



**Forests | Climate | Change**  
**“Addressing Climate Change in Africa  
through Sustainable Forest Management”**

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

The African Union Commission (AUC), and the Food and Agriculture Organization for the United Nations (UNFAO) will jointly organize a half day event to celebrate the International Day of Forests (IDF) in Addis Ababa on 20 March 2015. The event will be characterized by statements from the AUC and FAO and a Panel discussion to exchange views on “Challenges for the Forestry Sector in Africa”.

Forests and trees are relatively fragile and easily affected by drought, erosion fires and wood cutting for firewood, not to mention the continuous effect of climate change. There is therefore an urgent need for the forestry sector in Africa to show clear commitment and to work with other sectors in the improvement and design of appropriate policies and mechanisms that allows for participatory and community based management with an integrated landscape planning approach.

**WHAT:** 2015 International Day of Forests (IDF)

**WHO:**

- The Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture; AUC
- FAO Sub Regional Office for Eastern Africa in Addis Ababa;
- The Chair of the Permanent Representative Committee in Addis Ababa;
- Minister for Environment and Forest of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

**WHEN:** Friday, 20th March 2015, Registration starts at 9:45 am

**WHERE:** African Union Commission HQ

***Journalists are invited to attend and cover the event on Friday 20 March 2015 at 10:00am, at the AU Commission.***

***Draft programme is attached:***

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