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## STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON THE CONFIRMATION OF THE NEW ETHIOPIAN PRIME MINISTER

**Addis Ababa, 2 April 2018:** The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, Moussa Faki Mahamat, congratulates Dr. Abiy Ahmed Ali on his confirmation as the new Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, following the resignation of his predecessor, Hailemariam Desalegn. He welcomes the peaceful and smooth nature of the transition, which is a demonstration of political maturity.

The Chairperson recalls that, throughout their long and proud history, the Ethiopian people have shown their ability to overcome challenges and unite in the pursuit of the higher interest of their country. He is convinced that, under the leadership of the new Prime Minister, Ethiopia will successfully meet the tasks at hand and further consolidate the remarkable social-economic progress it has made over the past two decades. He reiterates the African Union's full support to the Ethiopian Government and people as they strive to achieve greater strides in the interest of their country, the region and the entire continent

The Chairperson looks forward to working closely with Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali towards the achievement of the objectives set in Agenda 2063, including the promotion of peace and security and the advancement of continental integration.

The Chairperson commends former Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn for his commitment and contribution to the advancement of Ethiopia and the continent as a whole. He wishes him every success in his future endeavors.

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Peace and Security

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