

AFRICAN UNION

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PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION CALLS FOR THE RESPECT OF CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER IN MALI

Addis Ababa, 21 March 2012: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Jean Ping, is deeply concerned by the reprehensible acts currently being perpetrated by some elements of the Malian Army in Bamako, Mali. He expresses the strong condemnation by the AU of any attempt to seize power by force, and stresses the need to respect constitutional legitimacy as represented by the republican institutions, including the President of the Republic, Head of State, Amadou Toumani Touré.

The Chairperson of the Commission continues to closely follow the evolution of the situation. In this respect, he is in contact with President Thomas Yayi Boni, Chairman of the Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and other relevant international stakeholders.