



**AFRICAN UNION ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF
KENYA'S 4 MARCH 2013 GENERAL ELECTIONS**

ARRIVAL STATEMENT

Following the invitation by the Government of the Republic of Kenya, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, has deployed the African Union Elections Observation Mission to the Republic of Kenya in order to observe the General Elections scheduled for Monday, 4 March 2013.

The African Union Election Observation Mission has a mandate to observe the 4 March General Elections 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 Durban 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 Elections Observation and Monitoring Missions; relevant international instruments governing elections observation and the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Kenya.

The Mission is led by H.E Joaquim Chissano, former President of the Republic of Mozambique and is assisted by Dr. Aisha Abdullahi, Commissioner for Political Affairs, African Union Commission. The Mission comprises of 60 high profile personalities and experts drawn from the Pan-African Parliament, African Ambassadors to the African Union in Addis Ababa, Election Management Bodies and Civil Society Organizations from various African countries.

As part of its activities, the Mission will meet with various electoral stakeholders in Kenya, including political parties and civil society groups.

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. After the elections, the African Union Mission will release its preliminary statement during a press conference in Nairobi, Kenya. After that, the Mission will produce a more detailed report, including recommendations for future elections, which will be shared with the appropriate Kenya authorities and institutions.

The Secretariat of the Mission is at **Fairmont The Norfolk Hotel in Nairobi**. For further information contact the Mission Coordinator(s): **Mr. Samuel Atuobi (Tel: +254(0)723694872; Email: atuobis@Africa-union.org/atuobis@yahoo.com: Mr. Idrissa Kamara (+254(0)723694470; Email: kamarai@Africa-union.org**

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