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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

MEDIA ADVISORY

COLLOQUIUM ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Wednesday 29 June 2011 from 2:30pm – 4:30pm

Sipopo Conference Center, Gran Sala de Prensa, A102

WHO: Division for Capacity Building and Youth Development in partnership with Department of Social Affairs and the UN-AU Regional Cluster Mechanism on Social and Human Development.

WHAT: The objective of this media colloquium is to highlight the concrete actions recommended by the African Youth Forum held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in April 2011. It will also seek to implement the declaration of the 8th Labour and Social Affairs Commission's (LASAC) request for a participatory mechanism in follow-up and implementation of the Summit decision

Focus areas will include;

- 'Youth Employment COMPACTs and the Informal Sector',
- 'The role of youth in Labour market Information Systems development and operationalization' and
- The development and implementation of monitoring of cross-sectoral, integrated and cost-ed 'Youth Employment Action PACT'.

AU and UN representatives will serve as respondents and will be available to answer questions from the media.

WHY: Young people are prone to work longer hours under informal, intermittent and insecure work arrangements characterized by low productivity and earnings and reduced social protection.

Young workers are more exposed to poverty than other age groups. In 2008, an estimated 152 million young workers were living with their families on less than US\$1.25 a day, amounting to more than 28 per cent of all young workers in the world.

Young women have more difficulty than young men in finding work. The female youth unemployment rate in 2009 stood at 13.2 per cent compared to the male rate of 12.9 per cent.

Youth unemployment rate rose from 11.9 percent to 13.0 percent between 2007 and 2009, an increase of 7.8 million.

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For further information please contact:

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