



## PRESS RELEASE

### THE AFRICAN UNION DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN LIBYA

**Addis Ababa, 23 February 2011:** The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Jean Ping, follows with great concern the situation obtaining in Libya. He condemns the disproportionate use of force against civilians and deeply deplores the many human lives lost so far. The Chairperson of the Commission, who is in contact with the Libyan authorities and other actors, will pursue his efforts for an end to the spilling of blood.

The Chairperson of the Commission reiterates the appeal made by the Peace and Security Council for an immediate end of the repression and violence. He stresses that only dialogue and consultation will enable the Libyans to find appropriate solutions to the challenges facing their country and to embark upon the necessary reforms to fulfill the aspirations of their people. He encourages all the actors concerned to favour dialogue in order to open new prospects for Libya in peace, security and democracy.