



South African Institute of International Affairs

African Perspectives. Global Insights.

**Western Cape Branch
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Report to the 2013 Annual General Meeting

2013 IN BRIEF

It has been a very active year for the SAIIA Western Cape Branch. Speakers meetings have covered relevant and wide-ranging subjects such as an insightful background to the events in Syria and Egypt; the election in Zimbabwe; the chronic instability in Sahel Region of West Africa; EU and Africa relations; Genetically Modified products; Africa and the Indian Ocean; and the issue of South Africa's nuclear future. The events have also become a social gathering point for people who are interested in international affairs.

A big innovation was the careers evening for university students in the Western Cape. This was in line with a strategic decision of some years back to focus on the youth as increasingly important citizens.

The relationship of the Branch with the SAIIA GARP Office and SAIIA Jan Smuts House has continued to grow in positive ways.

Overall, the Branch has been able to hold its own administratively and financially.

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OPERATIONAL MATTERS

The Executive Committee has met regularly to plan the events and attend to the business of the Branch. I am very grateful for all the hard work and commitment of the members of the Committee.

Mention must be made of the Committee and Branch members who consistently help run our events, doing the most menial but vital tasks such as setting up and clearing up; opening up and locking up; washing up; manning "the door"; making visitors feel welcome; overseeing the books and publications table; preparing the name-tags; overcoming technological snags; and plain fetching and carrying.

Mary Carson, for many years Chair of our Quiz Committee, has finally been allowed to step down. The building up of the CALTEX/SAIIA Interschool Quiz to where it is today has been a monumental achievement on her part. We are very grateful for her exceptional contribution. We were glad to have Dr Martha Bridgman on hand as a willing volunteer with a vision for the youth to take over as Chair of the Quiz Committee. She was co-opted to the Executive Committee.

Lee Padayachee, responsible for Parliamentary Liaison, had to resign from the Committee due to pressure of work. We are very grateful for her contribution. We were fortunate enough to have Sheila Camerer, recently returned from being the South African Ambassador to Bulgaria and veteran parliamentarian, to co-opt to the Executive Committee and slip into the vacant seat.

Leigh Hamilton, our student representative for the past year, has completed her Masters and is moving on. It was with her great assistance that we held the very successful careers evening for

university students in the Western Cape. She also put us in close contact with UNASA at UCT. We thank her and wish her well in her future career. A process is in train to appoint a new student representative early in 2014.

We are very grateful to the Mountain Club of South Africa, Cape Town Section, for the continued use of their fine club house at a very reasonable rate.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

The purpose of SAIIA, Western Cape Branch is *“...to promote a wider and more informed understanding of international issues among South Africans. It seeks to educate, inform and facilitate contact between people concerned with South Africa’s place in an independent world, and to contribute to the public debate on foreign policy.”*

This in line with the current SAIIA mission: *“SAIIA provides input into policy development and promotes balanced dialogue and debate on issues crucial to Africa’s advancement and its engagement in a dynamic global context. SAIIA does this by conducting evidence-based policy research, stimulating informed public debate, and building leadership and research excellence in Africa”*

The 2013 programme was varied and covered a wide range of subjects relevant to the purpose of SAIIA. It included international and national speakers and showcased some of SAIIA’s work.

7 February 2013	Dr Boy Geldenhuys	Inside Syria and Egypt after the Arab Spring
21 February 2013	Geert Laporte	How to revitalize the Africa – EU relations in the run-up to the 2014 Africa – EU summit
18 March 2013	Nadege Campaore	Transparency in the Extractive Resource Sector: South Africa’s `Position vis-à-vis the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative [EITI] and the Open Government Partnership
22 April 2013	British Consul General, Chris Trott with Dr Ola Bello	Crucibles of Instability: Mali and Guinea-Bissau in the Context of Evolving Insecurities in the Sahel Region
11 May 2013	Youth@SAIIA at Chesterhouse High School, Durbanville	Mini-Model United Nations conference
15 May 2013	CHEVRON SAIIA Interschool Quiz	
21 May 2013	Tony Leon	Book launch: “Accidental Ambassador”
12 June 2013	Professor Jennifer Thomson and Haidee Swanby	Genetically Modified Products – an African perspective
7 August 2013	Youth@SAIIA at Settlers High School, Bellville	Mini-Model United Nations conference
8 August 2013	Professor Brian Raftopoulos	Zimbabwe: Post-Election Analysis

24 August 2013	Youth@SAIIA at La Rochelle High School, Paarl	Mini-Model United Nations conference
10 September 2013	Ambassador Martin Kimani	Bridging Africa and the Indian Ocean'
12 September 2013	SAIIA/UNASA/KAS	Careers evening for university students in the W Cape
16 September 2013	Youth@SAIIA	Environmental Sustainability Programme presentations
25 September 2013	Dr Jo-Ansie van Wyk	South Africa's Nuclear Future
31 October 2013	Professor Paul Kevenhörster	An Assessment of the Political Developments in Germany and South Africa post 1990 with special reference to the adopted electoral systems
26 November 2013	Elizabeth Sidiropoulos	Our SAIIA – how it sees the world and what it does

ADMINISTRATION [Pippa Segall]

Pippa Segall has continued to put in an amazing amount of talent and effort in the administration of the Branch while, at the same time, playing a kingpin role in the Quiz and the careers evening. We are very fortunate to have her services.

MEMBERSHIP [Martyn Trainor]

Membership of SAIIA is about being a member of a prestigious institute and showing support for it, its vision, its mission and the work it does at JSH, the GARP Office and the Branch.

The membership has increased in the past year, a turn-around from the decline of the two previous years. The key revenue areas of individual and family memberships have increased by 16%.

The monthly event and administration costs have to be covered by subscriptions so there was a modest increase in subscription rates. We also need to expand the paying membership base.

So, to increase membership, the Committee has set targets for the current year. There is an active recruiting campaign which includes offering a new form of the Family Membership to include bringing a guest to events – a sort of “Duo Membership” [it appears to be bearing fruit as a number of individual memberships have been upgraded to the new offering]; bringing the political studies departments of the local universities on board as Institutional Members [the focus is on encouraging students to attend events free of charge, although they may, and some do, wish to become members of the Institute in their own right]; and engaging more closely with the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Cape Consular Corps.

It is heart-warming that there are members who have chosen to support the Branch by staying on as members despite now living far from Cape Town or being unable to attend events through physical disability.

The breakdown of the membership categories is as follows:

Category	2013	2012	2011	2010
Corporate/nominees	5	3	11	17
Diplomatic/consular	28**	28	27	30
Institutional/educational	58*	55*	55*	10
Family/donor	56	30	38	38
Fellow/complimentary	7	5	10	3
Honorary	6	5	6	4
Individual	64	73	79	93
Members of Parliament	44**	44**	32**	32**
Students	12	10	34	18
TOTAL	280	253	292	245

Membership numbers as at mid-Nov 13.

*Includes 50 schools SAIIA co-sponsored with CHEVRON and two political studies departments.

**Nominal figures.

FINANCE [Lidia Hall]

The audited financial statements for 2012/13 are attached. The Branch and the Quiz, separately, ended the financial year with a positive balance.

The financial statements were prepared by Lidia Hall and signed by Mr Karl Stulpner. We are extremely grateful to Lidia for her ongoing hard work with the bookkeeping. We thank Karl once again for his kind service in scrutinizing the annual financial statements.

The swing on the Income Statement from a profit of R 19,981 in 2012 to a loss of R 6,236 in 2013 requires explanation.

The Quiz aims to break even so the drop from a surplus of R 20,648 to a surplus of R 8,642 is in order. The move of the purely Branch finances to a loss of R 15,004 in 2013 was caused by two relatively large sums featuring in a year other than intended. Firstly, the book-keeping honorarium for 2012 was paid in 2013. Secondly, the subscription renewal notices were sent out early in 2012 so that more than R 5,000 intended for 2013 came in during June 2012.

The net result is that 2012 was not as good as it looked and 2013 not as bad. However, neither was good. Hence measures are being taken to increase revenue, as discussed under "Membership". Costs are also under scrutiny.

The sponsorship from CHEVRON and the Abe Bailey Trust for the SAIIA/CALTEX Interschool Quiz, and from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung for the careers evening is vital and much appreciated. It has enabled the Branch to use the expertise of members to reach out to coming generations of leaders at schools and universities in the field of international affairs.

The contribution of the GARP Office and JSH has been crucial in bringing speakers from upcountry to the Branch.

SAIIA WEBSITE/TECHNICAL [Chris Inskip]

SAIIA Headquarters, at Jan Smuts House, continue to provide valued support by including pages for the Western Cape Branch and its activity on their website; see <http://www.saiia.org.za/western-cape>. These pages contain information on upcoming and past Branch activity, and make Branch

documents (annual reports, membership application form) available for downloading. SAIIA JSH includes mention of our upcoming events in their emailed Members Newsletter.

TECHNICAL

Recent speakers meetings have taken place at the Mountain Club, 97 Hatfield St. We benefit from valued support of the staff and from PA equipment at the Club.

Member Charles Sacks has kindly donated a wireless microphone outfit which we anticipate will further enhance conditions.

ADVERTISING / PUBLICITY

We appreciate the continuing support of local newspapers and radio stations. The newspapers have on occasions kindly managed to include mention of our events even when our submission has been rather later than their normal deadline. We have made use of Fine Music Radio's valued "Events List" web page, and they have regularly mentioned our events on air.

Thanks to such support, we have experienced a good proportion of newcomers attending our meetings, leading to signing up a number of new members.

DIPLOMATIC LIAISON [Anthony Silberberg]

The Branch has received pleasing support from members of the Cape Consular Corps. Chris Trott, the British Consul General, was co-speaker on the talk about The Sahel region. He also, together with representatives of the United States and German Consul Generals, acted as a counsellor at the careers evening for students.

Two newly appointed ambassadors to South Africa included as part of their orientation in Cape Town, meetings with members of the Committee.

This year has seen many changes in the Cape Consular Corps. Firstly, Sylviu Rogobete, Consul General of Romania, an avid SAIIA supporter and Dean of the Cape Consular Corps has returned to Romania after serving two consecutive terms in Cape Town. His replacement is Mircia Ciulu.

Other moves are Dutch Consul General David de Waal has been replaced by Ms B Horbach, French Consul Antoine Michon replaced by Xavier d'Argoeuves, Greek Consul Konstantinos Soulios replaced by Thomas Matsoukas, Japanese Consul Yumiko Fujiwara replaced by Yukio Yoshi Spanish Consul General Ignacio Garcia-Valdecasas replaced by Augustin Santos, and Swiss Consul General Irene Flueckiger replaced by Bernadette Hunkeler Brown.

We thank those departing for their support. We welcome the new arrivals to Cape Town, wishing them a pleasant and successful sojourn in the mother city and look forward to their participation in SAIIA Branch events.

We congratulate long serving branch member and Honorary Consul for Slovakia, Geoffrey Ashmead on his appointment as Treasurer of the Corps.

Portuguese Consul General Dr Jorge da Fonseca is now the senior consul in Cape Town and has been appointed Dean of the Cape Consular Corps

It has been agreed by the Corp Cape Consular Committee that the Branch Chairman and Anthony Silberberg can address members of the Corps at the next luncheon meeting scheduled for early next year to give greater visibility to SAIIA and to encourage closer ties.

PARLIAMENT [Lee Padayachee/Sheila Camerer]

We have been very pleased to see Members of Parliament attending some of our events. We value their interest. We offer all MPs complimentary membership.

Our records of the relevant parliamentary committees have been updated.

The Quiz third prize winners were treated to a visit to Parliament.

CORPORATE LIAISON [Anthony Silberberg]

Anthony Silberberg has re-joined the Cape Town Chamber and participated in a number of activities, building a network of useful contacts. We now have access to the Chambers members list. A meeting has been held with the CEO of the Chamber to explore avenues for collaboration between the two organisations. The focus of the Chamber on expanding business opportunities on the African Continent fits in well with SAIIA's interest and research in African political developments.

YOUTH PROGRAMMES

CALTEX/SAIIA INTER-SCHOOL QUIZ 2013 [Dr Martha Bridgman and Pippa Segal]

In its 21st year, the Quiz has continued to build upon its tradition of encouraging the youth of the Western Cape to engage their minds on the subject of international affairs through reading the news and vying for prizes in answering questions on world events. The pre-quiz workshops and school visits helped to prepare new and disadvantaged teams. Two workshops took place this year, on 16 and 23 March, at which fourteen schools took part.

The well-organised and exciting Quiz involved 50 high school teams and took place on 15 May. Mr Africa Melane was the Master of Ceremonies. Dr Tim Murithi of the Institute of Justice and Reconciliation served as Question Master.

The learners and guests were honoured by the presence this year of Chevron Chairwoman Nobuzwe Mbuyisa, who engaged the audience with her remarks regarding the importance of international affairs in her field of work, on the need for well-educated graduates, and on the high hopes that Chevron/Caltex places on the youth of South Africa today. She noted that she was impressed by the diversity of the learners in the hall.

The Quiz has thus fulfilled the directive of the Institute to raise awareness and debate around matters of international importance.

The Donald Sole Trophy for the most improved school, based on this and previous Quiz performances, was awarded to Glendale Secondary School. Two other schools deserving mention are Claremont High and Brackenfell High, both disadvantaged schools which were competing for the first time and did exceptionally well, coming in at 6th place and 11th place, respectively.

The winners of the 2013 Quiz were:

1st	Chesterhouse	47 points (out of 52)
2nd	The Oracle Academy	42 points

3rd La Rochelle Girls High School 41 points

First prize included a cash award of R 5,000 for the winning school and a trip to Johannesburg for the SAIIA Young Leaders Conference in December, during which they will visit various government departments and ministries, foreign embassies and consulates, and witness the work of Jan Smuts House. Second prize was R 3,000 and a day with the Navy's Fleet Command, including lunch with the Captain on board one of the new frigates. Third Prize was R 2,000 and a visit to Parliament.

The Quiz Committee extends profound thanks to our branding sponsor, Caltex/Chevron, as well as Bishops for hosting us in the Mallett Centre, and other generous sponsors such as the Abe Bailey Trust, Pick N Pay, Plumstead, and several publishers who donated books for each of the participating schools' libraries. A full list of sponsors appears on the inside of the Quiz Programme.

MINI MODEL UN CONFERENCE

In 2013 the Abe Bailey Trust provided R75 000 to the SAIIA National Programme of Youth@SAIIA to support a Model United Nations programme in the Western Cape. Three Mini-Model United Nations conferences took place in Cape Town in 2013. The programme directly reached over 300 learners, with hundreds more being indirectly reached at participating schools. SAIIA is delighted that the involvement with the Abe Bailey Trust has been able to develop over the last year.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME [ESP] PRESENTATIONS

Once again a successful ESP programme was held in the Western Cape under the auspices of Youth@SAIIA. Presentations took place at the Sustainability Institute near Stellenbosch on 16 September for Western Cape learners. The top learners chosen will represent the Western Cape at the SAIIA Young Leaders Conference in December.

UNIVERSITIES

The highlight of the Universities Portfolio was undoubtedly the very successful careers evening. It was held at UCT, but students from all the local universities were invited and attended the event.

It was made possible through a generous sponsorship from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung [KAS] and co-operation with UCT through a partnership with the UCT Chapter of the United Nations Association of South Africa [UNASA]. We were glad to have Dr Holger Dix, the Resident Representative of KAS on the platform as well as Darren Brookbanks, the Chairman of UNASA UCT. The sponsorship covered, amongst other things, the provision of transport for students from outlying areas, which was of great assistance in making the event accessible.

We were fortunate enough to be able to recruit four inspiring speakers. We are also extremely grateful to all the Branch members, members of the Consular Corps, and a wide variety of businesses and NGOs that acted as counsellors or who put up displays.

It is intended to repeat the careers evening in 2014.

To facilitate communication with students and staff, SAIIA W Cape is setting up more formal links with the political studies departments. The Branch has had a representative on the UCT campus, Leigh Hamilton. At UWC, a sub-committee has been formed under the direction of Branch member Prof Joelien Pretorius. There are also links to Stellenbosch University and UNISA which in the coming year will be strengthened.

CONCLUSION

It has been an eventful year for SAIIA western Cape Branch, with a full programme of speakers meetings, the CALTEX/SAIIA Interschool Quiz and then the new offering, the careers evening for university students in the Western Cape.

The Executive Committee, and especially Pippa Segall, has worked very hard, sometimes under lots of pressure. We have been fortunate to have the on-site support of many members and the moral support of many more. We have also been very fortunate for the support received from the staff at Jan Smuts House and the GARP Office in Cape Town. We have even received much support from outside the SAIIA community in the form of our sponsors CHEVRON/CALTEX, the Abe Bailey Trust, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the Cape Consular Corps, the universities and more.

We have to improve our financial situation but plans are being executed and already showing results.

So we look forward to 2014 with confidence.

[MARTYN TRAINOR]

CHAIRMAN: SAIIA WESTERN CAPE BRANCH

Cape Town

26 November 2013