

18 August 2015

1100hrs



**COMMUNIQUE OF THE
35TH SUMMIT OF SADC HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
GABORONE, BOTSWANA
AUGUST 17-18, 2015**

1. The 35th Ordinary meeting of the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) was held at the Gaborone International Convention Centre in Gaborone, Republic of Botswana on 17th and 18th August 2015.
2. H.E. Robert Mugabe delivered a Keynote address and officially opened the Summit.
3. The Summit took place under the theme: ***“Accelerating Industrialisation of SADC Economies through Transformation of Natural Endowment and improved Human Capital.”***
4. Summit elected H.E. President Lt. Gen. Seretse Khama Ian Khama of the Republic of Botswana and H.M. King Mswati III of the Kingdom of Swaziland as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson and incoming Chair of SADC, respectively.
5. Summit also elected H.E President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of the Republic of Mozambique and H.E President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete of the United Republic of Tanzania as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, respectively.
6. Summit was attended by the following Heads of State and Government and or their representatives:

Botswana	:	H.E. President Lt. Gen. Seretse Khama Ian Khama
Swaziland	:	H.M. King Mswati III
Madagascar	:	H.E. President Hery Rajaonarimampianina

Mozambique		H.E. President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi
Namibia	:	H.E. President Dr. Hage G. Geingob
South Africa	:	H.E. President Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma
Zambia	:	H. E. President Edgar Chagwa Lungu
Zimbabwe	:	H.E. President Robert Gabriel Mugabe
Lesotho	:	Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Dr. Pakalitha Bethuel Mosisili
Angola	:	H.E. Vice President Manuel Domingos Vicente
Seychelles		H.E. Vice President Danny Faure
United Republic of Tanzania:		Rt.. Hon Prime Minister, Mizengo Kayanza Pinda
DRC		Hon Raymond Tshibanda N'tungamulongo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
Malawi		Hon George Chabonda, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International cooperation
Mauritius		Hon. Marie Joseph Noël-Etienne Ghislain SINATAMBOU, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade

7. Summit was also attended by H.E. Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, SADC Executive Secretary. Also in attendance was the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr Erastus Mwencha, representing the Chairperson of the African Union and representatives of UNECA, the African Development Bank, ICGLR, COMESA and the SADC Parliamentary Forum.
8. H.E. President Lt. Gen. Seretse Khama Ian Khama, Incoming Chairperson and host of the 35th Summit welcomed the SADC Heads of State and Government and other delegates to the Republic of Botswana. President Khama paid tribute to the Outgoing Chairperson of SADC, H.E. President Robert Gabriel Mugabe of the Republic of Zimbabwe for having provided excellent leadership to the Region during his tenure.
9. Summit was also addressed by the newly elected Heads of State and Government, namely, Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili of the Kingdom of Lesotho, H.E. Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of the Republic of Mozambique, H.E. Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia, H.E. Edgar Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia, who delivered their maiden speeches, in which they re-affirmed

their governments' commitment to the SADC political and economic integration and development agenda.

10. Summit commended the people and governments of the six (6) SADC Member States namely, Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia for holding peaceful, free, fair and credible elections during the last twelve months.
11. Summit congratulated their Excellences Lt. Gen. Seretse Khama Ian Khama, Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, Dr. Hage G. Geingob, Edgar Lungu, the Rt. Hon. Anerood Jugnauth and Rt. Hon. Pakalitha Mosisili for emerging victorious in the elections held in their respective countries.
12. Summit received a Report of the Outgoing Chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, H.E. Jacob G. Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa, and commended him for successfully steering the SADC Organ on Politics, Defense and Security Cooperation during his term of office.
13. Summit noted the significant improvement in the security situation in DRC, coupled with strengthening of FARDC operational capabilities and the need to support the progressive downsizing of MONUSCO troops in DRC.
14. Summit urged the International Community to support the administration of the Transit Camps in DRC, and facilitate the repatriation to Rwanda of the already disarmed ex-combatants or their resettlement in a third country. Summit also commended the Government of DRC for its commitment to implement the Nairobi Declaration.
15. Summit called upon the Government of Madagascar and all political key stakeholders to safeguard achievements made in nation building and reconciliation by fully implementing the SADC roadmap for Madagascar;
16. Summit urged the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho, and all political parties and key stakeholders to develop a roadmap to implement Constitutional and Security Sector reforms as a matter of urgency, and pledged to continue to support the Kingdom of Lesotho in this regard.
17. Summit re-affirmed the approved Terms of Reference of the Commission of Inquiry and strongly urged the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho to gazette the Terms of Reference of the Commission as approved.

18. Cognisant that Terrorism is a global threat and that the region needs to have a common and coordinated approach to prevent and combat acts of international and domestic terrorism, Summit approved the SADC Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy.
19. Summit noted the critical role played by macroeconomic convergence programme in facilitating stability and deepening market and financial integration, and urged Member States to intensify and consistently implement regional policies and programmes as well as Member States' economic reforms, plans and strategies to resolve the challenges affecting SADC economies for sustainable growth path.
20. Summit noted progress in the implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan 2015-2020 and of the Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063, and resolved to continuously monitor the actualization of key milestones at its Ordinary Summits;
21. Summit noted the need to explore sustainable ways of financing SADC programmes, in particular the implementation of the Revised RISDP and Industrialisation Strategy. To this end, Summit directed Council to finalise on-going work on alternative sources of funding and report to the next Ordinary Summit.
22. Summit resolved to scale up implementation of regional infrastructure as a key enabler to economic integration in support of industrialization.
23. Summit noted progress made with regard to representation of women in political and decision making positions and commended Member States that have achieved high female representation at State leadership, Legislature and Judiciary levels, and other senior positions both in public and private sector. Summit further urged Member States to adopt appropriate measures to improve and sustain these achievements.
24. Summit noted the regional food security situation which indicated a decline in overall cereal production and availability, largely due to unfavourable weather condition which was characterised by prolonged dry spells, floods and cyclones. As a result, the Region will require food and other humanitarian assistance during 2015/2016 marketing year. Member States were urged to continue implementing the Regional Agriculture Policy and relevant protocols in order to improve agricultural production and food security.

25. In the area of climate change, Summit underscored the need for the region to continue to work with all progressive partners to ensure the protection of the planet and strive to build consensus on a continental basis in preparation for COP 21 to be held in Paris, France, in December, 2015. Summit further resolved that the region works together to ensure that the region contributes to a successor statute to the Kyoto Protocol that expires in 2020. To this end, Summit directed the Ministers of Environment to finalise the SADC Common Position for COP21, during their meeting in October 2015.
26. Summit noted achievements recorded in addressing the burden of HIV and AIDS, TB and Malaria. To this end, Summit directed the Secretariat to monitor the situation and coordinate the necessary regional interventions with Member States in order to ensure that HIV and AIDS is no longer a threat to public health.
27. Summit approved the resolution on the establishment of the Southern African Development Community Administrative Tribunal (SADCAT) and the Declaration on Youth Development and Empowerment in SADC.
28. Summit directed the Secretariat to develop a mechanism to honour the legacy of the SADC Founding Fathers, to be submitted for consideration at the next Ordinary Summit.
29. Summit endorsed international calls for the United Kingdom to expeditiously end its unlawful occupation of the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, with a view to enabling Mauritius to effectively exercise its sovereignty over the Archipelago, without which the full decolonisation of Africa is not complete.
30. Summit also received farewell remarks by H.E Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, who is nearing the end of his Term of Office as stipulated in the constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania. His statement was delivered on his behalf by the Rt Hon, Mizengo Kayanza Pinda, Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania in which he emphasized the importance of SADC to continue working together for a common cause. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve SADC.
31. Summit was officially closed by SADC Chairperson, H.E. President Lt. Gen. Seretse Khama Ian Khama of the Republic of Botswana.

32. The Deputy Chairperson of Summit, His Majesty King Mswati III of the Kingdom of Swaziland delivered a vote of thanks and invited the Heads of State and Government and all delegates to the next Ordinary Summit to be held in Mbabane, in August 2016.
33. Summit expressed its appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Botswana for hosting the Summit and for the warm hospitality extended to all the delegates.

**DONE AT GABORONE, BOTSWANA
AUGUST 18, 2015**