



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **THE AFRICAN UNION WELCOMES THE SMOOTH CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS THAT WILL MARK THE COMPLETION OF THE TRANSITION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

***The AU urges all political stakeholders to exercise calm and restraint pending  
the official results of the polls***

***Addis Ababa, 15 February 2016:*** The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, welcomes the successful holding, on 14 February 2016, of the second round of the presidential elections and the first round of legislative elections in the Central African Republic (CAR). These elections mark an additional and important step in the process aimed at successfully concluding the ongoing transition and fully restoring constitutional order in the CAR.

The Chairperson of the Commission commends the transitional authorities for their efforts, with the support of the region and the larger international community, to ensure the successful holding of the elections. She welcomes the maturity of the CAR people who, once again, demonstrated their strong commitment to peace, stability and democracy.

The Chairperson of the Commission urges the CAR political actors, including the candidates to the elections, to continue to demonstrate the sense of responsibility called for by the situation in their country. In this context, she stresses the need for all concerned stakeholders to exercise calm and utmost restraint, pending the official announcement of election results by the competent CAR authorities, and to exclusively use procedures and mechanisms provided for by the law in case of any complaints.

The Chairperson of the Commission reiterates the AU's commitment, working in close coordination with the leaders of the region, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the United Nations and other bilateral and international partners, to continue to accompany the CAR stakeholders and people in their efforts to open a new page in the history of their country.

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# The African Union Welcomes the Smooth Conduct of Elections That Will Mark the Completion of the Transition in the Central African Republic

Peace and Security

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