INDEX Vol.17 2008

Angola-

—New Gulf of Guinea group meets Jan 08-Feb 08—Macro-economic gains may not ensure MPLA a clear run

Feb 08—Political tension grows as election nears Feb 08—As in SA, German shipbuilders suspected Mar-08—China to improve power supply in Luanda

Mar 08--Massive Sino-Japanese auto plant opens in April

Mar 08—Sonangol increases share of banking sec-

Mar 08—Zuma signals historic shift in SA policy to Luanda government

Apr 08—Dispute grows over voters' lists delay Apr 08—In pre-election move government closes human rights office

May 08—Chinese technology cheaper but companies hit snags

May 08—Lonrho plans \$9m dry port plan to beat hold-ups

May 08--Over 26,000 landmines deactivated countrywide

May 08--Hydro project to cost 12m Euros May 08—Nigerian oil production is overtaken

May 08—Sarkozy's visit heralds new honeymoon with France

May 08—Unita warns of possible Zimbabwe scenario for election

June 08—Diamond production likely to reach 10m carats

June 08-–S. Korea to fund IT institute

June 08—BNI bank to move into Brazil, China
June 08—Growth projected at 16.5 percent

June 08—Confidence grows that election will not follow Zimbabwe and Kenya models

June 08—Focus on SA's xenophobia excludes Congolese expulsions

June 08-Dos Santos joins SA and seeks to broker deal in Guinea Bissau

July 08—Portuguese bank under pressure to sell stake to Sonangol

July 08—Ahead of election government bans Unita's radio

July 08—Landmines cleared ahead of poll in Bie Aug 08—SA scrutinizes post-election business

scene as relations warm Aug 08—Harassment and restrictions, but election

likely to be judged fair Aug 08-Little change expected, except inside ruling

Aug 08—Harassment could endanger election legitimacy warns rights body

Aug 08—Soldiers' guns collected ahead of vote Oct 08—Oil prices will cut growth

Oct 08—Ex-Unita economist founds new bank

Oct 08—Chinese oil companies strengthen position Oct 08—Million homes pledge meets with incredulity

Oct 08—Unwieldy cabinet may be stopgap -US boosts coastal oil security

Nov 08—Minister in US nuclear energy talks

Nov 08-–World Bank promises \$1bn loan

Nov 08—Sovereign fund will internationalise economy

Nov 08—Angolagate exposes lists of Angolan officials

Dec 08—New deal lessens Dos Santos China loan concerns

Botswana-

Jan 08—Bushmen consulted on diamond mine Feb 08—Central bank abandons yearly inflation targeting

Mar-08—China begins major dam construction
Mar 08—New president unlikely to open up democratic space

May 08—Commonwealth support for free trade zone May 08—Lower US dollar benefits diamond sales

July 08-Military report adds to pressure on Mugabe Aug 08—Local polisher's demand bring drop in diamond exports

Aug 08—Despite crisis Zimbabwe remains top trading partner.

Oct 08—De Beers in new project

Nov 08—Trade surplus hits record US\$120 million

DR Congo-

Jan 08—Copper, cobalt in return for China's giant loan

Jan 08—Contradictory demands at stormy peace conference

Feb 08—Call for reforms to maintain strong upward growth trend

Feb 08—Confusion swirls around mining contracts review

Feb 08—Kabila makes judicial coup

Feb 08--Skirmishes continue between Nkunda and Mai-Mai

Mar 08--Tough negotiations with companies loom

on mining contracts
Mar 08—Kabila seeks to propitiate BaKongo but bans sect

Mar 08—Mini-state functions grow in rebel territory in the east

Apr 08—Breakthrough grant announced for Inga in

midst of region's power crisis
Apr 08—Relations with Belgium chill over corruption and Chinese contracts

Apr 08—Illegal mining continues to finance Kivu militias

May 08—Money laundering charge as relations with Belgium plummet

May 08—Bemba's arrest opens battle for leadership of the opposition

May 08—Great Lakes group puts shot across MO-NUČs bows

May 08—ICC faces Nkunda and government with dangerous dilemma

June 08—Kinshasa says its army will oust Kony June 08—Belgian missions in east to be closed July 08—Kabila seeks French help against IMF on

foreign debt July 08—PM succession battle leads to paralysis in

Kinshasa

Sept 08—Just 14 wartime mining contracts satisfy government

Sept 08—Libya offers to build oil pipeline Sept 08—Military situation deteriorates as Kinshasa urges MONUC on

Sept 08—Security sector reform is failing says French think-tank

Oct 08—Budget minister named as premier
Oct 08—SA government takes time out of own crisis

to visit Kinshasa

Oct 08—MONUC's chief calls on EU to strengthen force

Oct 08—Governance issues still undermine national army

Oct 08—Zambian border closed to refugees
Nov 08—Threat of regional military intervention recedes but Kabila maintains hard line

Nov 08—Nairobi summit - key issues avoided Nov 08—Wave of refugees gives Uganda room to

manoeuvre

Dec 08—Social collapse threatens as minerals exploitation folds

Dec 08—As talks continue suspicions increase that Kabila is playing for time

International—

Jan 08—Protest grows against EU's partnership agreements

Jan 08—Bush finishes up with call for more HIV fundina

Feb 08--Sarkozy announces energy, business, aid deals

Feb 08—France sets about rewriting security pacts Feb 08—German company to take majority stake in Denel

-Trade soars between China, Lusophones Mar 08-Mar 08—India counters diamond producers' plans Mar 08—SA death in Iraq ignites recruiting contro-

versy

Mar 08-EU wants HIV/AIDS in all donor funding

Apr 08—EU hardens position on initialled EPAs Apr 08—Angola now leads Chinas oil suppliers Apr 08—Chinese plan investment in African agricul-

Apr 08—India revives security interest in Indian

Ocean Rim May 08—Conflict diamonds scheme may be ex-

tended to all Congo minerals

May 08—Chinese hackers attack websites focused on Central Africa

July 08—EU funding for trade bloc should help regional mergers

July 08—French report condemns EPAs as obstructing development

July 08—UK probe focuses on Zimbabwe and SA arms dealer

Aug 08—EU may soften on EPA demands Sept 08—Western anti-GM lobby 'holds back African

farming Sept 08--China's focus shifts to African farms

Sept 08—Metals plunge on recession fears
Sept 08—EU to help Africa expand energy sector Sept 08—Private security companies welcome regulation deal

Oct 08—Food crisis warning
Oct 08—China-Lusophone trade exceeds target
Oct 08—EU grants Euros 15m food aid

Nov 08—Demand surges for Africa-China trade facilitation

Malawi-

Jan 08—Beijing reward expected as link to Taiwan is cut

Feb 08—Tea growers seek to boost prices May 08—Tobacco price swings anger farmers May 08—Aid will not be conditional on signing of

Aug 08—Hoarding continues despite food surplus projection

Sept 08—Success of farm subsidies bolsters debate against IMF policy

Oct 08—Mutharika favoured in presidential race Nov 08—Rare steel-making metal deposit found

Mozambique-

Jan 08-45,000 miners In South Africa remit \$93m

Jan 08—Three-quarters of voters register

Jan 08—Anti-corruption forum abolished

Feb 08—Environmental go-ahead for pipeline to SA Feb 08—Demonstrators force government retreat on fuel prices

Mar 08—European Commission compensates sugar sector

Apr 08--Cahora Bassa increases power supply

Apr 08—Steel factories opened

Apr 08—Beira dry dock repaired Apr 08—Cashew harvest to exceed 85,000 tonnes

Apr 08—Wheat seed imports promised Apr 08—Sugar benefits from Zimbabwe crisis

May 08—Vodacom plans to boost investment

May 08—Zambezia to re-start tea-growing
June 08—Government joins mining transparency initiative

 Cashew production overshoots target June 08—Cahora Bassa pays for its keep
June 08—Companies 'not taking advantage of

July 08—China secures farms in exchange for infrástructure

July 08—New investment bank plugs into China deals

July 08—Ethanol plants under construction Aug 08—Brazilian firm wins deal to build \$3bn

Zambezi dam

Aug 08—Border hassles slow SA trade Sept 08—Growth rate slows to 6.7 percent as agriculture falters

Sept 08-US\$2.5 billion for new power line

Sept 08—Donors confirm budget support
Oct 08—Brazilian mining and drugs projects speed

Oct 08—Largest silos under construction

Oct 08—Cil exploration deal struck with Petronas
Oct 08—Large rise in ARV treatments

Oct 08—US aid for navy

Nov 08—New natural gas fields discovered

Nov 08—SA to buy power from new gas-fired station Nov 08—Frelimo demolishes Renamo in local elections

Dec 08—Renamo divisions widened by Beira result Dec 08—Jail break indicates war inside police force

Namibia-

Mar 08—Setback to EPZ policy as large investor leaves

Apr 08—Veterans return in Pohambo's first shake-up June 08—Biggest uranium mine to go ahead
Aug 08—Eskom fails to focus on Kudu gas scheme Oct 08—Congo investor heads for Windhoek also

Region-

Feb-08—Comoros braces for invasion of Aniouan Jan 08—Energy crisis hits economic plans, under-

mines SADC neighbours

Jan 08—Count-down to SADC free trade zone begins

Jan 08-Uganda, DRC agree on anti-smuggling operations

Jan 08—Warnings on drug-resistant TB crisis Jan 08—Central Africa avoids Kenya to take southern route

Jan 08—AfDB wipes out US\$24m in debt arrears Jan 08—Debt distressed Burundi secures IMF pack-

Jan 08—Rwanda gets stock market Jan 08—Bank sees African growth despite financial crunch Jan 08—Kenya crisis plays in SA's domestic battles Jan 08—Relief in Kampala at Mbeki's defeat Jan 08—Border tensions raise stakes for Uganda and Kenya Jan 08—SA presses for more support in Darfur Feb 08—Consternation grows as SA warns neighbours on EU deals Feb 08—SA helps draft anti-monopoly legislation Feb 08—Rwandans switch to Vodacom Feb 08—Food price rises spell economic and political implications for region Feb 08—Energy solutions exclude Ingas grand Feb 08—SADC Power Pool acts to end energy shortage Feb 08—SA offers Algeria nuclear energy help Feb 08—South African armoured car exports boost Chad's regime Mar 08—Neighbours eye Zimbabwe's power plants Mar-08—Uganda's e-government fibre backbone ready Mar 08—SA cools its criticism on EU negotiations Mar 08-Mauritius to house new Chinese commercial hub Mar 08--Sino-Africa business conference in Tanzania soon Mar 08—SA's Liberty Group to enter East Africa Mar 08—Move toward East African capital market by 2009 Mar 08--Concern in Uganda as SA moves in on peace deal with rebels Mar 08—Military chiefs meet to plan East Africa brigade Mar 08—AU has a success in the Comoros, France faces demonstrations Mar 08—SADC considers single visa for member states Apr 08—SA-DRC bilateral meeting focuses on finance Apr 08--Major SA clans edge in on Great Lakes oil Apr 08--Cattle disease stands in way of meat boom Apr 08—UN threatens sanctions as war resumes in —SA and Congo-Brazzaville sign military deal May 08—Japan to fund Mozambique-Zambia power May 08—AfDB approves fertiliser scheme May 08—New HIV infections still rising, says World Bank May 08—SAs bid for continental leadership is damaged by pogroms
May 08—Equatorial Guinea leader gets 100 percent vote May 08—SANDF agrees HIV discrimination is unconstitutional May 08—SA to boost Lake Albert patrols as Uganda registers oil find May 08—Chinese ship puts spotlight on SAs arms policv June 08—International nuclear enrichment centre may be founded on increased uranium mining in region June 08—EU programme aims at IT regulation June 08—Kenya's budget diverted from development June 08—Uganda budget shows booming economy June 08—SACU wrestles with its future in face of new EPA deadline June 08-Slow intra-African trade blamed on lack of

regional integration

intelligence gaps

exodus

June 08—Largest trading bloc planned June 08—SA and Zambia brace for a Zimbabwean

June 08—Governments seek to fill embarrassing

July 08—Governments start crisis planning for

July 08—Eskom neglects regional power projects in favour of nuclear expansion July 08—DRC, Angola discuss common oil interests July 08—US signs agreements with SACLE FAC -US signs agreements with SACU, EAC July 08—SADC brigade to become active July 08—Concern in Uganda over Rwandan link with Buganda Aug 08—Zimbabwe crisis warms up SA and Angola relations Aug 08—Free trade area slammed as more show than substance Aug 08—Concerns grow over fresh social unrest in Comoros Aug 08—Zimbabwean military delegation visits Angola Sept 08—I with SADC -EPA concerns push Comesa to merge Sept 08—Credit crisis contagion unlikely but commodity prices hit home Sept 08—Tanzania, Rwanda seek to boost mutual investment Sept 08—Hopes fade for biofuel export bonanza as EU blows cool Sept 08—Change in rainfall pattern will hit farmers Oct 08—Tensions grow over use of Lake Victoria water by SA power utility Oct 08—Call for more hydro power Oct 08—Financial crisis worries diamond sector Oct 08—Smaller mining companies cut their losses Oct 08—US ring-fences AGOA deal despite protectionist pressure Oct 08—Pentagon seeks to stabilise oil-rich Ugandan border Oct 08—Angolan hit-squads go into DRC and Congo-Brazzaville Oct 08—Burundi peace hangs on name change Nov 08—Food costs likely to make biggest impact as commodities plunge Nov 08—Governments fear major cuts in official aid Nov 08—Botswana warns it will break with SA over SACU Nov 08—Smuggling overwhelms legal trade in EAC Nov 08—EU indictments sour Great Lakes political atmosphere Dec 08—As investment dries up massive World Bank loan may save regions energy future
Dec 08—World Bank fills the gap with ready money
Dec 08—Standard Bank, AfDB to make more infrastructure finance available Dec 08—Ugandas Museveni seeks common front in dealings with Kinshasa

increased cost of food

South Africa-

Jan 08—Jobs will be focus of reformed macro-economic policy
Feb 08—Peacekeeping policy to be rewritten
Apr 08—Chinese seek stake in second-largest SA bank
June 08—Nuclear policy to become mainstay for energy production
June 08—New SANDF force design to be unveiled
July 08—Fewer blue-chip companies listed
Aug 08—Asylum may be granted to groups to overcome backlog
Sept 08—State diamond trader in crisis as Mbekis man goes
Nov 08—Attack helicopter finally finds a use in DRC and Darfur
Dec 08—Eskom's nuclear plans are reshaped

MRB/December 2008

Swaziland-

Feb 08—Budget surplus expected this year Mar 08—Army deployed to boost police to counter strikes

Apr 08—Pudemo deputy leader killed in SA May 08—Opposition stays barred for election June 08—Parliament closes for next poll on region's list

July 08—Unions plan protests over food prices Sept 08—Leading activists die in bomb blast Oct 08—French army trains local soldiers Nov 08—Opposition leader charged with terrorism Tanzania: May 08—Government will seek more tax revenues from miners

Tanzania-

May 08—Crackdown on Pemba separatists Oct 08-Growth to fall, banks safe

Zambia-

Jan 08—Uncertain outcome for constitutional conference

Mar 08-–Riot at Chinese smelter highlights regulation issues

Apr 08—'Smart' partnership dialogue in Lusaka July 08—List of contenders grows to replace Mwanawasa

Aug 08--Little threat to stability in three-month presidential campaign

Aug 08—New smelter to boost copper output Sept 08—Acting president attaches himself to eco-

nomic legacy Sept 08—Chinese firm to spend \$400m on power project

Oct 08—New government inherits a plunging economy in a global crisis

Oct 08—New bridge links Congo Oct 08—Loan for Copperbelt roads

Nov 08—Banda drops finance minister, warns against unrest

Dec 08—Kafue dam among first casualties of commodity crisis

Dec 08—Security increased as effects of global crisis begin to show

takeover

June 08—Anglo attempts to stake its claim to mine platinum reserves

June 08—Crisis threatens upward trend in platinum production

June 08—Gold output crashes further
June 08—SA investors gear up to go in when Mugabe leaves

June 08—Figures add up to give Mugabe control again

July 08—Parties haggle over division of power and seats

July 08—Disinvestment in carrot-and-stick plan for talks

July 08—Concern grows over post-Mugabe culture of crime and violence

Aug 08—Increased diamond production boosts RTZs local profits

Aug 08—Anglo 'holding talks with MDC for mining rights'

Sept 08—World Bank makes haste slowly to rescue economy

Sept 08—Food emergency becomes critical in November

Oct 08—Shares gain in flight from cash
Oct 08—Fraud endangers AIDS fund
Oct 08—Ruling party unity threatened by former Zapu leaders

Oct 08—Botswana calls for fresh elections Nov 08—Zanu-PF officials join new Zapu, want property back

Nov 08—Two arrested carrying US\$225m near border

Dec 08—Zambia denies military action with Botswana to remove Mugabe

MRB is online at

www.SouthScan.NET

Subscribe by fax, email or mail

Fax:

+1 202 5460676

Email:

southscan@allafrica.com

MRB Subscriptions Dept, SouthScan Ltd, 920 M Street SE, Washington DC 20003, USA.

Zimbabwe-

Jan 08—Blackouts mount as neighbours cut power supplies

Jan 08—China trade set to increase Jan 08—Worthless Zimdollar replaced by regional currencies

Jan 08—Elite finds ways to leverage currency crisis

Jan 08—State employees get pay hike
Jan 08—Forex drought postpones phone interceptions

Jan 08—Few signs of free election as MDC seeks postponement

Mar 08-Major donors wait in wings, aim for billiondollar fund

Mar 08—Tourism chief hopes for deals with Russia Apr 08—As SADC credibility fades the key to crisis remains with ANC

May 08—SA investors ready to enter as soon as Mugabe goes

May 08—Concern mounts about possible military