

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 551 38 22/ ext. 615 Fax: (251-11) 551 93 21/ 5514227

Email: oau-ews@ethionet.et / situationroom@africa-union.org

Press Communiqué

The Chairperson receives the Credentials of new Permanent Representatives to the African Union from Turkey and Slovakia and bids farewell to the Russian Ambassador.

The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr. Jean PING, received in his Office at AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, on Thursday 21 October 2010, in separate official ceremonies, the credentials of the Ambassadors of Turkey, H. E. Uğur Kenan IPEK and of Slovakia, H. E. Milan Dubček, as Permanent Representatives of their respective countries to the African Union (AU).

He also received Ambassador Mikhail AFANASIEVE of the Russian Federation, who came to bid him farewell, at the end of his tenure as Permanent Representative of his country to the AU.

The Chairperson reviewed with the three Ambassadors a wide range of issues pertaining to bilateral cooperation between AU Commission and their respective countries and the best ways of enhancing it.

While receiving the Russian Ambassador, the Chairperson expressed appreciation for the good work done by the latter to strengthen the relations between his country and the AU Commission.

In welcoming the two new Permanent Representatives the Chairperson assured them of his full cooperation and the support of the AU Commission in the discharge of their new responsibilities.

For his part, the new Turkish Permanent Representative reiterated the great interest of his country to have strong ties with Africa, indicating that Turkey is planning to increase the number of its embassies in the continent from fifteen to thirty-five in the coming two years.

The Chairperson paid tribute to Turkey for its constructive contribution to the promotion of peace, security and development in Africa.

With the Ambassador of Slovakia, who is the first Permanent Representative of his country to the AU, the Chairperson expressed the wish to see a growing cooperation between the two parties.

Addis Ababa, 22 October 2010