

Addis Ababa, 5 August 2011 – As part of the African Union's (AU) efforts to assist the victims of the famine in Somalia and the Horn of Africa, the AU Commission has opened a bank account to receive donations from African Governments, private sector and ordinary African citizens. The bank details are as follows:

**AFRICAN UNION HORN OF AFRICA DROUGHT RELIEF
FCY ACCOUNT N: 02702/953184/00
COMMERCIAL BANK OF ETHIOPIA
AU BRANCH
ADDIS ABABA ETHIOPIA
SWIFT CODE: CBETETAA**

Towards the Pledging Conference and in order to build momentum, 15th of August has been declared a "One African Voice Call Day" on the humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa and in Somalia in particular. On this mobilization and sensitization day, the AU intends to reiterate its appeal to Member States, the African private sector, the international community, the Diaspora and all well meaning persons of good will, to donate in kind or in cash so as to provide and increase humanitarian assistance to affected populations in the Horn of Africa. The Chairperson of the AU Commission, Dr Jean Ping, appeals to all Member States and other stakeholders to generously contribute to the on-going efforts. In the meantime, preparations are undertaken for the Pledging Conference which will take place on 25th August 2011 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Headquarters of the African Union. In this respect, former President of Ghana and High Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission for Somalia, Mr Jerry Rawlings, met with the Chairperson of the Union, Mr. Obiang-Nguema Mbasogo, to consult on the modalities of the Pledging Conference. He is expected to embark on a sensitization and solidarity tour of some capitals across the continent. The Permanent Representative Council met and expressed appreciation at the decision of the Chairperson of the Assembly of Heads of States and Government for the active role he is playing in Africa's response to the humanitarian situation.