

4.5 Presentation: Sustainability III – Institutional framework and future coordination by SADC (Manuel Enock – SADC FANR)

Restructuring of SADC institutions was first tabled at the Summit held in Mauritius, in 1998. The reason behind was that the then Coordinating Units were inefficient but the issue was not approved. However, the Review Committee on the restructuring programme presented the report again at the March 2001 Summit, which was held in Windhoek, Namibia. This time it was outlined in the report that if the institutions were restructured, there would be a reduction in the costs of running the coordinating units from US\$ 16 million (when the coordinating units were being run by Member States) to US\$ 12 million if all the coordination was to be done at the secretariat. Summit approved this and it was agreed that four directorates be set up at the Secretariat in Gaborone, Botswana which were to be headed by a chief director. Thus all the sectors were to be clustered into these four directorates below:

- (i) Trade, Industry, Finance, Investment and Mining**
- (ii) Infrastructure and services**
- (iii) Food Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR)**
- (iv) Social and Human Development and Special Programmes**

Wildlife sector is now under the FANR (Food Agriculture and Natural Resources) Directorate, which was officially launched on 7th December 2001. The other sectors that have formed this directorate are: Forestry, Fisheries (both marine and inland), livestock and animal disease control, Agricultural Research and Training, Plant and Genetic Resources, Crops, Regional and Early Warning System, Environment and Land Management Sector, Food Security and Water. For proper management, the sectors that have formed FANR have been condensed into four units being headed by Deputy Directors. Wildlife falls under the Environment and Natural Resources Management Unit.

PHASING OUT OF THE SECTOR COORDINATING UNITS AND PHASING IN OF THE FANR DIRECTORATE

Upon the establishment of the FANR, SADC Secretariat undertook consultation missions in five Member States, which have been coordinating FANR Sectors namely; Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia and Zimbabwe. The missions reviewed the functions and activities of the Sector Coordinating Units (SCUs) with a view to determining functions that should be relocated to the SADC Secretariat as well as the timeframe for the transfers and implications of such relocations. In undertaking this exercise, two guiding principles were used in line with the Council Decisions. The first was to ensure that there is minimal disruption of on-going projects in the transfer of activities from Sector Coordinating Units to the FANR Directorate at the SADC Secretariat. The second was that physical implementation of projects and programmes must remain in Member States while the coordination of these activities should be transferred to the SADC Secretariat.

At the time of the consultation missions, the wildlife sector had two projects that were already under implementation. These are: SADC Regional Wetlands Conservation Project Phase II and the SADC Regional Rhino Conservation Project. These two projects will expire in 2004. The management of the projects will remain where they are (IUCN-ROSA offices Zimbabwe) but the project coordinators should be reporting to the SADC Secretariat directly.

THE FUTURE

At the SADC FANR Sector Coordinators retreat on the restructuring of SADC Institutions meeting held in Zimbabwe, it was noted that there was need to continue having sectoral meetings on mutual basis so as to deliberate issues affecting the sectors. The same applies to FANR Ministers

STEERING COMMITTEES AND BOARDS OF INSTITUTIONS

At the FANR Ministers meeting held in Maputo in July 2002, it was approved that all Project Steering Committees/Boards be retained and that the SADC Secretariat be a member. The Steering Committees/Boards will be responsible for clearing technical issues on projects leaving policy issues to the Secretariat. However this was subject to review by the review committee

Establishment of SADC National Committees (SNC)

As part of the restructuring, SADC National Committees have been established in all the Member States. These Committees constitute an integral part of the SADC structure for the implementation and monitoring of all SADC projects and programmes at national level.

Integrated Committee of Ministers (ICM) Integrated Committee of Ministers (ICM) was to be established by August 2002. The ICM will assume the functions of the abolished Sectoral Committee of Ministers. The ICM may establish "specialised sub-committees" to facilitate its work. The ICM has just been inaugurated in Angola during the Council meeting of Ministers held recently.