



DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

PRESS RELEASE N° 01/ 25th AU SUMMIT**25th African Union Summit to hold in South Africa**

Addis Ababa, 29 May 2015- The Republic of South Africa will host from 7 to 15 June 2015, the 25th Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) under the theme: *“Year of Women’s Empowerment and Development towards Africa’s Agenda 2063”*.

The Summit will officially start with the 30th Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) on Sunday 7 and end on Monday 8 June 2015 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria. The PRC will discuss items on the agenda in preparation for the 25th AU Summit, to be submitted to the Executive Council for adoption. The opening session of the PRC will include among others, a speech by the Chair of the PRC, Ambassador Albert R. Chimbindi, and a welcome remark by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, followed by a group photo of Ambassadors with Commission Members.

Meanwhile, the Twenty Seventh (27th) Ordinary Session of the Executive Council will hold on Wednesday 10 to Friday 12 June 2015 at the Sandton Convention Center Johannesburg, South Africa. The opening ceremony of the ministerial meeting will include the following: welcome remarks and opening statement by the Chairperson of the Executive Council; statement by the Chairperson of the AU Commission; statement by the UN Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the UNECA; and a group photo of the Ministers. Later, the Ministers of External Affairs and other ministers or authorities designated by the governments of AU Member States will deliberate on the different reports of the ministerial meetings organised by the AU Commission during the last six months.

The Twenty Fifth (25th) Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union is scheduled to take place on Sunday 14 and Monday 15 June 2015 at the Sandton Convention Center, Johannesburg. The opening session of the Summit will feature welcome remarks by H.E. Mr. Robert Mugabe, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and Chairperson of the African Union ; H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union; H.E. Mr. Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa ; H.E. Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General of the United Nations; H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine and Chairman of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee as well as

statements by the newly elected Heads of State and Government, followed by a group photo.

The Heads of State and Government will later consider the report of the Commission on the Ebola Crisis; the report of the Ministerial Retreat on: First Ten-Year implementation plan of the Agenda 2063 and modalities for implementation of the Alternative Sources of Financing the African Union; the report of the Peace and Security Council on its activities and the state of peace and security in Africa; progress report of the Commission on Maternal, New Born and Child Health (MNCH).

AU Summit to Discuss Report of Activity:

The Heads of State and Government will exchange views on the report of H.E. Mr. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairperson of NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC); the report of H.E. Mr. John Dramane Mahama, President of the Republic of Ghana and Chairperson of the High Level African Trade Committee (HATC); the report of H.E. Mr. Abdel Fattah El Sissi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Coordinator of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC); the report of H.E. Mr. Ernest Bai Koroma, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Chairperson of the Committee of Ten on the UN Reforms as well as the report of H.E. Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of the Republic of Liberia and Chairperson of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

The Summit will further consider the report of H.E. Mr. Hailemariam Desalegn, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Chairperson of the AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) Heads of State and Government Action Committee before proceeding to the appointment of some elected officials including: six members of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) and three members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).

A joint press conference addressed by the Chairperson of the African Union (AU) and the Chairperson of the AU Commission will crown the event.

For more information on media accreditation and coverage of the Summit please visit the 25th AU Summit web link: <http://summits.au.int/en/25thsummit/accreditation>

Journalists are invited to cover the official opening and closing ceremonies of the 30th Ordinary Session of the PRC on 7 and 8 June 2015, the 27th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council on 10 to 12 June 2015 and the 25th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly on 14 and 15 June 2015.

Journalists are also invited to cover all the photo sessions.

Journalists wishing to interview the leadership of the AU Commission during the Summit should submit their requests to Mrs Esther Azaa Tankou E-mail: YambouE@africa-union.org / esthertankou@yahoo.com

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