

## INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

Press Release No: \_\_\_\_\_/2022

Date: 12 May 2022

Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

### **The Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission addresses the Meeting of the High Committee in charge of the agenda of the Decade of African Roots and Diaspora**

The Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, addressed the opening of the 4th Virtual Meeting of the High Committee in charge of the agenda of the Decade of African Roots and Diaspora chaired by Prof. Robert Dussey, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Integration and Togolese Abroad of the Togolese Republic.

The meeting took place in the context of the celebration the tenth anniversary of the African Union's convening of the first Global African Diaspora Summit (GADS) held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in May 2012, where Heads of States and Governments, among other diaspora – related items on the agenda, agreed on the implementation of five Diaspora Legacy Projects.

In her remarks, Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, highlighted five priorities related to engagement with diaspora for African Union Commission for this year:

- 1) Capacity building initiatives for AU member states to continue to develop advanced policy and programme frameworks;
- 2) Overcoming information gaps related to diaspora engagement initiatives in member states, the RECs and AU levels with the view to harmonization of national level diaspora engagement priorities with regional and continental frameworks;
- 3) Undertaking by the AU Commission to a further feasibility study an African Diaspora Finance Corporation (ADFC);
- 4) Supporting the Lomé Initiative on the decade for Peoples of African Roots and Diaspora 2021 to 2031; Celebrating by actions the 10 Year Anniversary of the Global African Diaspora Summit (GADS).

“The importance of Diaspora is reflected as well in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, which invites and encourages the full participation of African Diaspora as an important part of our continent, in the building of the African Union”, she added.

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