



PRESS RELEASE NO. / 20th AU SUMMIT

Secretary General of the African Union Commission explains the theme of the AU 20th Summit during a press conference.

Addis Ababa, 22 January 2013 – The Secretary General of the African Union Commission (AUC), Ambassador Jean Mfasoni held a press conference on 22 January on the theme of the 20th AU Summit namely "Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance". The summit is running from 21-28 January 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

To African and international journalists and media professionals Ambassador Mfasoni reiterated the importance of the presence and collaboration of the media in the coverage of the AU Summit in particular. In this context he first presented the Summit program which includes among others: an awards ceremony for the former Chairperson of the AUC, Dr. Jean Ping and former Commissioners of the AUC, the signing of AU Treaties, and the unveiling of the plaque commemorating the inauguration of the New Conference Center of the African Union at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa. It will also be the occasion to officially launch the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the OAU / AU to be held May 25, 2013. The theme of the 20th AU Summit was chosen in relation to this Fiftieth Anniversary.

During the Summit, many reports will be examined such as the report of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC); that of Mr. Ernest Bai Koroma, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Chairperson of the Committee of Ten on the UN Reforms; as well as the report of the Coordinator of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) on the Climate Change Negotiations at the 18th Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (COP 18).

Within the question and answers session coordinated by Mrs. Habiba Mejri Cheikh, AU Director of Information and Communication, Ambassador Mfasoni gave more details on the preparation of the festivities of the 50 years of the OAU / AU.

For more information, visit African Union website: www.au.int and the web page of 20th AU Summit: <http://summits.au.int/en/20thsummit/>

Journalists wishing to interview leaders of the AU Commission during the Summit should contact Mrs. Esther Tankou Azaa E-mail: YambouE@africa-union.org / esthertankou@yahoo.com