



PRESS RELEASE

SADC TO HOLD THE 29TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CHIEFS OF POLICE SUB-COMMITTEE/ SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGIONAL POLICE CHIEFS COOPERATION ORGANISATION (SARPCCO) IN ZAMBIA

10 June 2024, Gaborone, Botswana: The Southern African Development Community (SADC) will hold the 29th Annual General Meeting of Chiefs of Police Sub-Committee/ Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) in Lusaka, Zambia on 13-14 June 2024. The meeting will discuss strategies and interventions to combat cross-border crimes, which pose a great threat to peace, security, regional integration and development efforts.

During the Annual General Meeting, the Chiefs of Police will review progress made in the implementation of regional and international legal instruments and strategies aimed at preventing and combatting transnational organised crime. Furthermore, they will discuss matters on cooperation and coordination in mutual legal assistance on criminal matters and extradition.

Moreover, the meeting aims to strengthen regional frameworks outlined in the Regional Indicative Strategic Plan (RISDP 2020-2030) by addressing transnational organised crime. This includes strategic objectives related to policing, political cooperation, democracy, good governance, rule of law, human rights, and human security.

The meeting will be chaired by Mr. Graphel Musamba, the Inspector General of the Republic of the Zambian Police, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the SARPCCO.

The meeting will also focus on reviewing and examining programmes and activities as guided by the following instruments; the SADC Integrated Strategy to Prevent and Combat Transnational Organized Crime and its Action Plan, the SADC Protocol on the Control of Firearms, Ammunitions, and other Related Materials, as well as the Protocols on Extradition, Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, Combating Illicit Drugs, and the SADC Protocol against Corruption.

SARPCCO plays a vital role in preventing and combating cross-border and transnational organised crimes and has become a benchmark for international police cooperation.

The SARPCCO will be preceded by the following meetings:

- 10 June 2024: Meeting of Heads of INTERPOL National Bureau Centres (NBCs)
- 11 – 12 June 2024: Meeting of the SARPCCO Technical Organs.

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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.

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