



MEDIA ADVISORY

African Union to convene the first African Solidarity Conference

“Africa helping Africa”

WHAT: The Commission of the African Union (AU) will convene the first African Solidarity Conference (ASC), at the level of Heads of State and Government, to launch the pledging process in support of countries emerging from conflict. Representatives of the media are invited to cover the **Opening Ceremony at 8:00 am., to be followed by a press conference at 10:40 am.**

WHEN: 1 February 2014, From 8:00 am - 10:30 am.

WHERE: **African Union Headquarters**, Main Hall, New AU Conference Complex, Addis Ababa

WHO: The meeting will be attended by all AU Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), partners, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), representatives from the private sector, women and youth networks and African foundations.

WHY: The Conference aims at mobilizing support to countries emerging from conflict in the spirit of African Solidarity. Countries will be expected to make in-kind, capacity building and financial pledges or express interests in making pledges for pilot post-conflict countries.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

Share African expertise, know-how and best practices in key areas of need in post conflict countries; contribute to capacity building and strengthening through offering facilities for training, exchange of personnel, technical support schemes and other additional in-kind commitments based on the priorities and needs identified; increased pledges for funding contributions in support of critical post-conflict reconstruction and development activities being undertaken in the countries concerned.

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