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Newly Appointed Iran's Representative to the AU presents Credentials

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – 17 February 2017: The outgoing Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, has received the credentials of the newly appointed Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the African Union and the United Nations Economic Community for Africa, H.E. Mr. Behzad Khakpour. Amb. Khakpour presented his credentials on Friday, 17 February 2017, at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Following his presentation, the Ambassador said Iran has a lot to learn from Africa, particularly in maintaining peace after the signing of an agreement. Iran is keen to work to also share its experience with Africa in combating terrorism and drug trafficking.

He also noted his country's readiness to support training in the areas of Science and Technology, highlighting that Iran is one of the front runners in nano technology.

The outgoing Commission Chairperson congratulated the Representative on his appointment, and said that Africa would be pleased to share experience in fighting organised, such as terrorism, drug and human trafficking.

Dr. Dlamini Zuma also highlighted opportunities for trade with Iran, particularly at as Africa looks forward to launching a Continental Free Trade Area this year. She noted that facilitation of trade the CFTA would bring to Africa and its partners.

Dr. Dlamini Zuma also wished the newly appointed Ambassador a successful tour of duty, particularly at this opportune time when a new leadership at the helm of the Commission.

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