

Press release #

**'AFRICA'S BLUE ECONOMY SHOULD NOT BE ONLY SPOKEN ABOUT BUT BE LIVED BY', SAID
THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES DURING THE BILATERAL MEETING HELD WITH
THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION, IN THE MARGINS OF THE AU SUMMIT**

Addis Ababa, 08 February 2019 – The Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat held a bilateral meeting with H.E. Vincent Meriton, Vice-President of the Republic of Seychelles, at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

During the meeting, the Vice-President of Seychelles expressed the commitment of his country to work closely with the Commission in the advancement of Africa's Blue Economy. To this effect, the Vice-President requested the Chairperson's collaboration as follows: assign an AU delegation to visit and work with the Government in Seychelles, in order to develop a common approach to implement the Blue Economy Agenda; support the initiative that the Blue Economy becomes an important item of the AU continental Agenda; and ensure that the Commission and Seychelles jointly participate in relevant international maritime events so as to enhance Africa's Blue Economy in the global arena by showcasing the products, services and new partnership that Africa's maritime domain offers. Finally, The Vice-President informed the Chairperson about three major events that will be organised by his country in 2019. These include the Blue Economy Investment Forum, the First African Shipowners Forum and the First Symposium on UN Agreement between Seychelles and Mauritius.

On his part, H.E. Faki Mahamat conveyed his renewed congratulations to H.E. President of Seychelles on his appointment by AU Heads of State and Government, as Africa's Champion of Blue Economy. He welcomed the invitation to the Commission to take part in the various initiatives and events of the Government of Seychelles toward the success of Africa's Blue Economy. He assured H.E. Vincent Meriton of the collaboration of the Commission for the development and implementation of Africa's Blue Economy, in the context of the 2050 AIM Strategy and the AU legal instruments related to the same domain.

For further information, please contact:

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