



ARRIVAL STATEMENT

AU deploys election observers to various states in Sudan

KHARTOUM, 13 April 2015: Following the receipt of an invitation from the Government of the Republic of Sudan, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Her Excellency Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, approved the deployment of an African Union Election Observation Mission (AUEOM) to Sudan to observe the Presidential and Parliamentary elections scheduled for 13 to 15 April 2015.

The AU launched its election observation mission in Sudan on 10 April 2015 with the deployment of 20 short-term observers (STOs) drawn from 14 African countries, representing institutions such as the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), Election Management Bodies (EMBs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). The STOs were deployed in teams of two to cover 7 states in Sudan.

The AUEOM is led by **H.E. Chief Olusengun Obasanjo**, former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, who arrives in Khartoum on 13 April to interact with key stakeholders and observe the voting and counting process.

The AUEOM's mandate is derived from the 2007 African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance; the 2002 AU/OAU Declaration on Principles Governing Democratic Elections in Africa; and the 2002 AU Guidelines for Elections Observation and Monitoring Missions.

The assessment and observations of the Mission will be guided by the principles and guidelines stated in these instruments, and other relevant international instruments guiding international election observation and the legal framework for elections in the Republic of Sudan

The Mission will issue a statement of its preliminary assessment of the elections on 16 April at a Press Conference at Corinthia Hotel in Khartoum. A final and comprehensive report will be released within two months from the date of announcement of final election results.

The Secretariat of the AUEOM is located at **Corinthia Hotel**, Khartoum. Further enquiries about the Mission can be made to the Mission Coordinator, Mr. Idrissa Kamara: kamarai@africa-union.org; mobile phone: +249 905971091.