

## STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF SADC, H.E. DR. HAGE G. GEINGOB, ON ELECTIONS IN THE UNION OF COMOROS

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) congratulates the people and government of the Union of Comoros, and the National Independent Electoral Commission (CENI), for the peaceful elections for president and governors of the country, which were held on 24 March 2019.

SADC appreciates the support that the Union of Comoros received from regional and continental organisations that sent their observation missions to observe the country's elections, and calls upon national and international stakeholders to support the people and Government of Comoros in their endeavour to consolidate democracy and ensure unity, peace and stability in the country. In doing so, stakeholders are encouraged to respect the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity in line with international law.

SADC further appeals for calm and restraint in the post-election period, and urges all political stakeholders to address any grievances using appropriate legal channels and institutions in line with the country's Constitution.

SADC reaffirms its commitment to continue supporting the Union of Comoros in its efforts to attain socio-economic development of the Comorians.

Dr. Hage G. Geingob President of the Republic of Namibia, and Chairperson of SADC 31 March 2019