

## AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION LAUNCHES REVAMPED LIBRARY WEBSITE



**Addis Ababa Ethiopia, 17 April 2017-**The Knowledge Management division of the Strategic Policy Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Resource Mobilization (SPPMER) directorate launched on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2017, during the Staff Association's General Assembly meeting, a Library's revamped website, in the presence of H.E. Mr. Thomas Kwasi Quartey, Deputy

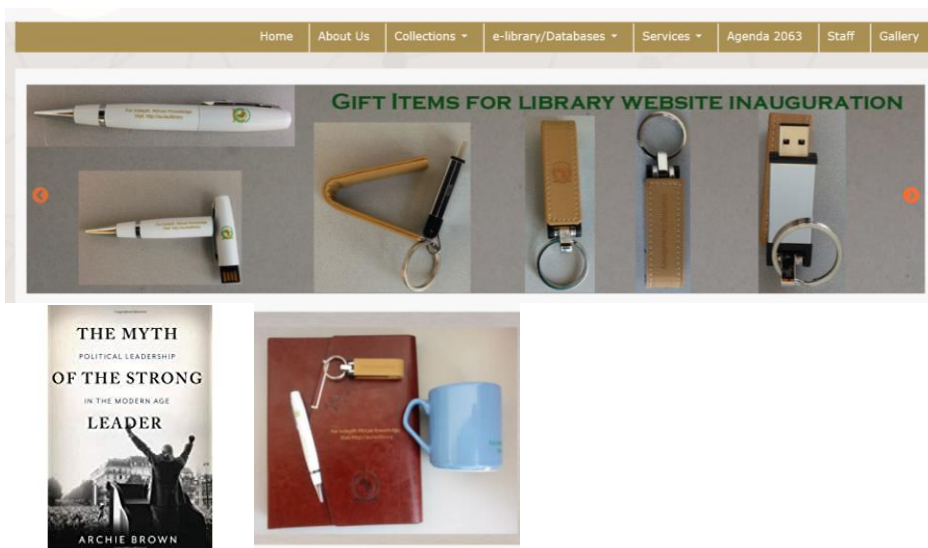
Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Commissioners, Directors, and over 400 staff of the Commission.

At the launching ceremony, Mr. Mesfin Tessema, the Director for the SPPMER directorate indicated, in his speech, that operationalizing the newly developed website is in line with, and to support, the goals of the knowledge management division, which is ensuring **“Information and Knowledge is managed efficiently and effectively within the AU”**.

The director noted that, in this 21st century, which is referred to as “knowledge-age”, the role and importance of the AUC’s Knowledge Management division - as major hubs and gateways to both internal and external sources of information and knowledge in general, and that of Africa in particular, could not be sufficiently emphasized. Hence, he added, the Library’s revamped website, a product that is being launched, manifests these realities, as its immense resources and value-added services greatly contributes towards attainment of the organizational objectives, missions and visions.

The Librarian, Mr. Garoma Daba, made a live demonstration of the website, highlighting some of the most essential electronic and full-text resources and databases that users could access directly from their respective offices. The Librarian further disclosed that the Library commenced rendering a proactive service, he said “the Library is coming to the users”. For this service to be a reality,

he strongly recommended to the staff to subscribe to an email alerting system by registering their profile and areas of interests, so that when new materials matching with users areas of interest are received, the system send automatic email to inform the users on receipt of such materials.



*Promotional materials distributed during the Library website launching ceremony*

With a view to promoting the Library' website the SPPMERM directorate also made presentation of two categories of promotional materials; accordingly, the new Management of the Commission, i.e. H.E. the Chairperson, H.E. the Deputy Chairperson, H.E. the Commissioners, President of the Staff Association and a few directors, were offered one of a highly acclaimed book entitled **“The Myth of the Strong Leader: Political Leadership in the Modern Age”**, which was **written** by a globally renowned author, and Oxford University Professor, Archie Brown.

The director for SPPMERM directorate further highlighted that this book was chosen as a promotional material not only as tool for advocating sharing of information and knowledge, but also it portrayed some of the great political and transformational leaders of our age, including the one of the greatest sons and icon of Africa, the late president Nelson Mandela and others, who left behind big foot-prints in their nations' economic development and/or political transformation.

It is worth nothing that, the AUC Library, whose vision is **being the leading sources of information and knowledge on and from Africa, as well as for Africans**, has steadily developed in the past decade and a half with the view to serving the information requirements of the Commission, Member Statas Embassies staff, and other researchers.

In this knowledge-led and knowledge-based economy, sharing of information and knowledge that enhances our understanding, as well as making use of it is not only desirable, but also indispensable, and in this regard, the endeavours made by the AUC Library is highly appreciated.