



## **Statement on the Launch of the 8<sup>th</sup> Southern Africa Youth Forum.**

Issued on: **20 March 2026**

The Southern Africa Youth Forum (SAYoF) is pleased to announce the **8<sup>th</sup> Southern Africa Youth Forum**, which will be hosted by the Republic of South Africa from 21 to 24 July 2026. The forum will run under the theme, **“Nourishing Futures: Enhancing Food Security and Water Resilience through Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Action for Youth Empowerment.”**

The Forum will take place immediately before the SADC Heads of State and Government Meeting and following the SADC-PF Plenary Assembly Meeting. This year’s Forum is unique in that it will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sitting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Southern Africa Youth Parliament and will be convened under the Memorandum of Understanding with the SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF) and a continuous partnership with the African Union Women, Gender & Youth Directorate.

### **Planning Committee**

SAYoF is grateful to announce the following members of the 8<sup>th</sup> Southern Africa Youth Forum Planning Committee:

1. Dr. Masego Magapaesi (Botswana) — Chairperson
2. Mr. Blessings Mlelemba (Malawi) — Vice Chairperson
3. Ms. Zintle Khobeni (South Africa) — Secretary
4. Mr. Ncamiso Gama (Eswatini) — Media & Communications
5. Ms. Celestina Langa (Mozambique) — Committee Member
6. Ms. Pirosca Mvanda (Tanzania) — Committee Member
7. Ms. Faith Kanguatijivi (Namibia) — Committee Member

### **Participation**

The application process for participation will open soon. Further details on registration and the programme will be communicated in due course.

For enquiries, please get in touch with the SAYoF Secretariat. Danson Bwanga **Email:** [advocacy.sayof@gmail.com](mailto:advocacy.sayof@gmail.com) or [info.sayof@gmail.com](mailto:info.sayof@gmail.com) +260 571 161450.

Thank you.

Issued by: **Hon. Ian T Vambe**  
**Head of Media, Advocacy and Communication Cluster**  
**Southern Africa Youth Forum (SAYoF)**