



REMARKS

**PROF. KULA I. THELETSANE
DIRECTOR, ORGAN ON POLITICS, DEFENCE AND SECURITY
COOPERATION**

ON THE OCCASION OF

**THE LAUNCH OF THE SADC ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION
(SEOM) TO THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS' 10TH NOVEMBER 2024
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS**

05 NOVEMBER 2024

PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS

Honourable Mohamed Chande Othman, Former Chief Justice of the United Republic of Tanzania and Head of Mission of SEOM Mauritius;

Distinguished Members of the SADC Organ Troika;

Distinguished Representatives of the Government of the Republic of Mauritius;

Commissioners and Representatives of the Mauritius Electoral Commission, the Electoral Boundaries Commission and the Electoral Supervisory Commission – the Electoral Management Bodies;

Distinguished Representatives of International Electoral Observation Missions;

Your Excellencies, Heads and Representatives of the Diplomatic Missions Accredited to the Republic of Mauritius;

Members of the SADC Electoral Advisory Council (SEAC);

SADC Election Observers;

Religious Leaders and Members of the Civil Society;

Members of the Media;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of His Excellency Elias Magosi, the SADC Executive Secretary, I am pleased to welcome you to the official launch of the SADC Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) to the National Assembly Elections of the Republic of Mauritius. This SADC Mission is mandated through Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of

Tanzania, in her capacity as the Chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

I am also honoured to present to you, the Honourable Mohammed Chande Othman, former Chief Justice of the United Republic of Tanzania, who has been appointed by Her Excellency President Hassan, as the Head of Mission for SEOM Mauritius.

In line with the SEOM mandate, the SADC Secretariat is tasked to facilitate the implementation of this Observation Mission including the training of Observers and deployment logistics. As such, today's events will see the Head of Mission launch SEOM Mauritius, followed by the official sending off of all observers.

The SEOM to the Republic of Mauritius is complemented by the full SADC Organ Troika whose members originating from the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republics of Malawi and Zambia provide the necessary support to the Head of Mission. The Mission is further assisted by members of the SADC Electoral Advisory Council (SEAC), namely Retired Justice Fauz Abdallah Twaib and Madam Elodie Ntamuzinda W'Igulu, SEAC Members representing the United Republic of Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo, respectively.

**Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,**

The deployment of the SADC Electoral Observation Missions across the Southern African region is effected to assess the countries' adherence to the revised *SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2021)*. These Principles and Guidelines were adopted by All SADC Member States as an instrumental tool in the support of Democracy and Good Governance for the region.

The SEOM achieves its aims by gathering the views and other relevant information through meetings with stakeholders at the Head of Mission and Troika level, as well as by on-the-ground observations of the ongoing pre-election phase, the polling day and post-election period, where the Mission Leadership will receive information emanating from our observers' interactions with various stakeholders in the districts where they will be deployed to in Mauritius. To these ends, we wish to thank all stakeholders

and the general Mauritian population beforehand, for welcoming and engaging with our observers for the duration of their deployment.

**Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,**

It is now my singular honour to welcome Honourable Mohammed Chande Othman, former Chief Justice of the United Republic of Tanzania and Head of Mission of SEOM Mauritius, to deliver his statement and officially launch the SADC Electoral Observation Mission to the Republic's 10th November 2024 National Assembly Elections.

I thank you!

Excellency!