

PRESS RELEASE**US TO SHARE INTEGRATION EXPERIENCE WITH THE AFRICAN UNION**

Addis Ababa- Ethiopia. Monday, November 4, 2019. H.E. Mr Kwesi Quartey, the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission received H.E Jessica Lapenn, the newly appointed US Ambassador to the African Union and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) at his office at the AU headquarters today.

The Deputy Chairperson welcomed the new US Ambassador to the African Union Commission (AUC) and remarked that he enjoyed a warm relationship with her predecessor and hoped it would continue.

He underscored the importance of US relationship with the African Union and the Continent at large. He mentioned that ‘the AU seeks to emulate the US in its integration process, taking a cue from the integration of formerly independent states to form the USA in 1776. He added that, in upholding the rule of law, ‘US is our best example’

On her part, H.E Amb. Lapenn thanked the Deputy Chairperson for his warm reception. She assured Mr. Quartey of the continuous support of the US to the African Union, and expressed its readiness to share experiences and best practices and also to contribute towards the peace, security, and integration agenda of the AU.

The two also discussed continental matters such as the AfCFTA, the situation in the Horn of Africa, South Africa and its unique peace and reconciliation model, AU Gender policies among other issues.

Mr. Quartey wished H.E Jessica Lapenn a successful tour of duty, whilst adding that ‘I look forward to a good working relationship with you’.

For further information contact

Directorate of Information and Communication | African Union Commission | E-mail: dic@africa-union.org | Web Site: www.au.int | Addis Ababa | Ethiopia

Esther Azaa Tankou, Directorate of Information and Communication, AUC Tel. +251 911361185, E-mail: yamboue@africa-union.org

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