

**HIS EXCELLENCY DR. EMMERSON DAMBUDZO MNANGAGWA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE AND CHAIRPERSON OF SADC AND PRESIDENT DUMA GIDEON BOKO OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA TO UNDERTAKE WORKING VISIT TO THE SADC SECRETARIAT IN GABORONE, BOTSWANA**

**09 December 2024*, Gaborone, Botswana -*** His Excellency Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and current Chairperson of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and President Duma Gideon Boko of the Republic of Botswana will visit the SADC Secretariat Headquarters in Gaborone, Botswana on 13th December 2024.

President Dr. Mnangagwa became the Chairperson of SADC on 17th August 2024 during the 44th SADC Summit of Heads of States and Government that was held in Harare, Zimbabwe. As is customary, Chairpersons of SADC visit the SADC Secretariat Headquarters during their tenure to appreciate the work done by the Secretariat in facilitating the SADC regional integration agenda and to provide guidance on the Secretariat’s implementation of SADC Programmes.

The SADC Chairperson will be appraised on the status of implementation of SADC Programmes, decisions, and the 44th SADC Summit theme, “Promoting Innovation to Unlock Opportunities for Sustainable Economic Growth and Development towards an Industrialised SADC”.

During the visit, the SADC Secretariat, the SADC Chairperson together with President Duma Gideon Boko of the Republic of Botswana will receive the SADC Headquarters building from Bongwe Investments Proprietary Limited on behalf of the SADC Heads of State and Government. The SADC Secretariat Headquarters Building has been governed through a Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) Agreement involving SADC, Bongwe Investments (Proprietary) Limited (Private Party) and the Government of the Republic of Botswana as a guarantor to the PPP arrangement.

The SADC Chairperson and the President of the Republic of Botswana will also perform a ground-breaking ceremony for the commencement of the construction of the SADC Standby Force Regional Logistics Depot (RLD) at Rasesa village, in the Kgatleng District, 40km from Gaborone. The SADC Standby Force Regional Logistics

Depot will serve as a storage for materials, equipment and end-user stocks for use by the SADC Standby Force when undertaking mandated peace support and humanitarian missions.

Therefore, you are cordially invited to cover the events. To facilitate media accreditation and other logistics, the Secretariat requests media institutions to send names and designations of personnel covering the visit to Ms. Anethe Mtambanengwe or Mr. Letso Mpho of the Communications and Public Relations Unit at the SADC Secretariat on email amtambanengwe@sadc.int or Lmpho@sadc.int with a copy to prinfo@sadc.int or call +267 71640 456 or +267 3951863 not later than 11 December,

2024.

**……… About SADC**

SADC is an organisation of 16 Member States established in 1980 as the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference (SADCC) and later, in August,1992 transformed into the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The mission of SADC is to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development through efficient, productive systems, deeper cooperation and integration, good governance and durable peace and security; so that the region emerges as a competitive and effective player in international relations and the world economy. Member States are Angola, Botswana, Union of Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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