

**VOTE OF THANKS BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
PRIME MINISTER, DR THOMAS
MOTSOAHAE THABANE,
ON THE OCCASION OF THE SACU
HEADS OF STATE AND
GOVERNMENT MEETING**



***Prime Minister of the Kingdom of
Lesotho***

Friday, 12 April 2013

Gaborone, Botswana

Your Majesty, King Mswati III

Your Excellency President Hifikepunye Pohamba;

Your Excellency President Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma;

Your Excellency Lieutenant General Seretse Khama Ian Khama;

Chairperson of the SACU Council of Ministers;

Honourable Ministers;

Madam Executive Secretary of SACU;

Senior Government Officials;

Ladies and Gentleman.

It is a great pleasure and distinct honour for me to have been accorded this opportunity to make a vote of thanks on behalf of my colleagues, and indeed on my own behalf and all delegates to this Summit. Let me

take this opportunity to thank our host, Botswana, for hosting the SACU Heads of State and Government Summit and the warm hospitality shown to us and our delegations.

I would like to pay tribute to you, Your Excellency, for the able manner in which you have steered our engagement this morning. I am convinced that we are well on our way to achieving the SACU Vision and Mission we adopted in April 2010, in Windhoek and am hopeful that our meeting today will provide impetus as we continue implementation of the work programme.

Your Majesty, Your Excellencies,

Let me also thank the Council of Ministers for the tremendous work done in developing programmes for addressing the five key areas and commencing implementation thereof. Addressing these priorities is paramount for ensuring that SACU is transformed into a vehicle for economic development for all our countries.

As we continue to address the challenges we identified we need to be sure that we do not overlook some critical issues that continue to affect the way that our people relate and trade with each other. At the same time, we need to be cognizant of regional, continental and global developments which may have an impact on our economies and indeed on our work in consolidating SACU.

Finally, let me also thank our officials and the SACU Secretariat for their contribution in sustaining the work of the Organization. I urge you to continue the hard work and dedication you have demonstrated.

Let me also take this opportunity to wish you all a safe journey back to your respective capitals.

I thank you.