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PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION WELCOMES THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE TRANSITION ROADMAP IN MALI

Addis Ababa, 30 January 2013: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, welcomes the endorsement, on 29 January 2013, by Mali's National Assembly, of the Transition Roadmap following its adoption and presentation to Parliament by the Government.

The Chairperson of the Commission stresses the major importance of this development, which will contribute to further mobilizing the international community in support of the Malian Government's efforts to liberate the northern part of the country and to organize free, fair and transparent elections that will mark the end of the transitional period.

The Chairperson of the Commission appeals to the leaders and all Malian stakeholders to work together, in a spirit of harmony and responsibility, towards the implementation of the various components of the Roadmap and to refrain from any acts likely to undermine this process. She expresses the hope that, in so doing, the Malian people will be empowered to achieve their legitimate aspiration for peace, unity, democracy and prosperity.