



# Mzansi News



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## “AFRICA’S TIME HAS COME, AND SOUTH AFRICA IS READY”. KE NAKO!

**This** edition of Mzansi News is dedicated to the 2010 FIFA World Cup with the opening match being played between South Africa and Mexico on Friday, 11 June 2010.

In order to appreciate the visual and emotional impact of the World Cup, it is important to share with you what to expect during the next 30 days. The focus is on the excitement and readiness of the people of South Africa and Africa in hosting this spectacular event.

**It** is not only South Africa that is ready to host the World Cup, but Africa as a Continent is eager for the blow of the first whistle, especially since for the first time in the history of the FIFA World Cup, at least six African countries will be represented in the tournament.

**To** demonstrate the African Continent’s readiness, the theme for this year’s Africa Day Celebrations on 25 May was “*Building and Maintaining Peace Through Sport*”. In celebrating this occasion, President Zuma said that “We wish to reiterate that the 2010 FIFA World Cup tournament does not only belong to South Africa but to all of Africa.” He further underscored the fact that it is “important that Africa takes full advantage of the socio-economic opportunities presented by the hosting of this event on African Soil.”

**On** page 9 you will be able to take a ride in the GAUTRAIN and, given the distinct South African flavour of the 2010 FIFA World Cup, it is important for you to meet ZAMUMI and also to find out what to do with a vuvuzela and what a makarapa is!

**President** Zuma hosted FIFA’s President, Mr. Sepp Blatter, together with the entire FIFA family, at a State Banquet on Monday, 7 June 2010 at Gallagher Estate in Midrand, South Africa, to welcome them officially to South Africa. Given the importance of this event, it is prudent for us to share with you, the friends of South Africa, President Zuma’s address at the auspicious occasion.

**It** is my sincere hope and wish that this historic occasion will be engraved into the memories of people from all around the world as the most successful and exciting event in the history of the World Cup!

**ELIZABETH SMITH**  
**CHARGÉ D’AFFAIRES**



President Zuma visiting Bafana Bafana Camp  
(Photo: [GCS](#))

# ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT JG ZUMA AT THE STATE BANQUET IN WELCOMING THE FIFA FAMILY, GALLAGHER ESTATE, 7 JUNE 2010

Honourable Ministers, Premiers, Deputy Ministers,  
FIFA President Sepp Blatter and the entire FIFA  
family, President of SAFA, Chairperson and CEO of  
the Local Organising Committee,  
Distinguished guests,  
Fellow South Africans,

This week marks a historic moment in the life of our  
country and for Africa.

We are a mere four days away from the first ever  
FIFA World Cup on African soil.

I am privileged to welcome my brother and good  
friend, FIFA President Sepp Blatter and the entire  
FIFA family to this country.

After many years of planning and hard work, we  
can tonight celebrate the long road we have  
journeyed together in our preparations for this  
first African World Cup.

After FIFA awarded us the opportunity to host the  
2010 FIFA World Cup on 15 May 2004, we embraced  
the tasks that you entrusted to us, working together as  
a nation.

The hosting of the 2010 World Cup has helped us  
consolidate the gains we achieved after attaining  
freedom in 1994.

The journey that we travelled to achieve our freedom  
and democracy is marked by the struggles and  
sacrifices of many South Africans.

We now proudly say that we are one nation united in  
its diversity, with a Constitution which declares that  
South Africa belongs to all who live in it.

That nation is celebrating like never before. South  
Africa has come alive, and will never be the same again  
after this World Cup!

Whilst onlookers may reflect on South Africa as a  
“Miracle”, it is one that was fought for through many  
years of struggle and negotiation.

It is the sacrifices and suffering of many South  
Africans that brought us to the point where the  
international community could entrust us with such a  
responsibility.

It is the sacrifices of our African brothers and sisters  
on the continent, the diaspora and indeed many in the  
world over.

They refused to rest until South Africa was free of  
apartheid oppression. The World Cup is their  
celebration too.

As we celebrate FIFA's presence here this  
evening, we recall the time when you supported  
us in our struggle for freedom.



This was when we rejoiced in FIFA's decision to  
impose sanctions against South Africa in 1976 as a  
necessary action in adding weight to our struggle  
for freedom.

During those difficult years, football helped to keep our  
aspirations alive. Communities celebrated football in  
their own ways and played tournaments on the dusty  
streets and forged grounds with makeshift footballs.

Football is in our veins, it is in the bloodstream of our people. That is why FIFA has had its hands full with the demands for tickets.

The challenge for employers is to ensure that there is some productivity at work this month!

After the final whistle, we have to ensure through effective development programmes, that football becomes a truly unifying and meaningful

sport for our people as part of the legacy of the World Cup.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Our preparations for the World Cup over the last six years have demonstrated greater efficiency, focus and integration in how we execute projects.

Thanks to the tournament, we have invested in infrastructure that will help us to position South Africa as a country of choice for investment and business interests. This, you will further appreciate as you move around our beautiful country.

The infrastructure development will continue as part of the World Cup legacy to benefit all South Africans in years to come and enable all citizens to have improved access to services and infrastructure.

But there is the most important legacy that we want this tournament to leave behind. That is expanded access to primary school education for African children in the continent. That is why we are hosting a high level education summit on the 7th of July in Cape Town.

We will be supporting the 1Goal Education for all Campaign whose co-chairs are Mr Sepp Blatter, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Her Majesty Queen Rania of the Kingdom of Jordan.

We will be asking Heads of State and Government as well as the private sector to invest in education, and ensure that 72 million disadvantaged children are able to go to school.

Mr Blatter, we welcome you and the FIFA family

acknowledging your positive work for social change through football in Africa.

FIFA's 'Build a better future' initiative is aimed at reaching beyond football. It uses football's potential for human and social development, the promotion of health, the development of communities and the promotion of peace by supporting local organisations who work in these fields.

Your championing of the 1 Goal Education campaign is in this mould.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We could not have reached all these accomplishments without the dedication of thousands of South Africans who toiled to ensure a world class event.

There were many times during these six years when we were told the challenge for our country was far too great.

We refused to listen to pessimists as we knew we could deliver a world class event and make Africa proud, with the support of Africa and the international community.

Our construction workers remain our greatest heroes. They worked long hours to finish the stadiums. They are still toiling to this day on the infrastructure which will last beyond the World Cup. We are proud of them.

Thanks to their sweat, South Africa has become the stage, and Africa the theatre, where our people now assume their rightful place in the family of nations.

We are indeed proud to say to the world welcome to South Africa.

Each day many more teams, soccer fans and tourists arrive. We will share with our guests our welcoming spirit of Ubuntu – our African philosophy of relationship, humanity and interconnectedness to each other. We will forge deeper relationships with the world.

Hopefully, many visitors will also learn the diskidance – our very own 2010 World Cup dance, and will dance to our proudly South African music.

Experience our African hospitality. Explore our beautiful country and interact with our arts, cultures, heritage and enjoy our African food! Let this be a truly unforgettable African experience.

Distinguished guests,

We congratulate all qualifying nations especially the five qualifying African nations, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire and Algeria.

To all participating African countries, especially the players, you carry the hopes of all Africans on your shoulders. The instruction to African teams is unambiguous. The trophy must remain in the African continent!

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

We could not miss this opportunity to register our acknowledgement of the support provided by the FIFA President to this young democracy in the preparations for this World Cup.

We are pleased that this evening we will be able to bestow the Order of the Companions of O R Tambo award on President Blatter.

It is awarded to citizens of the world who have actively promoted the interests and aspirations of South Africa, through excellent cooperation and active expression of solidarity and support.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the FIFA Family, and the international community,

I want to reiterate what the South African bid book proclaimed. "Africa's time has come, and South Africa is ready". Ke Nako!

The moment we have been waiting for has come; let us make the most of it.

I thank you.



**President Jacob Zuma awards Fifa President Sepp Blatter with the Order of the Companion of OR Tambo for his instrumental role in bringing the Fifa World Cup™ to South Africa (Photo: [GCIS](#))**

# GOVERNMENT PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP™

## 11 JUNE – 11 JULY 2010



South Africans take to the streets in a massive show of support for Bafana Bafana and the national World Cup effort, Johannesburg, 9 June 2010 (Photo: [2010 Fifa World Cup South Africa Organising Committee](#))

### BACKGROUND

- South Africa will become the first African country to host the 2010 FIFA World Cup™, starting from 11 June to 11 July 2010.
- Thirty-two countries have qualified for the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. Six of these are from Africa, namely: South Africa, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Cameroon and Algeria.
- The rest of the qualified countries are Japan, the Netherlands, Korea Democratic People's Republic, Australia, Korea Republic, United States of America, Brazil, England, Paraguay, Spain, Denmark, Chile, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Serbia, Switzerland, Argentina, Honduras, Slovakia, France, Portugal, Slovenia, Greece, Uruguay and New Zealand.

### GOVERNMENT COMMITMENTS

- Government has made a total of 17 guarantees to FIFA in relation to the delivery of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.
- The guarantees are contained in the *Bid Book* and are required of any country that wishes to host the FIFA World Cup.
- Government preparations for the World Cup are coordinated through three main structures: the 2010 Inter-ministerial Committee, 2010 Technical Coordinating Committee and the Host Cities' Forum.
- Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe chairs the 2010 Inter-Ministerial Committee while the Deputy Minister of Finance, Nhlanhla Nene, chairs the 2010 Technical Coordinating Committee and the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Shicelo Shiceka, chairs the Host Cities' Forum.

### SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

- Government is responsible for general security while venue security is the responsibility of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ OC.
- The South African Police Force is spending R640 million on the deployment of 41 000 officers specifically for the event.
- These include 31 000 permanent members and 10 000 police reservists.
- The vast majority of the police deployed for the World Cup will be trained officers with experience in major events.
- Each of the 32 qualifying teams is expected to send at least two police officers to support the security forces during the tournament.
- South Africa had representatives at the 2006 FIFA World Cup, UEFA EURO 2008 and the Beijing Olympics to learn from the host countries' experiences.

### AFRICAN LEGACY

- The *20 Centres for 2010* is the official campaign of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. Its goal is to build 20 centres of education, public health and football across Africa.
- Five of these centres will be constructed in South Africa and the first of the 20 in the township of Khayelitsha in Cape Town was opened on 5 December.
- Five other centres on the continent are currently in construction in Rwanda, Ghana, Mali, Kenya and Namibia.
- The centre in Khayelitsha will help to educate young boys and girls from the community about HIV and AIDS and give them knowledge to live HIV-free.



Crowds packed into the new Cape Town Stadium in the suburb of Green Point. The stadium has views of both the ocean and Table Mountain. (Image: [Rodger Bosch, MediaClubSouthAfrica](#))

## WORLD CUP LIVE ACTION FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED FANS

Blind and visually impaired fans will be able to enjoy a special live-match experience at the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ in South Africa. Six stadiums will each have 15 seats equipped with headphones, along with trained commentators reporting live on the action on the pitch.

In addition, each of these six stadiums will have 15 seats that will be allocated to the fans' sighted guides, who will accompany them, while specially trained volunteers will provide assistance within the stadiums.

The initiative has been launched by the Swiss National Association for the Blind and the South African National Council for the Blind (SANCB), with financial support from FIFA.

FIFA Partner Sony is providing the necessary transmitters that will allow people to receive match-Day commentary in the stadiums free of charge.

The SANCB is ensuring that the tickets are fairly allocated, and only a very limited number of tickets are still available for 19 matches via [www.sancb.org.za](http://www.sancb.org.za).

"Football is a universal sport and it must be accessible to everyone," said Fifa president Sepp Blatter. We are therefore delighted to be able to make this unique live experience in the stadium also accessible to visually impaired and blind people.

"This project is another launching pad for South African sports, and will create a legacy with services and facilities at football grounds for visually impaired and blind South Africans."

The Institute of Advancement of Journalism was responsible for sourcing, training and coordinating the audio descriptors, while Academy of Sound Engineering students will perform the technical audio functions that will be necessary to ensure that the audio descriptions are correctly transmitted to the visually impaired fans at the stadiums. The stadiums offering the service are:

Johannesburg – Soccer City Stadium: 8 matches

Johannesburg – Ellis Park Stadium: 7 matches

Tshwane/Pretoria – Loftus Versfeld Stadium: 6 matches

Durban – Durban Stadium: 7 matches

Nelson Mandela Bay/Port Elizabeth – Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium: 8 matches

Cape Town – Green Point Stadium: 8 matches

Source: [Fifa.com](http://Fifa.com)



**"The World Cup will help unify people. If there is one thing in this planet that has the power to bind people, it is soccer."**

## ZAKUMI: SPIRIT OF SOUTH AFRICA 2010

He's a fluffy young leopard with green dreadlocks and a wide smile; he's energetic, enthusiastic, sociable, self-confident and ambitious – and he Loves football. Meet ZAKUMI , the official mascot for the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.

The name "ZAKUMI" is a composition of "ZA" (South Africa's international country code) and "kumi", a ki-Swahili word that means 10. Since

South Africa aims to make 2010 a truly African World Cup, the LOC decided to use a word from a language widely spoken across the continent.

With the slogan "ZAKUMI: the mascot with an attitude", FIFA describe ZAKUMI's personality as lively, outgoing, adventurous and spontaneous – a "shrewd little fellow".

"He symbolizes South Africa and the rest of the African continent through his self-confidence, pride, hospitality, social skills and warm-heartedness."

"The big party is in 2010, when ZAKUMI turns 16, but we will also have had 16 years of democracy then," says LOC chief executive Danny Jordaan said. ZAKUMI is therefore "the ambassador for all our hopes, dreams and aspirations in South Africa."

But, say Fifa, there is one thing that's undeniable about Zakumi: he loves football. He sees it as a Great way connect with others and break down Language barriers.

As a sign of his undying passion for the game, he always carries his football around, using it to invite people to play with him.

Zakumi's main priority, says Fifa, is to turn the World Cup into "one huge, joyful and unforgettable party and show the thousands of international guests the warmth and spirit of the African continent."



South African soccer legend Lucas Radebe, "a close friend of Zakumi", says the leopard "wants to create a good mood for the fans and raise the excitement for the 2010 Fifa World Cup, the first on African soil.

"He is a proud South African and wants to ensure that the world will come together in South Africa."

ZAKUMI was designed and his costume produced exclusively in South Africa.

After a long process of elimination, FIFA decided on a design by Cape Town designer Andries Odendaal.

The costume itself was produced by Cora's Costumes of Boksburg, east of Johannesburg. Owned by Cora Simpson, the company has 22 Years of experience in costume making, and has Made other high-profile costumes, such as the US Cartoon figures Bugs Bunny and Tweety the bird.

The man behind the actual creation of the figure is David Mbewe, who has worked with Cora's Costumes for over 20 years. After meticulously choosing the right mix of fabrics and colours, Mbewe and his assistants assembled the costume, sewing the leopard spots by hand – no easy task, Simpson said.

And the green hair? According to FIFA, ZAKUMI dyed his hair "as he felt it would be the perfect camouflage against the green of the football pitch; a bit like his rosette spots are when hunting in the wilderness!"

SAinfo reporter and [MediaClubSouthAfrica.com](http://MediaClubSouthAfrica.com)

## HATS OFF TO SA FOOTBALL'S MAKARAPA!



Fans at the Vodacom Challenge final between Manchester United and Kaizer Chiefs at Loftus Versfeld stadium in Pretoria, 26 July 2008

(Photo: Chris Kirchhoff, [MediaClubSouthAfrica](http://MediaClubSouthAfrica.com))

Watch any major South African football match, and two pieces of paraphernalia immediately stand out: one the now widely known vuvuzela trumpet, and the other the makarapa - the modified, decorated miners' helmet unique to South African soccer fans.

After lengthy discussions with the 2010 Local Organising Committee (LOC), Fifa finally relented, opting to allow the vuvuzela and the makarapa to be wielded and worn inside the stadiums during the 2009 Confederations Cup and 2010 World Cup.

Now, the LOC, along with the International Marketing Council of South Africa (IMC) and South African Tourism, are actively encouraging South Africans to take up the vuvuzela and makarapa in order to give the events a distinctive local flavour.

The sound of the vuvuzela might take getting used to, the makarapa might get in some people's line of sight, but there is no better way of creating that unique, energetic South African atmosphere during a soccer match.

A South African soccer supporter will spend hours adorning his makarapa with the logo and colours of his team, images of a favourite player, words describing the imminent downfall of the opposition, and embellishments such as giant sunglasses.

## THE VUVUZELA

What's plastic, a metre long, brightly coloured and sounds like an elephant? It's the vuvuzela, the noise-making trumpet of South African football fans, and it's come to symbolise the sport in the country.

It's an instrument, but not always a musical one. Describing the atmosphere in a stadium packed with thousands of fans blowing their vuvuzelas is difficult.

Up close it's an elephant, sure, but *en masse* the sound is more like a massive swarm of very angry bees.

And when there's action near the goal mouth, those bees go *really* crazy.

To get that sound out requires lip flexibility and lung strength - in short, a fair amount of technique. So be sure to get in some practice before attending a South African football match, or you the sound you produce may cause some amusement in the seats around you!

FIFA president Sepp Blatter stated that vuvuzelas were part of South African soccer tradition and would play an important role in highlighting the "magic" of South African soccer. Bafana-Bafana head coach Carlos Alberto Parreira agrees, saying recently: "Make them louder, louder, louder!"

SAinfo reporter and [MediaClubSouthAfrica.com](http://MediaClubSouthAfrica.com)



The vuvuzela: a beautiful noise for the beautiful game! (Photo: [GCIS](http://GCIS.com))

## SOCCKER CITY ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST

South Africa's majestic Soccer City Stadium, venue for both the opening and final match of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™, has won rave reviews from FIFA President, Mr. Sepp Blatter, who described it as "a five-star stadium" and "one of the best venues" in the world.



**Soccer City stadium, with the Johannesburg skyline in the distance** (Photo: Boogertman Urban Edge and Partners in partnership with Populous)

**A view inside the rounded calabash that reaches into Soccer City's roof** (Photo: Lucille Davie, [City of Johannesburg](#))



Soccer City resembles an African calabash with its round shape and charming patchwork of colours – was "one of the best venues" in the world. What will happen at this stadium is part of history – you will have eight games played by some of the best teams. Some of the best players in the world are going to play in this venue.

## GAUTRAIN READY FOR THE WORLD CUP

Gautrain carried its first passengers from OR Tambo International Airport to the Sandton Station – situated 15 storeys underground – on Monday, three days before the World Cup kick-off. Inside, the coach looks startling in blue and gold – the tall-backed seating is a rich royal blue, with a blue and gold spotted carpet, with two stripes running up, and the gold Gautrain logo emblazoned on it.

Hundreds of CCTV security cameras on the train and at the stations ensure the safety of commuters is not taken lightly. There will also be a 24-hour security presence at all the stations, train and parking areas. Stations have wheelchair access, toilets, lifts, fare gates, ticket offices and ticket vending machines.

Four stations – OR Tambo, Rhodesfield in Kempton Park, Marlboro and Sandton – would be fully operational by Saturday, when the inauguration takes place. Although Sandton will be fully operational, construction will still be in progress for the next few months on the second phase, from Sandton to Park station in central Johannesburg. The line between Pretoria and Johannesburg is expected to open in 2011.

SAinfo reporter and [BuaNews](#)

**One of Gautrain's first four rail cars, bearing the Gautrain's distinctive golden branding. The Gautrain rolling stock of 96 rail cars will be based on the renowned Bombardier Electrostar series, known for their state-of-the-art technology and reliable, high-performance standards** (Photo: [Gautrain](#))

