



## **COMMUNIQUE OF THE SADC MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE OF THE ORGAN (MCO) TROIKA**

1. The Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) Troika of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation together with the Republic of Malawi met in Windhoek, Republic of Namibia, on December 29, 2013 to consider the political and security situation in the region, including the review of the post-electoral political situation in Madagascar.
2. The MCO Troika meeting was chaired by Honourable Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwa, Chairperson of the MCO and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Namibia.
3. The MCO Troika was also attended by Honourable Mohlabi Kenneth Tsekoa, Deputy chairperson of the MCO and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Lesotho; Honourable Dr. Mahadhi J. Maalim .Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania; Honourable Ephraim Mganda Chiume, Chairperson of the SADC Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Malawi; and the H.E. President Joaquim Chissano, SADC Mediator on Madagascar.
4. The MCO Troika noted that the general political and security situation in the SADC region remains relatively stable whilst the region is awaiting the conclusion of the electoral process in Madagascar and despite security and humanitarian challenges in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).
5. The MCO Troika also noted the positive developments regarding the security situation in Eastern DRC, namely:

- (i) Successful defeat of the M23 rebels from Eastern DRC in October 2013 by the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (FARDC), supported by the Intervention Brigade under the auspices of MONUSCO;
  - (ii) The two chairpersons of SADC and ICGLR signed a communiqué as guarantors of the peace process in Eastern DRC, regarding the conclusion of the year-long Kampala Dialogue, between DRC Government and M23 on 12 December, 2013 in Nairobi, Kenya; and
  - (iii) The Government of DRC and M23 signed declarations on the Eleven Points of the Kampala Dialogue on the same date.
6. The MCO Troika noted that the humanitarian situation in Eastern DRC is still a source of concern to the region and the international community.
  7. The MCO Troika commended the people of Madagascar for the peaceful manner in which they conducted the electoral process;
  8. The MCO Troika commended the presidential and legislative candidates for the orderly manner in which they participated in the electoral process;
  9. The MCO commended the SADC Mediator on Madagascar for his tireless efforts in mediating the Madagascar peace process;
  10. The MCO Troika commended the International Community especially the International Contact Group on Madagascar for supporting the peace process in Madagascar;
  11. The MCO Troika urged the International community to support Madagascar towards the development process;
  12. The MCO Troika commended the security institutions for ensuring that peace prevailed during the electoral process;

13. The MCO Troika assured the Government and people of Madagascar that SADC stands ready to help Madagascar address the challenges of national reconciliation, re-building the country and re-launching the development process;
14. The MCO Troika agreed to recommend to the Double Troika Summit, upon the successful completion of the electoral process in Madagascar, to consider lifting sanctions against Madagascar and to urge the African Union and the International Community to lift the sanctions; and to consider convening a pledging conference to assist Madagascar in the mobilization of the necessary resources for the reconstruction phase;
15. The MCO Troika thanked the Government and people of Namibia for the warm welcome accorded to delegates.

**WINDHOEK, 29 December 2013**