



## DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

## PRESS RELEASE

**BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE AFRICAN UNION AND THE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 24 August 2018-** H.E Amira Elfadil, Commissioner for Social Affairs of the African Union, in her capacity as the acting Chairperson of the AU Commission welcomed H.E Mr. Gerd Mueller, Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, Federal Republic of Germany to the African Union. Both parties discussed areas of cooperation. The meeting took place in the presence of the Commissioner for Human Resources Science and Technology (HRST), Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor, and other high officials of the AUC.

“Germany has given both financial and technical support through the last decade and the government has geared its efforts towards supporting the development of Agenda 2063 in areas pertinent to African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), free movement of persons and Human Resource Science and Technology (HRST),” said the Commissioner for HRST, while presenting some of the areas of cooperation within her department.

The Acting Chairperson, H.E Amira Elfadil on her part underlined that the meeting is meant to further enhance cooperation and partnership between the African Union and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Commissioner noted that immigration amongst the youth is rampant and its one of the challenges that need to be addressed by working closely with the German government and the European Union while ensuring peace and security within the continent.

H.E Gerd Mueller pointed out that “Agenda 2063 is something we will work closely together and we will support its structures. We need new rules and regulation for trade which will lead to a win-win situation for both the African Union and European Union”, said the Minister.

Germany is increasing its cooperation with African countries by starting initiatives and partnerships within private sectors so as to increase job opportunities and curb the issue of immigration especially amongst the youth. In addition, “Germany is in support of the new policy framework on movement through the Joint Programme on Labour Migration for Development and Integration (JLMP). We need skilled revolution for the youth, hence it’s imperative to provide platforms for technical and vocational training for the youth in Africa”, said Gerd Mueller in his conclusion.

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