



## PRESS RELEASE N°18/ 22<sup>nd</sup> AU SUMMIT

### Council for Infrastructure Development (CID) holds its first meeting



**Addis Ababa, 28 January, 2014:** The first meeting of the Council for Infrastructure Development (CID) was held today at the African Union Commission on the sidelines of the 22<sup>nd</sup> summit of the African Union. CID is a key organ of the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa (IAIDA).

The CID structure was created by Heads of State and Government to better coordinate the development of regional and continental infrastructure, so as to ensure coherence and harmony across sectors and speed up implementation of the priority projects identified within the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA). It aims to ensure that Africa acts as one and to make it a forum where the continent can prioritise and assist the implementation in line with infrastructure projects.

Today's meeting, which was attended by ministers, heads of Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and the NEPAD Agency Dr Ibrahim Mayaki had two main topics under discussion:

- (i) The CID rules of procedure;
- (ii) Progress report on the PIDA PAP implementation, which particularly provides information on the updating of the PIDA PAP project fiches, PIDA Financing Study, PIDA Capacity Building for the main stakeholders involved in PIDA implementation (RECs, NPCA and AUC) as well as on the Communication Strategy.

The meeting started with introductory remarks by the AUC Commissioner of Infrastructure and Energy Dr Elham Mohammad Ebrahim. In her statement she emphasized the need for better coordination of regional and continental infrastructure.

Following her remarks, the Deputy Chairperson of the AUC Mr Erastus Mwencha who was there on behalf of the African Union Commission Chairperson, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, commended the setting up of CID as an implementation mechanism that has a structure of ministers supported by RECs, and which will be meeting annually to make sure that Africa stays on course towards the attainment of Agenda 2063.

He reminded the council that they are seized with a matter of critical importance to Africa.

“Infrastructure is seen as an enabler, as one of the critical sectors that will determine the success of the continental agenda. It will determine Africa’s capacity to compete and to integrate effectively. It is a sector that has a huge dividend in terms of financing and in terms of implementation, and so we have no time to lose”, Mr Mwencha said.

**For further information contact**

Directorate of Information and Communication | African Union Commission | E-mail: [dinfo@african-union.org](mailto:dinfo@african-union.org) | Web Site: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int) | Addis Ababa | Ethiopia

**Follow us**

Face book: <https://www.facebook.com/AfricanUnionCommission>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/\\_AfricanUnion](https://twitter.com/_AfricanUnion)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/AUCommission>

**Learn more at:**

<http://www.au.int>