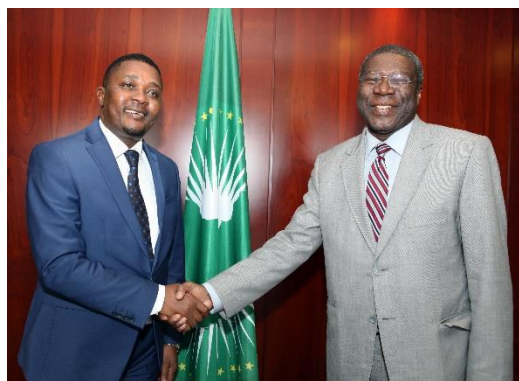




## Press Release N°057/ 2017

## AFRICA CANDIDATE FOR UNWTO TOP JOB VISITS AUC



**Addis Ababa, 18 April 2017-** H.E Dr Thomas Kwesi Quartey, the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission met with Honourable Dr. Walter Mzembi, the candidate for the post of Secretary General of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

In his courtesy visit Hon. Dr. Mzembi briefed the Deputy Chairperson about the Africa's potential in tourism sector. Africa holds 3.5% of this global market share. In 2014 Africa welcomed 65.3 million arrivals, which represents 5.8% of the total international arrivals figure. He also explained tremendous challenges facing African tourism sector including insecurity issues in many areas of our continent. Hon. Dr. Mzembi underlined the fact that for many African countries, tourism is a principal export and a recognized development tool.

Dr. Mzembi spoke about three pillars as a candidate for the UNWTO Secretary General post. These are:

- I. To restore Intergovernmental agency of the organization;
- II. Resource mobilization and business development; and
- III. Enhancing the diplomacy status of the organization.

Furthermore, Dr. Mzembi discussed some of initiatives which will contribute to the resource mobilization for the UNWTO.

The candidature of Dr. Mzembi was endorsed during the Executive Council meeting June 2016 as Africa candidate for the post.

The meeting was attended by the Ambassador of Zimbabwe to Ethiopia H.E Albert Chimbindi as well as other staff from the embassy of Zimbabwe in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

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