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PRESS RELEASE

The African Union Commission Condemns the Killing of an IEBC Staff member

Addis Ababa, 1 August 2017: The Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC) Moussa Faki Mahamat has learnt with shock about the killing of Mr Christopher Msando, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Manager at the Independent Electoral and Boundary Commission (IEBC) of Kenya. This dastardly act happened a week ahead of the Kenyan general elections planned for 8 August 2017.

“I condemn this senseless act in the strongest terms and call on the Kenyan authorities to conduct a full investigation into the murder and bring those responsible to justice. I extend my most sincere condolences to the family of the deceased as well as the management and staff of the IEBC on the loss of their loved one and colleague,” said the Chairperson of the Commission.

The Chairperson urges the Government of the Republic of Kenya to provide adequate protection for all electoral stakeholders to guarantee the security and integrity of the electoral process. He further urges the parties, candidates and their supporters to refrain from all acts of violence and intimidation that could derail the peaceful conduct of the 2017 elections. Kenyans deserve free, fair and credible elections.

Cognisant of the significant role that the late Mr Msando played in ensuring credible elections, the AUC Chairperson calls on the IEBC and the Kenyan authorities to take the immediate necessary measures to ensure that his tragic death does not impact negatively on the elections.

The Chairperson reaffirms the AU’s full solidarity with, and support to, the Government and the people of Kenya in the conduct of democratic, credible and peaceful elections, in line with the Continent’s shared values, as articulated in the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance and in other relevant instruments of the AU.

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