



## **20th Extraordinary Session of Executive Council of AU Kicks Off**

The 20th Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union (AU) kicked off at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa today.

The two-day meeting of the Council will consider the draft agenda, decisions, and declarations of the Permanent Representative Committee (PRC) members.

In his opening remark, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, said the event will be an opportunity to exchange important views on reforming the Commission.

The Chairperson said, "the ongoing institutional reform is, undoubtedly, one of the most ambitious initiatives for change ever taken by our Union. It touches upon all aspects of its functioning and concerns all its organs."

He also highlighted areas which needed critical reforms including financing of the Commission, labor division between regional economic communities (RECs), division of power and duties and nominations of the leadership.

He also called on member states to push forward and find common position to implement the reform agendas.

Rwanda's Foreign Minister and current Chairperson of the Executive Council Dr. Richard Sezibera for his part underlined the need to pursue the strong African Union Commission that entertains the unity of member countries speaking one voice in international platforms.

The 11th Extraordinary Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) will take place from 17th – 18th November 2018.

The summit is expected to discuss on the AU Institutional Reform process, including reform of the AU Commission, mandate of the AU Development Agency (AUDA) and financing the AU.