



DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

MEDIA ADVISORY

COMMEMORATION OF PAN AFRICAN WOMEN'S DAY 2017

INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

WHAT: The African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the Government of Republic of Guinea will observe the 2017 Pan-African Women's Day under the theme "Pan African Women's Organization as a Specialized AU Agency: *Vision and Mission*".

WHEN: 29th - 31st July 2017

WHERE: Conakry, Republic of Guinea (Palais du Peuple)

WHO: The African Union Commission through its department of Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD) together with the Ministry of Social Action and Promotion of Women and Children, Republic of Guinea.

Objective: The objective of Pan-African Women's Day 2017 is to launch the process of operationalization of Pan African Women's Organization (PAWO) into a specialized AU Agency, and to recognise the contributions and achievements of African women to Africa's development and liberation. The celebrations in the Republic of Guinea will also pay tribute to Mrs. Hadja Jeanne Martin CISSE, one of the founding mothers and first Secretary General of PAWO, who passed away in February 2017.

Background: Pan African Women's day is observed each year on 31st July to commemorate the first Pan African Women's Conference held in Dar es Salaam in 1962. It was on this occasion that the Pan African Women's Organization (PAWO), recently conferred the status of a specialized agency of the AU was formed. PAWD was established to recognise and affirm the role of women's organizing for the political freedom of Africa and advancing the social and economic status of women on the continent. It offers a national, continental and global opportunity to recall and affirm the significant role of African women in the evolution of a strong Pan-African identity, with shared values, objectives and vision for the future.

PAWD is observed and celebrated across capitals of AU Member States, with national programmes and different activities.

Journalists are invited to participate and cover the commemoration on Monday, 31st July 2017, starting from 9:00am, in Palais du Peuple, Conakry; Republic of Guinea.

More information:

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