



PRESS RELEASE

SADC Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) to the Presidential and National Assembly Elections of the Republic of Seychelles scheduled for the 25th- 27th September 2025

8th September 2025, Gaborone, Botswana: In line with their five-year electoral cycle, the Republic of Seychelles will hold Presidential and National Assembly Elections from 25th- 27th September 2025. H.E. Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, President of the Republic of Malawi, and Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, has assigned the SADC Secretariat to coordinate the deployment of the SADC Electoral Observation Mission for a Short-Term Observer mission within the country in line with Article 3 of the *revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2021)*, which provides that SADC shall observe all general elections held in its Member States.

The SADC Secretariat and observers will arrive in Seychelles from 9 September 2025, with the mission lasting until 4th October 2025. The official Launch of SEOM Seychelles will be held on 18th September 2025 and the release of the SEOM Preliminary Statement will take place on 29th September 2025, both at the Eden Bleu Hotel on Mahe Island where the SEOM Headquarters will be based.

The SEOM to Seychelles will observe the pre- and post-election phases as well as the polling day. The Mission's key objective is to assess the conduct of the elections against the *revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2021)*. These principles emphasise, amongst others, the importance of citizen participation in the democratic and development processes, the implementation of measures to promote free and fair elections, equal access to the government-owned Media by all political parties and the significance of acceptance and respect for the election results by all political parties.

As part of its mandate, the SEOM Leadership and observers will engage a variety of election-related stakeholders on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue during the deployment period. The SADC Secretariat will also facilitate a Pre-Deployment Refresher Training for the observers ahead of their official sending off to the country's districts.

The key activities for the SEOM programme of schedule comprises the following;

DATE	ACTIVITY
13 th -16 th September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refresher Training for Observers (including Guidelines for Election Observation During Public Emergencies)
17 th -28 th September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HoM / Organ TROIKA / SEAC Consultation Meetings with Electoral Stakeholders
18 th September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAUNCH OF SEOM SEYCHELLES [event open to the Public and Media]
25 th -27 th September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRESIDENTIAL AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS [FIELD OBSERVATIONS]
29 th September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RELEASE OF THE SEOM PRELIMINARY STATEMENT FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES [event open to the Public and Media]
30 th September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departure of Short-Term Observers (STOs)
3 rd October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departure of HoM • Departure of TROIKA/SEAC and Drafting Team
4 th October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of the SEOM Headquarters

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SADC is an organisation of 16 Member States established in 1980 as the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference (SADCC) and later, in August, 1992 transformed into the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The mission of SADC is to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development through efficient, productive systems, deeper cooperation and integration, good governance and durable peace and security; so that the region emerges as a competitive and effective player in international relations and the world economy. Member States are Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

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