



**AFRICAN UNION ELECTION OBSERVERS' MISSION FOR
THE SENATORIALES OF 14 APRIL 2013
REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**

ARRIVAL STATEMENT

On the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Cameroon, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E Mrs. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, has deployed an Observers Mission for the Senatorial Elections scheduled to take place on 14 April 2013.

The African Union Observers Mission to Cameroon is lead by H.E Mr. Edem Kodjo, Chairperson of Pax Africana, former Secretary General of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU-AU) and former Prime Minister of the Republic of Togo.

The mission consists of 35 members including parliamentarians from the Pan-African Parliament, the National electoral board representatives, and the civil society.

The observers are drawn from 21 countries: Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, Togo, Tunisia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Senegal and Zambia.

The AU Observers Mission has the mandate to observe and follow-up the electoral process in Cameroun in accordance with the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance which entered into force on 15 February 2012; the OAU Declaration on democratic elections in Africa AHG/Declaration (XXXVIII) and AU guiding principles on observers mission and elections monitoring as well as the Constitution and laws of the Member countries.

The Mission will meet the political and judiciary authorities of the country; institutions responsible for elections; local actors involved in the electoral process and representatives of the international community to gather information on the state of preparedness and mechanisms put in place to guarantee a free, fair, transparent and credible election.

The Mission will deploy its observers in the 10 regions of Cameroon, namely: Adamawa, Centre, East, Extreme-North, Littoral, Nord, West, North-West, South, and South-West.

The task of the observers will include ensuring consistency, transparency, equity and good management of the electoral process. The observers will submit a report which will be addressed to competent authorities. To this effect, a press conference will be organized on Tuesday 16 April 2013 at 4 pm at the Mont Febe Hotel, Yaoundé, where the Mission's Secretariat has been headquartered. The Secretariat can be contacted through the following phone numbers: 237 78 40 03 71 and +237 78 40 03 22.

The African Union Mission avails itself of this opportunity to thank the Cameroonian authorities on the measures taken to facilitate their work.

Done on 10 April 2013

**For the Mission,
H.E. Mr. Edem KODJO
Head of Mission**