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PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY DURING THE 2010 SOCCER WORLD CUP *

1. INTRODUCTION

The South African Government, most of the South African public, and not least the private business sector, are highly motivated to host a successful 2010 *Fédération Internationale de Football Association* (FIFA) World Cup. The tournament is seen as an opportunity to ensure long-term sustainable development of the social and economic infrastructure and to enhance job creation, as well as poverty alleviation and tourism, to name but a few aims over and above sport development.¹⁾

It is foreseen that a successful event will generate an input of R21,3 billion into the national economy with an estimated R12,7 billion in direct spending by spectators and an increase in infrastructure value of about R8 billion. It is further estimated that the state will get an additional tax income of R7,2 billion. An increase in visiting tourists is ex-

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pected, estimated at about 235 000, and it is expected that the event will generate at least 159 000 jobs.²⁾

Soccer is extremely popular among the Black African population which is the main constituency of the African National Congress (ANC) Government. The championships are thus to be the games for the people. Soccer is seen by the Government to be the sport enjoyed by the working class and the notion that crime will jeopardise the chances of a successful World cup is to be resisted.³⁾

However, security is a major factor in a country where crime is rife and where reports of murder, rape, and violent armed robbery are a daily occurrence. Many lesser crimes such as handbag theft, common robbery and mugging are not reported in the media, and some not even to the police, but they will affect the mood of foreign and local supporters extremely negatively.

That said, South Africa has presented major sporting events, for example the 1995 Rugby World Cup, the 1996 African Cup of Nations soccer championships, the 2003 Cricket World Cup, and a number of major international conferences successfully, with no major reported criminal occurrences.

Some major factors which will have an influence on the level of security include suitable legislation, safe facilities, policing and practical safety measures against crime, safe available transport, and good sound administration involving foreign visitor entrance control.

There is an old saying that rugby is a ruffian's game played by gentlemen and soccer a gentleman's game played by ruffians. That may be amusing nonsense but although rugby and cricket supporter crowds are rowdy, soccer crowds are sometimes infiltrated by hooligans. The latter can cause as much havoc as criminals and the safety measures to handle them, as well as measures to keep them out of South Africa may well be crucial to success.

2. LEGISLATION

Preparation of legislation for the 2010 World Cup has received considerable Government attention. As a proactive step in planning for the event, a *Safety at Sports and Recreational Events Bill* was already drafted as early as March 2004. The Bill was evidently resubmitted to Parliament in 2006 and in March 2007 it was reported as being in the

process of being resubmitted to Cabinet again for final approval. The main purpose of the Bill is to avoid situations such as the Ellis Park soccer disaster of April 2001 when 42 people died at a match between Kaiser Chiefs and Orlando Pirates.

The *Safety at Sports and Recreational Events Bill 2007*, is expected to be an Act of Parliament by November 2007.⁴⁾ It will be an Act which specifies as precisely as possible the roles, tasks and responsibilities of the National Event Inspectorate, the National Safety and Security Officer, the South African Police Service (SAPS), security service providers, and medical personnel, to name but a few. Other state security services are tasked to support the SAPS, and to render all reasonable and necessary assistance, as may be required in accordance with safety and security plans.

The 2007 Act will thus regulate safety and security measures with the aim of ensuring that the soccer supporters, players, officials and the general public will be protected from accidents and dangerous occurrences at sporting events, which obviously includes the 2010 Soccer World Cup. It aims to achieve this by laying down detail, such as stipulating that safety and security plans be set up and submitted to the local disaster management centres prior to events, that proper communication channels be established between safety and security personnel, and that crowd sizes determine the various types of medical facilities which have to be deployed at the stadiums.

Additional legislation which will regulate the 2010 Soccer World Cup is the *2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa Special Measures Amendment Bill 2007*, which is to amend the two *2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa Special Measures Bills, 2006*. The Amendment Bill should be enacted by November 2007.⁵⁾

The 2010 Special Measures legislation aims to facilitate the hosting and staging of the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup South Africa in accordance with the Organising Association Agreement between FIFA and the South African Football Association (SAFA), and the guarantees given by the South African Government to FIFA.⁶⁾ The measures included in the Act will cover a host of matters, for example, regulations pertaining to the sale of liquor, prohibition of the sale of unregistered medicines, the issue of visas and work permits, and the search and seizure of persons by security agencies.

The content of the legislation is studied in detail by the Parlia-

mentary Monitoring Group, Sport and Recreation Portfolio Committee, Education and Select Committee, to whom various state departments and the SAPS have made submissions related to the Bills. The *Special Measures Act* will thus clearly affect safety and security directly.

It is clear that legislation is given the necessary attention, but the Police and Prison Civil Rights Union spokesperson, Boiki Tsedu, commented that he was concerned about the feasibility of the Bills/Acts. He stated that the legislation looked good on paper, but when it came to implementation the lack of resources would pose a problem.⁷⁾ In view of the lack of efficiency and expertise which Provincial and especially Local Government now experiences in South Africa, his comment is probably valid.

3. FACILITIES CRUCIAL FOR SUPPORTERS

Much of the abovementioned legislation focuses on the promotion of safety and security of people attending sports events at stadiums. Obviously the stadiums earmarked for matches in 2010 must comply with the safety standards set for such events. The five stadiums which are to be upgraded and the five to be built have been allocated a total of R8,4 billion by Government for their improvement or construction as the case may be. The municipalities (Local Governments) of the host cities will have to invest an additional R2,6 billion. The building of modern stadiums up to FIFA and South African SAFA standards are an expensive undertaking. Soccer City (Johannesburg), for example, has alone been allocated R1,53 billion.⁸⁾

On 15 May 2007 the Deputy Minister of Finance announced that the stadiums would be ready by 2009. In order to allow the national security agencies to do their safety and security planning in advance, the matches have already been allocated as depicted in *Table 1*.

The security plans would later have to be adapted to fit in with the specific allocation of teams to stadiums. This could be required since certain matches might tend to cause soccer hooliganism, whilst others would be unlikely to do so. The Deputy Minister of Finance also announced that R666 million would be allocated specifically to safety and security measures.⁹⁾

Other than stadiums, transport is a major safety factor, not to mention its convenience requirements. Transport which is readily avail-

Table 1: Planning of Match Venues for 2010 Soccer World Cup

City / Town	Stadium	Capacity	1 st Round	2 nd Round	Quarter Final	Semi Final	3 rd Place	Final
Johannesburg	Soccer City	94 000	5	1	1			1
Johannesburg	Ellis Park	61 000	5	1	1			
Durban	Moses Mabhida	70 000	5	1		1		
Cape Town	Green Point	70 000	5	1	1	1		
Pretoria	Loftus Versveld	50 000	5	1			1	
Rustenburg	Royal Bafokeng	45 000	5	1				
Port Elizabeth	Nelson Mandela	48 000	5	1	1			
Bloemfontein	Vodacom Park	45 000	5	1				
Polokwane	Peter Mokaba	46 000	4					
Nelspruit	Mataffin	46 000	4					

able and flows well, is essential for safe rapid movement of soccer supporters from their accommodation to sport facilities or places of entertainment, and back to their accommodation. Long waiting irritated crowds are a problem in that they are in themselves targets for crime, and the wait can lead to hooliganism when competing support groups are idle.

The South African Government is to allocate R9 billion to improve transport networks of which R2,3 billion is allocated to bus networks; R1,3 billion to rail transport; and R430 million to national roads.¹⁰⁾ The soccer hosting cities have also been allocated considerable financial support for improvement of their transport infrastructure of which Johannesburg, for example, receives as much as R1,32 billion.¹¹⁾ From a purely safety and security point of view, the allocations are sound, and have the added advantage that long after 2010, South Africa will still reap the benefit of the transport improvement.

There are various organisations which are involved in the business of finding accommodation for soccer supporters for 2010. They seek accommodation and are reported in the media as having found large numbers of 'rooms' and are interested in finding more 'rooms'. This is an aspect of the championships which is extremely sensitive from a safety viewpoint. Transport and living areas are not easily safeguarded, and a lot of crime and robberies take place in these environments, where visible high density policing is difficult. Unfortunately crime in these areas can be extremely violent, and where it occurs it will receive considerable media coverage.

4. THE CRIMINAL AND TERRORIST THREAT

Thirteen years after the introduction of the new democratic dispensation, when the 'struggle' was officially ended, South Africa still has major security issues. The New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) instituted a project known as the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), in which a panel of elders were tasked to assess the state of countries that are members of NEPAD, and who agreed to be evaluated by their peers. The panel which was by its very nature not anti-African, concluded that South Africa had either the highest or second highest rates of murder and rape in the world and that "a distinctive feature of crime in south Africa is not its volume but its violence".¹²⁾

It was also of the opinion that the high levels of crime in the Black communities during the struggle, had inculcated and developed a culture of violent lawlessness which still fed violent crime.¹³⁾

The APRM conclusions are of value and consistently repeated because they are drafted by a non-South African panel, which is unlikely to have pre-conceived ideas to advantage or disadvantage any particular South African interest groups. Their inferences are supported by the fact that it is reported that between April 2006 and March 2007 there were 19 202 murders; 52 617 reported cases of rape; 218 030 assaults with the aim of causing grievous bodily harm; 9 367 indecent assaults; 13 599 car hijackings; 249 665 burglaries and 12 761 robberies at residential premises in South Africa.¹⁴⁾ Roughly 60 per cent of the murders and rapes were perpetrated by friends or relatives of the victims.¹⁵⁾

All the abovementioned crimes are a threat to visitors to South Africa, and where they are targeted by criminals the cases receive wide media coverage. It is also important to note that 40 per cent of murders and rapes involve strangers and not friends or relatives, and that there is evidently an element of terrorism involved, leading to completely unnecessary and outrageous violence directed at the victims of crime.

Irrespective of the normal rate of crime experienced in South Africa, it is reported that an increase in crime during the Soccer World Cup in June/July 2010 is very likely based on the German 2006 World Cup experience. The police evidently registered 7 000 incidents of crime in Germany, mostly incidents of assault, theft and damage to property. As many as 9 000 people were arrested or detained during the tournament of which 80 per cent were Germans and the majority of the foreigners were English.¹⁶⁾

The South African criminal justice system is already overloaded. On 21 May 2007 the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) reported in a news bulletin that annually as many as half a million criminal cases were not even investigated in court, due to inability of the SAPS to prepare cases, to name but one department involved in the process. Since relatively few criminal cases are ever properly finalised, any increase in crime levels will be most unfortunate. Professional/habitual criminals are certain to exploit this situation.

Evidently poor policing capabilities in Africa have resulted in large-scale trafficking in cocaine and heroin on the continent. The soccer

championships in Germany in 2006 allowed drug dealers the opportunity to market their wares extensively, and the United Nations (UN) office of drugs and crime expects that Southern Africa will be targeted in the same way.¹⁷⁾

The South African Government has been warned through diplomatic channels that criminals from some foreign countries are aiming to engage in human and drug trafficking during the 2010 World Cup festivities. This led the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) to conclude that effective border control was essential. The South African Minister of Safety and Security said that the organisation intended to make officials available to prevent illegal entry of people into the country.¹⁸⁾

However, it is no secret that the extensive South African land borders are extremely porous. It is unlikely that illegal entry will be curtailed in 2010. There is already concern that the disintegration of Zimbabwe and the consequent increasing movement of illegal immigrants or refugees into South Africa is a threat, especially to landowners in the border area. This has, however, been going on for some time, and it is estimated that there are already as many as two to three million Zimbabweans living in South Africa.

In March 2007 the South African President stated in Parliament during a debate, that South Africans should simply learn to accept that people would move over the borders into South Africa from Zimbabwe as long as that country was in turmoil. Since South Africa has neither the means nor the intention to stop it, the President is most probably right, but this obviously does not solve the problem.

Another criminal threat is that of prostitution. It will not be possible to effectively police this activity, which is illegal in South Africa. The National Commissioner of the SAPS has muted the idea that prostitution should be legalised for the duration of the games. The idea was met with extensive opposition in political and religious circles, but whatever the outcome, sex with strangers is dangerous in Southern Africa. The very high incidence of HIV/AIDS among the population should be warning enough. Intoxicated people may not heed the warning, however. The idea that the drinking of alcoholic beverages in public unlicensed places should be allowed during the World Cup, has also been suggested by the Commissioner of Police, since policing its illegality is not really feasible.

It is reported that a former police commissioner was 'concerned' that intelligence-gathering and the infiltrating of organised crime syndicates would be difficult during the World Cup.¹⁹⁾ This concern seems valid. Criminal activity during such a short period of time when more than 360 000 foreigners are expected to visit South Africa, will probably swamp intelligence with information which will be processed too late to be of value.

As far as the threat of terrorism is concerned, infiltrating modern 21st century international terrorist organisations is extremely difficult. They operate within a very loose organisational system, networking without a laid down hierarchy. They have as yet not attacked a South African target and are probably not motivated to do so. They could, however, decide to attack teams or visitors from countries they are known to attack. Nevertheless, a terrorist attack seems unlikely considering the fact that it has not occurred at a large sporting event since the Munich Olympic Games in 1972. There are probably easier targets not well guarded with greater news and terror value.

A negative factor and threat which can be used by both the criminals and possibly terrorists is the increase in strike action on the part of public servants. Protest actions are common in South Africa, particularly when people march and riot objecting to bad service delivery on the part of provincial government and municipalities. It can erupt into violence, and disrupt essential services, and should it occur it will lead to negative publicity world wide. Since the public supports soccer so enthusiastically, it will hopefully not occur during the 2010 championships.

5. SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES

During a 2010 FIFA World Cup submission by the SAPS to a Parliamentary Monitoring Group, a senior SAPS officer from the Legal Service Division said that the police's initial guarantee stated the following: "the Government guarantees to undertake all security measures necessary to guarantee general safety and personal protection especially at airports, inside and outside hotels, stadiums, training grounds, the international broadcasting centre, media centres, any official areas and other areas where accredited persons and/or spectators are present".²⁰⁾

Notwithstanding the continuous rationale that the previous world

cups were safely and successfully presented in South Africa, the guarantee is extremely extensive and ambitious. They will have to safeguard about 3,5 million people taking part in the event of which approximately 360 000 to 440 000 will be foreigners.²¹⁾

The guarantees to maintain safety and security are becoming even more ambitious. A South African Tourism chief executive has said that South Africa pledges to fight crime up to 2010, and that officials expect 195 000 uniformed police and 320 000 private security personnel to be deployed when the tournament begins.²²⁾ The SAPS National Commissioner is reported to have said that the police had plans to monitor the places where visiting soccer supporters would be accommodated, the routes they would travel on and the places they would most likely visit. "The police said they could ensure the safety of spectators, players and officials for the showpiece".²³⁾

According to a human resources equal opportunity plan of the SAPS, the force should consist of 79 per cent Blacks; 9,6 per cent Whites; 8,9 per cent Coloured and 2,5 per cent Indian police personnel by December 2010. This is in line with the 2001 census results depicting the racial make-up of the country in that year.²⁴⁾ It will require the acceleration of transformation, the recruitment of many new Black police officials (over and above those needed to expand the force as announced), and the curtailment of the services of the members of racial groups whose percentages are too high.

By June/July 2010 many new policemen and policewomen will thus be employed who have no big sport event experience, and a number of experienced personnel will have left. Some who are required to leave the SAPS may of course join the private security firms, but they are also required to heed laid-down transformation figures. The real detrimental effect of accelerated transformation on the efficiency of the security services during the world cup is difficult to predict. Hopefully it can be managed successfully.

The SAPS will be supported by foreign police forces as was done at the 2006 World Cup in Germany. The SAPS National Commissioner said that Interpol would co-ordinate their deployment and their presence in South Africa.²⁵⁾ This is obviously a sound decision since foreign police officers will know how to approach crowds emanating from their home countries. They will also very likely be specially selected with experience of large sport events.

Another project which could be seen as a quasi-security measure is the establishment of what are referred to as 'fan parks'. The 'Fan Park' project is to be dealt with jointly by FIFA and the local organising committee (LOC). Fan parks were successfully established at the 2006 soccer championships. They consist of areas in which hundreds of thousand of people can view world cup matches on large television screens.²⁶⁾ The aim is to establish a festive atmosphere for people who could not get tickets, or who may prefer to watch in such a park. For the security services it may well be a blessing since people will be concentrated in specific pre-planned areas. The presence of police in large numbers should have a calming influence on people who thus feel safe, and it may even temper aggressive hooliganism.

Deputy National Police Commissioner, André Pruis, responsible for operational services, is in charge of SAPS 2010 World Cup security arrangements. This is a critical appointment. He was involved in the 1995 Rugby World Cup and the 2003 Cricket World Cup. He also studied the security arrangements at the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany, as well as the 2007 Cricket World Cup in the West Indies. He thus has practical first-hand experience and knowledge gained from observing the latest championships in the 'War on Terror' era. He is reported to have a dedicated team of policemen and policewomen working with him, and he seems satisfied that the operational plans and the commanders managing police units will be able to guarantee safety during 2010.²⁷⁾

Commissioner Pruis explained, in what is reported as an exclusive interview with *The Star* newspaper, that:²⁸⁾

- The SAPS started planning their operations three years ago and expected to complete them in about nine months as from roughly the beginning of April 2007.
- There would be a dedicated police station in every host city in 2010 which would have separate holding cells, a court room for speedy judgements and a Home Affairs office for possible deportations.
- Over and above the SAPS annual budget, R600 million is already being spent to buy equipment such as light aircraft and hundreds of kilometres of retractable fencing.

- The SAPS would liaise with Interpol to gain access to databases recording dangerous unwanted visitors, which included terrorists, criminals and soccer hooligans. In co-operation with their home countries, access to the World Cup in South Africa would be barred.

He further stated in the interview that:²⁹⁾

- The soccer stadiums will have one or two mobile police centres with high-tech monitoring equipment which could perform functions such as carrying out identity checks.
- Mobile command centres, water cannons, crime scene trailers, plus armour for vehicles and new tools for bomb squads were also to be obtained.
- The intention is to deploy 30 000 police officers in the host cities dedicated to policing the soccer championships. The current SAPS reserve force is about 45 000 strong, and it will be attempted to recruit 50 000 more reserves by 2010.

As early as 21 July 2003 the National Commissioner of the SAPS signed a guarantee to FIFA that a National Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure (NATJOINTS) Planning Committee would deal with security matters at the 2010 FIFA World Cup. He gave the assurance that all the necessary arrangements would be made by the SAPS to ensure sufficient security measures.³⁰⁾

Commissioner Pruis was duly appointed as the chairperson of the NATJOINTS Planning Committee, supported by a planning support team. The committee works in close consultation with the LOC Security Directorate and other 2010 Soccer World Cup stakeholders.³¹⁾

The NATJOINTS is led by the SAPS and includes the South African Army, private security services, fire and emergency services, as well as municipal police.³²⁾ Although the above source mentioned the Army as a member of NATJOINTS, it is probably in fact the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) which features there. At a Military Information Communication Symposium South Africa (MICSA), senior defence force officials stated that the Defence Force was to establish networks to share information between security agencies, in order to ensure that no security breaches would occur at the 2010

Soccer World Cup.

MICSA is reported to be a partnership between the SANDF, Armscor and the State Information Agency. The SANDF spokesman said the defence force's role would be to help the SAPS by providing troops and communication technology needed to secure events.³³⁾ By 2010 the Defence Force may be tasked to provide more than communication technology, but the MICSA activity shows that different state agencies linked to security are keen to provide services which may be required in 2010.

The LOC established its own Safety and Security Department in December 2006, with the appointment of Linda Mti as Chief Security Officer FIFA World Cup LOC SA. The department is responsible for the following:³⁴⁾

- The co-ordination of government security initiatives, private security companies, and all others who are responsible for the provision of security for the World Cup.
- To assure exclusive responsibility for the implementation of security plans for "FIFA zones". FIFA zones include the stadiums' inner perimeters from the fence to the pitch, very important persons (VIP) hospitality zones, and fan parks.
- To assess the security risks involved in the presentation of the World Cup and to work with the departments and entities responsible for the respective areas, in order to develop plans for the alleviation of such risks.
- To manage the provision of safety and security at official LOC/ FIFA events prior to the World Cup.

It is clear that the allocation of tasks and responsibilities of the South African government agencies led by the SAPS and the LOC Safety and Security Department, as regards security for the Soccer World Cup, must still be further refined. In broad terms, the South African government is responsible for 80 per cent of security outside the stadiums and 20 per cent for security at the stadiums. The LOC Safety and Security Department in turn is responsible for 80 per cent of the security at the stadiums, and only 20 per cent for security elsewhere.

6. OVERALL ADMINISTRATION WHICH INFLUENCES SECURITY

The administration involved in catering for the large numbers of visitors to South Africa in the winter of 2010 is huge. Much of it will have to do with the comfort of the soccer enthusiasts, and the ease with which they can move to and from stadiums, fan parks, restaurants and their accommodation.

From a security point of view it is imperative that Eskom can guarantee a steady power supply. Should power cuts occur it will not only cause discomfort in winter, and affect the food catering industry, but it will provide criminals perfect conditions for illegal activities in the dark. The negative affects on airports, traffic flow and the games themselves, will be catastrophic. Unless the power supply problem in South Africa can be overcome by 2010, even if only for the duration of the games, it may be better to postpone or cancel the event.

However, the organisers of the World Cup in South Africa are fully aware of the power supply problem. It is reported in the printed media that they are identifying the risks together with Eskom, and that they intend to install power generators at stadiums to guarantee power during matches, as stipulated in FIFA's safety guidelines', Article 10. It is also reported that negotiations are in progress to obtain additional power during the games from Botswana.³⁵⁾

Effective administration on the part of the Department of Home Affairs is also crucial. It will have a massive task in issuing visas to persons from countries requiring visas, who need only apply as late as "14 days before departing for the Republic". Spectators from countries exempt from complying with visa requirements must be issued with visitor's permits by the Director General of Home Affairs.³⁶⁾ No time limit is given for visitors' permits. Obviously this administration must be done effectively to allow all interested soccer supporters to come, but it must also bar unwanted visitors as the police plan requires.

Unfortunately the Department of Home Affairs has, according to media reports, not been functioning optimally. The Department evidently needs a new system to give visitors to South Africa a faster and smoother entry into the country. The SA Tourism Chief Executive Officer has criticised Home Affairs for delays in processing visa applica-

tions from foreign tourists, and a new passport and visa control system is evidently needed. The 2010 World Cup is still some time away, but the tenders for the system's installation have not been approved yet, and the Department is said to be notorious for long delays in awarding tenders.³⁷⁾

It is continuously being set as an objective that the countries neighbouring South Africa and towns not hosting soccer games, should also gain benefits from the championships. Teams and supporters are motivated to seek accommodation in countries bordering the Republic and in small towns and rural areas.³⁸⁾ The intention is good and possibly the host cities where the matches take place, will not be able to house all the visitors. However, it will put even more pressure on the Department of Transport, the traffic control organisations, the airports and the need for reliable power. The smooth flow of all the movement is necessary to ensure that events take place on time, not to mention the irritation of the public if they are delayed in traffic jams and queues.

7. CONCLUSION

Probably only those involved directly with the arrangements for the 2010 FIFA World Cup for some time, such as the chief executive of the LOC and the Deputy National Commissioner of the SAPS responsible for operations, fully realise the extent of the World Cup undertaking. Both the LOC and the SAPS have and will continue to do detailed planning and executions. Their commitment is not in doubt, and the event should be a success with the Government so intent on achieving a favourable outcome for the whole African continent.

However, there are many risks involved in an event which will have the world's media concentrating not only on the soccer, but on any mishaps which may occur. Should visitors to South Africa be targeted by criminal gangs, and especially should violence be involved, it will not only be tragic, it will be noteworthy. It is in fact sure to happen, and no matter how effective the SAPS security arrangements are, the criminals will find the opportunity to rob unarmed, unprepared people of money and other valuables. They will have no compunctions not to do so.

There will be umpteen opportunities for small crime such as pick-pocketing, which will only make news if it is extremely common. Opportunities for hijacking vehicles and large-scale robberies of places of ac-

commodation will be common, because of the tremendous scale of movement involved from accommodation to restaurants, soccer stadiums, other places of entertainment such as fan parks, and back.

A major risk lies in the inability of the producers of electric power to guarantee its availability. It will affect the stadiums, the fan parks, transport flow, and safety of the many visitors. Unless this threat is overcome, it could lead to a catastrophe which robbers would definitely exploit. They do so at present, and will do so in 2010 if the opportunity presents itself. Hopefully power cuts will be a thing of the past by 2010. If not, that electric power can at least be guaranteed during the games which take place from 11 June to 11 July 2010, which is mid-winter in the southern hemisphere.

The administration involved in the control of the movement of people and goods into South Africa is a gigantic task. The issue of visas, visitor and even work permits, requires an efficiency which the Department of Home Affairs does not possess at present. It can evidently even only perform its functions with difficulty with a normal workload. Hopefully plans to increase its capacity will bear fruit by 2010.

South Africa's main roads are already over-taxed by the number of vehicles they carry. Traffic congestion is common, consequently even greater congestion will have to be avoided by good planning and excellent traffic control. The idea that visitors should be accommodated in towns away from the host cities is sound, but it will require even more traffic control and security arrangements in many towns, where municipalities are proving to be inefficient and overwhelmed by their tasks.

The lack of control on South Africa's borders can result in an even greater influx of illegal entrants into the country. There may be those with criminal intent, and there could be many who have no intention of returning to their countries of origin after the games, even if entering legally, should they improve their living conditions in South Africa. Better border and entrance control for the duration of the championships is unlikely but not impossible, and certainly a necessity.

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