

**PRESS RELEASE N°107/2014****COMMISSIONER TUMUSIIME RECEIVES CODEX ALIMENTARIUS DELEGATION**

Addis Ababa, 16 May 2014- Her Excellency Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture received today, Dr. Awilo Ochieng Pernet, the Vice Chairperson of Codex Alimentarius Commission who came to see her, accompanied by H.E. Andreas Semadeni, the Ambassador of Switzerland to the African Union, and Ambassador Thomas Jemmi, Deputy Director-General, Swiss Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO).

They discussed issues pertaining to the work of Codex Alimentarius and the role the Africa Group of Permanent

Representatives in Geneva is playing advancing the interests of Africa including contributing to the formulation of the global food safety standards. They further discussed possibilities of enhancing collaboration between the Codex Alimentarius and the African Union Commission and strengthening the capacity of African experts to participate more effectively in the Codex Alimentarius processes.

Ms Awilo was also introduced as a candidate for Chair of Codex Alimentarius for 2014-2017. The elections are scheduled for July 2014 in Geneva on the margins of the Meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Commission that brings together experts and policy makers on food safety and standards which are critical for better health and international trade.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission, established by FAO and WHO in 1963 develops harmonized international food standards, guidelines and codes of practice to protect the health of the consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade. The Commission also promotes coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

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