

# **European - Southern African Cooperation in a Globalising World**

## **The Vienna Conference**

hosted by the Austrian Parliament

in cooperation with the European Network for Information and Action on Southern Africa

October 12-14, 1998

Leading up to the Third European Union / Southern African Development Community Ministerial Conference in November, this conference will provide a platform for parliamentarians as well as NGO representatives both from Southern Africa and from the European Union to discuss relations between these two regions in context of a changing global political and economic environment.

Issues arising from the forthcoming new WTO round, debt management initiatives, structural adjustment programmes as implemented by the international financial institutions and current talks on a Multilateral Agreement on Investment/MAI will be among topics addressed. In addition, the conference will look into current trade negotiations between the EU and South Africa, and into talks about a Post-Lomé dispensation starting under the Austrian EU Presidency. Other topics on the agenda include security issues and the contribution of parliaments, social partners and NGOs towards the governmental political dialogue.

The Vienna Conference of parliamentarians and NGOs therefore aims at reviving the spirit of the largely defunct North/South dialogue and at broadening the EU/SADC political dialogue.

All the subjects covered by the conference are of crucial importance for the economic development of the SADC region, and indeed of Africa as a whole. But as there is also a crucial correlation between societal/individual well-being and democracy, the issues before the conference are also highly relevant for the advancement of human rights and social progress.

## **Detailed programme**

Sunday, 11 October

Arrival of foreign participants

18,30

Evening reception, given by the Mayor of Vienna, Dr. Michael Häupl

Monday, 12 October

09,00

Plenary Session 1: Opening ceremony

Opening addresses

Dr. Heinz Fischer, President, Austrian Parliament, Opening Address  
Dr. Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Austrian Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Univ. Prof. Paulette Pierson-Mathy, President, ENIASA

#### Keynote addresses

Southern African - European cooperation in a globalising World  
Dr. Frene Ginwala, Speaker, National Assembly of the Republic of South Africa

Democracy, human rights and social justice - the main goals for a renewed global cooperation  
Dr. Alfred Gusenbauer, Chairman, Subcommittee on Development Issues, Austrian Parliament

#### Contributions from the floor

Rapporteurs: Walter Viegas, Development Workshop, Angola,  
Luca de Fraia, Associazione per un Sudafrica Democratico, Italy

14,00

Agora 1: Structural adjustment - means or obstacle to poverty eradication?

Chair: Sharon Dijksma, Member of Parliament, The Netherlands  
Panelists: Leya Chatta Chipepa, Zambian Association for Research and Development, Kumi Naidoo, South African National NGO Coalition, Ataman Aksoy, World Bank  
Rapporteurs: Eugenia Papamakariou, Greek Committee for Democratic Solidarity,  
Japhet Moonde, Public Servants Union/Zambia Congress of Trade Unions

Agora 2: Social standards versus freedom of investment: A contribution to the social rights debate

Chair: Christopher Kuruneri, Member of Parliament, Zimbabwe  
Panelists: C.R. Haikali, General Secretary, National Union of Namibian Workers Nhlanga Masuku, President, Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce, Ramesh Jeewoolall, Speaker, National Assembly of Mauritius, John Evans, General Secretary, Trade Union Advisory Committee/OECD  
Rapporteurs: Arja Alho, Member of Parliament, Finland,  
Herbert Jauch, Labour Research & Resource Institute, Namibia

Agora 3: EU/Southern African economic relations - a model?

Chair: Dirk Hansohm, Namibian Economic Policy Reserach Centre  
Panelists: Dot Keet, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Southern African Studies, University of the Western Cape, South Africa Ben Turok, Member of the National Assembly, South Africa, Hannes Swoboda, Member of the European Parliament, Anne Graumans, Researcher, Amsterdam  
Rapporteurs: Gottfried Wellmer, Koordination Südliches Afrika (FRG),  
Flora Musonda, Economic and Social Research Foundation (Tanzania)

18,30

Evening Reception, given by the President of the Austrian Parliament, Dr Heinz Fischer.

Tuesday, 13 October

09,00

Plenary Session 2: Political dialogue and the role of parliamentarians and the civil society

Chair: Frene Ginwala, Speaker, National Assembly of the Republic of South Africa  
Panelists: Per Gransted, European Parliamentarians for Africa/AWEPA, Jeanette Minnie, Media Institute for Southern Africa, Windhoek, Mohao Pheko, Women's National Coalition of S.A., Johannesburg, Cyril Ndebele, Speaker, Parliament of Zimbabwe, A. K. Makhalira, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Malawi  
Rapporteurs: Elisio Macamo, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Moçambique, Inge Jäger, Member of Parliament, Austria

14,00

Agora 4: Debt issues in Southern Africa: Lack of legitimacy and economic dependence?

Chair: Robbie Kasuba, Member of the National Assembly, Zambia  
Panelists: Opa Kapijimpanga, Afrodad, Zimbabwe Molefe Tsele, Ecumenical Service for Economic Transformation, South Africa, Joe Hanlon, Journalist, United Kingdom  
Rapporteurs: Martina Neuwirth, Eurodad, Austria, José Luis Cabaço, Researcher, Moçambique

Agora 5: Addressing the roots of conflicts and instability

Chair: Tess Kingham, Member of the House of Commons, United Kingdom  
Panelists: Liz Clegg, Saferworld, United Kingdom, John Stewart, Catholic Commission for Justice & Peace, Zimbabwe, Sergio Viera, Member of the National Assembly, Mozambique, Paolo Jorge, Member of the People's Assembly, Angola  
Rapporteurs: Peter Hermes, Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa, Solomon Lechesa Tsenoli, Member of the National Assembly, South Africa

18,30

Evening dinner, hosted by the Regional Governor of Lower Austria, Erwin Pröll

Wednesday, 14 October

09,00

Plenary Session 3: European Union - Southern Africa: Towards renewed cooperation?

Keynote address

The relations of the European Union with the Southern African Development Community -  
Prospects for the Future  
Michel Rocard MEP, Chairman, Development Committee of the European Parliament

Chair: Ben Jackson, Action for Southern Africa, United Kingdom  
Panelists: Rob Davies, Member of the National Assembly, South Africa, Simba Makoni, Chief Executive, Makonsult, former SADC Secretary General, Zimbabwe, Moutlakgolo Nwako, Speaker of the National Assembly of Botswana