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External Document	MR 14/06/07
Purpose	Media Release
Circulation	All
Subject	Dissemination Seminar on the African Economic Outlook 2006/07
Event details	18 June 2007
Date of media release issue	14/06/07

On Monday 18 June 2007 the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) Secretariat will be hosting a breakfast seminar on the dissemination of the African Economic Outlook 06/07 and the 2007 Africa Competitiveness Report. Invited guests to the dissemination seminar include, Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Business Community and members of the Press.

The African Economic Outlook is an Annual Publication jointly prepared and published by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Organisation for the Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Centre. The Report surveys and

analyzes the current socio-economic progress as well as on short to medium term prospects of the African Countries. Each year, the Report is given a specific theme that focuses on a critical area of Africa's socio –economic development. The theme for this year is “Access to drinking water and sanitation”.

This edition is the sixth of its kind. The report was launched in May 2007 at the AfDB meetings held in Shanghai China.

The 2007 “African Competitiveness Report” (ACR) edition is a joint publication of the World Economic Forum (WEC), the AfDB and the World Bank (WB).

The aim of the ACR is to highlight the prospects for sustained growth in Africa and more importantly, the obstacles to competitiveness.

The joint ACR Report, which is the fourth edition, highlights recent competitiveness performances, as were as the main issues key challenges.

Key note address will be made by the Namibian Minister of Finance, Honourable Saara Kuukongelwa – Amadhila.

Dr Temitope Oshika of the AfDB will give an overview of the African Economic Outlook and the African Competitiveness report.

The above summary of the Reports/Publications can be accessed either on the SACU Website at www.sacu.int or the AfDB website at www.afdb.bw.

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