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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

## MEDIA ADVISORY

### CELEBRATION OF AFRICA DAY ON 25 MAY 2018, AT THE AFRICAN UNION HEADQUARTERS

#### INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

- WHAT:** Celebration of Africa Day observed every 25 May
- WHEN:** **Friday, 25 May 2018**  
Time: 11:00am
- WHERE:** African Union Headquarters, Addis Ababa (Nelson Mandela Hall, NCC)
- WHO:** **Organized by** the African Union Commission (AUC)

Highlights for media will include:

Speeches and Africa Day messages by Heads of State and Government and Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission:

- H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda and Chairperson of the African Union
- H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, and
- H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the Commission

The event will feature a high level debate on the AU theme of the year "*Winning the Fight against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa's Transformation*"; and

An African Bazaar

- Objectives:** The objectives of the May 25 celebration includes:
- Create , maintain and increase awareness for the public at large on the theme of the year 2018, as well as create African Unity through activities such as bazaars to showcase African cultural diversity in various aspects

**Why:** Africa Day is intended to celebrate and acknowledge the successes of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU now the AU) from its creation in May

25, 1963 in the fight against colonialism and apartheid, as well as the progress that Africa has made, while reflecting upon the common challenges that the continent face in a global environment.

- Who:** Participants will include:
- AU Member States;
  - AU Commission Staff;
  - Institutions represented in AUC;
  - Partners: Non-African countries and International Organizations;
  - Civil Society Organizations

**Background:** On 25 May 1963, Africa made history with the foundation of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) the precursor to the African Union (AU).

***Journalists are invited to take part and cover the celebration tomorrow 25 May 2018 starting from 11:00am.***

*The draft programme is attached:*

*For media enquires contact:*

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