



AFRICAN UNION OBSERVER MISSION ON THE OCCASSION OF THE 7TH
JULY 2012 GENERAL NATIONAL CONGRESS ELECTIONS OF LIBYA

ARRIVAL STATEMENT

4th July 2012

Upon invitation of the Government of Libya, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, **H.E. Jean Ping**, has dispatched an Election Observer Mission to Libya in order to observe the forthcoming General National Congress Elections scheduled for Saturday, the 7th July 2012.

The Mission is led by H.E. Essam Sharaf, former Prime Minister of Egypt and comprises of 35 high profile personalities drawn from the Pan African Parliament, African Ambassadors to the African Union in Addis Ababa, Election Management Bodies and civil society organisations from various African countries.

The Mission is assisted by a team of technical staff from the African Union Commission, the Secretariat of the Pan African Parliament and the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA).

The AU Observation Mission has a mandate to observe the 7th July Elections in conformity with the relevant provisions of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, which entered into force on the 15th February 2012, and which is intended to enhance electoral processes in Africa, strengthen electoral institutions and the conduct of fair, free, and transparent elections; the AU/OAU Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections in Africa (AHG/Decl.1 (XXXVIII)), adopted by the Assembly of the African Union in July 2002; the African Union Guidelines for Elections Observation and Monitoring Missions; and the legal framework of Libya.

Observations and recommendations of the Mission will be based on the above instruments from which the Mission will express its views during a press conference, and produce a report which will be shared with the appropriate Libyan authorities.

As part of its activities, the Mission will meet the political and judicial authorities, various electoral stakeholders in Libya, including political parties and civil society groups.

The AU Mission extends its gratitude to the the Libyan Authorities for the measures taken to facilitate its work.

For further information, kindly contact the AU Observer Mission Secretariat based at the Four Seasons 2 in Tripoli, Libya.

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