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The AU Commissioner for Human Resources Science and Technology outlines major projects during a press conference.

Addis Ababa, January 22, 2013 – The African Union Commissioner for Human Resources Science and Technology (HRST), Professor Jean Pierre Ezin, presented the main achievements of the department to media at a press conference on 22 January. He highlighted the Pan African University (PAU), the Scientific Award of the AU and the AU Youth Volunteer Corps (AUYV).

The Commissioner spoke of the Pan African University (PAU) as a major initiative whose operationalization began in July 2012. The first 193 students started their academic year in November 2012. These students, chosen through a thorough and demanding process of selection and admission are spread over the three sites of the PAU as follows: 70 for the Faculty of Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation (hosted by the Jomo Kenyatta University in Kenya), 43 to the Faculty of Life and Earth Sciences (hosted by the University of Ibadan, Nigeria) and 80 to the Faculty of Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences (hosted by the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon).

On the other hand, the AU Scientific Awards, named Nkwame Nkrumah Awards, are part of the programs designed by the Department of Human Resources Science and Technology for enhancing research higher education in Africa. The winners of the 2012 edition in the areas of Life and Earth Sciences and Technology innovation at national level (\$5000), regional-only-women (\$20 000) and continental (\$100 000), will be announced by the Chairperson of the AU Commission during the 20th Summit and will receive their awards on May 25, 2013

African and international Journalists also had the opportunity to know more about the AU Youth volunteers Corps whose third promotion (2012-2013) includes health professionals, lawyers, communicators, experts in fundraising, etc. The AUYVC program is within the capacity building, empowerment and participation of young people.

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