

**Meeting of the Continental Task force on the Continental free Trade area (CFTA), 17-18 October 2013, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

The African Union Commission, Department of Trade and Industry is organizing the inaugural meeting of the Continental Task Force in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia at the AUC Headquarter.

The objective of the meeting is to:

- Discuss the Operational and organizational modalities for the Continental Task force on the CFTA;
- Discuss stakeholder engagement strategies for the pre-negotiations phase of the CFTA negotiations;
- Discuss resource mobilization strategies to raise funds for CFTA negotiations.

The meeting is attended by Trade Experts from RECs (COMESA, EAC, SADC, IGAD, ECOWAS,), United Nation Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), African Development Bank ( AfDB) and Trade Mark Southern Africa.

The outcome of the meeting will be submitted for consideration by the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference of Ministers of Trade scheduled to meet in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013.