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WORLD AIDS DAY 2011: AFRICAN UNION HOSTS A FAMILY EVENING



Addis Ababa, 29 November 2011 – Ahead of the World Aids Day to be commemorated on 1st December 2011 worldwide, the African Union Commission (AUC) will on 2nd December 2011, as from 4 pm, organise a "Family Evening" as part of the activities marking the Day. The event will take place at the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The social evening dubbed "Family Evening" will be animated by the Medical Services Directorate and the Department of Social Affairs of the African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with other partners and stakeholder departments dealing with HIV-AIDS issues.

The event at the AU headquarters will bring together children and parents from the African Union Commission and affiliated Diplomatic Missions in Ethiopia. The activities during the "Family Evening" will include: Art and poetry competition; Drama and role play; Music and cultural display; Human red ribbon and a special pictorial artistic and very emotional drawings on the theme of the World Aids Day, by young pupils (age 12-15) from the Greek School in Addis Ababa.

The Special Family Evening Event will also feature the display of a wide variety of African Cultural outfits by the African Ambassadors' Spouses Group (AASG) who are interested in showcasing the different African cultural diversity through traditional African dresses.

It is worth recalling that, the theme for the 2011 World AIDS Day is "Getting to Zero". It underscores the importance of Zero New HIV Infections; Zero Discrimination; and Zero AIDS Related Deaths.

The World AIDS Campaign on "Zero AIDS Related Deaths" signifies a push towards greater access to treatment for all; a call for governments to act now. It is in the context of Getting to Zero New HIV Infection that the focus of the AU celebration of World AIDS Day is on Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT).

The population is all invited to attend and not to miss this special moment.

JOURNALISTS ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FAMILY EVENING AS FROM ON 2nd <u>DECEMBER 2011 AS FROM 4 PM</u> IN THE AFRICAN UNION HEADQUARTERS

For more information, visit the AU website: www.au.int

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