



MEDIA ADVISORY

SECOND MEETING OF THE HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE FOR THE 11TH EDF JOINT RIP FOR THE EASTERN AFRICAN, SOUTHERN AFRICAN AND INDIAN OCEAN REGION

Who: All News / Assignment / Syndication Editors

What: **Invited** To the closing of the above named meeting that will take place from the afternoon of December 10, 2014 and end at 16:hrs on December 11, 2014 **with an interaction with the media**

When: December 11, 2014 @ 16:00hrs

Where: SADC Secretariat – Meeting Room DG48-49

Why: To get first-hand information on the finalisation of the text for the joint Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) for the EA-SA-IO Region

Background:

1. The Second Meeting of the High Level Committee for the 11th EDF Joint RIP is to be held at the SADC Secretariat in Gaborone, Botswana on 10 – 11 December 2014.
2. The meeting will be officially opened by the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax and chaired by the IGAD Executive Secretary, His Excellency Engineer Mahboub Maalim and Koen Vervaeke, Director in the European External Action Service.
3. The meeting will be attended by delegations from the Eastern African, Southern African and Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) Region, led by the Chief Executives of COMESA, EAC, IGAD, IOC, SADC and the EU. Delegations of the EU from these Regions will also be in attendance.
4. It is anticipated that the meeting will consider and adopt the consolidated text of the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) for the Eastern African, Southern African and Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) Region, leading to the signing of the RIP in March/April 2015.

5. The meeting will discuss the consolidated text of the programme of support to be provided by the EU to the EA-SA-IO in the amount of 450 million Euros (for the Regional Organisations' specific programme interventions, 600 million Euros for support to Infrastructure and 205 million Euros for other cross-regional interventions.
6. The programme of support (known as the joint RIP) will focus on the following main areas:
 - a. Peace, Security and Regional Stability
 - b. Regional Economic Integration
 - c. Regional Natural Resource Management
 - d. Regional Infrastructure
 - e. Other Cross-Regional Interventions
7. The programming of the 11th EDF is based on the broad policy orientations of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement between the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) and the EU, as well as the new EU Development Policy – Agenda for Change. It borrows heavily on the regional priorities identified in the Regional Organisations' policy and strategy documents.
8. Once the joint RIP is signed in March/April 2015, specific programmes and projects will be formulated to implement the development objectives and interventions identified in the RIP.

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