

THE PIONEER



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Mr Boniface Badubi

We are delighted to present Issue 52 of the SADCAS Pioneer Newsletter (November 2025 Edition), keeping our readers informed about accreditation activities across the region and beyond. This issue highlights key developments within SADCAS and the broader accreditation landscape.

Stakeholder engagement remained a top priority this quarter. We actively participated in several regional and international forums, including SADCA, AFRAC, and IAF/ILAC meetings, strengthening our visibility and influence in global accreditation circles. A courtesy visit by the German Delegation and Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) to SADCAS headquarters marked a symbolic occasion, underscoring the strong partnership between SADCAS and the German government in areas of mutual interest.

Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment (CNAS) in September 2024 during the China-

Africa Accreditation Workshop, a CNAS delegation visited SADCAS headquarters in Gaborone, Botswana in December 2025. This visit reinforced the party's commitment to capacity building and strengthening quality infrastructure in the SADC region and across Africa.

A major highlight of the quarter was the 19th Annual National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFP) Meeting held in Johannesburg in November 2025, which equipped our focal points to better promote the benefits of accreditation within their respective countries.

SADCAS continues to grow significantly, as reflected in the increasing number of accreditations across the region and beyond. The Luke Commission and the Botswana Medicines Regulatory Authority (BOMRA) concluded the year on a high note, celebrating their newly granted accreditation status.

It has been a remarkable year for SADCAS. As we wrap up 2025, we wish you a joyful and restful holiday season.

Happy reading!



**Eve Christine Gadzikwa -
Chief Executive Officer, SADCAS**

END-OF-YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

As 2025 draws to a close, I am delighted to reflect on a year marked by resilience, innovation, and growth. This year has reaffirmed our commitment to excellence and our ability to adapt in a rapidly changing environment. I am especially proud of our achievements this year underscored by;

- **Accreditation Growth:** Record issuance of certificates demonstrates our credibility and impact in the region.
- **Digitalization:** Server deployment and ERP development signal readiness for a fully integrated digital future.
- **Stakeholder Collaboration:** Engagement efforts deepened trust and reinforced SADCAS's leadership role.
- **Human Capital Development:** Recruitment and training ensured agility and responsiveness to market needs.

Significant was our accreditation success, which remains the cornerstone of our mandate. By October 2025, SADCAS had issued **403 accreditation certificates to 340 facilities across 14 SADC Member States and beyond**, including Burundi, Mauritius and Uganda. This achievement reflects our growing influence and the trust placed in us by conformity assessment bodies.

Accreditation continues to unlock market access, enhance competitiveness, and build confidence in products and services across the region.

The digitalization of services and economies has fundamentally changed how we access information, communicate, work, and live. Key aspects include the rapid spread of information, the rise of social media and digital products as well as the use of digital tools to analyze data. Our Digital Transformation Journey, launched in 2023, gained remarkable traction this year. The successful deployment of our server in October 2025, through the generous support of the German Government (PTB Germany)—our international cooperating partner—has brought greater information security and improved data management.

This milestone strengthens the backbone of our digital infrastructure and commitment to improving service excellence and reliability. In addition, the development of our Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, which began in 2024, is progressing well and is expected to be completed in 2025. Once fully implemented, the ERP will modernize SADCAS accreditation workflows, integrate Finance and HR modules, and enhance client interfaces across the SADC region.





By embracing digitalization, we are improving efficiency, strengthening cybersecurity, and laying the foundation for secure remote assessments—ensuring impartiality and credibility in virtual environments.

Stakeholder engagement remained a priority during the period under review. We actively participated in several regional and international forums, including SADCA, AFRAC, and IAF/ILAC meetings, reinforcing our visibility and influence in regional and global accreditation circles. The 19th Annual National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFP) Meeting in Johannesburg was a key highlight, equipping our administrative arms to promote accreditation benefits more effectively within their countries. Our newsletter publications and website continue to be useful in disseminating information to our stakeholders and updating them on developments on a regular basis.

On the human capital front, we continue to invest in our people, our most important resource. Additional manpower was recruited during the year to support growing demands for accreditation service. Capacity-building initiatives were expanded internally and externally with a focus on building our pool of competent county technical assessors. In terms of accreditation related training, cumulatively, SADCAS has conducted over 314 training courses as of October 2025, strengthening technical competence and supporting regional integration.

In terms of outlook, the following will be prioritized;

- Expanding Accreditation Scope: Accelerating the Proficiency Testing Scheme and pursuing signatory status for ISO/IEC 17043 under AFRAC MRA and IAF MLA.
- Training & Business Development: Levering available resources to create new business opportunities, especially in untapped markets.
- Realignment of our marketing and accreditation efforts with SADC, TFTA, AfCFTA priorities
- Scaling Digital Transformation: Completing ERP implementation, enhancing functionalities, and integrating relevant systems for greater efficiency.
- Strengthening Sustainability: Rebalance priorities amid reduced donor funding by channeling resources toward initiatives that deliver long-term impact.
- Deepen Regional & Continental Impact: Continuing to support priority sectors—agro-processing, health, pharmaceuticals, and minerals beneficiation—aligned with SADC’s industrialization strategy.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the unwavering support of our stakeholders. To our valued clients, thank you for trusting us as your partner in quality and assuring competence. To our Board, your strategic guidance has been instrumental in steering SADCAS toward sustainable growth. To Management and Staff, your dedication and professionalism remain the backbone of our success. Together, we have navigated challenges and seized opportunities, making 2025 another successful year.

As we celebrate the festive season, let us take pride in what we have accomplished and look forward to an even more impactful 2026. On behalf of SADCAS, I wish you and your families a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Eve Christine Gadzikwa
Chief Executive Officer, SADCAS



GERMAN DELEGATION/PTB PAYS SADCAS A COURTESY CALL IN BOTSWANA



German government/ PTB delegation pictured with SADC Secretariat representatives alongside SADCAS management and staff.

On the 7th November 2025, the Federal Republic of Germany convened bilateral negotiations on development cooperation from 05-06 November 2025 at the SADC Secretariat Headquarters in Gaborone, Botswana. The Negotiations provide an opportunity for both SADC and the German Government to reflect on issues of mutual interest, with a view to strengthen cooperation towards regional integration, poverty eradication and sustainable development.

At the back of the negotiations the German delegation alongside Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) visited SADCAS Offices. SADCAS and PTB are longstanding partners in the realm of trade facilitation and quality infrastructure.

The meeting between the SADCAS and German/PTB delegation discussed areas of mutual cooperation including the fruitful relationship between SADCAS and PTB that dates back to many years and continues to thrive. Furthermore, the SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa shared with the delegation on accreditation, overview and developments in SADCAS and the SADCAS Digital Transformation Journey which PTB has been an instrumental partner in its success.



Ribbon cutting of the New Commissioned Server (sponsored by PTB Germany) by German Ambassador to Botswana, Ms Gabriela Bennermann with SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa (far right) and SADCAS ICT Officer, Mr Kitso Monnaatsie.

The Evolving Partnership between China National Accreditation Service for Conformity (CNAS) and SADCAS



The partnership between SADCAS and CNAS continues to grow in leaps and bounds, group picture after the engagement, seated from left is CNAS Deputy Chief Executive, Mr. Tang Danzhou, SADCAS CEO- Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa and Director of International Cooperation, Mr. Fei Yang

It all started in September 2024 during the China-Africa Accreditation Workshop 2024 in Beijing, China. SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment (CNAS). This marked the beginning of a mutual cooperation between SADCAS and CNAS which focuses on capacity building and strengthening the quality infrastructure in the SADC region and Africa.

To continue the partnership CNAS recently visited SADCAS Headquarters in Gaborone, Botswana on the 3rd December 2025. The CNAS delegation included:

- CNAS Deputy Chief Executive, Mr. Tang Danzhou
- Director of International Cooperation, Mr. Fei Yang
- Director of Biology & Chemical Laboratory Accreditation, Mr. Liu Jie
- Deputy Director of Accreditation Appraisal, Mr. Ji Liming
- Senior Manager of Calibration Laboratory Accreditation, Ms An Ping

The SADCAS delegation was led by the SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine alongside the Technical Manager, Mrs Pinkie Malebe, Quality Manager- Mr. Xavier Mugari, Scheme Coordinators- Mrs Eva Muronda, Finance and Administration Manager- Ms Amantle Ramokutsumo, Communications & PR Officer- Mr. Boniface Badubi and Training Administrator and Business Development Officer- Mr Goleanye.

The fruitful engagement allowed SADCAS and CNAS to have discussions and presentations on developments in their organisations, accreditations and ever evolving technology advancements in the accreditation landscape.

The delegation visited a SADCAS accredited facility, Water Utilities Corporation – Mmamashia Laboratory, which is a state-of-the-art facility that has been accredited since 2 August 2013. The laboratory provides analysis of water and wastewater samples using various analytical methodologies and instrumentation. The laboratory plays a pivotal role in maintaining water quality in Botswana and safeguarding the consumer's health.



SADCAS and CNAS delegation during the Mmamashia Laboratory tour.



NEW!

PROFICIENCY TESTING ACCREDITATION SCHEME (PTAS)

SADCAS has now launched its **PROFICIENCY TESTING ACCREDITATION SCHEME** and is now ready to receive applications from organisations providing Proficiency Testing Service.

For more information, visit www.sadcas.org or contact us on Email: info@sadcas.org or vgungoa@sadcas.org

Botswana Medicines Regulatory Authority (BOMRA) granted ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation



From Left to right: BoMRA CEO, Dr. Seima Dijeng receiving the accreditation certificate from the SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa (middle) with Acting Secretary, Specialist Health Care, Ministry of Health- Dr. Rex Segadimo (far right).

The Botswana Medicines Regulatory Authority (BoMRA) granted the internationally recognized ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation by the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) during an accreditation certificate handover ceremony held on 5th December 2025 in BoMRA in Gaborone, Botswana.

The event was attended by Acting Secretary, Specialist Health Care, Ministry of Health- Dr. Rex Segadimo, senior government officials, BoMRA management and staff, diplomatic community, representatives from quality infrastructure, stakeholders and media.



SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Eve Christine Gadzikwa, celebrated the milestone and lauded BoMRA on achieving its accreditation status, "Accreditation is a very rigorous and challenging journey that will certainly yield tremendous benefits for BOMRA. She emphasized that the accreditation will enhance market access, competitive advantage and garner consumer confidence for BoMRA."

"This accreditation strengthens our credibility, enhances trust among our stakeholders, and reinforces the quality and reliability of our scientific work. It is a milestone that positions the Authority firmly on the path toward greater institutional maturity. Indeed, BoMRA is on an active journey towards achieving WHO Maturity Level 3 status, and this accomplishment serves as a major step forward.

We are building robust systems, strengthening governance, and ensuring that our regulatory processes meet international benchmarks," said Dr. Seima Dijeng, Chief Executive Officer of BoMRA.

The Ministry of Health also commended BoMRA for this major advancement. Speaking on behalf of the Ministry, Dr. Rex Segadimo said, "We congratulate BoMRA on this exceptional achievement. Ensuring that our national regulatory authority meets international standards is vital for the protection of public health and the credibility of Botswana's health system. This accreditation strengthens patient safety by giving assurance of the quality and reliability of the test results issued by the BoMRA laboratory.



BoMRA staff celebrating their accreditation status to ISO/IEC 17025:2017, making their facility an internationally recognized testing laboratory.

This SADCAS accreditation adds significant momentum to BoMRA's broader goal of achieving WHO Maturity Level 3 and beyond, strengthening its role as a trusted regulatory authority in the region and across the continent. Most importantly, it translates into safer,

higher-quality health products for every patient in Botswana. By meeting internationally recognized standards, BoMRA reinforces public confidence and ensures stronger protection for the entire population.

Highlights of the 16th AFRAC GA and Meeting in Uganda



SADCAS delegation during the meetings; From Left to right- Quality Manager- Mr. Xavier Mugari, SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa, Scheme Coordinator- Mr. Victor Mundember and Technical Manager- Mrs Pinkie Malebe.

From 22–26 September 2025, the 16th African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) General Assembly & Meetings convened in Entebbe, Uganda—an energizing week that reaffirmed accreditation as Africa’s engine for trusted trade, public safety and industrial competitiveness under the AfCFTA. Hosted impeccably by the Uganda National Accreditation Service (UGANAS) at Imperial Resort Beach, the Assembly combined rigorous technical work with clear policy signals: “accredited once, accepted everywhere” is not a slogan; it’s a continental strategy.

UGANAS, East Africa’s newest accreditation body steps onto the main stage. Uganda’s hosting was also a coming-of-age moment for UGANAS, the country’s national accreditation body created under the Accreditation Services Act No. 20 of 2021. UGANAS showcased growing capability and national commitment to quality infrastructure, reducing dependence on costlier foreign accreditation and improving regulatory assurance.

The week brought together national accreditation bodies and stakeholders from across Africa, including SADCAS (SADC Accreditation Service) KENAS (Kenya), NiNAS (Nigeria), SANAS (South Africa) and SOAC/WAAS (West Africa), alongside government ministries, regulators and international partners. This breadth reflects AFRAC’s role as the bridge between national systems and global arrangements, ensuring African certificates and reports are trusted beyond our borders.

AFRAC’s Technical Committee (TC) aligned interpretations across schemes; the MRA Council advanced training and planning on the AFRAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement; and sub-committees (inspection, calibration & testing, certification, medical) reviewed guidance and case experience. Capacity-building sessions emphasized assessor competence and consistent application of ISO/IEC standards. The agenda repeatedly linked accreditation to AfCFTA implementation and to healthcare quality via medical laboratory accreditation (ISO 15189).

Key outcomes from the meetings

1. MRA clarity and momentum: Delegates deepened understanding of the AFRAC MRA structure and timelines for evaluations—critical for confidence in cross-border acceptance of test, inspection and certification results.
2. Stronger alignment with global systems: AFRAC’s meetings featured underscored interoperability between regional MRAs and international arrangements that underpin market access.
3. Elevated visibility for UGANAS and East Africa: Uganda used the platform to connect accreditation to SME competitiveness and health systems, signalling sustained public-sector support.
4. A clearer policy narrative: Through the Entebbe meetings, AFRAC communications sessions sharpened the case for accreditation as a non-tariff-barrier solution—cutting duplication and delays for exporters.



SADCAS role in strengthening the AFRAC MRA

SADCAS arrived in Entebbe with three goals: deepen technical alignment, expand collaboration, and advancing SADCAS’ contribution to the AFRAC MRA—the backbone of “once accredited, accepted everywhere.” As a multi-economy accreditation body mandated by SADC to serve the accreditation needs of 14 Member States, it continues to contribute to AFRAC by;

- Active engagement and leadership in the MRA Council: SADCAS participated in MRA sessions on peer-evaluation planning, competence criteria and scope management. By sharing lessons from our evaluation experiences and surveillance cycles, we helped shape practical, risk-based approaches that safeguard integrity while

- improving efficiency for developing ABs.
- Sector-focused scope strategy: Building on Assembly debates, we will prioritize AfCFTA priority areas for high payoff by accreditation in the fields of—agri-food, mining services, medical laboratories, service.
- Capacity-building partnerships: In bilateral discussions, we aligned with UGANAS on assessor development and notes with our peers on emerging new schemes e.g, Proficiency Testing.
- For SADCAS clients and regulators, these steps mean fewer duplicative audits, clearer expectations and faster recognition of results across borders. For AFRAC, they reinforce the MRA as a trusted, competence-based mechanism that converts technical rigor into real trade facilitation.



From Left to Right – ARSO Secretary General, Dr. Hermogene Nsengimana, SOAC Director General, Marcel Gbaguidi, SADCAS CEO, Eve Gadzikwa, KENAS CEO, Dr. Walter Ongeti, NiNas CEO, Celestine Okanya, UGANAS Executive Director, Richard Musafiri

Insights that will shape the year ahead

Accreditation is a trade instrument and the Assembly in Entebbe placed accreditation squarely in the AfCFTA toolbox, enabling acceptance of conformity assessment across borders and lowering compliance costs—especially for SMEs.

Health is a priority use case therefore expanding ISO 15189 uptake and proficiency testing can yield immediate public-health and procurement benefits; assessor pipelines and NAFIP capacity are the accelerants.

AFRAC Office Bearers Elected From SADCAS

The AFRAC GA elected the following SADCAS personnel as Office Bearers:

- Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa as AFRAC Arrangement Member representative on the EXCO
- Mr Victor Mundembe as AFRAC TC Vice chair
- Mr Boniface Badubi as AFRAC Marketing & Communications Committee Vice Chair

Recommendations from Entebbe

1. Fast-track mutual recognition through accreditation especially in high-impact sectors like medical, agri-food, minerals, digital trust by synchronizing AFRAC and global arrangements to strip out duplicate conformity work.
2. Invest in capacity building using structured training to compress competence timelines in countries without national ABs.
3. Speak the value in numbers. Roll out a unified AFRAC policy brief and dashboard for ministries and regulators that quantifies time and cost savings from MRA reliance—and tracks accredited coverage by sector.

Entebbe reminded us that accreditation is the statement of trust underscored by competence, impartiality, consistency—carried across borders through robust MRAs. SADCAS departed with a clearer roadmap, stronger partnerships, and a deeper role in the AFRAC MRA—engaging our clients, regulators, and exporters will be core to our 2026 strategy!



Highlights of ILAC/IAF Annual Meetings



Group picture with newly elected inaugural Chair of the Global Accreditation Cooperation Mr Brahim Houla (Centre) from GCC Accreditation Centre.

The IAF/ILAC joint annual meetings took place in Bangkok, Thailand. The in-person meetings were held 15–24 October 2025. The 10 days meetings were the final joint annual meetings of IAF and ILAC while the organisations completed the transition into the new Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated. The Bangkok programme combined committee meetings, working-group sessions, strategic workshops and the General Assemblies that advanced the merger and set the technical work programme for the new organisation.

SADCAS participated at the 2025 meetings, represented by the CEO Ms Eve C Gadzikwa and the Technical Manager Ms Pinkie Malebe. The aim is to have the SADCAS representatives attend all the critical meetings priority being the areas that we offer accreditation in.



SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa representing SADCAS during the 2025 IAF-ILAC Joint Annual Meetings.



SADCAS Technical Manager, Mrs Pinkie Malebe attending sessions during 2025 IAF-ILAC Joint Annual Meeting



The SADCAS Technical Manager attended among other meetings, the ILAC AIC where she presented the SADCA report on behalf of the SADCA Chair Mr Robin Gopee, The ARC, Inspection Committee, the Joint Development Support Committee and other technical working group meetings.

ILAC AIC (Accreditation Committee)

The AIC meeting took place on 17 October 2025 with more than 100 participants. The two AIC working groups held in-person sessions alongside the main meeting (WG ISO/IEC 17025 and WG Metrology). The AIC Chair Dr Venkateswaran provided updates on all eleven AIC working groups and their sub-groups, and the meeting included technical discussions i.e. a detailed discussion on sampling as a laboratory activity and liaison updates for ISO/IEC 17025-related work. The WG ISO/IEC 17025 session held on 16 October was attended by close to 60 participants and focused on continuing alignment of accreditation practice with the standard and liaison engagement.

AIC also highlighted its recent outreach and knowledge products (for example webinars on ISO 16140-3 method verification earlier in 2025). Practically, the AIC discussions reinforced harmonisation of laboratory accreditation approaches (decision rules, sampling, method verification) and planned continued coordination under the new Global Accreditation Cooperation governance.

ILAC ARC (Arrangement Committee) – policy, outputs and handover

The Arrangement Committee (ARC), which steers the ILAC MRA/arrangement work, was a central technical governance group of ILAC. The joint meetings recognised the ARC's task-force outputs and agreed transitional arrangements to preserve and consolidate that technical expertise within the new Global Accreditation Cooperation structure. A joint resolution endorsed creating a new Task Force under the incoming organisation's Accreditation Committee that will bring together eligible members from the ILAC ARC and the IAF MLAC task forces to combine outputs and avoid duplication – with a goal to circulate a consolidated draft before the 2026 mid-term meeting. This approach ensures continuity of the MRA/arrangement work while

the institutional merger is completed.

The ARC also undertook a review and endorsement of technical guidance and outputs intended to support consistent application of the MRA across regions. This included planning for electronic ballots and task-force membership under the GAC (Global Accreditation Cooperation).

Inspection Committee – scheme development and inspection bodies

The Inspection Committee discussions addressed the accreditation of inspection bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020 and related schemes. The meetings progressed the “Conformity Assessment Scheme for Inspection Bodies” and associated guidance.

A status update on the revision of the ISO/IEC 17020:2012 and the changes to the standard were presented with anticipated publishing of the new standard in 2026. The GAC will issue transition policy which is anticipated to be 3 years.

Participants discussed practical assessment scenarios like methodologies for measurement verification and data transmission protocols used in national contexts such as water volume measurement) and how the scheme supports consistent accreditation and cross-border acceptance of inspection results. The outcome was stronger alignment of inspection-body accreditation practices and an agreed pathway to formalise scheme documentation for adoption by the incoming Global Accreditation Cooperation.

In Summary, the Bangkok meetings marked both a technical and institutional milestone: Technical committees (AIC, ARC and the Inspection Committee and the working groups) protected continuity of technical outputs—standards implementation guidance, scheme development and task-force deliverables—in preparation for continuity within the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated from 1 January 2026. The meetings combined high participation, targeted working-group technical work and governance decisions that preserve the value of ILAC's committee outputs under the new global structure.



Group picture after 2025 IAF-ILAC Joint Annual Meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand.

Highlights of the SADC Validation Workshop



Communications and Public Relations Officer- Boniface Badubi representing SADCAS at the SADC Validation Workshop.

SADC Secretariat held the SADC Validation Workshop on the 20th to 24th October 2025 in Sothern Sun Hotel OR Tambo, Johannesburg- South Africa. Representing SADCAS was Communications and Public Relations Officer- Boniface Badubi, on behalf of the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa. The workshop noted that 15 SADC Member States, representing ministries responsible for trade, standards bodies, metrology institutes, accreditation bodies, laboratory associations, and business associations were in attendance.

The workshop was coordinated by SADC Secretariat in collaboration with PTB Germany in reviewing the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Annex to SADC

Protocol on Trade and leading the development of the first SADC Quality Infrastructure Strategy.

The workshop focused on assessing the implementation of the TBT framework in the Member States in line with the TBT Annex as well as the current landscape of quality infrastructure development across the region.

A total of 16 resolution were passed and there was strong emphasis on ensuring alignment at regional, continental, and global levels, to aid in international coordination and representation of the SADC TBT Cooperation Structures and the SADC SQAM Unit within regional, continental, and global TBT/QI institutions.

NAFPs Holds 19th Annual Meeting



NAFPs from different member states pictured with the SADCAS CEO, Ms. Eve Christine Gadzikwa (far left in white) and Communications & PR Officer, Boniface Badubi (far right) after the 19th Annual NAFP Meeting.

The 17th National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) Annual meeting on the 20 November 2025 at Premier Hotel OR Tambo, Johannesburg, South Africa. The meeting was attended by ten (10) NAFPs from nine (9) Member States and two SADCAS staff: SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa and Communications and Public Relations Officers- Mr Boniface Badubi. National Accreditation Focal Points from Botswana (1), Eswatini (1), Madagascar (1), Malawi (1), Mozambique (1), Namibia (2), Seychelles (1), Zambia (1) and Zimbabwe (1) attended the meeting. The meeting was fully funded by SADCAS.

The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss challenges affecting NAFP's effectiveness, to exchange information and ideas to effectively promote accreditation and training courses in their member states and to agree on workable strategies to

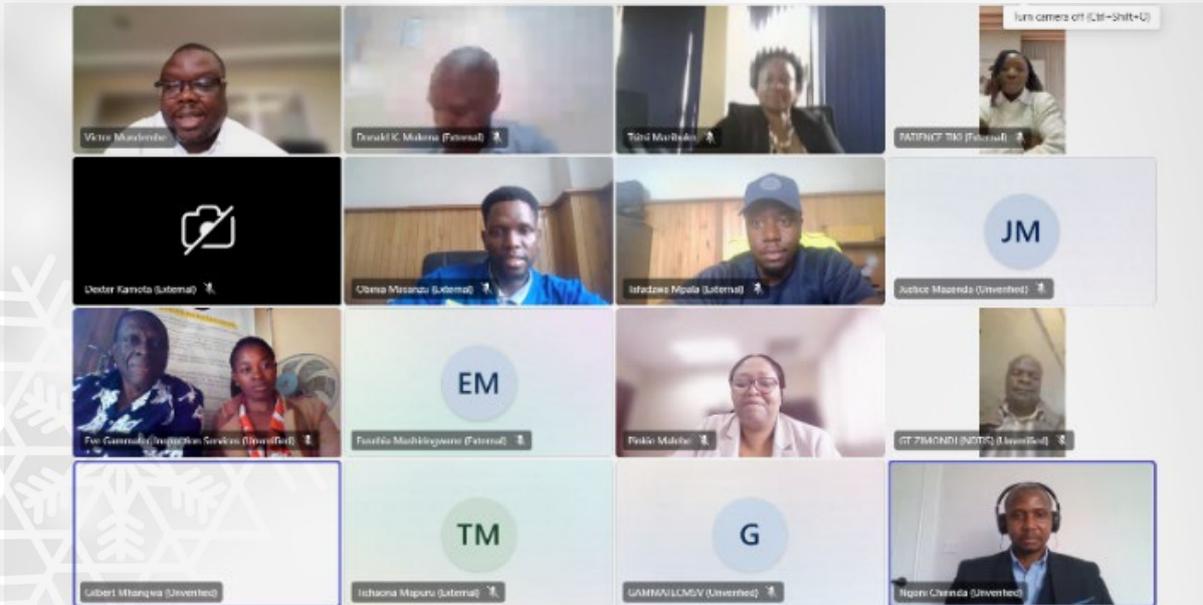
strengthen working relations between SADCAS and the NAFPs.

A total of eleven (11) resolutions were recorded during the meeting which was chaired by the SADCAS CEO, Ms Gadzikwa. The meeting was interactive and productive with NAFPs fully committing to step up their promotion and marketing of SADCAS in their respective member states, as well as fulfilling their commitment towards the sustainability of SADCAS.

NAFPs who are appointed by their respective governments are mainly responsible for the promotion of accreditation and marketing of SADCAS services within their respective countries. NAFPs are at the frontline of accreditation communication and marketing SADCAS service offering.



SADCAS HOLDS 2025 Advisory Committee Meetings

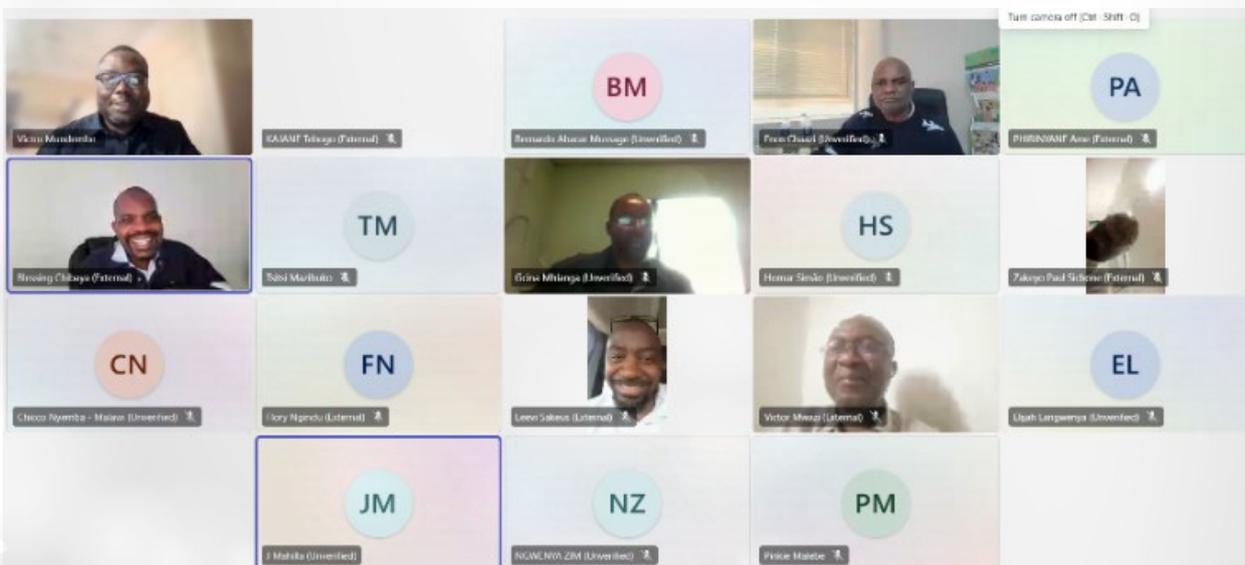


SADCAS held the full set of Advisory committee meetings as listed on Table 1.

The Advisory Committee is a fundamental and vital component of operating a technically relevant accreditation system. The role of the Advisory Committee is to provide technical guidance on all matters relating to accreditation within a specific field of expertise, to ensure technical integrity of the accreditation processes as well as to guide technical policy and provide important support in technical matters to the assessment process. SADCAS has clearly defined terms of reference, registration and responsibilities of Advisory Committees in procedure SADCAS AP 11.

- Developments at SADCAS
- Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees;
- Renewal of membership to the Advisory Committees
- Internal Audit (IAII findings) relating to Advisory Committee;
- Identifying, analysing, evaluating and monitoring risk (SADCAS BP06 2025–26 Risk Profile);
- Revised SADCAS documents;
- Developments at International Level;
- Technical documents under development or under revision;
- Identification of areas requiring technical supporting documents.

The main purpose of the Advisory Committee Meetings, as applicable, was to receive updates on:



Pictured during the meeting– AC.01 IBAS Zimbabwe, M.15, 2025–11–12



New Accreditations, Scope Extensions, Suspensions and Withdrawals from 1 July to 31 October 2025



Organizations	AAC Decision	ACCR No.	Accredited Areas
TESTING LABORATORIES			
OCC Lubumbashi, DRC	2025-08-18	TEST-5 0102	Chemical Testing of Minerals
SSM Kolwezi, DRC	2025-09-08	TEST-5 0103	Chemical Testing of Minerals
Botswana Medicines Reg Authority	2025-10-31	PHAR 007	Pharmaceutical Testing

MEDICAL LABORATORIES			
Hospital Carmelo de Chokwe - Mozambique	28/07/25	MED 186	Microbiology Molecular Biology Mycobacteriology
Bagamoyo District Hospital Laboratory - Tanzania	12/07/25	MED 192	Mycobacteriology Parasitology Serology
Lugalo Gen Military Hos Laboratory- Tanzania	15/07/25	MED 192	Molecular Biology Mycobacteriology Serology
St Joseph's Mission Hospital Laboratory - Tanzania	21/08/25	MED 194	Blood Bank Hematology Parasitology Mycobacteriology Serology
Military Hospital Mwanza Laboratory, Tanzania	24/08/25	MED 195	Molecular Biology



Organizations	AAC Decision	ACCR No.	Accredited Areas
Mkomaindo Hospital Laboratory, Tanzania	26/08/25	MED 196	Mycobacteriology Parasitology Serology Blood Bank
The Luke Commission, Eswatini	05/09/25	MED 197	Clinical Chemistry Haematology
Kibongoto Infectious Diseases Lab, Tanzania	18/09/25	MED 198	Blood Bank Haematology Mycobacteriology Parasitology Serology Molecular Biology Microbiology Clinical Chemistry
Mount Meru Regional Ref Lab, Tanzania	19/09/25	MED 199	Blood Bank Clinical Chemistry Haematology Immunology Microbiology Molecular Biology Mycobacteriology Parasitology Serology
Chanika Health Centre Laboratory, Tanzania	16/10/25	MED 200	Mycobacteriology Parasitology Serology

CALIBRATION LABORATORIES			
Goldair Technologies, Zimbabwe	2025/08/29	CAL-8 015	Mass Metrology
		CAL-9 007	Volume metrology
		CAL-14 012	Temperature Metrology
		CAL-15	Time & Frequency
Pangolim Prestacao de Servicos Lda, Angola	29/09/25	CAL-3 003	Electrical Metrology
		CAL-12 006	Pressure Metrology
		CAL-14 013	Temperature Metrology
		CAL-8 016	Mass Metrology
		CAL-9 008	Volume metrology
BEKL Lda, Angola	30/10/25	CAL-3 002	Electrical Metrology
		CAL-12 005	Pressure Metrology

INSPECTION BODIES			
Tanzania Bureau of Standards Inspection Body	15/10/25	INSP-1 005	Food Inspection
		INSP-12 002	Chemical related Products

SADCAS conducts ISO/IEC 1725:2017 Lead Auditor Training for Malawi Bureau of Standards



Participants and trainers after successful training on ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing for Lead Auditors

SADCAS conducted training for Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) supported by TradeMark Africa on ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing for Lead Auditors. The training was conducted from 20th to 24th October 2025 in Sun 'n' Sand Hotel in Mangochi, Malawi.

The training aimed to develop a pool of competent Lead Auditors within MBS capable of planning, conducting, reporting, and following up on internal audits in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017. It also sought to strengthen participants' understanding of ISO 19011:2018 (guidelines for auditing management systems) and ISO/IEC 17011:2017 (requirements for accreditation assessments).

The training was supported by TradeMark Africa (TMA), a leading African Aid-for-Trade organisation established in 2010 to promote inclusive trade-led growth across Africa. Operating on a not-for-profit basis, TMA works with regional and national institutions to enhance trade competitiveness, supported by multiple development partners including the EU, USA, UK, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Under the Malawi Trade and Investment Programme, TMA supports the strengthening of Malawi's National

Quality Infrastructure (NQI) to improve export competitiveness. A key component involves building capacity within the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) to maintain its international accreditation for microbiological and chemical testing of macadamia and other nuts. To this end, TMA supported a five-day ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Lead Auditor Training for MBS technical staff to enhance competence in internal auditing and ensure sustained compliance with accreditation requirements.

The training was facilitated by expert trainers from the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) Mr. Xavier Mugari and Mrs. Monica Peart. A total of 20 participants attended, representing key laboratory and quality management functions. The methodology combined classroom instruction, case studies, group discussions, exercises, and mock audits. Participants were continuously assessed through participation, group work, and a final competence examination.

For more information about SADCAS training courses visit <https://www.sadcas.org/training>

SADCAS conducts ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 training for University of Botswana



Participants after successful completion of the training with the trainer (in a blue suit), Mr. Benson Gabi.

SADCAS conducted training for University of Botswana on ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing from 03 to 07 November 2025 in Gaborone, Botswana. Seven participants from the Mechanical Engineering Department of the University of Botswana attended the in-house training which comprised of a professor, lecturers, chief technician and technicians.

The trainer highlighted that ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing objective was to impart knowledge and skills to develop and implement a compliant quality management system as well as to do internal audits.

The trainer went on to capture the participants' expectations which were linked to the recently established biodiesel laboratory.

The 5-day ISO/IEC 17025 requirements and internal auditing course is designed to promote a thorough understanding of ISO/IEC 17025 standard requirements and to impart internal auditing knowledge and skills to calibration/testing laboratories staff to monitor compliance with ISO/IEC 17025. The course covers the following main topics:

- Competence of a laboratory
- Structure of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard (New standard)
- Understanding ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard requirements
- Developing a suitable Quality Management System
- Understanding impartiality
- Basic understanding of method validation and uncertainty of measurement
- Basic understanding of process approach and risk-based thinking
- Internal auditing tools, techniques, and process
- Maintenance and improvement of a laboratory quality management system
- Accreditation process

For more information about ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing
<https://www.sadcas.org/isoiec-170252017-requirements-internal-auditing-five-days>



Amantle Ramokutsomo joins SADCAS as Finance and Administration Manager



**Amantle Ramokutsomo -
Finance and Administration Manager**

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Amantle Ramokutsomo as Finance and Administration Manager, effective October 2025.

Ms. Ramokutsomo brings over 15 years of extensive experience in financial leadership, strategic planning, and risk management. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting from Monash South Africa and is a Fellow Chartered Certified Accountant (FCCA) as well as a Fellow Certified Public Accountant (FCPA – BICA). Additionally, she has completed the Executive Development Programme at Wits Business School.

Her professional background spans senior finance roles with a strong focus on strategic financial management, external audit, and corporate governance. She has successfully led initiatives in financial reporting, and compliance with international standards, including IFRS.

Metlha Goleanye joins SADCAS as Training Administrator and Business Development Officer

SADCAS is pleased to announce the appointment of Metlha Goleanye as the Training & Business Development Officer, effective December 2025. Metlha brings a wealth of experience in marketing, business development, and client engagement.

Metlha holds a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing, a qualification that has supported his strong track record in developing market strategies, driving brand visibility, and building sustainable business relationships. His background equips him well to contribute meaningfully to SADCAS' mandate and to elevate the organization's presence across the SADC region.

In addition to his marketing and business development experience, Metlha has worked extensively in both the micro-lending sector and pension fund administration. These roles have enriched his understanding of financial services, customer needs, and operational processes further strengthening his ability to support diverse stakeholders and deliver impactful solutions.



**Metlha Goleanye - Training Administrator and
Business Development Officer**

The Year That Was: Highlights of SADCAS in 2025



SADCAS Staff celebrating Botswana Independence Holidays



SADCAS delegates at 16th AFRAC GA and Meetings in Uganda September 2025



CNAS Exchange Visit in Gaborone Botswana December 2025



Scheme Coordinator Testing earns PhD in Hydrology- Dr Varsha Gungoa



Ribbon cutting of the New Commissioned Server (sponsored by PTB Germany) by German Ambassador to Botswana, Ms Gabriela Bennermann with SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa (far right) and SADCAS ICT Officer, Mr Kitso Monnaatsie.



German government/ PTB delegation pictured with SADC Secretariat representatives alongside SADCAS management and staff.



SADCAS 19th NAFP Annual Meeting in November 2025

Invitation to Register Technical Experts – Prioritized Scopes

SADCAS invites experts with specific technical expertise in the newly introduced Medical Imaging Accreditation Scheme (MIAS) and any of the accreditation schemes currently offered by SADCAS to be registered as Technical Experts. A Technical Expert is a person assigned by SADCAS to an assessment team to provide specific knowledge or expertise within the scope of assessment. A Technical Expert works under the supervision of an experienced Team Leader or Technical Assessor.

The following specific areas will be prioritized;

- Technical Experts and Registered Assessors in PROFICIENCY TESTING**
- Technical Experts and Registered Assessors in DIGITAL FORENSICS**
- Technical Experts and Registered Assessors in PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION**

TECHNICAL EXPERTS WITH EXPERIENCE IN THE FOLLOWING;

- General Radiography
- Ultrasound (US)
- Mammography
- Computerised Tomography (CT)
- Interventional Radiography (IR)
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (NM)

 <p>Testing Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (TLAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forensic analysis • DNA Testing • Civil Engineering • Mechanical Engineering • Electrical Engineering • Radiation Dosimetry • Non-destructive Testing • Textile Testing • Petroleum Products Testing 	 <p>Medical Laboratories accreditation Scheme (MLAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Histopathology • Cytology • Parasitology • Endocrinology • Immunophenotyping • Blood Banking 	 <p>Veterinary Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (VLAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mycology • Parasitology • Helminthology • Protozoology • Histology • Cytology • Toxicology • Pathology 	 <p>Pharmaceutical Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (Under TLAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microbiology • Chemical • Toxicity • Medical Devices Testing
 <p>Certification Bodies Accreditation Scheme (CBAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product Certification • Personnel Certification • Food Safety Management Systems • HACCP • Environmental Management Systems • Quality Management Systems • PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION (ISO/IEC 17024) 	 <p>Legal Metrology Accreditation Scheme (LMAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verification • Repair and Maintenance • Inspection of Products for Sale • Quantity Control • Type Testing • OIML Certification Scheme • Certification of Verifiers • Certification of Repairers 	 <p>Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (CLAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viscosity • Electrical – DC low frequency • Electrical RF • Fibre Optics • Force/ Hardness/ Torque • Flow • Humidity • Radio Activity • Photometry • Radio frequency • Time and frequency • Wind speed • Acoustics and Vibration • Radiation Dosimetry Metrology 	

Technical experts from private and public sectors as well as from technical institutions are invited to apply by completing SADCAS F 26: SADCAS Assessor/Technical Expert Information Record which can be downloaded from the SADCAS website link: [http://Microsoft Word - SADCAS F 26 - SADCAS Assessors-Technical Experts Information Record \[Issue 5\]](http://Microsoft Word - SADCAS F 26 - SADCAS Assessors-Technical Experts Information Record [Issue 5])

SADCAS will review and evaluate all applications received to ensure that the experts have the requisite qualifications, technical knowledge and experience required by SADCAS.

- Minimum Diploma qualification
- Experience as an Assessor from a recognized Accreditation Body
- Experience working in a Conformity Assessment Body
- Assessor training
- Training on applicable Accreditation Standards
- Experience in conducting internal audits

Applications shall be addressed to:
 Mrs Pinkie Malebe SADCAS – Technical Manager
 Email: pmalebe@sadcas.org; info@sadcas.org



Training Calendar for the period –01 January 2026 to 31 March 2026



No.	Course	Date(s)	Venue (Country/City)	Fees Per Person (BWP)	Fees Per Person (USD)
1	ISO/IEC 17020:2012 Requirements & Internal Auditing	19–23 January 2026	Virtual	7,800.00	585.00
2	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing	09–13 February 2026	Virtual	7,800.00	585.00
3	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements & Internal Auditing	16–20 February 2026	Virtual	7,800.00	585.00
4	Root Cause Analysis	25–27 February 2026	Virtual	4,700.00	350.00
5	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing	09–13 March 2026	Virtual	7,800.00	585.00
6	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing	16–20 March 2026	Virtual	7,800.00	585.00
7	Method Validation, Verification & Measurement Uncertainty	23–27 March 2026	Virtual	8,000.00	600.00

- Discounts available for group bookings
- Face-to-face training available on request (minimum of 10 participants)

For more information, please contact SADCAS Training Administrator & Business Development Officer: mgoleanye@sadcas.org / info@sadcas.org

The Business Benefits of Standards and Accreditation

There are many cases where standards and accredited conformity assessment help businesses of any size and sector reduce costs, increase productivity and access new markets. They can help to:

- Build customer confidence that your products are safe and reliable;
- Meet regulation requirements, at a lower cost;
- Reduce costs across all aspects of your business; and
- Gain market access across the world.

Business Benefits www.business-benefits.org is a website jointly developed by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), ILAC, International Organization for Standards (ISO), Independent International Organisation for Certification (IIOC), and International Certification Network (IQNet), that showcases these benefits through case studies, research papers, and supporting materials. The examples published on the site cite tangible financial data to evidence the cost savings achieved whether through resource efficiency or meeting regulation at lower cost, the value of accessing new markets, or savings achieved through recognition from organisations such as insurers, regulators or purchasers. The site contains case studies from multinationals such as IBM, Chrysler, and Hitachi to national companies such as Aberdare Cables and Pretoria Portland Cement Company.



The site was launched in October 2017 at the ILAC and IAF conference in Vancouver. Additional case studies will be added in due course to ensure that the site can be a valuable resource to promote the use of standards and accreditation to the business community. The site aims to mirror the success of Public Sector Assurance, a similar site that promotes the value of accreditation to policy makers.

14 SADC MEMBER STATES SERVICED BY SADCAS

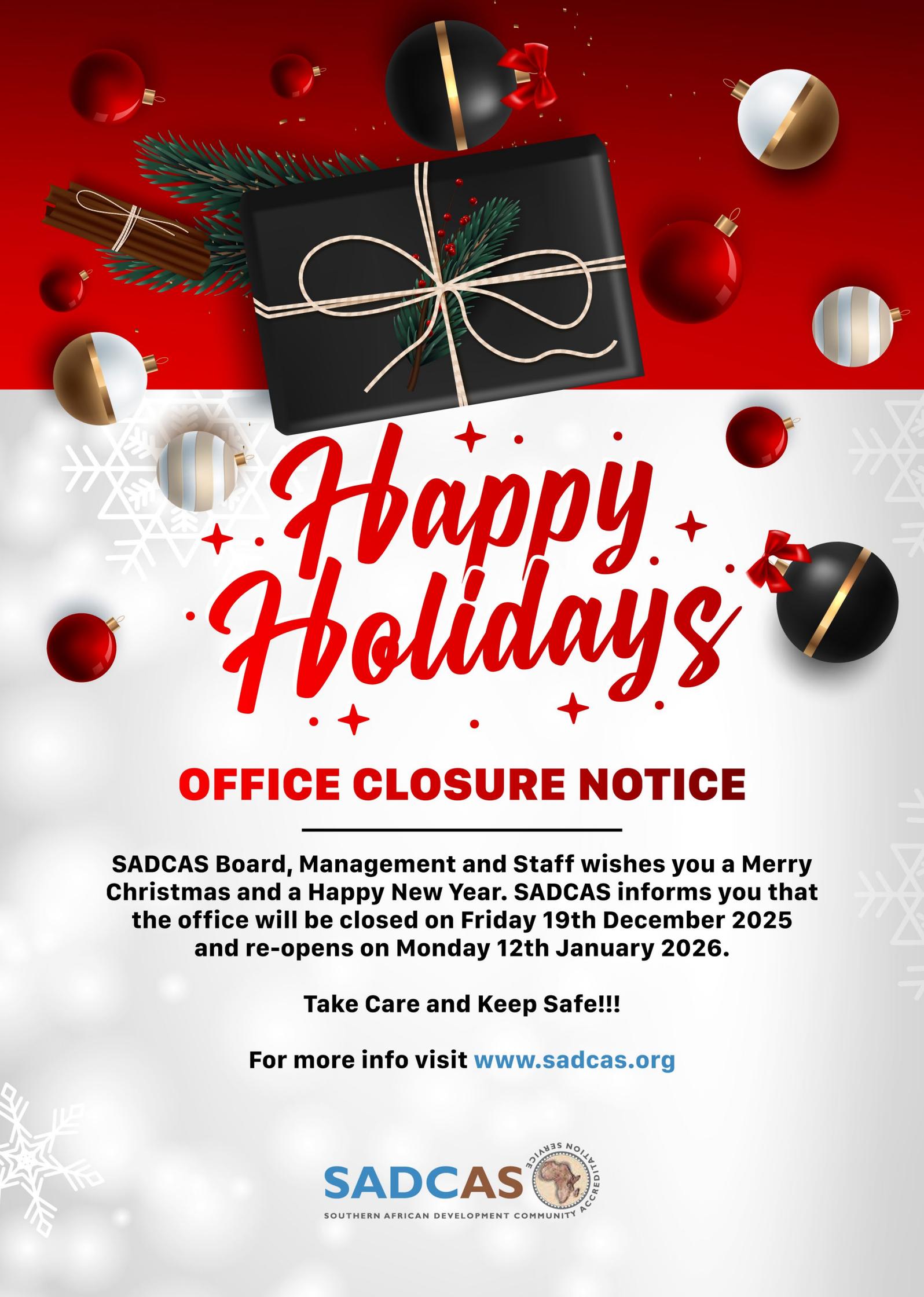
- ANGOLA 
- BOTSWANA 
- COMOROS 
- DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC
OF CONGO 
- ESWATINI 
- LESOTHO 
- MADAGASCAR 
- MALAWI 
- MOZAMBIQUE 
- NAMIBIA 
- SEYCHELLES 
- TANZANIA 
- ZIMBABWE 
- ZAMBIA 



SADCAS provides accreditation services and offers training in accreditation-related courses to 14 SADC Member States. The organization continues to expand its reach in terms of accreditation scope, sectoral coverage, and geographical diversity, now serving countries such as Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Mauritius. Additionally, SADCAS is now able to process applications in all three official SADC languages: English, French, and Portuguese.

For more information, visit www.sadcas.org





**Happy
Holidays**

OFFICE CLOSURE NOTICE

SADCAS Board, Management and Staff wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. SADCAS informs you that the office will be closed on Friday 19th December 2025 and re-opens on Monday 12th January 2026.

Take Care and Keep Safe!!!

For more info visit www.sadcas.org