

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE

SADC Harmonised Consumer Price Indices (HCPI)

December 2013

SADC Secretariat

Directorate -Policy, Planning and Resource Mobilization

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The SADC Region registered annual inflation rate of 5.8% in December 2013 compared to December 2012 as measured by the HCPI. Month on Month inflation rate stood at 0.5% in December 2013 compared to 0.3% in November 2013.

Introduction

This is the twenty-eighth issue in series since the launch of news releases on SADC HCPI initiative. Though focusing on December 2013 figures, this issue also contains HCPI figures relating to November 2013 which were not disseminated in a separate news release.

Annual Inflation rates for SADC Member States

The reported annual inflation rates for December 2013 for Member States range from a highest at 23.2% for Malawi and the lowest at 1.0% for the Mauritius. As in previous months Malawi continued to record the highest, double digit inflation rate among the SADC Member States. The annual inflation rates for the rest of the other Member States were reported as follows: Botswana Democratic republic of (4.4%),Congo (1.7%),Lesotho (5.6%), Madagascar (7.7%), Mozambique (3.7%), Namibia (7.2%), Seychelles (4.4%)South Africa (5.4%),Swaziland (2.9%), Tanzania (6.3%), Zambia (10.9%) and Zimbabwe (2.1%) as reflected in table 2 below.

Compared to the SADC regional annual average inflation rate of 5.8% for December 2013, nine SADC Member States recorded annual rates below the regional average whilst five Member States namely Tanzania, Namibia, Madagascar, Zambia and Malawi registered rates higher than the regional average. See figure 3 below for more details.

Month on Month Inflation rates for SADC Member States

All the SADC Member States registered increases in the month on month inflation rates in December 2013 except for Lesotho which recorded a decrease of 0.3% and Zimbabwe which registered no change. The highest month on month inflation rate of 5.2% was registered by Malawi as reflected in table 1 below.

Annual Inflation Rates by COICOP divisions

With regard to the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) major divisions, four Divisions registered annual inflation higher than the regional average of 5.8% in December 2013 compared to December 2012. These include Miscellaneous Goods and Services (6.0%), Housing, Water, Electricity gas and other fuels,(6.1%), Transport (7.5%) and Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (8.4%). The remaining Divisions recorded annual rates of inflation below the SADC average of 5.8%. See table 4 below.

Month on Month Inflation Rates by COICOP divisions

Apart from the Communication and Miscellaneous Goods & Services Divisions both of which recorded decreases of -0.1%, all the other Divisions recorded increases in month on month inflation in December 2013. Table 3 below provides details.

Figure 1: Month on month inflation rate (%) in SADC region for the period: December 2012 to December 2013

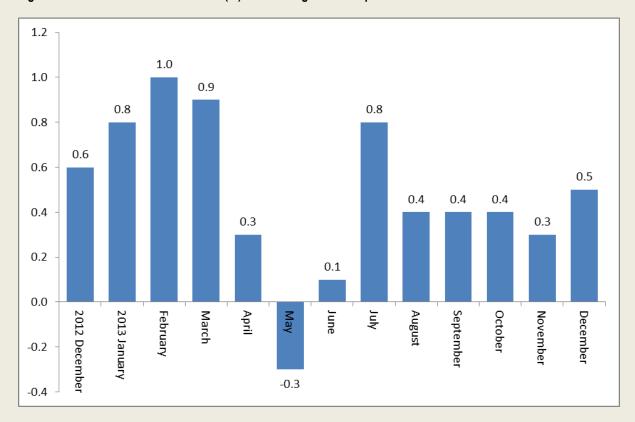


Figure 2: Annual inflation rate (%) in SADC region for the period: December 2012 to December 2013

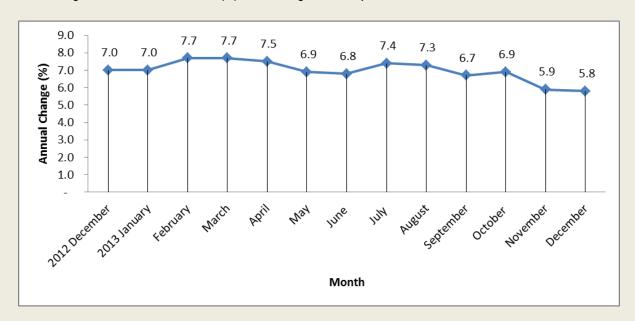


Figure 3: Annual inflation rate (%) for SADC region and SADC Member States as at December 2013

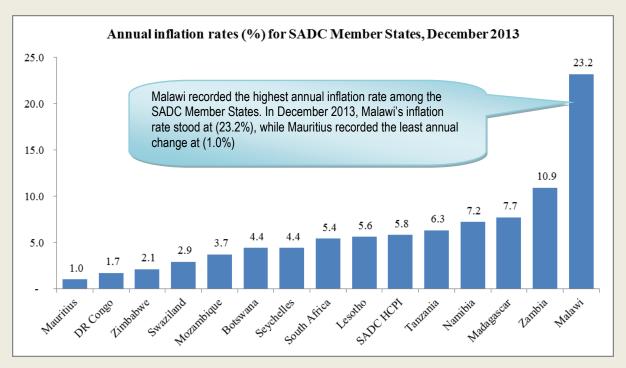


Table 1: Month on Month inflation rates (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs, 2013

Member State	Country weights	Feb13 Mar13	Mar13 Apr13	Apr13 May13	May13 Jun13	Jun13 Jul13	Jul13 Aug13	Aug13 Sep13	Sep13 Oct13	Oct 13 Nov 13	Nov13 Dec13
Angola*		0.9	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.6
Botswana	2.32	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Congo DR	4.89	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Lesotho	0.76	-0.1	0.4	1.8	-0.8	-0.1	0.1	-0.4	2.0	0.9	-0.3
Madagascar	3.56	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.0
Malawi	1.61	0.6	0.0	-3.3	-0.9	-2.0	0.4	2.1	2.8	3.8	5.2
Mauritius	2.30	-0.3	-2.0	-0.8	-0.6	0.1	-0.3	0.6	2.7	1.0	0.1
Mozambique	4.03	0.3	0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.5
Namibia	1.87	0.9	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3
Seychelles	0.16	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.1
South Africa	64.34	1.2	0.4	-0.4	0.2	1.3	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2
Swaziland	1.23	-0.9	-0.9	0.2	0.0	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.1	-0.7	1.0
Tanzania	8.05	0.2	0.7	-0.6	-0.4	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.7	1.3
Zambia	3.11	0.9	0.6	1.0	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.7
Zimbabwe	1.78	0.6	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
SADC	100.00	0.9	0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5

Angola did not participate in the 2009 ICP round hence there is no Household Final Monetary Consumption Expenditure data (HFMCE) which are used as country weights for HCPI compilation

Table 2: Annual inflation rates (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs, 2013

Mombor State	Country weights	Mar12 Mar13	Apr12 Apr13		Jun12 Jun13	Jul12 Jul13	Aug12 Aug13	Sep12 Sep13	Oct12 Oct13	Nov12 Nov13	Dec12 Dec13
Angola*	Country weights	Wai 13	Aprilo	May 13	Juli 13	Julio	Augio	oep 15	OCCIS	NOVIS	Decis
Botswana	2.32	8.3	8.0	6.5	6.3	6.2	5.9	5.3	5.2	4.6	4.4
Congo DR	4.89	1.7		1.5	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.7
Lesotho	0.76	5.0	5.5	6.9	5.7	5.4	5.2	3.8	5.7	7.4	5.6
Madagascar	3.56	5.0	4.5	4.7	5.6	6.4	6.7	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.7
Malawi	1.61	43.0	41.8	32.9	28.7	25.8	21.8	20.1	20.5	21.2	23.2
Mauritius	2.30	5.6	2.9	4.6	4.0	4.4	4.0	4.7	5.0	4.7	1.0
Mozambique	4.03	4.4	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.2	3.7
Namibia	1.87	7.9	8.8	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.6	8.1	7.6	6.9	7.2
Seychelles	0.16	7.4	6.1	5.3	4.8	4.5	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.4	4.4
South Africa	64.34	7.1	7.0	6.3	6.2	7.3	7.4	6.6	5.7	5.4	5.4
Swaziland	1.23	6.4	3.4	3.6	3.0	3.8	3.3	4.5	2.5	2.1	2.9
Tanzania	8.05	10.1	9.8	9.0	8.2	8.1	7.5	6.9	7.3	7.2	6.3
Zambia	3.11	7.7	7.8	8.5	10.2	10.5	10.5	10.1	9.7	11.0	10.9
Zimbabwe	1.78	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.2	2.5	2.3	2.1
SADC	100.00	7.7	7.5	6.9	6.8	7.4	7.3	6.7	6.9	5.9	5.8

Angola did not participate in the 2009 ICP round hence there is no Household Final Monetary Consumption Expenditure data (HFMCE) which are used as country weights for HCPI compilation

Figure 4: COICOP Divisions annual inflation rates as at December 2013

Alcohol beverages & Tobacco COICOP division registered the highest annual inflation rate (8.4%) in December 2013 while the Communication division recorded the lowest (2.3%)

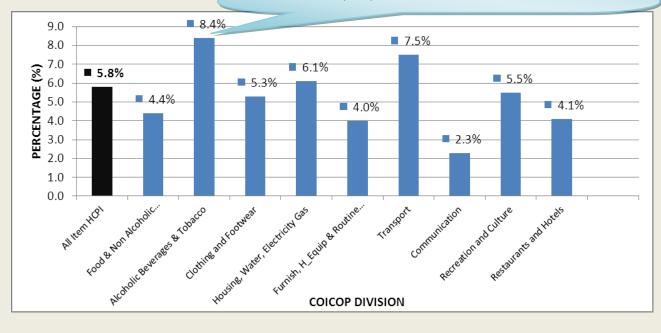


Table 3: Month on Month inflation rates (%) for the COICOP divisions, 2013

	Division weights		Mar13 Apr13	Apr13 May1	_	Jun13 Jul13	Jul13 Aug13		Sep13 Oct13		Nov3 Dec13
Divisions				3						3	
All items HCPI	1000.00	0.9	0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5
Food & non-alcoholic beverages	300.39	0.0	0.4	-0.4	-0.2	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.5
Alcoholic beverages & tobacco	54.36	1.9	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.3
Clothing & footwear	54.36	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4
Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels	125.96	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.5	2.8	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3
Furnish, household equip & routine maintenance	56.23	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.1	0.3	0.1
Health	15.69	0.1	1.1	0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1
Transport	149.39	2.0	0.4	-1.2	0.1	2.1	0.9	0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.6
Communications	26.12	0.5	-0.5	-0.1	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.5	-0.1
Recreation and culture	27.97	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.7	0.0	0.3	0.3
Education	29.36	5.9	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
Restaurants and hotels	43.28	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.8
Miscellaneous goods and services	116.88	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.1	-0.1

Table 4: Annual inflation rates (%) for the COICOP divisions, 2013

Divisions	Division weights	Mar12 Mar13	Apr12 Apr13	May12 May13	Jun12 Jun13	Jul12 Jul13	Aug12 Aug13	Sep12 Sep13	Oct12 Oct13	Nov12 Nov13	Dec12 Dec13
All items HCPI	1000.00	7.7	7.5	6.9	6.8	7.4	7.3	6.7	6.9	5.9	5.8
Food & non-alcoholic beverages	300.39	6.1	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.6	5.8	4.7	4.6	4.4
Alcoholic beverages & tobacco	54.36	8.0	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.8	8.3	8.3	8.7	8.4	8.4
Clothing & footwear	54.36	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.3
Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels	125.96	8.0	7.9	7.6	7.5	7.0	6.5	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.1
Furnish, household equip & routine maintenance	56.23	5.4	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.3	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.0
Health	15.69										
Transport	149.39	10.0	8.6	6.6	6.3	10.5	10.8	8.5	7.9	7.4	7.5
Communication	26.12	5.0	4.9	4.3	4.9	5.0	4.2	3.8	3.9	2.6	2.3
Recreation and culture	27.97	7.5	7.1	7.4	6.9	6.3	6.7	7.0	5.7	5.0	5.5
Education	29.36										
Restaurants and hotels	43.28	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.1
Miscellaneous goods and services	116.88	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.9	6.9	6.8	6.0

Table 5: Month on month inflation rates (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs, 2012

		Month on month inflation rates											
Member State	Country weights	Dec11	Jan12	Feb12	Feb12	Ápr12	May12	Jun12	Jul12	Aug12	Sep12	Oct12	Nov12
		Jan12	Feb12	Feb12	Apr12	May12	Jun12	Jul12	Aug12	Sep12	Oct12	Nov12	Dec12
Angola													
Botswana	1.4	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.9	1.6	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.4	1.1	0.4
Congo DR	2.4	2.1	-0.9	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Lesotho	0.9	0.2	0.3	1.1	-0.1	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.9	0.2	-0.8	1.5
Madagascar	3.4	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.0	-0.4	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.9
Malawi	1.7	1.0	1.5	-0.3	0.8	3.2	2.4	0.3	3.7	3.6	2.5	3.1	3.5
Mauritius	2.4	0.1	-1.4	0.4	0.6	-2.4	-0.1	-0.3	0.2	-0.1	2.4	1.4	3.8
Mozambique	3.1	0.6	-0.3	0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	1.1	1.1
Namibia	1.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.9	-0.1	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.1	0.0
Seychelles*	-	0.1	0.4	0.3	1.4	1.5	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
South Africa	70.8	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.2	0.0	1.4	0.2
Swaziland	1.0	2.7	1.0	-0.2	2.0	0.0	0.6	-0.1	1.0	-0.8	1.9	-0.4	0.2
Tanzania	7.8	1.9	1.8	1.1	0.9	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.8	2.1
Zambia	2.5	1.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	-0.3	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.5	-0.8	0.8
Zimbabwe	1.2	8.0	0.8	1.0	0.1	-0.1	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.2
SADC	100.0	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.2	1.2	0.6

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

Table 6: Annual inflation rates (%) and annual averages (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs, 2012

	> \oldots		Annual inflation rates														
Member State	Country weights	Jan11	Feb11	Mar11	Ápr11	May11	Jun11	Jul11	Aug11	Sep11	Oct11	Nov11	Dec11	Avg1			
	υ ×	Jan12	Feb12	Mar12	Ápr12	May12	Jun12	Jul12	Aug12	Sep12	Oct12	Nov12	Dec12	2			
Angola*																	
Botswana	1.4	9.3	8.5	8.2	7.8	8.4	7.9	7.9	7.2	7.7	7.5	7.9	7.9	8.0			
Congo DR	2.4	20.7	19.8	20.3	19.1	17.9	14.5	13.2	9.7	8.3	3.7	4.2	3.6	12.5			
Lesotho	0.9	11.0	8.3	9.0	7.9	7.8	7.2	7.2	5.6	6.1	5.5	3.9	4.8	7.0			
Madagascar	3.4	7.1	5.4	6.3	7.7	8.5	8.0	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.3	6.8	5.5	5.6			
Malawi	1.7	11.1	10.4	10.5	13.6	16.6	18.9	17.0	20.7	23.9	25.3	27.8	28.3	18.8			
Mauritius	2.4	5.0	1.9	1.9	2.1	1.8	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.6	4.7	4.4	4.5	3.1			
Mozambique	3.1	4.8	3.4	3.7	3.3	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.3	1.9	2.5			
Namibia	1.4	7.3	7.4	7.4	6.7	7.1	6.6	6.8	6.7	7.4	6.6	7.5	6.9	7.0			
Seychelles*	-	4.4	4.7	4.9	6.1	7.3	7.8	7.8	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.2	5.8	6.4			
South Africa	70.8	7.4	7.4	7.1	7.1	6.6	6.3	5.5	5.5	6.2	5.3	6.5	6.4	6.4			
Swaziland	1.0	10.2	11.0	9.5	10.4	9.7	10.1	9.8	10.0	9.0	10.2	9.1	8.2	9.8			
Tanzania	7.8	20.5	20.3	19.8	19.5	18.8	17.9	15.9	15.0	13.4	12.8	12.0	12.1	16.3			
Zambia	2.5	3.0	2.7	1.9	4.0	4.5	3.8	2.4	4.0	4.3	4.3	3.7	4.9	3.6			
Zimbabwe	1.2	-1.9	-0.3	0.8	1.4	2.0	2.8	2.6	2.8	3.8	4.5	4.5	4.8	2.3			
SADC	100.0	8.6	8.3	8.1	8.2	7.8	7.5	6.6	6.6	7.0	6.3	7.1	7.0	7.4			

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

Table 7: Month on month inflation rates (%) for the COICOP divisions, 2012

Divisions	ion					Мс	onth on mor	nth inflation	rates				
Dividiona	Division Weights	Dec11	Jan12	Feb12	Mar12	Ápr12	May12	Jun12	Jul12	Aug12	Sep12	Oct12	Nov12
	<u>ā</u> ≶	Jan12	Feb12	Mar12	Ápr12	May12	Jun12	Jul12	Aug12	Sep12	Oct12	Nov12	Dec12
All items HCPI	1 000.00	8.0	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.2	1.2	0.6
Food & non- alcoholic beverages	319.22	1.6	0.0	0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	1.5	0.2	2.6	0.6
Alcoholic beverages & tobacco	72.61	0.5	0.2	4.2	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3
Clothing & footwear	60.42	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.3
Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels	136.69	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.6	3.3	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5
Furnish, household equipment & maint. of house	74.92	0.7	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.6
Health													
Transport	154.97	-0.1	1.1	1.2	1.7	0.8	0.3	-1.7	0.6	2.3	0.1	0.8	0.4
Communication	31.64	0.1	-0.2	0.9	-0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.2	1.3	0.1
Recreation and culture	41.70	0.3	1.1	-0.2	0.8	-0.2	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.1	1.8	-0.2
Education													
Restaurants and hotels	50.04	0.5	0.4	1.2	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.3	1.1	0.8
Miscellaneous goods & services	57.78	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	-0.1	0.5	-0.1	0.1	1.5	0.7

Table 8: Annual inflation rates (%) and annual averages (%) for the COICOP divisions, 2012

	- ω		Annual inflation											
Divisions	Division Weights	Jan11	Feb11	Mar11	Apr11	May11	Jun11	Jul11	Áug11	Sep11	Oct11	Nov11	Dec11	
	בֿ בֿ	Jan12	Feb12	Mar12	Apr12	May12	Jun12	Jul12	Aug12	Sep12	Oct12	Nov12	Dec12	Avg12
All items HCPI	1000.0	8.6	8.3	8.1	8.2	7.8	7.5	6.6	6.6	7.0	6.3	7.1	7.0	7.4
Food & non- alcoholic beverages	319.22	11.3	10.6	9.8	9.7	8.4	7.7	6.8	6.4	6.8	5.2	7.2	6.7	8.0
Alcoholic beverages & tobacco	72.61	6.7	6.7	8.2	8.0	8.1	8.4	8.9	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.9	8.1
Clothing & footwear	60.42	5.8	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.6	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.8
Housing, water, fuels etc.	136.69	10.1	10.4	10.1	10.2	10.2	10.2	8.5	8.8	9.0	7.7	9.0	9.2	9.5
Furnish, h/hold equipment	74.92	4.5	4.1	4.4	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.1	5.1	5.5	4.6
Health														
Transport	154.97	10.4	10.3	9.7	10.0	9.7	8.9	7.0	6.9	8.9	7.6	7.7	7.6	8.6
Communications	31.64	-0.9	-1.1	-0.3	-0.7	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	1.0	1.5	2.0	3.7	3.8	1.2
Recreation and culture	41.70	1.9	2.8	1.9	2.3	1.7	2.7	3.3	3.5	3.5	4.2	5.3	5.5	3.0
Education														
Restaurants and hotels	50.04	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.9	7.0	6.3
Miscellaneous goods & services	57.78	4.0	4.7	4.7	4.4	4.0	4.1	3.6	4.0	3.3	2.6	4.1	4.9	4.0

Table 9: SADC HCPI Time series data - December 2010 to date (December 2010=100)

Month		SADC HCPI		Month o	on month inflat	ion rate	Year on year inflation rate				
WOILLI	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013		
January	100.86	109.51	117.20	0.9	0.8	0.7		8.6	7.0		
February	101.46	109.88	118.41	0.6	0.4	1.0		8.3	7.7		
March	102.57	110.87	119.44	1.1	0.9	0.9		8.1	7.7		
April	103.02	111.47	119.85	0.4	0.5	0.3		8.2	7.5		
May	103.62	111.71	119.45	0.6	0.2	-0.3		7.8	6.9		
June	104.16	111.96	119.56	0.5	0.2	0.1		7.5	6.8		
July	105.27	112.29	120.57	1.1	0.3	0.8		6.6	7.4		
August	105.77	112.74	120.99	0.5	0.4	0.4		6.6	7.3		
September	106.44	113.92	121.51	0.6	1.0	0.4		7.0	6.7		
October	107.42	114.17	121.99	0.9	0.2	0.4		6.3	6.9		
November	107.96	115.57	122.35	0.5	1.2	0.3		7.1	5.9		
December	108.66	116.29	122.95	0.7	0.6	0.5	8.7	7.0	5.8		
Annual average HCPI	104.77	112.59	120.36					7.4	7.0		

Measures of inflation

The annual rate measures the price change between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year. The rate is responsive to recent changes in price levels but it can

also be influenced by one-off effects in either month.

The 12 month average compares the average HCPI in the latest 12 months to the average of the previous 12 months. It overcomes the volatility of the annual measure. The monthly rate measures the price change between the two latest months. Although up to date, it can be affected by seasonal and other short-term effects

The Harmonised Consumer Price Index

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

Both the HCPIs and national CPIs measure inflation faced by consumers, and use the same

data sources in most part. However, the two inflation with different aims and therefore, sometimes October use different concepts and methods. HCPI's main use is for monetary policy, and is used as one of the convergence criteria to assess compliance of Member States to economic unions and to monitor progress towards integration. Member states of economic unions are given target inflation levels to achieve, in specified period to be considered for some preferential treatments within the integration. And this requires a harmonised conceptual framework and comparable results. national CPIs in addition to being the measure of inflation have many other purposes such as cost of living which October require different methodologies.

The Member States HCPIs are produced by respective Member

States using agreed harmonised methodologies. The SADC HCPI compiled by the SADC Secretariat by aggregating the National HCPIs of the Member States. These are calculated as weighted averages of the national HCPIs, using as weights each country's total household consumption expenditure converted to a common currency using the purchasing power parities derived from the results of the 2005 (for HCPIs prior to **January 2013**) and 2009 (For **HCPIs** since January 2013) International Comparison Program as supplied by the African Development Bank and the World Bank.

More information on SADC HCPI methodology can be availed on demand.

Acknowledgement

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National Statistics Offices of SADC Member States in providing monthly national HCPIs which form the basis for the aggregate SADC HPCI. The collaboration with COMESA and African Development Bank in this exercise is equally acknowledged.

Production team

This news release was produced under the auspices of the SADC Statistics Programme in the Directorate of Policy Planning Resource Mobilisation of the SADC Secretariat, Gaborone, Botswana.

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Further information pertaining to methodology and related aspects of the HCPI process in SADC can be obtained by contacting the Statistics Unit at SADC Secretariat by directing inquiries to:

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SADC HCPI website link:

http://www.sadc.int/news-events/newsletters/harmonised-consumer-price-index-newsletter/

Proposed Future release dates

Scheduled dates for the coming months are:

SADC HCPI for:	Publication date by SADC Secretariat
January 2014	05 th March 2014
February 2014	05 th April 2014
March 2014	05 th May 2014