**PRESS RELEASE**

**THE COMMISSIONER FOR PEACE AND SECURITY RECEIVES THE AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE AFRICAN UNION**

*Addis Ababa, 18 April 2018*: The AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, H.E. Ambassador Smaïl Chergui received the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the African Union, H.E. Ambassador Hoon-min Lim. They discussed a range of issues of mutual interest, including the recent developments in the Korean Peninsula.

Commissioner Chergui, while reiterating the AU’s deep concern about nuclear weapons proliferation which undermines not only regional but global peace and stability, welcomed and expressed the AU’s strong support to the plan to convene the inter-Korean Summit, next week. In this regard, he commended the strong leadership and wisdom of the President of the Republic of Korea, Moon Jae-in. He also encouraged the two countries to work progressively towards the promotion of dialogue, building confidence measures, normalizing economic and diplomatic ties for the benefit of all Korean people.

Commissioner Chergui also reiterated the AU’s profound appreciation to the government of the Republic of Korean for its precious contribution to the AU Peace Fund. He particularly hailed the progress made in the deployment of a Level II Hospital in the city of Gao, in Northern Mali, which will be a great health infrastructure for the populations of the region.

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