

AFRICAN UNION

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PRESS RELEASE

THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION STRONGLY CONDEMNS THE ATTACKS IN TURKEY AND GERMANY

Addis Ababa, 20 December 2016: The Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, is deplored by the assassination of Russia's ambassador to Turkey, H.E. Andrey Karlov (R.I.P.), who was killed in a shooting in the capital of Turkey, Ankara, in the evening of 19 December 2016; and the attack by a tractor trailer that plowed into a crowded Christmas market in Berlin on Monday night, killing 12 people and injuring at least 48 others on 19 December 2016.

The Chairperson of the Commission is appalled by these attacks, both of which are being treated as terrorist attacks, and terms them as cowardly. She expresses the AU's solidarity with the Governments and people of Russia, Turkey and Germany and expresses her deep sympathy to the families of the victims.

The Chairperson of the Commission notes that such attacks continue to illustrate the seriousness of the threat that terrorism continues to pose to global security. She reiterates the AU's strong rejection of terrorism and violent extremism, and calls for strengthened collective action to bring such evil acts to an end.