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PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION IN NORTHERN MALI

***The AU calls for restraint and scrupulous observance of the Agreement for
Peace and reconciliation in Mali***

Addis Ababa, 19 August 2015: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, is deeply concerned by the security situation in northern Mali. She strongly condemns the recent clashes that have taken place between movements signatories to the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, in flagrant violation of their commitments.

The Chairperson of the Commission expresses concern that this situation has the potential to seriously undermine the remarkable progress recorded in the search for a lasting solution to the Malian crisis. She calls upon all parties to demonstrate the sense of responsibility demanded by the situation, and to comply scrupulously with their obligations, including by facilitating the effective restoration of State authority as provided for in the Agreement.

In response to the request made by the Mediation in its press release of 18 August 2015, and in accordance with its responsibilities as one of the Guarantors of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, the AU shall consult with the United Nations to ensure an investigation into the recent incidents, in order to enable the adoption of appropriate measures.