

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

## **A Mauritian delegation at the 12th African Union Summit**

Mauritius is participating in the 12th African Union (AU) Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy and Renewable Resources, Dr. the Hon. Rashid Beebeejaun, and comprising Dr. the Hon. Arvin Boolell, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Ambassador Patrice Cure, Head of the Multilateral Political Directorate at the Ministry and Ambassador Prem Doongoor, will thus attend the Assembly of Heads of State and Government scheduled for 1-3 February 2009.

The main theme of the Summit is "Infrastructure Development in Africa". Discussions will also focus on the global financial crisis and its impact on Africa. This will culminate on the adoption of a declaration by the Assembly of Heads of States. The current situation in the Middle East will also be on the agenda. Moreover, a special session on the issue of "African Union Government" is scheduled with discussions and debates on the process of economic and political integration of the African continent.

Furthermore, a strategic plan for the years 2009-2012 is also expected to be adopted with a limited number of core priorities. These include consolidation of the progress achieved in the area of peace and security, African integration, rendering institutional change more effective, and promoting the adoption of common values and principles by Member States.

H.E. Mr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of Tanzania and Chairman of the AU, will make the Opening Statement on Monday 2 February 2009.