



PRESS RELEASE

SADC Secretariat Clarifies Fraudulent Letter Circulating in Its Name

11 June 2026, Gaborone, Gaborone - The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat has noted with concern the circulation of a fraudulent letter purporting to have been issued by the Secretariat. The letter contains false and misleading information and does not represent the official communications, policies, or positions of SADC.

The fraudulent letter, bearing the subject heading “**Urgent Communiqué to all Central Banks within the SADC Region**”, falsely alleges that following a recent meeting at the SADC Headquarters, all global financial transmissions ranging from five million rands to 150 million rands for individuals and corporates/organisations respectively must be accompanied by SADC clearances. It further claims that all financial credit and disbursements are to be placed on hold until such clearance is obtained, and that individuals, corporates, organisations, and companies are required to deposit specified amounts as clearance fees.

The Secretariat wishes to categorically state that:

- The letter in circulation is **not legitimate**, was **not issued by the SADC Secretariat**, and was produced on a **manipulated SADC letterhead**.
- The content of the letter is **false and misleading** and should be disregarded in its entirety.
- Official communications from the SADC Secretariat are disseminated exclusively through verified channels, including direct communication with Member States via SADC National Contact Points, the official SADC website (www.sadc.int), and official social media platforms.

The Secretariat is treating this matter with the utmost seriousness and has reported the incident to the relevant authorities for investigation. SADC remains firmly committed to transparency, integrity, and safeguarding the trust of its Member States, partners, stakeholders, and citizens.

The Secretariat urges the public and stakeholders to exercise caution and to verify any communication purportedly from SADC through its official email (registry@sadc.int).

For Media enquiries contact:

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About SADC

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is an organisation of 16 Member States: Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Established in 1980, SADC's mission is to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development through efficient and productive systems, deeper cooperation and integration, good governance, and durable peace and security. In doing so, the region seeks to emerge as a competitive and effective player in international relations and the global economy.

Issued by the SADC Secretariat

Gaborone, Botswana