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**NEWLY APPOINTED NIGERIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE AFRICAN UNION PRESENTS CREDENTIALS**

The newly appointed Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the African Union, H.E. Mr. Olusegun Akinsanya, today, presented his credentials to the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Mr. Alpha Oumar Konaré.

Ambassador Akinsanya at the occasion, underscored the importance the Federal Republic of Nigeria attached to the elimination of poverty and diseases and the promotion of democracy, good governance, human rights, transparency and accountability on the Continent.

In this regard, he said that his mission will work together with the AU Commission and other partners to enhance these ideals and in particular, build Africa's road to peace, stability and sustainable development.

Mr. Konaré welcomed the new Nigerian Permanent Representative and assured him of his support and that of his collaborators in the successful accomplishment of his assignment.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria will assume the Chairmanship of the Peace and Security Council when the Council meets on May 25, 2004.

Addis Ababa, May 18, 2004