PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION CALLS FOR PEACEFUL INSTITUTION BUILDING AND INCLUSIVE CONSTITUTION MAKING PROCESS IN EGYPT

Addis Ababa, 8 December 2012: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, is following closely the evolving situation in Egypt. She is deeply concerned at the developments of the past few days, in particular the growing discord among the different political groups and the associated violence, which has resulted in fatalities and injuries. The AU regrets this unfortunate situation, and sends its sympathies to the loved ones of the deceased and wishes quick recovery to the injured.

The Chairperson of the Commission calls on all the Egyptian stakeholders to exercise utmost restraint and to work towards consensus-building for the greater interests of the nation. The AU is confident that the people and the leaders of Egypt, from all quarters, including the ruling party and the opposition, are aware of the dangers that continued instability represents for their country and the region.

The Chairperson of the Commission underscores the imperative for all the parties to engage in dialogue and to work towards an inclusive constitution making process, in order to overcome the current difficulties and live up to the hope generated by the 2011 Revolution.

The Chairperson of the Commission expresses AU’s readiness to assist such a process in whatever way would be deemed appropriate.