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African Union Mission for Mali and the Sahel (MISAHEL)

PRESS STATEMENT

**MISAHEL WELCOMES THE OUTCOME OF THE DISCUSSIONS IN ANEFIS BETWEEN MALIAN ARMED
MOVEMENTS SIGNATORIES TO THE PEACE AGREEMENT AND REITERATES THE NEED FOR THE
TIMELY IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS AGREEMENT**

Bamako, 17 October 2015: The High Representative of the African Union (AU) for Mali and the Sahel and Head of the AU Mission for Mali and the Sahel (MISAHEL), Pierre Buyoya, welcomes the outcome of the discussions held in Anefis, in northern Mali, from 4 and 14 October 2015, between the Coordination of the Azawad Movements (CMA) and the Movements of the Platform. In this regard, he notes the reaffirmation by these groups of their commitment to the cessation of hostilities, the release of prisoners and the free movement of people and goods across the entire Malian territory. He stresses the need for all concerned stakeholders to carry out their actions within the framework laid down by the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali.

The High Representative commends the political and military leaders of these movements for having privileged dialogue as the only way to resolve disputes between them, thus sparing the concerned civilian populations additional suffering. He stresses that the successful conclusion of the discussions between the CMA and the Platform will greatly facilitate the implementation of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali. He urges the parties to honor their commitments and to sustain and enhance the momentum generated by the Anefis meeting, so as to speed up the restoration of sustainable peace and security in Mali, including through the re-establishment of state authority across the entire national territory.

The High Representative reiterates the AU's commitment to continue to support the implementation process of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali. In this regard, MISAHEL will pursue its efforts within the framework of the Follow-up Committee of the Agreement and the International Mediation led by Algeria.