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MEDIA RELEASE ON THE EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT OF SADC HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT HARARE, ZIMBABWE APRIL 29, 2015

The SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government will meet on April 29, 2015 in Harare, Zimbabwe to deliberate on the Strategy and Roadmap for the industrialisation of the SADC Region.

The SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap comes in the aftermath of the 34th Ordinary Summit held under the theme: "SADC Strategy for Economic Transformation: Leveraging the Region's Diverse Recourses for Sustainable Economic and Social Development through Beneficiation and Value Addition" in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe in August 2014.

The development of the Strategy and Roadmap was spearheaded by the SADC Ministerial Task Force (MTF) on Regional Economic Integration that comprises of the Ministers responsible for Trade and Industry, Finance, Economic Planning and Infrastructure Development.

The Strategy seeks to bring about major economic and technological transformation at regional and national levels and to address, amongst others, challenges of unemployment, undiversified industrial structures in SADC Member States and heavy dependence on exports of raw materials.

The Industrialisation Strategy is aligned to the Continental Vision, Agenda 2063, a global strategy aimed at optimising the use of Africacs resources for the benefit of all Africans.

It is expected that the Extraordinary Summit will approve the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap that will become the blue print for industrial development and enhance deeper economic integration in the Region. The Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (2015 . 2020) which is also expected to be approved by

Member States:

Angola Lesotho Malawi Namibia Swaziland

Botswana Madagascar Mauritius Seychelles United Republic of Tanzania Democratic Republic of Congo Mozambique South Africa Zambia Zimbabwe the Extraordinary Council during this sitting prioritises industrialisation during the current stage of integration in SADC.

The Secretariat undertook extensive consultations with Member States to provide input into the development of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap.

The extraordinary Summit will be preceded by the Standing Committee of Officials and the Council of Ministers taking place between April 25 and 28, 2015.

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