

AFRICAN UNION

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PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION WELCOMES THE SIGNING OF AN AGREEMENT IN GUINEA ON THE PREPARATION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE 2013 ELECTIONS

Addis Ababa, 5 July 2013: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, welcomes the signing of an Agreement on the preparation and organization of the 2013 elections, by the Government of the Republic of Guinea, the presidential camp, opposition political parties and representatives of the international partners, on 3 July 2013. She welcomes this outcome, which is the result of the Inter-Guinean Dialogue initiated in early June 2013 by the College of Facilitators, comprising of two National Facilitators and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in West Africa, Said Djinnit, as International Facilitator. She commends the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for the crucial role he played and for his commitment to the successful conclusion of the Inter-Guinean Dialogue.

The Chairperson of the Commission calls on all Guinean stakeholders to ensure that this positive momentum is maintained, in order to foster peace, security and stability, which, at this crucial stage, are essential for the completion of the transition launched in 2008. She reiterates the support of the AU to the ongoing process and its determination to effectively assist in the implementation of the commitments of the Guinean parties.

The Chairperson of the Commission welcomes the sense of responsibility and political maturity displayed by the Guinean stakeholders, and reiterates the imperative for all parties in Guinea to privilege the higher interest of the country over any other consideration, so that the forthcoming elections, rather than being a source of strife, be an opportunity for emulation and expression of civic duty, as well as for strengthening national unity and the democratic process in Guinea.