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**PEACE AND SECURITY
232nd MEETING
17 JUNE 2010
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

PSC/PR/BR.2(CCXXXII)

PRESS STATEMENT

PRESS STATEMENT OF THE 232nd MEETING
OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 232nd meeting held on 17 June 2010, received briefings from Professor Ibrahima Fall, Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the Commission to Guinea, as well as from the Permanent Representatives of Burkina Faso, in its capacity as Representative of the Mediator, and Nigeria, in its capacity as Chair of ECOWAS, on the developments in the situation in Guinea.

Council welcomed the progress achieved in the transition process, in particular the signing by the President of the transition, General Sékouba Konate, of the necessary instruments required, mainly the Constitution and the Electoral Law, for the organization and holding of the presidential election scheduled to take place on 27 June 2010, therefore attesting to the irreversibility of the process. Council also welcomed the commitment of all stakeholders and the political actors as a whole to comply with the spirit and letter of the Ouagadougou Joint Declaration, and noted with satisfaction the significant progress made in the preparation of elections.

Council called on the Guineans, in particular the leaders and members of all political parties to exercise moderation, restraint and a sense of responsibility and contribute to creating conditions conducive for the proper conduct of the electoral process, including the electoral campaign. In this regard, Council urged them to uphold the supreme interest of Guinea and to refrain from any action likely to create tensions and undermine the electoral process.

Council invited the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and the transitional institutions, as well as political parties and the media, to sensitize citizens, including political actors, activists and supporters of democratic values to lead them to respect and to ensure respect for democratic rules, including, among others, tolerance, non-anticipation of the results and the acceptance of election results.

Council took note of the submission, to the Guinean authorities, of the report of the joint ECOWAS- AU-UN expert group on the reform of the defense and security sector, led by General Lamine Cissé. It requested the ECOWAS, the AU and the UN to develop, in consultation with the Government to be formed after the elections and interested partners, the modalities for the implementation of its recommendations, including the financial and technical support and the necessary material.

Council called on the international community to lend the necessary support for the completion of the transitional process, the socio-economic recovery of Guinea, as well as the reinforcement of governance, consolidation of democracy and defense and security sector reform.

Addis Ababa, 17 June 2010