



MEDIA RELEASE

SADC MINISTERIAL WORKSHOP ON FOOD SECURITY AND POVERTY ERADICATION

His Excellency the President of The Republic of Botswana, Lieutenant General Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama in his capacity as the Chairperson of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has convened a workshop to exchange ideas on how to address chronic problems of Poverty, Hunger and Malnutrition in the SADC region and come up with practical solutions towards addressing these issues. The workshop on Food Security and Poverty Eradication will be held in Gaborone City at Gaborone International Conference Centre (GICC) on Monday 16th May 2016 at 0800 hours until 1630 hours.

The forum on Food Security and Poverty Eradication will be to provide an opportunity to brainstorm, exchange ideas, and agree on practical and strategic actions for both short and long term scenarios in an effort to promote food and nutritional security and address poverty in the region. Tackling the persistent regional food insecurity and poverty are key in the realisation of regional integration and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets. These challenges if not addressed in a suitable manner will threaten the socio-economic growth and stability of the region. The Region is highly vulnerable to natural disasters including droughts, floods and cyclones that affect food security. Reports and climate data suggest that the SADC region is currently experiencing its worst drought since 1992 and this is expected to further increase food deficit.

The workshop will be attended by Ministers and Senior Officials representing SADC Members States, Private Organisations, Farmer Organisations, United Nation's Agencies and other International Partners

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