



Joint Media Advisory

Press Point

INVITATION TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

WHAT: Press Point in relation to the official visit of **Mrs. Federica Mogherini**, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice President of the European Commission and **Mr Neven Mimica**, **Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development**, to meet the new leadership of the African Union Commission

WHO: H. E. Mr. **Moussa Faki Mahamat**, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, and **Mrs. Federica Mogherini**, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs will address the journalist.

WHEN: **Friday, 17th March 2017.**

TIME: **12:45 PM**

WHERE: African Union Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Julius Nyerere Conference Hall

OBJECTIVES:

The objective of the Press Point is to highlight the first high level official meeting between the incoming African Union Commission and the European Union.

The high-level meeting will discuss AU-EU relations, with particular reference to the **5th Africa-EU Summit** to be held in Abidjan on November 2017. The overarching theme of the

Summit is foreseen to be *Youth*. **The Summit will be an opportunity responds to youth needs in the continent raising the level of ambition outlining concrete initiatives favouring a better future for next generations.**

The meeting will also discuss ways to deepen the institutional dialogue between the African Union and the European Union and current crisis situations in Africa.

WHY: In a time of significant change in the world and in the African Continent, the meeting aims at adjusting **AU-EU common action to address the changing landscape in Africa**. Boosting opportunities and reaping the benefit of the demographic dividend are essential for Africa's and the EU's prosperity and security.

PARTICIPANTS: EU HRVP Mogherini, EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica, AU Commissioners and staff;

BACKGROUND: HRVP Mogherini and Commissioner Mimica are the first official visit the newly elected AU Commission meets. Together with the forthcoming Heads of states Summit and the annual Commission to Commission meeting, this is the highest level political meeting of the Africa-EU Partnership. The meeting will engage the new AUC and EU leadership in a political and policy dialogue giving new impetus to partnership in the future.

AU has developed a Fifty (50)-year Agenda known as 'Agenda 2063' and its First Ten (10)-Year Implementation Plan adopted at the Johannesburg Summit in June 2015 as a framework to accelerate the integration of the continent.

The Joint Africa-EU Strategy is structured to deliver on shared challenges facing both continents, along with the 5 priority areas of the 2014-2017 Roadmap: (i) peace and security; (ii) democracy, good governance and human rights; (iii) human development; (iv) sustainable and inclusive development and growth and continental integration; (v) global and emerging issues.

The Joint Africa-EU Strategy remains the strategic political reference of EU-Africa relations. Since its adoption in 2007 it has provided the framework for ever deeper and broader cooperation between the EU

and Africa well beyond the traditional eras of development cooperation and trade.

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