



CONCEPT NOTE

MEETING OF THE HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL PROGRAMMES COMMITTEES

16TH APRIL 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING

“ENHANCING THE ROLE OF THE HSDSP COMMITTEE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST SRHR INFRINGEMENTS AND HIV/AIDS FROM A PARLIAMENTARY PERSPECTIVE”

1.0 BACKGROUND

The SADC PF in collaboration with national parliaments in the region is implementing phase II of the SRHR HIV/AIDS and Governance Project for the period 2019 to 2022. The main goal of the project is to work towards the achievement of universal access to integrated SRHR and HIV/AIDS services and related rights through parliamentary action via the legislative, oversight, budgetary and representative roles of MPs with the objective of promoting SRHR with national parliaments.

For purposes of expediency in implementation and delivery, and in accordance with the legal and policy gaps, the project is being implemented with a focus on five thematic areas as follows: Gender equality and Sexual Gender Based Violence; Early and Unintended Pregnancy and Safe abortion; Commodity Security and Access to SRHR & HIV related services with a view to reinforcing health systems and contributing to Universal Health Coverage; Comprehensive Sexuality Education; and Non- Discrimination and Protection of Key Populations.

It is expected that the thematic areas will trigger the necessary impacts in view of achieving the vision of the project which is universal access to SRHR and HIV/AIDS services in the SADC region.

The Standing Committee on Human and Social Development & Special Programmes is vested with the mandate to oversee and provide leadership in the implementation of the SRHR HIV/AIDS Governance Project, and it is against this background that the committee is scheduled to meet on 16th April 2021, with the purpose of discussing and getting an update in the implementation of the Project.

2.0 OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING OF THE HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL PROGRAMMES COMMITTEE

The specific objectives and expected outcomes of the Meeting are as follows:

- a) Raising awareness and strengthening knowledge of Members of the Committee on the implementation of the SRHR HIV/AIDS and Governance Project; and
- b) To deliberate and consider the committee annual workplan for the year 2021.

3.0 AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF THE HSDSP COMMITTEE

The virtual meeting of the HSDSP Committee will thus take place with the following proposed Agenda:

- a) Welcome Remarks by HSDSP Chairperson;
- b) Credentials of delegates and apologies;
- c) Adoption of proposed Agenda of the Meeting;
- d) Presentation and discussion on the progress in the implementation of the SRHR Project;
- e) Consideration and adoption of Minutes of HSDSP Meeting held on 16th October 2020;
- f) Consideration of the annual work plan for the year 2021
- g) Matters arising from the Minutes;
- h) Any Other Business;
- i) Vote of thanks Chairperson.

4.0 VENUE AND PARTICIPATION

The Meeting will take place virtually on 16th April 2021 from 9:30 hours, under the Special Rules for Virtual Meetings of the SADC-PF, with ICT hosting through Zoom being centrally managed by the Forum.