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DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

VISIT TO LOME OF A JOINT AFRICAN UNION-UNITED NATIONS DELEGATION

Addis Ababa, 13 January 2015: The Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union (AU), Ambassador Smail Chergui, and the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in West Africa, Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, undertook, yesterday, a joint visit to Lome. The visit, which took place in the context of the preparation of the forthcoming presidential election and the ongoing consultations on the reforms planned under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in 2006, is part of the joint AU-UN efforts to promote dialogue and stability in Togo.

The joint AU-UN delegation met with members of the Government, as well as with leaders of the opposition political parties. The delegation was also received by President Faure Gnassingbé.

The delegation stressed the need for all stakeholders in Togo to work tirelessly towards a consensual and inclusive solution to the challenges at hand. The delegation expressed the commitment of the AU and the UN, working in close collaboration with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), to accompany the Togolese actors in their efforts to create a peaceful environment and deepen democracy in their country.