

**DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION**

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**Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**H.E. Minata Samate Cessouma addresses the African Governance Architecture Political Meeting of the Platform**

H.E. Minata Samate Cessouma, Commissioner for Political affairs on May 27, 2020 addressed the African Governance Architecture (AGA) Platform at the Political meeting on the devastating consequences of COVID-19 at Continental, Regional and National levels of governance.

The Commissioner, who addressed the meeting in her capacity as the Rapporteur of the bureau of the platform and as host of AGA Secretariat, said the virtual meeting was organized to enable the AGA Secretariat and the Platforms to unify their efforts in fighting COVID-19 across the African continent.

“As COVID-19 Pandemic continues to ravage through the continent, it is imperative to discuss the importance of its linkage to the theme of the year ‘Silencing the Guns’ in Africa. That is why the African Governance Platform should have a role to play in sending a significant message and set the moral and ethical standard during this pandemic for the observation of democracy and good governance as well as the promotion and protection of human and peoples’ rights”, Commissioner Minata said.

The Commissioner added that the centre piece of our ability to address any challenges that face our continent revolves around issues of good governance, consolidation of democracy, rule of law, constitutionalism and respect for human and people's rights.

She told the meeting that the African Governance Platform had on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 met at the Technical Level and discussed a number of issues such as AGA Roadmap 2020-2023, the 2021 African Governance Report, the AUC Reform in addition to the Platform Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Commissioner Minata use the opportunity to extend her sincere gratitude to the members of the outgoing bureau of the Platform, which included the APRM as Chair and ECOWAS as Vice-Chair, for their leadership and dedication.

The Commissioner also welcome the new members of the Bureau, namely: the AUABC as Chair and EAC as Vice-Chair and wish them both success, and reiterate

the commitment of the department of political affairs and that of the AGA Secretariat to provide all necessary support in order to attain the agreed objectives and goals.

She further extended her sincere gratitude to all partners for their support to the AGA Platform and Secretariat activities and programmes. and urged the meeting to share the decisions and outcomes with the policy organs for implementation.

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