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Directorate of Information and Communication

## Media Advisory

### Release of Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions of the African Union Election Observation Mission (AUEOM) to the 2017 National Assembly Elections, the Republic of The Gambia

#### INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

- What:** Release of Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions of the African Union Election Observation Mission (AUEOM) to the 2017 National Assembly Elections in the Republic of The Gambia.
- When:** 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017
- Where:** SENEGAMBIA BEACH HOTEL, Banjul, The Gambia
- Time:** Starting from 9:30 a.m.
- Who:** The African Union Commission

**Background:** The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, **H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat**, has approved the deployment of 30 short-term observers to the National Assembly Elections in the Republic of the Gambia scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The short-term observers drawn from members of the African Ambassadors to the AU in Addis Ababa, Pan African Parliament (PAP), Election Management Bodies and civil society organisations. The Mission is supported by a technical team from the AUC, PAP and the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA). The Head of the AUEOM **Mr. Terry Tselane**, Vice Chairperson of Independent Electoral Commission South Africa arrived to the country on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April and will remain till the 8<sup>th</sup> of April 2017.

The objectives of the AUEOM are to make an independent, objective and impartial assessment of the 2017 National Assembly Elections; and to offer recommendations for improvement of future elections that will contribute to the consolidation of democratic governance, peace and stability in the country.

***Media representatives in Gambia are invited to take part and cover the Press Conference.***

***For more information about the mission and its activities, please contact the Mission Coordinator:***

Mr. Samuel Atuobi on Tel: 3111315| Email: [Atuobis@africa-union.org](mailto:Atuobis@africa-union.org)

***For any interview requests please contact:***

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**Notes to the Editor:**

Gambia's upcoming 6 April 2017 Parliamentary election will be the first National Assembly Elections since the inauguration of Adama Barrow as President, and represent another opportunity for the country to further consolidate its democratic gains.

The National Assembly consists of 53 seats, 48 of which are directly elected to 5 year terms and 5 which are appointed by the President.

**Population and number of registered voters:**

- Population: 2,009,648 (July 2016)
- Registered Voters: 886,578 (2016)

**For further information contact**

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