



**COMMUNIQUÉ OF
THE 43rd ORDINARY SUMMIT OF SADC HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
17th AUGUST 2023**

1. The 43rd Ordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) was held on 17th August 2023, in Luanda, Republic of Angola.

2. Summit was attended by the following Heads of State and Government, or their representatives:

Angola:	H.E. President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço
Botswana:	H.E. President Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi
Democratic Republic of Congo:	H.E. President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo
Kingdom of Eswatini:	His Majesty King Mswati III
Kingdom of Lesotho:	The Right Honourable the Prime Minister Samuel Ntsokoane Matekane
Malawi:	H.E. President Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera
Mozambique:	H.E. President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi
Namibia:	H.E. President Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob
South Africa:	H.E. President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa
Zambia:	H.E. President Hakainde Hichilema
Zimbabwe:	H.E. President Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa
Seychelles:	H.E. the Vice President Mr. Ahmed Afif

United Republic of Tanzania:	H.E. the Vice President, Dr. Philip Isdor Mpango
Mauritius:	Hon. Mr. Soomilduth Bholah, Minister of Industrial Development, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Cooperatives
Comoros	H.E. Mr Hamada Madi, Diplomatic Adviser to the President and Former Prime Minister

3. Summit was also attended by the Executive Secretary of SADC, and the Acting Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).
4. Summit elected His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola, as Chairperson of SADC, and His Excellency Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, as the Incoming Chairperson of SADC.
5. Summit also elected His Excellency Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia, as Chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, and Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania as Incoming Chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.
6. Summit received a report from the Chairperson of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, His Excellency Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia, and commended him for his outstanding leadership and continued efforts in sustaining peace and security in the region during his tenure of office.
7. Summit received an update on the political and security situation in the Kingdom of Lesotho and conveyed its appreciation for progress made and for the commitment of the Government of Lesotho to finalise the comprehensive reforms process. Summit commended the Panel of Elders led by H.E. Dr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, for facilitating this process.
8. Summit endorsed the extension of the SADC Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM) by twelve months, and commended Member States, SAMIM Mission Leadership and Personnel for their dedication and contribution in supporting the Mission to achieve peace and security in the Cabo Delgado Province in northern Mozambique and the commencement of a phased drawdown of SAMIM.
9. Summit received a progress report on the implementation of the Mechanism in Honour of the SADC Founders and handed over a medal to His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama, Former President of the Republic of Botswana and son of Sir Seretse Khama, First President of the Republic of Botswana and one of the Founders of SADC in recognition of his legacy and contribution to SADC.

10. Summit also received an update on the security situation in the eastern DRC and endorsed the deployment of the SADC Mission in the DRC (SAMIDRC) to restore peace and security in the eastern DRC.
11. Summit noted the outcome of the Quadripartite Summit, and reiterated the call to strengthen the coordination and harmonisation of peace initiatives in eastern DRC, by various actors including the East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), SADC and United Nations (UN) and the African Union Commission (AUC), and commended H.E. President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, as AU Champion, for leading Peace and Reconciliation processes in the continent.
12. Summit noted the readiness of the Member States that will hold elections during the year, namely the Republic of Zimbabwe in August, the Kingdom of Eswatini in September, the Republic of Madagascar in November and December, the Democratic Republic of Congo in December, and South Africa in 2024 and Botswana in 2024 and wished the Member States peaceful elections.
13. Summit received progress reports on the status of implementation of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan 2020-2030, notably, the region's socio-economic situation, regional economic performance, infrastructure development, industrialisation, regional food and nutrition security situation, gender and development, the status of health in the region, and on disaster risk management.
14. Summit noted progress in the implementation of the theme of the 42nd SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government, regarding ***“Promoting industrialization through, agro-processing, mineral beneficiation, and regional value chains for inclusive and resilient economic growth”***, and commended the Outgoing Chairperson of SADC, H.E. President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, for his exemplary leadership in delivering on the key areas of the theme during his tenure.
15. Summit endorsed the theme of the 43rd SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government, titled ***“Human and Financial Capital: The Key Drivers for Sustainable Industrialisation in the SADC Region”***. The theme seeks to address two of the most critical enablers in supporting regional industrialisation in the context of climate change and 4th Industrial Revolution.
16. Summit also endorsed the Regional Gas Master Plan, 2023-2038 as a gas infrastructure investment blueprint to facilitate coordinated harnessing of natural gas resources within the region and directed that progress on its implementation to be reported on biennial basis.
17. Summit noted the progress made towards the operationalisation of the SADC Humanitarian Emergency Operations Centre (SHOC) and urged Member States who have not done so to fast-track national processes to sign the Memorandum of Agreement in order to pave way for the entry into force of the

Agreement and the establishment of SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Operations Centre by October 2023.

18. Summit approved and signed the SADC Declaration on Accelerating Action to end HIV and AIDS as a Public Health Threat in the SADC Region by 2030, in which Heads of State and Government committed to provide strong leadership and working in partnership with local communities and the international community in keeping the fight against HIV and AIDS a top priority for the Region.
19. Summit also approved and signed the SADC Protocol on Employment and Labour which, among others, provides a strategic regional co-operation framework on employment and labour related matters to facilitate the achievement of decent work for all.
20. Summit endorsed and provided solidarity and support to candidates from Member States vying for positions in continental and international organisations.
21. Summit approved the appointment of Dr. Judith Kateera, a citizen of the Republic of Zimbabwe, as the new SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs.
22. Summit commended the outgoing Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs at the SADC Secretariat, Ambassador Joseph Nourrice, a national of the Republic of Seychelles, whose tenure is coming to an end in October 2023, for serving the SADC Secretariat and the region diligently, professionally, and with unwavering commitment.
23. Summit extended its appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of Angola for successfully hosting the 43rd SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government.
24. The Chairperson of SADC, His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola, expressed gratitude to all Heads of State and Government for attending the 43rd Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government and electing him to lead the region.

Done on 17th August 2023

Luanda, Republic of Angola