PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION STRONGLY CONDEMNS THE TERRORIST ATTACK AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS IN HELWAN DISTRICT, EGYPT

Addis Ababa, 9 May 2016: The Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, strongly condemns the attack against a government minivan in Helwan district of Cairo, on Sunday 8 May 2016. The attack, which has been claimed by the so-called Islamic State (IS) terrorist group, resulted in the death of 8 Egyptian policemen.

The Chairperson of the Commission presents the AU’s deep condolences to the families of the deceased. She stresses that this cowardly act illustrates the seriousness of the threat of terrorism to peace, security and stability on the continent. She also expresses the AU’s full solidarity with the Government and people of the Arab Republic of Egypt, in this painful situation. She reiterates AU’s continued support to the sustained efforts of the Egyptian Government to prevent and fight against terrorism.

Stressing that no single country can adequately and sustainably prevent and combat terrorism, the Chairperson underscores the importance of strengthening partnerships with the continental stakeholders and the larger international community in furtherance of the fight against radicalization, terrorism and violent extremism, in line with international and AU instruments, as well as relevant decisions of the Peace and Security Council.