



## PRESS RELEASE

### **SADC to convene the 27<sup>th</sup> Southern African Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-27): Climate Experts Meeting from 18-25 September 2023 and the Climate Outlook Forum from 26-28 September 2023 in Mauritius**

**15 September 2023, Gaborone, Botswana:** The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Climate Services Centre (CSC) is the specialised SADC Regional Climate Centre and carries its mandate through development, generation, and dissemination of meteorological, environmental, and hydro-meteorological products. The products make valuable contribution to increasing the region's preparedness to adverse weather and climate impacts. The CSC also trains SADC Climate Experts from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in climate prediction and the user communities in the application of climate products and services for optimum socio-economic development which is highly sensitive to weather and climate variability.

The SADC Secretariat through its Climate Services Centre is convening the 27<sup>th</sup> Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-27), which will be preceded by a Climate Experts Meeting aimed at building capacity of Climate Experts from Member States. SARCOF-27 is being supported through the European Union (EU) funded Intra-ACP Climate Services and related Application Programme. Both the Climate Experts Meeting and the SARCOF-27 Forum will be held in Mauritius as follows:

1. Climate Experts Meeting: 18 to 25 September 2023, physically; and
2. SARCOF-27: 26 to 28 September 2023, hybrid

The forum will be held under the theme *“The Future of Climate, and Water Across Generations of the SADC region”* which is adapted from the World Meteorological Organisation’s theme for 2023 which is *“The Future of Climate, and Water Across Generations”*.

SARCOF-27 aims at reviewing previous rainfall season’s outlook made during the main SARCOF-26 held online in August 2022 and the mid-season update held physically in Johannesburg, South Africa in December 2022. The forum will further produce and issue the upcoming rainfall season’s climate outlook for 2023/24 period and further consider contributions from users and stakeholders on mitigation

strategies. The forum thus seeks to improve the contribution of all the NMHSs to early warning and disaster preparedness while informing climate sensitive key economic sectors on the seasonal outlook to facilitate informed decision making.

**For enquiries:**

Ms. Barbara Lopi, Head of Communication, email; [blopi@sadc.int](mailto:blopi@sadc.int) and Ms. Anethe Mtambanengwe, email; [amtambanengwe@sadc.int](mailto:amtambanengwe@sadc.int) or [prinfo@sadc.int](mailto:prinfo@sadc.int)

.....  
**SADC in Brief**

SADC is an organisation of 16 Member States established in 1980 as the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference (SADCC) and later, in August, 1992 transformed into the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The mission of SADC is to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development through efficient, productive systems, deeper cooperation 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. Member States are Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**Issued by the SADC Secretariat  
Gaborone, Botswana**

**15<sup>th</sup> September, 2023**