

AFRICAN UNION

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PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE ONGOING DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH SUDAN

Addis Ababa, 17 December 2013: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, is following, with deep concern, the situation in South Sudan, marked by an outbreak of fighting in parts of Juba, since the evening of Sunday 15 December 2013. The Chairperson of the Commission is particularly concerned about the safety and security of the civilian population.

The Chairperson of the Commission urges the Government and leadership of South Sudan and all other stakeholders to exercise maximum restraint and avert any further escalation. She urges them to seek the resolution of their differences through peaceful means, with due respect for the rule of law, human rights and constitutional legality. The Chairperson of the Commission expresses AU's readiness to assist in finding a solution to the current situation within the context of relevant AU's instruments.