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UGANDA DEPOSITS INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON COMBATING CORRUPTION.

The Republic of Uganda today became the 5th Member State of the African Union to deposit the instrument of ratification of the Convention on Combating Corruption.

The country's Permanent Representative to the African Union H.E. Mr. Wasswa Biriggwa on behalf of his Government handed the instrument to the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Mrs. Julia Dolly Joiner.

Mrs. Joiner on behalf of the Commission, welcomed the ratification by Uganda saying that the instrument was an important framework that would enable AU Member States take practical steps towards preventing, detecting, punishing and eradicating corruption on the Continent.

The Comoros, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Namibia and Rwanda had earlier ratified and deposited the Instrument, which was adopted by the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union in Maputo, Mozambique in July 2003.

Also today, the Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi, H.E. Mr. Phillippe Ntahonkuruye on behalf of his Government, handed over the instrument of ratification to the convention on the sustainable management of Lake Tanganyika to Mrs. Joiner on behalf of the Commission of the African Union which serves as the depository. The Convention on the sustainable management of Lake Tanganyika was adopted on 12 July 2003 in Dar-es-Salaam by the following Riparian States: the Republic of Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the United Republic of Tanzania, and the Republic of Zambia. All the parties have signed the Convention with Burundi being the first to ratify and deposit the instrument with the African Union Commission. .

Addis Ababa, October 29 2004