

**PRESS RELEASE N°045/2015****Commissioner Tumusiime discusses sustainable development with UNEP Africa  
Regional Office Director**

**24 February, Nairobi**-Her Excellency Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, Commissioner for Rural Economy at the African Union Commission called on Mr. Mounkaila Goumandakoye, Director for the Regional Office for Africa at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The meeting reviewed areas of cooperation in furtherance of issues related to environment and sustainable development including support to Africa's participation in global negotiations on climate change and sustainable development goals, among others.

In this context, the two principals considered the state of preparations for the upcoming important engagements including:

1. The Africa Environment Day/Wangari Maathai Day 2-4 March 2015 also coinciding with World Wildlife Day in Nairobi, Kenya
2. The 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) 2-6 March Cairo, Egypt
3. International Day of Forests Day 21 March 2015
4. The International Conference on Illegal Exploitation and Trade in Africa's Wild Flora and Fauna 27-30 April 2015 Congo-Brazzaville
5. The 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Co21 of the UNFCCC) Le Bourget, France 30 November to 11 December 2015

They agreed on continued close collaboration on these and other related issues in partnership with other Pan African and regional and international institutions in support of AU Member States effective participation around Africa's common position.

The meeting was attended by Mr. David Ombisi, Executive Secretary of AMCEN and officials from UNEP and AUC.

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