

## Group 4 COMESA, SADCC, EAC

### 1. What are the strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats in your country and region for expanding intra and inter regional trade in honey and other hive products?

INTRA – WITHIN THE REGION WITHIN MEMBER COUNTRIES

INTER- WITHIN OTHER REGIONS

No legal backing to support the trade between the regions. Suggest inter African trade

INTRA

A Strengths

- Ease of integration and harmonization within the region
- Language enables members to communicate without an interpreter
- Existing road, rail, airlines and telephone network
- One committee for sanitary and phyto-sanitary conditions
- Existing PRIOTISING of trading blocs (SADC, COMESA)
- Production (availability of the product)
- Non perishable

B Weakness

- Absence of information linkages (data)
- Absence of capacity for product quality analysis
- Absence of harmonized quality standards
- Lack harmonized regional policies and regulations
- Prioritizing of certain commodities within regions
- Low uptake of honey and other hive products by locals
- Subsistence mindset towards apiculture
- Lack of capacity for value addition
- Lack of appreciation of bees as a pollination resource
- Lack of consumer education

C Opportunity

- Absence of cultural barriers
- Market the products among ourselves
- Favorable climate and vegetation for apiculture
- Political will
- Potential for market is abundant.
- Value addition (honey flora)
- Capacity to produce organic honey

D. Threats

- Loss of habitat land degradation
- Climate change
- Use of pesticides
- Pests and diseases
- Poverty (empowerment needed) limited uptake of honey and honey products is the price or the absence of product marketing.

**2. What should be the 5 priority areas to boost intra African trade in your country and the region?**

a) More government support

- Review and alignment of policies that promote apiculture.
- Surveillance of bee pests and disease
- Investments in quality standardization

b.) Information gathering

c. Prioritize pollination services

- Cutting of indigenous species of plants replacing them with exotic species

d. Capacity building at all levels

- Research and development

e. Regulation on the use of pesticides