

The Government of Zambia has called on COMESA, EAC and SADC to speed up the Tripartite Trade Negotiations if the region is to realise the benefits of regional integration.

While officially opening the Fifth Meeting of the Tripartite Committee of Senior Officials held at the Zambezi Sun Hotel in Livingstone, Zambia, the Commerce, Trade and Industry Deputy Minister, Richwell Siamunene said the negotiations are long overdue.

Speaking at the same function, COMESA Assistant Secretary-General (Programmes), Ambassador Kipyego Cheluget, said that the Tripartite region has potential to make its mark on the world market.

He added that in today's highly competitive world economy, small market sizes are not attractive enough to serious investors hence the decision of the three RECs' Heads of State and Government that they should create a single Free Trade Area covering the 26 countries in COMESA, EAC and SADC.

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{flv}130306\_Tripartite Senior officials Meeting{/flv}