

# **NiZA Annual Report 2000**



**Netherlands institute for Southern Africa**

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The Netherlands institute for Southern Africa (NiZA) is a politically independent foundation for the promotion of democracy in southern Africa. NiZA's objectives are as follows:

- Contribute to the development of stable and democratic societies in southern Africa.
- Strengthen the social, economic and political position of underprivileged groups in southern Africa.
- Keep alive Dutch interest in southern Africa.

NiZA was formed in 1997 as a merger of three organisations that had supported the political fight against apartheid since the 1960s: the Holland Committee on Southern Africa, the Dutch Anti-Apartheid Movement, and the Eduardo Mondlane Foundation. Today the Netherlands institute for Southern Africa pursues new forms of solidarity. Our commitment has remained necessary after the demise of apartheid. Today the region has to cope with a growing centralisation of power, violence, poverty and AIDS. NiZA co-operates with people and groups who have an interest and are actively involved in these issues themselves. A critical outlook is essential. NiZA has such critical outlook as well as the know-how on which it is able to base a positive contribution to democracy and good governance in southern Africa.

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## 1 Preface

I'd like to tell you there is no need anymore for the Netherlands institute for Southern Africa (NiZA) to continue its work. However, actual developments prove otherwise. In Zimbabwe, President Mugabe has launched a war of terror and intimidation against white farmers. In South Africa, President Mbeki has claimed HIV does not cause AIDS. In Namibia, the minister of Home Affairs has expressed his hostility to gays. In Angola, the population has been in the morass of a civil war for 41 years now. In the Democratic Republic Congo (DRC), President Laurent Kabila has kept thwarting the Lusaka peace agreement of June 1999; he was murdered early 2001 and it remains to be seen whether his son Joseph will do any better. In Mozambique, hit by a disastrous flood early 2000, Frelimo has started to display monopolistic features.

In the whole of southern Africa, to put it mildly, very few countries consider freedom of press an inalienable right. Also, most countries have other priorities than respecting human rights. In many countries economic policies do not arouse people's hopes. The Southern African Development Community (SADC), the EU's counterpart in southern Africa, is divided among itself and on its way to become a lion that has lost its teeth.

Is the situation in southern Africa as tragic as it seems? The answer depends on one's point of view. The Lancaster House agreement of 1979 has burdened Zimbabwe with an immense and as yet unsolvable land problem, hasn't it? Mbeki has the right to be infuriated about Western pharmaceutical companies which artificially push up the prices of AIDS medicines, has't he? Who are obtaining off-shore oil concessions in Angola, who are buying raw materials from countries at war like Angola and the DRC – in short, who are benefitting from the looting of Africa? Who are loath to cancel the debts of southern African countries? Who are demanding free access to the extremely weak markets of southern African countries? These questions are no justification for economic misgovernment, muzzling of the press and violations of human rights, but help to understand the situation in southern Africa.

Another point of view: what are people in southern Africa doing themselves? The National Constitutional Assembly (NCA) in Zimbabwe is already considering the role and responsibilities of a future president to prevent the country from making the same mistakes as in the Mugabe era. Successful AIDS action groups, such as the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), have emerged in South Africa. The gay movement is flourishing in Namibia and elsewhere. In Angola, an increasingly active civil society is engaged in peace initiatives. In all the countries mentioned, it is the average citizens in particular who generate hope for a better future.

And NiZA's point of view: NiZA is perhaps better known in southern Africa than in the Netherlands and has built sufficient trust with its partner organisations to speak out against abuses in southern Africa and to lobby for improvements. However, it is the Netherlands and Europe NiZA wants to target its lobby activities on. We want to help organisations in SADC countries building their own capability to decide what they want to do and to determine their lobby issues themselves. NiZA can show its partners the way to the know-how they need, in Europe but preferably in their own region. NiZA believes in tailor-made support: capacity building through training, expert missions and

exchanges – all preferably short-lived. We are more and more successful in linking our activities in southern Africa to activities in the Netherlands aimed at reinforcing public support. To get a long way in southern Africa, people in the Netherlands need to consider our work worthwhile.

Last year we informed you of our intention to lay greater emphasis on lobbying. We now undertake activities in this sphere more and more jointly with other organisations. Together with Oikos, Wemos and Cordaid we have addressed the debt issue; together with Hivos, ICCO, Novib, Amnesty International and the FNV trade-union federation we have turned our attention to Zimbabwe; together with ICCO and Alternatives (Canada) we focus on Angola; and together with Wemos, Doctors Without Borders and the AIDS Fund we are campaigning on AIDS. Together with Global Witness (Britain), Médico International (Germany), Intermom (Spain) and Novib (the Netherlands) we are campaigning against the misuse of raw materials – especially diamonds – for the purpose of war. We co-ordinate our activities, recognizing that our roles differ from each other and supplement each other, thus realizing increased coherence of policies, strategies and instruments.

The reorganisation carried through during the last two years was completed in 2000. We are pleased with the outcome. Many young people have joined our ranks, among whom many women but too little representatives of minorities. NiZA focuses on three programmes: Economic Relations, Media & the Freedom of Speech, and Human Rights. The Media Programme has progressed particularly well thus far. The Media Sector Plan which was launched mid-2000 allows NiZA to explore innovations in the field of technical assistance. The themes of gender, culture and AIDS are now an integrated part of each programme, but this integration needs to take further shape in 2001.

The Living Yearbook in September was a resounding success. The format chosen – NiZA presenting itself through a wide range of debates, lectures, culture, presentations – proved to appeal to an increasing audience. For the first time, NiZA also participated in the well-attended African Day 2000 in Utrecht, organized by the Evert Vermeer Foundation. There is more this Annual Report will tell you: NiZA, like in former years, holds several secretariats, harbours an excellent and unique library and runs a website of its own with an increasing number of visitors. Our magazine *Zuidelijk Afrika* needs a greater number of subscribers, but donations from our private sponsors have remained fairly stable. NiZA is proud to have its fundraising activities been officially recognized by the Dutch 'Centraal Bureau Fondsenwerving' (Central Office of Fundraising) in 2000.

We hope you will enjoy reading this Annual Report.

Peter Hermes  
Executive Director, NiZA

## 2 Current Events and Political Lobbying

The flood in Mozambique, the trade in conflict diamonds which fuels conflicts and wars, and the lobby for cheaper AIDS medicines were main lobby issues for NiZA in 2000, next to a joint lobby with other Dutch organisations focusing on the turbulent elections in Zimbabwe.

### **The flood in Mozambique: Relief campaign**

A flood hit Mozambique in February 2000. In the wake of the disaster NiZA played an important part in providing the Dutch press, radio and TV with information. Beside that, NiZA lobbied to get the municipality of Amsterdam to support its twin city Beira. Amsterdam has reserved Dfl. 500,000 for support to Mozambique, consisting of:

- A contribution of Dfl. 175,000 towards the joint national campaign organized by Dutch relief organisations, and
- Dfl. 325,000 for reconstruction projects in Beira.

At the request of the municipality of Amsterdam, NiZA selected seven reconstruction projects aimed at rebuilding schools, health facilities and roads in Beira. In 2000 the roofs of seventeen primary schools, as well as those of several crèches, a home for the blind and a teacher training college with boarding school. If needed, the work included electricity repairs, paintwork and the mending of window panes and frames. Electricians were put to work at five health centres. A consignment of medicines to combat malaria and cholera was transported to Beira Central Hospital (740 beds). Finally, relief funding from Amsterdam covered the costs of mending Beira's main roads.

#### *An early report from Beira*

*(received from Hanny Rennen, Dutch development worker, February 23, 2000)*

*Leaves whizzing around our ears, branches and whole trees breaking like matches and the church roof all but disappeared – these were the first things I saw in the immediate vicinity of our house. (...)*

*During most of the day, we couldn't leave the house. We sat at the windows staring at the sea and tried to pick up any information we could lay our hands on. This was becoming increasingly difficult. The satellite TV channel had given up, the radio gave up as well. (...)*

*Later in the afternoon the weather was more or less calm and we could go out. It was a sad sight: most badly hit were those people whose situation is hard enough as it is; we found their humble huts flooded and fallen to pieces. The vast market, traditionally the heart of the informal economy, had been all but swept away. Everywhere, people were busy erecting their shacks. In the streets, children were taking a bath in the puddles. Here even a piece of plastic is a precious possession. I don't know how many people don't have a roof over their heads anymore or have to sleep in their flooded belongings now.*

## **Lobby on Zimbabwe**

The situation in Zimbabwe has rapidly deteriorated both politically and economically in 2000. The National Constitutional Assembly (NCA), which is supported by NiZA, has managed to generate so much support that in a referendum held in February 2000, a constitutional amendment proposed by the government was voted down. Subsequently, President Mugabe unleashed a campaign of terror, violence and intimidation by alleged war veterans – actually young people from the cities, many of them unemployed – who set to occupy white-owned farms. Dozens of people were killed.

Early 2000 a Consultative Group on Zimbabwe was established on the initiative of NiZA, gathering NiZA, Hivos, ICCO, Novib, Amnesty International and the FNV trade-union federation. The group aimed at:

- Co-ordinating the policies of each participant organisation with regard to the parliamentary elections in Zimbabwe of June 2000.
- Concerted lobbying with the Dutch government and the European Union.

Choosing an opportune moment, Hivos and NiZA, supported by ICCO, invited Grace Kwinjeh and Brian Kagoro of the NCA over to Europe to convince the Dutch and British governments and the EU Commission of the need for a EU observer mission to monitor the elections. The NCA also brought its influence to bear when arrangements were made for a trip to Zimbabwe of EU officials who were to advise the EU on the pros and cons and the required size of a possible observer mission. Eventually the EU decided upon an extensive mission of approximately 150 observers, including representatives of Hivos, ICCO and NiZA. Peter Hermes, director of NiZA, was one of the long-term observer.

The EU observers performed their mission quite successfully. The oppositional Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) succeeded in winning 57 out of 120 eligible parliamentary seats in spite of intimidation and violence on the part of President Mugabe's Zanu-PF party, which was sharply criticized in the mission report. Partly because of the great number of observers the polling days went off rather quietly.

Unfortunately, violence and intimidation in Zimbabwe have not stopped. More land is still being occupied and the government is determined on seizing and dividing among 'war veterans' many of the white-owned farms. Bye-elections are also accompanied by much intimidation.

The Consultative Group on Zimbabwe is presently preparing itself for the presidential elections of 2002, holding on to its adopted strategy which is evidently effective:

- Co-ordinate the policies governing contacts with partners in Zimbabwe.
- Co-ordinate information and lobby activities in the Netherlands and Europe.
- Consult each other on the roles and responsibilities of each member organisation in regard to the promotion of good governance in Zimbabwe on the longer term. On this issue NiZA also regularly consults with its European partners within ENIASA; the other members of the group do likewise within their own European networks.
- Promote a consistent selection and implementation of means such as technical assistance, project support, information work and lobbying.



## **Fatal Transactions**

A factor leading to continued conflicts and wars in countries like Angola and Sierra Leone is the profits gained from the diamond trade. The 'Fatal Transactions' campaign, launched in 1999, is an international consumers' campaign calling on governments and companies to effectively monitor the international diamond trade. In this campaign, NiZA's partners are Novib (the Netherlands), Global Witness (Great Britain), Medico (Germany) and Intermón (Spain). It is conflict-related transactions, not the diamond trade itself which is called in question.

April 2000 the VN Angola Sanction Committee published a report that listed which countries were involved in the trade of Angolan conflict diamonds. May 2000 the government of South Africa initiated a series of conferences, known as the Kimberley Process. During the first conference, held in Kimberley (South Africa), the diamond producing countries agreed upon a proposal to ban conflict diamonds effectively. The proposal was based on the report entitled *Conflict Diamonds* of Global Witness, one of the campaigning organisations. This report reviews possible methods of identifying, certifying and examining diamonds. Further conferences, also attended by non-governmental organisations, followed in Luanda, Angola, and London. The Kimberley process will be continued in 2001 when details of the proposed regulation will be worked out. The campaigners will keep following the process closely.

In July 2000, the bi-annual World Diamond Congress convened in Antwerp. Pressurized by the campaign, the congress largely focused on conflict diamonds. An important breakthrough was reached when the International Diamond Manufacturers Association and the World Federation of Diamond Bourses suggested the introduction of a global system of certification, which signified a first step towards effectively banning conflict diamonds from the market.

In the First and Second Chamber of the Dutch parliament, as well as in the European Parliament, questions were asked about the issue. December 2000 the General Assembly of the United Nations unanimously adopted a resolution which condemned the trade in conflict diamonds. The General Assembly welcomed the initiatives taken by the governments which are involved in the Kimberley Process.

The conflict diamonds issue and the Fatal Transactions campaign attracted a lot of media attention in the Netherlands as well as international. Joke Hartmans (NiZA), who coordinated the campaign in the Netherlands, gave interviews to *Financial Times*, CBS, CNN, Radio France International, BBC and Deutsche Welle. In the Netherlands the radio news, KRO *BV De Wereld*, national TV news covered the diamond issue, while newspapers and magazines such as *De Volkskrant*, *NRC Handelsblad*, *Hervormd Nederland* and *Onze Wereld* published articles and interviews.

The focus of the Fatal Transactions campaign in 2000 was on diamonds, but what is at stake in essence is the role of any raw material that is used to finance and consequently prolong wars. In 2001 the campaign will be stepped up to cover abuses of oil as well.

### **Lobbying for cheaper AIDS medicines**

NiZA closely co-operates with the European Network for Information and Action on Southern Africa (ENIASA; see chapter on External Relations) in the fight against AIDS in southern Africa. In December 2000, ENIASA held a conference on the issue in Paris. NiZA and other West-European organisations give priority to achieving considerable price reductions for medicines imported into developing countries. An article in the Dutch newspaper *Trouw* and a letter from NiZA to Minister Herfkens in June 2000 resulted in critical questions being asked in the Dutch parliament. In the letter to Ms Herfkens NiZA had criticized EU Commissioner Brittan's support to the views of the pharmaceutical companies, which he had expressed in a letter sent to South Africa without the knowledge of the EU Member States. According to Mr Brittan, cheap medicines would harm the European pharmaceutical industry. In a reply to NiZA Minister Herfkens and State Secretary Ybema distanced themselves from Mr Brittan's letter.

The AIDS problem is being addressed not only in connection with ENIASA activities, but in each of NiZA's three programmes as well. A case in point is the successful HIV-HOP project, which is dealt with in the chapter on the Media Programme.

### 3 Three programmes

Promoting democracy in southern Africa is NiZA's main objective. NiZA organizes its activities in three programmes:

- The Media Programme supports the freedom of expression and freedom of the press.
- The Economic Relations Programme strives for a more just economic development.
- The Human Rights Programme aims at improving the human rights situation.

A programme is a coherent combination of exchange activities, lobby and information activities. During 2000 the Media Programme was NiZA's most mature programme, covering agreements with 47 partners and numerous activities. The Economic Relations Programme focused on lobby activities and programme development. The Human Rights Programme made a start with strategy development and brought some former projects to a successful end.

The next three chapters give a description of the NiZA programmes.

## 4 Media Programme

The Media Programme, started in 1998, has expanded considerably. In 2000 NiZA concluded agreements with 47 partner organisations in southern Africa: five with a regional coverage, six in Angola, seven in Namibia, twelve in South Africa, ten in Zimbabwe, two both in Lesotho and in Mozambique and one in Malawi, in Zambia and in Tanzania. These agreements and NiZA's sector plan ('Media and the Freedom of Speech') have led PSO (the Association for Personnel Service Overseas) to conclude a four-year contract with NiZA as of 1 July 2000, enabling NiZA to spend Euro 1–2 million annually in implementing the Media Sector Plan.

The objectives of the Media Sector Plan are as follows:

- Promote the freedom of the press and the freedom of speech
- Improve the quality of the media
- Promote the diversity and multiformity of the media
- Make the media more accessible to as many people as possible
- Enhance the economic viability of media institutions.

In order to realize the above objectives NiZA supports projects proposed by its partner organisations. Besides, NiZA has strengthened the ties with several sister institutions engaged in media issues and in issues concerning southern Africa, with a view to transferring know-how to southern Africa and involving people in the Netherlands in what is going on in the southern part of the African continent.

### Project financing from the NiZA Fund

In 2000 the following projects under the Media Programme benefitted from the NiZA Fund, which is fed by NiZA's private sponsors:

- The annual John Manyarara Prize in Investigative Journalism. The first winner will be declared on World Press Freedom Day, May 3, 2001, in Windhoek, Namibia. The Dutch journalist Kees Schaepman is a member of the jury.
- HIV-HOP exchange, sundry costs. A project aimed at disseminating the message of safe sex among young people by means of hip-hop music (see section on the HIV-HOP project below).
- Support of *Mediawatch*, a magazine which closely monitors and exposes sexism in South African media.
- Angonet: a cybercafé for non-governmental and other small organisations in Luanda, most of whom have neither electricity nor telephones or computers.
- The publication by the African Media Ethics network of a *Handbook on Ethics*. This book, to be released in 2001, is aimed at African journalists and will be used at journalism training colleges. Research and editing costs are covered by PSO, the costs of printing will be paid for by a donation from NiZA.
- An exchange programme between the staff of a local newspaper in Huambo, Angola, and their colleagues in similar underprivileged areas in Zimbabwe. The exchanges themselves are funded by PSO, while a publication which will result from the exchanges will be covered by a donation from the NiZA Fund.
- Projects for young radio workers, financed from the remainder of the Foundation for Radio Freedom fund, which was transferred to NiZA in 1998 and earmarked for this

purpose. 2000 was the last year in which NiZA used money from this particular source to support the following radio projects:

- Bush Radio in Cape Town.
- *Broadcasting and the National Question: South African Broadcast Media in the Age of Neoliberalism* by Jane Duncan, Freedom of Expression Institute. This book is financed by NiZA and will be released in 2001. Debates about the book have already led to the formation of a working group which will critically monitor the South African state radio.
- The establishment of an organisation in support of projects related to NiZA's Media Programme that are aimed at young media workers in southern Africa (training, scholarships, exchanges).

### **HIV-HOP**

In 2000 we have put a lot of energy into 'HIV-HOP', a project in continuation of an exchange programme, started in 1999, between NiZA and Bush Radio, Cape Town. The project aims at using hip-hop music for conveying messages, in particular on HIV and the dangers of AIDS. Apart from the community radio sector in South Africa, Tanzania and the Netherlands are also involved in the project now.

The HIV-HOP programme has become madly popular; exchanges between rap artists from the Netherlands and the Cape have attracted a lot of media attention. In December 2000 Zane Ibrahim, director of Bush Radio, was awarded a Prince Claus Prize for his work.

The Dutch expert Thomas Gesthuizen of the Madunia Foundation, who is in charge of the project, has realized the exchange with Tanzania in co-operation with the Faculty of Journalism (Utrecht). Bush Radio has meanwhile extended the programme into township schools, whose pupils now regularly exchange their experiences with their Dutch counterparts.

The Dutch AVRO broadcasting corporation has scheduled a documentary to be broadcasted in 2001, and rap artists from Tanzania, Cape Town and the Netherlands will make their appearance at the Festival Mundial in Tilburg, the Netherlands. Another great performance will be staged in Amsterdam towards the end of 2001.

### **Information work, exchange of know-how, publications**

In September 2000 a NiZA-organized 'Media Market' drew student journalists to the Amsterdam Political and Cultural Centre De Balie: a clear example of NiZA's information work. Prior to the Media Market and the Living Yearbook 2000, NiZA had organized a meeting of representatives of the major training institutes in southern Africa and of Dutch donor organisations and journalist training colleges.

The first issue of the quarterly e-mail newsletter of the Media Programme was published at the end of 2000 and can still be consulted at the NiZA website, which will also be used as a medium for regular updates.

### **Planning for 2001**

In 2001 NiZA will use PSO money to support a great number of projects in southern Africa whose objectives are in line with one or more objectives of the Media Sector Plan. Money from the NiZA Fund will be invested in pilot and other projects related to information activities in the Netherlands and twinning projects (exchanges, network building).

## **(frame) Media Sector Plan, a joint project with PSO**

### **Innovation in development co-operation**

NiZA's Media Sector Plan signifies an innovative approach to development co-operation, aimed at exchanging expertise in short-term projects that put the reinforcing of regional organisations and capacity building first.

The approach calls for a broad outlook which does not confine itself to the partner organisations involved and their needs. A typical project under the Media Sector Plan would involve training staff members of regional organisations. People that benefitted from the training, should be able to disseminate their knowledge among a greater circle of people. Our aim is to put know-how and expertise from all over the world to the disposal of our partner organisations. In this respect, exchanges between countries within southern Africa are all-important.

### **PSO–NiZA contract**

In 2000 PSO (Association for Personnel Services Overseas) has approved the Media Sector Plan and entered into a four-year contract with NiZA. A sum of Euro 1–2 million will be set aside annually, to be disposed of by NiZA for the financing of projects of partner organisations. During 2000, NiZA has supported more than 120 projects of 30 different organisations in southern Africa:

- Eighty expert missions of trainers dispatched for short periods.
- Ten exchange projects (seminars, training weeks).
- Three longer-term missions in the field of community radio.
- About twenty other forms of support, including feasibility studies and contributions to the development of teaching materials.

### **This is only the beginning**

The staff of the Media Programme is continuously reassessing policies and looking for new ideas to be employed in media training and expert support missions. Thus NiZA, in co-operation with PSO, hopes to be able to contribute to new ways of exchanging expertise, which may be copied by other organisations.

**No windows apart from the computer screens**

(e-mail from Luanda, Angola, 1 September 2000)

The winter has come and temperatures are lower these days than in March, rising to 20 degrees Celsius at the most. The city has been without water for a couple of days. My colleague, Olivia, had to get up at 4 a.m. this morning to look for water. She can count herself lucky she's not one of those who have to carry the water on their heads all the way to the slums. So do I: in my part of the city people can afford a water tank and pump. I live in a small apartment located in a middle-class neighbourhood near the city centre of Luanda.

This morning, going to work, I walked past a house guarded by two men. At the moment I passed, one of the guards almost snarled at me, 'Não pisa o passeio!' It was a clear message: I was not supposed to set foot on the pavement in front of the house, this apparently being a prerogative of his boss. Who did he think he was! Pavements haven't been privatized yet, as far as I know.

Superwoman Olivia and I set to work as soon as we arrived at the office. One of the jobs we had to deal with today was sending out all the invitations for next Friday, when the Angonet cybercafé will be inaugurated. All the NGO's involved, local newspapers and the minister of Communication and Social Services have been invited. Allan Cain, the head of Development Workshop, Olivia, head of the Angonet project, and I will lecture on e-mail and the internet. I enjoy the prospect of attending the inauguration of the Angonet café. It is a strange little room without any windows, apart from the twelve computer screens themselves. The computers, though rather old, function well. Tony once joked that it was a computer museum, for 'there was no coffee and the computers are three generations old'.

Next Monday and Tuesday, I will entertain myself in odd moments with a painting job: you can't have a cybercafé without the logo clearly visible on one of the walls. A logo and a website are the modest outcomes of my first mission. I am pleased with the result, although I would go about it in a different way now if I could have another try. No problem though, for I will be able to indulge myself in designing another website. My present mission is meant to yield a logo and a website for Development Workshop, the umbrella NGO. Duty calls. Well, I'll keep you all posted.

Best wishes,  
Margrit Coppé

## 5 Economic Relations Programme

### Three themes

During 2000 NiZA undertook a review of the Economic Relations Programme. After consulting various organisations and experts both in the Netherlands and abroad, we have decided to focus on three central themes:

- Trade policies concerning relations between southern Africa and the European Union and/or the Netherlands.
- Conflict-related trade.
- Debt and development.

### Trade policy

During a four-week study tour to South Africa, Zimbabwe, Angola and Botswana it became clear that (possible) partner organisations have an urgent need for capacity-building and know-how on the issue of international trade relations and the debt issue. They also communicated their strong desire to co-operate with lobby groups in the North.

The most important item of the trip was a three-day conference on trade and other relations between Europe and southern Africa in Gaborone, Botswana. A resolution adopted during the conference was presented to the ministers of Foreign Affairs of the EU and SADC.

The issue of trade policy will in due course also include those of 'investment and corporate social responsibility in southern Africa'. As yet NiZA has undertaken to promote fair trade community-based tourism, a regional growth sector which has aroused the interest of Dutch travellers. In 2000, NiZA and the Green Development Foundation in Amsterdam together supported the community-based tourism project of the Vulindlela Association in Ramsgate, South Africa.

In 2001 NiZA will give technical support to the Namibia Community Based Tourism Association (NACOBTA), assisting the association to develop its product.

In the second half of 2001 NiZA and the European Research Centre expect to publish a common report on the consequences of the Cotonou EU-ACP trade agreement for southern Africa.

### Conflict-related trade

In 2000 NiZA focused its work in the field of conflict-related trade on the 'Fatal Transactions' campaign (see chapter on Current Events and Political Lobbying).

A publication provisionally entitled *Handel en Wandel van Conflicten: Facts & Figures* (in Dutch), focusing on Angola, the Democratic Republic Congo, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe, is anticipated for 2001. The release of this publication will be accompanied by a public meeting.



## **Debt and development**

### **The flood in Mozambique and a plea for the cancellation of debts**

After the devastating flood in Mozambique, NiZA made a strong plea in favour of the immediate cancellation of Mozambican foreign debts. NiZA urged the Dutch government, which had Mozambique's bilateral debts cancelled already some years ago, to persuade other EU countries to follow its example. NiZA, together with its partners in ENIASA, lobbied for the cancellation of debts also with the EU Commission. At a meeting of representatives of NiZA and a number of other Dutch organisations and World Bank president James Wolfensohn, NiZA raised the debt issue again.

### **Apartheid-caused debt**

A modest seminar on apartheid-caused debt was held in Amsterdam on 4 December 2000 under the auspices of NiZA. Neville Gabriel, secretary of Jubilee 2000 South Africa, and the Zambian researcher Charity Musamba spoke on the injustice of the debts burdening the former Frontline States.

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On 11 December 2000, a delegation of Jubilee 2000 met the Dutch minister of Development Co-operation, Eveline Herfkens. Ms Herfkens spoke well of the Jubilee 2000 campaign and said she did hope that the campaign was to be continued after the year 2000, preferably by a concerted European approach.

### **South–North Consultation**

On behalf of Jubilee 2000 The Netherlands, Henk van den Heuvel (NiZA) attended the first official international South–North consultation in Dakar, Senegal, on 15–16 December 2000. Those present agreed that the debt campaign should continue after the year 2000. New methods are being developed now, including means of independent and transparent arbitration, debt tribunals, and the repudiation of debts. The third week of July 2001 was declared International Week of Action; during that week, another 'G8' summit will be held in Genoa, Italy.

### **Planning for 2001**

In the years to come NiZA's Economic Relations Programme will continue to focus on the debt issue. Both Jubilee The Netherlands and ENIASA have planned a number of activities aimed at the dissemination of information and raising public awareness of the issues of apartheid-caused debt, debt tribunals in southern Africa and the Highly Indebted Poor Countries process. The HIPC process, initiated by the World Bank and the IMF, aims at helping highly indebted poor countries getting rid of debt and poverty. NiZA intends to issue an informative publication on the state of affairs with regard to and the role of civil society in the HIPS process in southern Africa after mid 2001.

## 6 Human Rights Programme

In 2000 NiZA's Human Rights Programme was moving to a new phase. Discussions about a new, coherent programme were held, both internally and with several experts from southern Africa. A South African consultant made a survey of human rights-related issues which are of significance to the region. The new Human Rights Programme is concerned with two areas:

- Civil and political rights
- Peace building, national reconciliation and conflict prevention.

The new programme manager at NiZA will come up with more detailed plans in 2001 (see end of this section).

### Activities in 2000

Because no programme manager had been appointed in 2000 yet, only a limited number of projects were supported, partly falling within the above areas of attention.

#### Civil and political rights

African civilians can appeal to the African Human Rights Charter and institutions like the African Human Rights Commission. In actual practice people do not always know their rights nor the relevant instruments. The South African Human Rights Committee and the Institute for Human Rights and Development (The Gambia), supported by a grant from NiZA, have therefore organized a two-week workshop for non-governmental organisations in southern Africa. A well-informed and well-organized civil society will turn more readily to the African institutions that are responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights, thereby enhancing the latter's stature.

#### Peace building, national reconciliation and conflict prevention

The NiZA and ICCO co-organized conference on 'Angolan Reflections on Peace Building' of December 1999 was followed up by NiZA in 2000 (see *Annual Report 1999*). In 2000 it was decided to develop the idea of building a network operating from the Netherlands, Canada and Angola, aiming at the following objectives:

- Gather information that is relevant to the process of peace building and democratisation in Angola and exchange this with peace groups and civil organisations in Angola
- Lobby in Europe and North America in favour of good governance in Angola.

A feasibility study commissioned by NiZA and Alternatives, a Canadian organisation, with financial support from ICCO, was performed in 2000, resulting in the decision to launch the network in 2001.

#### Other activities in 2000

A number of current projects aimed at women, refugees and displaced persons were continued in 2000. NiZA supported the South African Coordinating Body of Refugee Communities (CBRC) in their fight against xenophobia. Information is the main weapon in that fight.

Other activities are specifically related to the issue of democratisation, which is the co-ordinating theme covering NiZA's three programmes:

- In Zimbabwe we supported the National Constitutional Assembly (NCA), an organisation promoting constitutional reform. The NCA is pursuing a new constitution to be adopted before the presidential elections of 2002.
- In Malawi, Zambia and South Africa NiZA supported projects aiming at enhancing the participation of women in national and local politics, both as voters and candidates.
- Besides, NiZA published *Tradition on the Move*, a NiZA Cahier on the role of village chiefs and other traditional African leaders in a European-style democratic order.

### Planning for 2001

The Human Rights Programme will be worked out by a new programme manager, appointed early 2001. The methods of working will be similar to the ones applied in the Media Programme, using as central concepts those of twinning, ownership, lobby and information. NiZA will seek co-operation with one or more partners in southern Africa and will help to build and reinforce North–South and South–South networks (*twinning*). Partners will propose, based on their own needs and wishes, activities and projects that fit in the Human Rights Programme (*ownership*). Another focus will be on lobbying with Dutch and international governments and organisations. Information activities in the Netherlands will be aimed at disseminating knowledge on the situation in southern Africa and broadening public support for our activities, besides being meant to support our lobby activities.

## 7 Information activities

An important objective of NiZA is to keep the Dutch public informed about the situation in southern Africa. NiZA tries to achieve this via radio, TV, newspapers, magazines and their own publications. Other information instruments are the NiZA Thesis Award, the Living Yearbook and the NiZA website. NiZA's Library, Information and Documentation Centre is indispensable as major source of information for professionals, students and other people interested in southern Africa.

### NiZA and the Media

In 2000, NiZA frequently sought publicity through radio, TV, newspapers and magazines on subjects like conflict diamonds and AIDS, while journalists and programme makers found their way to NiZA whenever something happened in southern Africa. Projects from the Media Programme also attracted media attention. A limited selection:

In March, several radio channels broadcasted interviews with NiZA staff members on the situation in Mozambique and the reconstruction projects that were soon embarked upon. NiZA seized the opportunity to make a plea in newspapers and on the radio for the cancellation of debts. This culminated in a letter to ministers Zalm and Herfkens. Through NiZA, several radio and TV channels were able to broadcast eyewitness reports by Dutch nationals living in Beira.

Zimbabwe was frequently in the news in 2000, due to the violent occupations of white-owned farms and turbulent electoral battles. NiZA director Peter Hermes, who was a member of the EU observer mission during the elections in Zimbabwe, regularly appeared in radio programmes to shed light on the situation in Zimbabwe.

The NiZA co-organized Fatal Transactions campaign, which is aimed at banning the conflict diamond trade, attracted a lot of attention, in the radio news, KRO's *BV De Wereld* and the national TV news, while *De Volkskrant*, *NRC Handelsblad*, *Hervormd Nederland* and *Onze Wereld* published articles and interviews on the diamond issue. NiZA elucidated the problem of AIDS in Africa in an interview in the *TROS Nieuwsshow* radio programme and made pleas for cheap medicines in letters to daily newspapers. AIDS is a central theme in the HIV-HOP project which is part of the Media Programme. *De Volkskrant* published an article on HIV-HOP, while the national IKON TV channel as well as local Amsterdam TV and radio channels (AT5, Radio Amsterdam) broadcasted reports of performances and workshops in the Netherlands of rap artists from the Cape.

### Living Yearbook 2000

In 2000 NiZA organized a very successful fourth edition of the 'Living Yearbook Southern Africa'. A varied programme presented at the fully-booked Balie conference centre in Amsterdam included debates on various issues, African dances, and in-depth interviews. The evening opened with a performance by rap artists Shaheen Ariefdien and Mr Devious, whose texts on safe sex, HIV and AIDS are being used for educating young listeners by Bush Radio in Cape Town. Later on, a debate followed on the explosion of the number of AIDS patients in southern Africa and attempts of the international drug companies to prevent Africa from importing cheap medicines.

The journalist Bart Luijck interviewd South African author and poet Antjie Krog, the Dutch edition of whose book on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, *Country of My Skull* (Dutch: *De kleur van je hart*), was released in August 2000. The journalist Kees Schaepman talked with Grace Kwinjeh, a member of the Zimbabwean oppositional MDC party, and Geoff Nyarota, editor of the independent Zimbabwean newspaper, *The Daily News*. Dutch Green-Left MP Paul Rosenmöller and Zane Ibrahim, director of Bush Radio, had a meaty discussion on matters which had struck Rosenmöller most during his recent journey to South Africa.

Prompted by the latest NiZA Cahier entitled *Tradition on the Move*, whose release was part of the Living Yearbook, Patekile Holomisa of the South African Congress of Chiefs reported on the new democratic dispensation of his country and the traditional authority forms that still prevail.

Under the heading 'How to Divorce in Beira' the Mozambican judge Osvalda Joana and the Dutch lawyer Romée Lubbers discussed the position of divorced women and the issues of guardianship and separation allowances.

A subdued African dance performed by Vincent Mantsoe and a poem read by Antjie Krog marked the end of the evening. During all of the manifestation, African journalists had written reviews of the various programmes, thus contributing to the *Living Gazette*, a paper produced on the spot containing reviews and a number of photographs. At the end of the Living Yearbook, every visitor received a copy as a souvenir of a very lively evening.

### **NiZA Thesis Competition**

The year 2000 saw the second NiZA Thesis Prize being awarded to the winner of the annual Thesis Competition, organized jointly by Nuffic and NiZA, which aims at encouraging graduating students to devote their theses to southern Africa. An independent panel of experts evaluated seventeen entries on the basis of criteria such as quality, freshness of approach and social relevance. Wendy Willems of Maastricht, author of a thesis on the consequences of economic liberalization for small-scale farmers in Zimbabwe, entitled *Even Szadza Is a Problem*, won a scholarship of Dfl. 10,000 for follow-up research. The prize was presented on Sunday, 25 June 2000. On the same day, IKON Radio interviewed Wendy on the current situation in Zimbabwe and her thesis.

#### **Breaking out of the ivory tower**

*February 12 and 13, 2000.* In a referendum, Zimbabweans have turned down an amendment to the constitution which would have authorized the government to take over, without any compensation, part of the land owned by large Zimbabwean farmers. After the defeat of the proposed amendment, a number of large farms were occupied.

*Late March 2000.* The eyes of the world press are on Zimbabwe, while I am writing a proposal for a research project as a sequel to my thesis on the consequences of economic liberalization for small-scale farmers in Zimbabwe. My thesis, together with four other ones, had been nominated for the NiZA Thesis Prize 2000. As a prospective researcher I felt I could not write a proposal ignoring the international news reports on Zimbabwe, most of which focused on the experiences of white farmers and took no notice of the views of black peasants.

*June 25, 2000.* On the second day of the Zimbabwean parliamentary elections I was declared the winner of the NiZA Thesis Prize 2000. I felt very honoured indeed! The scholarship allows me to carry out follow-up research in London and Zimbabwe, where I will be able to tap a variety of sources on the land issue, ranging from British and Zimbabwean government policy documents and newspaper articles to interviews with Zimbabwean peasants and commercial farmers. My delight redoubled when, after a few days, the election results showed that for the first time in Zimbabwean history an opposition party had succeeded in securing a considerable number of seats in parliament.

In the course of the preliminary research for my follow-up project I was surfing the website of the British parliament. To my astonishment I found a British MP saying that parliament should address 'the situation in Rhodesia' as soon as possible. Although he had been quickly corrected by a fellow MP, I found the incident quite revealing.

*January 28, 2001.* I sent an e-mail to the Zimbabwean independent newspaper, The Daily News, to enquire about ways of consulting back issues. The answer came in the next day, disguised as a report from Reuters press agency: the printing press of The Daily News had been destroyed by a bomb. I could quite well understand that the newspaper staff had more important things on their minds than responding to enquiries from Dutch researchers-to-be. The report once again confirmed the topicality of my research project, which keeps challenging me, forcing me to break out of the ivory tower of academic science.

Wendy Willems

## Publications

NiZA Informatie	Quarterly newsletter, distributed free of charge among relations and donors.
Nieuwsbrief Amsterdam–Beira	Quarterly newsletter on the Amsterdam–Beira twinning.
Conference report	<i>Angola Reflections on Peace Building</i> , on peace initiatives that can be taken by civil organisations in Angola (churches, trade unions) and on the support they need from the North (42 pages, also published in Portuguese).
Annual Report 1999	Review of NiZA's projects and results booked in 1999 (44 pages, also published in English).
NiZA Cahier	<i>Tradition on the Move: Chiefs, Democracy and Change in Rural South Africa</i> , by Barbara Oomen, on the often troublesome relationship between traditional and democratically elected civil leaders in rural areas (71 pages).
Reference book	<i>Inventarisatie culturele banden Nederland – Zuid-Afrika 1994–2000</i> . An comprehensive review (in Dutch) of cultural ties in many artistic genres: from literature to film and from dance to museums. By

Leaflet	Erik van den Bergh of Kairos and Elma Doeleman of NiZA (195 pages). <i>Diamanten: van een genadeloze schoonheid</i> . A leaflet in Dutch, containing information on the international Fatal Transactions consumers' campaign against the 'conflict diamond' trade whose proceeds fund wars (6 pages).
Project report	<i>Amsterdam helpt: Verslag van wederopbouwprojecten in Beira</i> . Report (in Dutch) of reconstruction projects executed in Beira after the cyclone and flood of early 2000, financed by its twin city Amsterdam (21 pages).
One-off newspaper	<i>Living Gazette</i> , containing reviews of interviews and performances during the Living Yearbook 2000.
Magazine	<i>Zuidelijk Afrika</i> , quarterly NiZA magazine with an independent editorial board.

### **NiZA Informatie**

Donations by our private sponsors are indispensable for NiZA's work, both financially and otherwise. We attach great importance to keeping our sponsors and others informed of activities and projects related to our three programmes. Sponsors and relations are informed on the latest news and on NiZA's activities by a newsletter entitled *NiZA Informatie*, an informative and colourful quarterly publication of 4–6 pages.

### **Zuidelijk Afrika**

NiZA publishes a quarterly magazine, *Zuidelijk Afrika*, which during its fourth year (2000) continued to offer its readership ample information on southern Africa in the form of reports, interviews, background articles, analyses, news items, series of photographs, columns and book reviews. As of the first issue of 2000, we have slightly amended the format of the magazine with a more attractive layout, improved coverage of current affairs and increased attention to relations between southern Africa and the Netherlands. Among the prominent features in 2000 were: a series of interviews with people from southern Africa who have lived in the Netherlands for a long time; tensions within the coalition of the ANC and the trade-union movement; the fight against AIDS; the political and economic crisis in Zimbabwe; the position of Afrikaners in South Africa; Dutch companies and their attitudes towards South Africa; and a new regular feature on regional music. By the end of 2000, preparations for a promotional campaign to be launched in 2001 were under way.

### **NiZA Cahier:**

#### **Tradition on the Move**

A book entitled *Tradition on the Move: Chiefs, Democracy and Change in Rural South Africa* (NiZA Cahier No. 6) was released in September 2000. The author, the jurist Barbara Oomen, had been commissioned by NiZA to write the book after she had spent one year in Sekhukhune in the north of South Africa. In the book Barbara Oomen deals with the often troublesome

relationship between traditional and democratically elected civil leaders in rural South Africa. She gives a vivid description of daily life in the rural provinces, where laws from the apartheid era still apply besides new democratic laws, where the participation of women in the decision-making process is not accepted, where there are some chiefs who end up as members of the ANC. Tradition is not necessarily static, as is witnessed by this NiZA Cahier. The concluding section contains a number of subjects which are meant to stir up a debate on the ways progressive developments within the traditional structures can be supported.

A meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, organized by NiZA on the occasion of the release of *Tradition on the Move*, was attended by a number of experts and two ANC members of the South African parliament. In a debate between the chairman of the Congress of Traditional Leaders (who is also an ANC MP) and the president of the ANC Women's League, differences of opinion emerged especially on the land issue and on matters of power. Both guests, together with Barbara Oomen, also participated in a debate at the Living Yearbook 2000.

The South African *Sunday Independent* published parts of *Tradition on the Move* in a prepublication, signifying the interest which the Cahier aroused within South Africa as well.

### **BIDOC Library, Information and Documentation Centre**

NiZA-BIDOC is the major Dutch information centre on southern Africa. It has a unique collection of books, press cuttings, reports, photographs, films and newspapers and other periodicals.

In 2000 approximately 250 external visitors visited BIDOC, or almost the same number as in 1999. Approximately 10 per cent of all visitors came from abroad, in particular from southern Africa. Almost 50 per cent were students at universities and schools of higher vocational education. Many students and researchers draw extensively on the available documentation when writing papers and other publications. The research for a recently published doctoral thesis on *The Influence of Domestic NGOs on Dutch Human Rights Policy* by Esther M. van den Berg was to a considerable extent based on source material from the NiZA archives.

E-mail and the internet are gaining in significance as sources of information. External users and NiZA staff members regularly consult reports on southern Africa that come in at BIDOC daily (often by way of e-mail subscriptions) as well as numerous documents available on the internet. BIDOC staff members are specialized in tapping the internet for information on southern Africa. Many users have benefited greatly from links on the NiZA website that have been specifically selected for their relevance to southern Africa. During the past year, BIDOC has played a major part in disseminating information with regard to the Zimbabwean elections of June 2000.

In 2000 we have continued indexing documents using the new Adlib programme into a database comprising about 6,500 records thus far. We hope to be able to add 3,000 records annually. Indexes of source material drawn from a database comprising more than 35,000 records which was used from 1991 to the end of 1998, are still being consulted frequently. Indexes of sources on approximately 100 different topics can also be ordered electronically through the NiZA website.



NiZA holds the secretariat of the Archives Commission Netherlands–South Africa, established in 1998. Last year, the South African Embassy published a bibliographical survey of Dutch–South African relations since the Second World War entitled *Het stormt in mijn hart*, which was prepared by Kairos staff member Erik van den Bergh.

During 2000, our extensive collection of more than 1500 posters from or concerning southern Africa was put in definitive order. A project is under way aimed at integrating the poster collections of NiZA and the International Institute of Social History (IISH) in Amsterdam into one of the largest collections on the subject in the world. In due course, a selection will be presented on the NiZA and IISH websites.

### **www.niza.nl**

The NiZA website offers information on all our activities and our three programmes, and on documentation available at NiZA–BIDOC. Press releases and other NiZA publications can be consulted as well, while a large number of internet links bring visitors to important Africa-related websites. The site is currently being expanded. For instance, articles from back issues of our *Zuidelijk Afrika* magazine have been partly available on-line for some time now, while the newsletters *NiZA Informatie* and *Amsterdam–Beira Nieuwsbrief* are available in full.

As in former years, we keep using the NiZA website to draw attention to current developments and recently published reports. During the past year, we have again compiled a number of topical pages on current developments in southern Africa, such as the killing of the Mozambican journalist Carlos Cardoso, and local elections in South Africa. A page on the elections in Zimbabwe attracted a great deal of interest, both from Dutch visitors and from abroad. The international ‘Fatal Transactions’ campaign, which is coordinated by NiZA, has its own page on the website, with links to all relevant United Nations resolutions, relevant research reports and institutions involved in the issue of conflict-related diamond trade.

Over the past year the number of visitors to our website increased considerably to approximately 40 per day, of which 65 per cent were based in the Netherlands.

## 8 External relations

Co-operation and sharing know-how and information are of paramount importance. For this reason NiZA maintains close relations with several organisations, both nationally and internationally. This chapter reviews the organisations with whom NiZA co-operates most closely as well as the working groups and committees in which NiZA participates. Furthermore a few organisations are highlighted with whom NiZA maintains a special relationship. Our co-operation with partners in southern Africa is dealt with in the chapter on NiZA's three programmes.

### Representations

NiZA is represented in a great number of organisations and participates in a broad range of committees and working groups:

1. PSO (Association Personnel Services Overseas).
2. Jubilee 2000 Coalition.
3. Consultative Group on Zimbabwe.
4. Executive Committee and Federation Council of Directors of the South–North Federation.
5. Commission for Development Co-operation of the Amsterdam Municipality (COA).
6. European Network for Information and Action on Southern Africa (ENIASA).
7. Dutch NGO–EU Platform of the Liaison Committee of Development NGOs within the EU.
8. Steering Committee of Africanists in the Netherlands.
9. Steering Committee of the International Fatal Transactions Campaign.
10. Consultative Body on Lusophone Africa.
11. Working Committee South Africa of the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.
11. Archives Commission Netherlands–South Africa.

### Lodging external relations

NiZA maintains a special relationship with a number of organisations that live under one roof with NiZA in Amsterdam. The arrangement allows the organisations concerned and NiZA to derive maximum mutual benefit from each other's know-how and expertise. Another important advantage is that the organisations have direct access to NiZA's extensive Library, Information and Documentation Centre (BIDOC).

The following organisations maintain offices at NiZA:

- Fatal Transactions: The international campaign against conflict-sustaining illegal trading in diamonds and other raw materials.
- Amsterdam–Beira twinning: Co-operation between organisations in Amsterdam and Beira (Mozambique), funded by the Commission for Development Co-operation of the Amsterdam Municipality.
- SANPAD: Co-operative body of South African and Dutch universities.
- ENIASA: The West European co-operative body of former anti-apartheid organisations.

The organisations pay the salaries of the NiZA staff members concerned as well as accommodation costs and overheads. Whenever appropriate, activities closely connected with one of NiZA's three programmes have been funded by donations from the NiZA Fund; the Fatal Transactions campaign (Economic Relations Programme) is a major example.

NiZA has also been involved in a number of cultural activities funded by the German organisation, *Dienste in Übersee* (see paragraph on Culture).

### **Beira–Amsterdam Twinning**

Following the Mozambican flood disaster of February 2000, the Amsterdam municipality donated a relief fund which enabled NiZA to carry out seven reconstruction projects in Beira (see chapter on Current Events and Political Lobbying). However, not all was misery in Mozambique. On 25 June 2000 the country celebrated 25 years of independence. Under the Amsterdam–Beira twinning arrangement NiZA, together with the Dutch Mozambican Women's Group, organized a well-attended Mozambican party, which was held on 14 July 2000 in Akhnaton, a multicultural centre in Amsterdam.

### **Activities during 2000**

In 2000, the Amsterdam City Hall and the Beira House of Culture hosted exhibitions prepared by pupils of the Primeiro de Maio–CFM school in Beira and the Fons Vitae grammar school in Amsterdam. The pupils of both schools had taken photographs of their own daily environments.

In November, pupils of schools in Amsterdam took on a project on the issue of Urban and Rural Culture, co-organized in co-operation with OSA (*Ontwikkelseducatie Stedenbanden Amsterdam*) and the Amsterdam–Managua Foundation. The final conference took the form of a lawsuit, with pupils from Managua and Beira, Amsterdam's twinning partners, acting as witnesses.

A 'School Desks for Beira' campaign was launched in 2000. The campaign, which aims at alleviating the acute shortage of school necessities that came to light after the schools had been rebuilt as part of reconstruction projects, will be continued in 2001.

Judge Osvalda Joana from Beira was invited to participate in a conversation on the legal status of women in Mozambique, which was held as part of the Living Yearbook 2000. Besides being a judge, Ms Joana is also co-ordinator of the Muleide women's organisation in Beira. NiZA supports a project of Muleide which aims at offering legal training and psychological assistance to women.

A delegation of the municipality of Beira paid a three-day visit to Amsterdam in May 2000, in order to strengthen the ties and exchange information between both cities. The delegates visited several municipal departments and spoke with their Amsterdam colleagues. In 2000 the municipal Commission for Development Co-operation supported the realisation in Beira of a local representative office for the twinning arrangement.

An exchange programme between the Amsterdam fire brigade and the fire brigades of Beira has been in place for over ten years now. In the Living Yearbook 2000, the Amsterdam firemen Leen van der Laan and Jan Peursum told about their experiences in Beira. The 'AT5' local TV channel in Amsterdam broadcasted a report on the activities of the Amsterdam fire brigade in Beira in August 2000.

The *Beira Nieuwsbrief* was issued four times during 2000. Besides, the co-ordinator of the twinning arrangement regularly supplied information to journalists, schools, researchers, sister organisations and others.

## **Culture**

One of NiZA's achievements in the cultural sphere in the year 2000 was the release, in October, of a detailed reference book on cultural ties between the Netherlands and South Africa, entitled *Inventarisatie Culturele Banden Nederland – Zuid-Afrika 1994–2000* (published in co-operation with Kairos, Ecumenical Advice and Information Centre on South Africa). The book offers an inventory of cultural ties forged since 1994, classified under the following headings: language and literature, theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film and photography, museums, architecture and monuments, libraries, and festivals. The chapter on language and literature includes a bibliography of all South African literature published in the Netherlands since 1994. The book also lists all cultural projects funded by the Dutch embassy in Pretoria over the past years. The book, which was presented to several cultural institutions and other organisations, is a very useful tool to be used to further the co-operation and the exchange of information and contacts between organisations in both countries.

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Mozambican independence NiZA, together with a number of cities twinned with Mozambican cities, organized an international art workshop in Sweden entitled *SAMPORIA*, in which fourteen artists from Maputo, Beira, Bulawayo, Amsterdam, Berlin, Bristol and Gothenburg participated. All the paintings that were made during the workshop will be part of an exhibition which will travel to all the cities involved. After the workshop the Zimbabwean artist Voti Thebe, who is also the curator of the National Gallery in Bulawayo, wrote, 'Truly it was two weeks of intensive creativity that saw the coming together of a very powerful exhibition, an infusion of AfrikaEuro. The infusion is now spilling over to my recent work, my spirit has been rejuvenated.'

When the exhibition was on view in the Amsterdam art rental gallery Artoteek Zuid-Oost, NiZA organized a discussion on the pros and cons of this kind of cultural exchange. Artists who had participated in the workshop as well as representatives of Dutch cultural institutions said they considered the exhibition a strong argument in favour of such international workshops. The final destination of the exhibition will be in Beira, probably in the local hospital.

## **SANPAD**

The South Africa – Netherlands Research Programme on Alternatives in Development (SANPAD) subsidizes research initiated and implemented by South African researchers in collaboration with Dutch academics. SANPAD seeks to enhance the research skills of

members of those historically underprivileged groups in South Africa who during the apartheid era were denied most chances to develop their academic skills.

During the past year, the efforts of over 20 research groups have produced encouraging results in a variety of areas. The Faculty of Law at the University of the Western Cape has continued its investigations concerning the performance of South African works councils; the findings are being compared with practices in the Netherlands and other European countries in a joint project together with the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands. The University of Utrecht is also a partner in a witchcraft research project carried out at the South African University of the North, aiming at reducing the large number of people who are killed, accused of being witches, particularly in the Northern Province. The University of Durban studies the use in traditional medicine of a plant which is threatened with extinction as a result of unchecked gathering in the wild. Cultivation of the plant may safeguard its survival, to the benefit of traditional healers and others.

In 1999 and again in 2000, SANPAD organized courses on research methodology for young South African researchers. The course was well received in 2000, with a much larger number of applicants than could be accommodated.

## **ENIASA**

Organisations from all but one of the fifteen EU member states and observers from Norway and Switzerland are members of the European Network for Information and Action on Southern Africa (ENIASA). Most member organisations originate in the former anti-apartheid movement. NiZA is a member of ENIASA and holds the international secretariat. The efforts of ENIASA are aimed at exerting influence on the European Union regarding its policies on southern Africa.

### **Activities during 2000**

- Following the flood disaster in Mozambique of February 2000, ENIASA organized a European postcard action, petitioning the World Bank for the cancellation of debts.
- ENIASA members were active participants in the Jubilee 2000 campaign and drew international attention to the issue of apartheid-caused debt.
- During the weekend of the Living Yearbook (late September 2000), NiZA hosted the members of ENIASA in Amsterdam for a general meeting and a study meeting. The central theme of both meetings was the changing political situation in Zimbabwe, where the oppositional Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) had started to undermine the position of the ruling Zanu-PF party.
- HIV and AIDS were the central themes addressed at a conference in Paris in December, held on the occasion of the French EU presidency coming to an end.

During the past years ENIASA has focused on economic relations between the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the European Union. Among the issues addressed were the negotiations on the Cotonou agreement (the successor to the Lomé agreement) and the debt problem. In 2000 ENIASA appointed a new co-ordinator and joined Eurodad, a European research network which focuses on the debt issue.

**Prospects for 2001**

ENIASA is currently working on two research projects on apartheid-caused debts in Zambia and Zimbabwe, the findings of which are to be published during the first six months of 2001. Within ENIASA, NiZA will focus on the debt issue in particular. The ENIASA international secretariat will be transferred to another country in 2001.

## 9 Executive staff, board and staff members

### Executive staff

Peter Hermes, *Executive Director*

Dian van Unen\*, *Deputy Executive Director*

### Board

Coen Stork, *Chairman*

Niels Feis, *Treasurer*

Ireen Dubel

Caroline van Dullemen

Marianne Heeremans

Chris Huinder (until March 2000)

Tom Pitstra

### Staff members

Employees who left NiZA in 2000 are marked with an asterisk. Among them are twelve staff members who left because of the now completed reorganisation. When employees were (partly) paid by others, the donor is stated behind their names.

Noor Almekinders, *Documentation*

Noor Backers\*, *Youth Conference (SAM/OSA)*

Yvon Bais, *Secretariat*

Maaïke Blom, *Amsterdam-Beira Twinning (COA)*

Berendien Bos, *Media Programme*

Sietse Bosgra, *ENIASA*

Ruud Bosgraaf\*, *Press Liaison Officer*

Rutger Brandenburg\*, *Controller*

Marlène Cornelis, *Press Liaison Officer and Communication*

Anton Dekker, *BIDOC*

Elma Doeleman, *Culture (Dienste Übersee)*

Hans Dolman\*, *Management Administrator*

Carla Focke\*, *Secretariat*

Bert Freriks\*, *Communication*

Jeff Handmaker\*, *Refugee Rights*

Joke Hartmans, *Co-ordinator Fatal Transactions (Fatal Transactions)*

Joost Hartog\*, *Communication and Fundraising*

Danny van Heezik, *Secretariat*

Frank Hendriks, *Projects*

Irish Hesp, *Secretariat*

Henk van den Heuvel, *Programme Manager Economic Relations*

Jacinda Hofland\*, *Personnel Assistance*

Elke van den Hout, *Communication and Fundraising*

Azim Koning\*, *Co-ordinator BIDOC*

Trudy Kragtwijk, *secretaris SANPAD (SANPAD)*

Christian Kuijstermans, *Personnel Assistentie*

Lonneke Lodder\*, *Communication*  
Madeleine Maurick, *Communication*  
Liesbeth Mors\*, *Communication*  
Melika op de Beek\*, *Secretariat*  
Maarten van Poelgeest\*, *Communication*  
Wendy Raaphorst, *Youth Conference (SAM/OSA)*  
Mieke Rook\*, *Secretariat*  
Helma Roozendaal, *Co-ordinator Secretariat*  
Judith Sargentini, *Secretariat ENIASA (ENIASA)*  
Kier Schuringa, *BIDOC*  
Michäel Schwerzel, *Controller*  
Belia Soerip, *Secretariat*  
Udo Sprang, *Chief Editor Zuidelijk Afrika*  
Peter Stolte, *Secretariat*  
Wies Teepe\*, *Projects*  
Hanneke Timmer, *Co-ordinator Secretariat, Personnel Manager*  
Ellen Uerz, *Fundraising*  
Myrthe Verweij\*, *Living Yearbook*  
Mayra Vreden, *Finance Department*  
Petra Wielenga\*, *Secretariat*  
Gerdie Wieseman, *Secretariat*  
Wendy Willems, *SANPAD, Human Rights (SANPAD)*  
Bob van der Winden, *Programme Manager Media & Freedom of Speech*  
Daniëlle de Winter\*, *Communication*

\* Left NiZA during 2000.



## **10 Financial accountability**

In the millennium year of 2000, the old NiZA came to a conclusion and the new NiZA saw the light of day. The old: in 2000 NiZA completed its reorganization process. The new: in 2000 NiZA started on a new form of support for democratic development in southern Africa.

The completion of the reorganization meant that twelve people left the organization. Most left with severance arrangements, although a few did not, at their own request. In addition, the reorganization process resulted in a redistribution of responsibilities, which meant extra work for the remaining employees.

During the reorganization process, a number of problem areas in the internal organization were dealt with. A financial controller now supervises all financial matters, a communications staff member is linked to every programme, and there is clarity on how the secretariat operates.

These changes, combined with the arrival of new people with new ideas, have highlighted NiZA's strengths and weaknesses. A lively debate has sprung up concerning NiZA's new direction. This debate is intended to culminate this year in a new policy and business plan for the coming four years.

### **CBF approval**

In September of 2000, NiZA received CBF approval. This stamp of approval was introduced by the Central Bureau for Fundraising (CBF) and is granted to fundraising organizations that work responsibly to raise funds for a 'charitable cause'. No more than 25% of the funds raised can be spent on costs. At least 75% must go towards meeting the organization's objectives.

Organizations with CBF approval draw up their financial annual reports according to the same guidelines, so they can be compared.

NiZA has demonstrated to the CBF's satisfaction that its activities fit the definition of a charitable cause, and that the way in which NiZA organizes and carries out its activities meets the strict requirements set by the CBF. This approval gives the people who make donations to NiZA an additional guarantee that their money is in fact spent on the organization's stated objectives. The CBF approval also reassures subsidizing organizations that NiZA takes a responsible, accountable approach to organizing its activities.

### **Explanation of the financial situation**

In 2000, NiZA suffered a limited loss of NLG 108,187. In comparison to 1999, when the losses exceeded one million guilders, the organization's losses have been significantly reduced. However, it is still about NLG 40,000 more than the budget allowed for. This deficit was created in part by debts from old projects, uncollectible invoices, extra costs due to the reorganization, and office spending in excess of the estimated costs.

The capital has also gone down from nearly NLG 2.5 million to NLG 1,935,540. The entire decrease comes from the fixed assets; the available capital remains unchanged.

Despite the losses, NiZA's financial future looks fairly good. Extra subsidies and new opportunities for outside financing on projects allow the financial resources to be allocated differently, creating a better distribution of income and expenditures. NiZA aims to achieve a positive result in 2001. This positive result has become necessary due to the reduction in assets. Without sufficient reserves, the organization's continued existence will be jeopardized.

Further details of the income and expenditures follows below.

## **Income**

NiZA's income comes from fundraising, subsidies and additional sources. The following section describes the developments in income over 2000.

### **Fundraising**

The yield from fundraising (donations) dropped in 2000 from NLG 1.2 to NLG 1.1 million. The budget had already taken this decrease into account. Some explanations for this decrease include the increasing competition in fundraising, the reduced attention for the political developments in southern Africa and the increasing percentage of elderly donators. Thus far NiZA has not succeeded in attracting sufficient new donators. The costs of fundraising have also gone down. In order to acquire CBF approval, the definition of the fundraising costs was adapted to CBF guidelines. This resulted in lower costs.

In 2001, fundraising policy will be aimed primarily at stopping the downward trend and subsequently turning it around and making it an upward trend. To that end, a new fundraising plan will be drawn up in 2001 and investments are being made in the expertise of the fundraiser. As an extension of this new plan, the press policy is also being improved, so that NiZA will appear in the news more often and in particular more provocatively. This is expected to boost fundraising income.

A separate policy is also being developed to improve fundraising income from bequests and legacies. Listing NiZA in the *Guide to Charitable Causes* was a first step in this direction.

### **Subsidies from governments and other parties**

The 'subsidies from governments and other parties' in 2000 were nearly three million guilders higher than had initially been expected. The most important reason is the significant increase in PSO financing. In particular the PSO's approval of the media sector plan made it possible to apply much more resources for projects in southern Africa. In addition, more projects were carried out by PSO than had initially been planned.

Another reason was the flooding in Mozambique. In the context of the city link between Amsterdam and Beira, the city of Amsterdam made NLG 325,000 available from the Disaster Fund, to go to the rebuilding process in Mozambique. Because the COA secretariat, which is run by NiZA, is responsible for co-ordinating these projects, this contribution also falls under project subsidies.

### **Returns on investment and additional income**

In 2000, the returns on investments were negative. NiZA invests cautiously, mainly holding bonds. Still, the bonds fell NLG 29,950 in value. Due to this disappointing result, the investment policy will be reviewed in 2001.

Additional income includes income from interest and the income from the *Southern Africa* magazine. The income from interest was lower than estimated. The difference was caused by the fact that the liquid assets, particularly the balances of the savings accounts, were reduced by NLG 500,000 during 2000. At an interest rate of 4%, this means a drop in income from interest of NLG 20,000.

The income from the *Southern Africa* magazine dropped in 2000 because there were fewer subscribers and the advertising returns were lower than had initially been estimated. The database of subscribers was cleaned up in 2000, which removed a number of non-paying subscribers from the administration database. This made it clear that the actual number of subscribers is lower than NiZA had thought, and that the magazine's continued existence is jeopardized. Consequently, a promotional campaign has been started to recruit new subscribers and sell more advertising space.

## **Expenditures**

The expenditures show a clear change with respect to 1999. In comparison to 1999, significantly fewer activities took place in PR and public awareness, but project spending increased greatly.

One cause of the decrease in spending on PR and public awareness is the fact that less subsidy was available in 2000 for the awareness-raising activities. The reorganization also played an important role. In 2000, the composition of the entire communications team changed. However, the operating costs for this department remained nearly equal to 1999, since the department has a number of fixed expenditures for salaries and office costs.

This development does mean that it has become necessary to develop new communications policies and expand activities to support public support. In 2001, the communications team is back up to full strength and working hard on this task.

Project spending was significantly up in 2000. As stated, PSO support on the media sector plan has made many extra resources available. In addition, more projects were carried out by the external secretariats than initially estimated. It is expected that the increase in external project financing will continue.

These developments have caused the total expenditures on NiZA's objectives to increase by NLG 300,000 in comparison to 1999. It should be noted that it was a disproportionately large increase in favor of projects and to the detriment of PR and public awareness. NiZA's strategy calls for the two areas to complement each other. For that reason, it is crucial that more resources be allocated to PR and to reinforcing public support. In order to make this possible, NiZA will allocate more funds to this objective. Two major subsidy applications are also being prepared to acquire more resources to increase public support in the Netherlands and Europe.

## 11 Financial Statements 2000

### Balance sheet 2000

(all figures in Dutch guilders)

	December 31, 2000	December 31, 1999
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Tangible fixed assets:		
- Equipment	54.585	107.885
Investment	1.485.604	1.515.154
Inventories	-	-
Accounts receivable	8.315.013	10.485.397
Cash on hand and in banks	2.186.726	2.686.757
	<u>10.501.739</u>	<u>13.172.154</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.041.928</b>	<b>14.795.193</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Equity:		
- Disposable equity	1.533.857	1.543.253
- Fixed equity	<u>401.683</u>	<u>929.998</u>
	1.935.540	2.473.251
Provisions		
- Provision for reorganisation	-	270.000
Current liabilities:		
- Long-term debts	48.000	56.000
- Amounts due within one year	<u>5.623.254</u>	<u>5.958.677</u>
	5.671.254	6.014.677
Long term debts		
- Project liabilities	<u>4.435.134</u>	<u>6.037.265</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.041.928</b>	<b>14.795.193</b>

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES**

(all figures in Dutch guilders)

	<b>2000</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>1999</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Income from NiZA fundraising:</b>			
Direct mail campaigns	556.462		568.428
Sponsor fees, donations, gifts, grants	546.712		562.396
Legacies	3.387		52.800
Additional income	-		-
	<b>1.106.561</b>	<b>1.100.000</b>	<b>1.183.624</b>
<b>Costs of NiZA fundraising:</b>			
Direct costs of acquisition	183.639	130.000	169.693
Running costs own organisation	25.448	152.188	123.880
	<b>209.087</b>	<b>282.188</b>	<b>293.573</b>
(as a percentage of income from own fundraising)	(19)	(26)	(25)
Net income from fundraising	897.474	817.812	890.052
Disposable income from fundraising	897.474	817.812	890.052
Subsidies from governments and other organisations	4.276.067	1.262.310	2.778.079
Return on investments	29.550-	-	49.093
Additional income	268.378	287.500	313.017
<b>Total income disposable for NiZA objectives</b>	<b>5.412.369</b>	<b>2.366.622</b>	<b>4.030.241</b>
	<b>Werkelijk 2000</b>	<b>Begroting 2000</b>	<b>Werkelijk 1999</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
<b>Related to NiZA objectives</b>			
<b>Information and raising awareness</b>			
NiZA activities	425.833	477.300	1.437.603
Running costs own organisation	962.358	762.792	1.081.457
	<b>1.388.191</b>	<b>1.240.092</b>	<b>2.519.060</b>
<b>Structural aid</b>			
Aid and subsidies granted	3.286.930	370.000	709.981
Projects	92.096	-	1.111.012
Direct costs	5.461	115.624	110.680
Running costs own organisation	747.878	703.997	717.749
	<b>4.132.365</b>	<b>1.190.621</b>	<b>2.649.422</b>
<b>Total expenditure related to NiZA objectives</b>	<b>5.520.556</b>	<b>2.430.713</b>	<b>5.168.482</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>108.187</b>	<b>64.091-</b>	<b>1.138.242</b>
Added to/withdrwan from:			
- Disposable equity NiZA Fund	443.739		629.881-
- Disposable NiZA Fund	453.135-		508.361-
- Earmarked funds	575		-
- Reserve general costs	46.066-		-
- Fund assets management	53.300-		-
	<b>108.187-</b>		<b>1.138.242</b>