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Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. P. O. Box 3243 Telephone: 5517 700 Fax: 5511299  
website : [www.africa-union.org](http://www.africa-union.org)

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**FOLLOW UP MEETING ON THE OUTCOMES  
OF THE BANJUL MEETING ON SLAVERY  
1-2 AUGUST 2011  
BANJUL, THE GAMBIA**

**CONCEPT NOTE**

## **1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONAL**

- 1.1 On 10-13 June 2008 a meeting was held in Banjul, The Gambia in pursuance of the Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.408 (XII) on slavery and as a follow up to the World Conference Against Racism. It was organized by the Department of Political Affairs of the African Union Commission (AUC) and hosted by the Government of the Republic of The Gambia. The Meeting was attended by representatives of Member States, the Diaspora, National Human Rights Organisations, Civil Society Organisations, International and Regional Organisations, and the academia.
- 1.2 The objectives of the meeting were to: (i) review the historical perspectives of slavery and racism, (ii) identify and formulate concrete strategies and activities for the bicentennial events, and (iii) suggest possible issues for consideration in the Post Durban Process and the African Diaspora Summit.
- 1.3 Slavery continues to be a challenge today and there needs to be common efforts and determination to ensure an end to the various modern day manifestations of such practices. Therefore, this meeting is a follow up to the Banjul meeting and it is anticipated the meeting will offer an opportunity for the African Union Commission (AUC) and the AU Organs with Human Rights Mandate to examine the implementation process of the outcomes of the said meeting.

## **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING**

- 2.1 The main objective of this meeting is to review the recommendations made at the Banjul Meeting and examine the implementation process. However, the meeting will then proceed, over a period of three days, to engage in presentations and discussions on topics such as: Review of Slavery; Impact of Slavery; Review of the World Conference on Racism; Member States Perspectives; and Responding to Slavery. The meeting ends with a realisation of its expected outputs and outcomes, including a report and recommendations,

## **3. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE ADOPTION MEETING**

- 3.1 It is anticipated that the AUC together with the AU Organs with a human rights mandate, RECs and Institutions, NHRIs, other partners and stakeholders will come up with an action plan to effectively implement the recommendation made at the first meeting.

## **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 5.1 The Conference will be conducted in Plenary Sessions in English and French, and presentations followed by discussions to facilitate greater participation and experience sharing.

5. **THE PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS**

6.1 The meeting is expected to bring together participants and experts from the AUC, African Union Organs, UN Agencies, NHRIs, Human Rights Experts and Civil Society Organizations.

6.2 Participants will enrich the discussion and come up with clear ways and means to achieve the expected outcomes.

6. **AN INDICATION AND EVIDENCE THAT THE MEETING FORMS PART OF THE AUC STRATEGIC PLAN AND HOW IT CONTRIBUTES TO IT.**

7.1 The AU Constitutive Act provides a clear mandate to promote and protect human rights on the continent. The need for coordinated actions and interventions within the African Union is informed by the imperative of optimising the impact of various initiatives. Within this context, the approved AUC Strategic Plan (2009-2012) calls upon the AUC and all AU Organs with human rights mandate to exchange experiences on Slavery and Racism and identify concrete activities for the bicentennial events on Slavery.

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**DRAFT AGENDA**

**DAY 1: 1 AUGUST 2011**

**10:30-11:00 OPENING CEREMONY:**

- Remarks by the Representative of the ACHPR
- Statement by the Commissioner for Political Affairs
- Opening Remarks by the Representative of the Government of The Gambia

**11:00-11:30 TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

**11:30-13:00 BRIEFING ON HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY FOR AFRICA, THE AFRICAN GOVERNANCE ARCHITECTURE AND ITS PLATFORM, AND THE YEAR OF SHARED VALUES**

Presentation by the DPA-AUC

Discussions

**13:00-15:00 LUNCH BREAK**

**15:00-16:30 PRESENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE FIRST BANJUL MEETING**

Chaired by: Amb. Emile Ognimba, Director for Political Affairs, DPA/AUC

Presentation by the DPA/AUC

Discussions

**16:30-17:00 TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

**17:00-18:00 REVIEW OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM AND RESPONDING TO DECISIONS ON SLAVERY**

Chaired by: Amb. Emile Ognimba, Director for Political Affairs, DPA/AUC

Presentation by the ACHPR and the UN OHCHR

Discussions

**DAY 2: 2 AUGUST 2011**

**10:00-11:00 DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS ON SLAVERY**

Chaired by: Amb. Emile Ognimba, Director for Political Affairs, DPA/AUC

General Discussions

**11:00-11:30 TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

**11:30-13:00 CONTINUE DISCUSSION TO DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS ON SLAVERY**

Chaired by: Amb. Emile Ognimba, Director for Political Affairs, DPA/AUC

General Discussions

**13:00-14:30 LUNCH BREAK**

**14:30-1700 PREPARATION OF THE REPORT**

**17:00-18:00 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIOS**

Chaired by: Amb. Emile Ognimba, Director for Political Affairs, DPA/AUC