

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

---

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, P.O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 5513 822 Fax: (251-11) 5519 321  
Email: situationroom@africa-union.org

---

## **Press Release**

### **The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union Condemns the killing of the Kingdom of Lesotho's Army Commander**

***Addis Ababa, 07 September 2017:*** The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, condemns the killing of the Kingdom of Lesotho's Army Commander, Lieutenant General Khoantle Motsomotso on 5 September 2017.

The Chairperson expresses deep concern over the potential destabilizing consequences of this barbarous act on the peace that Lesotho enjoys, following a successful conduct of democratic elections. The Chairperson further expresses great concern at the fact that this gruesome incident takes place hardly two years after the assassination of Lieutenant General Maaparankoe Mahao in June 2015. The Chairperson calls on the parties in Kingdom of Lesotho to resolve political differences through peaceful means, within the Framework of the country's Constitution.

The Chairperson calls for calm and restraint, and urges the Government to institute an investigation into this matter. He extends his heartfelt condolences to the family of the deceased, the government and the people of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

The Chairperson urges the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to immediately engage the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho to explore ways and means of resolving all outstanding issues, including, but not limited to the implementation of the recommendations of the SADC Commission of Inquiry to the Kingdom of Lesotho that was established following the killing of Lt. General Maaparankoe Mahao in 2015.