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Addis-Abeba (ETHIOPIE) P. O. Box 3243 Téléphone 5517 700 Fax : 5517844
www.africa-union.org

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION DIVISION

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AFRICA HONOURS KOFFI ANAN

Addis Ababa, November 17, 2006 - The African Development Forum, being held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, yesterday honoured the outgoing UN Secretary General Mr. Koffi Anan as a “Great African”. This was the title bestowed on him by AU Commission Chairperson Mr. Alpha Oumar Konare, after he had recounted the many successes and challenges Mr. Anan had been through, during his two terms as the world’s “number 1 citizen”.

Many other people paid tribute to Mr. Anan at a colourful ceremony at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) featuring performances by African entertainers, including the singer, Ms Angelique Kidjo.

Among those to pay tribute were the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Mr Meles Zenawi, the President of the African Development Bank, Mr. Donald Kaberuka, the ECA Executive Secretary, Mr. Abdulie Janneh, and representatives from many interest groups.

According to Mr. Janneh, the visit by Mr Anan to the ECA is his last official visit to Africa as head of the United Nations.