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**UNION AFRICAINE**

**UNIÃO AFRICANA**

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Addis Ababa, Ethiopia P. O. Box 3243 Telephone: +251 11 551 7700 / +251 11 518 25  
58/ Ext 2558

**Web site: [www.au.int.org](http://www.au.int.org)**

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**DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **AU-CSO Continental consultation on the Africa-EU joint strategy (JAES)**

#### **INVITATION TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES**

- WHAT:** Convening of the AU-CSO Continental consultation on the Africa-EU joint strategy (JAES).
- WHEN:** 27-28 November 2014
- WHERE:** VIP Grand Maputo Hotel, Maputo, Mozambique
- WHO:** AUC/CIDO; Civil society organizations (CSO) from across the five regions of the continent.

#### **OBJECTIVES EXPECTED**

- To review the outcomes of the 4th Africa-EU summit and its new implementation architecture
- To define Africa priorities in this context across the board and in specific thematic areas
- To define continental and intercontinental CSO priorities within the JAES framework and the challenges of co-responsibility with other stakeholders
- To prepare for effective follow-up and implementation bodies for the 2014 and 2017 road map
- To respond actively and constructively to the responsibility bestowed on the consultative group within the framework of the Africa-EU strategy to provide the platform for African CSOs to work together to support comprehensive stakeholder participation in the process
- To set stage for the consolidation of an intercontinental CSO platform in early 2015.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Africa-EU joint strategy declaration has constantly placed priority on the active involvement of civil society as a pillar for facilitating and promoting a broad-based and wide ranging people-centred partnership between the two continents. As a result both sides have established continental CSO structures including a steering committee and continental consultation forum, to input directly into the process enhance CSO space and prepare CSO contribution towards its implementation strategy.

Following the 4th Africa-EU summit in Brussels in 2014 participations are now underway for the continental CSO platforms to collate and consolidate their respective continental inputs to feed into a common intercontinental CSO platform. The EU-CSO steering committee has begun the process of undertaking a broad survey to identify the contribution and needs of youth, CSOs Think tanks and social and economic actors among non- state actors in Europe. The Africa-CSO forum is now initiating a similar process as part of the participations for a consolidated intercontinental CSO forum in early 2015.

**Media representatives are invited to cover the event from 27-28 November 2014 in Maputo, Mozambique**

**For any inquiry, please contact:**

**DIC:**

**Mr. Michael Fikre,**

Directorate of information and communication (DIC)

Africa union commission

Tel: +258 842092290

E-mail: [michaelf@africa-union.org](mailto:michaelf@africa-union.org)

**CIDO Department:**

**Mr. Jalel Chelba,**

Head of Division, Civil Society Division

African Union Commission

E-mail: [JalelC@africa-union.org](mailto:JalelC@africa-union.org)

**Mr. Filipe Alimo Furuma,**

Desk officer, Civil Society Division

African Union Commission

E-mail: [FurumaA@africa-union.org](mailto:FurumaA@africa-union.org)

For further information contact

**For further information contact**

Directorate of Information and Communication | African Union Commission | E-mail: [dinfo@african-union.org](mailto:dinfo@african-union.org) | Web Site: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int) | Addis Ababa | Ethiopia

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