

- Your Excellency Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and incoming Chairperson of SADC
- Your Excellency Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of the Republic of Mozambique, and outgoing Chairperson of SADC
- Your Excellency Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa, and the Chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation
- Your Excellency Elias M. Magosi, SADC Executive Secretary
- Honourable Ministers
- SADC Secretariat staff;
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

We have come to a successful conclusion of the Extraordinary Summit of the SADC Troika plus the Chairperson SADC Organ Troika. I thank you most sincerely, Your Excellencies, for the spirit of unity and resolve you have shown today.

Your robust and candid contributions have made our deliberations meaningful and instructive. And the decisions you have collectively made today will ensure that our region remains peaceful, stable, secure and prosperous.

Today's Extraordinary Summit was convened to review the Mandate of the SADC Mission in Mozambique, which we deployed to support our sister country, the Republic of Mozambique, in combating terrorism and acts of violent extremism. As one family, we have taken a bold and decisive step to extend the term of our Mission in Mozambique so that we continue to consolidate and sustain the gains that have been made by this Mission thus far. As one family, we have renewed our resolve to give our full support to our sister Country, Republic of Mozambique in order to support her pursuit of sustainable development and the restoration of normalcy for her people. In so doing, we have demonstrated that when it comes to the security and peace of any Member State, the SADC family stands together and will never retreat or surrender.

The resolution made today means that both the prospect of having an unnecessary gap created after the expiry of the mandate tomorrow and the associated risk of its legal implications on SAMIM have been averted and prevented from compromising the mission. Of course, we will still have much more detailed deliberations on this issue during our Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government to be held in the Capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Kinshasa next month, but today's decision will be a critical stop gap ahead of that Summit.

I know that we could not have done it without the leadership of His Excellency Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa and Chairperson of the Organ. Thank you, my Brother, for your tireless efforts on matters of peace and security in our region. I know that we could not have done it without the leadership and courage of His Excellency Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of the Republic of Mozambique. Thank you, my brother, for your fortitude and humility in pursuit of a lasting peace for your people.

I know that we could not have done it without the hard work done by our Ministers, Senior Officials, as well as the excellent preparatory work by the Executive Secretary and his team at the SADC Secretariat. Thank you all for giving your best to the task of making SADC the best region on the continent.

And I know that we could not have done it without Your Excellencies, Heads of Member States, seeing the need and urgency of the hour and disposing of the matter at hand with impressive efficiency. Thank you for your time, solidarity, oneness, and active participation.

What we have accomplished today with lightening speed should serve as a model approach in other areas of shared interest, such as our pursuit of regional economic integration and implementation of Vision 2050. Together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish to make the SADC we want a reality.

I thank you! Muito obrigado! Merci Beaucoup! Asante Sana! Zikomo Kwambiri!