



PRESS RELEASE

Ministers responsible for Gender and Women`s Affairs in SADC Member States to meet and review progress on implementation of related programmes and interventions

26 May 2023, Gaborone, Botswana: The Committee of Ministers Responsible for Gender and Women`s Affairs from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) will meet in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, on 02 June 2023 to review progress on the implementation of the SADC Gender Programmes.

The Meeting will discuss and make decisions on the implementation of the: Gender mainstreaming programmes in SADC; Regional Multi-Dimensional Women`s Economic Empowerment Programme (RMD-WEEP); Women, Peace and Security Agenda; SADC Regional Strategy and Framework of Action for Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV), 2018-2030; Women in Politics and Decision-Making Positions and Progress towards Gender Parity at the SADC Secretariat.

His Excellency SAMA LUKONDE KYENGE, Prime Minister and Head of Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo, will officiate the meeting which will be chaired by Honourable MIREILLE MASANGU BIBI MULOKO, Minister of Gender, Child and Family Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and supported by Ambassador JOSEPH NOURRICE, the Deputy Executive Secretary responsible for Corporate Affairs at the SADC Secretariat.

The Ministers will also discuss, the implementation of the SADC Industrialisation and Women`s Economic Empowerment Project (IWEE Project), which is implemented with the support from the German Government under the Cooperation for the Enhancement of SADC Regional Economic Integration (CESARE) Programme. The (IWEE Project) aims to improve and increase the effectiveness of regional reforms and country-led actions to achieve gender-responsive financial inclusion goals, support Financial Service Providers (FSPs) to develop products and services that are more gender-responsive and more inclusive of women entrepreneurs amongst others.

The meeting of Committee of SADC Ministers Responsible for Gender and Women Affairs will be preceded by the Meeting of SADC Senior Officials Responsible for Gender and Women`s Affairs on 31 May - 01 June 2023.

For enquiries:

Ms. Barbara Lopi, Head of Communication and Public Relations, email; blopi@sadc.int or Ms. Anethe Mtambanengwe, email; amtambanengwe@sadc.int or email prinfo@sadc.int.

.....

SADC in Brief

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.

**Issued by the SADC Secretariat on 26th May, 2023
Gaborone, Botswana**