CONCEPT NOTE

AFRICAN UNION SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE (AU-SARO)
African Union 50th Anniversary Magazine

February 2013
1. Introduction

The African Union (AU) and its predecessor, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) were founded on the ideals of Pan-africanism, with the main objective to foster continental development and integration. This year, the African Union will be celebrating 50 years since the founding of the OAU in 1963 under the theme of “Pan-africanism and the African Renaissance”. The golden jubilee will be marked with various activities to celebrate and reflect on the organisations achievements and project its future.

2. AUSARO Mandate

The African Union Southern Africa Regional Office (AU-SARO), established in 2001 with aim to develop and maintain constructive and productive relationships between the AU and Member States in the Region, as well as SADC and COMESA will mark this jubilee with advocacy and popularisation activities in the region. Reflecting the core tasks of the AU-SARO mandate which include increasing awareness of the AU in the Southern African region and supporting the exchange of information between Southern African Countries and the AU, AU-SARO will publish a special 50Th Anniversary Magazine. The magazine will feature the successes and achievements of the OAU and AU and its programmes within the Southern Africa region in various sectors including agriculture, trade and industry, tourism, education, and health as well as cross cutting issues such as regional integration, environment and climate change, governance, youth and gender.

3. Objectives and Target Audience of AU-SARO 50Th Anniversary Magazine

Although many people may be aware of the African Union, they may not know much about its work, programmes and projects implemented at regional and continental level. This publication will provide overviews of the major developments, successes and achievements, highlighting specific examples of regional significance thus providing readers with a snapshot of a particular sector.

The Magazine aims to enhance knowledge of the African Union - its ideals, role, policies and programmes in the region; also to promote the AU among target audiences including African Union Member States, media, business, civil society organisation, NGOs as well as citizens of Africa and the Diaspora.
4. **Article Content**

Since the magazine aims to enhance readers’ knowledge of the OAU/AU in the SADC region, it would be useful of articles published made reference to OAU/AU Policy documents, decisions and declarations of specific subject matter.

Examples of regional implementation of AU programmes, projects or decisions with regards to specific sectors can also be included, as well as the status of programmes to date, programme successes, achievements and positive outcomes of these keeping in mind that the publication aims to present an objective view of Africa, the development process and the continental organisation.

5. **Length of article**

The article should be 8 pages to 10 pages in length using Ariel font size 12 and line spacing 1.15. If the author has any relevant pictures that may be attached to the article, it would be appreciated if these could be supplied as well. AU-SARO will attribute the necessary credits to photographers. Please also provide the necessary captions that should accompany the picture in the publication.

6. **Submission Date**

Authors are kindly requested to provide articles by Monday Friday 10 May, **2013**. The article can be submitted via email to the AU-Focal Point. Please indicate a proposed title for the article, and submit in full authors names in the By Line. Also kindly provide a brief bio of yourself mentioning your designation and organisation currently employed at.

7. **Revisions and Editing**

Articles will be revised and edited by the magazine editor after submission. Contributors will receive a copy of the edited article once editing has been completed. The magazine will be available after June 2013.

8. **AU Focal Point Contact Details**

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2013

50th anniversary magazine concept note

AU-SARO

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