



AGENDA & PROGRAMME

Second SADC CITES Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting

16 – 18 March 2026 | Hybrid (Johannesburg & Virtual)

Organizers: SADC Secretariat & SCI/SCIF

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Agreed post-CoP20 regional preparatory actions
- Draft SADC CITES JWG Work Plan (2026)
- Technical guidance on sustainable financing and trade safeguards
- Consolidated inputs to update the SADC Stockpile Management Guidelines and Resources Mobilization
- Agreed roadmap and timeline for finalisation of the Guidelines

DAY 1 – Monday, 16 March 2026

CITES MATTERS

Theme: Post-CoP20 Review, Legal Options, and Regional Coordination

AGENDA

1. Opening Session
 - Welcome Remarks – SADC Secretariat
 - Remarks – SCI/SCIF
 - Adoption of Agenda and Programme
2. Post-CITES CoP20 Reflections and Lessons Learned
 - Member State inputs
 - Consolidated Secretariat presentation



3. Preparations for CITES Intersessional Meetings (2026)
 - Expected agenda items
 - Regional preparatory requirements
4. Session with Attorney General Experts (International Law)
 - Article 30 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties
 - Relevant CITES Articles and Resolutions
 - Parallel trade options and safeguards
5. Group Discussion
 - Legal and policy options for coordinated regional trade models

PROGRAMME – Day 1

Time	Session
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:30	Opening Session
09:30–11:00	Post-CoP20 Reflections
11:00–11:30	Tea/Coffee Break
11:30–13:00	Intersessional Preparations
13:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–16:30	Attorney General Expert Session
16:30–17:00	Wrap-up

DAY 2 – Tuesday, 17 March 2026

CITES MATTERS (continued)

Theme: Sustainable Financing & Regional Coordination on Trade Matters

AGENDA

1. Recap of Day 1
2. Sustainable Financing Options under CITES
 - Disposal pathways for valuable wildlife products
 - Models aligned with conservation, livelihoods, and poverty reduction

3. Review of the Elephant Dialogue Meeting (Maun, Botswana)
 - Key outcomes
 - Implications for regional coordination
 - Required preparatory work
4. Drafting the SADC CITES JWG Work Plan for 2026
 - Alignment with ENRT Ministerial guidance
5. Agreement on Next Steps and Closure of CITES Sessions

PROGRAMME – Day 2

Time	Session
09:00–09:15	Recap
09:15–11:00	Sustainable Financing Options
11:00–11:30	Break
11:30–13:00	Elephant Dialogue Outcomes
13:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–16:00	Draft 2026 JWG Work Plan
16:00–16:30	Closure of CITES Sessions

DAY 3 – Wednesday, 18 March 2026

STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT

Theme: Reviewing Status and Updating the SADC Stockpile Management Guidelines

AGENDA

1. Opening Session
2. Review of ENRT Ministerial Decision (19 May 2025)
 - Mandate to update the SADC Stockpile Management Guidelines
3. Member State Status Reports
 - Current stockpile inventories
 - Key challenges and gaps
4. Presentation: International Best Practices
 - Traceability systems

- Audit and security standards
 - Risk management approaches
5. Technical Session: Key Elements for Updating the Guidelines
- Legal provisions
 - Security standards
 - Disposal pathways
 - Monitoring and reporting
6. Group Work
- Proposed structure and content of the revised Guidelines
7. Identification of the Priority areas for Supporting Resources Mobilization.
8. Agreement on Next Steps and Review Timeline
9. Closing Session

PROGRAMME – Day 3

Time	Session
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:45	Opening & Ministerial Decision Review
09:45–11:00	Member State Status Reports
11:00–11:30	Break
11:30–12:30	International Best Practices
12:30–13:30	Lunch
13:30–15:00	Technical Session & Group Work
15:00–15:30	Next Steps & Timeline
15:30–16:00	Closing