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Press Release

THE AFRICAN UNION STRONGLY CONDEMNS THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN EGYPT, SOMALIA AND MALI

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – 10 April 2017: The Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, strongly condemns the attacks targeting Coptic Churches in Tanta and Alexandria in Egypt, which happened on 9 April 2017, resulting in the death of dozens of worshippers and many injured.

The Chairperson is also dismayed by the cowardly attack that targeted the Chief of the Somali National Army, in Mogadishu, on 9 April 2017. The attack resulted in several deaths and many injured. The Chairperson applauds the constant alertness of the Somali National Army and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), which enabled the Army Chief to escape the attack. Two other attacks have been carried out in Mogadishu today 10th April 2017, resulting into loss of life and injury.

The Chairperson further strongly condemns the attack in Gargando in Mali that took place on Saturday 9 April 2017, resulting in deaths and injuries, barely one week after a national peace summit called for talks with militants from the country's northern region.

The Chairperson of the Commission expresses the AU's solidarity with the Governments and peoples of Egypt, Somalia and Mali, offers his condolences to the bereaved families and wishes speedy recovery to the injured.

The Chairperson of the Commission reaffirms the AU's strong rejection of all acts of terrorism and calls for all communities to uphold the principle of unity, which is one of the basic principles of the Union. He reiterates the commitment of the AU to work with Member States in engaging various sectors of their societies to prevent terrorism and violent extremism. He also stresses the need for enhanced international cooperation in the prevention and combating of terrorism and violent extremism within the frameworks of the relevant AU and international counter-terrorism instruments.