



PRESS RELEASE N0 19/ 22nd AU SUMMIT

DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION HOSTS JOURNALISTS CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP WITH FES



Addis Ababa, 29 January 2014 – This morning marked the opening of the DIC/FES, two day training jointly organized by the Commission’s Directorate of Communication and Information (DIC) and the Freidrich Ebert Foundation (FES) which was held in their fourth year of successful partnership.



This African Journalist and Editors workshop aims to share some of Africa’s success stories, give opportunities to the journalist to raise issues that are of concern to their audience and assist the African Union establish a long lasting relationship between the press organs in general and with the journalist and editors in particular.

In her opening statement Mrs Habiba Mejri Cheikh, Director of Information and Communication recalled that the theme of this year’s summit was “agriculture and food security in Africa”. The theme was decided upon by the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government during the 19th Ordinary session. 2014 also marks the 10th Anniversary of the adoption of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP), an AU flagship program to which member States committed to ensure food security.

Coming back to the matters of the African Journalist and Editors workshop, Mrs Mejri Cheikh invited the journalists to discuss on challenges of AU and the media. She highlighted that the training session aims are, sharing some of Africa’s success stories, giving opportunities to the journalist to raise issues that are of concern to their audience

and assisting the African Union establish a long lasting relationships, with the press organs in general and the journalist and editors in particular.

Mr Arne Schildberg, Director of the Freidrich Ebert Foundation (FES) Addis Ababa office congratulated the African Union Commission for the four successful years of partnership with his organization and for growing the program into continental recogniTION. He also acknowledged the participation of journalists from more than 10 different African countries.

During this training the participant's were teamed in groups and assigned to work on how the African Union's Communication and information could be improved. As a result Aa number of challenges were identified. Throughout this morning's opening session, suggestions and discussions led to possible solutions to these problems.

This DIC/FES training continued throughout the day with the intervention of Ambassador Febe Potgieter who discussed of the 2063 Agenda, Mr Simon Badza who dwelt on peace and security and Commissioner Rhoda Peace Tumussiime who gave a press conference on the theme of the summit.

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