

Media statement in response to former Malagasy President, Marc Ravalomanana's press briefing on 17 February 2011

The South African Government notes the statement made by the former President of Madagascar, Mr Marc Ravalomanana stating his intent to return to Madagascar on 19 February 2011. The South African Government cautions against any unilateral measures taken prior to the SADC Organ meeting where the SADC mediator will deliver his report on Madagascar.

The South African Government is awaiting the report of the Mediator, former President of Mozambique Joaquim Chissano, to SADC and once the said report has been delivered, South Africa's position on the issue will be communicated.

The South African Government wishes to emphasise that no ultimatum has been given to former President Ravalomanana to leave South Africa.

South Africa continues to support efforts by the SADC Mediator to assist Madagascar to return to constitutional normalcy.

For further information please contact: Spokesperson Mr Clayson Monyela, on 082 806 7405.

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