

STATEMENT BY H. E. PROFESSOR ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE SADC ORGAN ON POLITICS, DEFENCE AND SECURITY COOPERATION, ON THE EVE OF THE SECOND ROUND OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES

Fellow Members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC),

The people of the Republic of Seychelles will head to the polls on 9th, 10th, and 11th October, 2025, to elect the President in a Second Round of elections following the First Round of elections held on 25th, 26th and 27th September, 2025, in line with the country's constitution and laws governing their elections.

As a SADC Member State, the Seychelles Government has invited SADC to deploy its Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) to observe the country's pre-election phase, polling day and the post-election processes in line with the relevant provisions of the *revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections (2021)*. These *Principles and Guidelines* promote regular, free, fair, transparent, credible, and peaceful democratic elections, among others, as key indicators of a healthy democracy.

The Republic of Seychelles is well known for its peace, stability, and tranquillity, which is enjoyed by its citizenry. It is our most fervent wish that this peace, witnessed and experienced during the First Round of elections, will continue to prevail throughout the polling days and the post-election phase.

I therefore call upon all Seychellois nationals who are eligible to vote to do so in large numbers, exercising their democratic right and contributing to the development and prosperity of their country. I further urge all political leaders and their supporters to exercise restraint, remain calm, respect the will of the people, and act responsibly during this period, addressing any potential grievances peacefully through the country's established legal avenues.

Finally, I am delighted to join the rest of the people of the SADC Region in wishing the Seychellois nationals successful and peaceful elections.

Thank You.

8TH OCTOBER 2025