

AFRICAN UNION

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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
Eleventh Ordinary Session  
25 – 29 June 2007  
Accra, GHANA**

**EX.CL/366 (XI)**

**REPORT ON THE STATUS OF CANDIDATURES FOR  
ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION  
OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

## REPORT ON THE STATUS OF CANDIDATURES FOR ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The information contained in this paper based on the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly and of the Executive Council, the Statutes of the Commission as well as the Modalities for Election of the Members of the Commission adopted in Addis Ababa, in January 2007.

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2. The Members of the Commission were elected by the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly and of the Third Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Maputo, Mozambique, in July 2003. Article 40 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly stipulates, "the term of office of the Members of the Commission shall be for four (4) years. It shall be renewable only once. Therefore, the term of office of the Members of the Commission will expire in July 2007 and the members may stand for elections for another term of office of four (4) years.

3. The Commission is composed of ten (10) members: the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and eight (8) Commissioners.<sup>1</sup>

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4. The regional representation of the Members in the Commission is as follows:

- Central: 2;
- East: 2;
- North: 2;
- South: 2; and
- West: 2.

5. The region from which the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson are appointed shall be entitled to one (1) Commissioner each. All the other regions shall be entitled to two (2) Commissioners.<sup>2</sup> Further, the Chairperson of the Commission and his/her Deputy shall not be from the same region<sup>3</sup>.

6. At least one (1) Member of the Commission from each region shall be a woman.<sup>4</sup>

### II. CRITERIA

7. In electing the members of the Commission, due consideration should be given to the following criteria:

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<sup>1</sup> Article 2 of the Statutes of the Commission.

<sup>2</sup> Articles 37 (1) and 6 (2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and Statutes of the Commission respectively.

<sup>3</sup> Article 38 (4) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

<sup>4</sup> Article 6 (3) of the Statutes of the Commission.

- a) **Regional distribution:** The regions from which the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson are appointed shall be entitled to one (1) Commissioner each. All other regions shall be entitled to two (2) Commissioners.<sup>5</sup> Furthermore, the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson shall not be from the same region. It should be noted that only nationals of Member States are eligible for appointment as Commissioners, provided that no two (2) Commissioners shall be nationals of the same Member State. Therefore, each of the five (5) regions is entitled to two (2) members in the Commission.
- b) **Gender equality:** At least one (1) member of the Commission from each region must be a woman.<sup>6</sup> Therefore, the Commission will be composed of five (5) men and five (5) women.
- c) **Qualifications and Experience:** the Commissioners shall possess minimum educational qualification not below the first degree, or equivalent from a recognized university. They shall also be competent women or men with proven experience in the relevant field, commensurate leadership qualities and a good track record in government, parliament, international organizations or other relevant sectors of society.<sup>7</sup>
- d) **Age:** A minimum age criteria of thirty-five (35) shall apply.<sup>8</sup>

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### III. PORTFOLIOS<sup>9</sup>

8. The portfolios on the basis of which Commissioners will be selected are as follows:

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- a) PEACE AND SECURITY (Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, and Combating Terrorism...);
- b) POLITICAL AFFAIRS (Human Rights, Democracy, Good Governance, Electoral Institutions, Civil Society Organizations, Humanitarian Affairs, Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons);
- c) INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY (Energy, Transport, Communications, Infrastructure and Tourism...);

<sup>5</sup> Articles 6 (2) and 15 (3) of the Statutes of the Commission. Rule 38 (4) and 39 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Union. Rule 37 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council.

<sup>6</sup> Article 6 of the Statutes of the Commission.

<sup>7</sup> Rules 38 (2) and 39 (2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Union. Rule 37(2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, Articles 15 (1) and 15 (2) of the Statutes of the Commission. It should be noted that the female members of the Commission are not charged with the responsibility for mainstreaming gender in the African Union. The ultimate responsibility for promoting gender equality in the Union rests on the Chairperson of the Commission with the technical backstopping from the Office of the Gender and Equality Promotion under his Office.

<sup>8</sup> Article 15 (3) of the Statutes of the Commission.

<sup>9</sup> Article 12 of the Statutes of the Commission.

- d) SOCIAL AFFAIRS (Health, Children, Drug Control, Population, Migration, Labour and Employment, Sports and Culture...);
- e) HUMAN RESOURCES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Education, Information Technology Communication, Youth, Human Resources, Science and Technology...);
- f) TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Trade, Industry, Customs and Immigration Matters...);
- g) RURAL ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURE (Rural Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Livestock, Environment, Water and Natural Resources and Desertification...);
- h) ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (Economic Integration, Monetary Affairs, Private Sector Development, Investment and Resource Mobilization...).

#### IV. MODALITIES FOR SELECTION OF CANDIDATES

##### a) Election for the Posts of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson

9. The Rules of Procedure of the Assembly and Executive Council, as well as the Statutes of the Commission are silent on the role of the regions. However, this should not stop Member States from ensuring that candidates they propose enjoy wide support not only within their own regions but in other regions as well. Furthermore, in view of the continental character of the responsibilities of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson, consultations in respect of these positions should be undertaken at the continental level.

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##### b) Election of the Commissioners

10. The election process will commence with a pre-selection at the regional level and the candidates selected will form part of the continental pool.

11. Each region is required to determine the modalities for selecting candidates from its region. To this end, consultations should be undertaken at the regional level.

12. Each region will nominate two (2) candidates including a woman for each portfolio.<sup>10</sup> Therefore, for the eight (8) portfolios, each region will have to nominate sixteen (16) candidates (eight (8) men and eight (8) women).

13. The candidates so selected at the regional level will be submitted to a Ministerial panel consisting of ten (10) members (two (2) representatives from each region) to carry out the pre-selection process at the continental level.<sup>11</sup> The panel is assisted by a team of independent consultants.

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The candidatures shall be submitted to the Commission for the posts of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson and will be processed and submitted to Member States at least three months before the Summit at which the elections will be conducted. Such candidatures should be submitted by

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<sup>10</sup> Articles 13 and 14 (3) of the Statutes of the Commission.

<sup>11</sup> Article 14 (1) and 14 (2) of the Statutes of the Commission.

14. The Ministerial panel will carry out the short-listing selection from among eighty (80) candidates (forty (40) men and forty (40) women) from the five (5) regions. Thereafter, the panel submits a list of at least two (2) candidates for each portfolio to the Executive Council for election.

**V. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE MINISTERIAL PANEL ON PRE-SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR POSTS OF COMMISSIONERS**

15. The mandate of the Ministerial Panel is as follows:

- a) Analyse and evaluate the curriculum vitae of the eighty candidates for the Commissioners submitted to the Ministerial Panel by the five regions for Central Pre-selection Process,
- b) Ensure and establish the equivalence of academic qualifications of the candidates,
- c) Evaluate and compare the educational background and the work experience with respect to the relevant portfolio for each candidate,
- d) Make an analytical and objective determination of the suitability of each candidate for the respective portfolios,
- e) Based on the above and the need to ensure equal regional representation and gender equality, to shortlist two candidates for each portfolio for submission to the Executive Council for election to the eight portfolios and subsequent appointment by the Assembly.

16. Council will recall that by decision EX/CL/346(X) adopted during its 10th Ordinary Session held in January, 2007, it set clear deadlines for submission of candidatures, as follows:

**“ [The Executive Council]:**

**1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Panel on the Elections of the Members of the Commission;

**2. ADOPTS** the following time table in preparation of the elections scheduled for July 2007:

**a) Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson:** in conformity with Article 16(1) of the Statutes of the Commission, nominations for these offices shall be circulated to Member States at least three months before election to facilitate election by the Assembly in July 2007. Therefore, the candidatures for the two posts should be submitted to the Commission on or before the 30 March 2007.

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Deleted: Candidatures for the Office of Chairperson of the Commission, Deputy Chairperson and Commissioners are required to be circulated to Member States at least three (3) months before the election.<sup>12</sup> In order to comply with this requirement and to facilitate translation, compilation, processing and circulation of the curriculum vitae, the consultations at the Regional Level and the work of the Ministerial Panel assisted by the team of consultants ought to have been completed and the nominations submitted to the Commission by the first week of March 2003. To this end, the Commission proposes the following indicative deadlines for the consideration of Member States:¶

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<#>Consultations at the Regional level for the two regional candidatures for each portfolio should be completed and the candidatures submitted to the Commission by 15 February 2003;¶

¶  
<#>The curriculum vitae accompanying the candidatures, which should not be longer than 3 pages single spacing, should be submitted in at least two of the working languages of the Union, namely Arabic, French, English and Portuguese;¶

¶  
<#>The Commission shall translate, compile, and process the curriculum vitae by 28 February 2003;¶

¶  
<#>Consultations at the regional level on the membership of the Ministerial panel should be completed and the names submitted to the Commission by 30 January 2003. ¶

¶  
<#>The Ministerial Panel should examine the candidatures and shortlist at least two per region by the 15 March 2003.¶

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**b) Commissioners:**

- (i) Member States should be requested to submit to the Commission CVs of experts by 15 March 2007. The Commission shall compile such submissions together with any additional CVs it may identify from its data banks to the Ministerial Panel for appointment of the team of independent consultants (2 per region);
- (ii) The regional consultations should be finalized and the regions should submit their candidatures on or before 15 April 2007;
- (iii) The Ministerial Panel will meet before 10 April 2007 at a venue to be determined by its Chairperson to appoint the Team of Consultants (2 per region);
- (iv) The Panel assisted by the team of consultants should meet before the first week of May 2007;
- (v) The Commission should circulate the list of the candidatures received from the Panel to all Member States on or before 15 May 2007 in readiness for elections of Commissioners to be undertaken by the Executive Council in July 2007."

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**VI. VOTING PROCEDURES**

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**Order of Elections for Members of the Commission.**

17. Rule 42 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly provides that voting shall commence with the election of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson; thereafter the Assembly shall appoint Commissioners elected by the Executive Council.

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**Order of Elections for Commissioners**

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18. It will be recalled that on the sequence of elections for the July 2003 elections, the Ministerial Panel expressed the view that the elections should be conducted on the basis of portfolio by portfolio. The Panel also proposed two options for selecting the order of the elections, namely, (i) either to proceed on the basis of the portfolios as set out in Article 2 of the Statutes of the Commission or (ii) by picking portfolios by lot from a basket. At the end of the debate, the Panel decided on the first option, recommended it to Council and it was adopted.

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**Voting Procedure for Commissioners**

19. The voting procedure is governed by Rule 38 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, which stipulate:

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"1. In any election of the Commissioners, the balloting for each portfolio shall continue until one of the candidates obtains the two-thirds majority required.

Provided that, if the third ballot remains inconclusive, the next ballot shall be restricted to the two (2) candidates who obtain the highest number of votes in the third ballot.

2. If after three (3) further ballots neither of the two (2) candidates obtains the majority required, the candidates with fewer votes shall withdraw.

3. The remaining candidate shall proceed to the next round. If he/she fails to obtain the two-thirds majority required in that round, the Chairperson shall suspend the election."

## **VII. ELECTION PROCESS**

20. In conformity with Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Union, the voting shall commence with the election of the Chairperson of the Commission, followed by the election of the Deputy Chairperson; thereafter the Assembly shall endorse the Commissioners elected by the Executive Council.

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21. The Assembly shall elect the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson by secret ballot and two-thirds majority of Member States eligible to vote.<sup>13</sup>

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22. To be elected, candidates to the posts of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson and to a Portfolio of Commissioner must obtain two-thirds majority of the votes cast.<sup>14</sup>

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23. The Executive Council shall elect the Commissioners and submit the names to the Assembly for appointment. Since the Executive Council meets before the Assembly, it is proposed that the Executive Council should hold a resumed session to undertake the process of election of the commissioners after the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson have been elected by the Assembly.

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24. The practical implementation of this recommendation would mean that the Assembly would elect the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson on the first day of its ordinary session in Accra, Ghana, in July 2007. Immediately thereafter, the Executive Council would meet to elect the Commissioners and submit the names to the Assembly for appointment.

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25. This approach would mean that since the time for open or closed meetings of the Summit will be reduced. Accordingly, a kind of private reflection among the Heads of State and Government could be envisaged for the period when Council will be holding the elections. Secondly, the overall deliberative part of the session of the Assembly may have to be extended to include the morning of the third day and the closing ceremony to be held in the afternoon of the third day.

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<sup>13</sup> Rule 38 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Union.

<sup>14</sup> Rule 42 (2) and 42 (5) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Union. Rule 38(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council. Article 16 (2) and 16 (4) of the Statutes of the Commission.

**VIII. CURRENT SITUATION**

26. Pursuant to Decision EX.CL/Dec. 281 (IX) adopted by the Executive Council in Banjul, the Gambia, in July 2006, the Commission requested, vide its Note Verbale reference BC/OLC/217/2/Vol.IV dated 18 July 2006, Member States to undertake the necessary consultations with a view to submitting the names of the Members of the MinisterialCh Panel established by virtue of Decision EX.CL/Dec. 281 (IX) and in conformity with Article 14 of the Statutes of the Commission. The Panel is composed of the following Member States: Central: Congo and Gabon, Eastern: Djibouti and Kenya, Northern: Egypt and Libya, Southern: Angola and South Africa and Western: Benin and Ghana.

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27. The Commission, vide its Note Verbale reference BC/OLC/217/20/Vol.IV and BC/OLC/217/25/Vol.IV dated 16 February and 15 March 2007 respectively, requested Member States to take the necessary measures to comply with Decision EX.CL/Dec. 346 (X) on the Modalities for the Elections of the Members of the Commission adopted by the Executive Council in Addis Ababa, in January 2007 and in particular the time-frame for submission of candidatures.

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28. Vide its Note Verbale reference BC/OLC/217/40 dated 2 April 2007, the commission informed Member States that upon expiry of the deadline for submission of candidatures for the posts of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson it had received the following candidatures:

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**Chairperson:**

**Nil**

**Deputy Chairperson:**

**Dr. Khair Eldin Abdel Latif (Egypt)  
Mr. Erastus J.O Mwencha (Kenya)**

29. The said Note Verbal was also placed on the AU Web Site. By virtue of Note Verbale reference No.129/2007 dated 4 April 2007, the Republic of Zambia submitted the candidature of Mrs. Inonge Mbikusita-Lewanika, its Ambassador in Washington, for the position of Chairperson of the African Union Commission. However, The Commission of the African Union informed the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia that the candidature submitted by the Government was received by the Commission on 5 April 2007, after the deadline set by the Policy Organs of the Union, and that in view of that, it could not be considered to be a valid candidature within the meaning of the Statutes of the Commission and the relevant decisions of the policy organs. Additionally, Zambia was also informed that the Chairperson of the Commission had undertaken to bring the self-explanatory Note Verbal from Zambia to the attention of the Chairperson of the Union, as he had already done with the status of other candidatures after the expiry of the deadline.

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30. With regard to candidatures for Commissioners, the lists of region-by-region and portfolio-by-portfolio are attached as Annexes I, II and III.

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31. It is to be recalled that the Assembly of the Union meeting in its Eighth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2007 adopted decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 156 (VIII) which stipulates, *inter alia*, as follows:

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[The Assembly]

“1. ...

2. ...

3. ....

4. **FURTHER DECIDES** that all other agenda items shall, in principle, be transferred to the 10<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly scheduled in January 2008 with the exception of the Elections of the Members of the Commission;

5. ...

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6. ...

7. **ENDORSES** the proposal of the Executive Council, as part of this process, to hold a retreat of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to reflect on the state of the Union to be followed by an Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council and **WELCOMES WITH SATISFACTION** the offer by the Government of South Africa to host such meetings.”

32. At the 10<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Durban, South Africa, on 9 May 2007, Council exchanged views on the forthcoming elections and is expected to adopt its report and recommendations in Accra, Ghana.

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Annex I: List of candidatures for Commissioner by region  
Annex II: Preliminary Analysis of candidatures for Commissioner  
Annex III: List of candidatures for Commissioner by portfolio

# **CANDIDATURES RECEIVED FROM THE REGIONS FOR THE POSTS OF COMMISSIONERS**

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No.	Name	Gender	Portfolio
<b>CENTRAL REGION</b>			
1	M. Thérance Sinunguruza	Male	Political Affairs
2	M. Yamassoum Nagoum	Male	Political Affairs
3	Mme. Madeleine Sao*	Female	Political Affairs
4	M. Gang Beng'yela Augustine	Male	Social Affairs
5	Mme. Koumba Marie-Agnès	Female	Social Affairs
6	Mme. Paulette Bisseck	Female	Human Resources Science and Technology
7	M. Ikounga Martial de Paul	Male	Human Resources Science and Technology
8	Mme. Mbette Mbongue Victorine	Female	Peace and Security
9	M. Pierre-Juste Mounzika Ntsika	Male	Peace and Security
10	Mme. Elisabeth Tankeu	Female	Trade and Industry
11	M. Okoye Alphonse	Male	Trade and Industry
12	M. Roger Tchoungui	Male	Economic Affairs
13	Mme. Aziza Baroud	Female	Economic Affairs
14	Mme. Uphie F. Chinje Melo	Female	Infrastructure and Energy
15	M. Bernard Zoba	Male	Infrastructure and Energy
16	Mme. Ofoueme Yolande	Female	Rural Economy and Agriculture
17	M. Koumba-Koumba Daniel	Male	Rural Economy and Agriculture
<b>EASTERN REGION</b>			
18	Mr. John Patrick Kabayo	Male	Human Resources Science and Technology
19	Prof. Sospeter Muhongo	Male	Human Resources Science and Technology

\* CV has not been submitted (Awaiting confirmation that the candidate has been withdrawn).

20	Dr. Kyomuhendo-Bantebya Grace	Female	Social Affairs
No.	Name	Gender	Portfolio
21	Amb. Amina C. Mohamed	Female	Trade and Industry
22	Dr. Monica Kathina Juma	Female	Peace and Security
23	Dr. Francis Inganji	Male	Political Affairs
<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>			
24	Ambassador Said Djinnit	Male	Peace and Security
25	Dr. Fathi H. Ben Shatwan	Male	Infrastructure and Energy
26	Mrs. Elham Mahmoud Ahmed Ibrahim	Female	Infrastructure and Energy
27	Ambassador Samiha Amin Abou-Steit	Female	Social Affairs
28	Dr. Mohamed A. El-Nawawi	Male	Human Resources Science and Technology
29	Dr. Nagia Mohammed Essayed	Female	Human Resources Science and Technology
30	Dr. Ibrahim I. Rihan	Male	Rural Economy and Agriculture
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>			
31	Dr. M. Maxwell Mkwezalamba	Male	Economic Affairs
32	Adv. Bience Philomina Gawanas	Female	Social Affairs
33	Dr. Goitseone Naledi Mosalakatane	Female	Human Resources Science and Technology
34	Dr. Justice K.K. Gaeonale	Male	Human Resources Science and Technology
35	Dr. Oagile Bethuel Key Dingake	Male	Political Affairs
36	Ms. Barulaganye Machacha	Female	Political Affairs
37	Dr. Nkobi Mpho Moleele	Male	Rural Economy and Agriculture
38	Dr. Phoebe M. Ditshipi	Female	Rural Economy and Agriculture

WESTERN REGION			
39	Mrs. Julia Dolly Joiner	Female	Political Affairs
40	Amb. Léandre Bazemboué Bassole	Male	Political Affairs
41	Prof. Jean-Pierre Onvéhoun Ezin	Male	Human Resources Science and Technology
42	Amb. Louis Dominique Ouedraogo	Male	Human Resources Science and Technology
43	Mrs. Célestine Zanou**	Female	Rural Economy and Agriculture
44	Mrs. Célestine Zanou**	Female	Economic Affairs
45	Amb. John Kayode Shinkaiye	Male	Peace and Security

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\*\* Mrs. Célestine Zanou is candidate for 2 portfolios

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**PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATURES RECEIVED FROM THE  
REGIONS FOR THE POSTS OF COMMISSIONERS**

Portfolio	Region	Total Number	Male	Female
<b>HUMAN RESOURCES SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</b>  (10 candidatures)	Central	2	1	1
	East	2	2	Nil
	North	2	1	1
	South	2	1	1
	West	2	2	Nil
<b>SOCIAL AFFAIRS</b>  (5 candidatures)	Central	2	1	1
	East	1	Nil	1
	North	1	Nil	1
	South	1	Nil	1
	West	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>TRADE AND INDUSTRY</b>  (3 candidatures)	Central	2	1	1
	East	1	Nil	1
	North	Nil	Nil	Nil
	South	Nil	Nil	Nil
	West	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>PEACE AND SECURITY</b>  (5 candidatures)	Central	2	1	1
	East	1	Nil	1
	North	1	1	Nil
	South	Nil	Nil	Nil
	West	1	1	Nil
<b>POLITICAL AFFAIRS</b>  (8 candidatures)	Central	3	2	1
	East	1	1	Nil
	North	Nil	Nil	Nil
	South	2	1	1
	West	2	1	1
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY</b>  (4 candidatures)	Central	2	1	1
	East	Nil	Nil	Nil
	North	2	1	1
	South	Nil	Nil	Nil
	West	Nil	Nil	Nil

RURAL ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURE (6 candidatures)	Central	2	1	1
	East	Nil	Nil	Nil
	North	1	1	Nil
	South	2	1	1
	West	1	Nil	1
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (4 candidatures)	Central	2	1	1
	East	Nil	Nil	Nil
	North	Nil	Nil	Nil
	South	1	1	Nil
	West	1	Nil	1
Grand Total		45	24	21

### Observations

i) The Northern Region submitted only seven (7) candidatures (four (4) male and three (3) women for six (6) portfolios) on 13 April 2007. The region has not complied with the requirements of the Rules and Statutes relating to number and gender of candidates. The Commission has already communicated details of the lapses to the Region.

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ii) The Central Region submitted a list of seventeen (17) candidatures for eight (8) portfolios, without CVs, on Monday 16 April 2007. Subsequently the region submitted 16 CVs to the Commission on 24 April 2007. The region has not complied fully with the requirements of the Rules and Statutes relating to number of candidates. The Commission has already communicated details of the lapses to the Region. If the Region withdraws one candidate, it will have complied with the requirements.

Deleted: The Eastern Region submitted six (6) candidatures (three (3) male and three (3) women) through the registry, on 13 April 2007. The region has not complied with the requirements of the Rules and Statutes relating to number and gender of candidates. The Commission has already communicated details of the lapses to the Region.¶

iii) The Eastern Region submitted six (6) candidatures (three (3) male and three (3) women) through the registry, on 13 April 2007. The region has not complied with the requirements of the Rules and Statutes relating to number and gender of candidates. The Commission has already communicated details of the lapses to the Region.

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iv) The Southern Region submitted eight (8) candidatures (four (4) male and four (4) female) on Monday 16 April 2007. The region has not complied with the requirements of the Rules and Statutes relating to number and gender of candidates. The Commission has already communicated details of the lapses to the Region.

v) The Western Region has submitted seven (7) candidatures (four (4) male and three (3) female) for five (5) portfolios to the Commission on 24 April 2007. The region has not complied with the requirements of the Rules and Statutes relating to number and gender of candidates. The Commission has already communicated details of the lapses to the Region.

- vi) All the Regions have not submitted candidatures in the required number and gender configuration, namely, one (1) male and one (1) female per portfolio, making a total of sixteen (16) candidates per region and a continental pool of eighty (80) candidates.

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vii) One region has submitted two (2) male candidates for one (1) portfolio, while another region has submitted three (3) candidates for one (1) portfolio. One region has also submitted one (1) sole candidate for two (2) separate portfolios. Additionally, there are many portfolios where regions have submitted only one (1) candidate while there are portfolios without any candidatures from the Region.

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- viii) The total number of candidatures so far received is forty-five (45). It is not clear at this stage what conclusion can be drawn from the small number of candidatures submitted. The Commission would like to believe that whatever may be the reason, it is not because of lack of interest in the organisation or the absence of suitable male and female candidates in Member States.

- ix) From the preliminary analysis, it seems that it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to compose a Commission in accordance with the applicable rules and modalities, taking into account gender and geographical distribution unless it is to be based on "trade offs" between the regions and countries, which, could end up being an endless negotiation exercise. Furthermore, once the elections commence and male and female candidates start to fall off from the list, it is possible that there will be no remaining candidates in some portfolios or only single candidates will remain.

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- x) The Executive Council may wish to take note of the fact that the Commission communicated to all the regions and informed them that they had not complied with the requirements of the Rules and modalities.

- xi) Further, in view of the requirements of the Rules that each Region shall have one male and one female member on the Commission, that elections commence with that of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, that the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson cannot be from the same Region, that the candidatures for Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson be circulated three months before elections, and that we have no candidature for Chairperson, the elections can only proceed, once the issue of Chairmanship of the Commission is resolved by the Assembly.

**FINAL LIST OF CANDIDATURES PORTFOLIO BY PORTFOLIO\* TOGETHER  
WITH THE CURRICULUM VITAE (in alphabetical order)**

**Peace and Security**

No.	Name	Gender	Country	Region
1	Ambassador Said DJINNIT	Male	Algeria	North
2	Dr. Monica Kathina JUMA	Female	Kenya	East
3	Mrs. Victorine Mbette MBONGUE	Female	Cameroon	Central
4	Mr. Pierre-Juste Mounzika NTSIKA	Male	Congo	Central
5	Ambassador John Kayode SHINKAIYE	Male	Nigeria	West

**Political Affairs**

No.	Name	Gender	Country	Region
1	Ambassador Léandre Bazemboué BASSOLE	Male	Burkina Faso	West
2	Dr. Oagile Bethuel Key DINGAKE	Male	Botswana	South
3	Dr. Francis INGANJI	Male	Kenya	East
4	Mrs. Julia Dolly JOINER	Female	Gambia	West
5	Ms. Barulaganye MACHACHA	Female	Botswana	South
6	Mr. Thérance SINUNGURUZA	Male	Burundi	Central
7	Mr. Nagoum YAMASSOUM	Male	Chad	Central
8	Mrs. Madeleine Sao <sup>**</sup>	Female	Cameroon	Central

**Infrastructure and Energy**

No.	Name	Gender	Country	Region
1	Dr. Fathi H. BEN SHATWAN	Male	Libya	North
2	Mrs. Ahmed Ibrahim ELHAM MAHMOUD	Female	Egypt	North
3	Mrs. Uphie F. Chinje MELO	Female	Cameroon	Central
4	Mr. Bernard ZOBA	Male	Congo	Central

\* As listed in Article 12 of the Statutes of the Commission

\*\* CV has not been submitted



### Social Affairs

No.	Name	Gender	Country	Region
1	Ambassador Samiha Amin ABOU-STEIT	Female	Egypt	North
2	Mr. Beng'yela Augustine GANG	Male	Cameroon	Central
3	Adv. Bience Philomina GAWANAS	Female	Namibia	South
4	Mrs. Marie-Agnès KOUMBA	Female	Gabon	Central
5	Dr. Grace KYOMUHENDO-BANTEBYA	Female	Uganda	East

### Human Resources, Science and Technology

No.	Name	Gender	Country	Region
1	Mrs. Paulette BISSECK	Female	Cameroon	Central
2	Dr. Mohamed A. EL-NAWAWI	Male	Egypt	North
3	Dr. Nagia Mohammed ESSAYED	Female	Libya	North
4	Prof. Jean-Pierre Onvéhoun EZIN	Male	Benin	West
5	Dr. Justice Kelebetse Kgosimotse GAEONALE	Male	Botswana	South
6	Mr. Martial de Paul IKOUNGA	Male	Congo	Central
7	Mr. John Patrick KABAYO	Male	Uganda	East
8	Dr. Goitseone Naledi MOSALAKATANE	Female	Botswana	South
9	Prof. Sospeter MUHONGO	Male	Tanzania	East
10	Ambassador Louis Dominique OUEDRAOGO	Male	Burkina Faso	West

### Trade and Industry

No.	Name	Gender	Country	Region
1	Ambassador Amina C. MOHAMED	Female	Kenya	East
2	Mr. Alphonse OKOYE	Male	Congo	Central
3	Mrs. Elisabeth TANKEU	Female	Cameroon	Central

### Rural Economy and Agriculture

No.	Name	Gender	Country	Region
1	Dr. Phoebe M. DITSHIPI	Female	Botswana	South
2	Mr. Daniel KOUMBA-KOUMBA	Male	Gabon	Central
4	Dr. Nkobi Mpho MOLEELE	Male	Botswana	South
3	Mrs. Yolande OFOUEME	Female	Congo	Central
5	Dr. Ibrahim I. RIHAN	Male	Egypt	North
6	Mrs. Célestine ZANOU***	Female	Benin	West

### Economic Affairs

No.	Name	Gender	Country	Region
1	Mrs. Aziza BAROUD	Female	Chad	Central
2	Dr. M. Maxwell MKWEZALAMBA	Male	Malawi	South
3	Mr. Roger TCHOUNGUI	Male	Cameroon	Central
4	Mrs. Célestine ZANOU***	Female	Benin	West

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\*\*\* Mrs. Célestine Zanou has applied for 2 portfolios

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Consultations at the Regional level for the two regional candidatures for each portfolio should be completed and the candidatures submitted to the Commission by 15 February 2003;

The curriculum vitae accompanying the candidatures, which should not be longer than 3 pages single spacing, should be submitted in at least two of the working languages of the Union, namely Arabic, French, English and Portuguese;

The Commission shall translate, compile, and process the curriculum vitae by 28 February 2003;

Consultations at the regional level on the membership of the Ministerial panel should be completed and the names submitted to the Commission by 30 January 2003.

The Ministerial Panel should examine the candidatures and shortlist at least two per region by the 15 March 2003.

The Commission shall circulate the final candidatures to all Member States by 30 March 2003.

2007

# Report on the status of candidatures for election of the members of the commission of the African Union

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