

**Directorate of Information and Communication****MEDIA ADVISORY****First Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on
Education, Science and Technology****INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA**

What: The First Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Education, Science and Technology.

When: 27th to 30th October 2015.

The STC will be organized as follows:

- **27th October 2015**, at 9.00 a.m. (Opening Session of the Meeting of Experts/Senior Officials -Medium Conference Hall)
- **29th October 2015**(Ministerial Session of the Pan African Conference on Teacher Development- Small Conference 1 &2)
- **30th October 2015**, at 9.00 a.m. (Opening Session of the Meeting of Ministers- Medium Conference Hall)
- **30th October 2015**, at 4.15 p.m. (Ministers' visit to TVET Exhibition gallery)
- **30th October 2015**, at 5.45 p.m. (Closing Session of the STC-EST)
- **30th October 2015**, at 6.00 p.m. -**Press Conference** with the AUC Commissioner for Human Resource Science and Technology.

Who: Organized by the Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology (HRST) of the African Union Commission.

Where: African Union Commission Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Objectives:

1. To update the Ministers on the status of on-going programmes and on RECs and Member States' performance in the education, science and technology sectors;
2. Discuss AU Summit Decisions relevant to the conduct of education, science and technology on the continent;
3. Consider the Education and TVET strategies and the STISA implementation plan;
4. Consider the Africa Space Policy and Strategy;
5. Consider funding and mobilisation of resources, especially domestic resources; and
6. Establish precedence for conducting AU continental business in the fields of education, science and technology

Expected Outcomes:

1. Endorsement of the Continental Strategy for Education for Africa (CESA 16-25) and other continental strategies, roadmaps and implementation plans in education, science and technology;
2. Report on the first meeting of the STC on Education, Science and Technology;
3. Agreement on reporting and follow up mechanisms for the continental agenda;
4. Actions for decisions during the next Summit of Heads of State.

Participants:

- AU Ministers of Education, Science and Technology
- Senior Education, Science and Technology Officials
- Regional Economic Communities
- Development Partners (as observers)

Background: The AU took a Summit Decision EX. CL/Dec.420 (XIII) to reconfiguration all sectorial Ministerial Conferences into 'Specialized Technical Committees' with the objective of enhancing the methods of work, and improving sectorial relationships, synergies, effectiveness and efficiency. In this regard, Education, Science and Technology were merged under the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Education, Science and Technology (STC-EST).

There is no doubt that the Education, Science and Technology sectors are complementary and should effectively drive Africa's social and economic development and accelerate the transition of African countries to innovation-led, knowledge-based economies. Hitherto, the African Union Commission has been convening separately the African Ministers responsible for education (COMEDAF) and Ministers responsible for Science and technology (AMCOST).

Consequently, the Commission will convene the first Ordinary Session of the STC on Education, Science and Technology from the 27th to the 30th of October 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting will

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E mail: dinfo@africa-union.org

ensure continuity and consideration of the outcomes and progress in the implementation of the last meetings of AMCOST V and COMEDAF VI, as well as agree on the future functional governance of education and STI in the continent. There will also be an exhibition of model TVET programmes and on Space Sciences.

Media representatives are invited to cover the event.

For media enquiry, please contact:

Esther Azaa Tankou, Head of Information Division, African Union Commission, Tel: +251(0) 911361185, E-mail: yamboue@africa-union.org ;

Adiatou Fatty, Communication Officer, Human Resources, Science and Technology Department, African Union Commission | Telephone: +251912661953 | Email: Fattya@africa-union.org ;

Yasmine Ali, Communication Officer, Directorate of Information and Communication, African Union Commission | Tel: +251929189160 E-mail: Aliy@africa-union.org

For further information:

Directorate of Information and Communication | African Union Commission | E-mail: DIC@african-union.org | Web Site: www.au.int | Addis Ababa | Ethiopia

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