



## ***PRESS RELEASE***

### **Chairperson travels to Europe to discuss the situation in Libya**

**Addis Ababa, 3 April 2011:** The Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC), Dr. Jean Ping, will undertake an official visit to London and Brussels from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2011, to meet with European and NATO officials, to further explore ways and means of resolving the crisis in Libya.

During the visit, the Chairperson will meet in London with the United Kingdom (UK) Foreign Secretary, Mr. William Hague, as well as with the Secretary of State for International Development, Mr. Andrew Mitchell. While in Brussels, the Chairperson will meet with the leadership of the European Union (EU) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

The Chairperson will exchange views with his interlocutors on the latest developments in the situation in Libya and on ways and means of achieving an early and peaceful solution to the crisis. In particular, he will seek to mobilize support for AU's efforts and Its Roadmap for resolving the crisis, as promoted by the High-Level *Ad Hoc* Committee on Libya.

It is worth recalling that the AU Roadmap revolves around the following key elements:

1. An immediate cessation of all hostilities;
2. The facilitation by the Libyan authorities of the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the needy populations;
3. The protection of all foreign nationals, including African migrant workers;
4. The adoption and implementation of political reforms to eliminate the causes of the conflict, in recognition of the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan People for democracy, political reform, justice, peace and security; and
5. Better coordination of the International Community's efforts to resolve the crisis.

The African Union remains in contact with its regional and international partners, who all participated in a Consultative Meeting on Libya, organized by the AU in Addis Ababa, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2011, during which a consensus was reached around the AU Roadmap.

Participants at the Meeting included the members of the AU *Ad hoc* Committee on Libya, members of the AU Peace and Security Council, Libya's neighboring countries, the United Nations, EU, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), permanent members of the UN Security Council, as well as other AU bilateral partners.

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