



**REMARKS BY**

**HIS EXCELLENCY DR. LAZARUS McCARTHY CHAKWERA  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI AND CHAIRPERSON  
OF SADC**

**ON THE OCCASION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SADC TROIKA  
SUMMIT PLUS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE ORGAN ON POLITICS,  
DEFENCE AND SECURITY COOPERATION**

**HELD VIRTUALLY**

**14 JULY 2022**

**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.**

Good morning. I welcome you all to this important meeting to deliberate on the recommendations of the report from the Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit Plus Personnel Contributing Countries (PCCS) and the Republic of Mozambique, held virtually on 12th April 2022.

I must sincerely thank Your Excellences for sparing time to attend this very important meeting at such short notice. This shows your unwavering commitment to supporting the SADC Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM), the Government and the people of the Republic of Mozambique. One of the things that gives me confidence that the mission will prevail is seeing the highest level of commitment by yourselves to the attainment and sustenance of peace and security in our region.

Your Excellencies will recall that during the Extraordinary SADC Summit held in Maputo, Republic of Mozambique, on 23 June, 2021, the Summit, among others, approved the deployment of the SADC Standby Force Mission to the Republic of Mozambique (SAMIM) by 15 July, 2021, with a mandate for an initial period of three months, subject to extension for further periods depending on the evolution of the operational situation on the ground. Consequently, we have gathered since then to renew the mandate of SAMIM on a three (3) months basis on several occasions.

And just to refresh our minds, the mandate of SAMIM includes first, supporting the Republic of Mozambique to combat terrorism and acts of violent extremism in Cabo Delgado, by neutralising the terrorist threat and

restoring security in order to create a secure environment; second, strengthening and maintaining peace and security, and restoring law and order in affected areas of Cabo Delgado Province; and lastly, supporting the Republic of Mozambique, in collaboration with humanitarian agencies, to continue providing humanitarian relief to the population affected by terrorist activities, including internally-displaced persons.

**Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates,**

This Summit comes after the Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit Plus Personnel Contributing Countries (PCCS) and the Republic of Mozambique that was held virtually on 12th April 2022, which my Dear Brother, His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa chaired in his capacity as the Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

The main purpose of that Summit was to review and consider the progress of the SADC Mission in Mozambique as well as recommend to the Extraordinary SADC Summit to adopt a term-based approach of a one (1) year SAMIM mandate before its expiry date of 15th July, 2022, which is tomorrow. In order to ensure that no unnecessary gap is created after the expiry of the mandate twenty four hours from now, and taking into consideration that the SADC Summit will be meeting in the Democratic Republic of Congo next month, our SADC Treaty gives us, the SADC Troika, the authority to make an interim decision on behalf of the full Summit. It is for this purpose that we have gathered today to come up with an interim measure so that SAMIM will continue to operate within a legal SADC framework.

**Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates,**

Peace and security are the foundational cornerstones for achieving regional integration and sustainable socio-economic development. Without peace and security, there cannot be any meaningful development in our region. I, therefore, wish to thank His Excellency President Ramaphosa, for his sterling leadership in these matters.

I wish to also appreciate the remarkable progress made by the SAMIM and commend the Mission leadership together with the troops for their achievements since the deployment. Successes by the Mission, together with the Defence Forces of Mozambique, have brought renewed hope for the affected population, particularly internally-displaced persons, including women and children, to return to their homes of origin.

I wish to also commend and applaud the SADC Member States who have contributed personnel, equipment and financial resources towards the deployment and success of the Mission, considering the economic challenges that Member States continue to face in the context of the negative impact of COVID-19 pandemic, climate change events, and the war in Eastern Europe. I know there are those member States that are still in the process of remitting their resources, but I trust that they too will do so in the spirit of Ubuntu that undergirds our resilience.

Fighting terrorism requires a multidimensional and multilateral approach. But this is only possible for us because of the leadership of My Dear Brother, His Excellency President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi and the Government of Mozambique, not only is their resolve to quell the threat, but also for launching a comprehensive Cabo Delgado Reconstruction Plan, which seeks to provide humanitarian support to affected population, including internally-displaced persons; uplift people's living standards; empower people economically to prevent radicalization of the youth; and to reconstruct infrastructure including schools, houses, hospitals and water facilities that were destroyed by terrorist activities. I wish to take this opportunity to ask Member States and our International Cooperating Partners to continue supporting our sister country, the Republic of Mozambique, to implement this comprehensive Plan.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to my fellow Heads of State and Government for the cooperation, support and encouragement I have received since I became Chairperson of this Community in August 2021. I have learnt a great deal from the demands and rigours of this role, but I have also enjoyed the opportunities it presented for me to make a meaningful contribution to the region. As I pass the baton to His Excellency Felix Tshisekedi, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo next month, I offer him my full support and call on you all to do the same.

Allow me also to recognize the important role played by our Council of Ministers, the Ministerial Committee of the Organ, our Senior Officials and all our defence and security experts, for comprehensively deliberating on the issues that will be considered at this Extraordinary Summit today. Thank you for your hard work. In a special way, let me thank the Executive Secretary and his team for the work done in preparing for this Summit, and the work they will do hereafter to implement all the decisions we make.

With these remarks, Your Excellencies, I wish the meeting fruitful deliberations.

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