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**AFRICAN UNION ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION TO THE 7 MAY 2014  
NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**ARRIVAL STATEMENT**

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, has deployed an African Union Election Observation Mission (AUEOM) to the Republic of South Africa to observe the upcoming National and Provincial elections scheduled for 7 May 2014.

The AUEOM has a mandate to observe the 7 May 2014 Elections in South Africa in conformity with the relevant instruments of the African Union, including the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (2012), the AU/OAU Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections in Africa (2002); the African Union Guidelines for Election Observation and Monitoring Missions (2002); other relevant international instruments governing election observation; and the Constitution and National Laws of the Republic of South Africa.

The Mission is led by H.E John Kuffuor, former President of the Republic of Ghana who is assisted by the Deputy Head of Mission, HEM Ibrahima Fall, former United Nations Assistant Secretary General. The Mission comprises fifty-three observers drawn from the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), African Ambassadors to the African Union in Addis Ababa, Election Management Bodies, Human Right Institutions and Civil Society Organisations from various African countries.

The Mission is assisted by a group of experts from the African Union Commission, Pan-African Parliament and the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA).

As part of its activities, the Mission will meet relevant electoral stakeholders in South Africa, including the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Political Parties, and Civil Society Organisations and observe the May 7 National and Provincial Elections across the country. After polling, the Mission will release a Preliminary Statement at a Press Conference in Johannesburg. The Mission will subsequently produce a more detailed report, including recommendations for future elections, which will be shared with relevant South African authorities and institutions and released at the African Union website within two months after the Election. The observations and recommendations of the Mission will be based on the fairness, credibility, transparency, and the effective management of the elections from which the Mission will express its views.

The Secretariat of the Mission is at the Sunnyside Park Hotel, Prince of Wales Terrace, Parktown, Johannesburg. For further information, Please contact the Mission Coordinators: Mr. Chika Charles Aniekwe, Tel: +2781067582, Email: [Aniekwec@africa-union.org](mailto:Aniekwec@africa-union.org) and Idrissa Kamara, Tel: +27810601642; Email: [kamarai@africa-union.org](mailto:kamarai@africa-union.org).

Johannesburg, 4 May 2014