



ZUMA IN ADDIS ABABA FOR CONFERENCE

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Deputy President Jacob Zuma is scheduled to participate in the plenary session of Heads of State Presentations at the Third African Development Forum (ADF3), in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Mr Zuma as well as transport minister Dullah Omar, finance deputy minister Mandisi Mphahlele and economic advisor in the Presidency Professor Wiseman Nkomo arrived in the east African country earlier today.

Opening the conference on Sunday, Ethiopia's Prime Minister Meles Zenawi said Africa was faced with regional integration as a challenge both politically and economically.

The ADF is an initiative led by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

It is expected that the continent's Marshall Plan called the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the new African Union (AU), predecessor of the Organisation of African Union (OAU), will receive particular attention at the Heads of State meeting.

The AU, which is modeled along the same lines as the European Union (EU), will be launched in South Africa in July.

Mr Zuma's programme in Ethiopia includes bilateral discussions with Prime Minister Zenawi and a meeting with African ambassadors based in Addis Ababa to brief them on a range of political issues and NEPAD.

He will address the plenary session of the ADF before returning home on Friday.