PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION LOOKS FORWARD TO THE SUCCESSFUL HOLDING OF THE 1ST ROUND OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN MADAGASCAR

Addis Ababa, 25 October 2013: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, continues to follow closely the situation in Madagascar. She is paying particular attention to the electoral process, with the holding, today, of the first round of the presidential election, which constitutes a crucial step in the completion of the process of restoring the constitutional order.

The Chairperson of the Commission welcomes the generally peaceful political and social climate that has been witnessed during the election campaign, and renews the AU’s appreciation to the Transitional Government of National Unity and to the Malagasy stakeholders for their commitment to the resolution of the crisis. She encourages the Malagasy stakeholders to persevere in their efforts, to ensure the successful holding of the first round of the presidential election and the other elections to follow. She reiterates the AU’s commitment to continue to support the ongoing process, within the framework of the relevant decisions of the Peace and Security Council of the AU.

The Chairperson of the Commission reiterates the AU’s appreciation to the Mediator of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and to the international partners working within the International Contact Group on Madagascar (ICG-M), for their invaluable contribution to the crisis exit process in Madagascar. She urges them to continue and enhance their support to the ongoing efforts.