



E/ECA-SA/ICSOE.XXVIII/2022/Info.3

Twenty-eighth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICSOE) of Southern Africa

26 – 27 October 2022 Maputo, Mozambique

# **Information Note**



Aerial view of Maputo



# 1. INTRODUCTION

Mozambique was elected Vice Chairman of the 27<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICSOE) of Southern Africa in October 2021 and will host the 28<sup>th</sup> ICSOE. She will take over the Chairmanship of the ICSOE from Malawi, the current Chair. This note provides all the Administrative and Country information you may need for your stay in Mozambique for the 28<sup>th</sup> ICSOE.

Mozambique gained her independence from Portugal in 1975. It is a southern African nation located in south eastern Africa bordered by the Indian Ocean to the east, Tanzania to the north, Malawi and Zambia to the northwest, Zimbabwe to the west, and Eswatini and South Africa to the southwest. It is approximately 801,537 km<sup>2</sup> in size. Maputo is its largest city and the Capital. Although much of the population speaks native languages such as Tsonga, Makhuwa, Sena and Swahili, Portuguese is the official language with some English also spoken. The population of Mozambique is estimated to be just over 32,000,000. Most of Mozambique's population is ethnically Bantu.

Mozambique's long Indian Ocean coastline is dotted with popular beaches like Tofo, as well as offshore marine parks. In the Quirimbas Archipelago, a 250km stretch of coral islands, mangrovecovered Ibo Island has colonial-era ruins surviving from a period of Portuguese rule. The Bazaruto Archipelago farther south has reefs which protect rare marine life including dugongs.

Maputo, the capital of the country, has a lot to offer to its visitors, from good gastronomy and visits to historic sites and markets where you can buy souvenirs and any item you may need for Mozambique remembrance.

If you are an enthusiast about wildlife, you can visit the Maputo Elephant Reserve which is a vital natural resource because of its varied plant and animal population and its advantageous location close to the nation's capital. The region is a home to many lakes that are known for their gorgeous appearance. The breathtaking scenery and abundant native animals make it an absolute must to pay a visit to this locale.

Further information on Mozambique is available from the following websites: <u>https://www.turismomocambique.co.mz/</u> <u>https://www.quintrip.co.za/blog/mozambique-packages/city-break-what-to-do-and-see-in-</u> maputo-mozambique

### 2. DATE AND VENUE

The 28<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICSOE) of Southern Africa Meeting on the theme "*Greening Industrialization in Southern Africa through trade, digitalization, infrastructure development and regional integration: leveraging AfCFTA* 



*implementation,"* will take place at the Centro Internacional de Conferências Joaquim Chissano, Avenida da Marginal, 4441, Maputo, on 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022. It will be preceded by an Ad hoc Expert Group Meeting (AEGM) on the same theme on 24<sup>th October</sup> 2022.

## 3. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Mozambique immigration regulations require that all the delegates entering the country be in possession of a valid passport or travel document. Nationals of SADC member States do not require entry visa. Those who hold passports from other countries including the U.S.; the U.K. and Europe need a visa. The Secretariat, through the host government will make arrangements for visa on arrival for non-SADC nationals. Delegates are required to share copies of their passport bio-page for this purpose to eca-dsrdcsa@un.org by 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

## 4. HEALTH REQUIREMENT

A valid Covid-19 vaccination certificate or a negative covid-19 PCR test certificate less than 72 hours old is required for entry.

### 5. ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

ECA SRO-SA, through the hosting Government, will provide all transport logistics for all delegates and participants from the International Airport to the hotels. There will be protocol officers with clear identification available at the airport to assist all delegates and participants with immigration, and customs clearance.

Delegates from Eswatini wishing to drive to Maputo can use the Lomahasha/Namaacha border post which is open from 06.00 to 18.00hrs.

# 6. HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation for all **sponsored participants has been reserved and will be paid for by UNECA-SA** at AFECC Gloria Hotels, Avenida da Marginal, 4441, Maputo, Tel: +258 21 266676, Email: <u>Daisy.shi@gloriahotels.com</u>; Web: maputo-grand.gloriahotels.com; https://gloriahotel.co.mz

Self-sponsored participants may stay at a hotel of their choice. Should they wish to stay at the Gloria Hotel, UNECA-SA can make a booking for them. The negotiated rate is \$100 per person, bed and breakfast. The meeting venue, Centro Internacional de Conferências Joaquim Chissano, is within 3 minutes walking distance from the hotel. Information on other hotels close to the meeting venue can be found at <u>www.tripadvisor.com</u>.



## 7. DAILY SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE (DSA)

Accommodation (bed and breakfast) for sponsored participants will be paid for by UNECA-SA. The residual DSA, at the prevailing UN rate, will be issued to participants with which they should settle their dinner bills and <u>all</u> other incidental costs.

## 8. CURRENCY AND BANKING

The metical is the currency of Mozambique, abbreviated with the symbol MZN or MT. It is nominally divided into 100 centavos. As of Monday,  $3^{rd}$  October 2022, the exchange rate for the US dollar to the Metical was 1\$US = 63,25 MZN. All major currencies are exchangeable in Mozambique, and credit and debit cards can be used in most businesses. Business hours for banks and shops are: 8:00-15:30 hrs and 8:00 -18:00/19:00hrs. Government Offices open from 7:30 am and close at 3:30 pm, from Monday to Friday

### 9. CONTACT INFORMATION:

### Mozambican Government:

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