

DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

Date: 14 Nov 2020

Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

MEDIA ADVISORY.

High-Level Dialogue on Birth Registration in Africa.

“Towards Universal Birth Registration in Africa: challenges and opportunities during COVID-19”

What: Convened under the theme “Towards Universal Birth Registration in Africa: Opportunities and Challenges during COVID-19”, the High-Level Dialogue will debate on recommendations to urgently scale up on the vital issue of birth registration of children in Africa. Birth registration in Africa has lagged behind, leaving millions of children deprived of their basic right to legal identity.

When: 19 November 2020, 1400 hours EAT.

Where: The meeting will be held virtually. To participate register here-
<https://zoom.us/j/95626488511?pwd=ZURUZ0w3L2pKVjM2ajRXL3loZVJrQT09>

Who: Convened jointly by the African Union Commission Department of Economic Affairs and UNICEF, the meeting will bring together AU Member States Ministers or Deputy Ministers responsible for issues of birth registration or their delegated Officials, Registrar Generals, representatives from the Regional Economic Communities, Chairpersons of Specialized AU Institutions, Principals of civil society organizations, UN Agencies and private sector entities working on Birth registration and Identity. UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and renowned personality Angelique Kidjo, will also pledge her support to the “No Name Campaign”.

Background

African Union, jointly with UNICEF, have launched the No Name Campaign: For Every Child a Legal Identity, For Every Child Access to Justice, identifies birth registration as a key element for the access to child friendly justice. The campaign aims at rallying more actions and speedy implementation of commitments by the African Union member states, towards the universal registration of children at birth and the urgency to reposition civil registration and vital statistics in Africa, to address the indignity of invisibility. The launch of the campaign is equally timely as concerns rise on the threat of birth registration rates falling behind amid COVID-19 pandemic.

The campaign acknowledges that lack of legal identity for many Africans is a developmental challenge for Africa's socio-economic transformation, and that registration of children at birth is one of the key elements to accelerate social justice, the campaign seeks to rally for the speedy implementation of commitments by the African Union Member States, towards universal registration of children at birth.

For more détails, visit- <https://au.int/en/newsevents/20200617/no-name-campaign>

For further information please contact:

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