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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **AU COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON SADDENED BY THE DEATH OF ETIENNE TSHISEKEDI WA MULUMBA, LEADER OF THE CONGOLESE UDPS PARTY**

**Addis Ababa, 2 February 2017:** The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma has learnt today with deep sadness the death of Étienne Tshisekedi wa Mulumba, leader of the Congolese opposition, the Union for Democracy and Social Progress Party (UDPS) in Brussels, Belgium.

On this sad occasion, the Chairperson of the Commission wishes to present the condolences of the AU, and her own, to the family of the illustrious departed, to the UDPS, and to the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The Chairperson of the Commission, describing Etienne Tshisekedi wa Mulumba as a towering personality of Congolese politics, said that the best way to honor his legacy and his long fight for democracy in the DRC is to fully implement the Conference Épisopale Nationale du Congo (CENCO) facilitated Agreement signed by the Congolese stakeholders on 31 December 2016.

The Chairperson calls the Congolese people and the defence and security forces to remain united and cohesive at this moment of profound grief.