



MEDIA RELEASE

SADC ICT SUB-COMMITTEE (SCOM) MEETING BALACLAVA, MAURITIUS 30TH AUGUST TO 1ST SEPTEMBER 2016



1. The SADC ICT SCOM Meeting was convened from the 31st August to 1st September 2016 at the Intercontinental Hotel, Balaclava, Mauritius, hosted by the Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation (MTC&I) of the Republic of Mauritius.
2. The ICT SCOM was preceded by the SADC Cyber Security and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Workshop held on the 30th August 2016 which was officially opened by the Honourable Etienne Sinatambou, the Minister of MTC&I
3. The ICT SCOM was attended by Senior Officials from thirteen (13) SADC Member States, namely: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Kingdom of Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe and Executive Secretaries of SADC ICT Implementing Agencies Communications Regulators' Association Southern Africa (CRASA) and Southern Africa Telecommunications Association (SATA).
4. The ICT SCOM was officially opened by Mr. Koosiram Conhye, the Acting Permanent Secretary of the MTC&I and was chaired by Mr. Andreas Dlamini, a representative from the Kingdom of Swaziland and Chair of SADC.
5. The ICT SCOM focused on the review of the implementation of last year's Ministers' decisions and deliberated over a number of issues pertaining to the implementation of the Digital SADC 2027.

6. The ICT SCOM noted the progress made on the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) Migration process whereby in addition to Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia and Tanzania having completed the DTT Migration process, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Seychelles, Kingdom of Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe confirmed that they will complete this process by December 2016.
7. The ICT SCOM noted the progress made in implementing the SADC Home and Away Roaming (SHAR) whereby seven (7) Member States (Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe) are now implementing the SHAR Glide Path on a reciprocal basis.
8. The ICT SCOM noted that all SADC Member States have established at least one (1) National Internet Exchange Point (NIXP). South Africa and Zimbabwe have been awarded contracts to be supported to become SADC RIXPs, which will optimize the performance of the Internet and also reduce the cost of doing business in the SADC Region.
9. The ICT SCOM noted that completion of the SADC Regional and National Integrated Broadband Infrastructure Study (RNIBIS) and the resulting proposed baskets of ICT infrastructure projects responding to the infrastructure gaps identified in the SADC Region, which Member States can now pursue.
10. The ICT SCOM noted that SADC Frequency Allocation Plan (FAP) and footnotes have been revised and aligned to the World Radio Conference 2015 (WRC-15) decisions.
11. The ICT SCOM noted that on-going preparations for the forthcoming 26th Universal Postal Union (UPU) Congress to be convened on the 19th September to 7th October 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey and also noted the outcomes of the WRC-15 and the 9th Ordinary Session of the Pan African Postal Union (PAPU) Plenipotentiary Conference 2016, including the election of Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe representing the Southern Africa region to the PAPU Administrative Council.
12. The ICT SCOM received presentations on the following areas:
 - SADC ICT Observatory Phase 1 Study; and
 - SADC Cyber Infrastructure Framework.
13. The ICT SCOM urged Member States to set up their National Computer Incident Response Teams (CIRTs) and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and to ensure that their National Broadband Strategic Plans are aligned to the Ministerial broadband targets.
14. The ICT SCOM expressed its appreciation to the Government and People of Mauritius for successfully hosting both events and for the warm hospitality extended to all the Delegates.

15. The SADC Secretariat will convene the SADC Ministers' Meeting and the SADC ICT Investment Conference in October 2016 in the Kingdom of Swaziland, where the later would further promote ICT infrastructure projects for both the RIDMP and the recently revised RISDP to potential investors and partners.

DONE AT BALACLAVA, MAURITIUS SEPTEMBER 1, 2016