

AFRICAN UNION

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UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, P.O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 5513 822 Fax: (251-11) 5519 321
Email: situationroom@africa-union.org

PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION CALLS FOR DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION ON THE ISSUE OF THE NILE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT

Addis Ababa, 12 June 2013: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, has been following closely the latest developments in the relations between Egypt and Ethiopia over the issue of the Nile River. She notes with concern the tension resulting from some of the public statements made recently on the issue.

The Chairperson of the Commission strongly believes that all Nile basin countries, including the members of the tripartite committee comprising Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan, can cooperate collectively, as they have done in the past, to resolve the issue and agree on trans-boundary water management arrangements. In so doing, they will contribute greatly to the advancement of African integration and the wellbeing of their people, in the spirit of Pan-Africanism and African renaissance.

The Chairperson of the Commission recalls the principles enshrined in the AU Constitutive Act and other relevant instruments, which commit Member States to uphold the spirit of cooperation, dialogue and good neighborliness, and to settle disputes exclusively through peaceful means. She expresses the AU Commission's readiness to provide all appropriate assistance in order to address the challenges at hand and foster mutual understanding and cooperation.