News Release

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

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Leaders Gather in Cape Town to Discuss Ways of Delivering on Africa ' s Promise

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Oliver Cann, Associate Director, Media Relations, Tel.: +41 (0) 79 799 3405; E-mail: oliver.cann@weforum.org

- More than 1,000 leaders from business, politics, academia and civil society will be in Cape Town, 8-10 May, for the 23rd World Economic Forum on Africa
- The meeting ' s programme will focus on economic diversification, infrastructure and talent
- For more information about the meeting, please visit: http://wef.ch/africa13

Johannesburg, South Africa, 3 May 2013 – Delivering on Africa ' s Promise will be the theme of the World Economic Forum on Africa 2013 which will take place in Cape Town, South Africa, 8-10 May, with the participation of more than 1,000 leaders from business, government, civil society and academia.

The meeting, which convenes against a backdrop of significant economic growth and progress in reducing poverty in most parts of sub-Saharan Africa, features a programme built around three pillars: Accelerating Economic Diversification; Boosting Strategic Infrastructure; and Unlocking Africa ' s Talent.

Led by President Jacob Zuma of South Africa and representatives from his government, other leaders that have confirmed their participation are: Benin, President Thomas Yayi Boni; Ethiopia, Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn; Kenya, President Uhuru Kenyatta; Malawi, President Joyce Banda; Nigeria, President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan; Seychelles, President James Alix Michel; **Swaziland**, King Mswati III; Tanzania, President Jakaya M. Kikwete; Togo, President Faure Gnassingbé; Uganda, Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi; and Zimbabwe, Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai.

" Africa has an historic opportunity to take advantage of recent improvements in governance, as well as its massive

youth bulge, to transform its economy and society. The World Economic Forum on Africa presents Africa ' s leaders with a platform to build on these encouraging signs and work together to create innovative models, solutions and outcomes to tackle the region ' s challenges and harness its great potential, " said Elsie Kanza, Director, Head of Africa, World Economic Forum.

In addition to a two-day public programme, there will also be a number of significant meetings on the fringes of the World Economic Forum on Africa. The Grow Africa Investment Forum, on 8-9 May, will attempt to build on its successes in 2012 by underscoring further commitment from both the public and private sectors. Another meeting is Shape Africa, organized by the Cape Town hub of the Global Shapers Community, a worldwide network of young leaders between the ages of 20 and 30, which takes place in the city on 6-7 May.

The Co-Chairs of the World Economic Forum on Africa are Frans van Houten, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Management and the Executive Committee, Royal Philips Electronics, Netherland; Mo

Ibrahim, Chairman, Mo Ibrahim Foundation, United Kingdom; Mustafa Vehbi Koç, Chairman of the Board, Koç Holding, Turkey; Frannie Léautier, Executive Secretary, The African Capacity Building Foundation, Zimbabwe; and Arif M. Naqvi, Founder and Group Chief Executive, Abraaj Group, United Arab Emirates.

Notes to Editors

- All the information about this year's World Economic Forum on Africa at http://wef.ch/africa13
- View the best **Forum photographs** on Flickr at http://wef.ch/africa13pix
- Watch **live webcasts** of sessions and press conferences at http://wef.ch/live
- Watch **video-on-demand**, **opinions** and **analysis** of key sessions at http://wef.ch/africa13insights
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WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM
World Economic Forum, 91-93 route de la Capite, CH-1223 Cologny/Geneva
Tel. +41 (0)22 869 1212, Fax +41 (0)22 786 2744, http://www.weforum.org