



Republic of Botswana

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PRESS RELEASE

19TH MEETING OF THE SADC MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE OF THE ORGAN (MCO) ON POLITICS, DEFENCE AND SECURITY COOPERATION **20 – 21 JULY 2017**

Gaborone, 19 July 2017: The Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation, Honourable Pelonomi Venson-Moitoi, will on 19th July 2017 lead the Botswana delegation to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to attend the 19th Meeting of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

The 19th MCO meeting is scheduled to take place on 20 and 21 July 2017 and will be preceded by Senior Officials Meeting from 17–19 July 2017.

The 19th Meeting of the MCO is expected to deliberate, among other issues, on the consolidation of peace and democracy in the region; mediation and conflict prevention; movement of persons; Southern African Liberation Day; and the request from the Union of Comoros and the Republic of Burundi to join SADC. The meeting will further consider ways of financing the activities of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

The outcome of the 19th MCO will form part of reports to be considered by the 37th Ordinary SADC Summit scheduled to be held in Pretoria, South Africa on 20 August 2017.

Honourable Minister Venson-Moitoi will be accompanied by the Minister of Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration, Honourable Eric Molale and Senior Government Officials. The Botswana delegation is expected to return to Gaborone on 22 July 2017.

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