

## DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

Media Advisory

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

Venue: Ghana, Accra

What: **Press briefing on the status of AfCFTA**

When: 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

Time: **13:00h GMT**

Who: H.E. Mr. Wamkele Mene the Secretary General of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat

Register for the webinar here <https://bit.ly/2MJEnWH>

Join the conversation on social media using **#OneAfricanMarket**

Trading under the African Continental Free Trade Area started in earnest on 1 January 2021. This follows a five- and half-year period since negotiations were launched on 15 June 2015. Tough negotiations were followed by signing of the Agreement on 21 March 2018, entry into force on 30 May 2019 and commencement of trading on 1 January 2021.

### Note to editors

The Agreement establishing the AfCFTA was signed in March 2018, in Kigali Rwanda, following conclusion of the main legal texts. 54 Member States of the African Union have signed, and 30 countries have deposited their instruments of ratification with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission. The main objectives of the AfCFTA are to create a single market for goods and services, facilitate the movement of persons, promote industrial development and sustainable and inclusive socio-economic growth, and resolve the issue of multiple membership, in accordance with agenda 2063. It lays a foundation for the establishment, in future, of a [Continental Common Market](#).

For more information on the AfCFTA Start of Trading webinar please contact  
Dr. Francis Mangeni ([francis.mangeni@au-afcfta.org](mailto:francis.mangeni@au-afcfta.org))

### For more media inquiries please contact:

Mrs. Esther Azaa Tankou | Head of Information Division | Directorate of Information and Communication, African Union Commission | Mobile: +251911361185 | E-mail: [yamboe@africa-union.org](mailto:yamboe@africa-union.org)

Ms. Faith Adhiambo | Communications Officer-Agenda 2063 | African Union Commission | E-mail: [OchiengJ@africa-union.org](mailto:OchiengJ@africa-union.org)

Directorate of Information and Communication | African Union Commission | E-mail: [DIC@african-union.org](mailto:DIC@african-union.org) | Website: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int) | Addis Ababa | Ethiopia Follow Us: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Youtube](#)