



**DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Weekly Press Briefing on Coronavirus Disease Outbreak INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA**

**WHAT:** Weekly interaction with members of the media to share critical updates on steps taken to implement the joint continental strategy for COVID-19 response; and to also highlight the coordinated efforts of African Union Member States to combat the pandemic in their respective countries.

**SPEAKERS:** **Dr John Nkengasong**, Director, Africa CDC  
**Dr Matshidiso Moeti**, WHO Regional Director for Africa

**WHEN:** Thursday, 15 October 2020

**TIME:** 11.00–12.00 pm East Africa Time

**WHERE:** **Online through ZOOM, please register in advance to join the Meeting**

Register in advance for this webinar using the below link:  
[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_CuX-h8PKThi3RaY-yJBACg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CuX-h8PKThi3RaY-yJBACg)

**Live stream:** <https://livestream.com/africanunion/events/9033858>

#### **Background Information**

The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has spread to about 215 countries and territories with more than 37 million cases; and claimed over 1million lives globally. Over 1.5million cases have been reported in all countries in Africa, with nearly 38,600 deaths. Africa CDC and World Health Organization (WHO) are working with Member States to ensure an effective response to the outbreak by Member States, including maintaining key public health measures which are helping to slow down the pandemic.

Dr Nkengasong will be joined by Dr Moeti this Thursday to provide updates focusing on key aspects of COVID-19 response activities across Africa as follows:

- Effective actions African countries have taken against COVID-19
- COVID-19 Vaccines Development and Access, and
- The Continental Pathogen Genomics Initiative

Kindly note that the briefings now covers 3 AU working languages (English, French and Portuguese) for interpretation purpose.

Directorate of Information and Communication. African Union Commission  
E-mail: [dic@africa-union.org](mailto:dic@africa-union.org)

Below are basic things members of the media should consider for the briefing.

- Journalists will be allowed to ask questions directly online. If you have a question send your name and the name of your media house to WhatsApp # (+251 945 502 310), the following emails ([GwehN@africa-union.org](mailto:GwehN@africa-union.org), [molalett@africa-union.org](mailto:molalett@africa-union.org)) and they will be taken by the moderator.
- Colleagues who cannot ask questions directly online should send their questions to the same number or email addresses.

***Journalists are invited to connect and attend the press briefing on Thursday, 15 October 2020, at 11.00 a.m. East Africa Time.***

**Media inquiries:**

**Mr Molalet Tsedeke**, Tel: 0911-630631; Email: [molalett@africa-union.org](mailto:molalett@africa-union.org); Directorate of Information and Communication; AU Commission

Mr Collins Boakye-Agyemang: Tel: + 242 06 614 24 01; Email: [boakyeagyemangc@who.int](mailto:boakyeagyemangc@who.int), WHO Media Relations Officer

**About the African Union**

The African Union spearheads Africa's development and integration in close collaboration with African Union Member States, the Regional Economic Communities and African citizens. AU Vision: to accelerate progress towards an integrated, prosperous and inclusive Africa, at peace with itself, playing a dynamic role in the continental and global arena, effectively driven by an accountable, efficient and responsive Commission.

Learn more at: <http://www.au.int/en>

**About Africa CDC**

Africa CDC is a specialized technical institution of the African Union which supports Member States in their efforts to strengthen health systems and improve surveillance, emergency response, prevention and control of diseases.

Learn more at: <http://www.africacdc.org>

**For further information:**

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

**Follow us**

Face book: <https://www.facebook.com/AfricanUnionCommission>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/\\_AfricanUnion](https://twitter.com/_AfricanUnion)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/AUCommission>

Learn more at: <http://www.au.int>

The World Health Organization contributes to a better future for people everywhere. Good health lays the foundation for vibrant and productive communities, stronger economies, safer nations and a better world. As the lead health authority within the United Nations system, our work touches people's lives around the world every day. In Africa, WHO serves 47 Member States and works with development partners to improve the health and well-being of all people living here. The WHO Regional Office for Africa is located in Brazzaville, Congo. Learn more at [www.afro.who.int](http://www.afro.who.int) and follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).