

## DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

### Press release

#### THE CHAIRPERSON RECEIVES LETTERS OF CREDENTIALS OF THE AMBASSADOR OF THE U.S MISSION TO THE AFRICAN UNION

**Addis Ababa, 14 October 2019** – The Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat, received the credentials of H.E. Jessica Lapenn, incoming Ambassador of the U.S Mission to the African Union at the AU Commission Headquarters in Addis Ababa today.

The Chairperson and Ambassador Lapenn exchanged views on the peace and security challenges on the Continent, and the need to rethink and adapt current approaches to international peacekeeping mission in the fight against violent extremism and terrorism in order to better respond to the multidimensional nature of the terrorism threat in Africa.

The Chairperson also expressed appreciation for the support to the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA) and encouraged the USA to deepen US private sector investment in Africa.

The two officials also discussed the issues pertaining to the Global Health Security agenda, and the Chairperson commended the US support to the African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), the specialised AU agency mandated to support Member States to prevent, detect and respond to public health threats on the Continent. The Africa CDC is currently supporting the Ebola outbreak response in the Democratic Republic of the Congo alongside other partners.

#### ***For further information, please contact:***

Mrs Ebba Kalondo, Spokesperson, Bureau of the Chairperson; E-mail: [EbbaK@africa-Union.org](mailto:EbbaK@africa-Union.org);

Directorate of Information and Communication | African Union Commission | E-mail: [DIC@africa-union.org](mailto:DIC@africa-union.org)  
| Web Site: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int) | Addis Ababa | Ethiopia

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