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#### **Directorate of Information and Communication**

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# AU Sensitization and Motivation Campaign in Mozambique to Encourage Participation in the Elections for the ECOSOCC 2nd General Assembly

**Maputo, Mozambique, 5 September 2014:** A number of civil society organizations in Mozambique actively interacted and discussed with the African Union Sensitization and Motivation Campaign team on the election for the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the AU Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC), today 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014, in Maputo. The event was in the context of the Mission of the AU Campaign in Mozambique.



deliberation The with began the opening remarks by Mozambican the **CSOs** Representative, who urged the national CSOs to put its effort towards the upcoming General Assembly. He stressed out the difficulties in

fulfilling the requirements, especially the Article 6 of the ECOSOCC Statutes. On the other hand, he stated that it was very crucial for the country to be represented in the organ as it was an opportunity to actively participate in the AU activities.

Mr. Filipe Furuma, Head of Delegation urged the government and people of Mozambique to work very closely in partnership with ECOSOCC to achieve the main objectives of the sensitization and motivation campaign to give added value as the country was well represented in the 1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly. He expressed the gratitude of the African Union for the efforts made by Mozambique representatives in ECOSOCC and wished once again quality organizations to be also elected.

Mr. Bright Mando, the Representative from the Office of the Legal Council focused on the ECOSOCC election process, explained to the participants the purpose of the sensitization and motivation program and details of the application procedure, process and the way forward.

The meeting provided an opportunity for CSOs in Mozambique to share their concerns and views on a number of issues related to their participation in the African Union and the continent. The Representative of the Mozambican CSOs had, on behalf of the NGO Platform, expressed great satisfaction for the CSOs having had this great opportunity to learn more on ECOSOCC and AU at this event and had expectations that the CSOs will submit their applications.



The African Union Sensitization and Motivation Campaign is in compliance to the decision adopted by the 23<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly, held in Malabo, in June 2014. The decision called the AU Commission to conduct a campaign to encourage greater participation and gathering sufficient candidatures from the African CSOs, in particular the least represented countries for ECOSOCC election.

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