

**NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)
AND THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP) TO CONVENE CONFERENCE ON
MIGRATION**

The National Planning Commission (NPC) of South Africa, in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are pleased to invite you to the opening session of the upcoming conference titled *Migration as a Development Catalyst: through Policy Development Based on Evidence, Diaspora Involvement, and International Collaboration*.

This four-day conference, which will take place from 20 - 23 August 2024, will provide a dynamic platform for stakeholders across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region to explore and discuss migration as a driver of development, with a particular focus on leveraging diaspora capital and international collaboration.

The objectives of the conference are to:

- Facilitate dialogue on key migration issues and policy gaps within the SADC region.
- Share and discuss good practices and innovative approaches to leveraging diaspora capital.
- Strengthen dialogue, collaboration, and partnerships among stakeholders on migration and development.
- Empower diaspora communities to contribute to humanitarian response and post-crisis recovery efforts.

The conference will bring high-level and technical officials from SADC member states, the African Union Commission (AUC), the SADC Secretariat, UN agencies, international organisations, civil society, diaspora associations, and private sector representatives together. The event will feature keynote addresses from prominent government and international organisation representatives, expert panel discussions, and opportunities for stakeholders to engage about migration, development, and diaspora.

Members of the media are invited to attend the opening session as follows:

- Date: August 20, 2024
- Time: 09:00 – 10:00
- Venue: The Capital on the Park, Sandton, South Africa

To confirm attendance and for media inquiries, kindly contact:

- Zarina Rahman 082 345 2919 or email at Zarina@dpme.gov.za (NPC)
- Abibo Ngandu on 0712449291 or email angandu@iom.int
- Jeanne Lee Finestone on jeanne.finestone@undp.org

We look forward to your participation at the opening of this important regional dialogue.