



## FINAL CONFERENCE STATEMENT

### SADC REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS ON MOBILIZING DOMESTIC FINANCING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSES 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015, VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE.

#### A. PREAMBLE

1. The SADC Parliamentary Forum in conjunction with the SADC Secretariat and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP – Regional Service Centre for Africa) organized a Regional Conference for SADC Parliamentarians aimed at raising awareness regarding Climate Change and to seek greater commitment to mobilize domestic resources to address the challenges of climate change.
2. The Conference was held from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe and in attendance were the Members of the Parliaments of Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
3. In attendance were Hon. Joseph Njoubvuyalema, Vice President of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, Hon. Gary Nkombo, Treasurer (SADC PF), Dr. Esau Chiviya, Secretary General (SADC PF) and representatives of SADC Secretariat and UNDP.
4. With expert inputs from subject specialists, the Members considered and debated on: **(a)** Global Warming and Climate Change and its effects; **(b)** Climate Governance including the ongoing negotiations under the Conference of Parties-COP 21 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); **(c)** Climate Finance including Domestic Resource Mobilization for Climate Change; **(d)** Country

experiences on good budgeting and oversight practices; and **(e)** The role of parliaments and parliamentarians with respect to the above issues.

## **B. CONCLUSIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

*We the Parliamentarians from the SADC PF Member Parliaments of Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic Of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia And Zimbabwe present at this Conference, now therefore:*

- 1. Reiterate** that Global Warming and Climate Change present a formidable global challenge to humanity and the environment and therefore **recommend** the adoption of concerted, coordinated and collective strategies to ensure successful climate mitigation and adaptation.
- 2. Note** that the Southern African Region is particularly vulnerable to the effects of Global Warming and Climate Change and therefore urge Member States and communities to develop the adaptive capacities to manage climate change impact.
- 3.** Take cognizance of the general lack of information regarding climate change financial flow and therefore urge greater parliamentary role in promoting awareness of and transparency in accessing, allocation and utilization of domestic and international climate finance.
- 4. Urge** Member States to consider the utilization of investment tools such as the United Nations' Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR).
- 5. Take cognizance** of the urgent need to establish and strengthen national, regional and international institutional arrangements for accessing climate financing.
- 6. Acknowledge** the wide range of vulnerability to climate change within the SADC Region and further that the Member States are at different levels in terms of climate change policy development, we therefore **urge** the expeditious finalization and adoption of the draft SADC Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change.
- 7. Note** the upcoming Conference of Parties (COP 21) in December 2015 in Paris, France and therefore **urge** Parliamentarians to acquaint themselves with their respective national, regional and continental positions and interests in the global climate negotiations and bring their role to bear in this regard.

- 8. Express gratitude** to the SADC Parliamentary Forum, the SADC Secretariat and UNDP for convening the SADC Regional Parliamentary Conference on Climate Change and Domestic Finance and therefore **encourage** the continuation of this cooperation in order to advance the role of Parliament in Climate Change mitigation and adaptation.
- 9. Urge** the continuation of this debate at the regional level and therefore **encourage** the tabling of this Final Conference Statement to the 38<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly in November 2015 after its further consideration by the Forum's Standing Committee on Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015, in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.
- 10. Finally**, individually and collectively, **commit** ourselves to continue to enhance our knowledge on climate change, engage relevant stakeholders, legislate and exercise oversight on issues of climate change within our national jurisdictions.

-THE END-