



The Southern Africa Youth Forum (SAYoF-SADC) Statement over the untimely killing of Advocate Thulani Rudolf Maseko the Chairperson of Multi-stakeholder Forum (MSF), and a Human Rights Lawyer in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

The Southern Africa Youth Forum (SAYoF-SADC) notes with concern the untimely and brutal death of the Chairperson of Multi-stakeholder Forum (MSF), a celebrated human rights activist, and a democratic champion Advocate Thulani Rudolf Maseko.

Taking note that by the time of his death Advocate Maseko was advocating for a national political dialogue; a process that was meant to ensure the Kingdom resolves its security and political challenges amicably.

Concerned over the lack of protection of human rights defenders, young activists, and the lack of a conducive environment for engagement in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

Expressing our deepest condolences to the family, legal fraternity, friends of Advocate Maseko, the people of Eswatini, and the SADC Region.

Realizing the need to respect the sanctity of life, respect of human dignity, and the creation of enabling environment for all as enshrined in the SADC Treaty, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Africa Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance (ACDEG).

Calling for the Government of Eswatini to allow an independent investigation and bring to account all the people involved in this crime against humanity.

Further calling for the ending of intimidation, torture, and arrests of human rights activists in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

Affirming that the killing of Advocate Maseko must be a call for SADC, the Citizens of the Kingdom, CSOs, Youth Organisations, and friends of Eswatini to assist in ending the political crisis in the Kingdom through a peaceful manner such as the multi-stakeholder dialogue.

Encouraging the people of the Kingdom of Eswatini to remain steadfast and find peaceful ways of solving their political and security challenges guided by the spirit of Pan-Africanism and Ubuntu.

Issued by the Media, Advocacy, and Communications Department

On behalf of the Southern Africa Youth Forum (SAYoF-SADC)

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