

Building International, Regional and National Consensus in Burundi

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**international relations
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Overview

- **SA's Foreign Policy Objectives**
- **SA's Position on Burundi**
- **Building International, Regional and National Consensus in Burundi**
- **Conclusion**



SA's Foreign Policy Objectives

- Africa central to our Foreign Policy engagements
- Pursuit of peaceful, stable, prosperous Continent
- National interest : Aspirations of the general African populace
- Contributing to implementation of Agenda 2063's goal : “Silencing the Guns by 2020”
- Intensify diplomatic efforts : Lasting political solutions in Lesotho, Burundi, South Sudan, Great Lakes region
- Distinguished Diplomatic Service Award from World Affairs Council in Washington for “outstanding commitment to global education, international affairs and global communications”



SA's Position on Burundi

- Bilateral relations are good and historical
- As mediator that led to the signing of the Arusha Accords invested significantly in Burundi's peace and stability
- Deeply concerned with on-going instability in Burundi; potential impact on neighbouring countries
- Pleased that Burundian National Dialogue has started, albeit slow
- Fully supports mediation efforts led by EAC
- Violence, assassinations must stop; refugees be assisted to return to their homes
- Supports increased deployment of military- and human rights observers



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- **International** : Urge international donor community not to suspend funding for development assistance
- **Regional** :
 - Pres Zuma coordinated a high-level AU delegation : initiate talks with stakeholders – Feb 2016
 - Continue to support EAC-led mediation process; will play active role once invitation has been extended
- **National** : Continue to support Burundi through PCRDR projects
 - Assist with creation of TRC
 - Training of Diplomats and Senior Officials
 - Prioritise implementation of bilateral Agreements and Programme of Action



Conclusion

- Continue to stand by the people of Burundi in their search for sustainable peace, security and development

