



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EABC Endorses Amb. Amina Mohamed to Chair the African Union Commission

Arusha, Tanzania: January 18, 2017 - The East African Business Council, the apex body of the private sector in the EAC has recommended to the EAC Heads of State to strongly support the election of Amb. Amina Mohamed as Chair of the African Union Commission.

The African Union and its member States comprising of Regional Trade Blocks are guided by certain fundamental values and principles such as: integrity, democracy, transparency, mutual respect and professionalism for a united and strong Africa. The EABC considers leadership and good governance as lynchpins for Regional and Continental prosperity which support the creation of an enabling environment for business, investment, economic growth and social development.

The upcoming Africa Union Commission (AUC) elections for the Chair of AUC and Commissioners this year are a clear indication that the African Union will deliver its goals and aspirations to realize its objectives of continental unity to fostering faster pace of development. Notably, the Continental Free Trade Area initiative is a key element in this process.

“We commend the EAC Heads of State Summit decision to nominated Amb. Amina Mohamed, the current Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs in Kenya, who has shown capacity to steer the AUC to greater heights” said Audace Ndayizeye, EABC Chairman. Pursuant to the outstanding achievements in promoting Global Trade such as: access to antiretroviral medication for Africans via the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement in 2005; subsidies for African

cotton producers during the World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations 2005 and 2015, negotiated the elimination of export subsidies hurting the poorer cotton producing economy in Africa; convened the sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) for the first time in Africa, the WTO's tenth Ministerial Conference and the 14th session of the United Nations conference on Trade and development (UNCTAD 14). Suffice to state that once given the mandate it is clear that she has the expertise & experience to steer the rolling out of the Continental Free Trade Area and foster partnership with the Private Sector in Africa via the Apex body:- The African Business Council as endorsed in the past AU Summit of the Heads of State to escalate Continental economic growth. East Africa could not have nominated a better person.

According to EABC Chairman, the EABC reaffirms its full support to the 28th Ordinary Session of the Summit of the African Union and in all other spheres of collaboration for Africa.

About East African Business Council

The East African Business Council (EABC) is the apex body of business associations of the Private Sector and Corporates from the 5 East African Countries. It was established in 1997 to foster the interests of the Private Sector in the integration process of the East African Community. For more information about EABC, visit its website at www.eabc.info.

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The East African Business Council (EABC) - *The Voice of Private Sector in East Africa*

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