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**KONARE HONOURED WITH "GERMAN AFRICA AWARD"**

The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Mr. Alpha Oumar Konaré on Friday, May 14, was presented with the "German Africa Award 2003".

"Mr. Konaré is given the Award for his achievement in the establishment of peace and democracy in Africa, both in his former position as President of the Republic of Mali as well as in the current position", a German African Foundation statement said.

"This time we are paying tribute to the lifetime achievements of an outstanding politician who has not only made a significant contribution to development in his country and in Africa, but who also belongs in the 1<sup>st</sup> rank of those African Politicians who play a vital role in the system of international organizations" it further said.

Mr. Konaré is the 1<sup>st</sup> democratically elected leader in Mali's history to relinquish power to another democratically elected leader.

Accepting the award, Konaré said, "We will do more for humanity. We will build a great World, a World of Justice, a World of Solidarity and a World of Dignity of Man". Mr. Konaré is the 10<sup>th</sup> recipient of the prize.

**Addis Ababa, May 17, 2004**