

PRESS RELEASE

SADC to hold a Joint Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Energy and Water from 27 May – 31 May 2024 in Luanda, Angola

20th May 2024, Gaborone, Botswana: The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Joint Committee of Ministers responsible for Energy and Water is scheduled to meet in Luanda, Republic of Angola, on 27-31 May 2024.

In the Energy sector, the deliberations will focus on progress made from the previous Ministerial meeting decisions, security of energy supply and progress on the SADC Priority Areas for Sustainable Regional Power Sector Development and Proposal on Development of a Regional Transmission Infrastructure Financing Facility (RTIFF). The Ministerial meeting will also review progress on signing of the Agreement Amending SADC Protocol on Energy of 1996; and regional energy sector regulatory initiatives covering report on regulatory oversight for the region and strengthening of national energy regulators and RERA from being an association to be a Regional Regulatory Authority. The Ministerial meeting will further review promotion of new and renewable energy sources as well as operationalization of SACREEE as legal entity including progress on the signing and ratification of SACREEE IGMoA; discuss the migration towards cleaner fuels including low Sulphur-content diesel in the region; and discuss a proposal and concept on Just Energy Transition for the SADC region.

In the Water sector, the Ministers responsible for Water will deliberate on and consider progress made in the delivery of regional initiatives aimed at improving water and sanitation services in the SADC Member States, as well as transboundary water projects led by river basin organisations. The Ministers will also consider progress made in regional water infrastructure financing and development, which also includes crossborder water infrastructure. Furthermore, the Ministers will consider progress in the implementation the second phase of the regional groundwater programme, projects implemented through the SADC Water Fund and other partners, as well as initiatives on the implementation of the water, energy, and food (WEF) nexus project in Member States. Ministers will also consider updates on ongoing work on revising the regional water policy, and the development of a regional resource mobilization strategy for the water sector. The Ministers will also note progress on the implementation of their previous decisions.

The Joint Meeting of Ministers responsible for Energy and Water will be preceded by meetings of Senior Officials responsible for these sectors from 27-30 May 2024.

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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.

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