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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

PRESS RELEASE N°01/ 27th AU SUMMIT

Celebrating the “Year of Human Rights with Particular focus on the rights of Women”

The voice of women with albinism...



Addis Ababa, 30 June 2016 –“My brothers and sisters I am an African woman.

I have lighter than usual hair and skin and very beautiful bright eyes. You continue to believe that my body can heal you from HIV/AIDS and bring wealth to you. That’s a fallacy! My body belongs to me and please let me enjoy a life free from fear of being hunted down to satisfy your unfounded beliefs and crimes. I am just like you and if you let me be I will continue to contribute to the prosperity of my continent in all respects.

Africa, please come together to empower me and make my life more comfortable by defeating the myths which surround albinism and investing in science and technology for solutions that support the fulfillment of my dreams and aspirations towards the Africa We Want”.

This is the AU’s year of Human Rights with Particular focus on the Rights of Women. Africa stands united for zero tolerance on violence against women and the full protection of the rights of all people including me.

On the margins of the 27th AU Summit, on July 8 & 9, 2016 Kigali, Rwanda- will host the 3rd AU High Level Panel on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment. Under the leadership of H.E President Paul Kagame and H.E Dr. Nkossazana Dlamini Zuma, African Ministers, experts, scholars, practitioners, CSOs, think-tanks and delegates from the AU will deliberate on the theme **“The Contributions of Maputo Protocol on Women’s Rights in Transforming Gender Roles in Africa: Stocktaking, Opportunities and Accountability”**.

It’s been 13 years since the entry into force of the Maputo Protocol. This landmark legal instrument, protects all rights of women, including from any form of discrimination and

violence. Let's continue to celebrate the Maputo Protocol by respecting and protecting the rights of women living with albinism.”

The 3rd High Level Panel will be hosted and co-organized by the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion of the Republic of Rwanda and by the Directorate of Women and Gender Development of the African Union Commission (AUC) on behalf of the AU.

Journalists wishing to interview the leadership of the AU Commission during the Summit should submit their requests to Mrs Esther AzaaTankou, Ag. Director of Information and Communication of the AUC, via E-mail: YambouE@africa-union.org / esthertankou@yahoo.com

Hashtags

#27thAUSummit

#AUProject2016

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