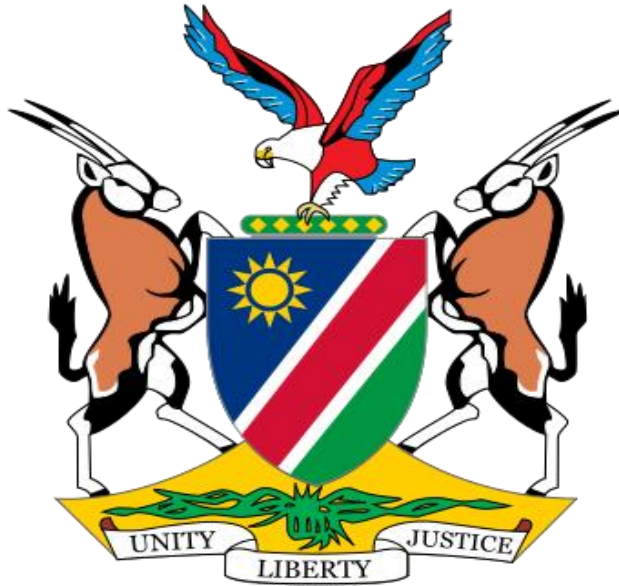


**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**



**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**ATTENDANCE OF THE SADC MEETING OF THE MINISTERS  
OF JUSTICE/ ATTORNEYS-GENERAL BY THE HONOURABLE  
MINISTER OF JUSTICE, PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA**

**14 June 2018**

**All media**

1. **During the SADC Meeting of the Ministers of Justice/Attorneys-General held in the Kingdom of Eswatini in July 2017, the Committee approved the amendment of the Protocol on Extradition and the Protocol on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters to create an enabling environment for the Committee to exercise an oversight role on the implementation and monitoring of both Protocols.**
2. Following the entry into force of the amendments the SADC Secretariat circulated a questionnaire to the States Parties with a view to gather data on the status of implementation of both Protocols.
3. The answers to the questionnaire were compiled into a comprehensive report, which was the topic of discussion at the next Meeting of the Ministers of Justice/Attorneys-General held in Pretoria, South Africa on 14 June 2018.
4. The Honorable Minister of Justice represented Namibia during the discussion and subsequent approval of the report on the implementation of the two Protocols.
5. From the Report it became evident that the implementation of the Protocols are generally working very well, but there are a few obstacles with regard to swift communication between the States Parties, proper completion of extradition documentation and reconciliation of differing criminal laws and punishments between the States Parties.
6. The Committee also considered and approved the amendment of the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation (SARPCCO) Constitution and the Declaration on the Elimination of Malaria in the SADC Region.

7. The Draft Report on the Implementation of the Protocols on Extradition and on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters; the Draft Agreement Amending the SARPCCO Constitution; and the Declaration on the Elimination of Malaria in the SADC Region was recommended by the Committee to the Council.
  
8. The next SADC meeting, being the Heads of State Summit, will be held in Windhoek in August and be chaired by the Honourable Minister of Justice.

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