



PRESS RELEASE

Ministers responsible for Education, Training, Science, Technology and Innovation in SADC to Meet to discuss Implementation of Programmes in these Sectors

20-23 JUNE 2023

16 June 2023, Gaborone, Botswana: The Joint Committee of Ministers responsible for Education and Training and Science, Technology, and Innovation from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is scheduled to meet in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, on 23 June 2023 to review progress in the implementation of the SADC Programmes in the sectors for the periods 2021 and 2022.

The Ministers will receive progress on the status of implementation of on-going programmes and initiatives in the Education and Training and Science, Technology and Innovation sectors in relation to the Protocols on Education and Science, Technology and Innovation as well as review the implementation of the relevant priority areas outlined in the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030.

The meeting will be chaired by Honourable Muhindo Nzangi Butondo, the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education of the Democratic Republic of Congo who currently serves as the Chairperson of the Joint Meeting of Committee of Ministers responsible for Education and Training and Science, Technology, and Innovation. Ms. Angèle Makombo N'tumba, SADC Deputy Executive Secretary responsible for Regional Integration, will officiate the meeting on behalf of the SADC Executive Secretary, His Excellency Mr Elias M. Magosi.

Among others, the Ministers will:

- review progress towards the establishment and operationalisation of the SADC University of Transformation (SUT), to focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, commercialisation, technology transfer, enterprise development, digital and knowledge economy, to support the SADC industrialisation agenda.
- consider the report on the Regional Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Symposium which focused on four themes namely TVET governance and policy framework, articulation, skills for jobs and skills for just transition and green

skills.

- review the progress achieved by Member States towards the implementation of the Care and Support for Teaching and Learning Framework.
- consider the draft SADC Digital Transformation Strategy (DTS) which aims to advance, the region's Digital Transformation and fosters an inclusive Digital Economy. This draft regional strategy has also identified key strategic capacities and capabilities for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).
- review progress towards the establishment and operationalisation of the SADC Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Organisation which will be established according to the SADC Charter on Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Organisation. The Charter is a legal instrument to establish the SADC Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Organization, which was approved by the SADC Council of Ministers at their meeting in August 2018 in Namibia. Ministers will further review progress towards the achievement of 1% Gross Domestic Product (GDP) investment towards Research and Development (R&D) as per the target in the Protocol on Science, Technology and Innovation.

The Joint Meeting of Ministers responsible for Education and Training and Science, Technology, and Innovation will be preceded by meetings of Senior Officials responsible for these sectors from 20-22 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 16th June, 2023
Gaborone, Botswana**