

## **Norway contributes \$10 million in support of ECA's Business Plan**

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Addis Ababa, December 8, 2010 (ECA) -The Government of Norway has signed an agreement with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) committing 60 million Norwegian Kroner (about \$10 million) in support of ECA's business plan.

At the signing ceremony held at the ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ms. Doreen Bongoy Mawalla, Director of Administration, thanked the Government of Norway on behalf of Under Secretary-General and ECA's Executive Secretary, Mr. Abdoulie Janneh.

"The Memorandum of Agreement we are signing today is yet another demonstration of the Government of Norway's determination to walk side-by-side with the ECA in support of the African Development agenda and this is very much appreciated," she said.

Speaking in turn, the Charge d'affaires from the Embassy of Norway in Ethiopia, Mr. Rolf Ree expressed Norway's continued support and commitment to Africa, ECA and the entire UN family.

" We have witnessed the strengthening of ECA's administration and the strengthening of it's partnership with the African Union and the African Development Bank and it is a privilege to come in and offer support to your business plan and to support ECA's policy development in Africa," he said.

The contribution is part of Norway's long-standing support of ECA programmes. Grants provided by the Government of Norway have been particularly helpful in deepening ECA's work in the areas of gender, good governance, poverty reduction and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); and assessing regional integration in Africa.

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