



PRESS RELEASE

SADC deploys its Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) to the Republic of Mozambique's Presidential, Legislative and Provincial Elections, scheduled for 09 October 2024

26th September 2024, Gaborone, Botswana: In line with her five-year electoral cycle, the Republic of Mozambique will hold Presidential, Legislative and Provincial Elections on 09 of October 2024. Article 3 of the revised *SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2021)*, provides for SADC to observe all general elections held in its Member States.

Following Article 8 of the *SADC Principles and Guidelines*, Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, has appointed H. E. Dr. Amani Abeid Karume, Former President of Zanzibar, as the Head of Mission of SEOM Mozambique, and mandated the SADC Secretariat to coordinate the SEOM, including the facilitation of in-country deployment of observers.

The SADC Secretariat arrived in Maputo on 24 September 2024 to coordinate technical, logistical and administrative arrangements for the SEOM deployment. They will further facilitate a pre-deployment refresher training for the observers and manage the overall SEOM activities.

The Official Launch of SEOM Mozambique will be held on 03 October 2024 at 11:00, at Avenida Hotel, Maputo.

The SEOM will be deployed to the country's Provinces to observe the pre and post election phases and the polling day to assess the conduct of the elections against the *SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections*. These *Principles and Guidelines* emphasise, among others, the importance of citizen participation in the democratic and development dispensation, the implementation of measures to prevent political violence, intimidation, and intolerance, the promotion of equal opportunities for all political parties to access the State Media and for all citizens to have access to information relative to the elections.

The key activities for the SEOM programme schedule are as follows:

DATE	ACTIVITY
24 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival of Secretariat Team, SEOM Leadership and Observers
03 OCTOBER 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAUNCH OF SEOM MOZAMBIQUE • Full Deployment of Observers
01 – 10 OCTOBER 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HoM / Organ TROIKA / SEAC Consultation Meetings with Electoral Stakeholders
09 OCTOBER 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELECTION DAY [FIELD OBSERVATIONS]
11 OCTOBER 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RELEASE OF THE SEOM PRELIMINARY STATEMENT FOR SEOM MOZAMBIQUE
12- 1 OCTOBER 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment of Long-Term-Observation (LTO) in Maputo Province,
19 OCTOBER 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of the SEOM Headquarters
20 OCTOBER 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departure of the SADC Secretariat Team

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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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