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**UNITED NATIONS
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African Union Commission Chairperson Will Speak on “African Dynamism” at UNU on 24 July

- Event:** Public Lecture by H.E. Dr. Alpha Oumar Konaré, Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union and former President of the Republic of Mali
- Date/Time:** Monday, 24 July 2006, 3:00 – 4:30 PM (Registration from 2:30 PM, 2F)
- Venue:** Elizabeth Rose Conference Hall, 5F, UN House (Shibuya-ku, Tokyo)
- Organizers:** African Diplomatic Corps in Tokyo (ADC) and United Nations University (UNU)
- Supporter:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

- The topic of Dr. Konaré’s lecture will be “Africa Dynamism: Efforts towards Regional Cooperation and Integration”.
- The lecture will be followed by a question and answer session.
- The speech will be in French: French-English interpretation will be provided.

Media representatives are cordially invited to attend Dr. Konaré’s lecture. Please contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu) to confirm your attendance.

Profile of Dr. Konaré

Alpha Oumar Konaré was elected Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (a federation of 53 African member nations) in July 2003. He previously served as President of Mali for two terms, from 1992 to 2002.

Dr. Konaré began his professional career as a professor and researcher. From 1975, he served as Head of Historical and Ethnographic Heritage, Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture, and then as Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture. He left government service in 1980 to work for democratic reform, and went on to found the “Jamana” cultural cooperative (1983) and the daily newspaper *Les échos* (1989). In 1990, he helped to found the Alliance for Democracy in Mali Association, which became a political party in 1991. Following the drafting of a new national constitution, Dr. Konaré became Mali’s first democratically elected President.

Throughout his career, Dr. Konaré has served as chairman of several professional associations and intergovernmental organizations, and as an advisor to various international and UN system organizations. He holds a Ph.D. degree in archaeology from University of Warsaw (Poland).

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