PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION STRONGLY CONDEMNS THE KILLING OF PEACEKEEPERS IN DARFUR, SUDAN

Addis-Ababa, 14 October 2013: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, is deeply saddened by the killing of 3 Senegalese officers of a Formed Police Unit of the African Union – United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) in an attack by unidentified armed assailants in West Darfur, on Sunday, 13 October 2013. A week earlier, a Zambian Military Observer was stabbed at his residence in a car-jacking incident perpetrated by armed men - the officer later died.

The Chairperson of the Commission strongly condemns these cowardly and criminal acts against UNAMID peacekeepers who are paying the ultimate price to bring peace to Darfur. She stresses the urgent need to identify and bring the perpetrators of these criminal acts to justice.

The Chairperson of the Commission expresses AU's deepest condolences to the families of the fallen peacekeepers, as well as to the Governments and peoples of Senegal and Zambia.