STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY EMMERSON DAMBUDZO MNANGAGWA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE SADC ORGAN ON POLITICS, DEFENCE AND SECURITY COOPERATION, 31ST JANUARY, 2020

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) deployed its Election Observation Mission to the Republic of Malawi to observe the Tripartite Elections that were held on 21st May, 2019.

In its preliminary statement issued on 23rd May, 2019, SADC noted that the pre-election and voting phases of the 2019 Tripartite Elections were conducted in a generally peaceful atmosphere, based on the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections. SADC further urged political actors and their supporters to make use of the appropriate legal mechanisms in the event of any electoral dispute.

SADC takes cognisance of the fact that an election petition was duly filed before the courts, challenging the outcome of the election to the Office of the President of the Republic of Malawi.
SADC commends the parties involved in the petition for pursuing peaceful and legal mechanisms in order to resolve the electoral dispute.

SADC condemns the actions by some sections of the Malawian community who resorted to acts of violence, intimidation and vandalism, as a way of expressing their dissatisfaction with the outcome of the Tripartite Elections.

SADC notes that the Constitutional Court of Malawi is due to deliver its judgement on the election petition challenging the outcome of the Presidential Election on 3rd February, 2020.

SADC further urges all stakeholders to respect the judgement of the Constitutional Court of Malawi, and to remain calm and maintain peace and order during and after the delivery of the verdict.

Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa

PRESEN T OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBA BWE AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE SADC ORGAN ON POLITICS, DEFENCE AND SECURITY COOPERATION