



# Stage I SADC Harmonised Consumer Price Indices November 2011

News Release  
Issue No. 4

As measured by the HCPI, the month on month inflation rate for the SADC Region was 0.5% in November 2011. This represents a 0.4 percentage points decrease from the rate observed in October 2011.

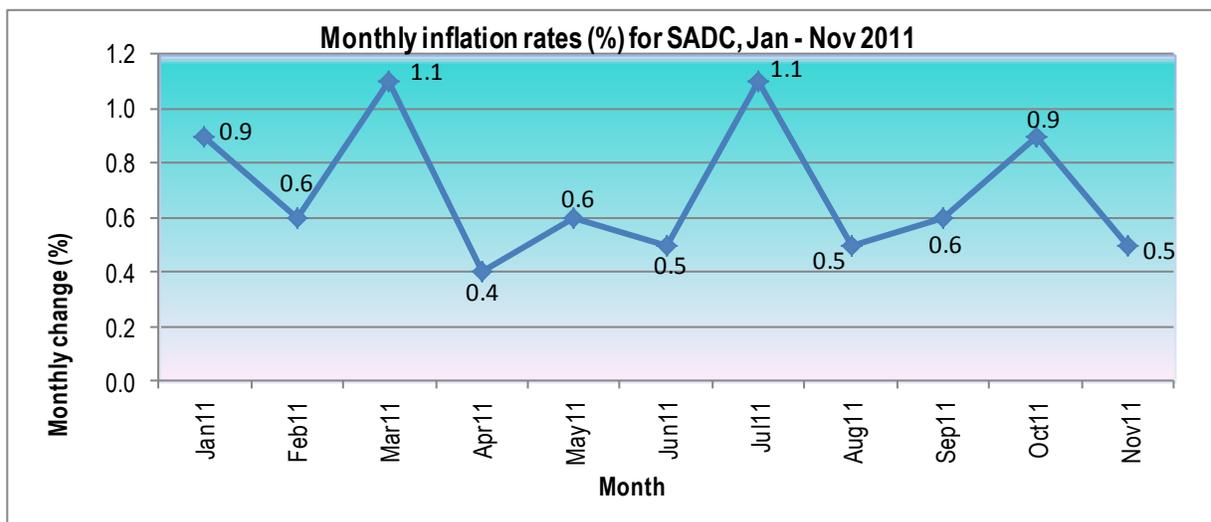
This news release is fourth in series in respect of the Stage I HCPI figures for the SADC region for November 2011. Presently the compilation of the Stage I SADC HCPIs is based on the national HCPIs of fourteen SADC Member States, including Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The scope of the HCPIs at this stage does not include the Education and Health divisions of the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP). However the HCPI development must generally be in compliance with the international standards relating to development of Consumer Price Indices (CPI). The excluded items will be covered at a later stage.

The reported monthly inflation rates for November 2011 for Member States ranged from a highest of 1.5% for Tanzania and a lowest for DRC and Zambia, both registered a decrease of 0.3%. The rates for the rest of the Member

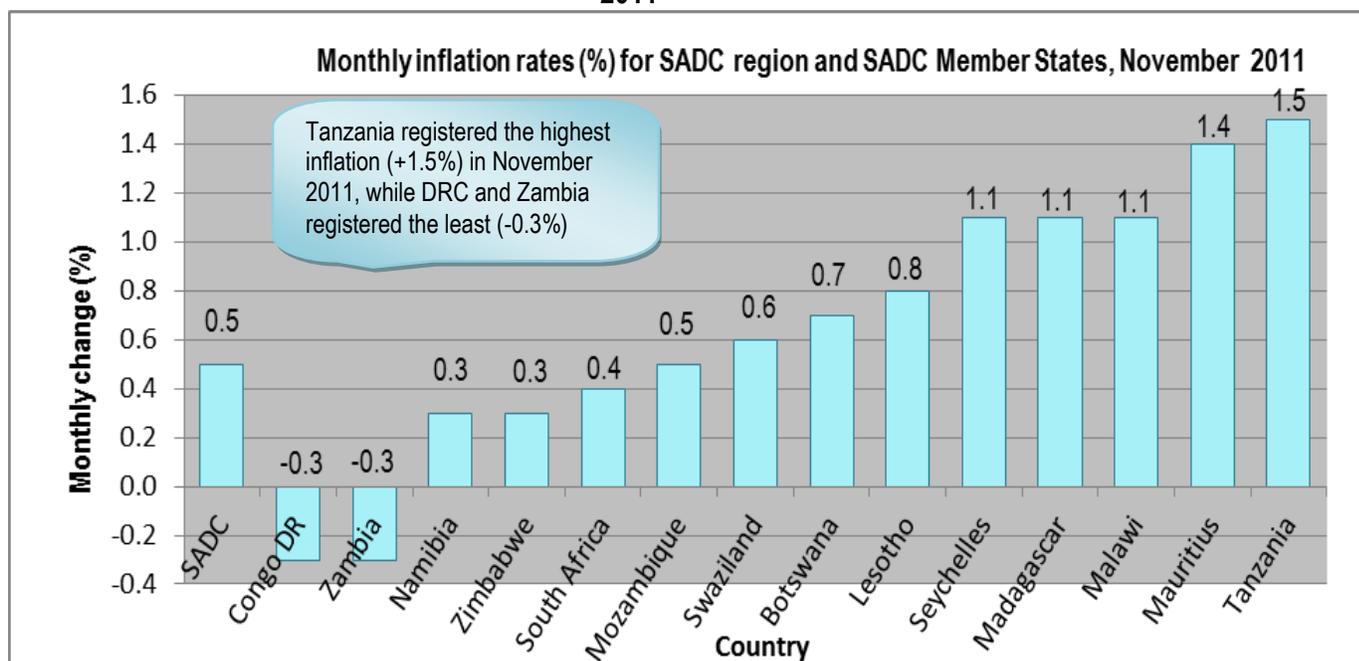
States were reported as follows: Botswana (0.7%), Lesotho (0.8%), Madagascar (1.1%), Malawi (1.1%), Mauritius (1.4%), Mozambique (0.5%), Namibia (0.3%), Seychelles (1.1%), South Africa (0.4%), Swaziland (0.6%) and Zimbabwe (0.3%) as reflected in table 1 below.

In terms of COICOP major divisions, all divisions registered increases in their indices except for the Housing, Electricity, Water, Gas and Other Fuels, Communications and Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of House divisions which registered decreases of 0.9, 0.3 and 0.2 per-cent respectively as well as Miscellaneous Goods and Services division which recorded no change. Other COICOP divisions registered increases in their price indices as follows: Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages (0.8%), Recreation and Culture (0.8%), Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (0.7%), Transport (0.7%), Clothing and Footwear (0.5%) and Restaurants and Hotels (0.1%). See table 2 below.

Figure 1: Monthly inflation rate (%) in SADC region for the period; January to November 2011



**Figure 2: Monthly inflation rate (%) for SADC region and SADC Member States as at November 2011**



**Table 1: Inflation rates (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs**

| Member State | Country weights | Dec 10     | Jan 11     | Feb 11     | Mar 11     | Apr 11     | May 11     | Jun 11     | Jul 11     | Aug 11     | Sep 11     | Oct 11     |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|              |                 | Jan 11     | Feb 11     | Mar 11     | Apr 11     | May 11     | Jun 11     | Jul 11     | Aug 11     | Sep 11     | Oct 11     | Nov 11     |
| Angola       |                 |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Botswana     | 1.35            | 0.5        | 1.0        | 0.7        | 1.2        | 1.1        | 1.0        | 0.2        | 1.1        | 0.4        | 0.6        | 0.7        |
| Congo DR     | 2.41            | 1.1        | -0.1       | 0.8        | 1.3        | 1.1        | 3.1        | 1.5        | 3.2        | 1.3        | 4.5        | -0.3       |
| Lesotho      | 0.86            | 0.8        | 2.7        | 0.4        | 1.0        | 0.5        | 0.9        | 0.2        | 1.8        | 0.5        | 0.8        | 0.8        |
| Madagascar   | 3.42            | 2.6        | 2.4        | 0.0        | -0.7       | -0.7       | 0.0        | 0.0        | 0.3        | 0.3        | 1.0        | 1.1        |
| Malawi       | 1.74            | 1.3        | 2.0        | -0.4       | -1.9       | 0.5        | 0.4        | 1.9        | 0.6        | 0.9        | 1.3        | 1.1        |
| Mauritius    | 2.39            | -1.6       | 1.6        | 0.5        | 0.4        | -2.2       | -1.0       | 0.1        | 0.1        | -0.5       | 0.3        | 1.4        |
| Mozambique   | 3.08            | 1.6        | 1.1        | -0.1       | 0.2        | 0.5        | -0.3       | 0.3        | 0.5        | -0.1       | 0.1        | 0.5        |
| Namibia      | 1.38            | 0.8        | 0.5        | 0.8        | 1.1        | 0.4        | 0.4        | 0.3        | 0.5        | 0.0        | 1.6        | 0.3        |
| Seychelles*  | -               | 0.1        | 0.2        | 0.1        | 0.2        | 0.3        | 0.2        | 0.5        | 0.6        | 0.4        | 0.2        | 1.1        |
| South Africa | 70.82           | 0.7        | 0.3        | 1.3        | 0.5        | 0.8        | 0.5        | 1.1        | 0.3        | 0.5        | 0.9        | 0.4        |
| Swaziland    | 0.95            | 2.1        | 0.2        | 1.2        | 1.1        | 0.7        | 0.2        | 0.2        | 0.9        | 0.1        | 0.9        | 0.6        |
| Tanzania     | 7.83            | 2.0        | 2.0        | 1.5        | 1.2        | 0.7        | 1.0        | 1.9        | 1.6        | 2.5        | 1.0        | 1.5        |
| Zambia       | 2.54            | 2.0        | 0.5        | 1.2        | -1.6       | -0.2       | 0.4        | 1.9        | -0.7       | 0.5        | 0.4        | -0.3       |
| Zimbabwe     | 1.23            | 1.2        | -0.8       | -0.1       | -0.5       | -0.6       | -0.2       | 0.1        | -0.3       | -0.2       | -0.1       | 0.3        |
| <b>SADC</b>  | <b>100.00</b>   | <b>0.9</b> | <b>0.6</b> | <b>1.1</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>0.6</b> | <b>0.5</b> | <b>1.1</b> | <b>0.5</b> | <b>0.6</b> | <b>0.9</b> | <b>0.5</b> |

\* Seychelles did not participate in the 2005 ICP round hence there is no Household Final Monetary Consumption Expenditure data (HFMCCE) which are used as country weights for HCPI compilation

Figure 3: Divisions month on month inflation rates as at November 2011

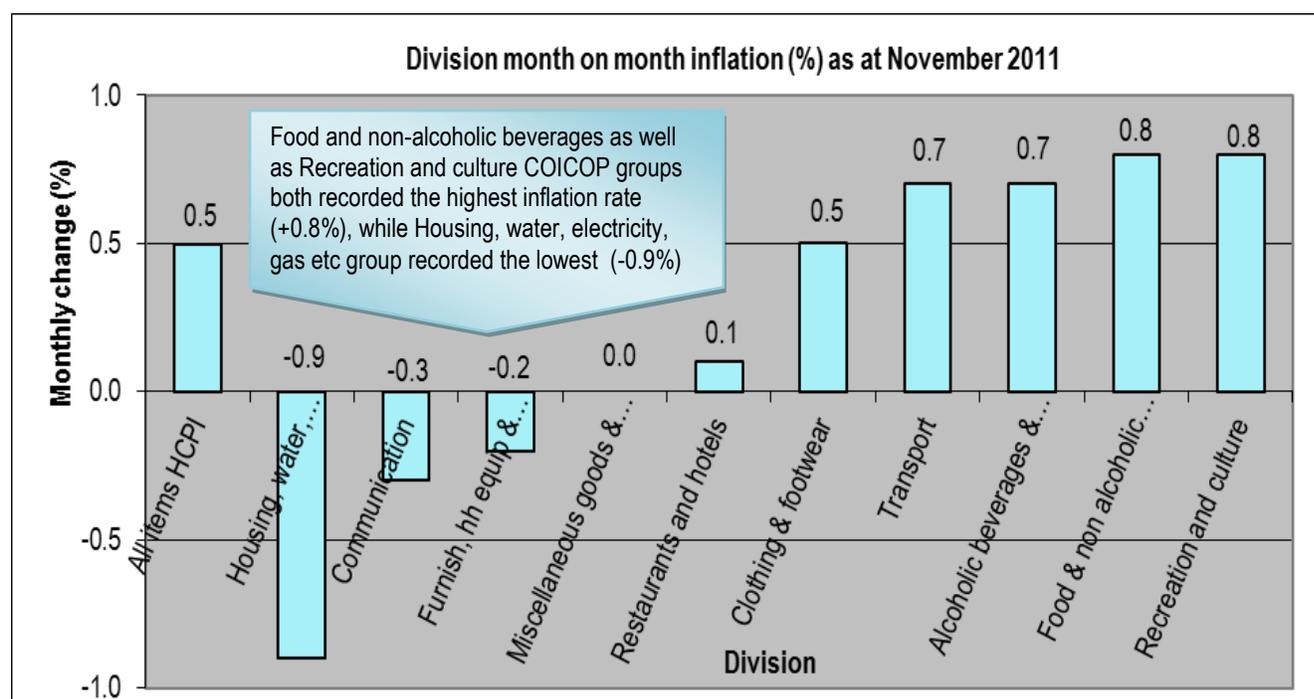


Table 2: Inflation rates (%) for the COICOP divisions from January to November 2011

| Divisions   | Division weights | Dec 10<br>Jan 11 | Jan 11<br>Feb 11 | Feb 11<br>Mar 11 | Mar 11<br>Apr 11 | Apr 11<br>May 11 | May 11<br>Jun 11 | Jun 11<br>Jul 11 | Jul 11<br>Aug 11 | Aug 11<br>Sep 11 | Sep 11<br>Oct 11 | Oct 11<br>Nov 11 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| All items HCPI  | 1,000.00         | 0.9              | 0.6              | 1.1              | 0.4              | 0.6              | 0.5              | 1.1              | 0.5              | 0.6              | 0.9              | 0.5              |
| Food & non-alcoholic beverages                              | 319.3            | 2.0              | 0.7              | 1.1              | 0.1              | 1.1              | 0.4              | 0.8              | 0.5              | 1.1              | 1.7              | 0.8              |
| Alcoholic beverages & tobacco                               | 72.6             | 0.3              | 0.2              | 2.8              | 0.8              | 0.2              | 0.1              | 0.2              | 0.6              | 0.1              | 0.3              | 0.7              |
| Clothing & footwear   | 60.3             | 0.3              | 0.5              | 0.3              | 0.3              | 0.4              | 0.3              | 0.3              | 0.9              | 0.6              | 0.4              | 0.5              |
| Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels              | 136.7            | 0.7              | 0.2              | 1.0              | 0.4              | 0.3              | 0.6              | 5.0              | 0.6              | 0.7              | 1.3              | -0.9             |
| Furnish, household equipment & routine maintenance of house | 74.9             | 0.2              | 0.5              | 0.7              | -0.1             | 0.5              | 0.8              | 0.2              | 0.3              | 0.4              | 0.4              | -0.2             |
| Health - Excluded From Stage 1                              |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Transport   | 155.0            | 0.9              | 1.2              | 1.7              | 1.5              | 1.0              | 1.1              | 0.0              | 0.7              | 0.4              | 1.2              | 0.7              |
| Communication   | 31.6             | -0.3             | -0.1             | 0.1              | -0.1             | 0.0              | 0.1              | 0.2              | -0.4             | -0.1             | -0.4             | -0.3             |
| Recreation and culture                                      | 41.7             | -0.4             | 0.2              | 0.8              | 0.4              | 0.3              | -0.2             | -0.1             | -0.1             | 0.4              | -0.6             | 0.8              |
| Education - excluded from Stage 1                           |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Restaurants and hotels                                      | 50.0             | 0.6              | 0.5              | 1.2              | 0.4              | 0.4              | 0.5              | 0.2              | 0.4              | 0.5              | 0.5              | 0.1              |
| Miscellaneous goods & services                              | 57.8             | 1.0              | 0.0              | 0.4              | 0.5              | 0.6              | 0.2              | 0.4              | 0.1              | 0.6              | 0.8              | 0.0              |

**Table 3: SADC Region and SADC Member States division profiles – October 2011**

| Monthly indices for COICOP Divisions - October 2011 |                 |                                |                               |                     |  |   |           |               |                      |                      |                        |           |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|---|-----------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Country   | Country weights | Food & non-alcoholic beverages | Alcoholic beverages & tobacco | Clothing & footwear | Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels | Furn., household equipment & maintenance of house | Transport | Communication | Recreation & culture | Restaurants & hotels | Misc. goods & services | All items |
| Angola  |                 |                                |                               |                     |  |   |           |               |                      |                      |                        |           |
| Botswana  | 1.35            | 107.34                         | 105.56                        | 107.82              | 107.79   | 109.03  | 113.13    | 95.62         | 107.19               | 107.74               | 102.69                 | 108.17    |
| DR Congo  | 2.41            | 118.60                         | 109.21                        | 113.74              | 169.15   | 111.44  | 121.41    | 96.61         | 106.81               | 109.42               | 111.85                 | 119.22    |
| Lesotho   | 0.86            | 111.27                         | 110.16                        | 102.77              | 132.72   | 104.82  | 103.12    | 101.14        | 103.05               | 106.65               | 104.04                 | 110.11    |
| Madagascar  | 3.42            | 106.11                         | 102.78                        | 102.92              | 105.23   | 103.40  | 103.96    | 101.93        | 101.21               | 105.24               | 103.33                 | 105.19    |
| Malawi  | 1.74            | 103.35                         | 110.91                        | 104.72              | 106.09   | 112.48  | 113.35    | 120.44        | 121.89               | 103.92               | 110.13                 | 106.77    |
| Mauritius   | 2.39            | 105.40                         | 101.04                        | 102.95              | 100.42   | 102.26  | 103.37    | 94.80         | 103.18               | 85.35                | 102.11                 | 97.90     |
| Mozambique  | 3.08            | 103.15                         | 103.25                        | 102.78              | 106.04   | 103.31  | 104.67    | 99.94         | 103.33               | 107.96               | 108.14                 | 103.83    |
| Namibia   | 1.38            | 109.40                         | 105.46                        | 105.13              | 108.63   | 102.92  | 109.55    | 100.70        | 102.27               | 104.63               | 104.59                 | 106.64    |
| Seychelles  | -               | 105.13                         | 100.35                        | 102.04              | 102.12   | 102.26  | 103.86    | 99.97         | 101.08               | 104.94               | 103.26                 | 102.78    |
| South Africa  | 70.82           | 109.78                         | 105.90                        | 103.54              | 109.08   | 102.29  | 110.14    | 98.48         | 98.66                | 104.94               | 103.59                 | 106.91    |
| Swaziland   | 0.95            | 106.75                         | 103.89                        | 104.17              | 111.17   | 104.61  | 117.44    | 100.09        | 103.01               | 102.05               | 108.23                 | 107.85    |
| Tanzania  | 7.83            | 119.20                         | 104.94                        | 110.19              | 122.24   | 115.81  | 115.51    | 99.78         | 106.32               | 113.66               | 111.94                 | 116.47    |
| Zambia  | 2.54            | 103.28                         | 104.83                        | 111.79              | 106.46   | 106.08  | 105.35    | 100.21        | 102.50               | 104.30               | 103.00                 | 104.49    |
| Zimbabwe  | 1.23            | 103.85                         | 104.16                        | 102.45              | 106.42   | 103.65  | 107.00    | 97.83         | 101.87               | 105.95               | 105.17                 | 98.38     |
| SADC  | 100.00          | 109.89                         | 105.64                        | 104.54              | 111.18   | 104.07  | 110.23    | 99.06         | 100.58               | 105.36               | 104.70                 | 107.47    |

**Table 4: SADC Region and SADC Member States division profiles – November 2011**

| Monthly indices for COICOP Divisions - November 2011 |                 |                                |                               |                     |  |   |           |               |                      |                      |                        |           |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|---|-----------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Country  | Country weights | Food & non-alcoholic beverages | Alcoholic beverages & tobacco | Clothing & footwear | Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels | Furn., household equipment & routine maintenance of house | Transport | Communication | Recreation & culture | Restaurants & hotels | Misc. goods & services | All items |
| Angola   |                 |                                |                               |                     |  |   |           |               |                      |                      |                        |           |
| Botswana   | 1.35            | 107.95                         | 105.57                        | 107.85              | 107.81   | 109.29  | 115.64    | 95.62         | 107.15               | 107.91               | 102.76                 | 108.90    |
| DR Congo   | 2.41            | 119.71                         | 109.19                        | 120.69              | 117.93   | 112.22  | 126.70    | 95.86         | 107.41               | 108.66               | 117.55                 | 118.84    |
| Lesotho  | 0.86            | 112.34                         | 110.97                        | 102.62              | 135.49   | 105.00  | 103.35    | 101.14        | 103.21               | 106.68               | 104.14                 | 110.94    |
| Madagascar   | 3.42            | 107.68                         | 104.06                        | 103.87              | 105.45   | 103.92  | 103.99    | 101.93        | 101.45               | 105.10               | 103.80                 | 106.32    |
| Malawi   | 1.74            | 105.01                         | 113.99                        | 104.77              | 110.02   | 114.44  | 110.87    | 110.61        | 121.89               | 103.92               | 103.25                 | 107.95    |
| Mauritius  | 2.39            | 105.19                         | 115.00                        | 103.09              | 100.43   | 102.83  | 103.31    | 94.80         | 102.98               | 85.77                | 102.13                 | 99.29     |
| Mozambique   | 3.08            | 104.01                         | 104.33                        | 103.13              | 106.24   | 103.67  | 104.47    | 100.70        | 104.58               | 108.51               | 108.61                 | 104.39    |
| Namibia  | 1.38            | 109.64                         | 106.47                        | 105.33              | 109.35   | 102.96  | 109.72    | 100.70        | 101.32               | 104.69               | 105.20                 | 106.91    |
| Seychelles   | -               | 106.14                         | 100.39                        | 102.04              | 106.22   | 102.22  | 104.63    | 100.30        | 101.08               | 109.03               | 103.53                 | 103.88    |
| South Africa   | 70.82           | 110.41                         | 106.25                        | 103.85              | 109.19   | 101.84  | 111.03    | 98.31         | 99.60                | 105.09               | 103.41                 | 107.29    |
| Swaziland  | 0.95            | 107.43                         | 105.16                        | 105.13              | 112.51   | 104.40  | 118.86    | 100.09        | 102.08               | 102.50               | 108.25                 | 108.51    |
| Tanzania   | 7.83            | 122.25                         | 105.01                        | 111.12              | 122.40   | 116.34  | 116.38    | 99.75         | 106.68               | 114.29               | 112.90                 | 118.24    |
| Zambia   | 2.54            | 102.64                         | 105.50                        | 112.91              | 107.35   | 105.31  | 104.57    | 100.21        | 105.31               | 102.22               | 103.20                 | 104.21    |
| Zimbabwe   | 1.23            | 105.44                         | 104.14                        | 102.84              | 107.00   | 103.56  | 106.84    | 97.72         | 101.86               | 107.24               | 105.41                 | 98.69     |
| SADC   | 100.00          | 110.74                         | 106.42                        | 105.09              | 110.19   | 103.87  | 111.03    | 98.77         | 101.38               | 105.49               | 104.72                 | 108.00    |

## Measures of inflation<sup>1</sup>

The annual rate measures the price change between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year. The rate is responsive to recent changes in price levels but it can also be influenced by one-off effects in either month.

The 12 month average compares the average HCPI in the latest 12 months to the average of the previous 12 months. It overcomes the volatility of the annual measure.

The monthly rate measures the price change between the two latest months. Although up to date, it can be affected by seasonal and other short term effects.

## The Harmonised Consumer Price Index

The Harmonised Consumer Price Index (HCPI) is defined as the Consumer Price Index (CPI) developed from comparable methodologies. That means CPIs which have been developed from the concepts, definitions and methods that are comparable. CPIs are economic indicators that measure changes overtime of prices of consumer goods and services purchased by households. HCPI is meant to provide an official measure of inflation in the region, and it makes international comparisons easier since the national HCPIs are produced using harmonised methodologies and as much is practicable using the same statistical classifications, standards and frameworks.

The Member States HCPIs are produced by respective Member States using agreed harmonised methodologies. The SADC HCPI is compiled by the SADC Secretariat by aggregating the National HCPIs of the Member States. These are calculated as weighted averages of the national HCPIs, using as weights each country's total household consumption expenditure converted to a common currency using the 2005 purchasing power parities derived from the results of the 2005 International Comparison Program as supplied by the African Development Bank and the World Bank.

The HCPIs may differ from the national CPIs which are sometimes designed for different purposes. The HCPIs are designed as a macroeconomic measure of monetary inflation whereas some national CPIs may have other purposes such as cost of living which may require different methodologies. More information on SADC HCPI methodology can be availed on demand.

## Acknowledgement

The SADC Secretariat duly acknowledges with thanks the continuous support and cooperation of the respective National Statistics Offices of SADC Member States in providing monthly national HCPIs which forms the basis for the aggregate SADC HPCI. The collaboration with COMESA and African Development Bank in this exercise is equally acknowledged.

## Production Team

This news release was produced under the auspices of the SADC Statistics Programme in the Directorate of Policy Planning Resource Mobilisation of the SADC Secretariat, Gaborone, Botswana. The production team comprised **Mr. Ackim Jere** (Head SADC Statistics Programme) and **Ms. Mantoa Molengoane**. The news release was produced under the general direction of **Dr. Angelo Mondlane**, Director - Directorate Policy Planning Resource Mobilisation.

---

<sup>111</sup> Some definitions will be used at a later stage

Further information pertaining to methodology and related aspects of the HCPI process in SADC can be obtained by directing inquires to the following two individuals whose contact details are presented below.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Mr. Ackim Jere<br/>Senior Officer - Statistics<br/>Directorate-Policy, Planning Resource Mobilisation<br/>SADC Secretariat<br/>Private Bag 0095<br/>Tel: +267 395 1863<br/>Fax: +267 397 2848/318 1070<br/>Gaborone, Botswana<br/>Email: <a href="mailto:ajere@sadc.int">ajere@sadc.int</a><br/>Web: <a href="http://www.sadc.int">www.sadc.int</a></p> | <p>Ms. Mantoa Molengoane<br/>Coordinator – Statistical Capacity Building<br/>Directorate-Policy, Planning Resource Mobilisation<br/>SADC Secretariat<br/>Private Bag 0095<br/>Tel: +267 395 1863<br/>Fax: +267 397 2848/318 1070<br/>Gaborone, Botswana<br/>Email: <a href="mailto:mmolengoane@sadc.int">mmolengoane@sadc.int</a><br/>Web: <a href="http://www.sadc.int">www.sadc.int</a></p> |
|--|---|

### Future release dates

Scheduled dates for the coming months are:

| Interim HCPI for | Date of submission to SADC Secretariat | Publication date by SADC Secretariat |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| December 2011    | 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2012          | 07 <sup>th</sup> February 2012       |
| January 2012     | 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2012         | 05 <sup>th</sup> March 2012          |
| February 2012    | 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2012            | 05 <sup>th</sup> April 2012          |