

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box 3243 Téléphone : 5517 700 Fax : 5511299

website : [www.africa-union.org](http://www.africa-union.org)

DIRECTORATE OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

**PRESS RELEASE No. 062/2011**

**POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION: AU CALLS FOR ACTION ORIENTED DEBATE**



**Addis Ababa, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011** - "Move from a debate base on theory to an action-oriented debate ". It is in these terms that, Mr. El Ghassim Wane, Director of the Department of Peace and Security of the African Union ( AU) opened the two-day workshop on reconstruction and post-conflict development which will brought together experts today 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011 at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



consolidate peace and stability. From 2-3 June, the workshop will feature some presentations followed by discussions on the situation on the ground.

The main objective of the workshop is to reinforce the contribution of the AU Member States with respect to the reconstruction process in post conflict countries in a bid to

Specifically, the meeting will identify priority areas in which AU Member States of the AU could be of help to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Burundi, Sudan, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Central African Republic in their efforts to reconstruct and restore peace within their respective national territories.

To this end, participants will define the modalities for organizing an African solidarity conference on post-conflict reconstruction in DRC, Sudan and Burundi. Meanwhile, during the opening ceremony of the workshop, Dr Andrew Mtetwa, Zimbabwe's Ambassador to the AU and President of the Peace and Security Council for the month of June, said "the role AU and of its partners is to address the root causes of conflict and the find solutions given that for integration to be successful, there is need for lasting peace and sustainable economic development."

In April 2006, January and February 2010, the AU deployed field missions to assess needs for reconstruction and development in post-conflict areas such as Central African Republic, DRC and Burundi. The recommendations of these missions were built around key elements required for reconstruction, such as security, humanitarian aid and emergency, governance and political transition, the socio-economic, human rights, justice and reconciliation as well as women and gender.

Worth recalling that, since 2006, the AU has put in place a policy of reconstruction and post-conflict development which aims to meet the needs of countries emerging from conflicts, to prevent worsening or recurrence of violence, address the root causes of conflicts and consolidate peace.