



Summary



South African 2010 Soccer World Cup Media Highlights

The following is a selection of World Cup reporting highlights from the South African media on **4-7 June**.

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1. SECURITY

Intelligence Sources Accuse Police of Downplaying Terror Camps Threat -- *Sunday Times* reported on 6 June that director of the NEFA Foundation Ronald Sandee said police officials denial of the presence of terror training camps "is reason to believe they don't have their apparatus under control" especially because South African police intelligence have "reports containing detailed information about the terror training camps". The *Sunday Times* report added that it has seen correspondence from a former trainee stating he was "personally ... exposed to training camps" and centers in KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng and the Eastern Cape which "is one of many that recruit innocent black South Africans into something they do not know". Local intelligence sources who confirmed the existence of camps and cells said "the only way to eliminate the threat at this stage is to identify extremists in conjunction with foreign intelligence agencies, and technology". (AFP20100606521015 Website of the most popular South African weekly paper known for its investigative reporting)

Police Say Ready To Secure Citizens, Visitors During World Cup -- DefenseWeb reported on 4 June that Police Minister Nathi Mthethwa and the country's nine safety and security MECs [Members of the Executive Council] reiterated that the provinces are ready to secure all citizens and visitors during the June 11-July 11 event. He said the "police will not be influenced by any political stature or one's economic stance in society, but act on anyone who is found on the wrong side of the law" including visitors. National police commissioner General Bheki Cele said at a media event "We are ready for the 2010 FIFA World Cup" and repeated that "there is no known threats to the tournament". (AFP20100604448001 Website aiming to become a preferred news provider by offering up-to-date news, topical opinion, insight and detailed fact files on African defense, military and security issues)

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South Africa May Have Disregarded Radical Islamic Terrorist Threat, Says Expert – Maputo-based Lusa news agency reported on 2 June that the chairman of the Security, Organized Crime, and Terrorism Observatory (Oscot), Jose Anes, said that South African authorities may have disregarded the radical Islamic terrorist threat when organizing the soccer world cup, despite its being known that terrorist cells are present in East Africa. South Africa "was very focused on the problem of violence and lack of street security, and possibly disregarded the threat of radical terrorism" during the soccer world cup that will be taking place in that country as from 11 June, said Anes. (AFP20100604503003 Government-owned news agency)

2. LOGISTICS

Nigeria Fans Lightly Injured During Stampede at World Cup Practice Game -- On 6 June SAPA reported that thousands of football fans, many wearing Nigeria jerseys, stampeded the gates outside the Makhulong Stadium in the Johannesburg before a World Cup practice match between Nigeria and North Korea. A policeman was hurt in the crush and was later taken away on a stretcher. Other fans who appeared to be lightly injured walked away from the scene. (AFP20100606521013 Cooperative, nonprofit national news agency)

Gauteng High-Speed Train Ready To Transport World Cup Visitors -- AFP reported on 6 June that South Africa's and the continent's first high-speed train will become functional on 8 June and able to "whisk a mass influx of World Cup fans from the country's main airport into uptown Johannesburg". Gauteng Premier Nomvula Mokonyane told journalists that the train will be "an asset and property of the people of South Africa for generations to come" and not just "something for June 11 to July 11" (AFP20100606521017 World news service of the independent French news agency)

Accident Response Helicopter Service To Be Available During World Cup -- South Africa Government reported on 5 June that Trans African Concessions (TRAC), the company that operates the N4 toll road from Gauteng to Maputo, will provide an emergency and accident response helicopter service for the duration of the World Cup. The helicopter will have an advanced life-support medic on board, who will be dropped at accident scenes to stabilize patients in the critical first hour after injury, until a ground support crew can take over. Pilot Neels van Eijk said the helicopter "plays a security role as well". (AFP20100605564005 Website of the South African Government News Service)

RSA Firm To Install Solar-Operated TV Units in Rural Areas for Viewing World Cup -- On 4 June Engineering News Online reported that rural regions and social hot spots in Kwa-Zulu Natal who would not have had access to the FIFA World Cup will be watching the games on solar-operated televisions provided by SolarWorld Africa and MamaEarth. Dr Ruth Rabinowitz director of MamaEarth said the project's goal was to use these installations after the World Cup with education programs through TV and DVD and to "spearhead initiatives that provide integrated solutions addressing Internet connectivity, food production, healthy living, water collection, biogas digesters and job creation". (AFP20100605564006 Website of respected weekly magazine)

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RSA: Official Says 'No Guarantees' Taxi Industry Will Not Disrupt World Cup -- On 4 June Cape Argus Online reported that a week before kick-off, there were no guarantees that the minibus taxi industry would not disrupt the World Cup. At a meeting of the city's transport portfolio committee 3 June, chairman Basil Lee asked executive director Mike Marsden whether agreements had been reached with all taxi associations not to boycott the event or disrupt traffic. "Can you assure us that won't happen?" Lee asked Marsden. Marsden responded that, in a meeting this week he attended with MEC for transport Robin Carlisle and taxi associations, the industry indicated it wanted "to be part of 2010". He said the city would be able to say by today whether the industry would be part of the city's transport plan. (AFP20100604516016 Website of the weekday regional afternoon newspaper covering South African news and sports, strong local focus, privately owned by Independent Newspaper Company)

Mozambique's Electricity Company Ready To Supply Power to Soccer World Cup – *Noticias*, a Maputo-based daily, reported on 4 June that Mozambique's power utility Electricity of Mozambique (EDM) stated that it has enough reserve electricity that can be made available to its South African counterpart, ESKOM, should there be a need during the World Cup. EDM's Production, Transport, and Market Operations Manager Augusto de Sousa Fernando stated that the company has about 50 megawatts generated at its thermal unit in Maputo, which may be exported in cases of emergency. According to the report, ESKOM has "warned its counterparts in the region to be in a technical position to supply it as soon as conditions demand it". (AFP20100604503001 Government-controlled daily newspaper)

RSA: Pretoria Mayor Affirms City's Readiness to Host World Cup Teams, Visitors – The Pretoria News Online reported on 7 June that Pretoria's executive mayor Gwen Ramokgopa, said the city was 99.9 percent ready to host the World Cup, and that municipal staff would work overtime throughout the tournament to ensure that residents and visitors get world-class service. Pretoria is expecting 40,000 visitors, including heads of state. Ramokgopa said all that was left to be done before kick-off and the first game at Loftus which is on Sunday, were last-minute finishing touches at the public viewing areas (PVAs) and the FanFest in Centurion. (AFP20100607516001 Website of a local daily, privately owned by Independent Newspaper Company, focused on Pretoria and the surrounding areas)

3. VIP ACTIVITIES

RSA: Community Project Children 'Delighted' at Meeting with US Team – The Pretoria News Online reported on 7 June that 350 children got the chance to meet the US team at Pilditch Stadium on 6 June. The children and their caregivers are involved in community partnership projects funded by the US Embassy. The children, carrying vuvuzelas [plastic bugle blown at soccer matches] draped in US flags, "were delighted when the team signed autographs and showed off their skills on the pitch." For an hour the children were blowing their vuvuzelas while others broke into song cheering on the team during their practice session. (AFP20100607516004)

Zuma: National Pride Brought on by World Cup Augurs Well for 'Nation-Building' – AFP reported on 6 June that South African President Jacob Zuma said the World Cup had shown the

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"Rainbow Nation" finally coming together as one. "We are truly pleased and humbled to host the world in our country for this historical and extraordinary event," Zuma told a press conference at his offices in Pretoria. "The enthusiasm, joy and excitement that has engulfed the entire nation in the last few weeks has not been seen since President Nelson Mandela was released from prison" in 1990, said Zuma. "The explosion of national pride has been a priceless benefit. It's clear that millions of our people look upon this tournament with hope, pride and sense of belonging. "The South African flag has become the most popular item on the shopping list of South Africans and this augurs well for our nation-building," he added. (AFP2010060652101)

Zuma Says Mandela's Attendance at Opening Game Will Be A 'Bonus' – On 6 June Buanews reported that Zuma, when talking about Nelson Mandela's possible attendance at the opening game, said "if he is there it will be a bonus." The former president's family has said that he is too frail to attend. "We all know that the former president has aged. This is a decision that President Mandela will make. He said of his own that he'd love to be there, whether he'll be there or not I think depends entirely on him. If he appears we'll be very happy even if he does not appear we'll understand," said Zuma. (AFP20100607589002)

Deputy President To Assess North West Province's State of Readiness for World Cup -- South Africa Government Online reported on 3 June that Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe together with North West Premier Maureen Modiselle will embark on a working visit to the North West Province to assess its state of readiness to host the soccer games during the 2010 FIFA World Cup. He will visit the Royal Bafokeng Sports Campus, which houses the Royal Marang Hotel that is the base camp of the English national soccer team. He will also visit the recently upgraded Job Shimankana Tabane Provincial Hospital to ascertain the trauma unit's capability to handle emergencies during the tournament. (AFP20100605590005 Official government website)

FIFA Chief Commends RSA for Hosting First Soccer World Cup in Africa -- BuaNews Online reported on 5 June that on handing the World Cup trophy to Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe, FIFA President Sepp Blatter thanked the South African Government and its people for its cooperation, support and passion they have shown for the World Cup". Motlanthe said government had worked hard to ensure that it fulfilled all the guarantees required by FIFA and attributed the success of South Africa's bid to host the tournament to the "incredible" work done by Mandela, former President Thabo Mbeki and later President Zuma. Blatter also reiterated South Africa's readiness to host the world's biggest soccer showpiece saying the country has proved its critics wrong. (AFP20100605564002 Website of the South African Government News Service)

4. BUSINESS and ECONOMICS

Report Shows Underestimated Costs to Host World Cup, Overestimated Benefits -- On 6 June *Sunday Times* reported that by speaking to experts and collating figures from independent sources it had ascertained that World Cup costs have been radically underestimated and the financial benefits overestimated. Treasury wouldn't comment on these calculations, but said "return on investment is calculated over the lifetime of the project, rather than the one year in

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which the event occurs". Concerning the financial benefit to South Africa, estimated maintenance of the World Cup stadiums will cost R140-million [rand] each year, and while FIFA had highlighted the "great opportunity to market the host country (and to) open new markets for tourism" it recently confirmed that "the number of international visitors will be between 360000 and 400000". (AFP20100606521009)

FIFA Officials To Enjoy Unrestricted Movement of Foreign Currency -- Mail & Guardian on 4 June carried reporting the guarantees the government signed with FIFA in 2004 which among other benefits give FIFA president Sepp Blatter and his colleagues "huge benefits" including the unrestricted movement of foreign currency into and out of South Africa during the World Cup. *City Press* on 6 June reported on the same guarantees adding that "FIFA - a registered "not-for-profit" organisation - has banked a record R25 billion in media and marketing revenues" but the World Cup is only expected to contribute an additional 0.5% to the country's gross-domestic product. (AFP20100605615001 Credible and reliable weekly newspaper; AFP20100606521016 Privately owned regional weekly newspaper with a majority black readership)

Expert Says World Cup Gives RSA Opportunity To Boost Service Sector -- IT Web reported on 5 June that many businesses are boosting service capacity to cope with the additional demand expected during the World Cup period. Pieter Kok, analyst of software and IT services at IDC MEA, is of the opinion that South Africa will see a permanent change in the way businesses operate because the country is hosting the World Cup and therefore has an opportunity to grow in the service industry". (AFP20100605590011 A free to access information technology news website)

World Cup Fans Willing To Spend on Luxury Goods -- Sunday Times reported on 6 June that South African retailers are experiencing a bonanza as World Cup fans spend millions on jewelry ranging from designer watches to soccer ball cufflinks and protea-shaped diamond rings. Durban jeweler Dean Gorrie said these sales are "great for us because after the recession we are seeing a spike in luxury goods". (AFP20100606521011)

5. SOCIAL MEDIA

RSA Comment Decries Police Directive Banning Protest Marches During World Cup -- Responding to a statement by media academic Jane Duncan on directives issued by the South African Police Services (SAPS) to municipalities around the country to not allow any kind of public protest for the duration of the World Cup, constitutional law expert Pierre de Vos, on 4 June, posted on his blog Constitutionally Speaking (<http://constitutionallyspeaking.co.za/>) that "parts of South Africa are now effectively functioning under a state of emergency in which the right to freedom of assembly and protest have been suspended", which is both "illegal and unconstitutional." De Vos states that "It is our democratic right and a fundamental aspect of a democracy that we should be able to express our views and grievances in this collective manner. There is no provision in the Regulation of Gatherings Act that allows the Police Commissioner or anyone else to issue a blanket ban on the holding of gatherings." (Blog by Pierre de Vos, Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of the Western Cape)

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6. VIDEO LIBRARY

For a copy of the video, contact GSG_GVP_VideoOps@rccb.osis.gov or the OSC Customer Center at (800) 205-8615.

Variety Program Investigates Defense Force's Readiness for World Cup -- MNET's Carte Blanche program on 6 June at 1700 GMT shows the South African National Defense Force's readiness to "protect and defend" the country against "any threat" during the World Cup. (For a transcript of the report see AFP20100607589001; Private commercial subscription television channel)

Video Shows Deputy-President Inspecting Hospital in Rustenburg – A news report on SABC 3 at 1700 GMT shows Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe inspecting the "world class" Moses Kotane Hospital in Rustenburg, which is ready to treat "thousands of people" during and after the World Cup. Motlanthe was also briefed on Rustenburg's security readiness to host the US-England game. (Free-to-air television station of the South Africa's national public service broadcaster, SABC)

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