



## **PROTOCOL ON STATISTICS**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREAMBLE		3
ARTICLE 1	DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS	5
ARTICLE 2	OBJECTIVES OF THE PROTOCOL	9
ARTICLE 3	GUIDING PRINCIPLES	10
ARTICLE 4	STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS	11
ARTICLE 5	LEGISLATIVE MEASURES	12
ARTICLE 6	DATA SOURCES AND COLLECTION TECHNIQUES	12
ARTICLE 7	INNOVATIVE DATA SOURCES	13
ARTICLE 8	METHODOLOGICAL ADHERANCE	13
ARTICLE 9	GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM	13
ARTICLE 10	DATA DISAGGREGATION	14
ARTICLE 11	POVERTY STATISTICS	14
ARTICLE 12	INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS	14
ARTICLE 13	MINING STATISTICS	15
ARTICLE 14	MACROECONOMIC CONVERGENCE AND FINANCE STATISTICS	15
ARTICLE 15	TRADE STATISTICS	16
ARTICLE 16	INFRASTRUCTURE STATISTICS	17
ARTICLE 17	ENERGY STATISTICS	17
ARTICLE 18	AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY STATISTICS	18
ARTICLE 19	ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION STATISTICS	19
ARTICLE 20	TOURISM STATISTICS	20
ARTICLE 21	DEMOGRAPHY, HEALTH AND EDUCATION STATISTICS	20

ARTICLE 22	EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR STATISTICS	20
ARTICLE 23	GOVERNANCE STATISTICS	21
ARTICLE 24	SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION STATISTICS	21
ARTICLE 25	GENDER STATISTICS	22
ARTICLE 26	DATA QUALITY	22
ARTICLE 27	DATA TRANSMISSION	22
ARTICLE 28	DATA DISSEMINATION	23
ARTICLE 29	DATA SECURITY	23
ARTICLE 30	IMPLEMENTATION	23
ARTICLE 31	INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS	24
ARTICLE 32	FINANCIAL PROVISIONS	25
ARTICLE 33	RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER STATES AND ORGANISATIONS	25
ARTICLE 34	SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES	26
ARTICLE 35	SIGNATURE	26
ARTICLE 36	RATIFICATION OF PROTOCOL	26
ARTICLE 37	ENTRY INTO FORCE	26
ARTICLE 38	ACCESSION	27
ARTICLE 39	DEPOSITORY	27
ARTICLE 40	AMENDMENT	27
ARTICLE 41	WITHDRAWAL	27

## **PREAMBLE**

**WE**, the Heads of State or Government of:

The Republic of Angola  
The Republic of Botswana  
The Union of Comoros  
The Democratic Republic of Congo  
The Kingdom of Eswatini  
The Kingdom of Lesotho  
The Republic of Madagascar  
The Republic of Malawi  
The Republic of Mauritius  
The Republic of Mozambique  
The Republic of Namibia  
The Republic of Seychelles  
The Republic of South Africa  
The United Republic of Tanzania  
The Republic of Zambia  
The Republic of Zimbabwe

**RECOGNISING** the United Nations (UN) General Assembly resolution 68/261 of 29 January 2014, endorsing the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (UNFPOS) which lays down the values and principles that govern statistical work;

**NOTING** the various international frameworks for providing strategic directions and appropriate mechanisms for guiding and accelerating the development of sustainable statistical capacity to meet data challenges;

**BEARING IN MIND** Member States commitment towards adherence to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) standards for data dissemination and the statistical methodological standards regarding the data quality assessment framework for compliance to ensure harmonisation of statistics;

**RECALLING** that the African Charter on Statistics (ACS) adopted by the Twelfth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Member States of the African Union in February 2009 and the second Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA II) adopted by the Thirty-Second Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union in January 2018, are the guiding frameworks to achieve the vision of the African Statistical System to generate timely, reliable, and harmonised Statistical Information, covering all aspects of political, economic, social, and cultural integration for Africa, as embedded in Agenda 2063;

**REALISING** that Article 14 (1) (j) of the Treaty establishing the Southern African Development Community (SADC) places collation and dissemination of information and maintenance of a reliable database as one of the principle areas of responsibility of the SADC Secretariat;

**NOTING** that Article 22 of the Treaty expressly provides for the conclusion of Protocols as may be necessary in each area of cooperation within the Community;

**REALISING** that Statistics are important for monitoring progress of socio- economic development, with creation of wealth and employment, reduction of poverty and setting them on a sustainable growth path while achieving a high degree of harmonisation and rationalisation to enable pooling of resources for collective self-reliance in order to improve standards of living;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the SADC Vision 2050 aspires policy decisions to be based on reliable data through realisation of a robust and responsive regional statistical system to underpin regional integration processes, including measurement of progress;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan of 2020 – 30 emphasises Statistics as an important crosscutting issue and as one of the priority intervention areas of regional integration;

**NOTING** that the SADC Regional Strategy for Development of Statistics (RSDS) is the main guiding framework for regional statistical development in SADC to support regional integration with reliable harmonised regional statistical indicators for evidence-based decision making;

**RECOGNISING** that availability of reliable, timely, relevant, quality and harmonised statistics is also important for monitoring observance of macroeconomic convergence criteria and planning, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of SADC programmes and protocols;

**REALISING** that the successful implementation of this Protocol is dependent upon effective implementation of Member States' commitments under other SADC protocols, policies and strategies impacting on statistical development; and

**RESOLVED** to put in place a legal framework for statistics development in the SADC Region.

**ACTING** on the recommendations of Council of Ministers,

**HEREBY** agree as follows:

## **ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

### **1.1. DEFINITIONS**

In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires, a word defined in the SADC Treaty shall have the same meaning, and:

“Big Data”	means data sources that can be described as high volume, velocity and variety of data that demand cost- effective, innovative forms of processing for enhanced insight and decision making;
“Council of Ministers”	means the SADC Council of Ministers established by Article 9 (1) of the Treaty;
“Community”	means the Southern African Development Community;
“Economic territory”	means the geographic territory administered by a government where persons, goods, and capital circulate freely;
“Energy Balances”	means an accounting framework for the compilation and reconciliation of data on all energy products entering, exiting and used within the national territory of a given country during a reference period;
“Executive Secretary”	means the Executive Secretary of SADC appointed under Article 10 (7) of the Treaty;
“Financial Inclusion”	means individuals and businesses access to useful and affordable financial products and services that meet their needs in terms of transactions, payments, savings, credit and insurance and delivered in a responsible and sustainable way;
“Food Balance Sheet”	means the pattern of a country's food supply and utilisation during a specified reference period;
“Foreign Affiliate”	means an enterprise resident in a country which is under the control of an institutional unit not resident in the same country;

“Gender Parity”	means the relative equality in terms of numbers and proportions of women and men, girls and boys for indicators such as income, education and employment;
“Geospatial information”	means the integration of all the digital data that have a location component;
“Harmonisation”	means making statistics more comparable, consistent and coherent thus improving efficiency and enabling users to draw more value from statistics;
“Informal Sector”	means unregistered private production units that operate on a small scale and at a low level of organisation, with little or no division between labour and capital as factors of production, and with the primary objective of generating income and employment for the persons concerned;
“Metadata”	means information that defines and describes data;
“Microdata”	means information at the level of individual respondents including individuals, households or establishments collected in a census, survey or experiment;
“National Statistical System”	means the combination of statistical organisations and units within a country that jointly collect, process and disseminate official statistics on behalf of a national government;
“Official Statistics”	means the statistical information produced and disseminated in accordance with the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics by Statistics Authorities and any other approved organisations in the National Statistical System and available publicly, freely or at relatively low cost;
“Protocol”	means this Protocol and any amendments thereto;
“Region”	means the geographical area of the Member States of SADC;

<b>“SADC Regional Statistical System”</b>	means the cooperation between and among the SADC Secretariat through the Statistics Unit and the National Statistical System of SADC Member States responsible in each Member State for the development, production and dissemination of official statistics
<b>“SADC Statistics Committee”</b>	means the Committee referred to in Article 31 of this Protocol;
<b>“SADC Tribunal”</b>	means the Tribunal established under Article 16 of the Treaty;
<b>“Sampling”</b>	means the process of scientifically selecting a number of cases from all the cases in a particular population;
<b>“Standard”</b>	means a set of rules used to standardise the way data is collected and statistics are produced;
<b>“State Party”</b>	means a Member State that is a party to this Protocol;
<b>“Statistical Advocacy”</b>	means taking proactive measures to create awareness about the importance of statistics to society, greater demand for data for policy, planning and decision-making and secure resources for statistical production and development;
<b>“Statistical Business Register”</b>	means a register of businesses with attributes developed in response to an administrative or statistical regulation, identifying the units subject to the regulation, that is created and maintained for statistical purposes;
<b>“Statistical Information”</b>	means any organized quantitative and /or qualitative information obtained from statistical data either from census, surveys, administrative sources, and other secondary sources, that facilitate understanding of economic, political, demographic, social, environmental and cultural trends, and of gender and governance related issues;
<b>“Statistics”</b>	means aggregated data required for production of organised statistical information;



“System of National Accounts”	means the internationally agreed standard set of recommendations on how to compile measures of economic activity in accordance with established accounting conventions based on economic principles;
“Tourism Satellite Account”	means the standard statistical framework and the main tool for the economic measurement of tourism; and
“Treaty”	means the Treaty establishing the Southern African Development Community.

## 1.2. ABBREVIATIONS

In this Protocol, unless the context otherwise requires-

“ACS”	means African Charter on Statistics;
“AUC”	means African Union Commission;
“FDI”	means Foreign Direct Investment;
“GBV”	means Gender Based Violence;
“ILO”	means International Labour Organisation;
“IMF”	means International Monetary Fund;
“MPI”	means Multidimensional Poverty Index;
“NSDS”	means National Strategy for the Development of Statistics;
“NSS”	means National Statistical System;
“OECD”	means Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development;

“RSDS”	means Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics;
“SADC”	means the Southern African Development Community established by Article 2 of the Treaty;
“SHaSA II”	means Second Strategy for Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa;
“UN”	means United Nations;
“UNFPOS”	means United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;
“UNSC”	means United Nations Statistical Commission; and
“TSA”	means Tourism Satellite Account.

## **ARTICLE 2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROTOCOL**

The objectives of this Protocol are to:

- (a) serve as a legal framework for enabling and enhancing statistical development and innovation in the Region;
- (b) promote a culture whereby policy, planning, decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of development processes at every level are informed and driven by good quality statistics;
- (c) strengthen harmonisation of compilation and dissemination of official statistics in State Parties in order to make them relevant, timely and reliable for the purpose of assessing and measuring progress of regional integration in the Region;
- (d) ensure harmonisation of standards and methodologies as per international best practices for production and dissemination of national and regional statistics;
- (e) serve as an advocacy instrument for statistical development and usage in the region;
- (f) enhance cooperation and collaboration between key stakeholders of the National Statistical System (NSS) on statistical matters;

- (g) to ensure alignment of the goals of national statistical strategies to regional, continental and international statistical strategies for the development of statistics;
- (h) provide a framework for enforcing compliance on minimum standards on quality and transmission of statistics in standardised formats; and
- (i) serve as an instrument for undertaking resource mobilisation and capacity building to implement national and regional statistical programmes.

### **ARTICLE 3 GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

In implementing this Protocol, State Parties shall co-operate in good faith and shall be guided by, and give effect to, the following principles:

- (a) State Parties shall undertake statistical advocacy to create awareness about the importance of statistics to national development, increase data sharing, use and for increasing funding towards undertaking of statistical activities.
- (b) State Parties shall implement necessary procedures in their regular activities to ensure that the needs of users and producers of statistics are met for official statistics to be relevant to facilitate easy and correct use.
- (c) State Parties shall ensure that official statistics are compiled and disseminated based on professional independence, standards and ethics determined only by statistical considerations, free from bias and political interference, and all users having equal access to Statistical Information.
- (d) State Parties shall use transparent procedures and present information according to professional scientific standards on the sources, methods and procedures of statistics to build and maintain public trust and robustness in credibility of statistics.
- (e) State Parties shall design and implement procedures on statistical standards, methodologies and guidelines for accessibility of information to ensure transparency and accountability for evidence-based decision making.
- (f) State Parties shall put in place and implement measures to comment on and respond to erroneous presentation, interpretation and misuse of statistics to maintain trust and thereby improving the use of statistics.
- (g) State Parties shall choose data sources with regard to quality, timeliness, costs and the burden on respondents to produce official statistics.
- (h) State Parties shall ensure confidentiality of individual data collected by statistical agencies and used exclusively for statistical purposes.

- (i) State Parties shall disseminate to the public, laws, regulations and measures under which the statistical system is to operate for maintaining the trust of the providers of information and the credibility of the statistics produced.
- (j) State Parties shall coordinate statistical activities among their national statistical systems to avoid duplication of work, minimise reporting burden of respondents and integrate data from different sources to maintain consistency and efficiency in their statistical systems.
- (k) State Parties shall use international common statistical standards for production and dissemination of comparable statistics.
- (l) State Parties shall foster international cooperation through bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics so as to contribute to the improvement of systems of official statistics in the Region.

#### **ARTICLE 4 STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall design and update their National Strategies for Development of Statistics (NSDS) in line with their national development programmes to address the data needs responsive to new challenges and aligned to the goals of:
  - (a) the SADC RSDS for production of regional statistics to monitor regional integration in the Region;
  - (b) the SHaSA to produce harmonised statistics for monitoring the implementation of African Union Agenda 2063; and
  - (c) the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its 48th Session in March 2017, for producing statistics to monitor implementation of global developmental agendas.
2. State Parties shall develop and integrate an advocacy strategy in their NSDS with objectives and activities aligned to national and regional development policies to improve awareness and use of statistics to support development agendas.
3. State Parties shall develop and implement a results-based monitoring and evaluation framework to measure and evaluate the impact of their NSDS towards serving national and regional policy needs.

## **ARTICLE 5 LEGISLATIVE MEASURES**

State Parties shall put in place legislative measures to ensure the implementation of the provisions of this Protocol.

## **ARTICLE 6 DATA SOURCES AND COLLECTION TECHNIQUES**

1. State Parties shall collect household-based and enterprise-based information for compilation of official statistics in both formal and informal sectors of their economies using a combination of data collection instruments and applying scientific statistical estimation techniques to serve national, regional, continental and global data needs.
2. For purpose of paragraph 1, State Parties shall implement appropriate survey design methodologies, traditional or modern data collection techniques, sampling procedures and Geospatial Information system, to conduct:
  - (a) population, housing and agricultural censuses at intervals of at most every 10 years;
  - (b) economic census, household expenditure surveys, agricultural cost of production, energy consumption, demographic, health, education, Informal Sector, labour force, living standards and any other surveys at most every 3-5 years;
  - (c) annual and quarterly enterprise-based surveys on economic parameters of the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of their Economic Territory; and
  - (d) multi-purpose household surveys annually to capture socio-economic characteristics of their economies.
3. State Parties shall:
  - (a) establish institutional arrangements within their NSS to prioritise development and implementation of guidelines for production and dissemination of Official Statistics from administrative data sources;
  - (b) develop partnerships with public and private sector organisations through legal and institutional instruments to access their data holdings to enable efficient and evidence-based decision making for sustainable development; and

- (c) prioritise the development, implementation and maintenance of Statistical Business Register to harmonise survey frames and administrative data collection for formal and Informal Sector.

## **ARTICLE 7 INNOVATIVE DATA SOURCES**

1. State Parties shall set up governance and institutional frameworks to develop a mechanism with specific guidelines for use of data from alternative and innovative sources including Big Data to allow NSSs meet increasing and evolving data demands for monitoring and measuring progress of development agendas.
2. State Parties shall facilitate the application of new and emerging interoperable open source technologies and innovative data sources into mainstream statistical activities for official data collection, dissemination and analysis.

## **ARTICLE 8 METHODOLOGICAL ADHERANCE**

State Parties shall implement recommendations of latest manuals and guidelines on statistical methodologies, classifications, standards, concepts and definitions as endorsed by the UNSC in respective statistical domains.

## **ARTICLE 9 GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**

1. State Parties shall put in place legislative measures on accessibility of spatial information for statistical needs and set up institutional arrangements with providers of geospatial data to develop a statistical spatial framework for collection and analysis of data for national, regional and global agenda data needs.
2. State Parties shall, through their respective coordinating authorities of the NSS, establish a national spatial data infrastructure, define and promote interoperability between statistical and spatial data infrastructure to support cartographic work for census and survey planning operations.

**ARTICLE 10  
DATA DISAGGREGATION**

State Parties shall design their data collection methods for production and dissemination of official statistics disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant to national context to measure progress of national development and regional integration in the Region.

**ARTICLE 11  
POVERTY STATISTICS**

State Parties shall produce and disseminate Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) by gender and age in accordance with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Handbook on How to Build a National MPI built with dimensions of health, education, standard of living and other dimensions tailored to their national priorities, as a common regional methodological framework to produce national and regional poverty statistics.

**ARTICLE 12  
INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall develop statistics on industrial sector and manufacturing related services to generate relevant annual statistical indicators to facilitate the monitoring and measuring of progress on the implementation of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and the related strategies at national level.
2. For purpose of paragraph 1, State Parties shall:
  - (a) adapt the UN International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics to national priorities to define, in particular, the scope of industrial statistics and criteria for classifying industries as micro, small, medium and large enterprises;
  - (b) produce and disseminate industrial sector indicators such as: index of industrial production, producer price index, employment, compensation of employees, output, value added, investment, intellectual property, productivity and environmental expenditures to measure the performance of the industrial sector in the Region;

- (c) produce specialised national accounts statistical tables such as supply–use tables, input-output tables and social accounting matrices to evaluate participation in industrialisation within the Region.

### **ARTICLE 13 MINING STATISTICS**

State Parties shall set up collaborative arrangements with institutions involved in mining sector to develop and maintain a mineral resource statistics database with annual data on production, trade and prices of minerals.

### **ARTICLE 14 MACROECONOMIC CONVERGENCE AND FINANCE STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall produce and disseminate monthly, quarterly and annual macroeconomic statistics using common methodological standards and statistical classifications to monitor and measure the progress of SADC macroeconomic convergence programme and financial policies, in particular, implementation of the recommendations of the following international manuals and guidelines:
  - (a) the UN System of National Accounts Manual for production and dissemination of national accounts aggregates;
  - (b) the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Consumer Price Index Manual and the World Bank International Comparison Programme Handbook and Guidelines on purchasing power parities for production of harmonised consumer price indices to measure price stability in the Region;
  - (c) the IMF Balance of Payment and International Investment Position Manual for production of external sector flows and stocks within the Region and with the rest of the world;
  - (d) the IMF Government and Finance Statistics Manual for compilation of public finance statistics to support fiscal analysis, policy decision making and record integrated economic flows and stock positions for the public sector in general;



- (e) the IMF Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual and Compilation Guide for production of monetary and financial statistics to monitor progress of financial integration in the region;
  - (f) the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Training Manual on Statistics for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Operations on Transnational Corporations for production of intra and extra-SADC FDI flows and stocks to measure implementation of investment policies in the Region; and
  - (g) the IMF External Debt Statistics Manual for production of statistics on external debt for early detection of countries' external vulnerability.
2. State Parties shall undertake data collection using household surveys and administrative data to compute annual indicators on cover, access, usage and quality parameters of financial services for measuring Financial Inclusion in the Region.

## **ARTICLE 15 TRADE STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall produce and disseminate monthly, quarterly and annual merchandise trade statistics flows within the Region and with the rest of the world in accordance with the UN International Merchandise Trade Statistics Manual recommendations for measuring progress in the implementation of trade policies in the Region.
2. State Parties shall set up collaborative arrangements with institutions involved in the production and use of trade statistics for annual undertaking of informal cross-border trade surveys to improve trade statistics for external sector analysis at national and regional level.
3. State Parties shall produce quarterly and annual export and import price indices in accordance with the recommendations of the IMF Export and Import Price Index Manual for analysing exports and import prices competitiveness.
4. State Parties shall set up and strengthen cooperation in their NSS for coordination of trade in services data production and dissemination and implement recommendations of the UN Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services to produce annual flows of trade in services, inward Foreign Affiliates and outward Foreign Affiliates by partner country to measure progress in implementation of trade in services policies in the Region.

## **ARTICLE 16 INFRASTRUCTURE STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall set up institutional arrangements with institutions involved in enabling and providing infrastructure services to harmonise data collection and dissemination of infrastructure statistics.
2. State Parties shall produce and disseminate infrastructure statistics annually using harmonised concepts and methods on parameters including access, use, affordability, pricing and fiscal, for monitoring of the following infrastructure networks and services in the Region:
  - (a) utility infrastructure comprising electricity, water, sanitation and information & communication technology;
  - (b) transport infrastructure covering roads, railways, ports and air transport; and
  - (c) weather and climate information.

## **ARTICLE 17 ENERGY STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall set up collaborative arrangements between institutions involved in energy sector to allow for the collection, compilation, standardisation and dissemination of energy statistics through a networked central energy statistics information system database.
2. For purpose of Paragraph 1, State Parties shall:
  - (a) design and implement an integrated approach to collection of energy statistics by means of specific energy statistics surveys, existing enterprise and household censuses and surveys and administrative records to ensure the availability of best possible data comparability and cost efficiency;
  - (b) produce and disseminate detailed and aggregated Energy Balances and basic energy statistics on energy stocks and flows, prices, energy infrastructure, performance of the energy industries and the availability of energy resources within the national territory on a regular basis; and
  - (c) implement the methodological guidelines of the UN International Recommendations for Energy Statistics Manual for production and dissemination of harmonised energy statistics on disaggregated energy products as per the Standard International Energy Product classification.

**ARTICLE 18**  
**AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall implement the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics endorsed by the UNSC to produce agriculture statistics on a sustainable basis and to apply the basic data and information needed to guide decision making on agriculture and rural sector. Implementation of the strategy shall include production and use of the following minimum set of data:
  - (a) crop items;
  - (b) livestock items;
  - (c) aquaculture and fisheries products;
  - (d) forestry production;
  - (e) agricultural inputs;
  - (f) socioeconomic characteristics of agricultural and rural households;
  - (g) land cover and use; and
  - (h) public expenditures in rural areas.
  
2. State Parties shall implement the methodological guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organisation to produce annual food balance sheets to provide a comprehensive analysis of food and nutrition situation supply and use in the Region.

**ARTICLE 19**  
**ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**  
**STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall design and implement sustainable institutional arrangements and statistical coordination with relevant stakeholders' institutions to develop a nationally centralised database on disaster risk reduction, environment and climate change statistics in accordance to the recommended international guidelines.
  
2. For purpose of paragraph 1, State Parties shall develop a disaster related and climate change statistics framework and use traditional data sources and spatial data infrastructure to provide timely Statistical Information on the following dimensions to enable decision-makers to assess impact of disasters on social, economic and environmental conditions:

- (a) hazard mapping of population and critical infrastructure;
  - (b) exposure of people, housing, buildings, transportation facilities and other infrastructure, land use, production capacities and other potentially important variables located in the hazard areas;
  - (c) vulnerability measurement in climate change and disaster risk assessment;
  - (d) coping and adaptive capacity in terms of resilience of households, businesses, communities, socio-ecological systems and whole country; and
  - (e) impact of damages and losses on social, economic and environment dimensions.
3. State Parties shall develop and implement inter-institutional collaborative arrangements within stakeholders' institutions in environment and climate change to coordinate strategic development and production of environment statistics.
  4. State Parties shall compile and disseminate annual environment statistics in conformity with common harmonised concepts and methodologies, namely:
    - (a) the UN Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics covering core statistics on climate change, land cover, ecosystems and biodiversity, water, wastes, disaster risk reduction and human settlements; and
    - (b) the System of Environmental Economic Accounting Central Framework, covering accounts for water, energy, ecosystem, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, air emissions and material flows.

## **ARTICLE 20 TOURISM STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall implement recommendations of the UN Manual for Tourism Statistics to produce annual indicators on expenditures and activities for inbound and outbound tourism.
2. State Parties shall develop Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA) using the methodological framework of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Manual for constructing TSA to provide Statistical Information for monitoring economic impact of tourism within the Region.

**ARTICLE 21**  
**DEMOGRAPHY, HEALTH AND EDUCATION STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall collectively employ population census, sample surveys and civil registration data collection techniques to generate population and vital statistics estimates and projections to monitor their demographic profiles and to provide relevant information for integration of population factors in the formulation of their socio-economic development plans including for food, health, education, employment and housing sectors.
2. State Parties shall use a combination of data sources to produce annual sex and age-specific health indicators pertaining to life expectancy, health expenditures, mortality, environmental health hazards, communicable diseases including HIV and non-communicable diseases, applying the concepts recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines to monitor health standards in the Region.
3. State Parties shall implement the concepts, definitions and classifications of the UN for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Manual on education statistics to provide comparable indicators on enrollment and expenditures by fields and types of education for the Region.

**ARTICLE 22**  
**EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall set up collaborative institutional arrangements to develop and maintain a sustainable labour market information system to provide annual indicators on labour characteristics for regional needs.
2. For purpose of paragraph 1, State Parties shall produce disaggregated employment and labour statistics in accordance with Article (10) of this Protocol using recommendations and guidelines set out by the ILO.
3. State Parties shall undertake regular household surveys to collect and disseminate annual economic, social, age and gender-disaggregated statistics on migration within the Region to measure their impact on economic integration.

**ARTICLE 23**  
**GOVERNANCE STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall set up institutional arrangements with government institutions, non-governmental organisations, academia and research institutions to access and integrate administrative data systems for production and dissemination of governance statistics.
2. State Parties shall implement guidelines and standards as per the UN Handbook on Governance Statistics to produce and disseminate governance statistics for assessing the Region strategic objective to attain higher level of peace and stability.

**ARTICLE 24**  
**SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall design and implement Research and Development surveys or integrate a module in existing economic surveys to produce and disseminate Research and Development statistics by institutional sectors such as business enterprise, higher education, government and private non-profit organisations in accordance with the OECD Frascati manual.
2. State Parties shall implement guidelines for collecting, reporting and using data on innovation in accordance with the Oslo Manual to produce business innovation indicators every 1 to 3 years covering the private sector and public institutions.

**ARTICLE 25**  
**GENDER STATISTICS**

1. State Parties shall mainstream gender issues in all their statistical programmes and activities to improve production of gender statistics.
2. State Parties shall establish a gender statistics database to provide a reliable resource base for monitoring gender policies at national level and in the Region.
3. State Parties shall produce official statistics related to individuals and disaggregated by sex and age on an annual basis to monitor Gender Parity for achieving sustainable development in the Region.
4. State Parties shall produce annual official statistics on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and design surveys or add a module of questions in an existing household survey to capture core indicators on prevalence, types, classification and characteristics of GBV in accordance with the UN Guidelines for producing statistics on GBV.

5. State Parties shall compile and disseminate annually official gender statistics to relevant platforms nationally, regionally and internationally.

## **ARTICLE 26 DATA QUALITY**

1. State Parties shall make data quality a cornerstone of statistical work in the Region in line with international standards and frameworks on data quality.
2. State Parties shall participate and be subject to regular data quality assessment undertakings including peer review mechanism to ensure national practices are compliant to internationally accepted methodologies and to the core principles provided for in this Protocol, the UNFPOS and the ACS.

## **ARTICLE 27 DATA TRANSMISSION**

1. State Parties shall transmit monthly, quarterly and annually data necessary for monitoring and measuring progress in the implementation of the regional priorities in standardised formats with respective Metadata on datasets.
2. State Parties shall define and implement standardised statistical data and metadata exchange structures pertaining to social, economic and environmental pillars of regional integration and sustainable development to facilitate data integration and automation of data transmission across regional, continental and international organisations.

## **ARTICLE 28 DATA DISSEMINATION**

1. State Parties shall disseminate Official Statistics to ensure users and the public have equal access to data using open data portals and other technologies that present readily accessible, comprehensive and up-to-date data for national and regional needs.
2. State Parties shall develop and implement appropriate transparent and publicly available procedures to allow for sharing of anonymised Microdata solely for the purpose of statistical analysis and to support research studies at national level and

regional studies on integration and globalisation under specific confidentiality procedures.

## **ARTICLE 29 DATA SECURITY**

State Parties shall develop a cyber security strategy and integrate it in their NSDS as a core intervention area with the objective to protect their information technology infrastructure from cyber-attacks on data holdings collected and disseminated by the NSS.

## **ARTICLE 30 IMPLEMENTATION**

1. State Parties shall ensure the application and implementation of this Protocol at national and Regional level.
2. State Parties shall ensure that national statistical programmes evaluation and monitoring mechanisms are put in place.

## **ARTICLE 31 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

1. The institutional arrangements for the implementation of this Protocol shall comprise the SADC Statistics Committee and the SADC Secretariat.
2. The SADC Statistics Committee, shall:
  - (a) be composed of heads of States Parties National Statistics Offices;
  - (b) meet at least once a year; and
  - (c) be chaired by the nominated head of the National Statistical Office representing the State Party chairing SADC.
3. The SADC Statistics Committee shall be responsible for the following:



- (a) providing policy, strategic and professional guidance for the statistical development and integration processes in the Region;
  - (b) monitoring progress on the implementation of this Protocol;
  - (c) setting priorities, mobilising resources for and overseeing the implementation of statistical development in the Region;
  - (d) providing support for the development of the SADC Regional Statistical System, including any legal instruments; and
  - (e) seek to achieve the comparability, standardisation and harmonisation of data across the SADC Regional Statistical System.
4. The SADC Secretariat shall be responsible for facilitating and coordinating the implementation of the Protocol and shall:
- (a) co-ordinate and rationalise all regional statistical activities in line with continental and international statistical frameworks;
  - (b) design and coordinate regional projects on prioritised statistical areas;
  - (c) provide technical advice on statistical harmonisation and standardisation issues;
  - (d) be the central point for regional data and statistics including technical advice on the development, maintenance and updating of official regional statistics database;
  - (e) ensure that regional statistics are accessible and usable by a whole range of stakeholders;
  - (f) develop and project well-coordinated and coherent positions of regional statistics in continental and international forums; and
  - (g) provide technical and secretarial support to the SADC Statistics Committee.

## **ARTICLE 32 FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

Regional and national statistical strategies and programmes under this Protocol may be financed from:

- (a) contributions by State Parties;
- (b) grants or donations received from the private sector, international organisations and other co-operating partners in conformity with the objectives of this Protocol; and
- (c) development financing.

## **ARTICLE 33 RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER STATES AND ORGANISATIONS**

Subject to the provisions of Article 6(1) of the Treaty, State Parties shall maintain good relations and other forms of cooperation, and may enter into agreements with other states, regions and international organisations, whose objectives are compatible with the objectives and provisions of this Protocol.

## **ARTICLE 34 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

1. State Parties shall strive to resolve any dispute arising between or among them regarding the application, interpretation or implementation of this Protocol amicably.
2. Any dispute arising between or among State Parties from the application, interpretation or implementation of this Protocol which cannot be settled amicably shall be referred to the SADC Statistics Committee.
3. Any dispute arising from the interpretation, application and implementation of this Protocol which cannot be settled by the SADC Statistics Committee, shall be referred to the SADC Tribunal.
4. The decision of the SADC Tribunal shall be final and binding.

**ARTICLE 35  
SIGNATURE**

This Protocol shall be signed by the Heads of State or Governments of the Member States or their duly authorised representatives.

**ARTICLE 36  
RATIFICATION OF THE PROTOCOL**

This Protocol shall be subject to ratification by Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.

**ARTICLE 37  
ENTRY INTO FORCE**

1. This Protocol shall enter into force thirty (30) days after the deposit of instruments of ratification by two-thirds of Member States.
2. This Protocol shall remain in force for as long as there are at least two-thirds of the States Parties who remain bound by the provisions of this Protocol.

**ARTICLE 38  
ACCESSION**

The Protocol shall remain open for accession by any Member State.

**ARTICLE 39  
DEPOSITORY**

1. The original text of this Protocol and all instruments of ratification and accession shall be deposited with the Executive Secretary, who shall transmit certified copies thereof to all Member States.

2. The Executive Secretary shall register this Protocol with the Secretariat of the United Nations and the African Union Commission.

#### **ARTICLE 40 AMENDMENT**

1. Any State Party may propose amendments to this Protocol.
2. Proposals for amendment to this Protocol shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary who shall duly notify all State Parties of the proposed amendments, at least thirty (30) days in advance of consideration of the amendments by State Parties.
3. An amendment to this Protocol shall be adopted by a decision of three-quarters of all State Parties.

#### **ARTICLE 41 WITHDRAWAL**

1. Any State Party may withdraw from this Protocol upon the expiry of twelve (12) months from the date of giving the Executive Secretary a written notice to that effect.
2. The Executive Secretary, upon receiving the notification contemplated in paragraph 1 of this Article, shall inform the Committee of Ministers of the intention of that State Party to withdraw.
3. A State Party that has given notice to withdraw pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article shall cease to enjoy all rights and benefits under this Protocol upon the withdrawal becoming effective but shall remain bound by her outstanding obligations under this Protocol.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE**, the Heads of State or Government, or duly authorised Representatives of SADC Member States, have signed this Protocol.

**DONE at LILONGWE, REPUBLIC OF MALAWI** on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of **AUGUST, 2021** in three (3) original texts, in the English, French and Portuguese languages, all texts being equally authentic.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**RÉPUBLIQUE OF ANGOLA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**UNION OF COMOROS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CONGO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KINGDOM OF ESWATINI**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KINGDOM OF LESOTHO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF MALAWI**

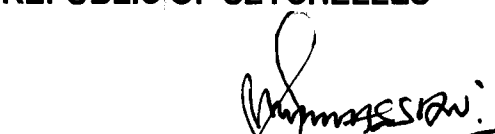
\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE**