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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

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### **Courtesy Call of Seychelles President to the AU Commission Chairperson**

**Johannesburg, South Africa - 15 June 2015:** The Chairperson of the African Union Commission Chairperson Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma granted an audience to the President of Seychelles, James Michel on the margins of the 25<sup>th</sup> AU Summit of Heads of State and Government on 15 June 2015 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

President James Michel congratulated the AU Commission Chairperson for her dynamic leadership in managing the affairs of the Commission, particularly in spearheading and championing the Blue Economy on the broader continental Agenda 2063. He expressed the delight of Seychelles and that of the Small Island States.

Both the AU Commission Chairperson and the President of Seychelles agreed on the need to organize a Summit on the Blue Economy and Africa's Oceans aimed at raising awareness and allowing the continent tap on the enormous potential they provide. They also discussed the relevance and timeliness of the theme of the Summit, "Women's Empowerment and Development towards Agenda 2063."

Dr. Dlamini Zuma and President James Michel exchanged views on the current situation of Burundi and the East Africa Standby Force, of which Seychelles is the Chair.

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