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PRESS RELEASE

AU PEACE AND SECURITY COMMISSIONER MEETS WITH GERMANY FEDERAL FOREIGN MINISTER FRANK-WALTER STEINMEIER

Addis Ababa, 8 May 2015: The African Union (AU) Commissioner for Peace and Security, Smail Chergui, met on 5 May 2015, with Germany's Federal Foreign Minister Frank-walter Steinmeier. The meeting took place in Berlin, on the margins of the “International Conference on Security Sector Reform and Governance”, organized by the Government of Germany on 4 May 2015.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the two Officials to exchange views on a number of issues of common concern. In this respect, they discussed the prevailing situation in Libya, which is characterized by continued violence and insecurity and increasing presence of terrorist groups. They noted that criminal networks are taking advantage of this situation in particular through human trafficking towards Europe, with the attendant humanitarian tragedies. They also discussed situations in Somalia, Mali and in Burundi. Minister Steinmeier expressed German support for the African led efforts aimed at furthering peace, security and stability in those countries.

The two commended the exemplary relations existing between the AU and Germany in the area of peace and security. They reiterated their commitment to further strengthen this partnership.