiating a comprehensive DTA with Argentina due to the significant presence of South African companies in Argentina.

5.4 Revenue Services

Argentina and South Africa noted with satisfaction that both the bilateral Mutual Assistance Agreement between Customs Administrations and the Agreement on Tax Information Exchange have been finalized and will be signed by the competent authorities in due course.

5.5 Cooperation in the field of Small and Medium Size Enterprises: value added technologies; natural compressed gas

The Argentine delegation indicated its interest in initiating talks with the relevant South African counterparts about exchanging experiences on SMMEs, including Technical and Financial Assistance and in the development of programmes for the support of foreign trade.

The Ministers took note of the recommendations of the Seminar held on 2008 and hosted by the Argentine Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation and the Fundacion Export-Ar from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the aim of exploring market potential between both countries in added valued technologies devoted to SMMEs.

This initiative will shortly be followed by seminars, workshops and other business gatherings to which South African officials, business persons, consultants, economists and other experts will be invited to attend in order to, *inter alia*, discuss potential opportunities for bilateral cooperation in fields such as cooperation at policy levels, technology transfer, export-import of high technology products and trade in capital goods and "turnkey projects".



Both countries have developed industrial sectors, including in the framework of SMMEs as providers of goods and services in their production processes, in which they have comparative advantages in terms of technologies and management capacity. Owing to the complementarities of both economies, both sides encouraged activities that will facilitate trade and investment in this area.

The Ministers emphasized the importance of addressing energy issues, including access to affordable energy, energy efficiency, as well as sustainability of energy sources and use, as part of global efforts for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the promotion of sustainable development.

The Secretary of Small and Medium Sizes Enterprises of the Ministry of Industry of Argentina, the Secretary of Energy of Argentina, ENARGAS, and some private enterprises dealing with the technologies and services related to natural compressed gas industry have expressed their interest in collaboration with South African counterparts.

Argentina also expressed an interest in assisting South Africa through SMMEs in the development of a metropolitan network for public transport, in particular in the Tshwane metropolitan area.

The Ministers welcomed the initiatives with a main objective of forming a bilateral platform to develop a plan of action and to encourage cooperation, as soon as possible, in *inter alia* the following sectors: natural compressed gas; agro processing; agricultural machinery; textiles; food industry; and automotive.

South Africa welcomed the offer and nominated the Department of Trade and Industry as its focal point.

5.6 Cooperation in the field of Mining

The growing mining sector in Argentina provides both countries with a further opportunity to strengthen their economic ties and to make an effective contribution to Argentina's development. Both sides agreed to foster co-operation in the areas of exploration (geology), exploitation and beneficiation (mineral processing).

Both sides agreed that there is a need for mining-related associations to exchange information on mining technology and transfers of skills. Furthermore, the parties agreed that in order to help eradicate poverty, especially in rural areas, small scale mining must be promoted.

The Ministers took note of the visit of a Technical Team from South Africa to Argentina during 2011, during which specific opportunities for technical cooperation were identified.

Consequently, Argentina and South Africa agreed to facilitate the process for the conclusion of the draft Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Mining as soon as possible.



6. Cooperation in the field of Agriculture: “No till” technologies; biosafety; sanitary and phytosanitary measures

The relationship between South Africa and Argentina in the area of agriculture is extensive, and it was agreed that the opportunities that exist for even greater agricultural cooperation and trade would allow this relationship to strengthen even further.

Both parties noted with satisfaction the finalisation of the Bilateral Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture. The Ministers recognized that this will be a framework to continue to implement substantive exchanges of experts, missions, activities, and direct contact with applied research institutions.

In this context, both parties took note of collaborative initiatives in various fields, such as:

- Collaboration between public institutions and the private sector in “no till” agriculture, process started in 2007. Those activities also include the annual participation of Argentine agricultural capital goods medium size companies in NampoHarvest and bilateral collaboration in demonstratives camps where commodities production and no till technologies are combined.
- Cooperation in the field of Biosafety, at international fora and at bilateral level, including a proposed Seminar on Biosafety Assessment of genetically modified sugarcane. Cooperation in this area also involves cooperation in post market monitoring, particularly relating to the issue of the emergence of BT-resistant pests and herbicide-resistant weeds. It would also explore the possibility of collaboration on asynchronous approval of GMOs based on a scientific approach for risk analysis, taking into account its potential impact on agrifood trade. The results of the International Meeting on Low Level Presence (LLP) held in Rosario, Argentina on 2012 are an important precedent in this regard. Moreover, information exchange on intellectual property rights related to biotechnology crops, including the status of small farmers’ rights, were also agreed to.
- Bilateral cooperation in sanitary and phytosanitary measures: South Africa goat embryos exports to Argentina; South Africa bovine semen exports to Argentina; Argentine bovine embryos exports to South Africa; avian tallow exports to South Africa.
- South Africa expressed its appreciation for the collaboration from Argentina in preparation for South Africa’s hosting of the FAO 14th World Forestry Congress in 2015.

7. Cooperation in the field of fisheries

Both countries took note of the cooperation in the field of marine and fisheries management through *inter alia* the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), where both countries share similar views. They also agreed to exchange information on managing foreign fishing fleets and sustainable fisheries management; and other potential fields of bilateral cooperation in fisheries such as aquaculture, fisheries legislation, illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing, monitoring and surveillance, vessel monitoring systems (VMS) and capacity building in marine and fisheries management.



South Africa indicated that there were a number of collaborative efforts, especially in the multilateral context and expressed its commitment to strengthen these efforts in the future. Argentina expressed satisfaction at the level of cooperation in this regard.

8. Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology

The Ministers noted the good progress made on the significant number of technical cooperation activities, such as:

- Increased number of R&D projects (from 16 projects in 2008 to 51 projects in 2012) in a number of areas such as agricultural research and technology, biotechnology, nanotechnology, space science and technology, resource-based industries, hydrogen economy, human and social sciences, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), and polar research;
- Increased institutional collaborations and signed inter-institutional agreements in the areas of agriculture, space science, and industrial research, for example joint research projects between Argentina's INTA and the University of Pretoria which are funded by the South African DST;
- A number of joint research workshops including a joint workshop on Innovation Policy and Technology Transfer aimed at deepening research activities between the two countries and to exchange information about structural mechanisms to promote innovation; and
- Strategic interventions such as the establishment of the Argentina-South Africa Centre for Nanotechnology (ASACEN) in 2011 as well as the Agri-ICT Initiative.

The Ministers also welcomed the commitment of the National Commission on Space Activities (CONAE) and the South African National Space Agency (SANSA) to collaborate in (i) the applications of space technology for disaster management and health, (ii) the exchange of satellite data from their respective satellite missions, and (iii) collaboration on respective ground stations including exchanges on telemetry tracking and command.

9. Peaceful use of Nuclear Energy

The importance both Parties attach to their nuclear programmes, and to international and bilateral co-operation in the field, is highlighted by the "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Argentine Republic on cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy", which identifies areas and means for joint activities and collaboration in the nuclear field, and assures the exclusively peaceful nature of such activities. It provides for the establishment of a Joint Coordinating Committee and nominates the South African Department of Energy and the Argentine National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) and the Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ARN) of Argentina as the competent authorities for implementation of the Agreement.

In this context, the Argentinean National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) and the INVAP expressed their interest in developing activities to support the construction of a radioisotope production reactor.

Argentina informed that the Agreement was approved by the Argentinean Congress, and that the relevant notification through the diplomatic channel will be expedited.

C. DEFENCE COOPERATION

Both sides expressed their satisfaction over progress achieved through the bilateral dialogue between the Ministries of Defence after the Binational Commission held in Buenos Aires in 2008, highlighting the signing of the MOU on Defence Cooperation in 2010 and the visit of the South African Minister of Defence to Argentina in November 2010. A visit of her Argentine counterpart to South Africa is scheduled to take place during first semester of 2013, after the first meeting of the Defence Bilateral Committee.

The Ministers also expressed their firm intention to deepen dialogue and bilateral cooperation actions in defence matters, especially in the following areas: consultation on interregional and South Atlantic issues of common interest, defence structure reform; experiences in peacekeeping operations; education and training for civil and military personnel; defence-related research, technology industry and logistics; support to Antarctic campaigns; search and rescue at sea; cultural and sports links between the respective armed forces.

The Ministers also noted the excellent state of military relations among both countries, which has been recently reflected by the sustained participation of both countries in the naval exercise ATLASUR- celebrated in South Africa in 2012- together with the Brazilian and Uruguayan Navies. The Argentine party expressed its satisfaction for the recent participation of a South African naval officer in the XLII *Libertad* Frigate Annual Instruction Voyage.

As a result of reciprocal visits of technical delegations of both countries in May and September 2012, in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Defence, several areas of cooperation were identified in the fields of ammunition, submarines and aeronautical defence systems. The Ministers recognized that- in the spirit of South-South cooperation- the outcome of the visit will have a direct impact on transfer of technology and technical training.

Therefore, the Ministers encouraged the signing of a supplementary arrangement between the Department of Defence of South Africa and the Ministry of Defence of Argentina concerning cooperation on defence logistics to serve as a framework for further exchange in science, technology, production and procurement.

Under the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Defence, the Ministers agreed on the exchange of information and experiences in the field of peacekeeping operations under the mandate of the United Nations, including the possibility of reciprocal cooperation between their respective peacekeeping training centres.



D. COOPERATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFICKING

The Ministers remarked that Argentina and South Africa will continue to cooperate within the framework of the "Agreement on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in the field of Combating the Production of and Illicit Traffic in Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances, the Improper use of Drugs and Related Matters".

In this regard, they acknowledged the proposal of the Planning Secretariat for the Prevention of Drug Addiction and Action against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR) to host a multidisciplinary "Bilateral Workshop" to follow up on the aforementioned agreement. The objective of this workshop will be to exchange information on the situation of the illicit production/manufacturing and trafficking of narcotics drugs and psychotropic substances in their respective countries, as well as the respective legislation and control measures implemented in this respect.

The South African Department of Women, Children and People with Disabilities expressed an interest in exchange of information with the relevant Argentine authorities, in the context of women as victims of drug trafficking syndicates. The Ministers agreed that this issue should be included in the agenda of the Bilateral Workshop.

E. COOPERATION IN THE SOCIAL SECTORS

10. Report on the implementation of the Bilateral Agreement on Sports and Recreation (2007)

The field of Sports remains a significant area of cooperation and contact between the sporting authorities, institutions, clubs and the people of South Africa and Argentina. A Protocol on the Bilateral Agreement on Sports and Recreation was signed in 2010. In this context, the Ministers highlighted the relevance of the conclusion of the "Programme of Action on Bilateral Cooperation", signed in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on October 2010 between the Department of Sports and Recreation South Africa and the Argentine Secretariat of Sport.

Strong links exist especially in the context of rugby, where South Africa has been a traditional supporter of the development of this sport in Argentina. In this regard, the Ministers acknowledged the fulfillment of the Section 8 of the First Binational Commission, and Argentina thanked South Africa for its continuous support for the inclusion of Argentinean National Rugby Team in the Vodacom Cup and in the now expanded Tri-Nations Rugby Championship (2012), the most competitive rugby championship, in a singular example of South-South cooperation.

In the context of the Programme of Action on Bilateral Cooperation, the parties recalled the visit to Argentina of the Under-17 National Football Team of South Africa; the visit to South Africa of the Argentine Olympic National Swimming Team; and the visits of the Argentine National Hockey teams in 2010 and 2011.



South Africa expressed an interest in technical exchanges in school sports. The Ministers recognized the ongoing exchanges between high schools and clubs from both countries in sports tours - more than 100 each year.

In the context of the Bilateral Agreement on Sports and Recreation, the Ministers recalled that both sides have effectively engaged to implement technical cooperation projects in physical education, including the offer to assist the Ministry of Sports and Recreation of South Africa in developing projects to assign Argentine physical educators to municipalities in order to develop sports as a tool for social inclusion.

11. Tourism: identification of potential areas of collaboration and institutional mechanisms

The Ministers agreed on the economic importance of the tourism industry and highlighted the increasing demand generated by an increased tourist flow as well as by an increased business, institutional and cultural flow that has been observed between the two countries over the last few years. In this regard, the Ministers recalled that during the Senior Officials' Meeting, held in South Africa in November 2010, South Africa submitted a draft "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Tourism", in order to promote tourism on both sides, and invited the parties to advance in its negotiation. The MoU will be concluded within weeks. In this context, Argentina highlighted the importance of South Africa as a potential market and, to this end, organized three Road Shows in the cities of Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town in 2010-2012. Equally, South Africa stressed the importance of Argentina as a tourist destination.

12. Spousal working arrangements in respective countries

Both parties expressed their interest in advancing in this field and Argentina has submitted a draft Note Verbale relating to the employment of spouses of transferred officials to both countries.

F. COOPERATION BETWEEN JUDICIAL SYSTEMS

The Ministers acknowledged this field as a new area of bilateral cooperation. In this regard, they noted the outcomes of the visit by a Minister of the Supreme Court of Argentina, Dr Enrique Petracchi, to South Africa in July 2012. This visit included meetings with counterparts at the South African Supreme Court and the Gauteng Court.

G. COOPERATION ON CONSERVATION OF PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS

An agreement between the Administración de Parques Nacionales (APN) and the South African National Parks (SANParks) was signed at the Second Meeting of the Binational Commission with the aim of promoting collaboration on national parks management. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the signing of this agreement, which will establish a general framework of technical cooperation and allow for the exchange of expertise between the two institutions on protected

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areas, in particular the conservation and management of biological and cultural diversity and on the planning, administration and management of protected areas, including related social aspects.

With regard to the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA), South Africa offered to provide assistance with the following:

- Tourism development on TFCA parks;
- Opportunities available within TFCA;
- Exploratory visits to South Africa for exchange of information and to identify investment opportunities;
- Ecotourism; and
- Tourism Language training, joint destination development and marketing

Argentina expressed its appreciation for the South African offer to cooperate in this field.

H. COOPERATION IN THE AREAS OF ARTS AND CULTURE

The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the signing and implementation of the Bilateral Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Arts and Culture in December 2011.

The Ministers noted that the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) in collaboration with the South African Embassy in Argentina hosted a painting exhibition in Argentina in April 2012. The artist gave a lecture on the painting at the Conference and Exhibition at International Relations Argentine Council (CARI). He also made a presentation during the Freedom Day celebrations at the Four Seasons Hotel. The artist also visited the Argentine Painting Studio, where painting classes were given.

The Ministers noted that in July 2011, for first time, an Argentine/South African group of artists participated in the National Arts Festival with the play "Machitun", with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina and Project 34S.

The Department of Arts and Culture is also supporting the South African Play "Green Man Flashing", which will be presented by Project 34s in Argentina on 27 November 2012.

The Ministers noted that the DAC Director-General will lead a DAC technical delegation to Argentina from 25 to 28 November 2012. The visit of the DG will also include meetings with his counterpart to discuss further the modalities of implementing the Cultural Agreement signed in December 2011. The DG will also officially open the South African Play "Green Man Flashing".

The Ministers noted that bilateral cooperation activities will be continued with "Theatre in Translation", a project that aims to encourage the exchange and appreciation of written theatre plays from Africa and Latin America, recognizing and rewarding quality, originality and cultural diversity.



The Ministers noted that the National Film and Video Foundation and the National Institute of Cinema and Audiovisual Arts in Argentina have been exchanging draft proposals for an Agreement to strengthen cooperation in this field. The two institutions will continue to explore the possibilities of collaborating.

I. COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF EDUCATION

13. Cooperation between Foreign Service Institutes

A Proposed Draft MOU between the National Foreign Service Institute of Argentina and the Diplomatic Academy of DIRCO was presented by the Deputy Director of the Argentine Diplomatic Academy, Minister Eduardo Demayo on 4 October 2011 when he met with Ms M Dlomo, DDG: DTRD.

A diplomatic scholarship was offered to South Africans diplomats or members of the public administration to spend a semester or a year in the Argentinean diplomatic academy.

It was also agreed to promote the exchange of specialists from both sides to organize seminars on matters of common interest, including human rights. The Foreign Service Institute of Argentina has invited a recognized South African specialist in human rights issues to lecture Argentine officials in 2013.

14. Cooperation in the field of Education

The Ministers noted that in 2011, Argentina presented a draft "Agreement on Educational Cooperation between the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Argentina and the Ministry of Higher Education of the Republic of South Africa", which is under consideration by the South African authorities.

The Ministers encouraged the parties to move forward with the negotiation of the above mentioned draft agreement.

The Ministers also noted that numerous collaborations and joint activities in different areas of education had taken place since the Second BNC of 2008, most notably in the field of tertiary education between academic institutions and universities.

South Africa undertook to resubmit a draft proposal from Department of Higher Education and Training which includes new areas of collaboration in this field.

J. FOLLOW UP

The 4th Meeting 'of the Binational Commission between South Africa and Argentina will take place in Argentina at a date and venue to be decided through diplomatic channels.



Done in Pretoria, South Africa, on the 2nd of November 2012.



Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa

Co-Chairperson of the Binational Commission between the Republic of South Africa and the Argentine Republic



Minister Héctor Timerman

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic

Co-Chairperson of the Binational Commission between the Argentine Republic and the Republic of South Africa