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Information and Communication

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### The Third Pan-African Forum on Children

**Addis Ababa, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012** - The Third Pan-African Forum on Children will be held at the headquarters of the African Union Commission (AUC) on 19 and 20 November 2012 in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) under the theme: ***"The responsibility investing for children."***

Jointly organized by the Department of Social Affairs of the AUC and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), with the support of various partners, the Forum aims to further increase the accountability and advocacy for more efforts to invest in children.

Many African children still face poverty, including disease, malnutrition, lack of shelter and armed conflict. For the Member States of the African Union (AU), **"Children are a vital and privileged position in the African society"**, and despite the efforts made by countries to improve the lives of their children, their situation remains very precarious. This is one of the major conclusions of the Second Pan-African Forum on Children, held in Cairo, Egypt in 2007, released as part of a mid-term review of the Action Plan for Africa Fit for Children. The AUC has been responsible for setting up a framework for monitoring and evaluation on the basis of which Member States will report on progress in the implementation of the Call.

The Third Forum will bring together experts from the Member States of the AU in the area of welfare of the child, representatives of UN agencies, NGO networks, organizations of women and children involved issues related to children and development partners. It will be a milestone for more than ten years after the 2001 Forum, and evaluate the actions already undertaken by Member States of the AU and those they intend to take to invest more in children.



