



Reference: BC/OLC/24.15-1/985.15

REQUEST TO MEMBER STATES TO ORGANISE NATIONAL EVENTS ON 25 JULY 2015, THE DAY OF AFRICAN OCEANS AND SEAS

The African Union (AU) Commission presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs/External Relations of all AU Member States and has the honour to convey the request on behalf of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Her Excellency Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma to Members of the Executive Council of the AU.

As Your Excellencies will recall, during the just-concluded 25th Ordinary Session of Heads of State and Government in Johannesburg, Her Excellency the Chairperson of the AU Commission briefed the Executive Council and the Assembly on the launch of the African Decade of the Seas and Oceans (2015-2025) and celebration of the African Day of Seas and Oceans on 25 July 2015 as agreed in the Decision adopting the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM-Strategy), in Addis Ababa in January 2014.

The AU Commission will organise events in Addis Ababa Ethiopia to mark this occasion on 25 July 2015, and a Concept note to this effect has been circulated to all Member States by the Office of Legal Counsel.

In addition, Member States are also invited to organise national events to mark the Day of African Seas and Oceans.

Member States are also encouraged to disseminate related films, some of which are available in many different languages on <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLkI8NR6tcjdJVXvqFCTreA>.

Finally, the Commission requests Member States to encourage the media in territories to popularize the launch of the Decade of African Seas and Oceans (2015-2025) and celebration of the African Day of Seas and Oceans on 25 July 2015, expand coverage on maritime related issues, African Day of Seas and Oceans, Provide better visibility for maritime activities at the continental level, Popularize the 2050 AIM Strategy and its Plan of Action, Increase awareness on the importance of the maritime domain, Educate young Africans/women on career opportunities in the blue economy.

Together, let's navigate the future... now!

Tell your neighbor to keep an eye on www.au.int/maritime, and swim with us on Twitter and Facebook in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese and... Kiswahili.

2015-2025: Decade of African Seas and Oceans!

25 July: African Day of Seas and Oceans!

All correspondence relating to the events should be communicated to the following address:

**Office of the Legal Counsel
African Union Commission**

**Attention: Samuel KAME-DOMGUIA, Ocist,
Coordinator, 2050 AIM-Strategy Task Force
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: +251-911-503 413, Fax: +251-115-182-719.
Email: SKameDomguia@Africa-Union.org.**

The African Union (AU) Commission avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs/External Relations of all AU Member States the assurances of its highest consideration. *von*

Addis Ababa, 07 July 2015

To:

- **Ministries of Foreign Affairs/External Relations of all AU Member States**
- **Permanent Missions of all AU Member States in Addis Ababa**