

**Press Release** 

## SADC holds a Workshop to Promote Cooperation on Transboundary Water Resources

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) are holding a workshop to Promote Cooperation and Conflict Prevention in Transboundary Water Resources from 25-27 February, 2013 at Phakalane Golf Estate Conference Center, in Gaborone, Botswana.

The workshop to be attended by decision makers from the Ministries responsible for Water in the SADC Member States is aimed at increasing the capacity of high level water decision makers on water conflict management and cooperation.

Participants will share and exchange sub-regional experiences on water cooperation as well as learn more about designing and conducting negotiation processes on transboundary water-related issues.

The workshop is part of the activities to commemorate this year's World Water Day whose theme is Water Cooperation. The 2013 World Water Day theme of Water Cooperation also coincides with the UN General Assembly declaration of 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation.

The objective of this International Year is to raise awareness, both on the potential for increased cooperation, and on the challenges facing water management in light of the increase in demand for water access, allocation and services.

Within the SADC region, water cooperation is a key component in the revised Protocol on Shared Watercourses which was first ratified in 1998 and revised in 2003 to foster close and coordinated cooperation in the management, protection and utilization of Shared Watercourses, and to advance the SADC agenda of regional integration and poverty alleviation.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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