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LIGHTING OF THE AFRICAN UNION FLAME OF PEACE
MARKS THE CONCLUSION OF THE 28TH EDITION OF THE
AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS 2012

Libreville, 12 February 2012:
The conclusion of the 28th edition of the Africa Cup of
Nations 2012 was marked by the lighting of the African Union
(AU) ‘Flame of Peace’, today, in Libreville, at the Angondjé
Stadium. The Flame, which was lit before the kick-off of the final
match between Côte d’Ivoire and Zambia, symbolises the
commitment of African peoples and governments to Make Peace Happen on the continent.

The ceremony was notably witnessed by Presidents Ali Bongo Ondimba of Gabon and
Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo of Equatorial Guinea, whose countries co-hosted the
28th edition of the Africa Cup of Nations, as well as by President Thomas Yayi Boni of
Benin, Chairman of the AU. Also in attendance was FIFA President Joseph Sepp Blatter.

Following the AU anthem, the Chairperson of the Commission, Jean Ping, invited CAF
President Issa Hayatou to light the Flame of Peace. Mr. Hayatou then raised the Flame
to a rapturous applause from the packed stadium.

The lighting of the Flame of Peace during the final of the Africa Cup of Nations is a
further demonstration of the close partnership between the AU and CAF towards the
promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa. Within this framework, the two
institutions have endeavoured to harness the unifying power of football to further the
Make Peace Happen campaign. Today’s ceremony sent out a strong message on the
need for renewed efforts to end conflict in Africa and sustain peace.