



PRESS RELEASE

SADC to hold 26th Ordinary Meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ to discuss issues aimed at promoting peace and security in the Region

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) will hold the 26th Ordinary Meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation from 11-12 July 2024 Mulungushi International Conference Centre in Lusaka, Republic of Zambia.

The 26th Ordinary MCO meeting will be chaired by Honourable Mulambo Haimbe, SC, M.P, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Zambia, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the MCO.

In line with Article 5 of the SADC Protocol of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, the MCO is composed of Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs, Defence, Public Security and State Security from all SADC Member States and is mandated to coordinate the work of the SADC Organ of promoting peace and security in the Region.

The SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation recognizes that peace, security and political relations are critical factors in creating a conducive environment for regional cooperation and integration.

The Media is, therefore, invited to the Official Opening and Closing ceremonies of the meeting of the MCO at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre, Lusaka, Republic of Zambia as indicated below.

- Opening Session of the MCO: Thursday, **11 July 2024** from 09:00Hours
- Closing Session of the MCO: Friday, **12 July 2024** from 11:30Hours

The meeting of the MCO will be preceded by the meeting of Senior Officials on 8-9 July 2024 to be chaired by Ms. Etambuyu Anamela Gundersen, Permanent Secretary International Relations and Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Zambia, and Chairperson of the Committee of Senior Officials for the Ministerial Committee of the Organ.

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SADC in Brief

SADC is a Regional Economic Community 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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