



**African Union Private Sector Forum:
Cairo, Egypt: 28-30 NOVEMBER, 2006**

The African Union Commission invites all interested **African private sector businessmen and women** to a meeting of the African Union Private Sector Forum scheduled to take place in **Cairo, Egypt** from **28 to 30 November, 2006**. The AU Private Sector Forum was institutionalised at the AU Summit held in Abuja, Nigeria, in January 2005.

The theme of the Cairo Forum is “***Empowering the African Private Sector and Promoting MADE in AFRICA***”. The key objective of the African Union Private Sector Forum in Cairo, Egypt, is to elaborate a strategy and action plan to empower and promote a proactive and vibrant African private sector that can play a significant role in energizing African economies to achieve, among others, poverty reduction and other Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This would be done through creative and productive processes of African made goods that accelerate economic growth, promote sustainable development, increase intra-Africa trade and promote deeper integration of the African economies into the global economy.

Parallel to the seminar type deliberations, there will an exhibition by a variety of companies to showcase **MADE IN AFRICA**. Interested participants are encouraged to bring samples of their products for exhibition at the venue of the Forum.

The suggested topics for discussion at the Forum include:

- a) Increasing intra-Africa Trade in African Products;
- b) Role of the media in promoting **MADE IN AFRICA**;
- c) Using Science and Technology as a tool for diversifying and enhancing competitiveness of African products;
- d) Investment opportunities in Africa;

- e) Financing African Private Sector;
- f) Supporting SMEs development and the role of micro-finance in Africa;
- g) Promoting Public-Private Partnerships; and
- h) Economic empowerment of African women.

It is envisaged that the discussion of these topics will culminate in the elaboration of a private sector development strategy and action plan, which will guide the activities of the private sector.

All those who have an interest in participating are kindly requested to confirm their intention to participate to **both** of the following two individuals by **post, fax or email**:

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