



SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

Private Bag 0095
Gaborone
Botswana

E-mail: registry@sadc.int
Website: www.sadc.int

Telephone: (267) 3951863
Telefax: (267) 3972848
(267) 3181070

SADC STATEMENT ON THE LATEST SECURITY SITUATION IN EASTERN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

For Immediate release November 22, 2012 (13:40)

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has learned with great disappointment, of the latest security developments in the Eastern DRC about the invading and capturing of the town of Goma, in North Kivu Province by the M23 rebels on 20 November 2012.

SADC condemns and deplores this act of aggression which undermines the regional and international efforts towards resolving the conflict in that part of the country.

SADC also joins the international community in demanding "immediate withdrawal of the M23 from Goma, the cessation of any further hostilities by M23 and that its members immediately and permanently disband and lay down their arms".

SADC believes that the current conflict can still be resolved through collective dialogue. In this regard, SADC calls upon all parties involved in this conflict to allow peaceful and durable solution of the conflict.

SADC in collaboration with the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) will continue to make all efforts to find the way forward in urgently addressing this matter.

SADC further calls upon the international community to continue providing the most needed humanitarian assistance to victims and internally displaced person in the Eastern DRC.

For further information please contact the SADC Public Relations Unit.

21 November 2012
GABORONE

Member States:

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| Angola | Lesotho | Malawi | Namibia | Swaziland | |
| Botswana | Madagascar | Mauritius | Seychelles | United Republic of Tanzania | |
| Democratic Republic of Congo | | Mozambique | South Africa | Zambia | Zimbabwe |

All correspondence should be addressed to the Executive Secretary