

Africa's Future

Dear Sir,

Mr. Strauss Kahn's request to be Africa's voice [Barney Jopson's Africa to use own voice and work with IMF] is a timely one. To date, Our Policy Makers have been largely silent except for some tinkering at the edges. He spotted the vacuum and rightly tried to fill it.

Africa can certainly lay blame at the West's door but ultimately this is irrelevant. In the scheme of things, we hardly register on the radar screen. Mr. Madoff's Ponzi scheme, for example, represented more than the entire Aid flow into Africa.

The SSA upturn is still nascent and there is a singular lack of elasticity in our defences. We need to get away from the stick a finger in the dyke mentality and think bigger. Africa needs a Marshal Plan where real new money in the order of \$100b is deployed so that Africa can embark on a one off Infrastructure roll out and catch up. This will also create jobs as a counterweight against the Tsunami wave that is washing up on our shores. Africa should invite oversight and create an Africa Infrastructure Bond[s] where the Bonds are secured by specific cash flows.

As Coffers are plundered to recapitalise Western Banks and the World accelerates ever faster, our People need to move fast, present a coherent plan and get ahead of the curve.

In today's world, the premium on good and alert Policy making has never been so high, anywhere. We need to step up to the plate.

Aly-Khan Satchu