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Presentation to the Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation

South Africa's foreign policy priorities in 2017 and beyond: Identifying areas for oversight

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Institute for Global Dialogue associated with UNISA

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1. **Overview of the balance of power and state of human development in Africa**
   - Countries possessing higher material capabilities do not necessarily perform well in converting those capabilities into tangible benefits for their citizens

   - **Ranking of African nation states in the order of material capabilities (demographic, military, & industrial strength)**

Country (2007)	CINC Score (2007)	Country (2012)	CINC Score (2012)
1.Egypt	0.0097128	1.Egypt	0.0098926
2.Nigeria	0.0077921	2.Nigeria	0.0090817
3.South Africa	0.0063162	3.South Africa	0.0069406
4.Algeria	0.0052899	4.Congo, Democratic Republic	0.0047241
5.Morocco	0.0044709	5.Algeria	0.004188
6.Congo, Democratic Republic	0.0041745	6.Morocco	0.003883
7.Ethiopia	0.0038581	7.Ethiopia	0.0038374
8.Sudan	0.0030763	8.Sudan	0.0029977
9.Angola	0.0024825	9.Angola	0.0024164
10.Eritrea	0.0022562	10.Eritrea	0.0022433
11.Tanzania	0.0019317	11.Tanzania	0.0021146
12.Kenya	0.001777	12.Kenya	0.0017948
13.Libya	0.0017627	13.South Sudan	0.0017923
14.Uganda	0.0013199	14.Uganda	0.0015158
15.Ivory Coast	0.0011732	15.Ivory Coast	0.0013411

Constructed by Dr. Philani Mthembu based on Correlates of War Project Data (2007 and 2012)

   - **Ranking of African nation states based on their human development (life expectancy, education, standard of living)**

Country (2010)	HDI Value (2010)	Human Development Category	Country (2015)	HDI Value (2015)	Human Development Category.
1.Libya	0.755	High Human Development	1.Seychelles	0.782	High Human Development
2.Mauritius	0.701	High Human Development	2.Mauritius	0.781	High Human Development
3.Tunisia	0.683	High Human Development	3.Algeria	0.745	High Human Development
4.Algeria	0.677	High Human Development	4.Tunisia	0.725	High Human Development
5.Gabon	0.648	Medium Human Development	5.Libya	0.716	High Human Development
6.Botswana	0.633	Medium Human Development	6.Botswana	0.698	Medium Human Development
7.Egypt	0.62	Medium Human Development	7.Gabon	0.697	Medium Human Development
8.Namibia	0.606	Medium Human Development	8..Egypt	0.691	Medium Human Development
9.South Africa	0.597	Medium Human Development	9.South Africa	0.666	Medium Human Development
10.Morocco	0.567	Medium Human Development	10.Cabo Verde	0.648	Medium Human Development
11.Equatorial Guinea	0.538	Medium Human Development	11.Morocco	0.647	Medium Human Development
12.Cape Verde	0.534	Medium Human Development	12.Namibia	0.640	Medium Human Development
13.Swaziland	0.498	Medium Human Development	13.Congo	0.592	Medium Human Development
14.Congo	0.489	Medium Human Development	14.Equatorial Guinea	0.592	Medium Human Development
15.Sao Tome and Principe	0.488	Medium Human Development	15.Ghana	0.579	Medium Human Development

Constructed by Dr. Philani Mthembu using UNDP Human Development Reports (2010 and 2015)

- **Ranking of African nation states based on their material capabilities and their human development**

Material Capabilities (2012)	Human Development (2015)
1.Egypt	1.Seychelles
2.Nigeria	2.Mauritius
3.South Africa	3.Algeria
4.Congo, Democratic Republic	4.Tunisia
5.Algeria	5.Libya
6.Morocco	6.Botswana
7.Ethiopia	7.Gabon
8.Sudan	8.Egypt
9.Angola	9.South Africa
10.Eritrea	10.Cabo Verde
11.Tanzania	11.Morocco
12.Kenya	12.Namibia
13.South Sudan	13.Congo
14.Uganda	14.Equatorial Guinea
15.Ivory Coast	15.Ghana

Constructed by Dr. Philani Mthembu using Correlates of War Project Data (2012) and Human Development Report Data (2015)

- Only Egypt, South Africa, and Algeria feature in the top ten in both material capabilities and human development
- While in the top three in terms of material capabilities, South Africa features at number nine in terms of human development on the continent

2. **South Africa's Global Footprint**
- 124 diplomatic missions abroad
- Over 160 foreign missions in South Africa
- Outside of Washington DC, South Africa plays host to the largest diplomatic representation in the world.

3. **African Agenda**
- SA chairing SADC in 2017 – what are the top priorities, and how will these be pursued?
- SA likely to prioritise Tripartite Free Trade Area led by SADC, COMESA, and the EAC (launched in 2015)
- Intra-Africa trade stood at approximately 16.2 percent in 2013 (World Trade Organisation)
- Tripartite Free Trade Area is a stepping-stone towards the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) under negotiation by the African Union (AU)
- AU announced in 2015 that CFTA Negotiations due to conclude in 2017 - where do things stand?
- Agenda 2063 – how is SA and the continent prioritising and operationalising this?
- 'Silencing the guns by 2020' – where do things currently stand – if not throughout the continent, then at least within the immediate region?

- South Africa elected to the AU Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) for the period 2014-2016 and 2016-2018
- What practical steps have been taken to ensure continental self-reliance in funding the AU's programmes and projects (Agenda 2063, Financing for Development conference in Addis Ababa, adoption of SDGs)
- Morocco's re-entry into the AU and its implications for South Africa's diplomacy on the continent - future of the Sahrawi Republic
- 39 states voted for Morocco's re-admission, South African diplomacy will have to understand the emerging geopolitical trends on the continent and adopt a suitable strategy
- Peacekeeping commitments – given domestic financial constraints, what steps are being taken to ensure these commitments remain a priority?

4. South-South Cooperation
- Launch of the BRICS New Development Bank African Regional Centre in 2017 – follow up on progress is important
- BRICS Summit China in September – how are preparations going?, not only at the state level but also with business, civil society, and think tanks
- South Africa's BRICS Presidency in 2018 – the current year is important in laying the foundation for the BRICS presidency
- Implementation of the 2015 Johannesburg FOCAC Summit Outcomes (Reports from FOCAC Coordinators) –how has SA and the continent benefitted thus far from the 2015 summit?
- Next FOCAC meeting takes place in China during 2018

5. North-South Relations
- South Africa signed the Economic Partnership Agreement with the EU in June 2016 – are we gaining increased market access for our products in the region? What have been some of the costs of the EPA for domestic sectors of the economy?
- Trends in the US – No real focus on Africa, aid budget to be drastically cut down and militarised
- Not always a bad thing when the world's only superpower is preoccupied with domestic concerns and other priority areas in the world
- Effects of uncertainty between the US and its allies
- US posture on climate change
- No changes yet to AGOA
- 2017 marks 10 years of the SA-EU Strategic Partnership – how has it helped advance SA's strategic interests? Where are the fault lines in the partnership?

6. Maritime Security and Ocean Economy
- South Africa chairing the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) in 2017-2019
- IORA linking Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Australasia via the Indian Ocean
- Strategic importance of the Ocean Economy
- 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy
- South Africa strategically located, with access to the Atlantic and Indian Oceans – are we taking sufficient advantage of this position?

- Exercise of sovereignty over the continental perimeter is important to avoid overfishing and piracy

7. Participatory Foreign Policy Making
- Role of the South African Council on International Relations (SACOIR) since its launch in June 2015
- Assess not only its advisory role to DIRCO, but its potential to take global politics to the community
- Public diplomacy strategy

8. Development Diplomacy
- Operationalisation of the South African Development Partnership Agency (SADPA) said to be at an advanced stage in Annual Performance Plan 2016-2017 (p4) – how far are we to the launch and in terms of resolving the deadlock on the governance of SADPA between DIRCO and Treasury
- Concluded consultations and incorporated stakeholder inputs with a view to seek final approval for the Partnership Fund for Development. This will replace the ARF (p4)
- How will SADPA define SA's development cooperation? – important for keeping track and M&E
- Importance of trilateral cooperation

9. International Trade and Economic Diplomacy
- Check attached DTI tables in excel

10. Coordination of foreign engagements amongst different spheres of government
- Growth of sub-national actors
- Implementation of *Measures an Guidelines for the Enhanced Coordination of South Africa's International Engagements* important
- What systems are in place to ensure coherency and to avoid duplication and contradictions?

11. Administration
- Moving away from qualified audits at DIRCO – How is that proceeding?
- Training Academy and Accreditation of Programmes
- Progress on the Foreign Service Bill