Summit calls for the revision of the COMESA Aid for trade Strategy

During the just ended COMESA summit held in Lilongwe, Malawi, summit directed that the COMESA Aid for Trade Strategy be revised through a consultative process and should cover a four year period (2012-2015) that is aligned to the MTSP. The new revised COMESA Aid for Trade strategy is therefore expected to be ready by 2012.

The decision by summit to revise the strategy was based on the report of the review of the Aid for Trade strategy conducted by the European Centre for Development and Policy Management (ECDPM) and the recommendations that came from Member States during the workshop that was held on the 15th of October 2011 in Lusaka, Zambia where the draft report of the review of the COMESA Aid for Trade strategy was presented to Member States.

The revised strategy is expected to strengthen the national-region coherence through aligning regional Aid for Trade strategy to national Aid for Trade strategies and development plans. Further, the strategy is expected to expedite and enhance implementation of regional programmes and commitments at the national level and at the same time continue playing its role of promoting donor coordination.