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

Website: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int)

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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

## MEDIA ADVISORY

### Joint Session of the Committee of Directors-General of National Statistics Offices Commission for Africa

**What:** Tenth Session of the Committee of Directors General of National Statistics Offices and Fifth Session of the Statistical Commission for Africa (Stat-Com Africa).

**Theme:** *Strengthening economic statistics to support Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*

**Who:** The Directors-General meeting is jointly organized by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), in collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB).

**When:** 28 November – 2 December 2016

**Where:** Afrikland Hotel, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

**Objectives:** The main objective of the joint session is to discuss the status and challenges in the production of economic statistics in Africa and to take stock of the various efforts made towards the modernization of official statistics (i.e. harmonization, comparability and production processes, new data ecosystems, locational management of information, coordination efforts and new technologies) in the continent to support the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

**Participants:** The meeting will bring together the Directors General of national statistics offices, heads of departments or statistical units of the regional economic communities, schools and institutes of statistics training, AFRISTAT, pan-African institutions and development partners, heads of national authorities in charge of mapping, cartography, surveying and high-level geospatial science and technology experts non-governmental organizations, academia, research institutions and the private sector.

**Background:** The year 2016 marks the fifty-third anniversary of the creation of the Organization of African Unity / African Union. Despite having one of the highest economic growth rates over the last decade, Africa remains the region most affected by poverty, unemployment and inequalities in income and access to social services. In response to these concerns, African leaders adopted Agenda 2063 in January 2015 and a 10-year implementation plan in June 2015. This agenda will enable Africa to break out of underdevelopment and place the continent on the path of emerging economic, social and cultural well-being for its people.

With the adoption of Agenda 2063 at the continental level and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, the compilation of high-quality, timely, reliable disaggregated data is needed in the African continent at all levels of the development process to inform decisions, enable all stakeholders to track progress and make the necessary adjustments to ensure transparency and mutual accountability.

***Journalists are invited to cover the opening of the Directors-General Session of the National Statistics on Wednesday 30 November 2016, at 9:00am, in Afrikland Hotel, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.***

**For additional information please contact:**

**Media contact**

Molalet Tsedeke; Media Center Coordinator/ Directorate of Information and Communication/ AU Commission/ Tel: 0911-630631; E: mail: [molalett@africa-union.org](mailto:molalett@africa-union.org)

**Mr. M. Jose Awong Alene**

Statistician, Statistics Division (AUC)

Tel: +251-115182674 ; E-mail: [Alenej@africa-union.org](mailto:Alenej@africa-union.org)

**For further information contact**

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

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