



MEDIA ADVISORY

What: Dinner to be hosted by the Embassy of the Republic of Zimbabwe for Hon Dr Walter Mzembi (MP), the African Union endorsed candidate for the post of United Nations World Tourism Organisation Secretary General. Dr Mzembi is the Minister of Tourism and Hospitality Industry of Zimbabwe.

Highlights for media will include

- The African Union Commission Deputy Chairperson will present Hon Dr Walter Mzembi (MP), African Union candidate for the post of United Nations World Tourism Organization Secretary General
- Statement by H.E Mr Kwesi Quartey, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission
- Dr. Hirut Woldemariam - the Minister of Culture and Tourism of Ethiopia
- Dr Taleb Rifai - the UNWTO Secretary General
- His Excellency, Ambassador of Zimbabwe to Ethiopia and Permanent Representative to the AU and UNECA, His Excellency - Mr. A. R. Chimbindi

When: 19th April 2017 at 19:00 (7pm)

Where: Radison Blu Hotel - Addis Ababa Ethiopia

Who: The event will be attended by African Tourism Ministers who are meeting in Addis Ababa for the UNWTO Regional Commission for Africa to discuss continental tourism issues. Ambassadors of African Union member states and other countries accredited to the AU will be in attendance. Heads of multilateral institutions in Ethiopia, government officials from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and country delegates from different African countries will also be participating at this important dinner.

BACKGROUND

Dr Mzembi was unanimously endorsed as the candidate for the UNWTO post by the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the African Union. At their Summit meeting in Kigali, Rwanda, in July 2016, African Heads of State and Government

were clear in their overwhelming approval of Dr Mzembi as Africa's candidate for the post at the head of global tourism. In their endorsement of his candidature, Africa Heads of State and Government confirmed their strong conviction that Dr Mzembi has the craft competence, statecraft, academic qualifications and core work experience, the skills, the vision, the drive and the passion to successfully build on the remarkable legacy bequeathed to global tourism by His Excellency, Dr Taleb Rifai, to lead the Organization and global tourism to new heights of relevance, recognition and results.

The endorsement by the AU heads of state and government followed an earlier endorsement by the 15 countries of the Southern African Development Community - SADC.

Journalists are invited to cover the event.

Media inquiries

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