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SADC SECRETARIAT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
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COVID-19 UPDATE IN SADC

<https://www.sadc.int/issues/covid-19/>



SADC SECRETARIAT VISION

A reputable, efficient and responsive enabler of regional integration and sustainable development.

MISSION

To provide strategic expertise and coordinate the harmonization of policies and strategies to accelerate regional intergration and sustainable investment.

VALUES

- Quality
- Professionalism
- Integrity
- Commitment and passion
- Team spirit
- Mutual respect and trust
- Courtesy
- Equality of opportunity
- Transparency and frankness

SADC OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of SADC are to achieve development, peace and security, and economic growth, to alleviate poverty, enhance the standard and quality of life of the peoples of Southern Africa, and support the socially disadvantaged through regional integration, built on democratic principles and equitable and sustainable development.

ABOUT SADC. VISION. MISSION. VALUES

1 REGION, 16 NATIONS WORKING TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE



IMPORTANT NOTICE

SADC SECRETARIAT WORKING FROM HOME DURING THE LOCKDOWN

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) wishes to inform all stakeholders and general public that, in line with the measures put in place by the Government of Botswana, following the declaration of the state of emergency, Secretariat staff will be operating from home during the entire lockdown period. While Secretariat staff working virtually from their homes can be reached via email, the Secretariat can be reached through the following contacts;

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SADC FLAG



SADC COMMON AGENDA

The SADC Common Agenda refers to a set of key principles and values that guide the Regional Integration agenda. The SADC Common Agenda is spelled out in Article 5 of the Treaty (as amended, 2009), as well as in the Review of Operations of SADC Institutions and consists of the policies and strategies of the organisation.

ABOUT THE INSIDE SADC NEWSLETTER

The INSIDE SADC newsletter is produced by the Communication & Public Relations Unit (C&PRU) of the SADC Secretariat
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Letso S. Mpho



Regional Guidelines for the harmonisation and facilitation of movement of critical goods and services across SADC during the COVID-19 pandemic



SADC adopts cross-border COVID-19 Guidelines

By *Innocent Mbvundula*

The Council of Ministers of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) held their emergency virtual meeting on 6th April, 2020 where, among others, the Ministers adopted the regional Guidelines for the harmonisation and facilitation of movement of critical goods and services across SADC during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In his remarks, the Chairperson of the SADC Council of Ministers, Hon. Professor Palamagamba John Kabudi, Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, hailed the adoption of the Guidelines as an important milestone in coordinating regional response that addresses the health and socio-economic aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hon. Prof. Kabudi called on Member States to strengthen their solidarity to contain the spread of the virus while maintaining movement of essential goods and services across regional borders.

The adopted Guidelines are aimed at, among others, limiting the spread of COVID 19 through transport across borders; facilitating the implementation of transport related national COVID19 measures in cross-border transportation; facilitating flow of essential goods such as

fuel, food and medicines; limiting unnecessary and mass movement of passengers across borders; and harmonising and coordinating transport-related national COVID-19 policies, regulations and response measures.

The Guidelines call for the simplification and automation of trade and transport facilitation processes and documents, information sharing and provide guidance on the services to be provided by Governments, Transport Operators and Transport Operators Associations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

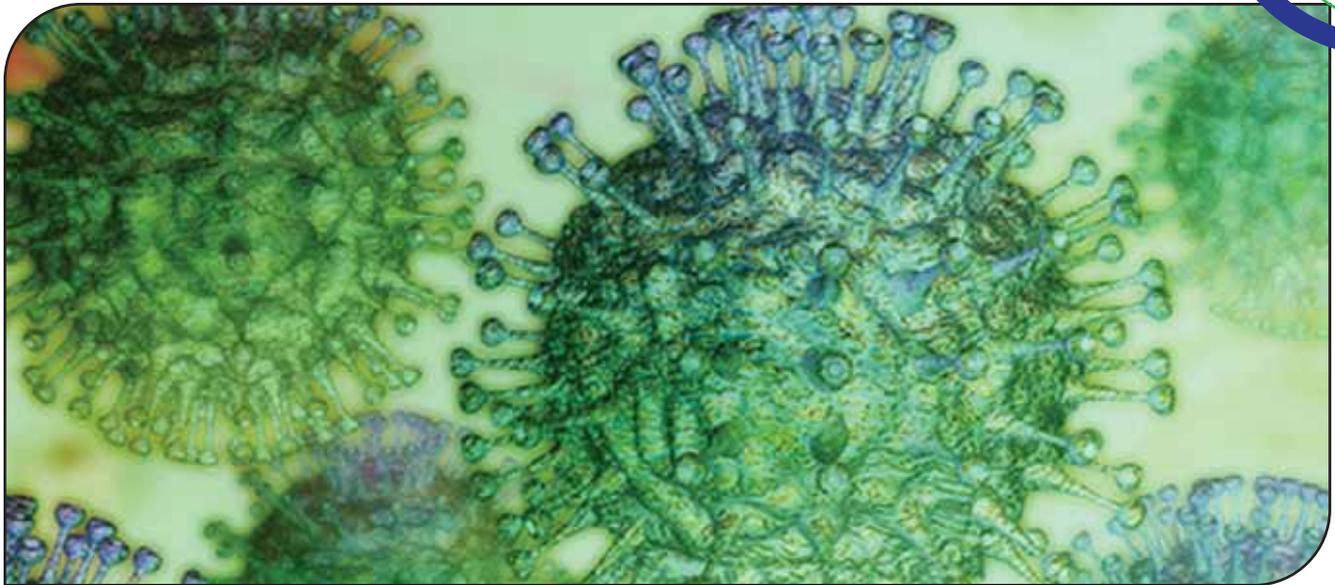
In line with section 3.4 (xv) of the Guidelines, Member States are required to establish or assign National Transport and Trade Facilitation Committee (NTTFC) or structures with similar mandates. The responsibility of the NTTFC is to coordinate the implementation of these guidelines and, in particular, to facilitate the resolution of operational issues at borders or road blocks during the Covid19 pandemic. The Secretariat has also with immediate effect, operationalised a Regional COVID 19 Trade and Transport Facilitation Cell (RTTFC) in order to assist Member States with the coordination of cooperation in implementing trade and transport related measures during COVID19 pandemic. The RTTFC will liaise with respective NTTFC or similar structures. The Cell can be reached through, Mr Lovemore Bingandadi, RTTFC

Coordinator; Email: lbngandadi@sadc.int or bingconsult@gmail.com, Telephone +267 3641956 and mobile number +267 71 828 493; SADC website: www.sadc.int.

During the meeting, the Council of Ministers urged Member States to urgently take all necessary measures to slow further spread and to avoid their health systems becoming overwhelmed as a result of seriously ill patients with COVID-19.

On the Disaster Risk Management, the Council of Ministers called on Member States to establish national Emergency Operations Centres to facilitate coordination of logistics and stockpiling for disasters at the national level; and to establish National Emergency Trust Funds and National Resource Mobilization Strategies to facilitate mobilization of financial resources for national disaster responses, including for responding to COVID-19.

On 4 April, 2020, following the national measures to combat COVID-19 in SADC region, the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax commended SADC Member States for responding swiftly and putting in place drastic measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. H.E. Dr Tax also paid tribute to all the people on the frontlines of the fight against the pandemic for risking their lives to save lives.



Coronavirus

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOPKINS MEDICINE

SADC Guidelines on Harmonisation and Facilitation of Cross Border Transport Operations across the Region During the COVID-19 Pandemic, adopted by SADC Council of Ministers on 6th April, 2020

KEY POINTS IN THE GUIDELINES

- Only trucks/vehicles with the following cargo, goods and services will be allowed to operate in interstate operations in order to ensure continuity of supply chains: Food; Medical equipment and medicines, including medical supplies and Personal Protection Equipment; Fuel, including coal; Agricultural inputs and supplies; Chemicals, packaging, equipment, spares, maintenance materials and ancillary products used in the production and processing of food products; Security, emergency and humanitarian relief services; and Other goods and products as may be agreed among and between Member States.
- To reduce face-to-face interaction and delays at ports and border crossings, Member States are encouraged to simplify and automate trade and transport facilitation processes whilst ensuring that all legal documents are in place and customs and other regulatory requirements are complied with.
- Accelerate the creation of online applications and platforms for the processing, clearances of imports and exports, application, issuance and renewals of licences and permits, registration of drivers, operators, vehicles and loads,

payment of fees.

- Public Health Officials at the border of the country of destination must communicate details of the inbound trucks to their counterparts in the region / district of final destination to facilitate enforcement of isolation measures of the crew during the time of offloading or loading the trucks.
- Member States to expand the mandate of National Transport and Trade Facilitation Committee (TTFC) or establish a similar body comprising officials from the Ministries responsible for Transport, Health, Police/Army, and Trade to coordinate the implementation of these guidelines and resolve operational issues at borders or road blocks arising from lack of consistent communication of policies during the COVID-19 period and/or interpretation of these policies.
- Telephone numbers and emails of these TTFC should be displayed at borders/road blocks and shared with all SADC States and Road Transport Associations, Road Transport Regulators etc. This is for speedy resolution of issues at borders and roadblocks in case of misinterpretation of current policies.
- Put in place a mechanism to enable

Member States to share information on COVID-19 response policies, regulations and guidelines, best practices and experiences in the implementations of the various measures.

- Law Enforcement Officers and Regulators to treat with leniency and recognise extension of validity of short-term cross border permits /licences, which have expired en route due to different administrative procedures in force following the COVID-19 measures, until the vehicles are able to complete the journey.
- A SADC Regional COVID-19 Trade and Transport Facilitation Cell (TTTFC) has been created to assist and coordinate Member States and Corridor Groups in implementing the provisions of these guidelines during COVID-19. Contact TTFC Coordinator, Mr. Lovemore Bingandadi at lbngandadi@sadc.int or bingconsult@gmail.com. Telephone +267 71 828 493.
- Full copy of the Guidelines can be found on this link: https://www.sadc.int/files/8315/8626/0246/Final_SADC_Guide-lines_on_Cross-Border_Transport_during_COVID19-Adopted_on_6_April_2020-ENGLISH.pdf

SADC ES briefs Chairperson of SADC

By **Mukundi Mutasa**

On 5 February 2020, the Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, paid a courtesy call on the Chairperson of SADC, His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania.

During the meeting, Her Excellency Dr. Tax briefed the SADC Chairperson on the economic developments, and political and security situation, prevailing in SADC. In relation to the economic developments in the region, Her Excellency Dr. Tax presented on the status of intra-SADC trade, industrialisation, and macro-economic convergence in the SADC region. She informed President Magufuli that intra-SADC exports peaked at 23% in 2016, which was a significant improvement compared to the figure of 15% in 2008 when SADC established the SADC Free Trade Area.

The Chairperson of SADC expressed gratitude to Her Excellency Dr. Tax for the briefing, and instructed Secretariat to analyse progress made in the implementation of the decision of the 39th SADC Summit held in August 2019 in Dar es Salaam, during which Summit directed Secretariat to undertake an assessment of the status of industrialisation and SADC intra-regional trade. The assessment report will be submitted to the next SADC



H.E Dr. Tax (left) and H.E President Magufuli

Summit in August 2020.

SADC has prioritised industrialisation as a key towards the transformation of Member States economies. It is in this regard that the Revised SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (2015-2020) frontloaded industrialisation as the overarching priority for the region. The Chairperson also noted the political and security situation in the region, as well as the progress attained in implementation of the SADC Summit decision on removal of sanctions imposed on

Zimbabwe. The decision is implemented at two levels, by Member States and by Secretariat, which was directed to continuously include the matter on removal of sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe while engaging international cooperating partners.

The Chairperson commended Secretariat for implementing the Summit decision and emphasised that the regional call for the removal of sanctions on Zimbabwe should be strengthened.

SADC ES briefs Chair of the Organ on political and security situation in the region



H.E Dr Tax (left) and H.E President Mnangagwa

By **Innocent Mbvundula**

On 2nd March, 2020, His Excellency Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, received a brief on the political and security situation in the region as presented by the Executive Secretary of SADC Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax. In briefing the Chairperson of the Organ, the Executive Secretary of SADC indicated that the region remains stable and peaceful, and continues to consolidate democracy as demonstrated a number of peaceful elections which took place since August 2019 when Zimbabwe assumes the Organ

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SADC Council of Ministers hold video conference meeting



Professor Kabudi

By Innocent Mbvundula

The Council of Ministers of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) on 18th March, 2020 held a meeting via video conference to deliberate on the implementation of SADC regional integration programmes. Speaking at the opening of the meeting, the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Right Honourable Professor Kassim Majaliwa Majaliwa applauded SADC for convening the meeting via video conference, adding that it is an indication of SADC's capability to withstand any challenge that it faces.

Right Honourable Professor Majaliwa said, as SADC commemorates 40 years of existence this year, there is need to accelerate implementation of various programmes, through collective efforts in order to achieve the dreams and aspirations of the founders of the regional organisation. The Chairperson of SADC Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, Honourable Professor Palamagamba John Kabudi said the formulation of the SADC Vision 2050 and the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2020-2030) will provide a new strategic direction to address contemporary regional challenges such as youth unemployment and gender inequality.

Hon. Prof Kabudi called on Member

States to ensure that they involve all relevant stakeholders such as the academia, public and private sectors, research and education institutions and Civil Society in the finalisation of the SADC Vision 2050 and RISDP 2020-2030. The Chairperson of Council expressed the commitment of the United Republic of Tanzania to the theme of the 39th SADC Summit, a Conducive Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Development, Increased Intra-Regional Trade and Job Creation.

In her welcome remarks, the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax said the holding of the Video Conference meeting for SADC Council of Ministers demonstrates SADC's readiness to manage emergencies and disasters. H.E. Dr Tax said the year 2020 is significant because SADC will be commemorating 40 years of existence. On this note, H.E. Dr Tax paid tribute to the founders of SADC for their foresight of a better region and urged Member States to explore ways of recognizing and celebrating 40th Anniversary of SADC.

During the meeting, the SADC Council of Ministers approved a total of US\$94,913,815 towards the implementation of the 2020/21 Annual Corporate Plan for the SADC Secretariat, which will cover the priorities of the RISDP 2015-2020 namely; Industrial Development and Market Integration; Infrastructure, Peace and Security

Cooperation, and Special Programmes of Regional Dimension.

Council directed the Technical Committee for Coordinating and Monitoring the Implementation of the SADC Protocol on Health to urgently convene and provide advice on a coordinated regional approach in dealing with the pandemic, taking into consideration national responses. Council noted the progress in the formulation of the draft SADC Vision 2050 and the draft RISDP 2020-2030 which will form part of the broad SADC Post-2020 Agenda and urged Member States to ensure a participatory and inclusive approach, whereby consultations with all stakeholders are undertaken at national level to finalise these strategic documents.

Council approved activities for the commemoration of 40th Anniversary of SADC beginning 1st April 2020 with the aim of bringing to light the history of SADC and its key achievements since 1st April, 1980 when its forerunner, the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference (SADCC), was formed. The commemoration activities will, among others, include media campaigns and public statements by SADC Member States, highlighting the relevance, value and achievements of SADC.

Council noted that a total of 182 outputs were planned for implementation in line with the 2019/20 Operational Plan for the period April to December 2019 and that, as at December 2019, 153 outputs were successfully implemented, translating into 84% implementation rate by the Secretariat, which is an increase from 79 per cent in the 2018/2019 financial year.

The Council of Ministers is one of the institutions of SADC whose mandate, among others, is to oversee the functioning and development of SADC, and ensure that policies and decisions are implemented. The Council consists of Ministers from each of the 16 Member States; usually from the Ministries responsible for Foreign Affairs and International Relations, Economic Planning or Finance, and meets twice a year in March and August.

Namibia inaugurates H.E. Dr Geingob, as the country commemorates 30th Independence Anniversary

By Letso Shine Mpho

On 21st March 2020, His Excellency Dr Hage G. Geingob was inaugurated for the second term as President of the Republic of Namibia as the country commemorated its 30th Independence Anniversary. The 21st of March was chosen in remembrance of the Sharpeville Massacre, because on this day in 1960 police fired on a crowd of black people in a black township of Sharpeville, near Vereeniging, South Africa and in the process killed or wounded hundreds of them. The day symbolises the unity of the country's struggle.,

The inauguration of H.E. President Geingob follows his re-election for the second term as the third President of the Republic of Namibia following the Presidential and National Assembly elections held on 27th November 2019 which was contested by eleven presidential candidates. According to the official results, H.E. Dr Geingob, the Presidential Candidate of the ruling SWAPO Party amassed a total of 464 703 votes, representing 56.3% percentage of the total votes.

In his address, H.E Dr Geingob recognised the contribution of the SADC Frontline States for their support and solidarity in liberating the Republic of Namibia from the then apartheid regime of South Africa. He extended gratitude to the Republics of Nigeria, Cuba, the Socialist and Scandinavian countries, and the rest of the interna-



H.E Geingob

PHOTO COUTERSY OF CGTN AFRICA

tional community, whose unwavering support paved the way for Namibia's independence. H.E. President Geingob pledged to stimulate economic growth, generate more jobs and safeguard economic sovereignty and human dignity for his people. He further promised to continue with nation building and reinforce national pride and unity as cardinal pillars that bind the people of Namibia .

The SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax congratulated H.E Dr Geingob and the people of Namibia on the inauguration and the 30th Independence Anniversary. H.E. Dr Tax said the Republic of Namibia

continues to be a model of peace, unity, freedom and prosperity.

The inauguration of H.E. Dr Geingob and the 30th Independence Anniversary was graced by President of the Republic of Angola, H.E João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, H.E Emmerson Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Botswana, H.E Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi.

The other delegates attending the occasion were; Minister of International Relations & Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa, Hon. Dr. Naledi Pandor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia, Hon. Joseph Malanji.



**#StayHome
#BeSafe
#UniteAgainstCOVID19**

Several #SADC countries have pronounced drastic measures to prevent spread of #COVID19. #SADC commends them & calls upon all people in the region to cooperate & observe the regulations. #COVID19 is real, & we need everyone to be on board.



H.E Shein (centre) and H.E Dr Tax (fifth from left) with senior officials from the SADC region

H.E. President Shein applauds SADC for strengthening regional cooperation and integration while stimulating efforts to minimize the impact of Disasters

By Alex Banda & Letso Shine Mpho

His Excellency Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Zanzibar applauded SADC Member States for strengthening regional cooperation and integration while making efforts to implement interventions aimed at minimizing the impacts of disasters.

Speaking at the official opening of the meeting of the Committee of SADC Ministers responsible for Disaster Risk Management held on 21st February 2020 in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, H.E Shein emphasized on the need for implementing the Regional Strategies, including the Regional Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy and Fund 2016 - 2030, and for domesticating the Sendai Framework as approved by the UN General Assembly in 2015. He noted that the meeting came at an opportune time when

disasters including cyclones, earthquakes, droughts, forest fires, floods, epidemics and maritime and road accidents were on the increase. He also pointed to other challenges, such as outbreaks of pests and diseases such as African and Fall Armyworm and Red and Desert Locusts, pollution, sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, among others, caused by climate change and the destruction of natural resources and the environment.

The Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, pointed out that over the past few months, the region has been confronted by a number of significant and devastating disaster events that claimed a lot of lives, destroyed property and infrastructure and left many people homeless. She commended the affected Member States for putting in place measures to alleviate the suffering of those affected by the devastating impacts of climate change. She explained that among others,

SADC was putting in place mechanisms to ensure swift responses to quick onset disasters through the activation of the SADC Standby Force involvement in humanitarian support operations during disasters, and the operationalization of Emergency response teams to provide timely assistance during disasters.

Speaking during the event, Hon. Jenista Joachim Mhagama, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers responsible for Disaster Risk Management said the adverse impacts of disasters were enormous and did not only affect Member States in terms of financial costs, but also affected societies psychologically. She added that disasters were a huge burden on the region, which already is already in need of funding for improved food security, health care, education, clean and safe water, agriculture, infrastructure

development and investment in various economic and social domains.

The Ministers' meeting follows the SADC Council decision to activate the Committee of the Ministers of Disaster, in view of the unprecedented number of disasters that the region continues to face, which include droughts, cyclones and floods that have led to the loss of lives, livelihoods, damage to property and destruction of infrastructure across the region.

Amongst other issues, Ministers expressed concern regarding the recurrent disasters in the region including Tropical Cyclones Idai and Kenneth that killed scores of people and destruction of property and infrastructure in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, Cyclone Belna that caused widespread torrential rains and floods that also led to loss and destruction of property and infrastructure in Botswana,

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H.E. Shein applauds SADC for strengthening cooperation

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Mozambique, South Africa and Cyclone Diane that led to loss of lives and destruction of property and infrastructure in Madagascar and Tanzania. Ministers also noted with concern the ongoing drought in the region that continues to plunge many SADC citizens into hunger, malnutrition and poverty. The impacts of the drought are exacerbated by the emergency of crop pests and diseases such as the Fall Armyworm, African Armyworm, Red and Desert locusts and animal pests and diseases such as Anthrax, Foot and Mouth, contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, and the highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza that contribute to the deteriorating food security situation.

Ministers further noted with concern the outbreaks of infectious human diseases such as the Ebola virus and Coronavirus (COVID-19) and other new and neglected tropical diseases that have had devastating social and economic impacts both in the region and globally. Ministers commended Member States for taking the necessary precautionary measures to prevent the spread of Ebola and the new coronavirus in their territories.

Ministers also reviewed a number of reports and documents submitted for their consideration. Among others, Ministers approved the Regional



Ministers during the meeting in Zanzibar

Resilience Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and urged the Member States to align their national frameworks to the Regional Resilience Strategic Framework 2020-2030. The Strategy aims to entrench resilience building across the various economic sectors in the region with a view to increase resilience and adaptation to climate shocks and the recurrent disasters in the region. In view of the numerous challenges the region is facing with regards to climate change related and other natural disasters, Minister

called upon Member States to;

- timeously share National data on weather and climate with the SADC Secretariat to enable the production of early warning information and products for effective decision-making by climate sensitive sectors.

- continue to develop capacities in vulnerability assessments and analysis including incorporation of emerging sectors that show susceptibility to climate and natural disaster risks.

- continue to support each other, and to support vulnerable communities that have been affected by disasters, as well as, to accelerate the implementation of resilience building initiatives, improve early warning and responses, and accelerate contingency planning to minimize the impacts of future climatic disasters.

- monitor transboundary risks and strengthen engagements between neighbouring countries for the development of agreements and frameworks of cooperation to mitigate the spread of transboundary risks.

- strengthen capacities and investment in early warning systems at both regional and national levels to enable the control of cross border infection; and engage and cooperate for effective management of transboundary risks through mutually agreeable mechanisms.

- remain vigilant and work together and share information to jointly control the advance of the migratory pests that could have serious implications for the food security of the region;

Ministers also direct the Secretariat to engage international partners to support the region in controlling the spread of the Red locusts.

SADC ES briefs Chair of the Organ on political and security situation in the region

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Chairpersonship. H.E Dr Tax thanked Zimbabwe for leading SADC Electoral Observation Missions (SEOMs) in the Republics of Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, and Mozambique successfully. She indicated that, some of these elections were contested, and dealt with in line with the legal mechanisms of respective countries, demonstrating maturity of democracy in the region.

Notwithstanding peace and stability in the region, in her brief, the SADC Executive Secretary underscored the need for continued efforts, as well as a systematic, and sustainable regional approach to tackle youth unemployment and poverty, which, if not addressed timely, pose a threat to the prevailing peace in the region. The SADC Executive Secretary also took the opportunity to congratulate H.E. President Mnangagwa and the Government of Zimbabwe for taking positive steps in transforming the Zimbabwean economy to uplift the lives of Zimbabweans. The Executive Secretary also noted the progress on the lifting of sanctions and pledged to continue calling for a complete lift of all forms of sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe.

In receiving the brief, H.E. President Mnangagwa said it was pleasing to note that the SADC region remains peaceful and stable. H.E. President Mnangagwa, pledged his commitment, as Chair of the Organ, to work closely and in consultation with his counterparts in the region to ensure that peace and stability in the region are sustained. H.E. President Mnangagwa assumed the Chairpersonship of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation in August, 2019 during the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania.



H.E Shein (centre) and H.E Dr Tax (second from left) with senior officials from the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar

H.E. Shein shares the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar's experiences and interventions in the management of natural disasters

By Letso Shine Mpho

Zanzibar is well known and loved for its natural beauty, the humor and generosity of its people as well as the civilization of living in harmony and tolerance of past and present that attracts visitors from all over the world. Due to its rich history, Zanzibar has attracted visitors from all over the world.

In his official address during the meeting of the Committee of SADC Ministers responsible for Disaster Risk Management held on 21st February 2020 in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, His Excellency Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Zanzibar highlighted the experiences and challenges being faced by island nations who are often more vulnerable to disasters, especially in recent times when the world is constantly faced by many challenges posed by the effects of global warming and climate change.

H.E Shein stated that among others, the island is faced with

sea level rise, which has caused the inundation of many areas. Like other island nations, Zanzibar also continues to be faced with other impacts such as cyclones and floods, coastal erosion, destruction of the coastal environment and coral reefs. Among others that pose a serious threat to the wellbeing of its people and the economic and social development.

He also highlighted the challenges from rapid population growth that creates pressure on the limited land. This forces many people to undertake developmental activities in fragile and undisturbed areas, as well as, making developments in illegally occupied areas including areas that are prone to disasters, which is not consistent with the national land use requirements and land legislation. He highlighted the need for more effective policy and legal interventions to resolve these challenges, so as to preserve natural habitats and save people from possible disasters.

He also mentioned that the

Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar has been implementing various disaster response strategies. In this regard the government of Zanzibar successfully drafted the Disaster Risk Policy of 2011, and subsequently enacted the Disaster Recovery Act Nam 1 of 2015, which resulted in the establishment of the Zanzibar Disaster Relief Commission. In addition, Zanzibar has developed a Disaster Risk Strategy and Disaster Recovery Plan at national and district levels.

H.E Shein told the gathering that in line with these efforts, his Government has established an Emergency Operation and Communication Center located in Maruhubi Unguja area, which is intended to provide education to facilitate preparatory processes and timely responses to disasters. The education is provided through government and private sector media, community meetings, seminars and various conferences. Such education covers among others, early warning for various disasters, including heavy rain and strong winds.

He further mentioned that his government has intensified efforts to undertake audits in various areas to monitor disaster response plans and procedures. A list of areas surveyed included transit agencies, hotels, public buildings, oil and gas reserves and flooding areas. He said that fishing and marine activities were an integral part of the lives of the people of Zanzibar, and sometimes these are accompanied by various accidents. Among the major shipwrecks that have occurred in Zanzibar have left unforgettable impacts on Zanzibar citizens such as the "MV Spice Islander" shipwreck in the Nungwi - Zanzibar area in 2011, and the "MV Skagit" ship crash in 2012.

In the wake of these major disasters, he said that the government has increased its capacity to protect itself from maritime accidents, mentioning that in response to such disasters, the government has developed specific strategies for strengthening maritime services as well as reintroducing the private sector, to

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Zanzibar's experiences and interventions

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make it possible for the purchase of marine vessels. He highlighted that his government has made great strides in strengthening maritime transport, which has led many tourists and visitors interested in coming to Zanzibar from mainland Tanzania by sea instead of air travel, which highlights the need for strengthening maritime safety. In this regard, the Government of Zanzibar has built three rescue centers managed by the Special Anti-Migration Force (KMKM), in the Nungwi and Kibweni area in Unguja, while in the region around Pemba, efforts have been intensified in the delivering rescue services.

The Government has deployed various technologies such as drones, to monitor the safety status of ships and marine vessels present or passing through the Zanzibar area. In addition, the government has purchased two (2) modern boats; one rescue unit capable of saving about 400 people at a time and another for handling sea-fires, which is currently managed by the Fire and Rescue Squad.

In response to the disasters of rain and flood, the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar is currently constructing houses for people affected by the Spring 2017 rainfall, in the Nungwi areas of Zanzibar and Tumbe in Pemba, where a total of 30 houses, mosques, schools, health centers and markets will be built. The government is implementing the Urban Development Project (ZUSP) with resources from the World Bank, through which, several development programmes are being implemented including the elimination of flood problems in all disaster-prone areas. The project covers the construction of four major drainage basins, which will channel water into the sea during heavy rains. Implementation of this project stands at 90 percent and it is anticipated that water will no longer inundate the targeted areas.

In conclusion, the President highlighted the United Republic of Tanzania's continued commitment to work with other SADC Member States to enhance capacities for disaster preparedness and response. He called on Member States to be fully prepared by developing robust strategies for identifying and responding to the various disasters as they emerge.



Rt. Hon. Anelay (seated 3rd from left), Ambassador Nourrice (seated 3rd from right) with UK Members of Parliament, officials from British High Commission in Botswana, and Directors from SADC Secretariat

UK Delegation from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association visits SADC Secretariat

By **Innocent Mbvundula**

A delegation from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association of the United Kingdom (UK) branch, led by Right Honourable the Baroness Anelay of St Johns, a Conservative member of the House of Lords and Chairperson of the International Relations and Defence Committee visited the SADC Secretariat on 21 February, 2020 to learn and appreciate the status of SADC regional integration and trade, as the UK seeks renewed partnership with Africa after Brexit.

The UK delegation was welcomed at the Secretariat by the SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs, Ambassador Joseph Nourrice on behalf of the Executive Secretary Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax.

In welcoming the UK Delegation, Ambassador Nourrice expressed gratitude to the UK for the long standing relationship with the SADC Secretariat and the Member States in various areas of development. Ambassador Nourrice informed the delegation that SADC's approach to regional integration is rooted in the desire to promote political and economic independence, durable peace and security, and poverty

eradication.

To this effect, Ambassador Nourrice said, SADC favours a developmental approach to integration, which focuses on sectoral co-operation-industrialisation and infrastructure development - so as to enable sustainable natural resource exploitation, value addition and beneficiation, and competitiveness as pre-requisite and necessary conditions for meaningful trade and regional integration.

Ambassador Nourrice indicated that SADC would appreciate support in areas of financial inclusion learning from London as one of the world's financial capitals as well as enhancing the regional capacity in sustainable renewable energy, infrastructure, bridging digital divide, climate adaptation and resilience, and development of regional value chains in agro processing, mineral and pharmaceuticals in line with the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063.

The Rt. Hon. Baroness Anelay said the UK International Relations and Defence Committee is undertaking an inquiry on the UK and Sub-Saharan Africa which will focus on how the UK can best support the African

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STATEMENT BY THE SADC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, HER EXCELLENCY DR. STERGOMENA LAWRENCE TAX, ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAUNCHING OF SADC'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY



40th
Anniversary
1980 - 2020

The date, 1st April 2020, marked exactly 40 years since the establishment of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), the precursor to our regional community, the Southern African Development Community (SADC). SADCC—the Conference—was established in 1980 by nine majority-ruled countries in Southern Africa who signed the 'Southern Africa: Towards Economic Liberation' Declaration at the inaugural meeting of SADCC in Lusaka, Zambia. These nine countries were Angola, Botswana, Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

When it was formed, SADCC's aim was to liberate the economies of the majority-ruled countries in Southern Africa from their inherited dependence on South Africa, then under the apartheid administration. While the focus was now on economic liberation, SADCC was still committed to uproot colonialism from the region, as Namibia and South Africa were not yet liberated. Political liberation of the entire region was achieved after the fall of apartheid in 1994 when South Africa became the latest country in the region to attain majority-rule.

In 1992, almost 30 years ago, SADCC—the Conference—was succeeded by SADC—the Community—whose goal was to achieve economic development, peace and security, and growth, alleviate poverty, enhance the standard and quality of life of the peoples of Southern Africa, and support the socially disadvantaged through Regional Integration.

To date, membership has grown to 16, as Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe make up the regional grouping.

I am pleased to join all our 16 Member States in commemorating our 40th anniversary, which will culminate into a grand regional commemoration during the 40th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government to be held in August 2020. As we commemorate the founding of SADCC, we honour the founders of this regional organisation who envisioned a region that would collectively advance the cause of national political and economic liberation, paving the way for economic integration in Southern Africa. They established a platform for addressing matters affecting the region.

The liberation of countries of the region required the countries to be united in purpose. That quest for unity by SADCC's founders laid the foundation for the achievements we see today in the region, and the commemoration gives us an opportunity to reflect on those achievements. This will be the focus of the next couple of months as we, in partnership with the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC), will reflect on the journey that we have travelled together as a regional community and showcase the achievements attained in the last 40 years.

As we celebrate the progress that we have made in the past 40 years, we must not lose sight of the critical challenges that lie ahead of us. Going forward, we must collectively and decisively address challenges related to climate change; youth unemployment and gender inequality; infrastructure development; industrial development and trade; peace, security and stability; among others. It is for this reason that we are formulating the SADC Vision 2050, which will give us a strategic direction to address these challenges and chart the path for inclusive and sustainable development for our region.

Going forward, we look up to all SADC citizens to take on the mantle passed on to us by our founders, and work towards achieving socio-economic development of the peoples of Southern Africa, and attaining a truly integrated region. I appeal to you to be on the look-out for the SADC@40 commemoration updates that will be posted on our platforms listed below:

Follow us on Twitter @SADC_News; Facebook @sadc.int; and YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/user/sadcwebmaster/videos Visit our website: www.sadc.int

SADC ES pays tribute to SADC Founders for commitment and selflessness in the struggle for Southern Africa Liberation

By *Innocent Mbvundula*

The Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax on 23rd March, 2020 paid tribute to the men and women who sacrificed their lives for the liberation of Southern Africa, saying without their commitment and selflessness the region would never have achieved the political liberation that SADC citizens enjoy today.

In her message to mark the commemoration of the Southern Africa Liberation Day, H.E. Dr Tax hailed the spirit of togetherness that existed among Member States and the support rendered by the international community to the struggle for freedom in southern Africa. H.E. Dr Tax said the freedom the region is enjoying is one of the many achievements that all citizens of the region should be proud of, particularly as SADC will be commemorating 40 years of existence this year.

She also called for the preservation of the liberation history and the need to ensure that the hard-earned



H.E. Dr Tax

political freedom is sustained for posterity. "We must endeavour to ensure that our unique liberation history is not forgotten. To achieve this, it is important for our Member States to, among others, incorporate the Southern African liberation history into the school curriculum, so that our youth and the future generations appreciate the sacrifices of that

generation of young men and women who liberated us", H.E. Dr Tax said.

The SADC Executive Secretary underscored the importance of a collective regional action to tackle poverty beyond the attainment of political liberation. "While we celebrate our liberation, we must collectively work to transform our economies

and liberate our people from the bondage of poverty. We must all commit to our shared vision of a common future, that will ensure economic well-being, improvement of the standard of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice and peace and security of our people," the SADC Executive Secretary added.

When the Frontline States came together in 1974, their aim was to achieve political liberation in the Southern African region, and their efforts resulted in the attainment of majority-rule and independence in Angola and Mozambique (in 1975), Zimbabwe (1980), Namibia (1990), and South Africa (1994). The 38th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Windhoek, Republic of Namibia in August 2018 endorsed 23rd March, as the day for commemorating the liberation of Southern Africa. Watch full video of message the Southern Africa Liberation Day 23 March, 2020 by SADC Executive Secretary, H.E. Dr Tax on this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=efH-Q6D65BLg>



#StayHome
#BeSafe
#UniteAgainstCOVID19

#SADC pays tribute to all the people on the frontline in the fight against the #COVID19 pandemic in the region. They are risking their lives for us. The least we can do is #StayHome.

SADC Ministers for employment and labour review progress towards decent work in the region

By Peter Mabaka

SADC Ministers responsible for Employment and Labour and Social Partners met on 5 March 2020 at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, to review progress in the implementation of their commitments to advance decent work in the region. The meeting was held under the theme “Promoting labour market stability and harmonious industrial relations for sustainable development”.

The meeting was officially opened by Her Excellency Mama Samia Suluhu Hassan, Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, who underscored the need for the SADC Employment and Labour Sector to address the challenges and opportunities posed by the future of work, noting in particular the need to maximise the job creation potential of on-going technological transformation.

She highlighted that job creation was one of the means to fully address poverty and inequality, observing that concerted action was needed in addressing the youth unemployment challenge.

Mama Samia Suluhu Hassan proceeded to launch the Tanzania Youth Internship Programme, which provides valuable opportunities for young graduates to be attached at work places in the public and private sector for them to gain practical skills and work experience. With the active cooperation of public and private sector enterprises, the internship programme has opened a window of opportunity for more than 2000 young graduates to successfully transition to the workplace. She called upon all SADC Member States to deepen interventions to equip youth with skills that are relevant to the ever-changing world of youth through similar programmes.

When delivering her remarks, Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, the Executive Secretary of SADC, maintained that employment and labour issues continued to receive top priority in the Member States, highlighting that the region was moving in the right direction through interventions to strengthen



H.E Hassan (second from right) Dr Tax (far right)

social dialogue and labour market stability, which are crucial for investment and job creation.

Dr Tax underlined the need for Member States to enhance multi-sectoral engagement and coordination involving all key sectors and actors to promote full and productive employment in line with the 39th SADC Summit theme of “A Conducive Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, Increased Intra-Regional Trade and Job Creation”. In this regard, she explained that SADC Secretariat is coordinating the development of the comprehensive employment and labour policy framework to address decent work deficits in the region.

The Executive Secretary further said the policy development exercise is coinciding with the formulation of the Vision 2050 and the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030, and called upon the sector to align its interventions to the visioning process for the region. The meeting deliberated and agreed on number of issues, some of which were; to request the International Labour Organization (ILO) to support the Secretariat in developing a youth focused

project document for consideration by the Ministers and Social Partners at their next meeting; and also requested the SADC Committee of Statistics to prioritise production of labour market data; to request the African Union (AU) Commission to place on the agenda of the next AU Specialised Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment an item for discussion of concerted action and strategies by the African region to achieve the objectives of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment and adopted the proposed Guidelines on Probability of Social Security Benefits in SADC and urged Member States to consider them in bilateral and multilateral cooperation on social security.

The meeting was attended by Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Also in attendance were representatives from SADC Private Sector Forum (SPSF), Southern Africa Trade Union Coordinating Council (SATUCC), the International Labour Organization and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

SADCAS Capacitates Service providers in the Pharmaceutical Sector

Dr Lomkhosi Mkhonta-Gama

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) hosted a capacity development training of testing laboratories from the pharmaceutical sector training on ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 for eight SADC Member States; namely; Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The training which was held with the assistance from Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB), a national metrology institute of the Federal Republic of Germany, was divided into two phases, and conducted between 1st November 2018 to 30th June and 1st July 2019 to 31st December 2019, comprised of two courses, a one-day awareness and a five day ISO/IEC 17025:2017 requirements, implementation and internal auditing courses.

The training contributed to the strengthening of regulatory as well as manufacturing capacities in the pharmaceutical processing sector and enhanced its competitiveness and integration into the world markets. The objective of the project was to train both management and staff working in the testing laboratories within the pharmaceutical sector, including the drug regulatory authority on ISO/IEC 17025: 2017. The training focused mainly on the general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, the key accreditation standards applicable to testing laboratories, including those which operate in the pharmaceutical sector in order to prepare them for accreditation.

The pharmaceutical sector which develops, produces and markets drugs/medicinal plant materials for use as medications is identified in the SADC Industrial Policy as one of the priority areas for development in selected value chains. Within this sector accreditation plays a prominent role from research to production of medicines and in strengthening the regulatory capacity.

SADCAS is a multi-economy accreditation body established in terms of Article 15 B of the Technical Barriers to Trade



Participants to the one- day ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Awareness Course held in Lusaka, Zambia pose for a photo with the Trainer

(TBT) Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade with the primary purpose of ensuring that conformity assessment service providers (calibration/testing/medical laboratories, certification and inspection

bodies) operating in those SADC Member States which do not have national accreditation bodies are subject to an oversight by an authoritative body.

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Union (AU)'s Agenda 2063 and the areas for co-operation set out in the AU-UK Joint Communiqué signed in February 2019 in support of the shared vision for a prosperous, secure and innovative future for Africa, tackling common challenges such as climate change, and making the most of opportunities such as increasing trade links and the dynamism of Africa's youthful population.

The Rt. Hon. Baroness Anelay commended SADC, whose membership is diverse and at different levels of development, for reorienting itself and taking steps towards developing the Vision 2050 and the Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030 to provide strategic direction for the region, taking into account emerging issues such as climate change. The Rt. Hon. Baroness Anelay expressed commitment of the CPA to

follow up on the implementation of outcomes of the UK-Africa Investment Summit held on 20 January, 2020 in order to deliver a new lasting partnerships between the UK and African countries for accelerated investment, jobs and growth.

The Rt. Hon. Baroness Anelay was accompanied by other members of the CPA, Rt Hon. the Baroness Taylor of Bolton, Rt Hon. the Baroness Blackstone and Mr Robert Harper, Deputy Head of International Partnerships, CPA UK. From the SADC Secretariat, the meeting was attended by the Director of Infrastructure, Ms Mapolao Mokoena, Director of Industrial Development and Trade (IDT) Dr Kuthula Sibanda, Director of Finance, Investment and Customs (FIC) Mr Sadwick Mtonakutha, Director of Policy Planning and Resource Mobilisation (PPRM), Dr Mubita Luwabelwa and Director of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR), Mr Domingos Gove.

Namibia starts to export meat to the USA

By *Barbara Lopi*

The Republic of Namibia, a Member State of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), has started to export red meat to the United States of America (USA) after it sent 25 tonnes of beef to Philadelphia, following two decades of negotiations over safety regulations and logistics. Hon Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia and also Minister of International Relations and Cooperation said on 19th February 2020 that the country is finally able to export meat to the “lucrative and big U.S. market,” as the first shipment of meat set off, after negotiations that spanned 18 years.



Meat

Namibia, known for free-range, hormone-free beef, is set to export 860 tonnes of various beef cuts in 2020 to the United States, rising to 5,000 tonnes by 2025. The shipment is the first commercial consignment after samples were sent in the past 24 months to U.S. laboratories for tests. Under the deal, exports will include boneless, raw beef cuts in frozen or chilled form. The U.S. Ambassador to

Namibia, Ms Lisa Johnson, said “Namibia will benefit economically from tapping into the largest consumer market with purchasing power of \$13 trillion, and U.S. consumers will benefit from access to Namibia’s high-quality, free-range, grass-fed beef.” Namibia’s exports will also benefit from a duty-free regime under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

Namibia has to date exported about 3,000 tonnes of beef to China, where demand continues to grow, according to the official of Meatco, Namibia’s leading meat exporter. Meatco’s Vice Chairperson Ronald Kubas says Namibia has so far sent over 130 containers of meat to China and this market is far much more lucrative as the demand continues to increase.

SADC ES sends condolences to Mozambique following the death of Major General Marcelino Dos Santos

By *Innocent Mbvundula*

The Executive Secretary of SADC, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax sent condolences to His Excellency President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, Government and the People of the Republic of Mozambique as well as the bereaved family following the death of Major General Marcelino Dos Santos, a founding member of the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) and Former Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Mozambique on 11th February, 2020.

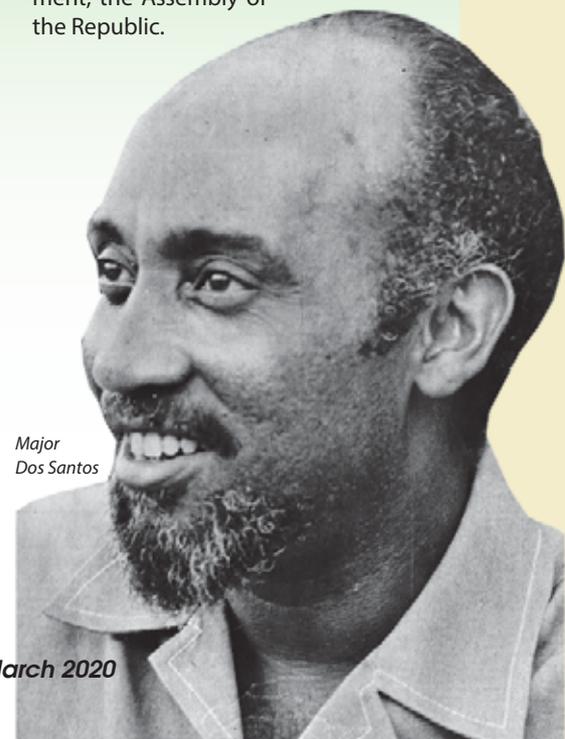
“On behalf of the SADC Secretariat, I wish to express our deepest condolences to Your Excellency, the Government and the people of the Republic of Mozambique and the bereaved family, on the loss of Major General Dos Santos,” H.E. Dr Tax said in a letter to the Government of Mozambique. H.E. Dr Tax said the death of Major General Dos Santos, who was declared a

National Hero in 2015, is not just a loss to Mozambique, but to the entire SADC Region because of his contribution in promoting the ideals of a free and democratic society.

The SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs Ambassador Joseph Nourrice signed a Book of Condolence at the Mozambican High Commission in Botswana on behalf of the Executive Secretary. Born on 20 May 1929 in Lumbo, Mozambique, Marcelino dos Santos served in different capacities in Mozambique. After the assassination of Eduardo Chivambo Mondlane, the founding President of the Mozambican Liberation Front in 1969, Dos Santos was elected to the three-person Presidential Council, with Uria Simango and Samora Machel.

He served as the FRELIMO’s deputy president from 1969 to 1977. In the late 1970s, Dos Santos was Minister of Economic Development. He was a

member of the Frelimo Political Bureau in charge of the economy in the early 1980s. From 1987 to 1999, Dos Santos was chairperson of the country’s Parliament, the Assembly of the Republic.



Major
Dos Santos

SADC conduct scoping exercises to develop real-time food and nutrition security monitoring system

By **Panduleni Elago**

One of the priority areas of the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy (RAP) is to facilitate enhanced implementation of the regional Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (FNSS) in SADC Member States at the national level.

Member States currently have systems that monitor the status of food and nutrition security (FNS), however, these systems are generally dependent on field assessments that are costly and are only undertaken once or twice a year. The result of such a low-frequency monitoring schedule is that information needed to support decision-making on FNS is updated infrequently, notwithstanding the transient nature of acute food insecurity.

In this regard, the SADC Secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) conducted a joint scoping mission to Botswana and Namibia to develop a remote drought monitoring system, by exploring the potential of setting up a remote food security and nutrition monitoring system, which can support the early warning and drought monitoring process in the two Member States.

A remote mobile monitoring system can help address these issues. First, it can fill information gaps, even in countries with well-functioning assessment systems by providing information in near real-time. High frequency data is critical to tracking and understanding changes in patterns, as well as observing impacts of specific events like shocks and hazards). Systems that provide near real-time capabilities using low-cost, mobile-based, high frequen-



Delegates posing for a group photo

cy approaches have already been pioneered in the Southern Africa region. One such system is the United Nations (UN) World Food Programme's (WFP) remote mobile monitoring system, mVAM.

WFP's remote monitoring approach, also known as mVAM were initially were established in nine countries across the Southern Africa region during the devastating drought in 2015/2016 caused by El Niño. This approach provides near real-time food security data using remote low-cost, phone-based surveys, and help inform decision making by providing up-to-date information on the impact of drought on household food insecurity and livelihood.

In Namibia and Botswana, the objective of the mission was to explore the possibility of setting up a remote drought monitoring system within the government's vulnerability assessment process, as a way to systematically capture data for decision-making; to ascertain what type of Food Security and Nutrition monitoring system is feasible

and most relevant in the context of Botswana and Namibia, and to develop a pilot system that is scalable to other SADC Member States.

During this period, the mission team conducted key informant interviews with relevant stakeholders from various ministries to understand the current early warning and vulnerability assessment processes, identify gaps and areas that need technical support.

Based on the findings, the team determined that remote monitoring systems have a high possibility of success in complementing national vulnerability assessment process in both Botswana and Namibia. Specifically, the systems could support governments in strengthening their drought monitoring systems for early mitigation action. Simultaneously, the national governments of both countries were enthusiastic in setting up remote monitoring systems to bolster their national vulnerability assessment processes.

A well-functioning drought monitoring system would

enable decision-makers to take timely shock-responsive action. In addition, the systems will also support communities by protecting productive livelihoods and strengthening resilience capacities in the medium to long-term.

The proposed outcomes will also support governments make structural investments in drought resilient communities, thus reducing the negative impacts of climate shocks on livelihoods, food security, and the eventual need for humanitarian action.

A holistic, fully-integrated platform will be formed, that will capture and disseminate real-time information on drought and its subsequent impact on food and nutrition security and the livelihoods of vulnerable communities. In the longer-term, this evidence-based information system will feed into the National Development Plans of both countries and support the timely planning and budgeting for building drought resilient communities and strengthening capacity.

SADC to develop Model Law on GBV



Delegates posing for a group photo

By Kealeboga Kelly Dambuza

The SADC Secretariat and the SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF) are facilitating the development of a Regional Model Law on Gender Based Violence (GBV) to guide harmonization of the numerous legal frameworks addressing specific aspects of GBV, and the dual legal system of customary and statutory law operating in many of the SADC Member States.

The proposed model law also recognizes that despite the existence of national legislation relating to aspects of GBV, Member States continue to experience challenges related to weak implementation of GBV laws and policies, resulting in inability to meet the legal obligations to prevent, protect against, investigate, punish and provide remedies for GBV.

In this regard, the proposed SADC GBV Model Law is expected to assist SADC Member States to strengthen and harmonise their GBV-related legislation, to guide implementation of domestic laws and policies on GBV, and to help the region to collaborate in combating GBV.

To take this process forward, and as a norm in the exercise of developing a model law, the SADC-PF and the SADC Secretariat, in collaboration with other regional development partners and with partial funding from the European Union (EU) under the Programme on Support to Peace and Security in the SADC Region, conducted a multi-stakeholder consultative meeting in September 2019 with key stakeholders. The participants were

members of parliament from all the SADC-PF affiliated parliaments (Angola, DRC, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and strategic partners including UN agencies. The meeting sensitized the participants on the SADC Regional Strategy and Framework of Action for Addressing Gender Based Violence (2018 – 2030), discussed modalities on harmonizing and implementing legislation on

gender-based violence, and mapped the process of establishing the proposed SADC GBV Model Law.

The SADC Region sponsored a motion to develop the Region's model law on GBV through the SADC-PF's Regional Women's Parliamentary Caucus during the SADC-PF 44th Plenary Assembly Session held in Maputo, Mozambique on 26 November to 10 December 2018. Since then, the process of developing the proposed model law has continued under the leadership of the SADC-PF and with technical support by the SADC Secretariat and other partners. Consultations with relevant stakeholders and Member States and technical meetings will be conducted during 2020, to inform the law drafting process. This process will be influenced by the key international and regional instruments and guidelines related to GBV, including the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development

SADC-EU partnership capacitates central banks

Mike Veremu & Gerald Nyamacherenga

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) in conjunction with the Committee of Central Bank Governors (CCBG) organised a four-day regional workshop, from 17 to 21 February 2020 at Sheraton Hotel in Pretoria, South Africa to build capacity of Central Banks in SADC in dealing with cross-border banking and other financial-related matters.

The workshop was in line with one of the Key Result Areas of the European Union funded programme called Support to Improving the Investment and Business Environment (SIBE) which aims to promote enhanced integration of financial markets in the SADC region. Mr. Jason Milton, Head of CCBG Secretariat said, the workshop was constituted by officials of the CCBG Banking Supervision Subcommittee

from all the 16 central banks of SADC Member States. He added that the workshop was geared at building capacity of central bank officials through peer to peer learning as well as through technical training.

"The workshop covered issues related central banking laws and supervisory tools of central banks in support of a stable banking environment in the SADC region", he said. The CCBG in the region was established by the SADC Ministers for Finance and Investment in July 1995 to promote and achieve closer co operation among central banks within SADC. The Committee is currently implementing a three-year strategy which aims to promote macroeconomic convergence; contribute to financial market deepening and integration; monitor financial stability; promote financial integrity; and foster domestic and regional financial inclusion.

SADC embracing electronic Certificate of Origin

By Alberto Alexandre

The review the SADC revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and subsequent approval by the Head of States and Government in August 2015 created new demands in the spheres of the regional integration agenda, in particular on the areas of trade facilitation to support the implementation of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap to consolidate the SADC Free Trade Area (FTA).

In response to these demands, the Ministerial Task Force on Regional Economic Integration at its 16th meeting held in March 2016 developed and approved the SADC Trade Facilitation Programme which has 28 activities including the implementation of the electronic certificate of origin.

The certificate of origin is a required document by importing countries for the purpose of granting duty free and tax free, statistics and risk assessment. It attests the origin of the goods as per the criteria provided in the Protocol on Trade. The Certificate of Origin presents the country where the goods were produced or manufactured and information regarding the product, its destination, and the country of export.

Since the start of the implementation of the SADC Free Trade Area, the certificate of origin has been processed manually by the competent or issuing authority in a country of origin of the goods as provided in Annex I of the Protocol on Trade. This process and procedures although they have been facilitating intra-Regional Trade, but over the year have proven to have some challenges with regards to issuing the certificate of origin, submission of the specimen, stamp and the list of authorised signatories of the respective Member States to Secretariat for inward circulation to other FTA Member.

The implementation of e-certificate of origin is one of the activities meant to support the industrialization strategy and roadmap as part of the consolidation of

the Free Trade Area. It is expected that this instrument will overcome the challenges which Traders and Customs Administration are currently facing in the management of the certificate of origin.

In order to implement the e-CoO concept regionally, the Secretariat facilitated the development of the regional eCoO framework with the view to harmonise the process of automation for registration, issuance and transmission of the certificate of origin. The Framework was approved by the Sectoral Committee of Ministers of Trade at the 31st Meeting held in June 2019 in Windhoek, Namibia. The Framework presents appropriate security features which include barcode encrypt and decrypt system. Under this framework, the electronic certificate of origin will operate as presented in the chart below.

Use of Certificate of Origin (CoO)

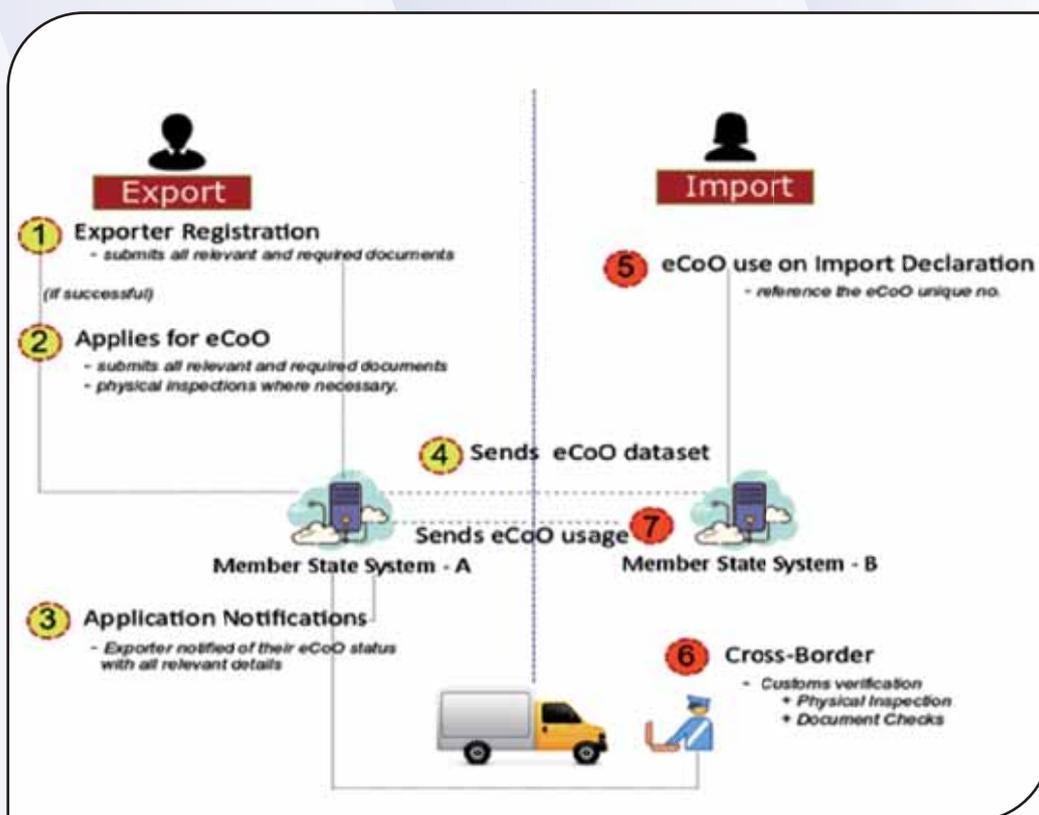
The Certificate of Origin is a requirement specially in preferential agreements for export and import of the goods subject for duty free and quota free. The CoO is important because it helps to determine whether certain goods are eligible for import under the preferential arrangement

or decide whether MFN rates should be applicable. Member States that are signatories of the Protocol on Trade and are participating in the Free Trade Area use the certificate of origin for duty free and quota free market access.

Operation of Electronic Certificate of Origin

The Electronic Certificate of Origin (eCoO) is a document processed and issued electronically by an issuing authority in the country of exportation and transmitted to the country of import through the appropriate protocol. It attests that goods declared by an exporter conform to specific rules of origin and is therefore qualified to be traded under duty free and quota free market access. The SADC e-certificate of origin presents security features which provide confidence and trust to all stakeholders along the chain. Its implementation will therefore overcome the challenge that the traders are currently facing by visiting the offices of the issuance authority for lodging application and getting response on the issuance.

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SADC embracing electronic Certificate of Origin

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Benefits of the Electronic Certificate of Origin

The implementation of the eCoO will reduce the time taken to process application and insurance since it will allow the trader to apply on-line, trace the application and get the response on the submission through the same platform. A reference number will be issued for the purpose of process customs declaration at the country of exportation.

The eCoO systems is equipped with security features such as online eCoO authenticity verification, optical watermarking technology to distinguish between original and copies of CoOs issued, digital rubber stamps of the competent authority and signatures of authorized officials, microprint to deter unauthorized re-production of the certificate of origin, 2-D barcode to ensure data integrity, Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) technology to ensure data security and authenticity and printer control language is used to control the printing of only one original certificate of origin. The business community in the region has welcome the introduction of eCoOs as they speed up customs clearance and expedite clearance of the letters of credit by banks.

Going on-line

● In manual environment; the exporters have to rely on getting certification from issuing authority (Chamber of Commerce or Customs Administration).

This is monotonous since it called for exporters to:

- Manually fill in the certificate of origin;
- Courier or deliver it to the issuing authority;
- Wait until the authority official reviewed and certified the certificate;
- Send it back to the exporter's offices; and
- Send the certificate of origin through courier to the importer or attach it to the documents accompanying the cargo.

● In electronic environment; The information required is basically the same for both paper and electronic certificates of origin. The difference is that instead of printing the certificate and taking it to the issuing authority to get it certified, the exporter needs to enter the information online and then the issuance authority will send certified certificate by express mail or via email depending on preference.

Currently, in the region, Botswana, Eswatini, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia have already developed their national module and are working on the component for transmission and receiving (outbound and inbound) of the e-CoO as per the specifications contained in the Framework and they will participate in the pilot phase. SADC Secretariat facilitated the backstopping mission on eCoO in these Member States in order to ascertain their readiness in the pilot exercise. Mauritius has already developed its eCoO module and is currently waiting to exchange with other Member States.

It is planned that the e-CoO will go live in May 2020 in six Member States and it will eventually be rolled out regionally afterwards. This will make the SADC be one of the first Regional Economic Communities (RECs) recognised by Africa Union to implement the e-CoO regionally for trade facilitation. The implementation of the e-CoO is expected to contribute to increased intra-SADC Trade within the realms of the Protocol on Trade and Free Trade Area and support industrialization through increased trade volume of goods produced in the region.

The implementation of the eCoO is expected to contribute to the reduction of non-tariff barriers to trade and enhance participation of SADC Member States in the regional value chain and ultimately, support successful implementation of the industrialization strategy and roadmap in the consolidation of the SADC FTA. This eventually will lead to the improvement of SADC Member States in their ranking in ease of doing business.

SADC creates centre for renewable energy to stimulate rural electrification

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has established a centre for renewable energy to coordinate and support rural electrification within 16 Member States of the regional bloc.

Mr Kudakwashe Ndhlukula, the Executive Director of the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy based in Windhoek, told a meeting of the SADC Energy Sub-Committee meeting held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, that the centre will also offer technological support on how to address low supply caused by lack of proper planning.

"Despite abundant renewable energy sources within SADC member states, the region has one of the world's lowest rural electricity supply rates at 5%," Ndhlukula said. He said the centre was a result of the SADC renewable energy strategic plan adopted in 2017 to address limited energy supply which has been a stumbling block to the region's growth for years.

Ms Zena Saidi, Tanzania's Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy, said despite of enormous potential of energy resources, the region still faces significant challenges in energy supply towards meeting ever increasing demand due to economic and population growth.

She said, "While the demand is expected to grow, it is sad to note that only 5% of the rural people in the region have access to electricity."

Ms Saidi said this indicated that there was still energy poverty across the region which continued to hold back economic development. She added that limited supply of energy was a major challenge and an obstacle in driving the economy of the SADC region for industrialization agenda, which was currently being championed by most of the SADC Member States in their quest for economic emancipation. **(Xinhua News)**



Delegates posing for a photo

SADC deposit 1 010 accessions in Svalbard Global Seed Vault

By Sthembiso Mbhele & Justify Shava

Plant genetic resources are a vital source of novel genes for use in crop improvement programmes and as a direct source of food and nutrition to mankind.

They are, therefore, supposed to be gathered, conserved and their utilization managed in a sustainable way for them to be passed on from one generation to the next. In yet another notable achievement by the Southern African Development Community (SADC), SPGRC, a SADC Secretariat institution made an additional deposit of 1 010 accessions of different species at the Svalbard Global Seed Vault.

The 1 010 accessions of different species, which includes rice (*Oryza sativa*) (375), Sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor*) (213), Pearl millet (*Pennisetum glaucum*) (104), Maize (*Zea mays*) (48), Cow pea (*Vigna unguiculata*) (94), Finger millet/Rapoko (*Eleusine coracana*) (94), and Common beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) (82), were deposited at a function held in the Svalbard Archipelago in a small town called Longyearbyen where the global seed vault is situated on 26 February 2020.

The event at which the President of Ghana, Mr Nana Akufo-Addo, participated, was hosted by Norwegian Prime Minister and co-chair of the UN group of SDG Advocates, Ms Erna Solberg, included guests from 35 gene banks from all continents of the world, who also deposit-

ed seeds at the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. Emphasizing the importance of the event, the Executive Director of the Global Crop Diversity Trust implored the participants to note that, "The large scope of today's seed deposit reflects worldwide concern about the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss on food production."

Officially opened in 2008, the Svalbard Global Seed Vault, is intended to store the world's crop seeds "forever" against the threat of climate change, changes in land use and food preferences that threaten to wipe out useful crop diversity of the globe to the detriment of mankind. The Vault is managed through a partnership between the NordGen, the Nordic Genetic Resource Centre in cooperation with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the

Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Global Crop Diversity Trust. To date, the vault is home to 1 00 050 accessions from across the world. The Svalbard Archipelago, about 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) from the North Pole and is permafrost with an average annual temperature of -4.5 °C, conditions which aid in the long term conservation of the seeds.

Annually, the SADC Secretariat, duplicate plant genetic resources from the SADC region's 16 Member States as a safety precaution against potential loss from natural disasters and any threat. This year's deposit originated from over ten Member States and to date, over 34 000 accessions have been duplicated from the region.



SADC Secretariat officers, Sthembiso Mbhele (centre) and Justify Shava (left)

SADC, FAO and Malawi's LUANAR host Aqua-preneurship workshop to advance industrial development and Job creation

*By Dr Motseki
Hlatshwayo*

The Southern African Development Community (SADC), in partnership with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and Malawi's Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) on 9-13 December 2019 hosted the third regional youth training workshop for a programme called Transformation of Aquaculture, Fish Processing and Value Addition in the SADC Region (AQUATRANS) which was held in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa.

In line with the 2019 SADC Summit theme, "A Conducive Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, Increased Intra-Regional Trade and Job Creation", the workshop was held under the theme "Aqua-preneurship for Industrial Development and Job Creation, with the view to ensure market-led sustainable improvements in the aquaculture value chain in the SADC region.

The AQUATRANS programme aims at providing a platform of knowledge and skills sharing among stakeholders for strengthened capacity in aquaculture management, business development, investment and technologies and thus contributing towards sustainable aquaculture expertise in the region. The goal of the programme is to promote entrepreneurship ventures in aquaculture value chains to increase incomes and ensure food and nutrition security in the SADC region. The AQUATRANS programme is designed in recognition of the challenges that the SADC region faces,



Group photo of participants



Fishing activity

PHOTO COURTESY OF MK ENTERPRISES

particularly the limited capacities of start-up and existing Aqua-businesses, mainly those owned by the youth to grow, produce and process quality fish for the right market in a profitable manner.

During the workshop, participants brainstormed on needs for aquaculture and inland fisheries management and development. In addition, they exchanged ideas on how the public and private sector can address key issues constraining the develop-

ment of the aquaculture sector.

Participants at the workshop had an opportunity to learn from one of the young aqua-preneurs who participated in the AQUATRANS programme in 2018, Mr. Morena Khashane, a 31-year old South African founder of MK Enterprises who runs a promising fish farm called AquarMor in Mafikeng, South Africa. He farms tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) both in pond and aquaponics systems. He also led a field trip to a farm outside Johannesburg farming tilapia in recirculating aquaculture system (RAS), which he assisted in setting up.

The workshop was attended by 20 aquaculture youth entrepreneurs from Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Aquaculture officials from the Governments of Malawi, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe as well as resource persons drawn from LUANAR, AdvanceAfrica, FAO and SADC Secretariat also participated at the workshop.



PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE SADC REGION:
A PRIORITY FOR REGIONAL INTERGRATION

SADC United
to End 
Gender Based Violence



Dr Chirambo

SADC and EU convene a Steering Committee meeting to review progress on implementation of the SPSS Programme

By Jacinta Hofnie

The Support to Peace and Security in the SADC Region (SPSS) Programme convened the 2nd Programme Steering Committee meeting for on 3rd March 2020, in Gaborone, Botswana.

The SPSS Programme was launched in April 2019 with funding from the European Union under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) for a duration 3.5 years to strengthen the capacity of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation's to promote peace, security, undertake electoral assistance, mediation and conflict management as well as address cross border safety and security, and gender-based violence across the SADC Region.

The Chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation Troika, H.E. Ambassador Rapheal Tayera Faransi in his keynote address noted that the SPSS programme met most of its set targets during the first year of implementation. He highlighted that the role of the Programme Steering Committee (PSC) is to provide support and guidance to the Programme, raise awareness of the Programme, and inculcate a sense of ownership of the Programme by state and non-state actors, for sustainability of interventions.

In his remarks, the European Union Delegation to Botswana and SADC, H.E. Ambassador Jan Sadek, noted that the purpose of the Programme Steering Committee (PSC) is to review progress towards the attainment of results and he congratulated and thanked the Programme for the progress made since its commencement, as the programme is now at "cruise-speed". He added that the EU remains a long-standing partner in peace and security matters, not only in the SADC region, but on the African continent, as the link between development and peace and security is undoubtedly important, as peace promotes human rights and democratic norms and values.

The Programme Manager, Dr Kondwani Chirambo highlighted that the SPSS Programme is designed to address key objectives in the SADC Protocol on Politics and Security Cooperation and the Strategic Indicative Plan of the Organ, as well as implementing the SADC Regional Strategy and Framework of Action for Addressing Gender Based Violence, 2018 – 2030. The achievements to date are summarised as follows:

- 226 Short Term Election Observers and 10 Long Term Observers were trained to cover 9 national elections that took place in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Madagascar; South Africa and Malawi; and Parliamentary elections in

Madagascar; as well as Presidential and National Assembly Elections in Botswana, Mauritius, Mozambique and Namibia.

- Training of mediators was undertaken and additional technical support was provided by GIZ and the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (UNDP). Training of mediators was undertaken in Harare, Zimbabwe and Dar es Salaam in the United Republic of Tanzania in 2019 targeting state and non-state actors. 49 personnel were trained in enhanced mediation skills as part of an on-going initiative.

- To strengthen regional capacity to address transnational organised crime (TOC), the Police Sector was supported to begin the technical process that would enable the region to more effectively, identify, detect and prosecute such crimes. In this regard, the Police Sector has held three joint operation planning meetings for Senior Police Officers, followed by joint and simultaneous operations conducted by Member States. As part of the process for providing technical support to address TOC, and to prepare the region for the development of modalities of establishing a regional model of Standard Operating Procedures related to TOC, the SADC Protocol on the control of Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials was reviewed. The aim was to align it with International legal frameworks, standards and best practices.

- The process of developing regional tools are underway that will be used to enhance and strengthen the capacity of key service providers to effectively respond to gender based violence. Priority has been to popularizing the SADC Regional Gender Based Violence Strategy and Framework for Action 2019 – 2030 and also on the development of Regional SGBV Training Guidelines; the Regional Standard Operating Procedures and Referral Mechanism; and a Review and inventory of SGBV legislation. These tools will be rolled out to Member States during the remaining period of the Programme.

The PSC Troika Members, drawn from the Republics of Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe; the EU delegation and GIZ commended the Secretariat for the progress but underscored the need for strengthened visibility of interventions at Member State and regional level.

The 3rd PSC meeting will be held in October, 2020, to further oversee, guide and evaluate programme implementation.



Towards SADC at 40 – Reflecting on the role and relevance of SADC

This year, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) will be commemorating 40th Anniversary of its journey from 1st April, 1980 when its forerunner the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) was officially formed, in Lusaka, Zambia and later transformed to SADC on 17th August 1992 in Windhoek, Namibia. Innocent Mbvundula (IM) interviewed the Head of Communications and Public Relations at the SADC Secretariat, Ms. Barbara Lopi (BL) to explain the role of SADC and the relevance of the regional body.

SADC AT 40

IM: First and foremost, what is the mission of SADC?

BL: The mission of SADC is to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development in the 16 Member States through efficient, productive systems, deeper co-operation and integration, good governance, and durable peace and security; so that the region emerges as a competitive and effective player in international relations and the world economy. In order to fulfil this mission, the SADC Member States are guided by the following principles, as stated in Article 4 of the SADC Treaty:

- Sovereign equality of all Member States;
- Solidarity, peace and security;
- Human rights, democracy and the rule of law; Equity, balance and mutual benefit; and Peaceful settlement of disputes.

IM: As SADC commemorates 40 years of existence this year, would you say that SADC has made successes and that the organization is still relevant?

BL: Yes, SADC has made successes and the regional body is still relevant. From its inception, SADC has been guided by the desire to establish a regional integration bloc to link regional economies, strengthen the region's economic performance, and enhance the region's political stability. The objectives of SADC, as stated in the SADC Treaty, are all still relevant, and these are to:

- Achieve development and economic growth, alleviate poverty, enhance the standard and quality of life of the people of Southern Africa and support the socially disadvantaged through Regional Integration;
- Evolve common political values, systems and institutions;
- Promote and defend peace and security;
- Promote self-sustaining development on the basis of collective self-reliance, and



Ms. Lopi

the inter-dependence of member States;

- Achieve complementarity between national and regional strategies and programs;
- Promote and maximize productive employment and utilization of resources of the region;
- Achieve sustainable utilization of natural resources and effective protection of the environment; and
- Strengthen and consolidate the long-standing historical, social and cultural affinities and links among the people of the Region.

To achieve these objectives, Member States have continued to work together harmoniously in achieving effective results on common problems and issues. Since 1992, the Member States of SADC have adopted thirty-three (33) protocols and a number of declarations, agreements, charters and memoranda of understanding on issues ranging from mining, trade, finance and investment, peace and security; to combating of illicit drugs, extradition, law and justice, health, energy, forestry, fisheries, wildlife,

tourism, culture and shared watercourses, as well as the protection of the rights and empowerment of women and young people, amongst others. Out of the thirty-three (33) protocols, twenty-five (25) have come into force after being ratified by two thirds of the signatory Member States.

IM: Sometimes we notice that the difference between SADC and the SADC Secretariat is not well understood. Can you explain the difference between these two?

BL: The difference between SADC and the SADC Secretariat is that, the SADC Secretariat is one of the institutions of SADC, the regional body, which is comprised of the 16 Member States; Angola, Botswana, Union of Comoros, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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Towards SADC at 40 – Reflecting on the role and relevance of SADC

from page 24

The mandate of SADC, the regional body is to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development, and to execute its mandate, the regional body, and to execute its mandate, the regional body, has established institutions with specific responsibilities.

As one of the institutions of SADC, the SADC Secretariat is specifically responsible for strategic planning and management of SADC programmes; implementation of the decisions of the Summit and Council; coordination and harmonisation of policies and strategies; management of special programmes and projects; monitoring and evaluation; resource mobilisation; and research.

Other Institutions of SADC include: the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government; the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation; the SADC Council of Ministers; the Sectoral and cluster ministerial committees; the standing committee of senior officials; the SADC Administrative Tribunal; and the SADC National committees.

IM: When talking about SADC, often times, the role of citizens in achieving the regional integration agenda and socio-economic development is not highlighted. What is the role of SADC citizens and what mechanism does SADC have for citizen participation?

BL: The 16 Member States of SADC, represent a total population of 342 million citizens, who are stakeholders of SADC, and have a role to play in achieving the regional integration agenda and socio-economic development.

According to Article 23 of the SADC Treaty, SADC Stakeholders include the private sector; civil society, non-governmental organisations; and workers and employers organisations. The SADC Treaty states that SADC shall seek to involve fully, the people of the Region and non-governmental organizations in the process of regional integration. The article further states, that SADC shall co-operate with, and support the initiatives of the peoples of the Region and non-governmental organisations, contributing to the objectives of SADC in the areas of co-operation in order to foster closer relations among the communities, associations and people of the Region.



SADC founding leaders during the Summit in 1980 held in Lusaka, Zambia

In this regard, mechanisms exist for the private sector and other non-state actors to participate and contribute towards sustainable regional integration agenda and socio-economic development. One of the mechanisms for SADC Citizen's participation is the SADC Business Council which has been established to strengthen the engagement of private sector in the SADC integration and development agenda, at the regional level, and national level.

Another mechanism is the Memorandum of Understanding with the Southern African Development Community Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (SADC-CNGO) which has seen the SADC-CNGO participating in several SADC processes including the development of a SADC mechanism for engagement with Non-State Actors, and the development of SADC Vision 2050, drafting of the SADC Regional Poverty Reduction Framework, as well as in designing the SADC Regional Poverty Observatory mechanism.

IM: There is a perception in some quarters of the SADC citizenry that the role of SADC is limited, or SADC is slow to intervene in national affairs of Member States. Can you explain what it takes for SADC to intervene in Member State domestic or national issues.

BL: The SADC Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Co-operation provides guidance on when to intervene in a Member State's domestic or national issues. The main aim of the Organ Proto-

col is largely to encourage solidarity, peace, and security among the SADC member states through closer co-operation in the field of politics, defence and security.

In line with the main goals and ethics of the Protocol, the methodology of resolving conflict is based on preventative diplomacy, negotiation, conciliation, mediation, good offices, arbitration and adjudication by international tribunal. The principles of consultation and consent are used to stimulate conflict resolution, as well as encouraging co-operation among member states.

IM: In brief, is the region better off with SADC than without it?

BL: Yes, the region is better off with SADC than without it. The regional grouping has been able to demonstrate that regional integration and co-operation are possible and desirable, and member states have continued to work together harmoniously in achieving effective results on common problems and issues. Additionally, SADC has been able to instill a sense of regional belonging as well as a practice of consultation among the peoples and governments of the region.

This has positioned the region as a strong, competitive and attractive destination. Furthermore, the region continues to be an effective player in international relations and the world economy. Additionally, SADC is a building block of the African Economic Community, aimed at fostering continental integration.

UNPACKING THE SADC PROTOCOLS:

SADC Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Co-operation

By **Peter Mabaka**

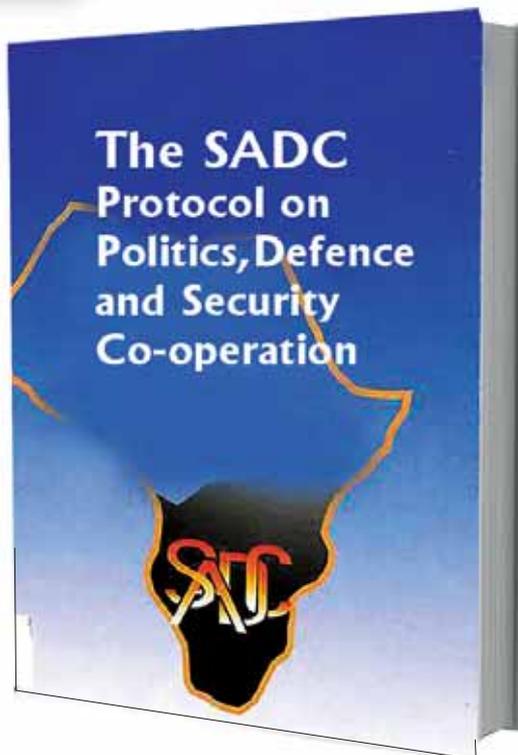
In 1996, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), created the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security (Organ) as an institutional framework for coordinating policies and activities on politics, defence and security. Therefore, the Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Co-operation was passed in 2001 to provide a legal framework and clear objectives for the proper functioning of the Organ.

The Protocol was amended on 8th September 2009 to incorporate a structure accommodating regional policing cooperation activities; the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Co-operation Organisation.

The general objective of the Protocol as contained in Article 2 is to promote peace and security in the region.

The specific objectives are:

- Protect the people and safeguard the development of the region against instability arising from the breakdown of law and order, intra-state conflict, inter-state conflict and aggression;
- Promote political cooperation among State Parties and the evolution of common political values and institutions;
- Develop common foreign policy approaches on issues of mutual concern and advance such policy collectively in international fora;
- Promote regional co-ordination and co-operation on matters related to security and defence and establish appropriate mechanisms;
- Prevent, contain and resolve inter-and intra-state conflict by peaceful means;
- Consider enforcement action in accordance with international law and as a matter of last resort where peaceful means have failed;
- Promote the development of democratic institutions and practices within the territories of State Parties and



- encourage the observance of universal human rights as provided for in the Charters and Conventions of the African Union and United Nations;
 - Consider the development of a collective security capacity and conclude a Mutual Defence Pact to respond to external military threats;
 - Develop close co-operation between the police and state security services of State Parties in order to address cross border crime and promote a community based approach to domestic security;
 - Observe and encourage State Parties to implement African Union, United Nations and other international conventions and treaties on arms control, disarmament and peaceful relations between states;
 - Develop peacekeeping capacity of national defence forces and co-ordinate the participation of State Parties in international and regional peacekeeping operations; and
 - Enhance regional capacity in respect of disaster management and co-ordination of international humanitarian assistance.
- Confidentiality of information

Article 12 of the protocol on Politics,

Defence and Security Co-operation explicitly explains the handling of confidential information by all State Parties as follows:

- State Parties undertook not to disclose any classified information, obtained under this protocol or as a result of their participation in the Organ, other than to members of their own staff to whom such disclosure is essential for purposes of giving effect to this protocol or any decision taken by the Organ;
- State Parties have agreed that the staff referred to in the immediate above paragraph shall at all times maintain strict secrecy;
- State Parties further undertook not to use any classified information obtained during any multilateral co-operation between them to the detriment of any Member State; and
- A State Party remained bound by the requirement of confidentiality under this Article even after it withdraws from the Organ.

Relationship with other international agreements

- The protocol in no way detracts from the rights and obligations of State Parties under the Charters of the African Union and or United Nations.
- The protocol in no way detracts from the responsibility of the United Nations Security Council to maintain international peace and security.
- The protocol shall not derogate from existing agreements between a State Party and another State Party or a non-State Party and an international organization, other than SADC, provided that such agreements are consistent with the principles and objectives of this protocol.
- Where an existing agreement is inconsistent with the principles and objectives of this protocol, the Member State shall take steps to amend the agreement accordingly.

The SADC Protocol on Politics Defence and Security can be accessed from the SADC website on this link:
https://www.sadc.int/files/3613/5292/8367/Protocol_on_Politics_Defence_and_Security20001.pdf

New staff appointments at the SADC Secretariat



Dr. Khutula Sibanda has been appointed Director under the directorate of Industrial Development and Trade. Prior to joining SADC, Dr Sibanda worked as Chief Economist and Head Strategy at Infrastructure Development Bank of Zimbabwe.



Mr. Gladmore Mamhare has been appointed Programme Officer – Competition Policy under the directorate of Industrial Development and Trade.



Ms. Kerina Mhere has been seconded under the directorate of Organ as Training Officer – Police based at RPTC in Harare, Zimbabwe. Ms. Mhere worked as Staff Officer – Training and Development for Zimbabwe Republic Police in Harare, Zimbabwe.



Mr Allan Munthali has been appointed Finance Officer – Programmes & Projects under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Mr Munthali worked as Manager Assurance and Advisory Services at Deloitte & Touché in Gaborone, Botswana.



Ms. Duduetsang Osman has been appointed Finance Officer – Programmes & Projects under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Ms. Osman worked as Project Assistant at United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Gaborone Botswana.



Ms. Gaone Mogotsi has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Ms. Mogotsi worked as an Accountant at Kgalagadi Land Board in Tsabong.



Mr. Leatile Lefenya has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Mr. Lefenya worked as Grants Management Assistant at Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research & Development in Southern Africa (CCARDESA) in Gaborone.



Ms. Lesedi Bagopi has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Ms. Bagopi worked as Operations Officer at Local Enterprise Authority (LEA) in Gaborone.



Mr. Tsholofelo Kereeditse has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Mr. Kereeditse worked as Accounts Officer – Management Accounts at Air Botswana in Gaborone.

Compiled By Keletso Ramahobo

New staff appointments at the SADC Secretariat



Ms. Tshegofatso Mabotho has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Ms. Mabotho worked as Finance and Administration Manager at Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (BOCONGO) in Gaborone.



Mr. Oaitse Phetwe has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Mr. Phetwe worked as Finance Officer at Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry in Gaborone.



Ms. Thapelo Kerebotswe has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Ms. Kerebotswe worked as Finance Assistant for SADC DFRC in Gaborone, Botswana.



Ms. Motho Masilonyane has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Ms. Masilonyane worked as Assistant Finance Expert for SADC AFDB – SARCIS – DR Project in Gaborone.



Ms. Kutlwano Kopo has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Ms. Kopo worked as Accounts Payable Agent at FedEx Express Botswana in Gaborone.



Ms. Tebo Mophakedi has been appointed Senior Secretary – French under Conference Services Unit. Prior to joining SADC, Ms. Mophakedi worked as Courses Coordinator at Alliance Française in Gaborone, Botswana.



Ms. Thato Mokwena has been appointed Assistant Finance Officer under the directorate of Finance. Prior to joining SADC, Ms. Mokwena worked as Accounts Officer at Bank Gaborone in Gaborone.



Ms. Ndipo Gaolaolwe has been appointed Senior Secretary under the directorate of Social and Human Development. Ms. Gaolaolwe worked as Secretary under the ICT unit.

Welcome to the SADC family. SADC Secretariat wishes them all the best in their new jobs.

Compiled By Keletso Ramahobo



40th
Anniversary
1980 - 2020



SADC turns 40

#SADC40

On 1st April 1980, the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) was formed, and later, in 1992 transformed into the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Therefore, on 1st April, 2020, SADC turned 40 years. Commemorations of the 40th Anniversary will be held during the 40th SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in Maputo, Republic of Mozambique in August 2020. The commemoration will highlight among others, the relevance, value and achievements of SADC in the last 40 years.

1 REGION, 16 NATIONS WORKING TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE

- www.sadc.int
- [sadc_secretariat](https://www.instagram.com/sadc_secretariat)
- [facebook.com/sadc.int](https://www.facebook.com/sadc.int)
- [@SADC_News](https://twitter.com/SADC_News)
- prinfo@sadc.int
- [youtube.com/sadc.int](https://www.youtube.com/sadc.int)



MEMBER STATES INFORMATION

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Freedom Day is a South African Public Holiday (its national day), celebrated on 27 April. It celebrates freedom and commemorates the first post-apartheid elections held on that day in 1994.

The elections were the first non-racial national elections where everyone of voting age of over 18 from any race group, including foreign citizens permanently resident in South Africa was allowed to vote. Previously, under the apartheid regime, non-whites had only limited rights to vote.

On the first commemoration of the holiday, President Nelson Mandela addressed Parliament: As dawn ushered in this day, the 27th of April 1994, few people could suppress the welling of emotion, as they were reminded of the terrible past from which they came as a nation; the great possibilities that they now have; and the bright future that beckons them. The day mark a historic moment in the life of the rainbow nation.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_Day_\(South_Africa\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_Day_(South_Africa))



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

In December 1991, the Constitution was amended to make Mauritius a Republic within the Commonwealth. Mauritius became a Republic on 12 March 1992, with the last governor general, Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo, as interim president. He was succeeded by Cassam Uteem on 30 June 1992.

Dr. Navin Ramgoolam led a MLP-MMM coalition to victory at the 1995 general elections, replacing Sir Anerood Jugnauth QC as Prime Minister, a post the latter had occupied for 13 years. The governing coalition split in 1997, with the MMM going back to the Opposition and Dr. Navin Ramgoolam staying on as prime minister. At the next elections in 2000, Sir Anerood Jugnauth's MSM, in coalition with Paul Bérenger's MMM was returned to power, with Sir Anerood Jugnauth QC appointed as Prime Minister.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Mauritius



REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE



Ian Douglas Smith (right)

In 18 April 1980, Southern-Rhodesia gained independence from the British, taking the name Zimbabwe. The day marked the end of racial segregation. In the ninety year span that Zimbabwe was a colony, it was administered by the British South African Company (BSAC).

In 1965, Zimbabwe became autonomous and was led by a white segregationist government after Ian Douglas Smith made a Unilateral Declaration of Independence (UDI) from Britain. This was after the British government had made majority rule a condition for the independence of Rhodesia from Britain. From June 1979, the Republic of Southern Rhodesia was replaced by Zimbabwe-Rhodesia after Abel Tendekayi Muzorewa won the first majority elections. Lacking international recognition, after about three months, the country was taken back into the hands of Britain, as per the Lancaster House Agreement which was meant facilitate transition. The country once again became a British colony known as Southern Rhodesia. In the April 1980 elections, Robert Mugabe, head of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) won the majority and became the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe.

Source: <http://www.sahistory.org.za/dated-event/zimbabwean-independence-day>

APRIL | AVRIL | ABRIL

2020

COMMEMORATIVE DAYS

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-----------------------------|-----|------|-----|-------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 World Health Day (WHO) | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 World Malaria Day (WHO) |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |



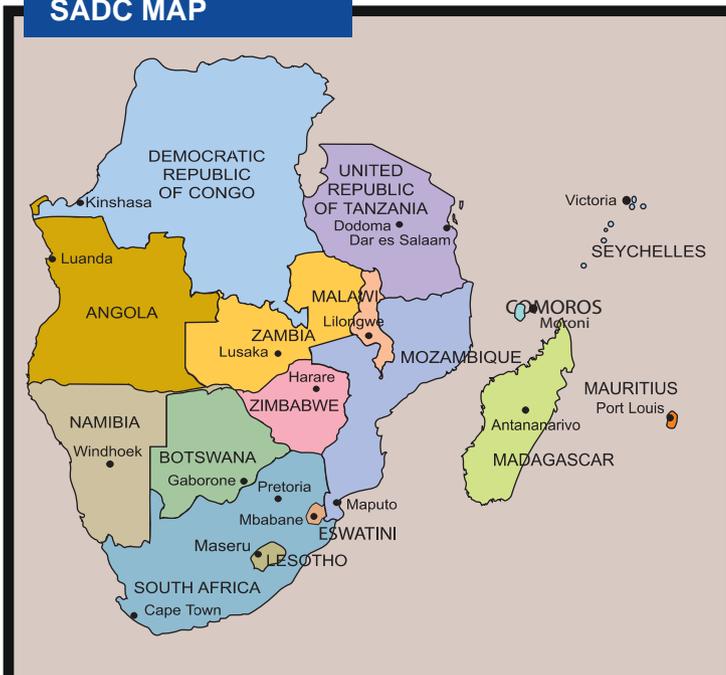
PEACE AND SECURITY COOPERATION

SADC recognises that Peace and Security cooperation is a pre-requisite for achieving the Regional Integration Agenda. In this area, SADC enhances regional peace building, conflict prevention, resolution and management; disaster risk management; regional collective defence; regional early warning; cross border security; migration and refugee management; and Peace Support Operations.

APRIL 2020 PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

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|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| 04 Angolan Peace Day 07 Karume Day 07 Women's Day 10 Good Friday | Angola Tanzania Mozambique Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Seychelles, Tanzania, Zambia & Zimbabwe Botswana | 11 Easter Saturday 11 Holy Saturday 12 Easter Sunday 13 Easter Monday | Zimbabwe Zambia Madagascar, Tanzania, Zimbabwe Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Sychelles, Tanzania, Zambia & Zimbabwe South Africa | 18 Independence Day 19 King's Birthday 25 National Flag Day 26 Union Day Tanzania 27 Freedom Day 30 National Education Day | Zimbabwe Eswatini Eswatini Tanzania South Africa DRC |
| 11 Public Holiday | | 13 Family Day | | | |

SADC MAP



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