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MEDIA ADVISORY

**AUC/ILO Joint Workshop on Social Dialogue & Productivity
in Africa**
13 – 15 May 2009
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

What: AUC/ILO Joint Workshop on Social Dialogue & Productivity in Africa

Why:

- Highlight AUC/ILO's partnership in promoting productivity and social dialogue in Africa as a way out of the current financial and economic crisis.
- Showcase regional and national best practices on productivity and social dialogue which have a direct impact at the regional, national and enterprise levels.
- Sensitize on the development of the “African Productivity Programme 2009-2012”

Who:

- African Union Commission (AUC), International Labour Organization (ILO), Pan-African Employers Confederation (PEC), Pan-African Productivity Association (PAPA), UNECA, SADC, ECOWAS, UEMOA, IGAD, OAATU, ITUC.

When: 13 – 15 May 2009

Where: CRDA Building (Kaliti), Addis Ababa.

Background information

- Productivity and Social Dialogue promotion are considered as crucial levers for Africa to make its way out of the global economic and financial crisis.
- Africa is the least productive region in the world, while Social Dialogue practice which is pivotal to competitiveness of the nations is still a challenge for the region.
- The African Union Strategic Plan 2009-2012 entails provisions for the development and implementation of a “Productivity Africa Programme” with Social Dialogue, as means to meet the strategic objective on “A Common Path to attaining middle-income status by member states” Pillar 2.
- The ILO 2008 Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization and the ILO Decent Work Agenda for Africa put social dialogue as the best tool to promote consensus building and democratic involvement among the main stakeholders in the world of work.
- The African Union Commission and the ILO/ROAF, in collaboration with the ILO constituents and the Pan African Productivity Association have committed to engage in a long run approach to productivity improvement and Social Dialogue enhancement.

For media coverage, interviews and photos ops:

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The ILO is dedicated to bringing Decent Work to the people of all countries. For more information you can view a short Web movie at: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dw/index.html>