



**AFRICAN UNION ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC  
OF GHANA, 7 DECEMBER 2012 PRESIDENTIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY  
ELECTIONS**

**ARRIVAL STATEMENT**

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Ghana, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, has deployed an African Union Election Observer Mission to the Republic of Ghana to observe the General Elections scheduled for Friday, 7 December 2012.

The African Union Election Observer Mission has a mandate to observe the 7 December, 2012 General Elections in Ghana in conformity with the relevant provisions of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, which entered into force on 15 February 2012, and which is intended to enhance electoral processes in Africa, strengthen electoral institutions and the conduct of fair, free, and transparent elections; the AU/OAU Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections in Africa (AHG/Decl.1 (XXXVIII), adopted by the Assembly of the African Union in July 2002; the African Union Guidelines for Election Observation and Monitoring Missions; relevant international instruments governing election observation and the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Ghana.

The Mission is led by H.E Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and comprises 40 high profile personalities drawn from the Pan-African Parliament, African Ambassadors to the African Union in Addis Ababa, Election Management Bodies 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 Ghana, including the Electoral Commission, Political Parties, Civil Society Organisations and Security Agencies.

After the polling, the African Union Election Observer Mission will release a Preliminary Statement at a Press Conference in Accra. After that, the Mission will produce a more detailed report, including recommendations for future elections, which will be shared with the appropriate Ghanaian authorities and institutions. Observations and recommendations of the Mission will be based on the credibility, transparency, fairness and the effective organization of the elections from which the Mission will express its views.

The AU Mission wishes to thank the Government and people of Ghana for the measures taken to facilitate its work.

The Secretariat of the Mission is at the Sunlodge Hotel, Accra. For further information contact the Mission Coordinators: Mr. Guy Cyrille Tapoko, Tel: +233509021848, Email: [tapokog@africa-union.org](mailto:tapokog@africa-union.org) and Mr. Felix Odhiambo, Tel: +233543485877; Email: [felix@eisa.org.za](mailto:felix@eisa.org.za)

**Accra, 03 December 2012**