

BOOK REVIEWS

Southern Africa After Apartheid: Regional Integration and External Resources Edited by B. Oden. Uppsala, Scandinavian Institute of African Studies, 1993, 271 pp., ISBN 97-7106-332-3, Z\$27.

This volume consists of a collection of papers presented anonymously in a seminar organized by the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies in May 1992. The contributors are in the main a group of academics and some public officials from the Scandinavian countries and Southern Africa (Botswana and South Africa). The volume is divided into four main areas, viz., theory oriented, issue oriented, organization oriented and external resource oriented perspectives. Many of the chapters summarize existing literature (often without references) rather than contribute new data or new perspectives.

Of academic interest are the theory oriented perspectives, the first of which summarizes the available literature on the theories of regional integration, namely the classical approach, the developmental approach and the neo-functional approach. The relevance of these theories to Southern Africa is critically evaluated and this evaluation seems to agree with the available literature concluding that none of the above theories suits the conditions in Southern Africa. The reasons for this conclusion lie in the fact that the circumstances in the sub-region differ within and between countries. For example, a market approach will not work because it requires free trade among member countries, yet in these countries objectives differ towards openness, suspicion is rife between individual countries (witness the current trade war between Zimbabwe and Botswana, both members of the Southern African Development Community — SADC); also levels of development are far from equitable, to the effect that some member countries need import nothing from regional partners. The benefits therefore accrue inequitably to different members.

Co-operation consequently has to be limited to certain sectors and in this respect SADC has made significant strides. The rest of this section looks at the successes and failures of co-operation in Third World countries with evidence from the Association of South East African Nations, the Central American Common Market, and the Latin American Free Trade Association. The results of these organizations are also well covered in the literature and the successes are minimal: little new emerges from this section of the book.

Chapter Four presents another interesting contribution that looks at the security situation in the region. This can be considered a major contribution in that security has been ignored in the literature on integration. The authors attempt to come up with a model of enhancing regional security and conflict resolution and then the model is applied to Southern Africa. Southern Africa is one of the most volatile regions in the world and, given this fact, there is need to find ways of resolving the

persistent conflicts for successful integration. A debate on this has thus been set in motion in Chapter Four of this volume.

The volume would make interesting reading for policy-makers in the region and probably could be useful as a reference book for undergraduate students.

University of Zimbabwe

B. KHUMALO

Women and Food Security: The Experience of the SADCC Countries
Edited by Marilyn Carr with an Introduction by Anna Makimba. London, Intermediate Technology Publications, 1991, 210pp., ISBN 85339-109-3, \$19.50.

This book comprises papers presented at a meeting of Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) authorities on women's affairs in Arusha (Tanzania) in 1988. The papers are published anonymously.

The articles contained cover nine countries: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The articles provide background information on women's income-generating activities focussing specifically on land use and the kinds of technologies which may be available for use by women in all the nine countries.

The articles underscore the major role which women in the SADCC region play in the production, processing and marketing of food, but at the same time note that women have been

... constrained from contributing fully to the development of this sector by the lack of availability of efficient technologies relating to their tasks, as well as lack of access to those technologies which do exist (Makimba, p. vi).

The main concern of this book, therefore, is to discuss and to make recommendations as to what should be done in order to minimize the constraints which face women in their efforts to contribute to the production and processing of food in their respective countries.

An article giving background information on Malawi ends with two important points: that more baseline information to monitor the efficiency of technologies should be consistently gathered; and, secondly, that improved equipment which increases ground cover and reduces the need for several weeding should be introduced.

The issue of technology is referred to in all the other articles in different ways. The article on Botswana, for instance, argues strongly that 'unless technology is a tool of liberation, and is designed to qualitatively improve the life of the majority, it is of little use in developing Botswana' (p. 69).