MEDIA ADVISORY

HIGH LEVEL PANEL ON PIDA TO HOLD IN ABIJAN

What: A high level Panel discussion on the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) Session themed “Unlocking Investment for Regional Infrastructure to Accelerate Job Creation (PIDA)”, at the 6th EU-Africa Business Forum.

When: 27th November 2017, at 17h00 – 18h30 Abidjan time.

Where: Palais de la Culture, Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire. (Salle Eboucle)

Who: The panel will be composed of Mr. Cheikh Bedda, Director for Infrastructure and Energy at the African Union Commission; Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, CEO of the NEPAD Agency; Mr. Amadou Oumarou, Director for Infrastructure and Urban Development, African Development Bank; Mr. Roberto Ridolfi, Director, Planet and Prosperity, European Union; Mr. Georg Schmidt, Regional Director of Sub-Saharan Africa and the Sahel, Foreign Ministry, Germany; Mr. Mamadou MBAYE, Executive Director, FONSYS.

The session will be moderated by Mr. Laban-Cliff Onserio, anchor for the Daily Bulletin on NTV Business.

Leading continental and international voices on infrastructure including PIDA and CBN Stakeholders, Private Sector, financiers and Development Partners have been invited to the session.

Background

The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) is an African Union (AU) initiative implemented through a partnership between the AU Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Agency, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Since its adoption in January 2012 by African Heads of States and Governments, PIDA has made incredible progress towards the implementation and development of the PIDA Priority Action Plan (PIDA PAP), where about 51 priority infrastructure programme and 430 individual projects at country as well as regional levels, are under the spotlight.

In some estimates, African governments have to spend around $120 billion–$140 billion in the short-term to meet their infrastructure investment needs. This will require large-scale investment to finance projects. It is on the back of this challenge that PIDA was initiated to provide large-scale, innovative finance to boost Africa’s infrastructure.

PIDA has identified the growth of productive sectors as a priority and it is estimated that US$70 billion of PIDA infrastructure investment will generate US$172 billion in additional growth. PIDA projects have the potential to contribute to creating employment
opportunities and re-positioning the continent to becoming competitive in the global trading environment. But what are the underlying achievements and challenges of PIDA? What are the ongoing transformational projects and what are the opportunities that will be unlocked?

The Session on PIDA at the 6th EU-Africa Business Forum will showcase five key projects under PIDA: (1) Batoka Gorge Hydro Electric Scheme; (2) Ethiopia-Sudan Interconnector; (3) Kinshasa-Brazzaville Bridge; (4) Dar-Chalinze Toll Road; and (5) Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya Power Interconnector.

This event is organized by the African Union Commission. Contact details:

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