## AFRICAN UNION الاتحاد الأفريقي



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## Elementary Children from Bilatena Academy Urged to work hard in School to be the future Torchlight for Africa

**Addis Ababa, 18 April 2012-** Over forty children from kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup>grade all ranking at the top of their class alongside 5 teachers came to visit the African Union (AU) headquarters on Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> 2012.

These exceptional pupils from the Bilatena Academy School were welcomed by Mrs. Habiba Mejri-Cheikh, Director of Information and Communication (DIC) of the African Union Commission (AUC).

Mrs. Mejri-Cheikh addressed the children informing them of their roles in the building process of the continent. She pointed out the important role of the youths in the building of the continent. "You are the future of Africa...Africa counts on you for its development", she said. The Director of DIC further underlined that working hard and never giving up is the best way to succeed in order to make the dream of a United Africa a reality for Africa.

The children were given the chance to ask questions about the African Union, which gave them the opportunity to learn more about the African Union and its objectives for Africa. Later, the children were led to a tour guided by the Senior Editorial Officer of the DIC, Mrs. Esther Azaa Tankou, to the old and the new Conference Center of the AUC.

The children were excited to visit the plenary halls of both conference centers .

While in the plenary, the children occupied the seats and imagine themselves already as the future decision makers of the continent.