

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**Between**  
**The Government of Australia and**  
**the Southern African Development Community**

**PREAMBLE**

The Government of Australia (hereinafter referred to as Australia) on the one hand;

**and**

The Southern African Development Community (hereinafter referred to as SADC) on the other hand;

Hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties";

**Considering** the SADC vision for a common future in a regional community that will ensure economic well-being, improvement of the standard of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice and peace and security for the peoples of Southern Africa;

**Recognising** our mutual interest in strengthening the existing bonds of friendship and partnership through international cooperation and assistance;

**Recognising** the challenges which affect development in SADC and its Member States;

**Noting** SADC's important role in the region in promoting peace, security and democracy;

**Bearing** in mind the important role that Australia can play to enable SADC to achieve its objectives; and

**Recognising** the desirability of engagement to achieve common objectives, and that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would be of mutual benefit and would serve to strengthen ties between the Parties, agree on the following understandings:

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## **ARTICLE 1**

### **Purpose**

1. This MoU aims to create an appropriate framework which enables the Parties to facilitate cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest.
2. The Parties will endeavour to consult on questions affecting this MOU and its implementation, policy issues and matters of common interest.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **Exchange of information**

Recognising the importance of multilateral and other regional institutions and forums, in particular the United Nations, the G20 and the African Union, to the interests of both Parties, Australia and SADC will exchange information, where appropriate, on issues addressed in these forums.

## **ARTICLE 3**

### **Areas of cooperation**

1. Without prejudice to the possibility of extending cooperation to other areas as may be deemed necessary by both sides, areas of mutual interest include:
  - a. Democracy and Good Governance;
  - b. Peace and Security;
  - c. Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation;
  - d. Sustainable Development, including natural resource management;
  - e. Agriculture and Food Security; and
  - f. Human Resource Development, including the provision of training and capacity building.
2. The cooperation between the Parties in the identified areas will be based on mutually agreed projects.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **Democracy and Good Governance**

Recognising SADC's aim to promote common political values, systems and other shared values which are transmitted through institutions which are democratic, legitimate and effective, the Parties agree to endeavour to pursue cooperation and support for democratic processes and good governance in SADC Member States.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **Peace and Security**

Recognising SADC's primary role in promoting, defending and maintaining democracy, peace, security and stability, the Parties agree to:

- a. endeavour to pursue cooperation on regional peace building, peacekeeping and conflict resolution matters, including consideration of existing SADC, African Union and United Nations initiatives;
- b. share information and ideas on combating transnational threats, including the growing threat of piracy in the Indian Ocean; and
- c. reaffirm their commitment to nuclear non-proliferation.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**

Noting their concern regarding the impact of greenhouse gas emissions on climate change, Australia as a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and SADC as an Observer, the Parties:

- a. confirm their shared commitment to supporting the implementation of the Cancun Agreement and to working collaboratively in the UNFCCC for a long-term global outcome on climate change; and
- b. reaffirm their commitment to regional climate change cooperation.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **Sustainable Development**

Recognising their mutual commitment to promote the sustainable use of natural resources and effective protection of the environment, the Parties agree to pursue cooperation and support for the development and implementation of sustainable development initiatives by SADC and its Member States, including natural resource management, noting Australia's existing support for SADC initiatives to manage transboundary water resources.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **Agriculture and Food Security**

Noting their mutual commitment to support efforts to attain the Millennium Development Goals (2000), the Parties agree to endeavour to pursue cooperation and support for the development of agriculture and food security initiatives by SADC and its Member States.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **Human Resource Development**

Recognising SADC's commitment to promote the development of human resources within SADC and its Member States, the Parties agree to pursue cooperation and support for human resource development, including the provision of training and capacity building.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **Status of this Memorandum**

This MOU is not an international agreement and does not give rise to international legal rights or obligations.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **Settlement of Disputes**

Any dispute that may arise over the interpretation or application of the MOU will be settled amicably by direct negotiation between the Parties.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **Amendments**

1. The provisions of this MOU will be subject to review or amendment upon the request, in writing, of either Party.
2. Any amendments will commence on the date the amended or modified MOU is signed by both Parties.

**ARTICLE 13**

**Termination**

Each Party may terminate this MOU by giving advance written notice to the other Party. The MOU terminates ninety days after the receipt of such notice.

**ARTICLE 14**

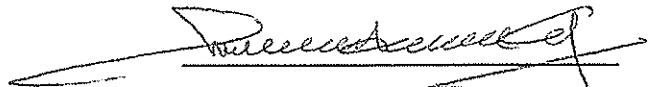
**Entry into force**

The provisions of this MOU take effect upon its signature by the authorised representatives of the Parties.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the duly authorized representatives of the Parties have hereby signed the present Memorandum of Understanding at the place and on the dates indicated below.

**For the Government of Australia**

**For the Southern African  
Development Community**



HE Ann Harrap  
Australian High Commissioner

Dr. Tomaz Augusto Salomão  
Executive Secretary

Place: Gaborone

Place: Gaborone

Date: 13.09.2012

Date: 13.09.2012