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**DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Press Release**

**AUC Chairperson bids farewell to Commission on the Status of Women**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – 28 January 2017:** The Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, officially closed the Africa Ministerial Pre-Consultative Meeting on the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) on 27 January 2017.

Dr Dlamini Zuma officially bid farewell to CSW on her capacity as Chairperson of the AUC and thanked UN Women for supporting and working with her during her tenure as Chairperson and putting forward the plight of women.

The AUC Chairperson emphasized that Africa should fight against human trafficking which is a modern form of slavery. She further reiterated that the issue of financing women should be addressed because women have brilliant ideas to build the African economy but do not have resources.

The Commission on the Status of Women is a functional Commission of the Economic and Social Council. It is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women.

An outcome document that outlines Africa Key Messages on the priority and review themes of CSW was compiled during the meeting with inputs from all stakeholders.