

RESEARCH UNIT

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Summary of the Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016 of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation

March 2015

1. Introduction

The Annual Performance Plan (APP) 2015 – 2016 builds on the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (herein referred to as the Department) previous strategic plans by outlining its key goals and tasks aimed at supporting South Africa's foreign policy objectives. The objectives described in the APP are based on South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) and Vision 2030. While the latter outlines South Africa's national goals for the next few years, it is also designed to address impediments to the country's national interests. The following brief will summarise the key elements of the APP to assist Members of the Portfolio Committee on International Relations (herein referred to as the Committee) in understanding the goals of the Department for this financial year.

2. Summary of core issues identified by the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Ms. Maite Nkoane-Mashabane

In the opening section of the Annual Performance Plan, Minister Maite Nkoane-Mashabane raises the following points:

- Building a strong Africa and deepening its Agenda is the foremost principle of the
 Department, and continues to be the centrepiece of South Africa's foreign policy. As
 such, the Minister emphasizes that self-reliance and finding African solutions to
 African problems is an inspiration to the work of the Department as it advances the
 New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the African Peer Review
 Mechanism (APRM), as well as establishing an African security architecture
- South Africa led efforts towards resolution of the political impasse in Zimbabwe and Madagascar. South Africa also remains engaged in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and South Sudan among others. In particular, President Jacob Zuma appointed Deputy President Mr Cyril Ramaphosa as Special Envoy to South Sudan
- South Africa fully supports the aspirations of Agenda 2063 and supports regional integration efforts in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) neighbourhood which is key to economic growth and intra-Africa trade
- South Africa was unanimously elected to chair the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, and led successful SADC Electoral Observer Missions (SEOMs) to Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia, Mauritius, Zambia and Lesotho. In Lesotho, South Africa's contribution averted a crisis which could have had dire political and social consequences

¹ The Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016



- South Africa played a leading role in efforts to bring peace and stability in the DRC, working with other SADC member states and the Joint SADC International Conference on the Great Lakes Region mechanism.
- The Minister also noted that progress is being made with the M23 rebel group, having been defeated militarily by the SADC Intervention Brigade. Also the Democratic Forces of the Liberation of Rwanda have been given strict deadlines to proceed with their voluntary disarmament.²

Regarding South-South Cooperation, Minister Nkoane-Mashabane noted as follows:

- South-South cooperation remains an integral part of South Africa's own socioeconomic development towards achieving the goals reflected in our NDP's Vision 2030
- South Africa has achieved a number of developments in terms of its membership in South-South formations such as Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS); Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC); and multilateral bodies such as the Non-Aligned Movement and the G77 plus China.
- South Africa's bilateral networks with Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean have also contributed to enhance cooperation in trade, investment and other economic relations
- The BRICS New Development Bank has formally been established at this year's BRICS Summit in Fortalez, Brazil
- South Africa will host FOCAC this which will be focused on injecting new impetus to the development of China-Africa relations and elevate the New Type of China-Africa Strategic Partnership to a higher level.³

The Minister then shifted to North-South Dialogue and noted the following:

- Europe remains one of South Africa's key strategic regions, as such the country continues to maintain cordial relations with countries in that region.
- The European Union (EU) remains South Africa's primary trading and investment partner in the world.
- The Minister noted the conclusion of the Economic Partnership Agreement negotiations as a major milestone.

The Minister then concludes by discussing other strategic issues related to global systems of governance by noting the following

- South Africa will continue to be a strong voice for reform of global governance in Bretton Woods Institutions and the United Nations (UN).
- South Africa will continue to actively participate in groupings such as the Group of 77 plus China, which South Africa is chairing in 2015.

3 Ibid

² The Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.



South Africa took its seat as a newly elected member of the UN Human Rights Council
on 1 January 2014 which reaffirms its commitment to the achievement of human rights
to all citizens of the world

2. Summary of issues discussed by Director General of DIRCO H. E. Ambassador Mr. Jerry Matjila

In the foreword of the Annual Performance Plan of the Department, Director General of the Department H. E Ambassador Jerry Matjila, the following points are highlighted:

- The Annual Performance Plan is informed by the five priority areas of government, the Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF), and the 12 Strategic Outcomes, to which all government departments must subscribe to and act upon. Of particular importance to the department is the Delivery Agreement for Outcome 11, which focuses on international relations and is entitled: Creating a Better South Africa and Contributing to a Better and Safer Africa in a Better World.⁴
- South Africa remains committed to contributing to the needs of the continent and
 efforts are underway to finalise the operationalisation of the South African
 Development Partnership Agency, following the President's Proclamation, which was
 gazetted in 2013. Consultation have been undertaken and stakeholder inputs made
 will culminate in the final approval for the Partnership Fund for Development and,
 consequently the operationalisation of the agency.⁵
- South Africa has contributed to the African Union's Agenda 2063 through, among others, convening the national consultative fora. In addition, South Africa agreed in January 2015 to host the AU Summit in June 2015. South Africa will draw on its experience with regional partners to work towards the establishment of a continental free trade area based on the terms of Reference adopted by the January 2015 AU Summit.⁶
- South Africa has assumed the position of Chair of the Group of 77 plus China for the 2015 calendar year which will provide it with an opportunity to advance positions in the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda as well as the creation of a legal instrument on climate change under the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action
- South Africa will use the UN celebrations of 70 years of existence as an opportunity to raise the matter of reform
- South Africa will participate in the Seventh BRICS Summit which is scheduled to take place from 8 to 10 July in Ufa, Russian Federation which will include a feedback report from the

⁴ The Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016

⁵ Ibid

⁶ The Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016



interim Board of Directors on the operationalisation of the New Development Bank which also includes the Africa Regional Centre

- South Africa will also host the 6th Forum for China-Africa Cooperation Ministerial as Cochair with China, the Second New Africa-Asia Strategic Partnership as co-chair with Indonesia and the Tokyo International Conference for Africa's Development, among others.
- South Africa will participate in the Group of Twenty (G20) and Group of Eight (G8) to advocate for the need to channel resources to Africa's development and the development of the South in general
- The Department will continue to emphasize the role of Public Diplomacy in showcasing its achievements as well as continue to recognize the professional services rendered by State Protocol, the Office of the Chief State Law Adviser and Consular Services.⁷

3. Summary of Department Strategic Objectives and targets by Programme

The focus of international relations work relates to the following key areas:

- Enhanced African Agenda and Sustainable Development;
- Strengthen Political and Economic Integration of SADC;
- Strengthen South-South Relations;
- Strengthen Relations with Strategic Formations of the North;
- o Participate in the Global System of Governance; and
- Strengthen Political and Economic Relations.⁸

3.1 Programme 1: Administration

The purpose of this programme to develop the overall policy and manage the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO).

This programme has the following sub-programmes:

- Ministry;
- Departmental Management;
- Audit Services;
- Financial Management;
- Corporate Services;
- Diplomatic Training, Research and Development:
- Foreign Fixed Asset Management;
- Office Accommodation⁹

Strategic Objectives

⁷ The Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.

Department of International Relations and Cooperation Strategic Plan 2013-2018.

⁹ The Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.



The Strategic Objective of this programme is to achieve an efficient, effective, economical and fully capacitated department.¹⁰

Strategic Objectives of each Sub-programme

Corporate Services

To manage resources efficiently and effectively through sound administration and good governance

Corporate Management

To implement effective HR management to ensure that adequate and sufficiently skilled resources are in place and that performance is monitored

Diplomatic Training, Research and Development

To provide effective training and research in support of departmental strategic objectives

Internal Audit and Risk Management

To establish an adequate, effective and efficient system of internal controls and corporate governance

To establish a culture of risk management, governance and ethical behaviour to ensure improved internal control environment and performance

Medium-term Targets 2015/16 by Sub-programme

Corporate Services

Financial Systems Integrated

Corporate Management

Reduces vacancy rate within the minimum national average of 10 per cent

Performance review and annual assessment completed at the agreed time

Diplomatic Training, Research and Development

Training programme meet tie accreditation standards

Maintain ISO Certification for Quality Management System (QMS)

To appraise and advise principals of unfolding foreign policy developments in support of departmental and government objectives through research papers

Internal	Audit and	l Riek M	anagement
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¹⁰ Ibid



Effective and efficient system of internal controls that is transparent to all end users

Risk Management maturity level 2 in accordance with National Treasury's Risk Maturity Model

3.2 Programme 2: International Relations

The purpose of this programme is to promote relations with foreign countries. 11 Its Sub-programmes are:

- Africa
- Asia and the Middle East
- Americas and the Caribbean
- Europe

Strategic Objective

The Strategic Objective of this programme is to promote policies, strategies and programmes to advance South Africa's national priorities through strengthened political, economic and social relations with targeted countries.¹²

Medium-term Targets 2015/16

Strategic Objective

Number of structured bilateral mechanisms and high-level engagements coordinated to promote national priorities, the African Agenda and the Agenda of the South

Target

34 structured bilateral mechanisms and 58 high-level engagements

Strategic Objective

Number of economic diplomacy activities undertaken to increase value-added exports, attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to priority sectors to promote tourism and South Africa's image abroad and the removal of non-tariff barrier

Target

273 trade and investment seminars

155 engagements with chambers of commerce

17 bilateral meetings held with targeted government ministries

17 high-level potential investors

59 tourism promotion events

¹¹ Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.

¹² Ibid.



3.3 Programme 3: International Cooperation

The Purpose of this programme is to facilitate participation in international organisations and institutions in line with South Africa's national values and foreign policy objectives.¹³

This programme has the following sub-programmes:

- System of Global Governance
- Continental Cooperation
- South-South Cooperation
- North-South Cooperation

Sub-programme 3.1: System of Global Governance

The primary Strategic Objective of this sub-programme is to participate in international organisations and institutions in line with South Africa's national values and foreign policy objectives.

Medium-term Targets 2015/16 as per the Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators 14

Strategic Objective

To enhance international responsiveness to the needs of developing countries and Africa through negotiations and influencing processes in the Global Governance System towards a reformed, strengthened and equitable rules-based multilateral system

Target

80 per cent of resolutions, decisions or outcomes reflecting South Africa's national interest

Performance Indicator

Number of multilateral structures and processes engaged in to enhance the responsiveness of the multilateral system to South Africa's needs and the needs of developing countries

Target

Negotiated and influenced the outcomes of **21 multilateral meetings** and processes to reflect South Africa's national Interest on peace and security, sustainable development (social, economic and environmental), human rights and humanitarian affairs, international crime and international law

Performance Indicator

Percentage of approved requests for humanitarian assistance disbursed

Target

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.



100 per cent approved requests disbursed

Performance Indicator

Number of multistate meetings and processes, influential in the System of Global Governance, engaged in to advance South Africa's foreign policy objectives

Target

Negotiated and influenced the outcomes of **3 multistate meetings** and processes to reflect South Africa's national Interest on peace and security, sustainable development (social, economic and environmental), human rights and humanitarian affairs, international crime and international law

Performance Indicator

Percentage requests responded to for legal and policy advice, services and assistance relating to international law, treaties and treaty obligations, contributions to the formulation/development of international law and on compliance with domestic law and policy

Target

100 percent legal services, advice and assistance provided

Sub-programme 3.2: Continental Cooperation

The Strategic Objective of this subprogramme is to enhance the African Agenda and Sustainable Development

Medium-term Targets 2015/16 as per the Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators 15

Strategic Objective

To enhance the African Agenda

Target

South African positions advanced at AU Summits, and Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) and related meetings to promote peace and stability, socio-economic development as well as good governance and democracy on the continent

Performance Indicator

Number of AU structures and processes used to promote peace and stability, socio-economic development as well as good governance and democracy on the continent

Target

3 meetings of AU structures to promote peace and stability, socio-economic development, good governance and democracy

Performance Indicator

¹⁵ Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.



Number of AU structures and processes on peace and security supported to advance peace and security in Africa

Target

3 AU structures and processes on peace and security supported to advance peace and security in Africa

Performance Indicator

Percentage requests responded to for participation in election observer missions

Target

100 per cent

Performance Indicator

Number of Pan-African Parliament sessions supported in compliance with PAP Host Country Agreement

Target

2 PAP sessions per annum

Performance Indicator

Number of APRM summits' focal point meetings and processes supported with substance and logistics to enhance good governance on the continent

Target

Prepare for 2 APRM Summits

Performance Indicator

Number of ACHPR sessions supported with substance and logistics

Target

2 ACHPR sessions

Performance Indicator

Number of NEPAD summits and processes supported with substance and logistics to enhance socio-economic development on the continent

Target

2 NEPAD Heads of State and Government summits

Sub-programme 3.3 Continental Cooperation

To strengthen the political and economic integration of the Southern African Development Community



Medium-term Targets 2015/15 as per the Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators 16

Strategic Objective

To strengthen political and economic integration and development of SADC

Target

Promoted peace and stability, socio-economic development, good governance and democracy and regional integration within SADC through participation of SADC structures

Performance Indicator

Number of SADC structures and processes used to promote peace and stability, socio-economic development, good governance and democracy and regional integration

Target

11 structures supported to promote peace and stability, socio-economic development, good governance and democracy and regional integration

Performance Indicator

Number of SADC structures and processes supported with substance and logistics to promote peace and stability, socio-economic development, good governance and democracy and regional integration

Target

11 structures and processes to promote peace and stability, socio-economic development, good governance and democracy and regional integration

Sub-Programme 3.3: South-South Cooperation

The Strategic Objective of this Sub-programme is to strengthen South-South Cooperation by utilising membership and engagements with groupings of the South to advance South Africa's foreign policy objectives

Medium-term Targets 2015/16 as per the Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators 17

Strategic Objective

To strengthen and consolidate South-South relations by utilising membership and engagements with groupings of the South to advance South Africa's international relations policy

Target

Targeted resolutions and decisions reflecting South Africa's positions

National obligations towards the establishment of the New Development Bank (NDB) Africa Regional Centre in South Africa fulfilled

¹⁶ Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.

¹⁷ Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.



2 strategies for South Africa's engagements for identified formations and groupings of the South developed and implemented

Performance Indicator

Number of high-level meetings of organisations of the South engaged in to contribute to and advance common positions of the South, aligned to South Africa's foreign policy positions

Target

Influenced the outcome of 18 meetings and processes of organisations of the South to reflect South Africa's national positions

Performance Indicator

Number of BRICS structures and processes engaged to advance the Development Agenda in line with South Africa's international relations policy objectives

Target

7th BRICS Summit

BRICS Ministers Meeting

UNGA

Sub-Programme: North-South Cooperation

The Strategic Objective of this Sub-programme is to pursue beneficial relations with strategic formations of the North

Medium-term Targets 2015/16 as per the Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators 18

Strategic Objective

To advance and leverage national priorities, the African Agenda, Development Agenda of the South with formations of the North

Target

Targeted resolutions and decisions reflecting South Africa's positions

Performance Indicator

Number of high-level engagements with strategic formations of the North to contribute to and advance national priorities, the African Agenda and the Agenda of the South positions

Target

Influenced to outcome of 8 meetings and processes of strategic formations of the North to reflect South Africa's national positions

¹⁸ Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.



3.4 Programme 4: Public Diplomacy and State Protocol

The purpose of this programme is to provide an effective State Protocol service to Heads of State and Government and designated dignitaries and render advisory services to various stakeholders. Additionally, this programme seeks to advance a positive projection of South Africa's image through communication strategies on South Africa's foreign policy positions and programmes nationally and internationally.¹⁹

Programme 4 consists of the following sub-programmes:

Sub-programme 4.1: Public Diplomacy:

The Strategic Objective of this sub-programme is to provide strategic public diplomacy direction nationally and internationally.²⁰

Medium-term Targets 2015/16 as per the Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators²¹

Strategic Objective

To create a better understanding and awareness of South Africa's international relations policy through targeted public diplomacy partnerships and platforms

Target

Annual Public Diplomacy Strategy, which will enhance understanding and awareness of South Africa's international relations policy through targeted public diplomacy partnerships and platforms

Performance Indicator

Percentage of requests for public diplomacy services responded to

Target

100 per cent of requests responded to for video and photography services, speeches and communication strategies

Performance Indicator

Number of media briefings and public participation programmes (PPPs) held

Target

18 media briefings and 12 PPPs

Performance Indicator

Number of media statements and public opinion pieces issued

Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016

²¹ Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016



Target

160 media statements and 10 opinion pieces

Performance Indicator

Number of publications produced and distributed

Target

67 publications produced and distributed

Performance Indicator

Number of media reports distributed to missions and Head Office

Target

365 daily media reports and 52 regional reports distributed

Performance Indicator

Percentage of incidents reported and responded to by the after-hours services from Operational Centre

Target

100 per cent of requests responded to by the after-hours services from Operational Centre

Sub-programme 4.2: State Protocol

The purpose of this programme is to provide Protocol and Ceremonial Services

Strategic Objectives

To provide professional State Protocol services.

Medium-term Targets 2015/16 as per the Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators²²

Strategic Objective

To provide professional State Protocol services through the facilitation of state events, visits and diplomatic accreditation

Target

State Protocol services provided as per Service Delivery Charter for state events and visits

Performance Indicator

Percentage of requests for Protocol Services responded to

Target

²² Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016.



100 per cent of requests for protocol services responded to

Performance Indicator

Percentage of requests for diplomatic immunities and privileges, South African diplomatic passports and appointments of foreign and South African heads of missions responded to

100 per cent of requests for diplomatic services responded to

3.5 **Programme 5: International Transfers**

The purpose of this programme is to fund membership fees and transfers to international organisations.23

The Sub-programmes for International Transfers are Departmental Agencies and Membership Contributions.²⁴

Medium-term Targets 2015/16 as per the Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators²⁵

Performance Indicator

Delivery of payments to international organisations is correct, appropriate, on time and within budget

Target

R635.2 million

4. Issues for Committee Consideration

Programme 1

What recruitment and staff retention strategy does the Department intend to implement in terms of its Corporate Management Sub-programme?

No mention is made in the 2015/16 Annual Performance Plan of the South African Council on International Relations, is it no longer a priority of the Department?

Programme 2

How will the targeted 273 Trade and Investment seminars be conducted?

²³ Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016

Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016



What will the targeted 59 tourism promotion events entail and will Brand SA play a role in conjunction with the Department and how is South African Tourism incorporated in these events?

Programme 3

How does the Department intend on achieving the 80 per cent target for resolutions, decisions or outcomes reflecting South Africa's national interest?

Why does programme 3 include humanitarian assistance as a performance indicator, does this not fall within the mandate of the African Renaissance Fund?

What is the current status of the PAP Country Host Agreement?

Programme 4

Can the Committee be provided with the Annual Public Diplomacy Strategy upon its completion?

Additional

The 2015/16 APP states that all state-owned properties are maintained annually from operational funds allocated to individual missions. In addition, the Government own 25 chanceries, one Consulate, 35 official residences, 66 staff houses, 16 plots of land one parking bay. Where are the 16 plots of land located and could the Committee be provided with a list of the long-term leases of the Department?

5. Conclusion

The Annual Performance Plan of the Department seeks to give clarity both on the strategic orientation of the Department but also provides clarity on key targets that must align with the Strategic Plan 2015-2020 of the Department. One of the key challenges for the Committee will be in how it assesses the Department's performance regarding these targets. Also important for the Committee will be in monitoring issues relating to the Department's infrastructure expenditure.

6. References

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation Annual Performance Plan 2015-2016

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