



**PRESS RELEASE
IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

ZAMBEZI WATERCOURSE MINISTERS TO MEET IN TETE, MOZAMBIQUE

Harare, 15 April 2024 - The Council of Ministers (CoM) of the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) will meet for its 11th Ordinary Session from 25-26 April 2024 in Tete, Mozambique. Mozambique is the current Chair of ZAMCOM.

The meeting will transact ZAMCOM business including adoption of policies and decisions; and provide necessary guidance on the promotion, support and coordination of the efficient management and sustainable development of the water resources of the Zambezi Watercourse.

ZAMCOM Executive Secretary, Felix Ngamlagosi and different project partners are expected to update the Ministers on resource mobilization efforts to fund various projects that the Commission is undertaking and provide an update on the status of implementation of the projects.

ZAMCOM partners that will attend the meeting include the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Swedish Fund for Development (Swedfund), the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

ZAMCOM is currently rolling out implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Zambezi (ZSP 2024) by developing medium term investment programmes. One of the initiatives that the Commission is implementing at regional and national levels is the Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Zambezi Watercourse (PIDACC Zambezi) financially and technically supported by the AfDB, UNCCD and other ZAMCOM Strategic Partners.

The Commission, with financial support of USD1million from the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) is preparing the Zambezi Regional Investment Plan on Nature, People and Climate. Preparation of the Investment Plan is expected to be completed before end of 2024.

Another initiative is the Swedish Krona 8.0 Million (about USD735,000) project titled, "Study on Advancing Water Storage Capacity in the Zambezi Watercourse: Selection and pre-feasibility studies of medium-sized infrastructure projects" which is being financed by the Swedfund will be launched.

"As we roll out implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Zambezi Watercourse, our main focus is to mobilize resources necessary for realisation of the desired development objectives, social and economic benefits to the communities in the Zambezi Watercourse".

An update on the financial contributions of the Riparian States to ZAMCOM and the financial position of the Commission will be provided at the meeting.

ZAMCOM has a three-tier governance structure, with the CoM being the supreme decision-making body. The Council comprises ministers responsible for water in the eight Zambezi Riparian States



ZAMCOM

that share the Zambezi Watercourse which are the Republic of Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Republic of Mozambique, Republic of Namibia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Zambia, and the Republic of Zimbabwe.

ZAMCOM Council of Ministers meets annually for its ordinary meeting and can hold extraordinary meetings when necessary to address urgent matters.

The CoM is followed by the ZAMCOM Technical Committee (ZAMTEC) which is responsible for advising and overseeing the implementation of policies and decisions of the Council.

The ZAMCOM Secretariat, which is the last in the tier is responsible for providing administrative and technical services to the Council under the supervision of ZAMTEC.

The Republic of Namibia will take over as the rotational Chair of the Council of Ministers from Mozambique. The Council of Ministers meeting will be preceded by an extraordinary meeting of ZAMTEC which will take place from 22-23 April as part of preparations for Council.

ABOUT ZAMCOM

The Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) is an intergovernmental organization established in by eight (8) Riparian States that share the Zambezi Watercourse through the ZAMCOM Agreement of 2004. The main objective of ZAMCOM is “to promote the equitable and reasonable utilization of the water resources of the Zambezi Watercourse as well as the efficient management and sustainable development thereof”.

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