



**Addis Ababa, December 11, 2012 (WIC)** - According to Professor Mekonen Hadis, Chairperson of the National Organizing Committee, African Union will mark its 50th Anniversary as of January 1 to May 25, 2013.

The report says the National Organizing Committee (NOC) was tasked with the responsibility of organizing the golden jubilee celebration.

The committee is composed of relevant stakeholders, including ministries, state owned enterprises, chambers of commerce, labour unions and a number of professional associations.

As host to the headquarters of the then OAU and now the African Union, the celebration of the 50th Anniversary has special significance for Ethiopia.

The chairperson highlights Ethiopia's unwavering commitment for peace in the continent, intra-Africa trade and economic growth explaining why the nation attaches special significance to the anniversary.

According to ERTA, the Golden Jubilee Celebration will be remembered as Year of Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance.

The OAU was established in 1963 and has been headquartered in Ethiopia since inception..