

DECLARATION BY THE HEADS OF NUCLEAR REGULATORY AUTHORITIES SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC), 22 FEBRUARY 2011, HARARE, ZIMBABWE

The Heads of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in the SADC region, having met in Cape Town, South Africa on 2nd and 3rd December 2010 and in Harare, Zimbabwe on 21st and 22nd February 2011 and having recognised the common challenges facing nuclear regulatory authorities in their endeavours to protect people and the environment from the harmful effects of ionising and non-ionising radiation.

Realising that much can be achieved through collective efforts, have decided to work together as a region in tackling the challenges of utilising nuclear and radiation technologies in peaceful applications whilst assuring a high level of safety and security.

To this end the Heads of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies have established a formal cooperative arrangement, the SADC Nuclear Regulators Network (SADC NRN). The purpose of SADC NRN is to provide for the enhancement, strengthening and harmonisation of nuclear safety and security, radiation protection, radiation safety (both ionizing and non- ionizing radiation), waste and transport safety regulatory infrastructure among the members of SADC. SADC NRN will provide an effective and efficient mechanism and network for the exchange of regulatory experiences and practices among the regulatory bodies in SADC.

The Heads of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies aspire towards the development of a common policy on nuclear and radiation safety. It is the express intention of the network to engage key policymakers in SADC on the development of a protocol on nuclear and radiation safety.