



## PRESS RELEASE

**Addis Ababa, 6 June 2011:** The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Jean Ping, welcomes the endorsement by the All Darfur Stakeholders Conference, held in Doha, Qatar, from 27 to 31 May 2011, of the Outcome Document, which is a significant contribution to the peaceful settlement of the conflict in Darfur, Sudan.

The Chairperson of the Commission commends the efforts made by the Government of Qatar and, in particular, the work accomplished, in the last two years, by the State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ahmed Bin Abdullah Bin Mahmoud, as well by Mr. Djibrill Bassolé, currently Foreign Minister of Burkina Faso, in his capacity as the AU-UN Joint Chief Mediator.

The Chairperson also congratulates the Government of Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM) on their readiness to sign a peace agreement, and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) on its commitment and continued engagement in the negotiation.

The Chairperson calls upon the other armed movements to take advantage of the consensus and political momentum around the Outcome Document to reach final agreements with the Government of Sudan, in order to facilitate an early end to the hostilities.

This latest development marks the end of this phase of the Mediation and opens the way for a Darfur-based participatory political process to reach a comprehensive solution in Darfur under the leadership of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) and the coordination of UNAMID.

The AU will work with the United Nations to maintain the momentum for achieving peace in Darfur, in particular through the early launch of the Darfur Political Process.

The Chairperson now urges all Darfuri stakeholders to participate fully in the Darfur Political Process, in order to find a comprehensive and inclusive solution to the crisis in Darfur.