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**PRESS RELEASE**

**COMESA Member States Meet to Validate Regional Resilience Framework**

***Lusaka, Wednesday, December 8, 2021:*** COMESA Secretariat has convened a regional meeting to validate the climate change Regional Resilience Framework (RRF) implementation plan and Resource Mobilization Strategy

The meeting takes place on 8 - 9 December 2021 and provides a platform for Member States and key stakeholders to review the current draft RRF implementation plan and Resource Mobilization Strategy and provide inputs to the draft. It is being conducted in a hybrid format.

Participants are drawn from Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, D.R Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. They include senior officials from selected ministries responsible for planning, disaster management and mitigation units, agriculture, environment, health and other stakeholders who have a key role in mainstreaming resilience.

The meeting will discuss the implementation plan, financing opportunities and strategies for the regional resilience framework interventions.

COMESA Climate Change Unit Programme Manager Edith Tibahwa said the recommendations from the meeting will help domesticate the framework to strengthen national resilience-building efforts.

“We expect this meeting to roll out an implementation roadmap of the COMESA Regional Resilience Framework,” she said.

Representatives from the African Union Commission (AUC), the East African Community (EAC), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are among the participants.

**Note to Editors**

COMESA is implementing a regional climate change project with funding from the European Union under the Intra-African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA)+ programme. The overall objective is to increase the resilience of the COMESA region (and its Member States) to climate change and achieve the UN’s sustainable development goals. The specific objective is to improve regional and national adaptation and mitigation responses to climate change challenges faced by COMESA Member States at operational, institutional and financial levels.

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