

WEEK OF MOURNING: THE **DEMISE** OF THE **SADC** TRIBUNAL

Coalition for an Effective
SADC Tribunal 

MEDIA ADVISORY

EVENT TO MOURN THE DEMISE OF THE SADC TRIBUNAL

(Meeting and Silent Protest, Johannesburg, South Africa)

When: Friday, 18 November 2016
11:00 AM SAST

Where: CIVICUS House, HURISA, 31 Quinn Street, Newtown, Johannesburg

Who: Coalition for an Effective SADC Tribunal

This week is the week in which the SADC Tribunal was inaugurated, but instead of celebrating its 11th anniversary, we mourn its demise. The Head of States of the SADC countries essentially took away the SADC tribunal's power to hear human rights cases when they **took away individual access** to the court in preference to State-to-State cases.

The [Coalition for an Effective SADC Tribunal](#) is a network of civil society institutions based in the region, seeking to resuscitate the SADC Tribunal in its original form. As part of our ongoing campaign, we are holding a brief meeting which we expect to be attended by close to 30 participants, ranging from civil society organisations, representatives of the government, lawyers and students among others, to discuss the importance of having a functional SADC Tribunal that also recognises the right of individuals to bring their matters against their respective governments before the Tribunal after exhausting all local remedies.

The meeting will be preceded by a peaceful protest to call for action from SADC heads of state to **#BringBackSADCTribunal**.

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Signed by Members of the Coalition for an Effective SADC Tribunal:

- Associação Justiça, Paz e Democracia (Angola)
- Auwal Socio-Economic Research Institute (South Africa)

- Centre For Human Rights, University of Pretoria (South Africa)
- Centro de Estudos Moçambicanos e Internacionais (Mozambique)
- Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation (Malawi)
- Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (South Africa)
- Citizen Engagement Platform Seychelles (Seychelles)
- CIVICUS (South Africa)
- Human Rights Institute of South Africa (South Africa)
- Institute For Democracy and Leadership (Swaziland)
- Lawyers for Human Rights-Swaziland (Swaziland)
- Malawi Law Society (Malawi)
- Paralegal Alliance Network (Zambia)
- SADC-CNGO (Botswana)
- Southern African Christian Initiative (Namibia)
- Southern African Development Community Lawyers Association (SADC LA)
- Southern African Litigation Centre (South Africa)
- Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (Zimbabwe)