



ARRIVAL STATEMENT

The African Union Deploys an Election Observation Mission to the 15 October 2014 Presidential, Legislative and Provincial Assembly Elections in the Republic of Mozambique

MAPUTO, 11 October 2014: Following the receipt of an invitation from the Government of the Republic of Mozambique, 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 observe the Presidential, Parliamentary and Provincial Assembly elections scheduled to be held on 15 October 2014.

The AU launched its election observation mission in Mozambique on 8 September 2014 with the deployment of 10 long-term observers (LTOs) drawn from 8 African countries. The LTOs were deployed in five teams to cover the eleven provinces of Mozambique. Since their arrival, the LTOs have closely followed pre-election events and preparations including political campaigns, training of polling personnel, media coverage of elections, and held consultations with key election stakeholders in Mozambique.

On 8 October 2014, 35 short-term observers drawn from 24 African countries, representing institutions such as the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), Election Management Bodies (EMBs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), joined the LTOs. The short-term observers will compliment the AUEOM's coverage of Election Day procedures – from opening the poll to voting and counting procedures.

The AUEOM is led by **Honourable Justice Sophia Akuffo**, former President of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and Judge of the Supreme Court of Ghana. She arrives in Maputo on 11 October 2014 to strengthen the AU Mission and to interact with key stakeholders.

The AUEOM's mandate is derived from relevant AU instruments such as 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 Mozambique.

The Mission will issue a statement of its preliminary assessment of the elections on 17 October at a press conference in Maputo. The LTOs will remain in the country to follow the post-election developments including tabulation and announcement of final results. 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 **Avenida Hotel**, Maputo. Further enquiries about the Mission can be made to the Mission Coordinator, Mr. Idrissa Kamara: kamarai@africa-union.org; mobile phone: +258848501953.