



## Press Release

### The AUC makes donations for the disabled of the Mekedonia Home, Addis Ababa



**06<sup>th</sup> February 2015** – The African-Union Youth Volunteers Corps (AU-YVC) in collaboration with the AU Staff Association (AUSA) handed various gift-items to the *Mekedonia Home for the elderly and mentally disabled*. With this handover, the AUYVC closes the issued call for the African Union Commission staff to make donations, until further notification. The call marked the intent of the AUYVC to celebrate **International Volunteer Day (IVD)**, December 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 and concurrently to help the impoverished people. The AUC staff's response to the call was exceptional to an extent where nine bags of clothes, toys, shoes and cash receipts were collected by AU Youth Volunteers.

Lieutenant Mr.Colonel Kassahem Tirfe, Manager of the Mekedonia Home expressed his immense gratitude on behalf of his staff and patients of the Mekedonia Home, for the donations by the AUC. “Over the years, the donations had become scarcer and the donations from the African Union are so opportune”, one staff of the Home exclaimed.



Despite plain equipments, basic medication, understaffing and little funding, the Mekedonia Home houses a total of 1000 elderly and mentally disabled across two property lands. This year, the Government of Ethiopia is especially assigning several hectares of land for the Mekedonia Home to meet the growing demand of people. As a non-profit organization, the Mekedonia Home is dedicated to provide food, clothing, permanent housing and

compassionate personal care to the elderly and those with mental illness. Combining the AUC staff's generosity, AUSA's support and the AUYVC's spirit of Volunteerism, the hearts of the disabled have been touched and the burden of the Mekedonia Home is alleviated in the start of 2015.

For further information on the Mekedonia Home and an upcoming fundraising event to be held in the Millenium Hall, please call: +251(0)9119379992; +251(0)911223159. For details about the AUYVC program, please contact Ms. Pamela Charidza at: [CharidzaP@africa-union.org](mailto:CharidzaP@africa-union.org) or email: [youth@africa-union.org](mailto:youth@africa-union.org)