

Press Release N°35 /22<sup>nd</sup> AU SUMMIT

## Commissioner Tumusiime underscores AU's Achievement on Water and Sanitation in Africa



**Addis Ababa, 31 January, 2014:**

H.E Mrs. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union (AU) and Hon. Sarah Reng - Ochekpe, Minister for Water Resources, Federal Republic of Nigeria held a press conference today 31 January 2014 at the AU headquarters during which they highlighted the progress done on water and sanitation sector in

Africa. The two panelists also discussed ways to accelerate the water and sanitation goals in the continent.

The briefing focused on the importance of water and sanitation as a key driver for development and poverty alleviation in Africa. It was noted that the Africa water vision 2025 calls for an Africa where there is an equitable and sustainable use and management of water resources for poverty alleviation, socio-economic development, regional cooperation and the environment.

The engagement of the African Union Commission for the past four years in the mobilization of key stakeholders and development partners to support the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) and to build a strong partnerships with the AU member states and the Regional Economic Communities for the establishment of regular monitoring, evaluating and reporting mechanism in the progress of implementation of the commitments on water and sanitation for the African Union Assembly was also explained during the briefing.



The inaugural report presented, was also said to have been prepared through extensive consultations and capacity building to designated focal points from member states.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner explained that, the pursuit of the African Vision 2025 is said to be not an option given the need to unleash Africa's development potential but that this pioneer will be taken as a pilot in which through collaboration with all stakeholders and development partners, it is hoped to strengthen human resources and logistical capacity of member states in the coming years for improving monitoring, evaluating and reporting on progress in developing the water and sanitation sector in Africa.

**NTH / EAT**

**For further information contact**

Directorate of Information and Communication | African Union Commission | E-mail: [dinfo@africa-union.org](mailto:dinfo@africa-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>

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

**Learn more at:**

<http://www.au.int>