

Your Excellency President of the Republic of Botswana and Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation;

Your Excellencies Heads of State and Government of Member States of the SADC Double Troika;

Her Excellency Dr Stergomena L. Tax, Executive Secretary of SADC;

Honourable Ministers;

## Ladies and Gentlemen!

As we draw to the end of our deliberations, we are delighted to note that the Summit was fruitful and objective, as a matter of fact, we have deepened our discussions on the security challenges that terrorist attacks in Cabo Delgado province represent, as well as we have devised the right measures to prevent its spread in Mozambique and in the region.

It has become clearer that since terrorism is a global phenomenon, in this case, with an incidence in Mozambique and an impact on the region, we have a shared responsibility, primarily as a country and as SADC, without ever declining or minimizing the support of other bilateral and multilateral partners.

The outcomes of the Summit reflect SADC's resolve to vigorously repudiate and combat this phenomenon that can undermine our shared future of development and the welfare of our peoples.

I am pleased to note that at this Double Troika Summit, we have concerted efforts and have identified the best mechanism for mutual support so that we can vehemently tackle terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

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We come out of this meeting more resolute, stronger and clearer of the steps we need to take to contain and eradicate common security challenges in order to enable the pursuit of our noble purposes of peace and well-being of our peoples as provided for in our Treaty.

In addition to condemning terrorism in the strongest terms, we have agreed on the multifaceted response to terrorist actions in Cabo Delgado, on the provision of human and material resources necessary to restore security and public order, provide humanitarian relief and normalise the lives of the affected people.

We have also adopted measures to improve the inter-institutional coordination of our countries; the operational capacity of the defence and security forces in combating terrorism; providing border security; elimination of sources of terrorist financing, reconstruction of devastated infrastructure.

## Your Excellencies,

The Summit was the highest moment in reaffirming our common commitment to contribute to peace strengthening, security and stability, and attach priority to collective security as a condition for the implementation of joint programmes and projects.

Specifically, as a result of the Summit, I wish to underscore the following:

- Our commitment and interest as Mozambique and the region to act in a coordinated manner and with a support structure and specific regional actions to sustain the threat of terrorism;
- ii. The need for proactivity and speed in providing support;

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iii. Definition of a clear SADC Action Plan in the face of the threat of terrorism and follow up mechanisms for the decisions made here;

I wish to reiterate our appreciation for the solidarity of SADC Member States towards the People and Government of the Republic of Mozambique. We remain readily available to continue working together towards a promising common future, based on the noblest designs of peace, stability and progress for our countries and peoples.

We are convinced that the success of our actions requires close collaboration at the regional level, while not declining or neglecting the support from other bilateral and multilateral partners in the eradication of terrorism in our region, which at the same time poses a global threat.

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm the relevance of the urgent implementation of all the measures agreed here to effectively stop the cycle of brutal violence and destruction by terrorists.

I wish you all good health and a safe journey back home. I reiterate our invitation and appeal for the presence of all Member States of our Community at the Extraordinary Summit, in May, where we will address matters of socio-economic integration of SADC, in a face to face format, and, in parallel, we will hold the Economic and Business Forum.

## Thank you very much for your attention!

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