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**Departmental Retreat to develop an implementation plan for the CFTA and the Business plan
for DTI for the period 18-19 July 2013**

The African Union Department of Trade and Industry, as part of the 2013 planning activities, is organizing a retreat from 18-19 Jul 2013 at Kuriftu Resort, Debrezeit. The participants include DTI staff, collaborating departments (Infrastructure and energy, Economic Affairs, Human Resources Science and Technology and SPPMREM) and UNECA/ATPC.

The Retreat will enable the Department of Trade and Industry together with colleagues within the Commission, to reflect on DTI's mandate, mission, workscope, progress and its role in delivering the AUC's strategic objectives. In addition, the retreat will help to develop an Operational Plan for the period 2014-17 in line with the AUC Strategic Plan as well as a draft action plan for the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA). The Retreat will also serve to give clarity on the priorities, roles, responsibilities, and the human and financial resources needed for the implementation of the CFTA and other departmental priorities.

The Department for International Development (DFID) has provided both technical and logistical support for the Retreat. The technical support will also contribute in the elaboration of a Business Plan for the Department.