



For Immediate Release

African Union Commission Chairperson approves the deployment of a pre-election assessment mission to the Republic of Sudan

Addis Ababa, 3 March 2015: Following an invitation from the National Electoral Commission of Sudan, and in line with paragraph VI (d) of *OAU/AU Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections* and paragraph 4.6 of the *AU Guidelines for Elections Observation and Monitoring Missions*, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission approved the deployment of a Pre-election Assessment Mission to the Republic of Sudan ahead of the country's general elections scheduled for 13 April 2015.

The overall objective of the pre-election assessment mission is to consider the state of preparedness for the April 2015 polls by all stakeholders and examine the context within which the election will take place to ensure that they are held within the framework of the *African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance* to which the republic of Sudan is a signatory. The specific objectives include:

- Assess the capacity and needs of the National Electoral Commission to determine the type of electoral assistance that the African Union Commission should provide; and
- Offer recommendations regarding the nature and scope of AU Election Observation Mission (AUEOM).

The Pre-election Assessment Team comprised one (1) staff from the Department of Political Affairs of the AU Commission to serve as mission coordinator and four (4) independent election experts. The team will hold consultations with various political and electoral stakeholders in Sudan from 1 to 10 March 2015.

For more information, please contact:

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