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**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC
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**SOUTHERN AFRICA
DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY**

**Distr.
LIMITED**

**ECA/SA/E-SADC/2009/1
October 2009**

**e- SADC Launch Meeting
05 – 06 October 2009**

**Gaborone International Conference Centre (GICC)
Gaborone, Botswana**

DRAFT AGENDA

DAY 1 – 05 OCTOBER 2009

8:30 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 10:00 Opening Session

Chairperson: **SADC**

Welcoming remarks - SADC

Opening Remarks:

Representative of UNECA

Representative of OSISA

Representative of the Government of Botswana

Chairperson:

10:00 - 12:30 Session I: Setting the Scene

Session I will address to the process towards the development of the e-SADC initiative and will also examine the status of ICT development in SADC, review the current ICT development strategy and take stock of ongoing initiatives at the national and regional levels.

10:00 – 10:20 The e-SADC Initiative - a framework for the implementation of the Information Society in the sub region (ECA):

10:20 – 10:35 *Coffee Break*

10:35 – 11:00 ICT challenges to enhance socio-economic development and regional integration within SADC (SADC)

11:00 - 11:20 The ICT status from a national perspective (Ministry of ICT – Botswana)

11:20 - 11:40 Overview of Southern Africa Telecommunications Association (SATA) initiatives (SATA)

11:40 - 12:00 NEPAD ICT Broadband Infrastructure Programme (NEPAD, e-Africa Commission)

12:00 – 12:30 Q&A

12:30 - 14:00 *Lunch break*

Chairperson:

14:00 - 17:00 Session II: Introducing the consultants and presentation of inception report

Session II will review the consultants' inception report and findings of Phase I, which will include the following issues:

- *The status of e-Readiness and e-Strategies of SADC member States*
 - *The legal and regulatory environment*
 - *Benchmarked best practice e-Strategies*
 - *Opportunities and constraints that need to be addressed in deployment of ICTs to address initiatives such as the MDGs, PRSAP, WSIS, etc*
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15:45 – 16:00 *Coffee Break*

16:00: 1700 Session II contd

DAY 2 – 06 OCTOBER 2009

9:00 - 10:00 Discussions on Session II and interventions by member States

10:20 – 10:35 *Coffee Break*

Chairperson:

10:35 - 11:15 Session III: Measuring the impact of ICT usage (Botswana National Statistics Office (NSO))

This session will provide insights into the measurement of the economic impact of ICT use in order to provide policymakers with better tools to design monitor and evaluate their ICT strategies. In the context of the national ICT strategies, the NSO's would be tasked with the collection of data on ICT use through annual ICT surveys of the various

sectors, household surveys and surveys of specific industries such as manufacturing and services.

11:15 – 1230 Session IV: Fostering partnerships for strategy implementation (Partners)

Financing of ICT for development needs to be placed in the context of the growing importance of the role of ICTs, not only as a medium of communication, but also as a development enabler and as a tool for the achievement of the development goals of the Millennium Declaration. Financial resources will be required to address challenges of implementing the action plan. Session IV will review partnerships for financing and implementing the SADC e-strategy and enhancing the participation of private sector, civil society, academia and media in the process.

14:00 Session V: Wrap-Up, Recommendations and the Way Forward

The final session will review some of the main findings from the event, and elaborate recommendations for future activities and whilst also focusing on prioritisation of activities based on the discussions of the two previous days.

14:30 Closing Remarks by ECA & Partners