



THE PRESIDENCY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

TO ALL MEDIA/ NEWS EDITORS

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**PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA TO PARTICIPATE IN 41ST ORDINARY SUMMIT OF
SADC HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**

President Cyril Ramaphosa will attend the 41st Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government in Lilongwe, Malawi, on 17 and 18 August 2021.

As host of the Summit, the Republic of Malawi will assume the Chair of SADC from the Republic of Mozambique.

The Summit theme is “Bolstering Productive Capacities in the Face of COVID-19 Pandemic for Inclusive, Sustainable, Economic and Industrial Transformation”.

On Monday, 16 August 2021, President Ramaphosa will present a report on the facilitation process in the Kingdom of Lesotho to the SADC Troika Summit of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

The Republic of Botswana will, as Outgoing Chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, present a progress report on the status of regional peace and security.

Botswana will also hand over Chairship of the Organ to South Africa.

At the 41st SADC Summit, Heads of State and Government leaders will deliberate on developments related to SADC's priority areas such as peace and security and the implementation of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030.

The Summit will also examine the performance of SADC institutions and review the overall implementation of SADC socio-economic programmes with particular focus on the COVID-19 pandemic response in the region.

This will be the last SADC Summit to be facilitated by Dr. Stergomona Lawrence Tax as the Executive Secretary of SADC following an end of her two-term mandate.

In this regard, the Summit will announce the new SADC Executive Secretary following a recruitment process.

President Ramaphosa will be supported by the Ministers of International Relations and Cooperation, and Defence and Military Veterans.

In preparation for the Summit, the SADC Council of Ministers sat on 13 and 14 August.

Media enquiries:

Tyrone Seale, Acting Spokesperson to the President – media@presidency.gov.za

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